



SYMSITES

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List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

Abbreviation	Definition
CCRI	Circular Cities and Regions Initiative
ECOP	European Community of Practice
H4C	Hubs4Circularity
IS	Industrial Symbiosis
I-US	Industrial-Urban Symbiosis
KERs	Key Exploitable Results
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
RCAP	Regional Cities and Advisory Panel
SAT	Self-Assessment Tool



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1 Abstract

Clustering strategies are increasingly recognised as critical instruments to accelerate the deployment of Industrial-Urban Symbiosis (I-US) solutions and to reduce fragmentation across European circular economy initiatives. This work analyses the SYMSITES clustering approach as a practical case study of structured collaboration at European and national levels.

The project demonstrates how active participation in the Hubs4Circularity European Community of Practice (H4C ECoP) enables the co-development of harmonised Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and common narratives for I-US implementation. Beyond methodology, this document highlights how clustering activities directly contribute to the identification and validation of replication pathways, supported by territorial analyses and interaction with stakeholders across sectors. The integration with complementary initiatives, standardisation processes, and policy-oriented platforms further illustrates the role of clustering as a bridge between demonstration, exploitation, and governance.

Within SYMSITES, clustering was instrumental not only as a dissemination tool, but also as a key mechanism to enhance scalability, coherence, and long-term impact.

2 Executive Summary

This deliverable provides an overview of the clustering and collaboration activities implemented within the SYMSITES project to reinforce synergies with European initiatives, especially within the H4C ECoP framework. Through a structured and continuous engagement, the project has actively participated in coordination, sensemaking, KPI alignment, replication analysis, and joint dissemination actions, contributing to a shared European ecosystem for I-US.

Additionally, SYMSITES has engaged with a wide range of complementary initiatives such as REDOL, LIFE ANHIDRA, REWAFT, MIXMATTERS, SIRERA and others, as well as regional clusters (e.g. VIRATEC, Mission Zero), conferences, and standardisation bodies. These interactions have strengthened knowledge exchange, increased visibility, and supported the transferability of project results.

The project has achieved a high level of integration within European clustering activities, reinforcing its contribution to circular economy objectives and long-term impact.

3 Objectives

Clustering activities involve bringing together relevant stakeholders, organisations, consortia or initiatives to foster collaboration, exchange knowledge, and achieve common goals. These activities can include:

- **Networking and Communication:** Facilitating communication channels among project participants to share information, best practices, and experiences.
- **Workshops and Conferences:** Organizing events where experts and stakeholders can come together to discuss challenges, exchange ideas, and explore potential solutions.



- **Knowledge Sharing:** Promoting the sharing of knowledge, resources, and expertise among project partners through various platforms such as online portals, databases, or specialised publications.
- **Joint Research and Development:** Encouraging collaborative research activities to address shared objectives, leveraging the strengths and expertise of different partners, respecting at the same time confidentiality aspects.
- **Capacity Building:** Offering training or knowledge transfer activities to enhance the skills and capabilities of project participants.
- **Dissemination and Outreach:** Promoting project outcomes and results to a broader audience, including policymakers, industry stakeholders, and the general public.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Involving relevant stakeholders, such as industries, companies, research institutions, NGOs, and policymakers, in the project activities to ensure diverse perspectives and maximise impact.
- **Cross-sectoral Collaboration:** Encouraging collaboration between different sectors or disciplines to foster innovation, interdisciplinary approaches, and address complex challenges.
- **Evaluation and Impact Assessment:** Conducting assessments and evaluations to measure the effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of the project's activities and outcomes.

4 Clustering and collaboration with ECoP CSA project

The SYMSITES project has actively engaged with the H4C ECoP project through a structured, continuous and strategic collaboration. This collaboration has been designed to strengthen cross-project synergies, promote structured knowledge exchange, and contribute to the alignment of methodologies and approaches related to I-US and circular economy implementation at territorial level.

The engagement with H4C ECoP has allowed SYMSITES to position its demonstration activities within a broader European framework, ensuring coherence with other H4C initiatives and maximising the transferability and visibility of project results beyond the project's immediate scope.

4.1 Strategic alignment and objectives of the collaboration

The collaboration between SYMSITES and H4C ECoP has been driven by the shared objective of enhancing the impact, replicability and scalability of I-US solutions demonstrated across H4C projects. In this context, SYMSITES has actively contributed to, and benefited from, ECoP activities aimed at reducing fragmentation, avoiding duplication of efforts, and fostering a common understanding of key challenges and enabling factors for I-US across Europe.

Key thematic areas of the exchanges, as seen in the paragraphs below, of alignment include stakeholder engagement, KPI development and harmonisation, replication analysis of innovative value chains, and capacity building through training and dissemination actions.



This alignment has ensured that SYMSITES results are developed in line with broader European circular economy strategies and benefit from collective learning processes established within the ECoP framework, such as those on KPIs, stakeholder engagement, replication potential as seen below.

