

**Industrial Symbiosis for Regional Sustainable Growth and a
Resource Efficient Circular Economy**



ACTION PLAN

MOLISE (ITALY)

July 2019



**CAMERA DI COMMERCIO
DEL MOLISE**

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SYMBI

Industrial Symbiosis for Regional Sustainable Growth and a Resource Efficient Circular Economy

SYMBI project started in 2016. 7 European regions worked together to reach a common aim: to align policies with the Circular Economy concept of the European Commission and to support the transition towards a resource efficient economy through industrial symbiosis by improving their own policy instruments.

In 2019, 3 years later, each region has its Action Plan elaborated after fruitful moments of exchange and learning and taking into account needs and necessities of the regional context.

The current Action Plan is related to the territorial area of Molise Region. It represents the result of an intense work between Chamber of Commerce of Molise and all the regional stakeholders whose contribution was very important. It was also shared with the Regional Managing Authority of the selected Policy Instrument.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part I - General information	4
Part II - Policy context.....	4
Part III - Details of the actions envisaged.....	5
<i>INTRODUCTION</i>	5
1. Objectives of the Action Plan.....	7
2. Regional analysis of the current situation.....	8
3. Identification of best practices.....	10
4. Identification of Actions to be implemented.....	13
4.1 Action 1: Regional Law on Circular Economy and update of the Regional Waste Management Plan.....	13
4.2 Action 2: GPP (Green Public Procurement) Sensitization - Dissemination – Training.....	17
4.3 Action 3: Support recovery of pruning waste trough sensitization and dissemination activities.....	21
4.4 Action 4: Promoting Circular Economy trough the realisation of a stable event “Ecoforum Molise”.....	24
4.5 Action 5: Financial incentives for companies in the complex crisis area.....	28
4.6 Action 6: Molise Region participation in ICESP.....	31
Official Signature.....	33

Part I - General information

Project: “Industrial Symbiosis for Regional Sustainable Growth and a Resource Efficient Circular Economy”,
in acronym “SYMBI”

Partner organization: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF MOLISE

Other partner organizations involved (if relevant): _____

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Part II – Policy context

The Action Plan aims to impact:	€	Investment for Growth and Jobs programme
	€	European Territorial Cooperation programme
	X	Other regional development policy instrument

Name of the policy instrument addressed:

ERDF 2014/2020 - RDP 2014/2020

Basic information about the policy instrument:

The Regional Operational Program of Molise is the programming document defining strategy and interventions relating to the use of European resources assigned to the Molise Region by the European Regional Development Fund, in the framework of the cohesion policy for the economic growth and the attractiveness of the territory.

Starting from results and lessons learnt of the previous programming period, the regional administration has identified new guidelines and strategies to promote a regional growth model more competitive, with the aim

of pursuing an intelligent, sustainable and inclusive development. For the 2014-2020 programming period, Molise Region adopted the choice of a single multi-fund ROP, that integrated European Regional Development Fund “ERDF” and European Social Fund “ESF” at financial and thematic level. So, financial resources and operational themes of the ERDF and the ESF are merged into a single programming document and in a single management, in order to address the priorities of regional development in a synergistic way according to an innovative model of unitary coordination and planning.

The Regional Program focuses on the following ERDF funding priorities, which play a leading role in supporting the "smart" specializations of businesses, cities and communities:

- the improvement and promotion of research, technological development and innovation;
- the improvement and expansion of access and services related to Information and Communication Technologies;
- the promotion of the production system competitiveness;
- the support of energy efficiency, the use of renewable energy and the efficient use of resources;
- the protection and promotion of natural and cultural heritage.

The ESF funding priorities, the main actor in the field of employment, training and social inclusion, are:

- the contribution to the creation of new jobs;
- strengthening social inclusion and combating poverty;
- support for education and training;
- strengthening of administrative and institutional capacity.

Part III – Details of the actions envisaged

INTRODUCTION

In Europe, concern regarding environmental degradation, resource scarcity and price volatility brought about through traditional linear production methods, coupled with the need to enhance the global competitiveness of European business has led to an increased focus on creating the framework conditions for a transition to a Circular Economy. Transition from a linear to circular economy is not straightforward and there are not too many existing examples of the transposition of the EU's ‘Circular Economy Action Plan’ into national or regional policy. This Action Plan is based on SYMBI Project undertaken in Molise Region (Italy) by Chamber of Commerce of Molise in order to develop tangible and realistic policy proposals, aligning market and government needs in order to create favourable conditions for the public and private sector to adopt circular principles.

Several methodologies and theories on innovation ecosystems were adapted to map a ‘Circular Economy’ ecosystem in Molise. Actions to build on system strengths and address weaknesses were co-developed through interviews, workshops and peer review with key stakeholders in the region.

Several actions were developed addressing many major themes such as:

Policy and Regulations, Business support and finance, Skills and education, Promotion and awareness, creation of Regional Networks and promoting the joining of National ones.

The present Action Plan is produced by Chamber of Commerce of Molise within the Symbi Project. This document provides details on how the lessons learnt, from the cooperation with Symbi partners, will be implemented in order to improve the main policy instrument identified and addressed: the Molise Regional Operation Programme 2014-2020 financed by ERDF-ESF.

The “Industrial Symbiosis for Regional Sustainable Growth and a Resource Efficient Circular Economy – SYMBI” project is financed within Interreg Europe Programme on Axis 4.2. “Improving resource efficient economy policies”. The Interreg Europe Programme promotes the exchange of experience on specific thematic objectives among partners throughout the European Union and the identification and dissemination of good practices to be used as source of inspiration in order to improve partners policy instruments.

The contest, where the project is developed, sees Molise as one of the youngest region in Italy born from the separation with the Abruzzo region and it is located in southern Italy. Molise is one of the less extensive Italian regions with an area of 4438 kmq, equal to 1.47% of the Italian territory. It is subdivided into 136 municipalities, many of which are small and with a considerable territorial dispersion. Molise population was equal to only 310,449 inhabitants in 2017, with a population density of 70 inhabitants/kmq population, well below the national average. About territory, more than half of its surface is occupied by the mountain and the rest from the hill, while the plain is quantitatively insignificant, limited to a very narrow coastal strip and to some low valleys of rivers.

With reference to regional economy, in Molise there is a substantial preponderance of the agricultural enterprises, which represent about 33% of the total, followed by the companies active in the wholesale and retail trade (22, 85%) and buildings (12, 76%). Manufacturing companies account for about 6, 6% and those connected to tourism 6.57%. The cross-sectional value of the craft enterprises is also significant, equal to 22.7% of the active companies. According to a scheme proposed by the OECD, Molise can be classified as "Non S&T driven regional system", i.e. as a territory characterized in general by a low industrial profile, by an agricultural vocation and by a good importance of the service sector. The regional production system is characterized by the substantial absence of large companies. There are basically small and medium-sized companies, featured by less structured legal forms and mostly engaged in the proximity market. As consequence, the process of commercial internationalization is quite limited. With only 400 million export in 2017 and a trade balance in liabilities, the economy of Molise it is mainly characterized by the importance of the internal and proximity market.

With regard to the themes of Industrial Symbiosis and Circular Economy, Molise does not stand out in any ranking that compares European territories with similar characteristics, and this situation also appear evident in relation to the national system. Industrial symbiosis requires policy reforms measures at different levels, Eu, National and Regional. EU regions show very different levels of performance on each area relevant to industrial symbiosis, and advance at a different pace towards green growth models. There is thus a need to share and exchange practices, experiences, and knowledge within this fragmented context to: a) lift barriers by following successful examples, b) foster balanced territorial development and reduce disparities, and c) reverse the backwardness of least-favored regions.

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE ACTION PLAN

In Italy, Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis became priorities for the Italian Government only after a) the adoption on behalf of the National Senate Environment Commission of a resolution on Circular Economy on July 30 2015, and b) the adoption of the national Law n.221/2015, namely the "Environmental provisions to promote Green Economy measures and to contain the excessive use of natural resources" .

The first policy proposed a road map for the development of Circular Economy that outlines the following steps in order to strengthen the efficient use of resources in Italy:

- to promote Industrial Symbiosis models and Eco – innovation;
- to stimulate a market for by-products and quality recycled materials through a wider use of green public procurement;
- to promote consumer awareness through clear and credible Eco – labels;
- to implement a wide environmental tax reform;
- to preserve and stimulate Italian SMEs competitiveness;
- to review waste legislation increasing attention on prevention;
- to promote recycled products quality and traceability.

The second policy established several measures (Green Public Procurement, environmental footprint for products called Green Made in Italy, post - consumer materials and scraps recovery, waste management, composting and used packaging), with a clear vision: to strengthen the protection of the environment and to push the Green Economy, in the Circular Economy direction, where each waste is considered as a resource, in a circular and closed cycle. These regulatory measures are significant, however at national level there is still the absence of a formally adopted plan that aims exclusively at the Industrial Symbiosis and Circular Economy implementation.

