



EUROPEAN EDUCATION AND CULTURE EXECUTIVE AGENCY (EACEA)

EACEA.A – Erasmus+, EU Solidarity Corps
A.2 – Skills and Innovation

GRANT AGREEMENT

Project 101244066 — ResPa

PREAMBLE

This **Agreement** ('the Agreement') is **between** the following parties:

on the one part,

the **European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and

on the other part,

1. 'the coordinator':

TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY (TAMK), PIC 986178728, established in KUNTOKATU 3, TAMPERE 33520, Finland,

and the following other beneficiaries, if they sign their 'accession form' (see Annex 3 and Article 40):

2. **HOCHSCHULE FUR ANGEWANDTE WISSENSCHAFTEN MUNCHEN (HM)**, PIC 998322837, established in LOTHSTRASSE 34, MUNCHEN 80335, Germany,

3. **CONSORZIO PER LA PROMOZIONE DELLA CULTURA PLASTICA PROPLAST (PROPLAST)**, PIC 997946768, established in VIA ROBERTO DI FERRO N. 86, ALESSANDRIA 15122, Italy,

4. **ASOCIACION VALENCIANA DE EMPRESAS DEL PLASTICO - AVEP (AVEP)**, PIC 997807864, established in AVENIDA DEL OESTE 38 2A, VALENCIA 46001, Spain,

5. **TAMPEREEN KAUPUNKI (Tredu)**, PIC 998829080, established in ALEKSIS KIVEN KATU 14-16, TAMPERE 33101, Finland,

6. **UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI TRENTO (UNITN)**, PIC 999841954, established in VIA CALEPINA 14, TRENTO 38122, Italy,

7. **ECOEMBES ENTIDAD ADMINISTRADORA, S.L. (ECOEMBES)**, PIC 878492626, established in Calle del Cardenal Marcelo Spínola, 14, 2nd floor, Madrid 28016, Spain,

8. SUNNE KOMMUN (Broby), PIC 875342551, established in 1. KOMMUNKANSLIET, SUNNE 686 80, Sweden,

Unless otherwise specified, references to ‘beneficiary’ or ‘beneficiaries’ include the coordinator and affiliated entities (if any).

If only one beneficiary signs the grant agreement (‘mono-beneficiary grant’), all provisions referring to the ‘coordinator’ or the ‘beneficiaries’ will be considered — mutatis mutandis — as referring to the beneficiary.

The parties referred to above have agreed to enter into the Agreement.

By signing the Agreement and the accession forms, the beneficiaries accept the grant and agree to implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

The Agreement is composed of:

Preamble

Terms and Conditions (including Data Sheet)

Annex 1 Description of the action¹

Annex 2 Estimated budget for the action

Annex 3 Accession forms (if applicable)²

Annex 3a Declaration on joint and several liability of affiliated entities (if applicable)³

Annex 4 Model for the financial statements

Annex 5 Specific rules (if applicable)

¹ Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

² Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

³ Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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DATA SHEET

1. General data

Project summary:

Project summary
The overall purpose of the 'Consumers' role in responsible packaging - Improving circular economy innovation capacities in packaging value chain' (ResPa) project is to develop companies' innovation and green skills capabilities in packaging value chain by highlighting the role of the consumer in the context of circular economy. There is a recognized need for improving packaging materials circularity, to avoid over packing and to reduce packaging waste to meet the local, regional, and EU-wide goals related to the reuse and recyclability of packaging materials. Main topics of the ResPa project covers recyclable and re-usable consumer packaging, consumption and post-purchase behavior, understanding consumer's role as a part of the packaging value chain, shaping circular economy (CE) business models and strategies. The project has been designed by the principles of the Quadruple Helix model to improve consumers involvement to packaging materials' circularity through market actors' innovation and capacity building activities. The ResPa project will improve know-how and communication through value chain and give access to knowledge and data sharing, by developing new CE business models in collaboration with HE and VET to the packaging world, without forgetting consumers as an important part of the industrial value chain. The overall goal is to improve packaging materials' circularity and sustainability with capacity building of green skills and innovations through development of a new educational contents implemented through targeted micro-credentials (constellation of 5 digital open badges). In addition, through a multidisciplinary approach the ResPa project will contribute to the development of business models and educational contents and methodologies with different stakeholders by utilising Living Lab approach.

