

**Interreg**



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**ECOLE**

**Alpine Space**



## **ECOLE:**

**ECO industrial park network for the Alpine Regions  
Leveraging smart and Circular Economy**

# **Final Report on Conferences and Fairs on Circular Economy and EIPs Participation Deliverable D 3.5.2**

*Produced by  
PPT 6: WAB*



This project is co-funded by the European Union through the Interreg Alpine Space programme.

Project-ID: ASP0100091

**ECO industrial park network for the Alpine Regions Leveraging smart and Circular Economy**



**Document Details**

Project acronym	<b>ECOLE</b>
Project title	<b>ECO industrial park network for the Alpine Regions Leveraging smart and Circular Economy</b>
Project ID	<b>ASP0100091</b>
Action	<b>Creation of an overall report on the participation of the consortium at events, conferences and fairs, promoting the ECOLE project and its results.</b>
Deliverable	<b>D 3.5.2 Conferences and fairs on circular economy and EIPs participation reports</b>
Due date	<b>2025.10</b>
Delivery date	<b>2025.10</b>
Dissemination	<b>PPs</b>
Partner in charge	<b>PP06 – WAB</b>
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**Short Description**

**This document provides a description of the initial situation and reason for D.3.5.2 as well as a summary of the participated events, conferences and fairs promoting the ECOLE project and its results. Furthermore this document provides the reports from each individual participated event.**

**Dissemination level**

<b>PU</b>	Public	X
<b>PP</b>	Restricted to other programme participants	
<b>RE</b>	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium	
<b>CO</b>	Confidential, only for members of the consortium	

**Revision history**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<b>V1.0</b>	24.10.2025	Joachim Schmidt	WAB
<b>V1.1</b>	07.11.2025	Joachim Schmidt	WAB
<b>V.1.2</b>			
...			
<b>Final Document</b>	11.11.2025	Joachim Schmidt	WAB



The document has been prepared by the project partner PP6 - Wirtschaftsagentur Burgenland (WAB) of the Interreg Alpine Space project ECOLE. This project is co-funded by the European Union through the Interreg Alpine Space programme. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

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- PP 9 – Grenoble-Alps Metropole (FR): GAM
- PP10 – POLYMERIS (FR): POL
- PP 11 – Lombardy Foundation for the Environment (IT): FLA
- PP 12 – Lombardy Foundation for the Environment (DE): TUMint



## ABBREVIATIONS USED

AF	Application Form
AP	Action Plan
AS	Alpine Space
BP	Business Park
CM	Communication Manager
CE	Circular Economy
ECOLE	ECO industrial park network for the Alpine Regions Leveraging smart and Circular Economy
EIP	Eco-Industrial Park
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
EU	European Union
IP	Industrial Park
JS	Joint Secretary
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
LP	Lead partner
PP	Project Partner
PPT	PowerPoint (Presentation)
TL	Task Leader
TPM	Transnational Project Meeting
WAB	Wirtschaftsagentur Burgenland
WP	Work Package
WPL	Work Package Leader



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## 1. Initial Situation

Within Work Package 3 (WP3), ECOLE aimed to accelerate the green transition of industrial parks by transferring tested circular economy solutions and formulating policy and operational recommendations for key stakeholders. Active participation in national and international conferences and fairs supported these goals by promoting knowledge exchange, presenting project results, and engaging policymakers, businesses, and researchers in dialogue on sustainable industrial development. In line with Deliverable D.3.5.2, these events contributed to the dissemination, mainstreaming and upscaling of ECOLE’s approaches, fostering cooperation across sectors and regions.

The mentioned Deliverable 3.5.2: “Conferences and fairs on circular economy and EIPs participation reports” focuses on participation to national and international conferences on circular economy and sustainable development of industrial parks, presenting the ECOLE project. In order to achieve this, some fundamental things had to be considered. In a first step the requirements of a suitable conference or fair had to be agreed on. This was to make sure that the suggested events will only contain relevant opportunities to promote the ECOLE project. The consortium decided that potential events should have a connection to the topics of the ECOLE project, meaning that at least one of the following areas should be covered at the conference or fair:

- Circular Economy
- Sustainability
- Energy Resilience
- (Eco-) Industrial Parks / Business Parks
- Water/Resource Efficiency
- Energy Efficiency

Further on it should combine at least two of the below mentioned interested parties/category of participants to achieve a good coverage of interests.

Interested parties	Interests
Enterprises	Energy efficiency; resource efficiency & waste reduction; cost savings; regulations
Policy makers (local, regional, national or international)	Best practices; Legal guidelines; Problems faced; Success stories
Industrial Park management	Tenant engagement; Infrastructure planning; Park development; Resource planning; Risk management; Supply chain management
Everyone else	Sustainable Practices Advocacy; Collaborative Initiatives; Policy Influence and Standards; Impact



<p><i>(NGOs; Investors &amp; Financial Institutions; Academic and Research Institutions; Industry Associations; Community Representatives)</i></p>	<p>Assessment and Research; Community Engagement and Benefit</p>
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With this information available, each partner had the opportunity to suggest events that fitted the requirements, to provide a strong basis for a final decision. Additionally to the collection, a decision-making tool was used to decide on at least 3 conferences or fairs where the ECOLE project will be presented. Through the usage of a decision making tool (every partner had the opportunity to vote on its favorite events by distributing three, two and one points. Through this method, the partners decided to participate in the following three events to promote the ECOLE project:

- Circular Economy Conference (Ljubljana, SL)
- Ecomondo (Rimini, IT)
- European Week of Region and Cities organized by the EC and the Committee of Regions & Cities (Brussels, B)



## 2. Summary

Throughout 2024 and 2025, project partners actively participated in five European and regional conferences and fairs and reached more than 1000 people:

Date	Name of event	No. of Participants
11.06.2024	Circular Economy Conference: “FROM STRATEGIES TO ACTION” Building the economic imperative for sustainable and social impact (Ljubljana, SL)	97
31.08.2024	Zukunftsforum Energie (Weiz, AUT)	24
06.11.2024	Ecomondo: Supporting the transition of Italian industrial and brown areas into eco-industrial parks and the implementation of industrial symbiosis as a routine management tool for companies (Rimini, IT)	100+
04.03-07.03.2025	World Sustainable Energy Days Wels (Wels, AUT)	500-1000
12-14.05.2025	Cooperation, Legacy, and Change: 25 Years of Interreg Alpine Space (Salzburg, AUT)	350+

Since it was the consortium not possible to attend the “European Week of Region and Cities organized by the EC and the Committee of Regions & Cities” in Brussels, alternatives had to be found. With the event “Cooperation, Legacy, and Change: 25 Years of Interreg Alpine Space” in Salzburg and the two events “Zukunftsforum Energie” in Weiz and “World Sustainable Energy Days Wels” the initial number of three events could even be improved to 5!