Another relevant intervention towards Circular Economy was the document "Towards a Model of Circular Economy for Italy – Overview and Strategic Framework" jointly promoted by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Economic Development. This paper defines Italy's strategic positioning on Circular Economy, it describes the national vision and calls for a paradigm shift in Italy's economy. Considering the complexity and the importance of the document, the Italian government organized a public consultation to collect contributions from different institutions, enterprises, experts and citizens who deal daily with the issue of Circular Economy. The aim is to develop in future a Strategy and/or a National Action Plan as result of the shared and participatory process.

Despite first steps carried out at the national level, there is still an important regulatory intervention to be adopted to increase Italian performance on Circular Economy. We refers to the introduction of a specific legislation concerning the "End of waste" topic that state when a waste at the end of a recovery process loses its qualification and becomes a resource playing a useful role as a product.

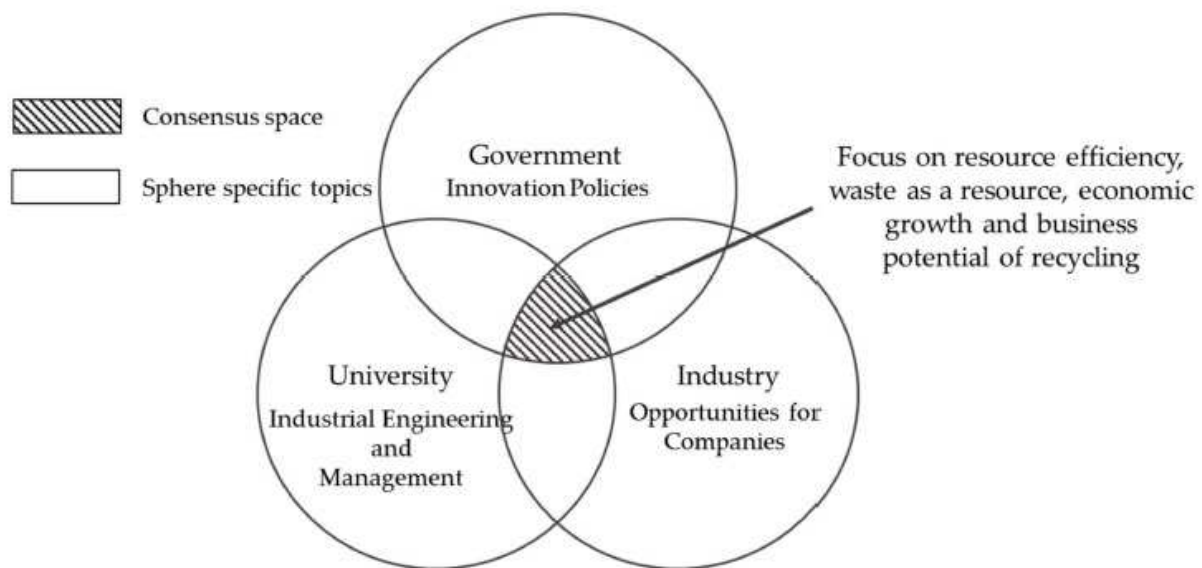
Experts and stakeholders in general remarked as the absence of a proper legislation concerning the "End of waste" is a huge limit to Circular Economy spread in Italy. So far the "End of waste" standards at national level subsist only for few waste categories and introduce them is a fundamental step to achieve progress on the Circular Economy front at the national level.

At regional level, Molise Region still has a long way to gain the integration of Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis within its development strategies. In general, the absence of a policy dedicated to the topic was recorded: no regional law was adopted to cover the topic of Industrial Symbiosis or Circular Economy. To initiate, support and advance Industrial Symbiosis projects, public authorities could use other axes of the Molise ROP 2014 - 2020 that cover the issues of technological development and innovation, and productive system competitiveness.

Following the needs of Molise region, Chamber of Commerce of Molise joined the Symbi project, in fact Symbi aims to improve Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis in partners' territories policies as regards the conversion from linear economy versus a circular economy, through sharing best practices/experiences between regions and actors relevant to Circular Economy and integrating lessons learnt into regional policies and action plans.

2. REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

- a) **Key intermediate actors in the promotion of industrial symbiosis and circular economy in the region (please include actors from the Quadruple Helix* concept if possible)**



Actor 1: Regional Government of Molise;

Actor 2: Chamber of Commerce of Molise;

Actor 3: University of Molise;

Actor 4: SMEs and Industries involved in waste management, reuse of resource and producers of secondary raw material.

According to our analysis the consensus space covers technological and economic development that aims for a more sustainable production and consumption of resources in the future.

The common interest in waste and waste management as well as material efficiency has been widespread in studies on industrial processes and sustainability. What can be considered as a novelty, according to Symbi Project outputs, is perhaps the message that the industry, itself, proposes: circularity is a significant global opportunity for industries with novel business models that could also induce systemic change, from linear to circular. This topic represents the backbone of the concept of Circular Economy, as also remarked by several studies promoted by European Commission.

b) Main barriers that hinder industrial symbiosis or circular economy development

Barrier 1: Critical issues related to waste legislation (waste vs byproduct) and application of various special definitions of byproduct: different according to the several local authorities (regions, provinces, municipalities) and regulatory agencies (health and inspection authorities, the police authority..);

Barrier 2: Critical issues related to the implementation of waste legislation at local level;

Barrier 3: Regional heterogeneity concerning tools use, such as program agreements that facilitate the management of by-products and industrial wastes;

Barrier 4: Lack of a multi-annual strategy with long-term objectives, including concrete tools that can support business investment;

Barrier 5: Scarce public investments in research;

Barrier 6: Lack of a standardized methodology reproducible in different areas;

Barrier 7: Lack of confidence on byproducts quality;

Barrier 8: The excessive managerial short-term orientation concerning the feasibility assessment and the return on investment evaluation (managerial myopia).

3. IDENTIFICATION OF BEST PRACTICES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROMOTING ACTIVITIES

Example 1

One of the Good Practice we were really interested in was from Finnish Partner HAMK University. The Practice called “Finnish Industrial Symbiosis System” in acronym, “FISS”, is not an Industrial Symbiosis action but a tool to find and develop them.

Basically in Finland there are totally 11 regions, having a FISS-coordinator who is actively looking for materials/companies that could be involved in a new symbiosis. There are two ways the coordinators are operating:

- A) Visiting certain known companies having some side product or waste that could be utilized elsewhere. Through interviews the amount and properties of the material concerned are recorded for someone else to consider utilization.
- B) Arranging special workshops which are open to all enterprises interested in cooperation with others concerning more efficient utilization of materials (and/or services).

In both cases, the resources found are added in the data base called SynergiE. This database is utilized by not only the companies participating in a certain workshop but by all companies listed in the very same database. At the moment, there are 599 enterprises and 4573 resources listed in the database.



Example 2

The good practice from Spanish partner Junta de Andalucía deals with a matter pretty common in our territory and due to the same issues faced also by local farmers could be easy to be replicated.

The Cooperative Nuestra Señora de los Remedios has 837 members and it is devoted to continuous improvement of the olive oil production process.

The cooperative uses an integrated production mill in the olive oil extraction process. The process results in a by-product, known as olive cake, which can pollute the soil and water systems if not managed correctly.

The starting point was how to deal with this by-product. With the aim to protect both the environment and the community, the cooperative agreed to invest in the recycling of the by-product using composting techniques.

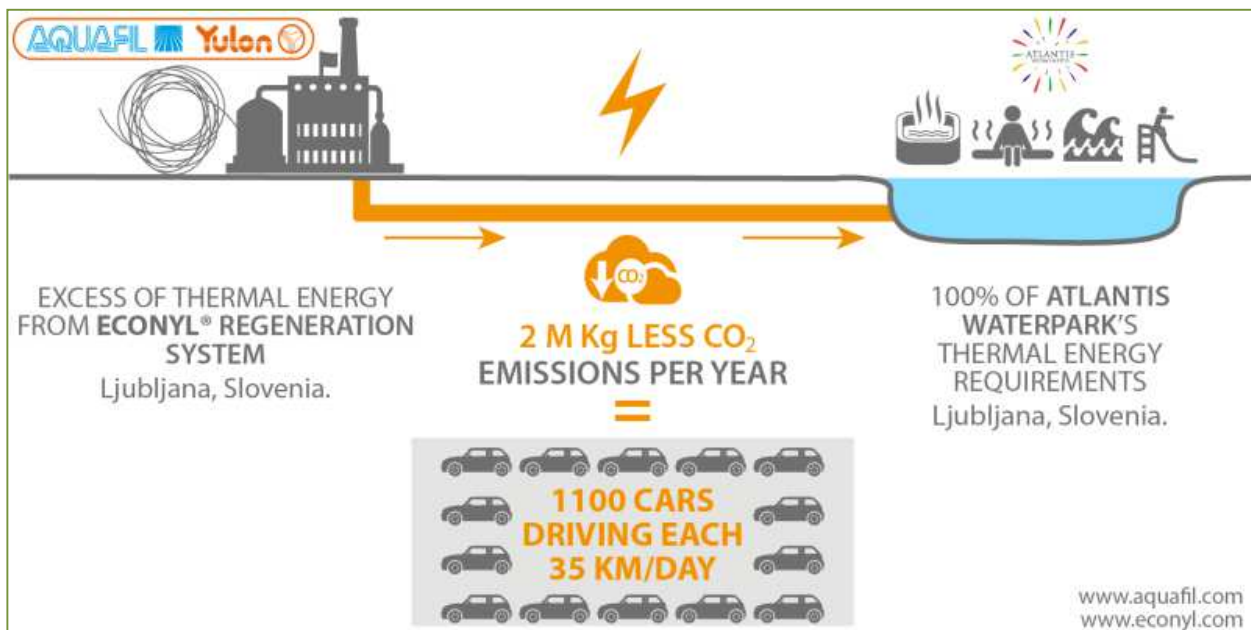
The composting plant processes the olive cake together with the leaves cleaned from the olives, olive tree pruning residues and some liquid effluent from the mill.