4.2 Engagement in coordination, sensemaking and co-development activities

SYMSITES has participated in several coordination and consultation activities organised by H4C ECoP since the early stages of the project. These activities included introductory and follow-up meetings with other H4C demonstration projects (AshCycle and WaterProof), during which common areas for collaboration were identified and prioritised. The table below represents the offer for common activities, as presented by H4C ECoP to the demonstration projects:

Table 1. Initial list of collaboration opportunities offered by H4C CoP to H4C demo projects. *Available in H4C ECoP D6.3 ECoP Roadmap Incorporating Strategies*

Proposed action	Expected outcome
Facilitate Demo project sharing -within their delivery areas, to new, potential delivery areas and between demonstration projects	Deploy pilot solutions in real world situations
Output from realised I-US opportunities. Measured through agreed KPIs	Reduce waste, emissions
Join with CoP activity addressing barriers, facilitate knowledge sharing and strategies	Non-technological barriers for exploitation (with CKIC)
Discuss with partners and companies to assist progress Signpost to CircLean matching tool	Facilitation services
Membership of CoP, liaise between demo sites	Best practices for knowledge-sharing with CoP
Publicise through CoP	Replication potential in other Regions—outside of the regions directly involved in the demonstration projects
Arrange awareness raising events with stakeholders and beyond Map, engage stakeholders. Tailor comms to audience	Actions to facilitate relations and to involve the local community actors
Connect to stakeholders Training and education actions	Social innovation spin-off action
Facilitate knowledge sharing and dissemination	A broad cross-sectorial symbiosis and circularity implementation
Facilitate knowledge sharing and dissemination	Cross-cutting solutions



Proposed action	Expected outcome
	(processes and equipment) for processing side/waste streams
Facilitate knowledge sharing and dissemination	Process (re-)design and adaptation to integrate new processes
Connect to innovation Radar Advice, support and links to investment opportunities	Integration of novel sensing technology, IoT and digital tools to support design
Connect to innovation Radar Advice, support and links to investment opportunities	Concepts, tools and business models for the flexible and robust management of exchange streams
Develop KPIs – universal and specific Assist via CircLean matching tool. Assess performance	Assessment methodologies and KPIs to measure the performance of symbiosis
Develop KPIs – universal and specific Assist via CircLean matching tool Assess performance	Development/use of common reporting methodologies in collaboration
ID opportunities for demo sites in wider communities Gather resource data from local companies to identify and create potential matches. Discuss with partners/companies to assist progress	Tools to support companies
Training and education events for communities including vocational/education event per demo site	Social aspects of the community and improvement through I-US
Arrange awareness raising events for each demo site to bring together convenors, delivery bodies, implementors, solution providers, legitimisers and civil society	Create societal awareness through a participative approach

The initial offer above was refined in collaboration with the demo projects, and the following areas of support were agreed. Projects at different development levels requested the support appropriate for their stage of development.

Table 2. Final list of collaboration opportunities offered by H4C CoP to H4C demo projects. Available in H4C ECoP D6.3 ECoP Roadmap Incorporating Strategies

Support activities available from H4C ECoP
Stakeholder engagement meetings [Convening the Community] Support was available to organise stakeholder engagement events: The stakeholders were identified relevant to the region that support was being delivered in, and the agenda agreed to



Support activities available from H4C ECoP

include topics relevant to the region together with I-US topic areas. Organisation of the events was by region, with delivery coordinated with H4C ECoP partner ISL and the region.

Uptake: In addition to the demonstration projects, support was delivered to regional projects in: Spain, Türkiye and to a European project involving Norway and Romania.

Training and education events [Convening the Community]

Training needs for the regional projects were assessed in collaboration with the regional team and specific training resources signposted from existing EC-funded materials. Sector-specific training resources have been compiled by the ERASMUS+ SPIRE SAIS project on industrial symbiosis and energy efficiency.

Uptake: Training and education events were delivered for regional projects in: Norway, Romania, Spain, and Türkiye. Further training events are planned for all three demonstration projects before project end.

I-US opportunity identification [Analyse Potential for Replication]

Drawing on ECoP information and learning resources identified and produced, H4C Demo coordinators were supported to identify I-US opportunities in the larger demo site community, outside of the initial three projects, using proven methodologies and the CircLean self-assessment module to gather resource data and identify/create I-US potential matches.

Uptake: Opportunities identified for projects in Spain, Norway and Romania through in-country visits and data analysis.

KPI monitoring [Measuring Impact and Results]

Two suites of KPIs were developed by H4C CoP: one focused on the measurement of impacts from a synergy or IS programme, and the other on the potential of an industrial area. All demos were also tasked with developing a suite of relevant KPIs. Assistance was offered to the demo projects to measure and monitor agreed KPIs.

Uptake: participation by all demo projects in discussions and an online webinar to develop a SMART methodology for developing KPIs for I-US projects. 90 participants attended the webinar. To date, none of the demonstration projects has taken up the offer for support assessing their KPI achievements.

Resources, Information provision [Curate Knowledge]

H4C ECoP has gathered information and learning resources on I-US (such as the modules developed by SPIRE SAIS for IS and energy efficiency training). The CoP library of synergies, populated from EC-funded Maestri and SCALER, can help users to identify potential matches, which



Support activities available from H4C ECoP

can then be assessed for suitability based on several factors. This curated knowledge was made available to the three demonstration projects but is of course available to the wider IS community.

Uptake: Web pages relating to matches and technologies are amongst the most visited on the H4C CoP platform. Projects were signposted to the available resources. SYMSITES are incorporating curated knowledge into training modules.