These events collectively served as strategic platforms to disseminate project outcomes, promote knowledge exchange, and strengthen transnational cooperation in the fields of circular economy, sustainable industry, and energy transition. The participation of multiple project partners ensured strong visibility at European and regional levels. Each event contributed to advancing the project’s objectives by fostering dialogue among policymakers, researchers, and enterprises while exploring practical approaches to sustainability and governance.

### 2.1. Key topics addressed

Across all events, discussions centered on sustainability, circular economy, innovation ecosystems, and energy transition, reflecting the project’s integrative and forward-looking approach.

At the **Ljubljana Conference – “From Strategies to Action”**, discussions revolved around circular economy models, innovative procurement, and policy frameworks supporting



sustainability. International case studies from Iceland, Norway, and Slovenia showcased successful governance and business models. The inclusion of the ECOLE project in the roundtable underscored its relevance for eco-industrial park management and circular transition strategies.

The **Zukunftsforum Energie in Weiz** provided a regional perspective on the intersection of people, technology, and sustainability. Under the motto “Economic Area – Future Area – Living Space”, the event brought together regional actors from energy, education, mobility, and industry to co-create visions for future regional development. The presentation of the ECOLE project by W.E.I.Z. emphasized how cross-sector collaboration and innovation can drive sustainable transformation at the local level.

At the **Ecomondo** Conference, attention was placed on circular economy applications in industrial parks and the need for coordinated governance to enhance resource efficiency and industrial symbiosis. The exchange of best practices revealed how regional initiatives can be scaled up through European cooperation frameworks.

The **World Sustainable Energy Days** highlighted industrial decarbonisation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy integration. The project’s participation through a poster presentation demonstrated practical examples of how industrial regions can accelerate the transition toward low-carbon production.

Finally, the **Salzburg Conference**, celebrating 25 years of Interreg Alpine Space, focused on transnational collaboration, innovation governance, and the alignment of regional strategies. Stakeholders emphasized the importance of cross-border synergies for advancing sustainable industrial and digital transformation.

## 2.2. Key Achievements and Outcomes

Participation in these conferences and fairs led to several concrete achievements.

First, the project enhanced its European and regional visibility, reaching stakeholders from across policy, research, and industry sectors. The events served as high-impact dissemination opportunities, positioning the project as an example of applied innovation in circular economy and sustainable energy.

Second, they fostered new cooperation opportunities and knowledge transfer. Over 20 potential partners and organizations expressed interest in future collaboration, particularly within the context of Interreg and Horizon Europe programs. The cross-sectoral nature of the events—linking academia, enterprises, and public authorities—helped establish a strong foundation for transnational and regional project initiatives.

Third, the conferences facilitated the exchange of best practices and success stories, reinforcing the importance of integrating social, economic, and technological perspectives into sustainability strategies. Examples from Iceland and Norway illustrated effective circular procurement and innovation frameworks, while regional sessions in Austria highlighted local solutions for renewable energy and industrial innovation.

Finally, the participation in Wels and Salzburg contributed to the development of the “Roadmap 2030plus”, a strategic framework that connects current project outcomes with upcoming EU funding periods (2028–2034). This roadmap ensures that established partnerships and pilot initiatives continue to generate impact beyond the project’s lifetime.



### 2.3. Lessons Learned

Across all events, several lessons emerged. The most significant was the recognition that collaboration between public authorities, businesses, and research institutions remains key to achieving sustainability goals. The need for practical implementation tools, coupled with strong regional coordination, was highlighted as essential for translating policy ambitions into measurable results.

Moreover, the events demonstrated that education and digital competence are central to advancing circular and green transitions. Integrating initiatives such as the Circular Innovation Academy and STEAM-based learning frameworks into regional strategies proved effective in building long-term innovation capacity.

Finally, discussions at Weiz and Ljubljana emphasized the human dimension of the green transition—highlighting that technological progress must go hand in hand with social inclusion and the empowerment of local communities.

Based on the experiences and contacts gained, the project will continue to strengthen its network of partners across Europe, initiate joint project concepts, and organize follow-up communication events to sustain stakeholder engagement. Preparatory activities for future EU calls (2025–2026) will build upon the synergies identified, particularly in the areas of circular economy, renewable energy, and industrial transformation.

Regionally, activities inspired by the Weiz and Ljubljana conferences will focus on establishing permanent collaboration platforms to connect innovators, enterprises, and policymakers in promoting circular and energy-efficient practices.





## 4. Annex

Circular Economy Conference: “FROM STRATEGIES TO ACTION” Building the economic imperative for sustainable and social impact (Ljubljana, SL)

<b>Partner:</b>	Regionalna razvojna agencija Ljubljanske urbane regije
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Tina Pezdirc Nograšek
<b>Title of Event:</b>	“FROM STRATEGIES TO ACTION” Building the economic imperative for sustainable and social impact
<b>Type of Event:</b>	Conference
<b>Date:</b>	11.6.2024
<b>Duration (from – until):</b>	09:00 - 14:00
<b>Venue:</b>	Ljubljana Castle
<b>Language:</b>	English/Slovene
<b>No. Participants:</b>	97

### Summary of the event:

The Circular Economy and Sustainability Conference brought together experts, policymakers, and innovators to explore the role of circular economy practices in driving sustainability and climate neutrality. The event began with opening remarks from representatives of regional and national institutions, highlighting the importance of collaboration in addressing environmental challenges. A keynote address by Janez Potočnik, Co-Chair of the UN Environment Programme International Resource Panel, emphasized the transformative potential of circular economy models, followed by an engaging Q&A session. Subsequent presentations showcased frameworks for public support, including Iceland's platform for green solutions, Norway's innovative procurement strategies, and Ljubljana's efforts toward climate neutrality. Discussions continued with a focus on circular economy innovations, led by Bala Kamallakharan, who highlighted the role of startups and investment in shaping a sustainable future. A round table discussion brought diverse perspectives from Iceland, Norway, and Slovenia, addressing topics such as local governance, industrial practices, sustainable design, and innovative business models. In the framework of the round table the ECOLE project was also presented. The conference concluded with a summary of key insights and future strategies, followed by a networking lunch, leaving attendees inspired and equipped to advance circular economy practices in their respective fields.