Therefore, organic by-products from the olive oil factory are recycled through the composting technique and these recycled by-products are given back to olive grove farms to be used as nutrients, thus making the production system more sustainable in the long run by reducing dependency on chemical fertilisers.



Example 3

The Good Practice from Slovenian Partner in Lubijana is really replicable in our territory and that is why it caught our attention during the study visit. The Industrial Symbiosis system consist in a specific Industrial Symbiosis Process. Aquapark Atlantis in Ljubljana's commercial city centre has agreed with Aquafil (Julon) to exchange the heat energy. Aquafil distributes its surplus of heat energy to Atlantis's swimming pools and thus fulfil 100 % of Atlantis needs. Since both companies are located next to each other, such agreement enables high reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and contributes to greener city. On top of its environmental sustainability, the project brings economic effects. The heat energy in form of hot water, using now by Atlantis, is produced within the process of producing the ECONYL. Part of this energy is used back in production cycle, while the surplus has until now represented unexploited energy potential.



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4. IDENTIFICATION OF ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

4.1

Action 1

Regional Law on Circular Economy and update of the Regional Waste Management Plan.

A. The Background

Lesson learnt: a strong regulatory and strategic framework is the main prerequisite to create the right environment for the development of Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis.

Source of inspiration: Activity A1.1 – “Comparative policies analysis”; Activity A2.1 – 2nd Regional Stakeholders Meeting held on 16th March 2017; Activity B3.3. ENEA 3rd Party Event – 25th October 2017; Activity A3.2 - Interregional Workshop on “How to Stimulate Secondary Raw Material Markets” held in Campobasso (Italy) on 20th and 21st March 2018.

According to findings of Symbi Project, the lack of a regulatory and strategic framework can result as a huge barrier for the transition towards Circular Economy and, as a subsequent effect, it can prevent the development of Industrial Symbiosis.

Moving from the current linear economy model to the circular it is required a rethinking of strategies and a regulatory update in order to support the transition path. It is important to revise the concept of waste and the entire waste management process, considering as priority to be regulated no longer the waste disposal, but their reintegration as resources in production and consumption processes according to their residual economic value.

In particular, regional authorities should become aware that regulatory and strategic commitment is a key step for a deep engagement towards Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis. For instance, the adoption of a legislative act, able to better regulate the topic, even introducing incentives and penalties, can favor the full application of Circular Economy, in line with the European target and guidelines. Similarly a strategic document stating priorities, objectives, governance and tools could define the road to reach proper results.

Obviously, the definition of a law or a strategic document cannot ignore the listening of stakeholders involved in the circular model application (companies, scientific and technological research institutes, universities, general public). It is important to foresee a participatory process, for instance through consultations, that contemplates key actors’ needs, suggestions and contributions if policy makers want to design effective instruments.

Lessons learnt during Activities A1.1, A2.1, B3.3 and A3.2 allowed regional stakeholders to gain awareness on the importance of a regional regulatory framework about Circular Economy. So that during the 3rd Regional Stakeholders Meeting a relevant national expert introduced the case of Emilia Romagna Region, one of the first Italian Region adopting a regional law specific dedicated to Circular Economy that, laying the basis for a new regional model based on the waste prevention, the recycling and the recovery where waste is not more considered as a scrap but as a resources. But the importance of an adequate legislation on waste management oriented to recycling and recovery was even highlighted in the report realized in the A1.1 activity of Symbi project and during the ENEA 3rd Party Event held in Rome on 25th October 2017.

Starting from the knowledge and awareness acquired during the aforementioned events and activities, in order to promote and accelerate the application of the circular economy principles at regional level as well as the industrial symbiosis model, it is deemed appropriate to implement a Regional Law on the circular economy.

For the same reason we intend to push the regional authority to update the "Regional plan for waste management" - approved with Resolution n. 100 on 1st March 2016 by the Molise Regional Council- making a clear reference to the concept of circular economy since it is never mentioned within the plan.

The Plan regulates, in particular, the aspect of collection and disposal of waste, while making reference to a separate collection of quality, not highlighting also the aspect of recycling and reuse. Since, therefore, it is envisaged that the first revision of the Plan should take place within 3 years of its adoption, it is necessary, as said, that the Molise Region, on the occasion of the aforementioned revision, must first of all place the concept of Circular Economy at the base of the Plan itself, also recalling all the latest directives Europeans on the subject.

Above all it is important that the two documents, Regional Waste Plan and Regional Law on the Circular Economy, must have a coincidence of concepts and principles.

This clarification is necessary to make a cultural and social change aimed at fostering the transition from a linear economy to a circular one.

B. Action

Given these premises, it should be specified that the main objective of this action is the adoption of a **regional law on Circular Economy** by the regional government.

Specifically the Regional Council of Molise will work on a legislative package containing provisions to support the circular economy, directed above all to reduce waste production, to promote the reuse of goods at the end of their life and to the development of separate waste collection. The law will be the clear sign of a precise political commitment aimed at promoting the transition towards a circular economy model, more resilient and sustainable. Regional law will be in line with the requirements of the European Circular Economy Package, which directs production and consumption processes towards the reuse or restoration of resources.

The proposed law in order to incorporate the principles of the Circular Economy model will introduce a waste management model in line with the European "waste hierarchy", which places prevention and recycling at the top of the priorities. The attention will be focused, therefore, on the upstream part of the supply chain and no longer on the downstream terminal, intervening for the progressive reduction of waste not sent for recycling and encouraging the industrialization of recycling. In addition, the law will provide for a system of reward and penalties that will act as incentive factors for the introduction of a virtuous waste management mechanism.

The law in order to be effective has to cover the main area of intervention, focusing attention on the paradigm "reuse – reduce – recycle", for that reason a minimal structure of the law should contain at least the following aspects:

- Art. 1 - Objectives and purposes;
- Art. 2 - Object and scope of application;
- Art. 3 - Prevention, separate collection, reuse;
- Art. 4 - Actions of education and communication spread throughout the territory;

- Art. 5 - Actions and incentive mechanisms to reduce waste not sent for recycling;
- Art. 6 - Organization of the waste management service;
- Art. 7 - Integrations and connection with the Regional Waste Management Plan;
- Art. 8 - Assessment and contestation of violations on waste collection.
- Art. 9 - Penalties.

With reference to art. 7, as already anticipated, the Regional Waste Management Plan was adopted with a Regional Council Resolution in 2016. The Plan has the main objective to define guidelines for the planning and implementation of management and plant solutions to be realized in order to ensure an integrated and sustainable management system for urban and special waste in the Molise Region.

It is clear that a document adopted in 2016 presents objectives and criteria not in line with the recent requirements and guidelines. Although the inspiring principles of the Plan include "Assuring the conservation of nature and resources" and "Ensuring a reduction in the impact that waste management has on human health and the environment, including through the reduction of their production and their danger" the latter is not specifically addressed and oriented to the principles of the Circular Economy.

Therefore, considering that the first revision of the Regional Waste Management Plan must take place no later than 3 years after its adoption, Molise Region will take this opportunity to align the Plan according to the circular economic model. In fact, although the "source separation + separate waste + recycling" chain is taken as an indispensable basis for the entire waste management system in Molise, nowadays it is necessary to integrate the same phase of reuse and recovery of recycled materials (eg collection and reuse centers) to be fully in line with what the European Union asks us and move to a more sustainable model from an environmental and economic point of view.

C. Players involved

- Molise Region: the regional government, that has the legislative competence at regional level, will be in charge for the adoption of the law and for the update of the Regional Waste management Plan
- Chamber of Commerce of Molise: as stakeholder involved in the drafting of the law trough a participatory process. It will join the working-group in charge for preparing a draft of the law to be submitted to the regional council Committee.
- Stakeholders involved in Symbi Project activities: as key actors to be involved in the drafting of the law trough a participatory process (for instance consultations).