A significant contribution of SYMSITES has been its participation in ECoP Sensemaking activities, particularly those focused on the selection and development of assessment methodologies and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to measure H4C performance and demonstration impacts. Within the workshop in June 2023, SYMSITES shared its experience and participated in the co-development and alignment of KPI frameworks, contributing to the identification of transversal economic, social and environmental indicators applicable across different I-US contexts.

Also, BOFA, the waste management company of Bornholm and partner in the Danish SYMSITES EcoSite, participated in the Regional Cities and Advisory Panel (RCAP) established by H4C ECoP. This platform facilitated regular exchanges among cities and regions engaged in I-US, enabling discussion of barriers, governance challenges and practical implementation experiences relevant to their contexts. A total of 7 meetings throughout the project lifetime were held, where BOFA had a chance to exchange with the following organizations on key I-US topics for local authorities: Birmingham City Council (UK), Catalan Waste Agency (ES), Comune di Ravenna (IT), Helsinki-Uusimaa (FI), Izmir Development Agency (TR), Ljubljana Urban Region Development Agency (SI), Municipality of West Achaia (EL), Sofia Development Association (BG), Zero Waste Scotland (UK), More and Romsdal (NO), Cities of Northern Netherlands (NL), West Midlands Combined Authority (UK).

This collaborative process supported a more harmonised and holistic approach to impact assessment, while still allowing for context-specific adaptation at demonstration site level.

4.3 Contribution to replication analysis and exploitation-oriented clustering

Within the framework of ECoP Task 2.3, SYMSITES contributed to the replication analysis of innovative H4C value chains across Europe. The project provided structured information on its demonstrated technologies and symbiotic solutions, supporting the identification of European regions with similar industrial profiles and economic conditions suitable for replication. The high-potential regions identified by the H4C ECoP project were the Basque Country (Spain), Flanders (France, Belgium, the Netherlands), Midlands (United Kingdom), North Rhine-Westphalia (Germany) and Silesian Voivodeship (Poland).

The outcomes of this analysis, which looked also at other potential hubs in the SYMSITES project countries and in the rest of Europe, consolidated in ECoP **Deliverable D2.2**, were shared and discussed with SYMSITES partners during dedicated sessions in 2025. The findings and GIS-based territorial analysis (see figures below) were transferred from STRANE to the EcoSite managers and project partners responsible for Key Exploitable Results (KERs) and business planning activities.



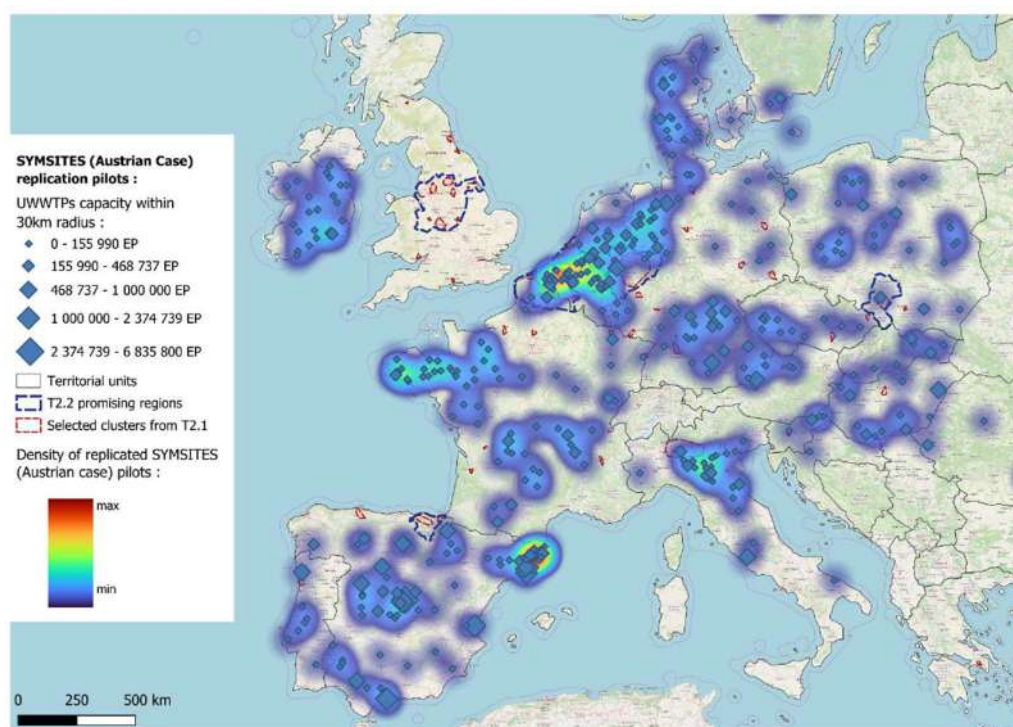


Figure 1. SYMSITES (Austrian case) replication mapping. Available in H4C ECoP D2.2 Detailed assessment of the potential for deploying I-US based on a detailed assessment of promising EU regions and H4Cs

