

## FIFTH NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER  
2018

## PARTNERS



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[WWW.INTERREGEUROPE.EU/SYMBI](http://WWW.INTERREGEUROPE.EU/SYMBI)

### SCHUY: COMPLEX EU RULES FRUSTRATE THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Ever more complex European rules and laws increasingly frustrate the daily work and operations of recyclers, putting a successful future for the circular economy at risk, according to Michael Schuy, president of the European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC).

*"The EU should promote and support the circular economy, not hamper it",* Schuy said during the body's annual conference in Berlin. He called on the European Commission to simplify regulation so that it became a helpful tool rather than being a major headache frustrating recycling companies and businesses across the continent.

#### Major challenge

*"Running a business in the recycling sector becomes more challenging each day and demands to constantly adapt to ever changing rules and market conditions",* said Schuy, who is managing director at Schuy Recycling in Germany.

#### At a crossroads

According to EuRIC's president, recyclers are sitting at the crossroads of three regulatory regimes, namely waste, chemicals and product legislation whose lack of interface can have 'far-reaching' consequences.

Schuy criticised in particular the European Parliament's proposal to revise regulation of the so-called persistent organic pollutants (POPs), compounds that are resistant to environmental degradation through chemical, biological, and photolytic processes. The proposal sets a concentration level for such substance equal to or below 10mg/kg (or 0.001%).

#### More landfilling?

Producing recycled plastics containing less than 10mg/kg of the flame retardant decaBDE is not technically feasible at the industrial scale, recyclers claim. Specifically, EuRIC fears that recycling plastics from ELVs and e-scrap will come to an end in Europe if such concentration limits become mandatory under the POPs revision and Schuy asked: *"As a consequence, there may be more landfilling and incineration. Is that what we want?"* - Source: [Recycling International](http://Recycling International)





## SYMBI Project Activities

### STUDY VISIT ON SHARING PRACTICES ON WASTE TO ENERGY SYSTEMS IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY, HäME-REGION FINLAND 18-20 SEPTEMBER 2018

The second SYMBI project study visit was organized 18th - 19th September 2018 in Häme-Region, Finland by HAMK Häme University of Applied Sciences and The Regional Council of Häme. The theme of the visit was built around the subject of sharing practices on waste to energy systems in circular economy. The study visit covered the best regional practices related to not only recycling various materials but also using them in energy production according to the idea behind the waste management hierarchy (Directive 2008/98/EC on waste).

The venues of the event were site

visits to The Circular Economy Village of Fortum Ltd., Riihimäki, to see the recycling and waste to energy practices of the company and the Eco Industrial Park of Forssa, to see the local industrial symbiosis that several companies have built around utilizing each others by-products and waste to create secondary raw materials, biogas and bioethanol. Various campuses of HAMK were also visited and participants heard about the university's circular economy and waste to energy projects and visited the Sheet Metal Centre, the 0-energy construction engineering laboratory at HAMK. On the second day the study visit was combined

with the FRUSH 2018 event. FRUSH is a circular economy event for startups and growth enterprises held for the second time ever in Forssa, Finland. The event is a combination of latest talks, dynamic workshops and pitching. FRUSH is one of the practices to speed up the development of circular economy in Finland; start-ups and small scale companies among circular economy and various financiers are networking and creating business relationships. The event materials will be available at the event's [website](#). More information about the study visit is available at the SYMBI project [library](#).





## SYMBI Project Activities

**THE FIFTH STAKEHOLDER MEETING AND FIRST PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING HELD BY SYMBI PARTNER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF MOLISE IN CAMPOBASSO ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2018.**



The 5th Stakeholder Meeting and First Public Consultation Meeting were held by Project Partner Chamber of Commerce of Molise on 28th September 2018, in Campobasso, Molise.

The Public Consultation Meeting was organised mainly to express and discuss stakeholders' views with a broader public audience (mostly comprised of businesses and SMEs), especially on regional barriers and issues that may cause controversy, as for example costs of investments to transition towards circular economy.

After the Public Consultation Meeting, the Stakeholder meeting focused on "Promote Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis

in the regional context: sharing and formulating policy recommendations – Action Plan drafting".

