

## The first steps of OptiWaMag project –

### Summary of OptiWaMag project activities in the last four months

The Optiwamag project has been already running for four months with main focus on exchanging experience concerning policies, innovation and initiatives in the waste management field. The 3.5 years long project (August 2019 - January 2023) was approved within the **Interreg Europe programme** financed by the European Regional Development Fund. The Interreg Europe programme helps regional and local governments across Europe to develop and deliver better policies.

The first meeting took place on the kick-off events in Sweden. The meeting brought project partners together who had the chance to meet for the first time and get familiar with each other's activities and country specific reports. The project partners received more information on the selected good practices in the above areas.

After the meeting the group finalized the management handbook and the communication plan. The management handbook provides a general overview of the Optiwamag project.

The communication plan is focused on publicity activities and dissemination of the achievements to the project stakeholders and to a relevant wider audience at local, regional, national and EU level.

The group is also working on the self-assessment tool which will generate a baseline profile for each region. During the self-assessment process, external stakeholders – within the 6 countries - will be asked to fill out the relevant survey about the waste management policy. The project partners then collect all the information and assess the countries' strengths and weaknesses related to the waste management policies.

OptiWaMag project is viable thanks to the financial support from the European Union – the Interreg Europe programme and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

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