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Employability of Bachelor Graduates: A Spotlight on the Bachelors of Chemistry and Chemical Sciences

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Background

According to various studies, Bachelor degree qualifications are **accepted** by the large majority of companies:

1. IW Köln: in two-thirds of companies, graduates with a Bachelor degree have the same chances of career progression as graduates with traditional degree qualifications
2. IP: only 5% of companies would not employ graduates with a Bachelor qualification
3. IP: more than ½ of all companies would employ Bachelor graduates and could see them in leading executive positions

Companies **expect** a high degree of professional maturity and employability.

Background II

- There is, however, a degree of **scepticism** and many **open questions** in certain industrial sectors as to the **employability of Bachelor graduates** – in other words: as soon as it comes to practical questions many companies fear having to provide a lot of (additional) qualifications (called ironically “beginning professional development – BPD” in the UK).
- The Bologna Process, demographic change and a shortage of young people make it necessary to **strengthen the employability** of Bachelor students and to make companies aware of the issue.



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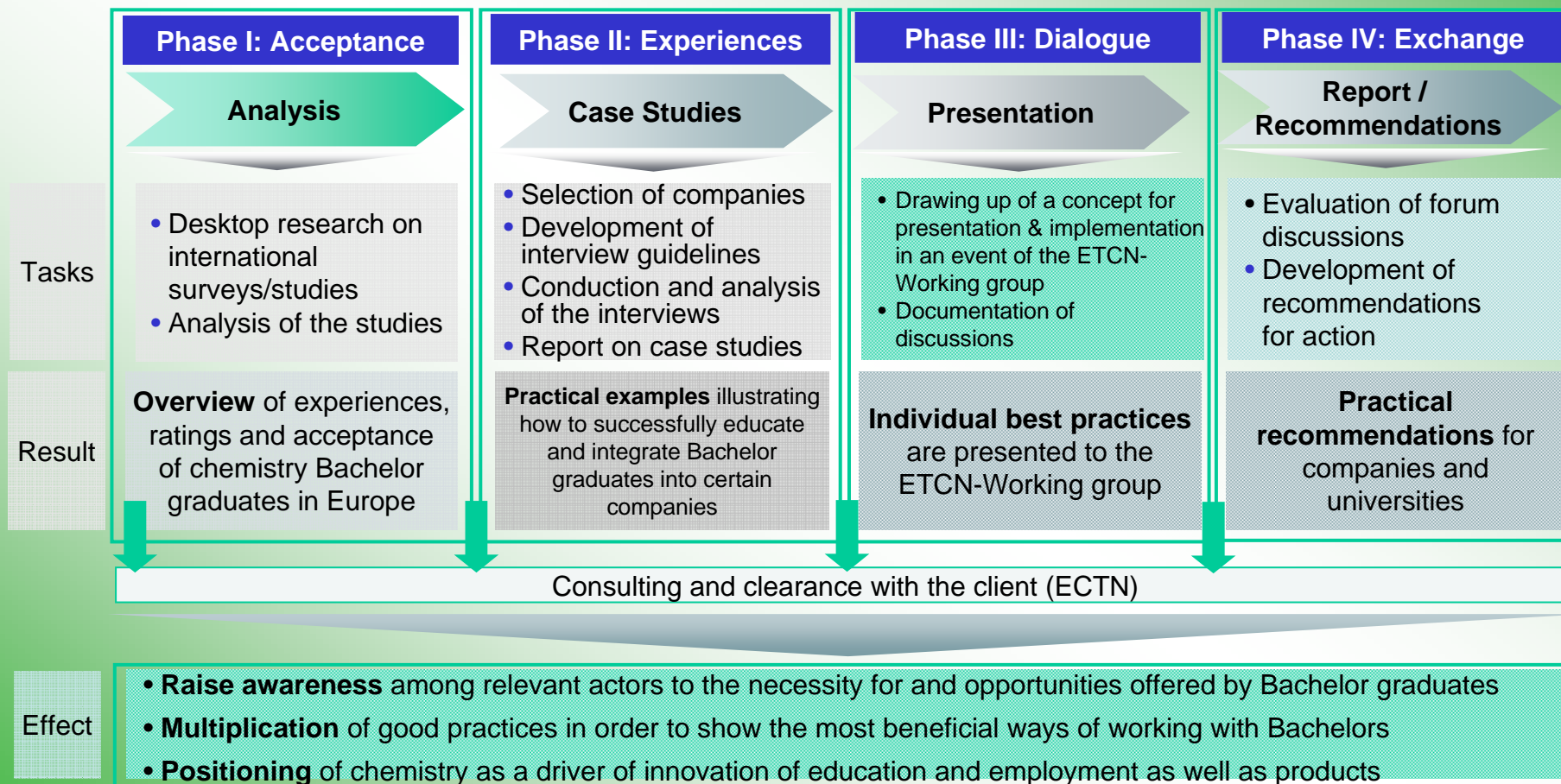
Aims