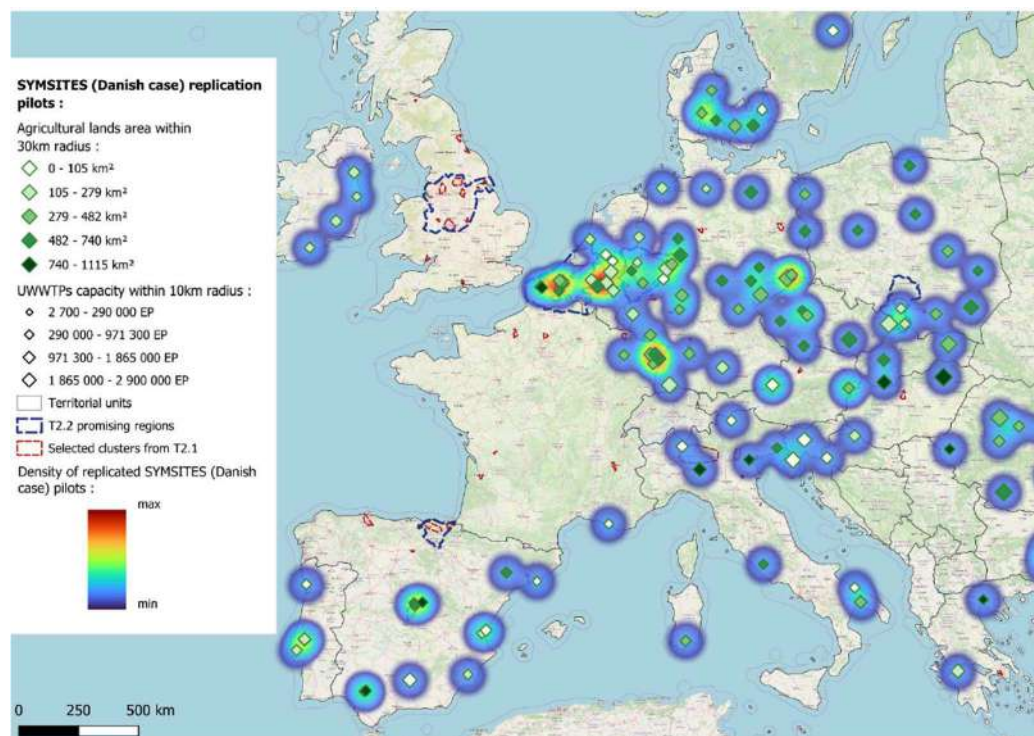


Figure 2. SYMSITES (Danish case) replication mapping. Available in H4C ECoP D2.2 Detailed assessment of the potential for deploying I-US based on a detailed assessment of promising EU regions and H4Cs.

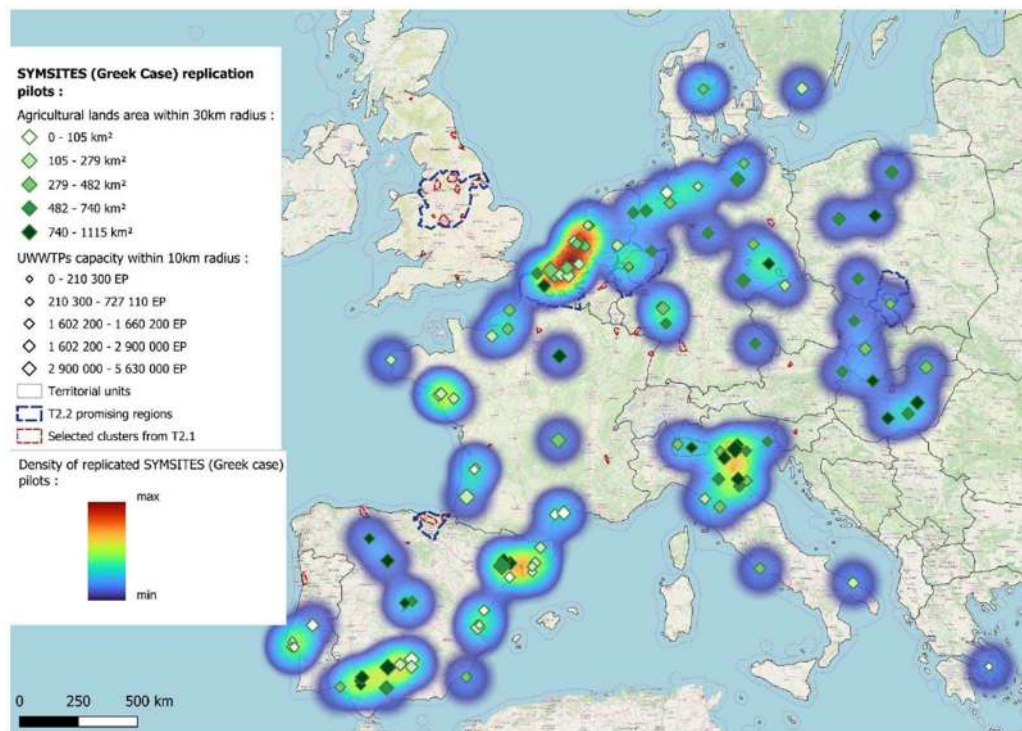


Figure 3. SYMSITES (Greek case) replication mapping. Available in H4C ECoP D2.2 Detailed assessment of the potential for deploying I-US based on a detailed assessment of promising EU regions and H4Cs.

