



SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY

## Project Case Study: Championing Women in Engineering with the NWCAM Project



### THEME:

Research and Innovation

### FUNDING (ERDF+MATCH):

€8,518,406.33

### MATCH FUNDERS:

The Department for the Economy, Northern Ireland and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Ireland

### LEAD PARTNER:

Catalyst

### PROJECT PARTNERS:

University of Glasgow; Ulster University; Sligo Institute of Technology; Letterkenny Institute of Technology; LPE; Armstrong Medical; Denroy Plastics; Axial 3D; Leckey; Nuprint; Causeway Sensors; Abbott and GSK; and Clyde Biosciences.

Start Date: 01/04/2017

End Date: 31/05/2022



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With only 12% of engineering professionals in Northern Ireland being women, the North West Centre for Advanced Manufacturing (NWCAM) is incredibly fortunate to work alongside some of the most impressive female engineers in the UK and Ireland.

International Women in Engineering Day 2021 afforded the project with the ideal opportunity to catch up with some of these engineers; learning how they are delivering break-through innovations for industry-led research, stepping up to the plate, daring to be part of the solution and paving the way for the next generation of women and girls.

*“Something extremely rewarding is the breadth and variety of activities on a weekly basis. Some days I am an educator and supervisor. I prepare lectures, assessments and have meetings with my students. On other days I am a scientist in the lab. There I have the possibility to be even more creative and apply creativity and knowledge to support other people, my institution, and the society overall; with the ultimate aim to foster innovation and develop novel solutions to global healthcare challenges.”*

Dr Elena Mancuso, Lecturer in Biomaterials, Ulster University  
School of Engineering

*“To all girls in school/college...engineering needs you! Inventing tools and technology for the betterment of humanity needs your perspective, contribution, competence, attention-to-detail, gracefulness, and empathy. Let us be part of future innovation together!”*

Iliyana Samardzhieva, University of Glasgow  
Studying for a PhD in Biomedical Engineering

*“I believe that engineering is a broad field that provides exciting career paths with creative ideas. I was looking for a PhD project...I came across this position with NWCAM. I was happy to be selected as it would help me to solve a real-world problem.”*

Foram Dave, PhD student IT Sligo, investigating laser transmission welding of semicrystalline polymer and its composites with a focus on Industry 4.0.