The project will follow a **comparative process** undertaken in four stages so as to:

- ascertain and clarify the **current employability** of graduates with a Bachelor degree in chemical sciences
- reflect the **changes in the labour market** and show how Bachelor graduates in chemical sciences **can work best in certain branches**, if their education meets market demands
- demonstrate the **importance of the chemical industry** in Europe as a driver of innovation

Guiding questions: What has to be done in order to make Bachelor graduates as productive as possible in as little time as possible?

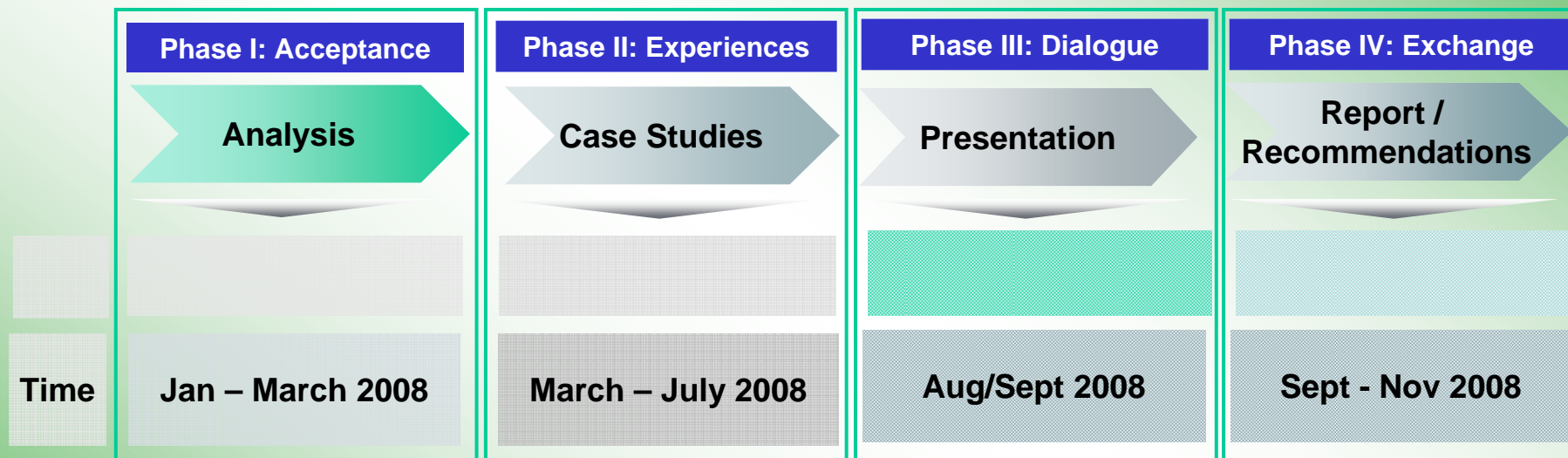
Approach and Methodology





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Deliverables





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Possible Involvement of Social Partners in Chemistry

- Help to obtain data and find relevant information sources/contact persons
 - Employers'/trade union opinion on employability of Bachelor graduates
 - specification of expectations concerning qualifications of graduates
- Bring in financial resources in addition to the 50,000 € granted by the EU (to the European Chemistry Thematic Network)

Structure of new Chemistry Courses of Europa Fachhochschule Fresenius