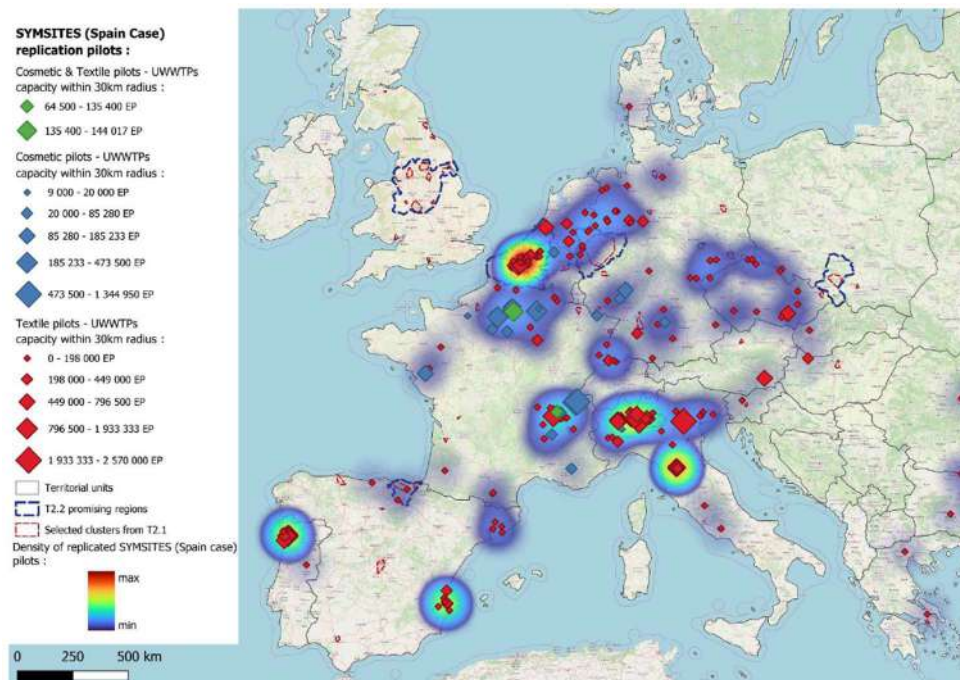


Figure 4. SYMSITES (Spanish case) replication mapping. Available in H4C ECoP D2.2 Detailed assessment of the potential for deploying I-US based on a detailed assessment of promising EU regions and H4Cs

Table 3. Summary of identified hotspots for SYMSITES replication. Available in H4C ECoP D2.2 Detailed assessment of the potential for deploying I-US based on a detailed assessment of promising EU regions and H4Cs

SYMSITES case	Identified hotspots
Austrian	- Bretagne region in France - Catalonia region in Spain - Lombardy/Emilia-Romagna regions in Italy - Liège/Antwerpen/Lille area in France and Belgium
Danish	- Lille/Brussels area in France and Belgium - Tirlemont/Liège area in Belgium - Bas-Rhin department in France - Saxony region in Germany
Greek	- Veneto/Estern Emilia-Romagna regions in Italy - Catalonia region in Spain - Andalusia region in Spain - Belgian et neerland flanders
Spain	- Province of Valencia in Spain - Porto district in Portugal - Lombardy region in Italy - Province of Florence in Italy - Lille/Courtrai/Roulers industrial cluster

Additional analytical support from STRANE to these partners, including GIS overlay analysis of high-potential replication regions resulted in the creation of an ad-hoc interactive map to visualize SYMSITES potential replication areas (see images below) and directly informed the development of the SYMSITES business plan and strengthened considerations regarding scalability and transferability. The link to the [interactive map](https://antoinelcaveau.github.io/H4C-ECOP/SYMSITES_replication.html) has been shared with the SYMSITES partner and is currently publicly available on the H4C platform upon registration. These exchanges enabled the project to better assess the replication potential of its solutions and to reflect on exploitation pathways in line with regional and European priorities. At the same time, SYMSITES inputs contributed to a shared European evidence base supporting the scaling-up of I-US initiatives.



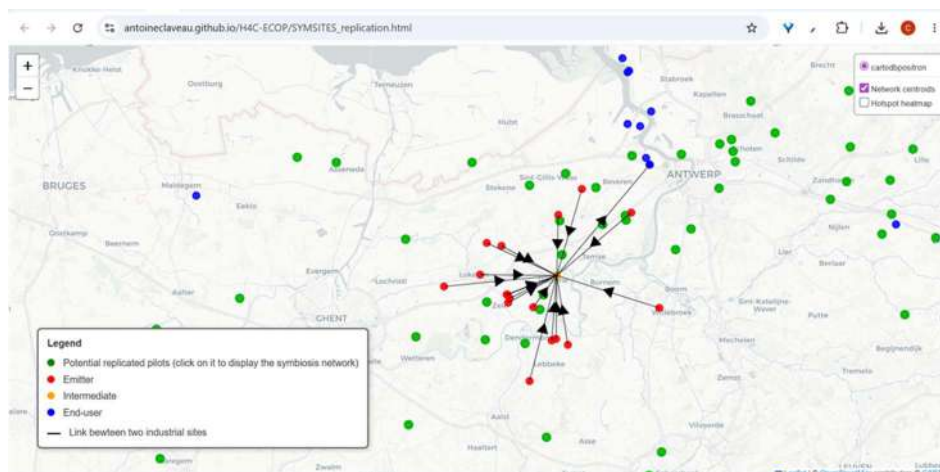


Figure 5. Screenshots from the H4C-developed interactive map for visualizing SYMSITES potential replication sites in Europe. Available on the H4C Platform.