Both meetings were attended by regional experts in the theme of Circular Economy and policy making such as Molise Region's Officers, SMEs running waste management service in several areas of the region, Regional Environmental Experts etc. At the end the Stakeholders meeting was closed with the agreed that a first draft of proposal on circular economy and waste management will be sent to the Molise Region Council in order to start discuss with them the drafting of a specific action plan.

### SYMBI PROJECT SUPPORTS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT IN EXTREMADURA IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY

On April 2018, 11th and 12th, SYMBI project staff from FUNDECYT PCTEX took part in the visit of representatives from European Commission for the development of a project aimed to advising and training SMEs to promote productive circular economy models. It should be

noted that the European Commission has selected Extremadura regional government as one of the six regions that will develop this project to boost the circular economy among regional SMEs. This program is aimed to offer policy advice through reports, including regional policy recommendations, detailed action

plans and roadmaps for guiding SMEs to adopt resource efficiency strategies and practices, eco-innovation and/or circular economy. Specifically, FUNDECYT PCTEX organised the visit related to several SYMBI regional stakeholders, as recycling and use of by-product companies and regional research groups specialized in the use of biomass and renewable energies.



 **FUNDECYT PCTEX**  
un espacio para innovar



## SYMBI Project Activities

### 5TH STAKEHOLDERS' MEETING IN BLED, SLOVENIA 5 JULY 2018

The Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy organized its 5th stakeholders' meeting that took place on 5 July 2018 in Bled. The aim of the meeting was to present good practices of industrial symbiosis, opportunities arising from good waste management system and how green public procurement can accelerate the transition towards circular economy. The event was attended by 21 participants, coming from different ministries, companies and other interested public. Participants confirmed a need for stronger cooperation among different players in the field of industrial symbiosis and particularly to introduce a cross-disciplinary approach when it comes to tackling the circular economy challenges. [More Info](#)



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR DEVELOPMENT  
AND EUROPEAN COHESION POLICY



### SYMBI PRESENTED AT CONFERENCE IN MARIBOR, SLOVENIA 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

City Municipality Maribor organized a conference on circular economy for sustainable development of regions and cities that took place on 27 September

2018. Institutions were invited to present their project activities. The Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy presented project

SYMBI with a focus on the role of industrial symbiosis. If we wish our cities and regions to be sustainable, they will have to put much more emphasis on creating the areas where the industrial symbiosis will be encouraged and supported. Based on our project findings, there is a substantial interest among companies as well as local and national decision makers to make this goal realized. The event offered a platform for exchanging experience from different Interreg Europe and Horizon 2020 projects, allowing us to forge new ties and synergies.





# SYMBI Project Activities

## SYMBI PROJECT INTERREGIONAL WORKSHOP – 19 - 20 JUNE 2018 – SEVILLE, SPAIN

Regional Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of Andalusia organized and hosted the 4th SYMBI Project Interregional Workshop. Entitled "Industrial symbiosis demonstration projects", the workshop took place on 19th and 20th June 2018 in Seville (Spain). Fernando Martínez Vidal, Director of the Prevention and Environmental Quality Department and Esperanza Caro, CEO for the Economy and Commerce in the Seville City Council, opened the workshop with welcome greetings. Works were moderated by Concha Ortiz who coordinated interventions and managed interactive sessions.

The workshop tackled two topics: Topic 1 Political and Financial instruments to launch IS and CE projects and Topic 2 Good practices in IS and CE. In Topic 1, attendees could learn about the line of working in symbiosis industrial and circular economy in three levels: National, Regional and Local. At the national level, the Center for Industrial Technological Development described the role of circular economy in H2020 making an analysis of what's been funded and the future scenario after 2020. At the regional level, some experts explained the Andalusian Industrial Strategy 2020, the Energy Strategy for Andalusia 2020 and the Andalusian Circular Bioeconomy Strategy 2030. An expert from the Catalan Waste Agency spoke about some projects that have been developed and the grants for circular economy projects in 2016 and 2017. At the local level, A brief speech was made about how the Seville City Council is fostering the circular economy in the city. In Topic 2, experts exposed



several projects of industrial symbiosis and circular economy in action. One of the best practise was explained in the most modern olive pomace refinery of Spain, sited in Puente Genil (Córdoba). Attendees could listen the explanations of experts about: Co-digestion of WWTP sludge and non-hazardous residues, the use of slag in cement manufacture, valorisation of black slag in the construction sector, the good practices of Heineken, the circular economy in 21st century mining, IS projects in Catalonia, the good practices of olive pomace industries and the role of recycling of aluminium cans in CE.



JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA

CONSEJERÍA DE MEDIO AMBIENTE Y ORDENACIÓN DEL TERRITORIO





## SYMBI Project Activities

### PANNON NOVUM HELD THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING IN HUNGARY - 24 SEPTEMBER 2018

Pannon Novum held the Public Consultation Meeting in Hungary on the 24th of September 2018. The Location of the meeting was the Incubator House and Innovation Center of Nagykanizsa in Zala county.

The Public Consultation Meeting was organized mainly to discuss:

- ⇒ the role of recycling in the circular economy
- ⇒ renewable energy utilization in the circular economy
- ⇒ recycling sewage sludge and its handling opportunities
- ⇒ climate strategy and waste recycling of Zala county
- ⇒ energy projects in the institutions of the Nagykanizsa Vocational Training Center
- ⇒ international good examples of circular economy.



### SYMBI PROJECT 4th INTERREGIONAL WORKSHOP STUDY VISIT – 19 - 20 JUNE 2018 – SEVILLE, SPAIN



During the the 4th SYMBI Project Interregional Workshop the hosting Partner Regional Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of Andalusia organized also an interesting Study Visit to the SACYR Plant in Spain, where olive industry waste becomes biomass.



## SYMBI Project Activities

### CARBON FOOTPRINT IN THE SYMBI WORKSHOP CELEBRATE IN SEVILLE: A CARBON NEUTRAL EVENT

The Regional Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of Andalusia organized the "industrial symbiosis demonstration projects" workshop on 19 - 20 June 2018. With the goal of achieving a carbon neutral event, RMESP has calculated the carbon footprint and design a forestry activity in order to compensate the event's carbon footprint.

Every year, hundreds of events have place in Europe. The organizers of these events have a big environmental responsibility. In the same way an industry is responsible for its emissions, the event's organizers have to take in mind that emissions associated to events have its part of guilty in the global climate change.

On 19th and 20th of June was

celebrated in Seville the workshop "industrial symbiosis demonstration projects". 55 people assisted to the event. The workshop's carbon footprint has been calculated by means of emissions associated to transports and emissions associated to the electricity consumption.

Firstly, assistants were asked for their means of transport and the place where they came from by means of a questionnaire. In addition, emissions of the airport/train station transfers and emissions by 2 days stay per person were estimated. Secondly, the electricity consumption of the event has been estimated with the area of the room and the emission factor of the electricity supplier.

The surprising results of the carbon footprint calculation has been that

the electricity consumption of the place where the event took place has only the 0,001 % of event's emissions, 6,9 % is due to stays and 93 % are associated to transport, mainly transports by plane. The total emissions associated to the event has been 10,2 Tn CO2.

The design of a forestry activity have been based in the plantation of Pinus pinea. The study has estimated that 36 trees of Pinus Pinea is needed to plant in order to fix 10,2 Tn CO2 in 30 years.

The European Projects ,as a whole, must have a huge carbon footprint due to plane transports. The celebration of carbon neutral events must be a do in the development of European projects and a requirement in application forms.

## Project News

### AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EUROPEAN SMES: SCALING CIRCULAR BUSINESS

As part of the European Commission's continuous effort to transform Europe's economy into a more sustainable one and to implement the ambitious Circular Economy Action Plan, on 27 June 2018, the European Commission launched a platform for scaling circular businesses across Europe. The platform is launched to lead the way in boosting the transition

towards a circular economy among small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Europe.

The platform is composed of a set of general, material and sector specific circular solutions. While some obstacles to a circular economy are generic, different sectors and materials face specific challenges due to the particularities of the value chain.

How can you join?