D. Timeframe

2019 /2020.

E. Costs and funding sources

No costs are forecasted for this action.

F. Monitoring of actions

The monitoring of this action will be carried at several levels.

With reference to the regional law on Circular Economy, the monitoring of the drafting phase will be based on minutes of consultations and working-group meetings, these evidences will attest the first step in the action accomplishment. The intermediate step monitoring, concerning the discussion of the law in the regional Council Committee, it will be based on official minutes of the work sessions and on any other administrative documents required by the legislative process. For the final step, the publication of the Law on the Official Bulletin of the Molise Region will be the final outcome indicator related to the monitoring of this action.

4.2

Action 2

GPP (Green Public Procurement): Sensitization, Dissemination, Training

A. The Background

Lesson learnt: How to capitalise Green Public Procurement as enabler of industrial symbiosis.

Source of inspiration: Activity A.1.4 “Green Public Procurement”; Activity A3.2 - Interregional Workshop on “How to Stimulate Secondary Raw Material Markets” held in Campobasso (Italy) on 20th and 21st March 2018; Activity A3.4 - Study Visit to share national practices on waste recovery, separation and processing system held in Ljubljana (Slovenia) on 21st and 22nd November 2017; A2.1 – 2nd Regional Stakeholders Meeting held on 16th March 2017.

A main project activity in Symbi was the A.1.4 in charge of the Lead Partner FUNDECYT. It consisted in 2 parts. The first one was related a “Methodological framework to provide input and exchange ideas on public procurement” containing instructions to make partners conduct a research on impacts, factors, barriers related to the application of G.P.P. in their own regions, to present their findings and finally make a peer review of each other’s findings.

The second one was related to “Guidelines on how to capitalise Green Public Procurement as an enabler of Industrial symbiosis” containing considerable solutions – thanks to the partners’ peer review - to promote the use and impact of GPP as an enabler of Industrial Symbiosis.

During the research we learned that last few years have been a turning point for Green Public Procurement GPP application in Italy, starting from 2016 when entered into force the new "Code of Procurement" (Decree Law April 18, 2016, No. 50) which introduced in Italy the obligation for the contracting authorities to enter in the calls they are preparing specific Criteria, called Minimum Environmental Criteria, for the implementation of the GPP. Furthermore, the Italian Law n.132/2016 established the “National Network System for the Protection of the Environment” (SNPA). It consists in all regional/provincial agencies for the environment and the Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA). SNAP operates as a body for the national monitoring and control in the field of Environmental Protection, even providing technical assistance to Public Administrations. In 2017 we had the entry into force also the so-called "Corrective" to the Code of Public Contracts (Legislative Decree 19/04/2017, No. 56), in fact, has passed the Decree of the Ministry of the Environment on "Progressive application of minimum environmental criteria in public procurement for certain categories of services and supplies”, outlining a public procurement system, all Italian, fully permeated by assessments related to environmental and social sustainability, to the point that we can speak more properly today of sustainable purchases instead of green purchases. The situation in Molise sees a poor adoption of Green Public Procurement GPP: in fact, only the 20% of people interviewed during the project Action A1.4 were familiar with this procurement tool and have used it systematically; the remaining 80% only briefly understands Green Public Procurement and have not adopted this instrument so far.

The main obstacles to the use of Green Public Procurement, indicated by the interviewees, are: lack of information, lack of staff trained for a correct implementation of Green Public Procurement, poor definition of minimum environmental criteria established for products / services.

About the GPP in the running of the Project Symbi we have had as lesson learnt the example made during the workshop organised by the Chamber of Commerce of Molise in Campobasso on 20th and 21st March 2018. During the meeting we had a speech by PATRIZIA DE LUCA from the Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), the speech was about : “The Green Public Procurement (GPP) in Italy: as an enabler for stimulating the Circular Economy”.

Below an extract from the speech that constituted a very strong lesson learnt for Chamber of Commerce Staff.

GPPs are Public Administration purchases that include the Minimum Environmental Criteria (MEC). Considering the Public Administrations purchase power, their attitude can generate great effects on the market by reducing impacts on the environment and favouring Green and Circular Economy affirmation. EU recognizes that GPP has great potential in terms of economic policy instrument. GPPs represent a fundamental leverage to support the transition towards Circular Economy. They promote the dissemination of innovative solutions in materials, in the design of products/services that allow to maximize their useful life and their reintegration into production cycles. It is important to change Public Administration purchasing strategy. It is necessary to switch to a circular supply method based on the European waste hierarchy: reduce, reuse, recycle and recover. This implies that in the purchasing processes it is fundamental to identify needs to be satisfied and not the good/service to be purchased (For example: instead of renewing the car park, switch to a car sharing service). Another remarkable need is to improve public procurement officers’ skills. SNAP has developed guidelines for GPP. This is an operational model for the internal organization of public bodies for the fulfilment of the regulatory obligation in relation to GPP. It can be applied by any public administration. The guidelines manual received a special recognition during the "Compraverde edition 2017 Award” as the best GPP policy for the dissemination of GPPs commitments and models.

A key message on GPP was even learned during the Study Visit held in Slovenia in November 2017. GPP were presented as strategic tool that contribute to the introduction of sustainable practices in the institutional procedures for purchasing good and services, by pushing economy to a more circular model.

B. Action

Taking into account the proposals deriving from SYMBI partners’ peer review in Activity A.1.4 and following the initiative of the Italian Ministry of the Environment - aimed at supporting, through contributions, activities and initiatives addressed to disseminating and raising awareness on the themes of sustainable development and/or the Circular Economy in order to pursue, within a broader implementation process, the objectives of the 2030 UN Agenda and of the National Sustainable Development Strategy approved in December 2017 - Chamber of Commerce of Molise proposes an action aimed at carried out several actions in order to promote informative activities in favor of the Public Administration and companies for the dissemination of the culture of the Circular Economy, starting, for the Public Administrations, from the Green Public Procurement – GPP and including also dissemination activities in the local schools. These actions will be planned and scheduled and can be inserted also as part of other events or workshops.

Main dissemination activities:

- Focus Group with Associations representing the productive sectors and public administrations;
- Presentation of GPP opportunities in third party events (main PA events);

- Public information events on topics such as, for example: new directives on the circular economy, environmental certification, green purchases and minimum environmental criteria, environmental reporting, eco-planning, re-use and recycling;
- Publication of materials, documents, training sessions on the ECOCAMERE environmental information portal (www.ecocamere.it) implemented by Ecocerved (in house society of the Italian Chambers of Commerce Union that operates in the field of information systems for the environment). Main targets: employees of public bodies and institutions; enterprises; Associations; in case schools at regional level.

Main training activities:

- Operational seminars on compliance obligations and procedures to be applied in the field of waste management (to give some examples on environmental authorizations, management of secondary raw materials and by-products).

Following the dissemination and training activities an interesting service of assistance will be available for entrepreneurs through the aforementioned tool ECOCAMERE: a Telematic Desk Producers/ Users of by products, namely a PLATFORM which fosters the exchange of by-products: producers, who want to sell production residues as by-products, and users, interested in purchasing them for use in their own activity, can be registered. The “List of Producers/ Users of by- products” has been introduced with the Decree of 13 October 2016, n. 264. by the Ministry of the Environment.

It is proposed to act in cooperation with Educational Institutions and other Public Authorities according to the works already carried out on the theme by other institutional bodies, learning from the schemes already launched by local bodies or other organisations as regards training in GPP, for example the very good practice launched by Lombardy Region called the “GPP School”.

According to the Project Symby Action A1.4, during the dissemination and training activities it will be worth to remember the following recommended main guidelines to be replicated in order to stimulate the diffusion of GPP in Public Authorities

- Starting a review of MEC in order to identify which aspects can be integrated according to the principles of Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis;
- Introducing of reward mechanisms into MEC for operators able to offer the most virtuous or innovative solutions than the minimum requirements foreseen;
- Promoting the development of a national platform and of IT communication tools that enable best practices and operational tools sharing;
- Suggesting common methodologies for the assessment of products/services environmental impacts;
- The development of communication campaigns.

C. Players involved

Actors involved in the implementation of these actions are:

- Molise Region that has the legislative competence to regulate topics to be addressed. In addition Molise Region manages the policy instruments able to play as leverage and incentive for a performing regional system.

- Chamber of Commerce of Molise that will play as further public body providing its institutional commitment in promoting the Green Public Procurement. The Chamber of Commerce can play a multiple role: member of the regional governance; entity able to represent main challenges and needs complained by enterprises even through statistical evidences. It will act above all through its Regional Section of Register of Environmental Managers.
- Ecocerved, in house society of the Italian Chambers of Commerce system in charge of environmental issues.
- University of Molise, as a public body where the GPP procedure is carried out but also as a research body that is able to give suggestions and inputs and support in the dissemination of the action. Regional schools involved as first actor in using GPP procedures and as a disseminator of the practice to their alumni.
- Public Institutions (Provinces, Municipalities).
- Associations with a specific interest in the theme (Legambiente, Legge Rifiuti Zero).