4.4 Capacity building, training and dissemination synergies

The collaboration with H4C ECoP has also reinforced capacity building and dissemination activities. SYMSITES has been involved in, and informed by, ECoP-led training and education actions delivered to H4C communities across several European regions, supporting the uptake of I-US concepts and methodologies by a wide range of stakeholders.

For instance, ISL, as partner in the H4C project, delivered specialised training sessions to the SYMSITES consortium aimed at supporting the long-term uptake and sustainability of project solutions beyond the project duration. The workshops, held in February 2026, focused on key topics such as governance models and financial mechanisms supporting I-US implementation. These sessions enabled direct interaction and exchange between experts and consortium partners. Recordings of the trainings were subsequently integrated into the SYMSITES Training Materials on I-US, publicly available on the project website, notably within Module 4 and Module 6.



Figure 6. Screenshot from the online workshop from H4C to the SYMSITES consortium on Governance Models, in February 2026.



Representatives from the H4C consortium actively contributed to the SYMSITES Replication Webinar in January 2026. Their participation helped contextualise SYMSITES within the wider H4C ecosystem, embed cross-project knowledge into discussions, and strengthen the quality and credibility of replication-oriented exchanges and recommendations.

In addition, SYMSITES has contributed to joint dissemination planning, including cross-project webinars aimed at sharing achievements, identifying barriers encountered during implementation, and discussing future perspectives beyond project lifetime. For instance, during the joint dissemination webinar in October 2025 in collaboration with other H4C projects, relevant EcoSite representatives and project partners were invited to present demonstration activities, lessons learned, and replication potential to broader European stakeholder audiences, thereby increasing the visibility and outreach of SYMSITES results. Moreover, SYMSITES participated to the H4C Final Event where two posters on the produced Self-Assessment Tool (SAT) and SYMSITES Training Materials were presented. These activities are designed to strengthen outreach towards policymakers, industry stakeholders and practitioners, and to reinforce the long-term impact of project results within the wider H4C ecosystem.

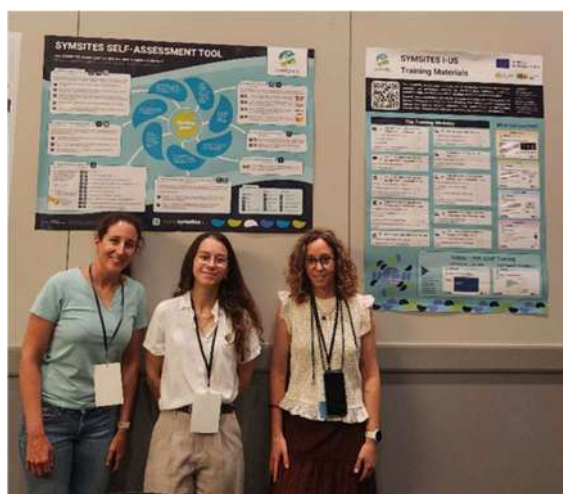


Figure 7. Presentation of SYMSITES posters at the H4C Final Event in Brussels, in May 2026.

4.5 Added value and contribution to European-level clustering

Overall, the clustering and collaboration with the H4C ECoP CSA has generated significant added value for SYMSITES by:

- Facilitating structured and continuous exchange with other H4C demonstration projects.
- Supporting the harmonisation of KPI frameworks and assessment methodologies for I-US initiatives.
- Strengthening the understanding of replication and exploitation potential of demonstrated solutions.
- Enhancing capacity building, stakeholder engagement and dissemination at European level.

Through this collaboration, SYMSITES has reinforced its integration within a coherent European community of practice on Industrial-Urban Symbiosis and circular economy, contributing to shared



learning processes and increasing the robustness, visibility and long-term relevance of its results beyond the duration of the project

5 Other initiatives and collaborations relevant to SYMSITES' s scope

Beyond its collaboration with the H4C ECoP initiative, the SYMSITES project has actively engaged with several complementary European projects, standardisation activities, and knowledge-sharing initiatives relevant to I-US, that have contributed to strengthening the visibility, transferability, policy relevance, and long-term impact of SYMSITES results.

A particularly relevant collaboration was developed with the REDOL project, notably through the participation of BOFA, the Bornholm waste management company, which supports the SYMSITES Danish EcoSite, as well as implement the social spin-off activities, and is also a replicator within REDOL. Due to the involvement of both BOFA and ICLEI in the two projects, several exchanges were organised to connect lessons learned and identify synergies between the initiatives, through online meetings and in-person exchanges, including a session during the 10th European Conference on Sustainable Cities and Towns in Aalborg. In addition, ICLEI highlighted BOFA's activities within the SYMSITES social spin-off in Bornholm within a dedicated briefing note on the role of Local and Regional Authorities in I-US, published on the ICLEI website, thus increasing the visibility and dissemination of SYMSITES good practices.

The wider REDOL consortium was also engaged through several collaborative activities and cross-project exchanges. Regular communication between project coordinators and ICLEI, as partner in both SYMSITES and REDOL, enabled continuous discussion on implementation challenges, stakeholder engagement approaches, and opportunities for mutual learning and knowledge transfer. Specific efforts were made to connect SYMSITES Spanish EcoSite partners working on textiles with REDOL partners involved in textile recycling value chains in both Spain and Italy. Furthermore, SYMSITES and its knowledge outputs were presented at the REDOL/Theseus joint event organised in Athens in May 2026. This event brought together several projects working on I-US, including Plastice, UnitedCircles, IS2H4C, and Theseus, facilitating broader discussions on replication pathways and cross-project collaboration.