Keywords:

- Circular economy
- Innovation capacity
- green skills
- emerging professional needs
- Sustainable packaging

Project number: 101244066

Project name: Consumers' role in responsible packaging - Improving circular economy innovation capacities in packaging value chain

Project acronym: ResPa

Call: ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO

Topic: ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO-EDU-ENTERP

Type of action: ERASMUS Lump Sum Grants

Granting authority: European Education and Culture Executive Agency

Grant managed through EU Funding & Tenders Portal: Yes (eGrants)

Project starting date: first day of the month following the entry into force date

Project end date: starting date + months of duration

Project duration: 36 months

Consortium agreement: Yes

2. Participants

List of participants:

Nº	Role	Short name	Legal name	Ctry	PIC	Max grant amount
1	COO	TAMK	TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY	FI	986178728	306 316.00

Nº	Role	Short name	Legal name	Ctry	PIC	Max grant amount
2	BEN	HM	HOCHSCHULE FUR ANGEWANDTE WISSENSCHAFTEN MUNCHEN	DE	998322837	226 394.00
3	BEN	PROPLAST	CONSORZIO PER LA PROMOZIONE DELLA CULTURA PLASTICA PROPLAST	IT	997946768	200 921.00
4	BEN	AVEP	ASOCIACION VALENCIANA DE EMPRESAS DEL PLASTICO - AVEP	ES	997807864	140 709.00
5	BEN	Tredu	TAMPEREEN KAUPUNKI	FI	998829080	78 846.00
6	BEN	UNITN	UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI TRENTO	IT	999841954	124 548.00
7	BEN	ECOEMBES	ECOEMBES ENTIDAD ADMINISTRADORA, S.L.	ES	878492626	159 465.00
8	BEN	Broby	SUNNE KOMMUN	SE	875342551	200 389.00
9	AP	HSFULDA	HOCHSCHULE FULDA-UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES	DE	998871954	0.00
10	AP	UNISA	UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI SALERNO	IT	999899184	0.00
11	AP	CNM	AO Centrul National de Mediu / PA National Environmental Center	MD	886307237	0.00
12	AP	PACOON	PACOON GMBH	DE	936185219	0.00
13	AP	HSALBSIG	HOCHSCHULE ALBSTADT-SIGMARINGEN	DE	969059489	0.00
14	AP	KU	KARLSTADS UNIVERSITET	SE	999874837	0.00
15	AP	KULUTTAJALIITTO	KULUTTAJALIITTO - KONSUMENTFORBUNDET RY	FI	939186787	0.00
Total						1 437 588.00

Coordinator:

- TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY (TAMK)

3. Grant**Maximum grant amount, total estimated eligible costs and contributions and funding rate:**

Maximum grant amount (Annex 2)	Maximum grant amount (award decision)
1 437 588.00	1 437 588.00

Grant form: Lump Sum**Grant mode:** Action grant**Budget categories/activity types:** Lump sum contributions**Cost eligibility options:** n/a**Budget flexibility:** No**4. Reporting, payments and recoveries****4.1 Continuous reporting (art 21)****Deliverables:** see Funding & Tenders Portal Continuous Reporting tool**4.2 Periodic reporting and payments**

Reporting and payment schedule (art 21, 22):

Reporting					Payments	
Reporting periods			Type	Deadline	Type	Deadline (time to pay)
RP No	Month from	Month to				
					Initial prefinancing	30 days from entry into force/ financial guarantee (if required) – whenever is the latest
1	1	18	Additional prefinancing report	60 days after end of reporting period	Additional prefinancing	60 days from receiving additional prefinancing report/ financial guarantee (if required) – whenever is the latest
2	19	36	Periodic report	60 days after end of reporting period	Final payment	90 days from receiving periodic report

Prefinancing payments and guarantees:

Prefinancing payment		Prefinancing guarantee		
Type	Amount	Guarantee amount	Division per participant	
Prefinancing 1 (initial)	575 035.20	n/a	1 - TAMK	n/a
			2 - HM	n/a
			3 - PROPLAST	n/a
			4 - AVEP	n/a
			5 - Tredu	n/a
			6 - UNITN	n/a
			7 - ECOEMBES	n/a
			8 - Broby	n/a
Prefinancing 2 (additional)	575 035.20	n/a	1 - TAMK	n/a
			2 - HM	n/a
			3 - PROPLAST	n/a
			4 - AVEP	n/a
			5 - Tredu	n/a
			6 - UNITN	n/a
			7 - ECOEMBES	n/a
			8 - Broby	n/a

Reporting and payment modalities (art 21, 22):

Mutual Insurance Mechanism (MIM): No

Restrictions on distribution of initial prefinancing: The prefinancing may be distributed only if the minimum number of beneficiaries set out in the call conditions (if any) have acceded to the Agreement and only to beneficiaries that have acceded.

Interim payment ceiling (if any): 100% of the maximum grant amount

No-profit rule: n/a

Late payment interest: ECB + 3.5%

Bank account for payments:

FI5857300820615132 OKOYFIHHXXX

Conversion into euros: n/a

Reporting language: Language of the Agreement

4.3 Certificates (art 24): n/a

4.4 Recoveries (art 22)

First-line liability for recoveries:

Beneficiary termination: Beneficiary concerned

Final payment: Coordinator

After final payment: Beneficiary concerned

Joint and several liability for enforced recoveries (in case of non-payment):

Limited joint and several liability of other beneficiaries — up to the maximum grant amount of the beneficiary

Joint and several liability of affiliated entities — n/a

5. Consequences of non-compliance, applicable law & dispute settlement forum

Applicable law (art 43):

Standard applicable law regime: EU law + law of Belgium

Dispute settlement forum (art 43):

Standard dispute settlement forum:

EU beneficiaries: EU General Court + EU Court of Justice (on appeal)

Non-EU beneficiaries: Courts of Brussels, Belgium (unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements)

6. Other

Specific rules (Annex 5): Yes

Standard time-limits after project end:

Confidentiality (for X years after final payment): 5

Record-keeping (for X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Reviews (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Audits (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Extension of findings from other grants to this grant (no later than X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Impact evaluation (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL

ARTICLE 1 — SUBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement sets out the rights and obligations and terms and conditions applicable to the grant awarded for the implementation of the action set out in Chapter 2.

ARTICLE 2 — DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Agreement, the following definitions apply:

Actions — The project which is being funded in the context of this Agreement.

Grant — The grant awarded in the context of this Agreement.

EU grants — Grants awarded by EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies (including EU executive agencies, EU regulatory agencies, EDA, joint undertakings, etc.).

Participants — Entities participating in the action as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties.

Beneficiaries (BEN) — The signatories of this Agreement (either directly or through an accession form).

Affiliated entities (AE) — Entities affiliated to a beneficiary within the meaning of Article 190 of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509⁴ which participate in the action with similar rights and obligations as the beneficiaries (obligation to implement action tasks and right to charge costs and claim contributions).

Associated partners (AP) — Entities which participate in the action, but without the right to charge costs or claim contributions.

Purchases — Contracts for goods, works or services needed to carry out the action (e.g. equipment, consumables and supplies) but which are not part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

Subcontracting — Contracts for goods, works or services that are part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

In-kind contributions — In-kind contributions within the meaning of Article 2(38) of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509, i.e. non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties.

⁴ For the definition, see Article 190 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) ('EU Financial Regulation') (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024): "**affiliated entities** [are]:

- (a) entities that form a sole beneficiary [(i.e. where an entity is formed of several entities that satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant, including where the entity is specifically established for the purpose of implementing an action to be financed by a grant)];
- (b) entities that satisfy the eligibility criteria and that do not fall within one of the situations referred to in Article 138(1) and 143(1) and that have a link with the beneficiary, in particular a legal or capital link, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation".

Fraud — Fraud within the meaning of Article 3 of EU Directive 2017/1371⁵ and Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995⁶, as well as any other wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.

Irregularities — Any type of breach (regulatory or contractual) which could impact the EU financial interests, including irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of EU Regulation 2988/95⁷.

Grave professional misconduct — Any type of unacceptable or improper behaviour in exercising one's profession, especially by employees, including grave professional misconduct within the meaning of Article 138(1)(c) of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509⁸.