D. Timeframe

2019/2020

E. Costs and funding sources

€ 10.000,00

Molise Chamber of Commerce Funds – Fondo di Perequazione 2017-18

F. Monitoring of actions

Monitoring will be conducted, based on the gathering of data from a representative sample of public bodies (regional, provincial and municipal authorities) and private entities (enterprises, Associations). Thought will be given to the advisability of identifying and monitoring a restricted sample for a more detailed assessment of the problems associated with the implementation of the GPP.

Monitoring may take the form of sending a questionnaire electronically to a representative sample of entities. The specific procedures for gathering and processing the data will be determined at a later date, within few months of the Action Plan being approved. For the purpose of implementing the principle of dematerialisation, the monitoring plan will take into account not only the degree of penetration of GPP in Molise Region, but also consumption trends.

4.3

Action 3

Support recovery of pruning waste through sensitization and dissemination activities.

A. The Background

Lesson learnt: Support the recovery and the valorisation of agricultural residues in order to move towards an efficient use of resources according to the Circular Economy principles.

Source of inspiration: Activity A.1.3 “Good Practices”; Activity A3.3 - Interregional Workshop on “Industrial Symbiosis demonstration projects” held in Seville (Spain) on 19th and 20th June 2018.

Currently, the European Union produces over 13 million tonnes of wood prunings per year, with only a marginal percentage used as a biomass fuel. The use of pruning biomass can be encouraged with a supportive European framework, including a robust biomass sustainability policy, a holistic bioeconomy approach, and through the expanded use of existing funding initiatives, tools and programmes.

In comparison to other biomass resources, such as lumber resources and energy crops, residual biomass from agriculture and other industries, have more limited sustainability concerns.

Although forestry and milling wastes are already used for pellet and chip production, many agricultural residues remain outside of the scope of the bioenergy market, as a result of a number of technical, environmental, economic and knowledge barriers:

- Policy blindness - Prunings are treated as a typical biomass resource, meaning their specific characteristics are not recognized in energy and biomass policy, and that barriers to use are often unnecessarily put in place at regional, national and European levels.
- Low awareness – Farmers generally regard prunings as a waste, not a resource, and as such, their main concern is simply to get rid of them as quickly and as cheaply as possible.
- Existing use – Farmers who produce prunings already have practices for their use. Typically, prunings are shredded and left on the soil, acting as an organic fertiliser, or they are piled and burned at the side of the field. Whilst the former can have a positive impact for soil fertility (though it can also act as a disease vector), the latter adds no value. In the rare occasion that prunings are already used as an energy resource, they are generally used by the farmer as firewood for self-consumption.
- Short distance, local value-chains – Prunings are not suitable for large-scale value chains, or long-distance transportation. Agricultural residues are produced on a small scale, and are widely dispersed across multiple collection sites, so logistics and transportation costs can be high, limiting the economic potentials of using prunings to local markets. The biomass is mostly used locally, being transported short or medium distances (5 to 30 km) from site to end-user.
- End-user scepticism – Prunings are considered to be of low quality, and uncompetitive with existing biomass resources. End-users can be unwilling to divert from their existing biomass resources, or pay enough to cover the costs of collection, storage and delivery of the pruning biomass.
- Lack of business models – The labour intensity of pruning collection is a major problem in mobilisation, and production per hectare is uncertain and often low. The costs associated with pruning collection and management may be considered too high for what is often an annual activity,

meaning that the costs of machinery and tools need to be covered in innovative business models that can share the costs amongst several collection sites.

But we should focus on the potential of prunings in European frameworks Renewable energy use is supported at the European level via the 2020 and upcoming 2030 Climate and Energy targets, and Member States will steer their sustainable energy development through National Renewable Energy Action Plans (NREAPs), which are open for amendment in 2020. Biomass will continue to play an extensive role in Europe, accounting currently for over 60% of renewable energy generation. Member States should be encouraged to consider their full pruning biomass potential, particularly Spain, Italy, Greece and Poland.

So starting from this background the Chamber of Commerce of Molise decided to promote a policy of sensitization and dissemination to make a better use of prunings. This can be implemented with the following actions.

B. Action

Following the background analysis it is planned to implement the following two types of activities that will be placed in a thematic and financial context within the Local Development Plan of the GAL MOLISE RURALE (LAG, Local Action Group, non-profit-making composition made up of public and private organizations from rural villages having a broad representation from different socio-economic sectors).

Below the actions planned:

- an awareness and information campaign to improve the use of pruning waste by agricultural and non-agricultural entrepreneurs.

The above action will be provided through the creation of special promotional tools. In particular, a brochure containing some GUIDELINES for farmers and non-agricultural entrepreneurs, in order to encourage them to allocate pruning to local markets capable of producing biomass resources.

In Molise Region most of the prohibitions are oriented to fire prevention but not to foster environmental sustainability and the bio-economy, also allowing rural development. Therefore the Guidelines will describe the correct way to recover pruning waste in an environmentally friendly way and in order to be able to extract biomass resources. The invitation to avoid burning pruning would therefore encourage the integration of waste into the earth or use it as a renewable energy resource. The Guidelines will also have the task of soliciting the use of special "green areas" of the regional Municipalities, where an available space is provided for the collection of pruning waste. The guidelines will also indicate private pruning centres.

The brochure entitled "Good Agricultural Practices" and containing the Guidelines will be financed with the sub-measure 19.4 B pertaining to the activities of animation and promotion of the territory (Measure 19 "LEADER SUPPORT FOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT", Sub-measure 19.4 "Support for costs of management and animation ") of the Local Development Plan related to GAL MOLISE RURALE (www.galmoliserurale.it).

- The recognition of a bonus within a Call for proposals that will be published by the GAL MOLISE RURALE (www.galmoliserurale.it) under the Local Development Plan. The reward consists in attributing a higher score to the entrepreneurs who will carry out "Food education and environmental, educational and social services". The Thematic Area "Development and innovation of

local production chains and systems" - through the Measure 1.A "Innovation and diversification of activities and income of agricultural and extra-agricultural businesses" - will be the reference area and will have as beneficiaries start-ups and non-agricultural companies that intend to start a new business branch inside the LAG area.

Specifically, the bonus will be identified by the selection criteria established by the Call for proposal, with particular reference to Principle 2 "Characteristics of the Business Plan", Criterion 2.2 "Activity sector".

The LAG initiatives are financially placed within the Rural Development Program (RDP), which provides for the transfer of knowledge, training and the acquisition of skills; the RDP can also support non-agricultural activities for the development of farms and businesses and promote cooperation between the actors of the value chain for the supply of biomass and energy production.

C. Players involved

- GAL MOLISE RURALE, Local Action Group composed of public and private organisms with the aim to foster the local development of the rural area.
- Molise Region.
- Chamber of Commerce of Molise, playing a role of supporter.

D. Timeframe

2019/2020

E. Costs and funding sources

Rural Development Programme (PSR) funds :

- MEASURE 1.A : until up to the maximum of the resources available in the call of proposal.
- Sub-measure 19.4.B: € 2.000,00

F. Monitoring of actions

Monitoring may take the form of checking the number of brochures disseminated and the number of rewarding assigned.

4.4

Action 4

Promoting Circular Economy through the realisation of a stable event “Ecoforum Molise” .

A. The Background

Lesson learnt: Events of dissemination and in-depth are a great opportunity to promote and valorize the last trends, practices and opportunities related to Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis. Moreover they foster awareness and networking among public and private entities bringing them together for commune interests.

Source of inspiration: Activity A3.3 - Interregional Workshop on “Industrial Symbiosis demonstration projects” held in Seville (Spain) on 19th and 20th June 2018; Activity 3.4 - Study Visit on “Sharing practices on waste to energy systems” held in Finland on 18th-20th September 2018.

Italian Government included Circular Economy in its agenda since several years, setting this subject among its priorities of programming and action. This commitment is evident in the various regulatory and strategic measures implemented since 2015 to date.

However, Italy has not to consider its work ended in order to keep its performances high. It is important to increase efforts for a full transition towards Circular Economy and support the regulatory framework with innovative actions able to increase the degree of stakeholders’ awareness and engagement. This aspect is even more relevant if we consider that the transition towards Circular Economy foresees the participation of several stakeholders (policy decision-makers, companies, consumers..), following an a holistic approach that lead to the expected paradigm shift in production and consumption processes.

Highlighted this priority, a challenge for our small region, characterized by the lack of specific policies, it is to boost Circular Economy with events based on research and learning, information and communication, identification and dissemination of good practices that thanks to the involvement and network of different competences and experiences, both regional and national, it can ease Circular Economy.