Figure 8. Presentation of the SYMSITES project at the REDOL & Theseus joint event in Athens, in May 2026.

SYMSITES also engaged in standardisation-related activities to strengthen the long-term uptake and institutional relevance of project outcomes within the European standardisation landscape. To support this objective, ICLEI applied to participate in the HS Booster initiative, aiming to contribute to ongoing standardisation work on Industrial Symbiosis within CEN/TC 465 Sustainable Cities and Communities. A particular focus of this engagement was to advocate for the inclusion of an urban perspective within future Industrial Symbiosis standards, building upon the existing CWA 17354:2018 Industrial Symbiosis: Core Elements and Implementation Approaches. Following acceptance into the HS Booster programme, ICLEI participated in dedicated consultations and virtual meetings with standardisation experts to discuss gaps and opportunities related to I-US and the integration of local and regional authority perspectives into standardisation processes.

Building on these activities, ICLEI initiated the process of establishing a formal liaison relationship between the SYMSITES project and CEN/TC 465. This process included extensive exchanges with the Technical Committee Secretariat as well as the presentation of SYMSITES during TC plenary meetings in 2024. Through these discussions, ICLEI presented the expertise and practical experience generated by SYMSITES and related projects, including REDOL, SYMBA, CCRI initiatives, and H4C ECoP activities, while outlining an initial vision regarding the development of future Industrial Symbiosis standards. Following a formal voting process within the Technical Committee, the liaison role for SYMSITES was officially accepted in April 2025. Through this liaison position, contributions from the SYMSITES consortium can influence the standardisation process, with the objective of ensuring that recommendations and lessons learned from demonstration activities are reflected in future European standardisation frameworks.

ICLEI also ensured that practical knowledge and experiences generated within the SYMSITES EcoSites were transferred to the IS Thematic Working Group of the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI), which focused on collecting lessons learned, supporting peer exchange, and facilitating the replication of IS initiatives across Europe. Additional cross-fertilisation of knowledge, methodologies, and stakeholder networks was promoted through targeted participation in relevant conferences and working groups, including Waste Management Europe conferences in 2023 and 2024 and activities linked to the CCRI twinning programme.





Figure 9. Presentation of SYMSITES at the Waste Management Europe Conference in Bergamo, in April 2024.

In addition to these collaborations, the SYMSITES Training Materials further contributed to strengthening links with broader European I-US stakeholders. The training materials integrated external expertise and examples from multiple European initiatives, including H4C ECoP, REDOL, the I-US Thematic Working Group of the Circular Cities and Regions initiative (CCRI) and regional Industrial Symbiosis experiences across Europe. The modules of the training materials highlighted practical examples from local authorities, ports, utilities, and industrial clusters across different European regions, contributing to knowledge transfer beyond the project consortium itself.

Complementing these efforts, the participation of FACSAs and FOVASAs in the VIRATEC workshop “A Auga en Galicia: Retos e Solucións” represents a clear example of effective clustering within SYMSITES. The workshop brought together a diverse ecosystem of stakeholders, including national and international academic institutions such as Universidad de Santiago de Compostela and Dublin City University, technology centres like AINIA, innovative SMEs such as Nanogap and Algae4Fuel, and companies including Bondalti Water. This multi-actor environment enabled the exchange of knowledge and best practices with other initiatives focused on circular water management, resource recovery, and emerging contaminants.





Figure 10. Participation at VIRATEC, a Galician cluster focused on environmental and circular economy solutions

Similarly, SYMSITES was presented by FACSA and FOVASA at the event “Water reuse from the WWTP: applications and barriers,” where it was discussed alongside other European initiatives such as LIFE REWAINCER (in the context of the ceramic industry) and SIRERA (agricultural reuse solutions). This interaction facilitated the identification of shared challenges—particularly regarding regulatory complexity and economic feasibility—while also highlighting synergies in reuse strategies and circular solutions across sectors.



Figure 11. SYMSITES presentation during the Green week in collaboration with other projects such as LIFE REWAINCER

Furthermore, FACSA and FOVASA showcased SYMSITES at the II Jornadas Aula Mission Zero, organised by the company Jeanologia (focused on the textile sector) at the Universitat Politècnica de València. This event fostered exchanges with projects such as MIXMATTERS and research initiatives on membrane distillation, strengthening collaboration—particularly within the textile sector—and highlighting common challenges related to water reuse and sustainability. Together, these activities have significantly enhanced the visibility of SYMSITES, strengthened cross-project



collaboration, and reinforced the replication potential of Industrial-Urban Symbiosis solutions across multiple sectors.



Figure 12. SYMSITES presentation in the Jeanologia Chair at the Universitat Politècnica de València

In parallel, AITEX has contributed to additional dissemination and clustering actions through its engagement with external initiatives. SYMSITES was presented to key stakeholders of the LIFE ANHIDRA project



Figure 13. Agenda of the SYMSITES presentation to key stakeholders of the ANHIDRA project.





Figure 14. Presentation of the SYMSITES project to key stakeholders of the ANHIDRA project.

and further promoted during the EU Green Week 2024 webinar organised within the same framework.