### Final Agenda (Time – Topic – Speaker ):



8.30 – 9.00 REGISTRATION

9.00 – 9.30 INTRODUCTORY GREETINGS

**Lilijana Madjar MSc**, Director, Regional Development Agency of Ljubljana Urban Region

**Marko Koprivc MSc**, State Secretary for Cohesion Policy Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development of Slovenia

**Mitja Blagajne PhD**, Secretary-General Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport

**Herman Baskår**, Norwegian Embassy, Deputy Head of Mission

**Dejan Crnek**, Deputy Mayor, City of Ljubljana

9.30 – 10.30 BAND THE TREND - THE ROLE OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN TRANSITION TO SUSTAINABILITY

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Janez Potočnik PhD**, Co-Chair of United Nations Environment Programme International Resource Panel.

Q&A

10.30 – 11.30 FRAMEWORKS OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

10.30 – 10.50 **A PLATFORM FOR COOPERATION ON GREEN SOLUTIONS**

**Nott Thorberg**, *Director, Green by Iceland, Iceland*

10.50 – 11.10 **GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABILITY: STARTOFF NORWAY'S APPROACH**

**Mathias Grude Eikseth**, *Project manager – Green Innovative Procurement, The Norwegian Agency for Public and Financial Management, Norway*

11.10 – 11.30 **LJUBLJANA ON THE WAY TO CLIMATE NEUTRALITY**



**Nataša Jazbinšek Seršen**, *Head of Department for Environmental Protection, City of Ljubljana, Slovenia*

11.30 - 11.50 COFFEE BREAK

11.50 – 12:30 SHAPING THE FUTURE: CIRCULAR ECONOMY INNOVATIONS

11.50 – 12:30 **BUILDING THE FUTURE THROUGH CIRCULAR AND GREEN INNOVATIONS**

**Bala Kamallakharan**, *Founder, Startup Iceland and Managing Director, Iceland Venture Studio, Iceland*

12:30 – 13.45 ROUND TABLE: ADVANCING CIRCULAR ECONOMY MODELS ACROSS ALL SECTORS

**DRIVING CIRCULARITY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL**

**Helga María Pálsdóttir**, *Head Of Administration, Association of Local Authorities, Iceland*

**SUSTAINABLE VALUE CREATION IN ICELAND**

**Jenna Bjork Gudmundsdottir**, *Project Manager, KLAk, Iceland*

**CIRCULAR APPROACHES IN INDUSTRIAL PARKS**

**Lea Lavric PhD**, *Head of Research & Development, Company KOTO Ltd, Ljubljana, Slovenia*

**ENHANCING CIRCULAR ECONOMY THROUGH SUSTAINABLE DESIGN PRACTICES**

**Lillian Ayla Ersoy**, *Founder, Novooi, Norway*

**BUSINESS MODELS FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY**



**Nina Meglič**, Coordinator of SRIP, *Strategic Research and Innovation Partnership (SRIP) – Networks for the transition into circular economy, Slovenia*

Q&A

13:45 – 14.00 CONCLUSIONS AND CLOSURE OF THE CONFERENCE

14.00 LUNCH

**Participating stakeholder groups (policy makers, enterprises, etc.):**

**Policymakers:**

- Representatives from the Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development of Slovenia
- Regional Development Agency of Ljubljana Urban Region
- City of Ljubljana officials
- Norwegian Embassy representative

**Enterprises:**

- Companies like KOTO Ltd.
- Startup Iceland and Iceland Venture Studio

**Public Institutions:**

- Association of Local Authorities (Iceland)
- The Norwegian Agency for Public and Financial Management

**Academic and Research Experts:**

- Janez Potočnik, Co-Chair of the UN Environment Programme International Resource Panel
- Strategic Research and Innovation Partnerships (SRIP)

**Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Local Initiatives:**

- Various participants supporting green and circular economy innovations.

**Analysis of presentation (questions asked, feedback to presentation/project):**

The presentations generated significant engagement, with questions focusing on the practical implementation of circular economy strategies, funding mechanisms, and the scalability of green innovations. Attendees provided positive feedback, particularly on the actionable insights shared by speakers like Janez Potočnik and Nataša Jazbinšek Seršen. Questions explored how different regions could adopt Icelandic and Norwegian sustainability frameworks. The interests and questions were also raised in the frame of



the roundtable discussion, where governance of the Industrial parks and how to become an Eco-industrial park was also discussed.

**Outcomes of the event (similar projects/success stories, interested parties, networking/collaboration possibilities) :**

The conference showcased several success stories, such as Iceland's cooperative platforms for green solutions and Norway's innovative procurement practices. Many attendees expressed interest in replicating Ljubljana's climate neutrality initiatives. Networking opportunities facilitated collaboration between policymakers, enterprises, and researchers, creating potential partnerships to advance the circular economy across sectors.

**Lessons learned:**

A key takeaway was the importance of integrating public and private efforts to achieve circular economy goals. Stakeholders emphasized that clear communication, cross-sector collaboration, and tailored local strategies are essential for impactful results. The value of international knowledge-sharing and adaptation of best practices emerged as another critical lesson.

**Next steps:**

Attendees were encouraged to foster deeper collaborations across sectors, refine regional policies, and explore funding opportunities for circular economy projects. Specific next steps include applying lessons from Icelandic and Norwegian frameworks, expanding public awareness initiatives, and creating platforms to support green innovation at the local level.