The example of “Frush” event, attended during the Study Visit held in Finland in September 2018, was a great example of event boosting Circular Economy. Held for the second time in Forssa the event is a combination of latest talks, dynamic workshops and pitching. The purpose of the event is to boost the development of growth and start-up enterprises as well as to create and promote new business opportunities around circular economy. “Frush” is aimed at everyone interested in Circular Economy: growth seeking enterprises, start-ups, investors, cities, students of the field and research institutes.

On the basis of what learned, Chamber of Commerce of Molise decided to capitalize the experience made with the organization of “Ecoforum event”, in collaboration with Legambiente Molise, by replicating this experience for the second time during the 2019 and launching a first award for companies.

A. Action

The Action ECOFORUM foresees several activities planned with the aim to promote the adoption of Circular Economy and the diffusion of its best practice in order to turn the linear regional economy versus a more circular one.

The Plan aims at carrying out the following sub-measures:

“ECOFORUM” Event – the realization of a promoting and in-depth event about Circular Economy in the waste management to be held every year in Molise in different cities as a road show promoting best practices, lessons learnt, innovative tools and any other relevant and useful aspects needed in order to stimulate the adoption of Circular Economy. This event aims to be a moment of discussion and debate with the main relevant stakeholders on the topic of virtuous management of waste.

Ecoforum will be realized in partnership with all relevant stakeholders active in the field of sustainable development and with institutional stakeholder as well.

The event will consist of thematic workshops, round-table, Pilot project presentations and know how sharing. During it two contest will be held:

1. **“Best Circular Economy Player”** Contest – This will be a different action that foresees the realization of a contest where local municipalities will be an active part of it. In fact the contest rewards local communities and administrators who have obtained the best results in waste management in terms of differentiated collections initiated for recycling, but also purchases of goods, works and services, which have valorized the materials recovered from separate collection. In addition, the competition foresees also awards for the more active Municipalities and the more innovative one in adopting Circular Economy solutions.

The award event will be held every year and interested Municipalities can join the competition by communicating, via a special form, the quantities of waste collected separately and sent for recycling. In the competition, the accent will be on also on the Free Waste Municipalities, ie those municipalities with a low production of undifferentiated waste destined for disposal. The assessment of the waste management system will therefore take place on the capacity of the management system to contain and reduce the amount of waste destined for disposal.

For the contest the rankings will be drawn up on a regional basis, defining different categories according to municipality population.

2. **“Best Companies engaged in Circular Economy Initiatives”** Contest: the contest intends rewarding regional companies that have created or even launched Circular Economy practices and initiatives. The award aims to enhance and promote the actions undertaken by local companies in terms of industrial symbiosis, eco-innovation, efficiency in the use of materials and reduction of consumption of raw materials.

Each interested company can take part in the contest by submitting an application for participation including an illustrative report of the project to be assessed. The selected companies will receive an award and a certificate of recognition as best practices of the year in the Circular Economy field.

It is worthy to highlight that the first edition of Ecoforum was born just as a simple dissemination event. Later editions instead will develop into a more articulated format. In fact, similarly to Frush, the event organized in Forssa (Finland), Ecoforum will be a container comprising debates, workshops, presentations and success stories. Furthermore, greater attention will be given to companies and start-ups, rewarding the most virtuous and innovative in terms of actions aimed at the circular economy and industrial symbiosis.

Compared to the first edition, in fact, the "Best Companies" section will be set up to highlight the most interesting entrepreneurial initiatives and allow to the enterprises interested to be in cooperation with others concerning more efficient utilization of materials (and/or services).

In conclusion, Ecoforum will aim to raise public awareness (citizens, enterprises, public bodies) by inculcating a new *modus vivendi* compliant with the circularity of resources and pushing the regional Managing Authority to improve the current political instrument (POR FESR – FSE), and others as well, through the adoption of new measures, partly already provided for in this Plan, but above all to be provided for the next programming period 2021-2027.

B. Players involved

Actors involved in the implementation of these actions are:

- Molise Region for its role in local entities monitoring and supervising and also for its role in the legislative competence to regulate the topic.
- Chamber of Commerce of Molise that will play as the main organizer of the event and promoter of the Circular Economy in Molise Region due to its institutional role.
- Legambiente as one of the most active actor at regional and national level in the fields of environmental issues.
- ARPA - Regional Agency for the Protection of the Environment of Molise – as the agency that deals with the prevention and protection of the environment, supporting the regional and local institutions in multiple activities: from the fight against atmospheric and acoustic pollution to interventions for the protection of the waters superficial and underground, from the monitoring of electromagnetic fields to soil contamination investigations and reclamation processes.
- Provinces of Isernia and Campobasso through their Environmental Protection department. The sector deals with waste management by authorizing the plants and checking the disposal activity, as well as authorizations for the use of sludge in agriculture and waste recovery. The environmental controls coordinated by the Province touch air, soil, water and take place in collaboration with other entities (Arpa, Corpo Forestale dello Stato). The Province carries out authorization and control functions on discharges, on industrial waste water, on domestic waste, on discharges of public sewers and on the spreading of zootechnical sewage on the soil for agricultural use.
- Regional schools involved as first actor in participating in Ecoforum and as a disseminator of the practice to their alumni.
- Municipalities participating to the contest of “Best Circular Economy Player” and also as hosting municipalities of Ecoforum Event.
- Companies participating to the contest of “Best Companies Engaged In Circular Economy Initiatives”.

C. Timeframe

2019/2020

D. Costs and funding sources

Chamber of Commerce and Legambiente, in charge of the organization of the event, will directly finance for their own respectively competences.

E. Monitoring of actions

Monitoring will be conducted annually, based on the participation to the Ecoforum event, in terms of guests, workshop findings, pilot project presented, customer satisfaction, etc.

For the Award Contest the monitoring will be done through the assessment of data received from the Municipalities participating, data will be analyzed by Provinces in agreement with the municipal waste management authorities and with the support of regional ARPAs.

Regarding the Companies it will be up to the Chamber of Commerce to name a Special Commission for awarding the prize.

4.5

Action 5

Financial incentives for companies in the Complex Crisis Area

A. The background

Lessons learnt: how Regional Authority can create an enabling and coherent policy environment for private sector investments. Funding and incentives related to innovative systems which respect the principles of the Circular Economy are necessary. A cross-sectorial approach to address the social, environmental and economic issues associated with circular economy is necessary as well.

Source of inspiration: A3.1 “Interregional workshop on how to plan and unlock public and private investment, 15th – 17th November 2016. Győr city (Hungary); A3.3 “How to launch industrial symbiosis demonstration projects” on 19th/20th June 2018. Seville (Spain).

According to the analysis carried out during the Project, the lack of financial support for investments is the main obstacle for the reuse of waste by enterprises. SMEs revealed an urgent need to face significant financial challenges related to the adoption of innovative investments for increasing their business performance in terms of environmental sustainability.

Being aware of the fact that Industrial Symbiosis is a pillar of circular economy, which is a part of what we call green economy, and that Industrial Symbiosis can be defined as the territorial/sectoral cooperation among companies to exchange materials across the supply chain, increasing the lifecycle of products that can be used as raw materials in other industries - during the first Workshop in Győr, we discussed about challenges and barriers hindering the adoption of circular economy business practices. During the discussion we learned that common problems for partners are the following: lack of proper equipment and infrastructure, lack of advanced technologies and companies cannot afford them, innovativeness is fundamental to be able to apply for funding, preference is given to large corporations over small companies when it comes to approve funding for the implementation of projects.

EU and National Funding Programs are considered enablers for circular economy and industrial symbiosis development but the discussion revealed that the most relevant barriers to adopting circular economy practices are just high levels of bureaucracy and the insufficient support from regional public authorities which don't consider Circular Economy a priority. So, although the current EU policy instruments intended for encouraging private sector investments in circular economy such as the EU's Circular Economy Package, the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe or Europe's Bioeconomy Strategy, barriers in the adoption of these instruments on regional levels (restrictive national legislations, uncertainties related to implementation, etc.) are really strong.

During the Workshop in Andalusia we also learned about political and financial instruments to launch industrial symbiosis demonstration projects and funding mechanisms to realize initiatives at regional level. In particular we had the opportunity of learning how Catalonia is leading the implementation of industrial symbiosis in Spain and some of its programs about circular economy. In the Andalusian Circular Bioeconomy Strategy 2030 one of the transversal Programmes deals with the Access to funding and some relevant actions to be carried out are the following:

- Giving support to the incorporation of processes technologies equipment and more efficient materials concerning the consumption of natural resources.

- Promoting and boosting the implementation of renewable energy systems.
- Enhancing business development involved with the energy services supply.

Another consideration must also be made.

The territorial area in which companies of Molise Region operate in 2015 has been considered for a large part as a Complex Crisis Area, pursuant to the discipline of the decree-law n. 83/2012 (art. 27) containing "Urgent measures for the growth of the Country".

