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## **IVACE and AIDIMME will provide arguments for the National Circular Economy Strategy through the TRIS initiative**

Both entities participate in the Interreg Europe program project by the Valencian Community.

**Five European regions (Kronoberg-Sweden, Emilia Romagna-Italy, Central Hungary-Hungary, Birmingham-UK and Valencia-Spain) develop the Interreg Europe TRIS project to share best practices in Industrial Symbiosis (SI) and support public authorities and related agencies in the efficiency of the use of resources and competitiveness of their SMEs, improving the regional policies that correspond to the IS.**

The Valencian Institute of Business Competitiveness, IVACE, and the AIDIMME Technological Institute as representatives of the Valencian Community, are developing together with specialists from 4 European regions the project Transition Regions Towards Industrial Symbiosis, TRIS.

An initiative that in addition to the benefits in key areas such as production and management of industrial waste, efficient production processes, access to innovative production technologies and processes, and the launch of new business lines and new markets, will provide arguments for the future National Circular Economy Strategy.

The SI is defined as "synergistic exchange of waste, by-products, water and energy between individual companies in a locality, region or even in a virtual community". It is a fundamental component of the circular economy, which improves efficiency in the use of resources and the competitiveness and flexibility of companies. However, it should not focus exclusively on the use of waste but must take into account other resources such as water and energy, as evidenced by

the conclusions of the various meetings of the project, formalized as participatory workshops "Industrial Symbiosis Lab" , who have reached the 4th call.

This concept, which can be understood as a cooperative use of resources - in many cases waste generated by the companies themselves - still lacks relevant development, and that is why the project seeks the implementation of regional plans that favour its popularization. The participation of the IVACE in TRIS ensures a decisive role of the Regional Administration in the detailed definition and application of said plan in our region, according to the person in charge of the Project in AIDIMME, Manuel Sánchez.

The challenges are important, from the scarce knowledge of the companies both of the possibilities of the industrial symbiosis and of the shared resources in their environment, to the legislative and administrative complications related to the use of waste and by products, says Sánchez, who underlines by This reason that one of the main actions of the project is to sit down in work sessions (IS labs) to the different competent actors and find ways to overcome these challenges.

A specific study on the subject reveals that the pan European SI would generate 3 billion euros in additional sales and cost savings for Europe, along with important environmental benefits, "hence the importance of breaking with the linear model of economic growth, proposing a change towards the circular economy, which tries to close the circle of economic activities taking into account all the phases of the life cycle of a product: from production and consumption, to the management of waste and the market of secondary raw materials " explains Sánchez.

IVACE and AIDIMME are currently working on the eventual pilot tests throughout 2018, with the intention that the development of incentive measures take place in 2019, in areas such as the matching of interests of companies, intermediation in industrial areas, the feasibility studies prior to the R & D activities and the implementation actions themselves, carried out in the cooperation modality.

Please copy the link to read the full submission -  
<http://www.noticiashabitat.com/2018/ivace-y-aidimme-aportaran-argumentos-para-la-estrategia-nacional-de-economia-circular-mediante-la-iniciativa-tris/>