Figure 15. Webinar organised by LIFE ANHIDRA in the frame of the EU Green Week 2024, where the SYMSITES project was presented.

Moreover, SYMSITES participated in the Final Conference of the REWAFI project (Erasmus+), creating further opportunities for knowledge exchange with projects addressing complementary challenges in circular economy and resource efficiency.



   Funded by the European Union

**CONFERENCIA FINAL
PROYECTO REWAF
en España**

sobre la Reducción de la Huella Hídrica: Estrategias Sostenibles en la Industria Textil

Organizador: Proyecto Rewaft (UPV)
Co-organizador: Proyecto Life-Anhídra

Objetivos del evento:

- ✓ Exponer los resultados del proyecto REWAF: Herramienta del cálculo de la Huella Hídrica, Seminarios y MOOC desarrollados para estudiantes y empresas y Guía de Planes de Acción para la reducción de la huella hídrica.
- ✓ Empresas del sector presentarán buenas prácticas y soluciones sobre la gestión del agua que están llevando a cabo en sus procesos y/o industrias.
- ✓ Dar a conocer otros proyectos en marcha relacionados con la gestión eficiente del agua en el sector textil.
- ✓ Debatir sobre los retos y desafíos a los que se enfrenta la industria textil respecto al consumo y gestión del agua en sus procesos.

Fecha y hora: 24 de Septiembre de 2024
10:00h - 11:30h

Formato: Presencial/Online

Lugar: Salón de Grados Roberto García Payá del Campus de Alcoy
Edificio Carbonell - 4ª Planta
Plaça Ferrándiz i Carbonell, s / n, 03801 Alcoi, Alicante

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Helping the textile industry reduce its water Footprint
Project Number: 2022-1-LT-IT-KA225-HED-000084347

Figure 16. Agenda of the SYMSITES participation in the Final Conference of the REWAF project (Erasmus+).

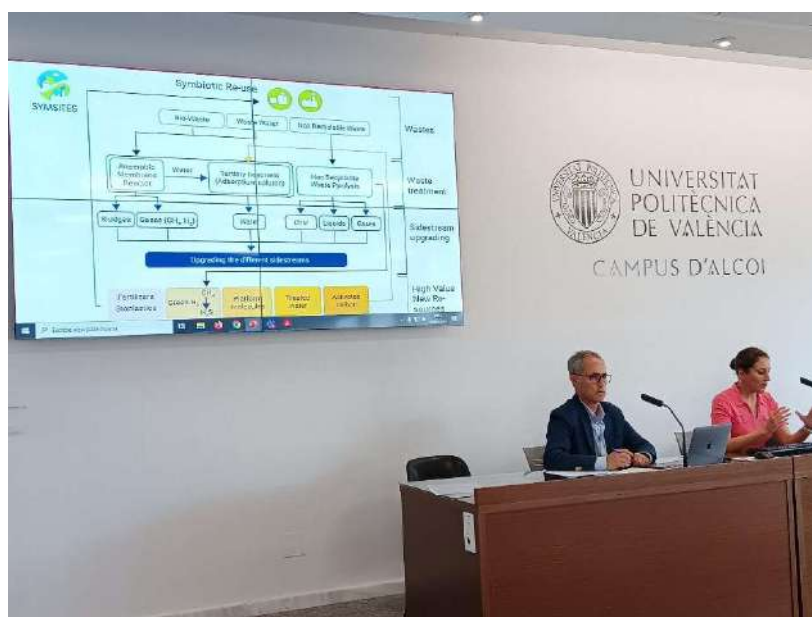


Figure 17. SYMSITES participation in the Final Conference of the REWAF project (Erasmus+).

These activities have contributed to reinforcing the project's outreach and fostering connections with a wider ecosystem of European initiatives.

6 Continued clustering beyond the SYMSITES' s scope.

A relevant example of continued clustering beyond the project scope is the involvement of BEOF and DTU in the ISMA project (Innovative Solutions for Sewage Sludge Management), funded by the **INTERREG South Baltic Programme** (<https://submariner-network.eu/isma/>).

This initiative explores co-digestion strategies combining whey and secondary sludge to optimise methane production while addressing challenges such as salinity and acidification. The project also investigates the behaviour of PFAS during anaerobic digestion.

This collaboration demonstrates how the industrial symbiosis model developed in SYMSITES is being further expanded, incorporating new sectors such as the dairy industry and reinforcing the long-term sustainability and scalability of the approach.

7 Conclusion

The clustering and collaboration activities carried out within SYMSITES have played a key role in strengthening the project's European dimension, enhancing knowledge exchange, and supporting the scalability of Industrial-Urban Symbiosis solutions.

Through active engagement with the H4C ECoP, participation in replication and KPI alignment activities, and collaboration with multiple EU-funded projects and initiatives, SYMSITES has successfully contributed to building a coherent and interconnected ecosystem at European level.

The integration of partners in external initiatives, conferences, and standardisation processes has further reinforced the visibility, transferability, and long-term impact of project results. These activities have demonstrated the relevance of SYMSITES approaches across different sectors, including water management, textiles, and waste valorisation.

Overall, SYMSITES has effectively established strong synergies with complementary initiatives, positioning itself as a relevant contributor to the advancement of circular economy and Industrial-Urban Symbiosis in Europe.