Following this, on 26 July 2017 Molise Region signed the Pact for the Development with the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and, on 27 July 2017, the "Project for the reconversion and industrial redevelopment of the Complex Industrial Crisis Area of Venafro-Campochiaro-Bojano and induced areas", approved with a program agreement between the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Ministry of Development Economic, National Agency for Active Labor Policies - ANPAL, Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport, Molise Region, National Agency for the attraction of investments and business development SpA – Invitalia.

These documents are based on the possibility of providing aid to companies for the revitalization of the production of the complex area, providing interventions in favor of the micro-enterprises of the SMEs that operate in the complex crisis area.

B. Action

Given the previous considerations, the current action aims at contributing to break down barriers, especially the economic ones, and encouraging companies to innovate also adopting circular economy practices.

Specifically, a Public Notice is expected to be published with the specific objective of "Relaunching the propensity to invest in the production system" and is aimed at supporting investments in tangible and intangible assets, as well as supporting companies in corporate reorganization activities, functional to the adoption of innovative solutions for the management and introduction of process/product innovations.

The Notice provides "Aid to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSME) intending to implement their investment program in the territory of the Municipalities of the Molise Region that are part of the" Venafro-Campochiaro-Bojano " Complex Crisis Area.

The Public Announcement is published in implementation of the aforementioned "Pact for the Development of the Molise Region" and of the "Project for the reconversion and industrial redevelopment of the Complex Industrial Crisis Area of Venafro-Campochiaro-Bojano and induced areas".

The third section of the call for proposals provides "Aid to businesses operating in the fashion sector", the fourth section provides "Aid for companies operating in the dairy production sector". The aforementioned Aids are granted, moreover, to companies that operate according to the principles of the Circular Economy.

With the "**Aid to businesses operating in the fashion sector**", Molise Region intends to support companies operating in the design and creativity sector of the" fashion "system (textile and clothing sector, goldsmith, leather and footwear, tanning, eyewear).

Specifically the scope is to enhance productivity and innovation of processes and products for the realization of new investments aimed, by way of example, to optimize production conditions and competitiveness, to maximize efficiency in the use of production factors, to introduce new processing techniques and new materials, to operate according to the principles of the circular economy, to create new opportunities for the

internationalization of products and companies, to enhance the use of new communication technologies and information.

With the **"Aid for companies operating in the dairy production sector"** the Molise Region intends to support companies operating in the dairy production sector.

Specifically, the aim is to enhance the productivity and innovation of processes and products for the realization of new investments (aimed, by way of example, at optimizing production conditions, to maximize efficiency in the use of factors productive, to further improve the competitiveness of the sector, to introduce product qualification and certification systems, to optimize the management of "waste" by favoring the closure of the material cycle according to the circular economy techniques, to create new operating lines for the internationalization of companies).

Both the Aids are granted under the "de minimis" regime pursuant to Regulation (EU) no. 1407 of 18.12.2013 and under the "exemption" regime pursuant to Regulation (EU) no. 651 of 17.06.2014.

Companies can do investment programs containing, moreover, the following types of intervention:

- innovations in production processes,
- product and organizational innovations.

C. Players involved

- Molise Region in charge of the Public Announcement
- Chamber of Commerce of Molise in the role of monitoring

D. Timeframe

2019

E. Cost and funding sources

Pact for Development of the Molise Region (Resources of the Development and Cohesion Fund 2014-2020), Thematic Area 3.a "Economic and productive development" - Action "Aid to SMEs for the revitalization of the production of the complex crisis area".

TOTAL AMOUNT € 10.000.000,00

- € 5,000,000.00 in favor of the interventions referred to **"Aid to businesses operating in the fashion sector"**
- € 5,000,000.00 in favor of the interventions referred to **"Aid for companies operating in the dairy production sector"**.

F. Monitoring of actions

Monitoring will be based on the number of applications received, the approved programs, the aid granted and the interventions in favor of the circular economy.

4.6

Action 6

Molise Region participation in ICESP

A. The Background

Lesson learnt: network and well-structured cooperation between several actors (companies, innovators, trade associations, NGO regulators, academics, public bodies) can boost the diffusion and application of Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis by putting into system and capitalizing several knowledge, competence and experience.

Source of inspiration: Activity B3.3 – 3rd Party Event organized by ENEA on 25th October 2017 – Rome (Italy).

The transition to the Circular Economy requires the participation and commitment of various actors, primarily political decision makers, companies, consumers, universities, research institutes and trade associations. Everyone has to play an important role in the dissemination of the so-called "circular maturity" in production and consumption processes.

The application of Circular Economy model is a process that entails environmental, social and economic aspects and for that reason this concept assumes different meaning and impacts according to different actors involved in the transition.

Because of the multifaceted nature of this transition, in order to make circular economy happen faster, with benefits for all, it is important to involve different actors to give strength, through a dynamic collaboration, to a common action.

In particular, lessons learnt in Symbi Project suggest to go through cooperation, interaction and confrontation of different actors as proper path to realize this transition. A great example concerns the establishment of networks of public and private actors, as a tool for promoting not only insights, studies and comparisons, but also proposals for policies and measures to develop the economy towards a circular model, as well as the dissemination of knowledge, best practices and innovative techniques available.

So, the establishment of networks for debates, confrontation and exchange of information and good practices should be considered as a driver and enabler for the Circular Economy development.

B. Action

The participation to the 3rd Party Event organized by ENEA on 25th October 2017 – Rome (Italy) inspired the current action. During the event there were presented two important Network, both created and managed by ENEA:

- The SUN network - Symbiosis Users Network, an Italian network that promotes the systemic application of Industrial Symbiosis, even deepening operational issues that may concern for instance regulations, technical standards and best practices. Several public bodies, universities, trade associations, NGO, companies and consortium have already joined the network. The main aim of SUN is bringing together all the national competences on the theme of Industrial Symbiosis, through the involvement of stakeholders who with different competences and functions have or can play an

important role in the operational implementation of the Industrial Symbiosis in Italy. So, considering the important role of the network, the Chamber of Commerce of Molise with Resolution n. 114 del 18/12/2017 decided to join it. At the moment the Chamber is further increasing its commitment in SUN network due to its participation as permanent member of one of the network Working Groups, precisely the one dedicated to "Regional policies and actions for Industrial Symbiosis".

Participation in SUN allowed the Chamber of Commerce to be able to establish a network of collaborations and knowledge that have also been made available to the SYMBI partnership. It was during the first SUN meeting that we know of ICESP.

- The Network ICESP "Italian Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform" replicates the European initiative of the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform - ECESP. ENEA was selected in the ECESP Coordination Group as the representative of the research world and, on the basis of three-year term, was asked to act as a national hub for the circular economy. This is why ENEA promoted the creation of a national ECESP interface, through the establishment of the mirror platform ICESP.

In line with the European one, ICESP works as a virtual place of convergence and comparison of the various ongoing Italian initiatives and experiences, in order to represent in Europe, in a well-coordinated manner, "the Italian way for Circular Economy". ICESP involves various Italian stakeholders. It is open to the participation of companies, public administrations, academic and research institutions, trade associations all active and interested in the transition to the circular economy, each of which is able to represent a whole significant of its sector of reference.

The objectives of the ICESP are:

- promote the knowledge dissemination;
- foster the dialogue and possible synergies among the Italian actors of the initiatives;
- map Italian good practices;
- promote the integration of initiatives at the Italian level;
- develop an interactive, permanent operating tool;
- spread the Italian excellence and the Italian way of making circular economy starting from the traditions of our country and from the following cultural, social and entrepreneurial data.

The positive experience joining SUN is showing that participation in networks helps growth, birth of collaboration and useful projects for the territory. For these reasons and taking into account the important objectives described above, it is considered that the adhesion of the Molise Region to the ICESP Network will allow an acceleration towards interventions on the Circular Economy and a more rapid change of regional culture.

It could strengthen its learning path, its political decision making process and its commitment in programming measures able to make possible and easier Circular Economy spread.

That's why this action foresees the Molise Region participation in the Italian ICESP - Italian Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform (www.icesp.it). .

Thanks to Molise Region participation in ICESP and Chamber of Commerce of Molise engagement in SUN network it will be possible cover both topics of intervention, i.e. Circular Economy and the Industrial Symbiosis.

C. Players involved

- Molise Region: will join ICESP Platform and will take part to ICESP working groups.
- Chamber of Commerce of Molise: it will keep on its work in SUN Network and, furthermore, it will intensify its commitment in the Network by specialising its work on the topic of public policies definition and orientation.

D. Timeframe

2019/2020

E. Costs and funding sources

No costs are forecasted for this action.

F. Monitoring of actions

The monitoring will be based on periodic minutes produced by the related Working Groups. Each minute will include evidences of the work done such as research, analyses and innovative projects/initiatives.