**Conclusion:**

The conference highlighted the growing importance of circular economy principles in achieving sustainability goals. It successfully brought together diverse stakeholders to exchange knowledge, share success stories, and discuss actionable steps for advancing green initiatives. The event left participants inspired and equipped with strategies to drive sustainable change in their respective domains.

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46	mag. Kregar Damjan	JP LPP	damjan.kregar@lpp.si	

«Circular Economy – New economic imperative for regional sustainable, social and ecological impacts»



47	Kristinsdóttir Berglind	Reykjanes Peninsula Regional Office	Berglind Kristinsdottir <berglind@sss.is>	Berglind Kristinsdottir
48	Kuzmič Dimitrij	Ministrstvo za kohezijo in regionalni razvoj	dimitrij.kuzmic@gov.si	Kuzmič
49	Lapanja Vesna	RRA LUR	vesna.lapanja@rralur.si	Lapanja
50	dr. Lavrič Lea	Koto d.o.o.	lea.lavric@koto.si	Lavrič
51	mag. Lupše Ines	MNVP	ines.lupse@gov.si	Lupše
52	mag. Madjar Lilijana	RRA LUR	lilijana.madjar@rralur.si	Madjar
53	Maksimovič Vesna	Razvojni center Novo Mesto	vesna.maksimovic@rc-nm.si	Maksimovič
54	Marinček Aleš	RRA LUR	ales.marincek@rralur.si	Marinček
55	Marinčič Dejan	RRA LUR	dejan.marinčič@rralur.si	Marinčič
56	Matek Miroslav	RRA LUR - PONI		Matek
57	Medvešček Brina	RRA LUR	brina.medvescek@rralur.si	Medvešček
58	Meglič Nina	SRIP - Krožno gospodarstvo	nina.meglic@stajerskega.si	Meglič
59	Mislej Vesna	JP Voka Snaga d.o.o.	vesna.mislej@vokasnaga.si	Mislej

»Circular Economy – New economic imperative for regional sustainable, social and ecological impacts«

60	Möderndorfer Tadeja	Mestna občina Ljubljana	tadeja.moderndorfer@ljubljana.si	Möderndorfer
61	mag. Nared Nives	Ministrstvo za okolje, podnebje in energijo	Nives.Nared@gov.si	Nared
62	Nelec Vita	RRA LUR	vita.nelec@rralur.si	Nelec
63	Nožič Serini Sašo	Član RS LUR	sasonozic@gmail.com	Nožič
64	Nudžič Aleksandra	JP Ljubljanska parkirišča in tržnice	aleksandra.nuzdic@lpt.si	Nudžič
65	Otavnik Ema	Ekologij brez meja	ema.otavnik@ocistimo.si	Otavnik
66	Ovsec Janez	Član RS LUR	janez.ovsec@kabelnet.net	Ovsec
67	dr. Pavšer Nada	Občina Dobropolje	nada.pavser@guest.arnes.si	Pavšer
68	Pek Drapal Darinka	Consensus d.o.o.	darinka.drapal@consensus.si	Pek
69	Peršič Urša	RRA LUR	urša.peršič@rralur.si	Peršič
70	mag. Pezdirc Nograšek Tina	RRA LUR	tina.pezdirc@rralur.si	Pezdirc
71	mag. Podpeskar Omahen Marjeta	Občina Domžale	marjeta.podpeskar@domzale.si	Podpeskar
72	dr. Potočnik Janez	UNEP Environment International Resource Panel	janez.potocnik22@gmail.com	Potočnik

»Circular Economy – New economic imperative for regional sustainable, social and ecological impacts«



## Zukunftsforum Energie (Weiz, AUT)

<b>Partner:</b>	WEIZER ENERGIE INNOVATIONSZENTRUM
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Andrea Dornhofer

<b>Title of Event:</b>	“ZUKUNFTSFORUM ENERGIE”
<b>Type of Event:</b>	Conference
<b>Date:</b>	31.08.2024
<b>Duration (from - until):</b>	09:00 - 17:00
<b>Venue:</b>	Hotel Modersnhof, Weiz
<b>Language:</b>	German
<b>No. Participants:</b>	24

### Summary of the event:

The event Future Space of the Weiz Economic/Industrial Area - St. Ruprecht/Raab took place on August 31, 2023, this year with the support of the ECOLE project from the Innovation Center WEIZ:

With this, the economic area wants to, in accordance with the motto economic area - future area - Living space, actually giving space to the future and working together with innovative thinkers People help shape the future of our region. An annual ideas workshop is held together with representatives from the areas of education, technology, energy, infrastructure, agriculture, research & development, mobility and regional development. Thus the We use the diversity of ideas, topics and know-how in our region to make our contribution to the quality of life, security of supply and innovative strength of the people living here.

### Final Agenda (Time - Topic - Speaker):

09:00 - 09:30 Arrive, get to know each other, start the day  
 09:30 - 10:45 Short introductions and exchange of participants:  
 What is the future? How and with what we can shape the future design in Industries?  
 10:45 - 11:00 break: coffee & cake  
 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Panel, discourse & input:  
 Future visions from actors from the region  
 Gernot Tändler (GET2e)  
 Andreas Wagner (Solarel)  
 Christian Binder (WR Weiz-St. Ruprecht)

12:30 - 1:00 ECOLE - Presentation of the project - Andrea Dornhofer (W.E.I.Z.)  
 Lunch 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lunch break: soup & salad buffet

Afternoon (2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.)  
 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Panel, discourse & input:  
 “How inevitable is our future?” Klaus Kofler (FDA)  
 3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Plenum, discourse & input:



Want and ability - the future in our region 2040  
 4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Break: Coffee & cake  
 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Active networking: New connections and relationships find, link and recognize  
 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Joint summary of the day's results

**Participating stakeholder groups (policy makers, enterprises, etc.):**

Policy Makers (municipality St. Ruprecht, regional development eastern styria)  
 Enterprises (Architect Kaltenegger, Evon Smart Home, Magenta Telekom, Solarel GmbH  
 education (School of business administration,  
 industries (company craiss, Wollsdorf Leder, Holistic garden)

**Analysis of presentation (questions asked, feedback to presentation/project):**

The focus was on the topic of technologies of the future. In cooperation with the Future Design Academy, the ECOLE project, which the W.E.I.Z innovation center implements, and specialists from the respective areas  
 Existing as well as new projects are treated from a future perspective. We were able to welcome representatives from cardamom, evon, evon Smart Home, get2e.com, Holistic Garden, Kalte negger & Partner Architekten, Complexity Manager OG, Magenta – T-Mobile Austria, Solarel,  
 Wollsdorf Leder Schmidt and the regional development of Eastern Styria, the market town St. Ruprecht/Raab, the municipality of Weiz and the innovation center W.E.I.Z.