Are you an SME based in Europe recognizing the necessity and opportunity to contribute to the circular economy?

Visit our platform at [www.scalingcircularbusiness.eu](http://www.scalingcircularbusiness.eu) and look for the solution that fits your needs.

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### SYMBI IN THE 26TH BSSSC ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 10-12 SEPTEMBER 2018, GDANSK, POLAND

Solidarity, participation and smart action for a better future were the themes of the 26th BSSSC Annual Conference organized in Gdansk, Poland, September 10-12, 2018. BSSSC Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation is a political network for decentralized authorities (subregions) in the Baltic Sea Region. The Finnish SYMBI partners HAMK Häme University of Applied Sciences and the regional Council of Häme operate in the BSSSC network area.

As part of the theme “smart action for a better future” a workshop called Smart Societies – Circular

Bioeconomy is The Key for Green and Sustainable Regions was organized. The workshop examined the need for regions to reach the full potential in circular bioeconomy by building functional ecosystem by unifying rural and urban regions and creating business opportunities both to urban and rural areas with circular management of material flows and energy and effective innovation ecosystems. A SYMBI team member from HAMK participated in the event. Concrete experiments from circular bioeconomy development projects and innovation to business were the

main deliverables of the workshop. A member of the Finnish SYMBI stakeholder team, Mr. Mika Laine, Chairman of the Board of Envor Group Oy, was one of the key speakers in the workshop. He presented the industrial symbiosis of Eco Industrial Park of Forssa, which was also one of the main destinations of the SYMBI project study visit organized 18th - 19th September 2018 in Häme-Region, Finland. More info about the event: <https://www.bsssc.com/copy-of-annual-conference-2018>



## Upcoming thematic Events

### WORLD CIRCULAR ECONOMY FORUM 2018 - JAPAN 22-24 OCTOBER 2018

SITRA, the Finnish Innovation Fund and The Ministry of the Environment of Japan host the 2nd World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF) in Yokohama, Japan on 22-24 October 2018. WCEF brings together over 1,000 business leaders, policymakers and experts from around the world to presents the world's best circular economy solutions. Key agenda of the event

is to examine how businesses can seize new opportunities, gain a competitive advantage through circular economy solutions and how the circular economy contributes to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

WCEF is the global initiative of Finland and Sitra. The WCEF's themes include laying a foundation for 2019, when Finland is due to

hold the presidency of the EU Council (July to December 2019), when the World Circular Economy Forum will again be held in Helsinki. More information about the event: <https://www.sitra.fi/en/projects/world-circular-economy-forum-2018/>



WORLD CIRCULAR  
ECONOMY FORUM **JAPAN**





## Upcoming thematic Events

### ECOMONDO TO ADDRESS THE HOT ISSUES OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY – RIMINI, ITALY 6-9 November 2018

Recyclers and recycling equipment suppliers in Italy as elsewhere are counting down to Ecomondo 2018, the international trade fair covering the broad recycling and energy recovery sector, to be held on 6-9 November in Rimini.

Hailed as the leading green expo in the Euro-Mediterranean region, Ecomondo again brings together all sectors involved in the circular economy.

Topics to be highlighted include: the European strategy for plastics and its developments; the most advanced experiences of the circular bioeconomy in OECD countries; Industry 4.0 applications in waste management and recycling; and the protection, recovery and reuse of water resources.

Also, there will be presentations and keynote from both Italian and foreign recycling (technology) experts. On Wednesday 7 November, a special conference session is dedicated to the EU strategy for plastics, launched by the European Commission in February of this year.

*The Circular Bioeconomy*  
In addition, a session highlighted as “Circular Bioeconomy: National Case Studies of Innovation Ecosystems”, will spotlight latest developments and best practices in this field expertise from Japan, USA, France, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Belgium and, obviously, Italy.

Organised by Italian Exhibition Group, the 22nd edition of Ecomondo will take place on 6-9 November 2018 at the Rimini Expo Centre.

More info: [www.en.ecomondo.com](http://www.en.ecomondo.com)

# ECOMONDO

## Social Media Contacts

To stay updated about Project's actions and events follow us on the Social Media or visit our web site:



## Editorial

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