Signature

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Stamp of the organisation (if available):



REGIONE MOLISE GIUNTA REGIONALE

Modello B
(Atto
d'iniziativa
delle Strutture
dirigenziali
che non ha
oneri
finanziari)

Seduta del 16-09-2019

DELIBERAZIONE N. 352

OGGETTO: PROGRAMMA INTERREG EUROPE 2014-2020 – PROGETTO SYMBI – APPROVAZIONE ACTION PLAN

LA GIUNTA REGIONALE

Riunitasi il giorno sedici del mese di Settembre dell'anno duemiladiciannove nella sede dell'Ente con la presenza, come prevista dall'articolo 3 del proprio Regolamento interno di funzionamento, dei Signori:

N.	Cognome e Nome	Carica	Presente/Assente
1	TOMA DONATO	PRESIDENTE	Presente
2	COTUGNO VINCENZO	VICE PRESIDENTE	Presente
3	MAZZUTO LUIGI	ASSESSORE	Presente
4	CAVALIERE NICOLA	ASSESSORE	Presente
5	DI BAGGIO ROBERTO	ASSESSORE	Presente
6	NIRO VINCENZO	ASSESSORE	Presente

Partecipa il SOTTOSEGRETARIO alla Presidenza della Giunta regionale PALLANTE QUINTINO

SEGRETARIO: ROBERTO DI BAGGIO

VISTA la proposta di deliberazione n. 488 inoltrata dal SERVIZIO COORDINAMENTO PROGRAMMAZIONE COMUNITARIA FONDO FESR-FSE;

PRESO ATTO del documento istruttorio ad essa allegato, concernente l'argomento in oggetto, che costituisce parte integrante e sostanziale della presente deliberazione;

PRESO ATTO, ai sensi dell'art. 7, comma 4, del Regolamento interno di questa Giunta:

lett. a): del parere, in ordine alla legittimità e alla regolarità tecnico-amministrativa del documento istruttorio, espresso dal Direttore del SERVIZIO COORDINAMENTO PROGRAMMAZIONE COMUNITARIA FONDO FESR-FSE - NICOLA PAVONE, e della dichiarazione, in esso contenuta, in merito agli oneri finanziari dell'atto;

lett. c): del visto, del Direttore del I DIPARTIMENTO, di coerenza della proposta di deliberazione con gli indirizzi della politica regionale e gli obiettivi assegnati al Dipartimento medesimo e della proposta al PRESIDENTE TOMA DONATO d'invio del presente atto all'esame della Giunta regionale;

VISTA la legge regionale 23 marzo 2010 n. 10 e successive modifiche ed integrazioni, nonché la normativa attuativa della stessa;

VISTO il Regolamento interno di questa Giunta;

Con voto favorevole espresso all'unanimità dei presenti,

DELIBERA

1. di assumere le premesse quali parte integrante e sostanziale del presente provvedimento;
2. di prendere atto del documento relativo all'Action Plan redatto dalla Camera di Commercio del Molise per il progetto Industrial Symbiosis for Regional Sustainable Growth and Resource Efficient Circular Economy, in acronimo SYMBI, nell'ambito del Programma INTERREG Europe, che allegato al presente provvedimento ne costituisce parte integrante e sostanziale;
3. di riaffermare la piena condivisione delle finalità e degli obiettivi del progetto SYMBI, ritenuti strategici per il miglioramento degli strumenti di politica regionale, in particolare del Programma Operativo Regionale FESR-FSE MOLISE 2014-2020;
4. di assoggettare il presente provvedimento agli obblighi di pubblicità, trasparenza e diffusione di informazioni, come stabilito dal D.Lgs. n. 33 del 14/03/2013 attraverso la pubblicazione sul portale della Regione Molise sezione trasparenza.

DOCUMENTO ISTRUTTORIO

OGGETTO: PROGRAMMA INTERREG EUROPE 2014-2020 – PROGETTO SYMBI – APPROVAZIONE ACTION PLAN

PREMESSO CHE

- Il Parlamento e la Commissione Europea hanno approvato il Regolamento (UE) n. 1299 del 17 dicembre 2013 recante “disposizioni specifiche per il sostegno del Fondo europeo di sviluppo regionale all’obiettivo di cooperazione territoriale europea”;
- con decisione di esecuzione del 16 giugno 2014 n. 366 è stato approvato l’elenco dei programmi di cooperazione con indicazione del sostegno complessivo del Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale per ciascun programma nell’ambito dell’obiettivo “Cooperazione Territoriale Europea” per il periodo 2014 – 2020;
- la Commissione ha provveduto a finanziare, tra gli altri, il programma di cooperazione interregionale INTERREG EUROPE;
- la regione Molise è territorio eleggibile del programma Interreg Europe;
- in data 22 giugno 2015 è stata lanciata la I Call per la presentazione di proposte progettuali ordinarie, con scadenza fissata al 31 luglio 2015;
- la Camera di Commercio del Molise ha partecipato a detta Call candidando il progetto SYMBI - “Industrial Symbiosis for Regional Sustainable Growth and a Resource Efficient Circular Economy” con Lettera di Supporto della Regione Molise, sottoscritta dall’Autorità di Gestione del POR FESR-FSE MOLISE 2014-2020;
- in data 30 marzo 2016 il Comitato di Sorveglianza del Programma Interreg Europe ha ammesso a finanziamento il progetto SYMBI;

PRESO ATTO che con Deliberazione n. 22 del 18/04/2016 la Giunta della Camera di Commercio del Molise ha approvato il progetto “SYMBI” a valere sul programma Interreg Europe;

CONSIDERATO che il progetto SYMBI, che riunisce 9 partner provenienti da 7 paesi, si propone di diffondere la simbiosi industriale allineando le politiche regionali con quanto previsto e disposto dalla Commissione Europea in materia di economia circolare e mira a sostenere la transizione verso un’economia efficiente delle risorse attraverso la creazione di sinergie territoriali per la gestione dei rifiuti e lo scambio di energia e sottoprodotti come risorse prime secondarie;

RILEVATO che la Camera di Commercio del Molise, in quanto partner di progetto, è incaricata dell’attuazione delle attività e degli outputs previsti nell’Application Form del progetto SYMBI e nel Manuale di Gestione del Programma INTERREG EUROPE;

RAVVISATO che, con Lettera di Supporto dell’Autorità di Gestione del POR FESR-FSE MOLISE 2014-2020 del 6/07/2015 la Regione Molise ha affermato la piena condivisione dell’attualità e delle finalità del progetto SYMBI;

PRESO ATTO che la Camera di Commercio del Molise con nota prot. n. 9607 dell’11/07/2019 ha trasmesso l’Action Plan del progetto SYMBI;

RITENUTO che il citato documento tecnico predisposto riporta le conoscenze acquisite attraverso la cooperazione con gli altri partner che possano essere valorizzate al fine di migliorare gli strumenti/programmi di politica regionale interessati dalle attività di progetto;

ATTESO pertanto dover provvedere alla formale presa d’atto dell’Action Plan, al fine di completare la validazione e rendere il documento operativo e per permettere alla Camera di Commercio del Molise la trasmissione dello stesso al Lead Partner del progetto;

VISTO:

- il D. Lgs. n.33 del 14/03/2013 e ss.mm.ii. concernente il “Riordino della disciplina riguardante gli obblighi di pubblicità, trasparenza e diffusione di informazioni da parte delle pubbliche amministrazioni” che ha abrogato l’art.18 del D. L. 83/2012 convertito in Legge n.134/2012 concernente gli obblighi di pubblicità in tema di trasparenza nella pubblica amministrazione;

RITENUTO di provvedere in merito;

TUTTO CIO' PREMESSO, SI PROPONE ALLA GIUNTA REGIONALE

1. di assumere le premesse quali parte integrante e sostanziale del presente provvedimento;
2. di prendere atto del documento relativo all'Action Plan redatto dalla Camera di Commercio del Molise per il progetto Industrial Symbiosis for Regional Sustainable Growth and Resource Efficient Circular Economy, in acronimo SYMBI, nell'ambito del Programma INTERREG Europe, che allegato al presente provvedimento ne costituisce parte integrante e sostanziale;
3. di riaffermare la piena condivisione delle finalità e degli obiettivi del progetto SYMBI, ritenuti strategici per il miglioramento degli strumenti di politica regionale, in particolare del Programma Operativo Regionale FESR-FSE MOLISE 2014-2020;
4. di assoggettare il presente provvedimento agli obblighi di pubblicità, trasparenza e diffusione di informazioni, come stabilito dal D.Lgs. n. 33 del 14/03/2013 attraverso la pubblicazione sul portale della Regione Molise sezione trasparenza.

L'Istruttore/Responsabile d'Ufficio
NICOLA PAVONE

SERVIZIO COORDINAMENTO
PROGRAMMAZIONE COMUNITARIA FONDO
FESR-FSE
Il Direttore
NICOLA PAVONE

Il presente verbale, letto e approvato, viene sottoscritto come in appresso:

**IL SEGRETARIO ASSESSORE
ROBERTO DI BAGGIO**

**IL PRESIDENTE
DONATO TOMA**

Documento informatico sottoscritto con firma digitale ai sensi dell'Art.24 del D.Lgs. 07/03/2005, 82