**Outcomes of event (similar projects/success-stories, interested parties, networking/collaboration possibilities) :**



Together with the participants, questions on future topics such as sustainability, energy, mobility and climate protection were addressed and approaches were developed on how to implement solutions for the future-oriented further development of our region through cooperation between various specialists. The central result of the event was confirmed by all participants that, given the rapid technological developments of our time, people must always be the focus and that there must continue to be projects and initiatives in our region in the future that occupy the interface between people and technology. The networking that has taken place and the joint creation of solutions has laid the foundation for the future. The event was further proof that the future can be actively shaped in our economic area with the innovative strength and existing specialist knowledge.

**Lessons learned:**

The networking that has taken place and the joint creation of solutions has laid the foundation for the future. The event was further proof that the future can be actively shaped in our economic area with the innovative strength and existing specialist knowledge.

**Next steps:**

**Conclusion:**

Together with the participants, questions on future topics such as sustainability, energy, mobility and climate protection were addressed and approaches were developed on how to implement solutions for the future-oriented further development of our region through cooperation between various specialists. The central result of the event was confirmed by all participants that, given the rapid technological developments of our time, people must always be the focus and that there must continue to be projects and initiatives in our region in the future that occupy the interface between people and technology. The networking that has taken place and the joint creation of solutions has laid the foundation for the future. The event was further proof that the future can be actively shaped in our economic area with the innovative strength and existing specialist knowledge.

**Contact Information of interested parties (Name - Name of organization - Type of Organization):**



This project is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund through the Interreg Alpine Space programme



Workshop: ZUKUNFTSRAUM 2023  
Ort, Datum: WEIZ, 31.08. - 01.09.2023

ECOLE

VORNAME, NACHNAME	ORGANISATION	UNTERSCHRIFT
ERLW LITZLEGER	LITZLEGER & BRUNNEN PROJEKTE	
KARIN MAGOMETSCHNIG	Komplexitätsmanager	K. Magomet
Vera Baumgartner	Regionalentwicklung Oststeiermark	Vera Baum
Patrick Schaffernack	evon Smart Home	
Daniela ADLER	Regionalentwicklung Oststeiermark	
JULIAN FANNEYER	MAGNETA TELECOM SMART CITY	
NICHAEL BERGER	MAGNETA TELECOM SMART CITY	
Anton REICHT	Solarat GmbH	

By signing, you agree that your personal data may also be used for the purposes of the narrative and financial control of the provider of funds and other public authorities to control the use of public funds. Your data are protected by public authorities in accordance with the European and Austrian regulations. The consent is required by the General Data Protection Regulation. If you do not want to share your personal information, enter only the name and surname and your signature.

This project is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund through the Interreg Alpine Space programme



Workshop: ZUKUNFTSRAUM 2023  
Ort, Datum: WEIZ, 31.08. - 01.09.2023

ECOLE

VORNAME, NACHNAME	ORGANISATION	UNTERSCHRIFT
MICHAEL SCHMIDT	WOLFSBURG LEADER	
MICHAEL ZIMMER	Holistische GARDEN	
Christian Binder	Gde St. Ruprecht	
Maria-Theres ZIRM	cardamon	
DAVID ZETL-GÖTHMANN	WÄRME-SOLUTIONS WÄRME-PARKETT	
GERNOT TÄNDLER	get2e.com	
Andreas WAGNER	Solarel GmbH	
Alexander HENNINGER	evon GmbH	

By signing, you agree that your personal data may also be used for the purposes of the narrative and financial control of the provider of funds and other public authorities to control the use of public funds. Your data are protected by public authorities in accordance with the European and Austrian regulations. The consent is required by the General Data Protection Regulation. If you do not want to share your personal information, enter only the name and surname and your signature.



This project is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund through the Interreg Alpine Space programme

Innovation Centre WE.I.Z.  
 interreg Co-funded by the European Union  
**Alpine Space**  
 ECOLE

Workshop: ZUKUNFTSRAUM 2023  
 Ort, Datum: WEIZ, 31.08. - 01.09.2023

VORNAME, NACHNAME	ORGANISATION	UNTERSCHRIFT
Fernat Nöcker	Dieter St. Kogler	<i>[Signature]</i>
Stephan Peschl	Wirtschaftsraum Weiz-St. Kogler	<i>[Signature]</i>
Leonie Konrad	HLW Weiz	<i>[Signature]</i>
Klaus Kofler	FDA	<i>[Signature]</i>
Bianca Megler	WEIZ Online	<i>[Signature]</i>
Günter Tüscher	Vulkan TV	<i>[Signature]</i>
Christoph Sudy	—	<i>[Signature]</i>
Kolom Baumler	FDA	<i>[Signature]</i>

By signing, you agree that your personal data may also be used for the purposes of the narrative and financial control of the provider of funds and other public authorities to control the use of public funds. Your data are protected by public authorities in accordance with the European and Austrian regulations. The consent is required by the General Data Protection Regulation. If you do not want to share your personal information, enter only the name and surname and your signature.

**Other/Additional Information:**



Ecomondo: Supporting the transition of Italian industrial and brown areas into eco-industrial parks and the implementation of industrial symbiosis as a routine management tool for companies (Rimini, IT)

<b>Partner:</b>	Lombardy Foundation for the Environment (FLA)
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Massimo Di Domenico

<b>Title of Event:</b>	Supporting the transition of Italian industrial and brown areas into eco-industrial parks and the implementation of industrial symbiosis as a routine management tool for companies
<b>Type of Event:</b>	Conference
<b>Date:</b>	06.11.2024
<b>Duration (from – until):</b>	10:00 - 13:00
<b>Venue:</b>	Rimini Exhibition Centre
<b>Language:</b>	Italian
<b>No. Participants:</b>	More than 100

**Summary of the event:**

Economic and non-economic tools and incentives play a crucial role in supporting the transition from linear production and consumption models to sustainable and circular ones. The Timeline of the National Strategy for the Circular Economy, in this perspective, provides for support for industrial symbiosis projects through the development of incentive tools and/or schemes and also proposes the use of the tool of business networks with circular purposes and the regeneration of brownfield areas into circular eco-districts (eco-industrial parks), also through industrial symbiosis. To this end, it is also essential to involve and discuss with and among stakeholders such as companies, public administrations, universities and research centers, education/training systems, trade associations and the third sector. In this context, the VIII edition of the SUN Network Conference represented an opportunity to focus on economic and non-economic tools and incentives for the promotion of industrial symbiosis and the transition of Italian industrial areas towards the circular eco-district model. During this event, the ECOLE Project was presented with a specific focus on the theme of Governance in industrial parks.

**Final Agenda (Time – Topic – Speaker ):**

**President of the session**

Alessandra De Santis, [economiecircolare.com](http://economiecircolare.com)  
 Laura Cutaia, ENEA – Dipartimento SSPT, Presidente SUN

**Programme**

10.00 Introduction  
 10.10-11.00 Invited speeches





Giuseppe Mancini<sup>1</sup>, Antonella Luciano<sup>2</sup>, Debora Fino<sup>3</sup>; <sup>1</sup>Università di Catania, <sup>2</sup>ENEA, <sup>3</sup>Politecnico di Torino

*Distretti energetici circolari: il modello concreto per trasformare i rifiuti in risorse*

Giovanni Baldassarre, Edison Next

*Trieste Net0: Strategie di decarbonizzazione dell'area industriale giuliana*

Augusto Peruzzi<sup>1</sup>, S. Primiceri<sup>2</sup>, A. Di Paolo<sup>1</sup>, F. Fileni<sup>1</sup>, M. Martignani<sup>3</sup>, G. Nenzioni<sup>3</sup>, Daniela Filipaz<sup>4</sup>, Luigi Borgogno<sup>4</sup>; <sup>1</sup>Capgemini, <sup>2</sup>Coselag, <sup>3</sup>Hera Servizi Energia, <sup>4</sup>Justonearth

12.20-12.55 Pitch – Case studies

Coordinatrice: Tiziana Beltrani, ENEA

Sustainable Urban Ecosystems: Advancing Waste Management, Circular Economy Practices, and Symbiotic Solutions in Eastern Amman's Industrial Cities

*Haneen Hassouneh, SCDA - Non-Profit Organization*

*La circolarità della Valutazione Ambientale Strategica per l'attuazione di scelte sostenibili di pianificazione e sviluppo economico del territorio della Regione Basilicata*

Maria Carmela Bruno, Fiorella Messina – Regione Basilicata

*Circularità per il rinverdimento dei compositi - Circularity for greening compositi*

Maria Savina Pianesi, Delta s.r.l.

*Enhancing industrial symbiosis as a business model in POREM's value chain: assessing its potential economic impact in Italy*

Francesca Ceruti<sup>1</sup>, Marco La Monica<sup>2</sup>, Alice Dall'Ara<sup>3</sup>, Alessandra Strafella<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>Università di Brescia, <sup>2</sup>ENEA, <sup>3</sup>ADA S.R.L.S

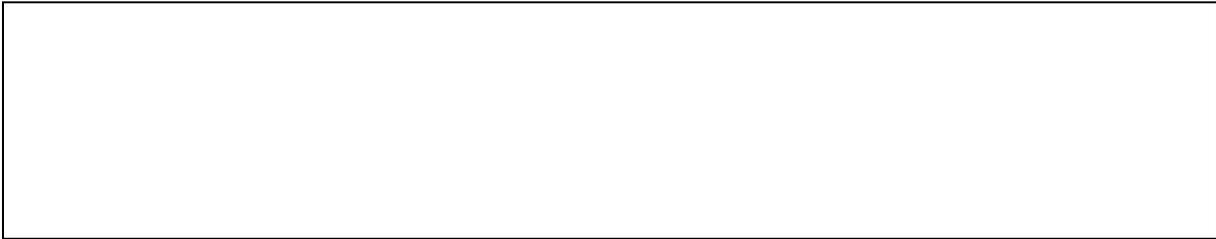
***Governing the Industrial parks: different Governance models to sustainable and circular Industrial parks***

**Massimo Di Domenico, Antonio Ballarin Denti, Mita Lapi – Fondazione Lombardia per l'Ambiente (FLA)**

*Sportello circolarità*

Paolo Maffè<sup>1</sup>, Marina Stroppa<sup>1</sup>, Giovanni Rossitti<sup>1</sup>, Enrico Boccaleri<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>Confindustria Novara Vercelli Valsesia, <sup>2</sup>Università del Piemonte Orientale





**Conclusion:**

The seminar allowed all participants to address topics concerning industrial parks and aspects such as sustainability, energy, mobility and climate protection, circularity with a focus on industrial symbiosis. Approaches on how to implement solutions for the further development of industrial parks in Italy were presented through the collaboration between various industry and technicians experts. The result of the event was significant and allowed participants to learn about the state of the art. The resulting networking has allowed the creation of contacts and collaborations for future in-depth and research activities.

**Contact Information of interested parties (Name - Name of organization - Type of Organization):**



**Other/Additional Information:**



**Photos:**





## World Sustainable Energy Days Wels (Wels, AUT)

<b>Partner:</b>	WEIZER ENERGIE INNOVATIONSZENTRUM
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Andrea Dornhofer, Katharina Halper

<b>Title of Event:</b>	World Sustainable Energy Days Wels
<b>Type of Event:</b>	Conference / Poster Presentation
<b>Date:</b>	04.03.- 07.03.2025
<b>Duration (from - until):</b>	08:00 – 18:00
<b>Venue:</b>	
<b>Language:</b>	Englisch / German
<b>No. Participants:</b>	500 - 1000

### Summary of the event:

The World Sustainable Energy Days (WSED) are one of the leading international conferences on the energy transition and climate neutrality. Every year, over 650 experts from more than 60 countries meet in Wels to exchange strategies, technologies and best practices in the field of sustainable energy.

The W.E.I.Z. Innovation Center presented the ECOLE project as part of the event with a poster. The presentation met with great interest, especially among experts who deal with the energy transition in industry and industrial parks. Many visitors asked questions about the pilot measures and results, as they have similar challenges in their regions and would like to learn from the project's experiences.

The event provided valuable networking opportunities, opened up potential for future cooperation and knowledge transfer in the field of the industrial energy transition.

### Final Agenda (Time – Topic – Speaker):

[WSED Programm - 2025](#)



<b>Gesamt-Zeitplan WSED</b>				
	Dienstag 4. März	Mittwoch 5. März	Donnerstag 6. März	Freitag 7. März
Europäische Pelletskonferenz				
Europäische Energieeffizienz Konferenz				
Energieeffizienz Strategie Konferenz				
Industrie Energiewende Konferenz				
Konferenz Smarte E-Mobilität				
Young Energy Efficiency Researchers Conference				
Young Biomass Researchers Conference				
Energiesparmesse				
Poster-Präsentation				

2

**Participating stakeholder groups (policy makers, enterprises, etc.):**

CEOs from Industry;  
 Research Centers;  
 young Researcher;  
 local, regional and national Public Authorities

**Analysis of presentation (questions asked, feedback to presentation/project):**

The presentation of the ECOLE project at the World Sustainable Energy Days in Wels was met with great interest, especially from experts involved in the energy transition in industry and industrial parks. Many participants asked questions about the pilot measures implemented and the key findings of the project, as they have similar challenges in their regions and would like to benefit from the experience. The positive response shows that the topic is highly relevant and offers potential for further exchange or cooperation. A possible next step would be targeted follow-up, e.g. through further information or networking with interested stakeholders.

**Outcomes of event (similar projects/success-stories, interested parties, networking/collaboration possibilities) :**

Participation in the World Sustainable Energy Days in Wels provided valuable insights and networking opportunities. Several organizations and experts showed interest in the ECOLE project, including a project manager for circular economy projects from BOKU, the Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research, Project Energate from Greece and a project manager from Germany. These contacts offer potential for future cooperation, knowledge exchange and possible joint projects in the field of energy transition in industry. In addition, similar projects and success stories were discussed, which facilitated the exchange of best practices and provided new impetus for the further development of the ECOLE project.

### Lessons learned:

Participation in the World Sustainable Energy Days in Wels resulted in several lessons learned for the ECOLE project:

- High relevance of the topic: the great response shows that the energy transition in industry and industrial parks is a key topic in many regions and that there is great interest in best practices.
- Practical relevance is crucial: Participants specifically asked about concrete pilot measures and results, which makes it clear that practical application examples and measurable successes are particularly valuable for the exchange.
- International networking as an opportunity: The interest shown by stakeholders from Austria, the Netherlands, Greece and Germany shows that cross-border collaboration offers great potential for knowledge transfer and future cooperation.
- Further communication necessary: The demand for detailed findings and experiences from the project suggests that supplementary formats such as webinars, reports or factsheets could further promote knowledge transfer.

### Next steps:

- Detailed project communication: Preparation of a compact report or factsheet on the pilot measures and the most important results in order to effectively share the knowledge gained.
- Further knowledge transfer: Organize a webinar or workshop to present the project results and discuss possible synergies with similar projects.
- Check cooperation opportunities: Evaluate whether joint EU projects, research initiatives or networking with the interested organizations are possible.
- Further project development: Use feedback to improve future presentations and communicate results more effectively to various stakeholders.

### Conclusion:

Participating in the World Sustainable Energy Days in Wels was a valuable opportunity to present the ECOLE project to an international audience of experts and make valuable contacts. The great interest in the pilot measures and results showed the high relevance of the topic, especially for the energy transition in industry. The event also offered a great deal of potential for future cooperation and knowledge transfer, which should now be pursued further.

**Contact Information of interested parties (Name - Name of organization - Type of Organization):**

Sacchin Payyanad - Jain Global Campus – Research Center on Fire and Combustion (India)

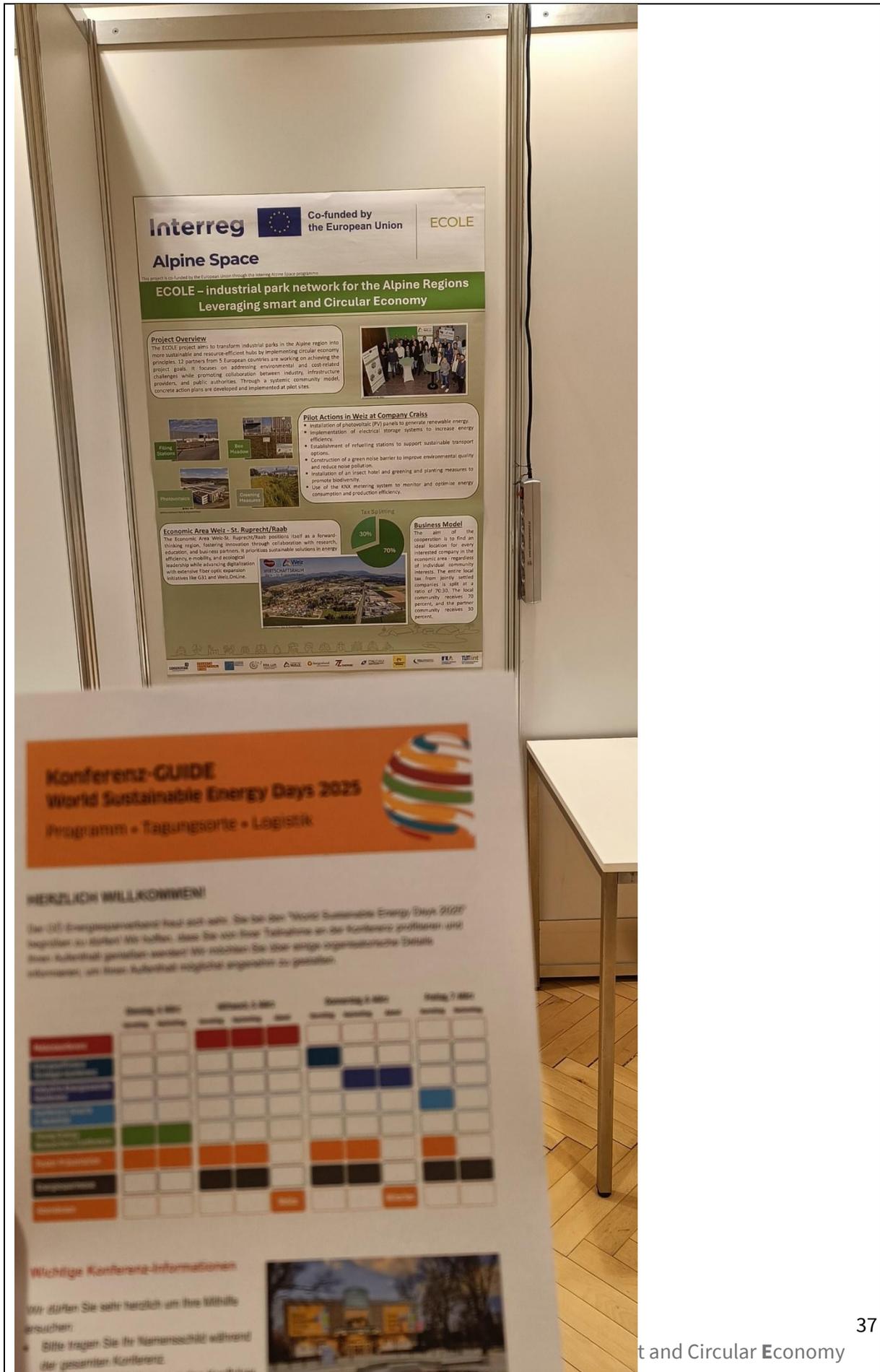
Katerina Papapostolou – Energate – [www.energate-project.eu](http://www.energate-project.eu)

Silvia Scherhauser – BOKU Vienna - University

Photos







**Interreg** **Co-funded by the European Union** **ECOLE**

**Alpine Space**

*The project is co-funded by the Common Interest through the Interreg Alpine Space programme*

**ECOLE - industrial park network for the Alpine Regions**  
Leveraging smart and Circular Economy

**Project Overview**  
The ECOLE project aims to transform industrial parks in the Alpine region into more sustainable and resource-efficient hubs by implementing circular economy principles. 12 partners from 5 European countries are working on achieving the project goals. It focuses on addressing environmental and cost-related challenges while promoting collaboration between industry, infrastructure providers, and public authorities. Through a systemic community model, concrete action plans are developed and implemented at pilot sites.

**Pilot Actions in Weiz at Company Craiss**

- Installation of photovoltaic (PV) panels to generate renewable energy.
- Implementation of electrical storage systems to increase energy efficiency.
- Establishment of refuelling stations to support sustainable transport options.
- Construction of a green noise barrier to improve environmental quality and reduce noise pollution.
- Installation of an insect hotel and greening and planting measures to promote biodiversity.
- Use of the KNX measuring system to monitor and optimise energy consumption and production efficiency.

**Economic Area Weiz - St. Ruprecht/Baab**  
The Economic Area Weiz-St. Ruprecht/Baab positions itself as a forward-thinking region, fostering innovation through collaboration with research, education, and business partners. It prioritises sustainable solutions in energy efficiency, e-mobility, and ecological landscaping while embracing digitalisation with extensive fibre optic expansion initiatives like G3 and WeizOnline.

**Business Model**  
The aim of the cooperation is to find an ideal location for every interested company in the economic area, regardless of individual community interests. The entire local tax from jointly settled companies is split at a ratio of 70/30. The local community receives 70 percent, and the partner community receives 30 percent.

**Tax Splitting**

30%	70%
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**WIRTSCHAFTSRAUM**

**Konferenz-GUIDE**  
**World Sustainable Energy Days 2025**  
Programm • Tagungsorte • Logistik

**HERZLICH WILLKOMMEN!**

Das 100. Energiegipfelforum findet zum vierten Mal im Jahr "World Sustainable Energy Days 2025" in Graz statt. Wir hoffen, dass Sie eine tolle Teilnahme an der Konferenz genießen und Ihren Aufenthalt genießen werden. Wir wünschen Sie über einige organisatorische Details informieren, um Ihren Aufenthalt möglichst angenehm zu gestalten.

	Montag, 4. März		Dienstag, 5. März		Mittwoch, 6. März		Freitag, 7. März	
	08:00	10:00	08:00	10:00	08:00	10:00	08:00	10:00
Eröffnung								
Wichtigste Konferenz-Informationen								
...								

**Wichtige Konferenz-Informationen**

Wir starten Sie sehr herzlich um Ihre Mithilfe ersuchen:

- Bitte tragen Sie Ihr Namensschild während der gesamten Konferenz.







Cooperation, Legacy, and Change: 25 Years of Interreg Alpine Space (Salzburg, AUT)

<b>Partner:</b>	ITALCAM – Italian German Chamber of Commerce
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Eleonora Zerbi, Lorena Melis

<b>Title of Event:</b>	Cooperation, Legacy, and Change: 25 Years of Interreg Alpine Space
<b>Type of Event:</b>	Conference, workshops, field visits
<b>Date:</b>	12-14 May 2025
<b>Duration (from – until):</b>	12.05.2025- 14.05.2025
<b>Venue:</b>	Salzburg Congress, Auerspergstraße 6, 5020 Salzburg
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>No. Participants:</b>	over 350 participants

**Summary of the event:**





further develop the governance models and toolkit already tested in ECOLE, adapting them to different contexts across the Alpine region.

**Conclusion:**

The event was well-organized and provided a strong platform for networking and future collaboration. It was particularly valuable for exchanging ideas with stakeholders, understanding current priorities, and identifying new opportunities related to circular economy and Eco-Industrial Parks. For participating Project Partners, it was a useful occasion to strengthen connections and explore potential partnerships within the Alpine region framework.

**Photos:**