Applicable EU, international and national law — Any legal acts or other (binding or non-binding) rules and guidance in the area concerned.

Portal — EU Funding & Tenders Portal; electronic portal and exchange system managed by the European Commission and used by itself and other EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies for the management of their funding programmes (grants, procurements, prizes, etc.).

CHAPTER 2 ACTION

ARTICLE 3 — ACTION

The grant is awarded for the action **101244066 — ResPa** ('action'), as described in Annex 1.

ARTICLE 4 — DURATION AND STARTING DATE

The duration and the starting date of the action are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 1).

CHAPTER 3 GRANT

ARTICLE 5 — GRANT

5.1 Form of grant

⁵ Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29).

⁶ OJ C 316, 27.11.1995, p. 48.

⁷ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

⁸ 'Professional misconduct' includes, in particular, the following: violation of ethical standards of the profession; wrongful conduct with impact on professional credibility; breach of generally accepted professional ethical standards; false declarations/misrepresentation of information; participation in a cartel or other agreement distorting competition; violation of IPR; attempting to influence decision-making processes by taking advantage, through misrepresentation, of a conflict of interests, or to obtain confidential information from public authorities to gain an advantage; incitement to discrimination, hatred or violence or similar activities contrary to the EU values where negatively affecting or risking to affect the performance of a legal commitment.

The grant is an action grant⁹ which takes the form of a lump sum grant for the completion of work packages.

5.2 Maximum grant amount

The maximum grant amount is set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 3) and in the estimated budget (Annex 2).

5.3 Funding rate

Not applicable

5.4 Estimated budget, budget categories and forms of funding

The estimated budget for the action (lump sum breakdown) is set out in Annex 2.

It contains the estimated eligible contributions for the action (lump sum contributions), broken down by participant and work package.

Annex 2 also shows the types of contributions (forms of funding)¹⁰ to be used for each work package.

5.5 Budget flexibility

Budget flexibility does not apply; changes to the estimated budget (lump sum breakdown) always require an amendment (see Article 39).

Amendments for transfers between *work packages* are moreover possible only if:

- the work packages concerned are not already completed (and declared in a financial statement) and
- the transfers are justified by the technical implementation of the action.

ARTICLE 6 — ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

6.1 and 6.2 General and specific eligibility conditions

Lump sum contributions are eligible ('eligible contributions'), if:

- (a) they are set out in Annex 2 and
- (b) the work packages are completed and the work is properly implemented by the beneficiaries and/or the results are achieved, in accordance with Annex 1 and during in the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of work/results relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be achieved afterwards; see Article 21)

They will be calculated on the basis of the amounts set out in Annex 2.

⁹ For the definition, see Article 183(2)(a) EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509: 'action grant' means an EU grant to finance "an action intended to help achieve a Union policy objective".

¹⁰ See Article 125 EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509.

6.3 Ineligible contributions

‘Ineligible contributions’ are:

- (a) lump sum contributions that do not comply with the conditions set out above (see Article 6.1 and 6.2)
- (b) lump sum contributions for activities already funded under other EU grants (or grants awarded by an EU Member State, non-EU country or other body implementing the EU budget), except for the following case:
 - (i) Synergy actions: not applicable
- (c) other:
 - (i) country restrictions for eligible costs: not applicable.

6.4 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary declares lump sum contributions that are ineligible, they will be rejected (see Article 27).

This may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

CHAPTER 4 GRANT IMPLEMENTATION

SECTION 1 CONSORTIUM: BENEFICIARIES, AFFILIATED ENTITIES AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS

ARTICLE 7 — BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries, as signatories of the Agreement, are fully responsible towards the granting authority for implementing it and for complying with all its obligations.

They must implement the Agreement to their best abilities, in good faith and in accordance with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

They must have the appropriate resources to implement the action and implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with Article 11. If they rely on affiliated entities or other participants (see Articles 8 and 9), they retain sole responsibility towards the granting authority and the other beneficiaries.

They are jointly responsible for the *technical* implementation of the action. If one of the beneficiaries fails to implement their part of the action, the other beneficiaries must ensure that this part is implemented by someone else (without being entitled to an increase of the maximum grant amount and subject to an amendment; see Article 39). The *financial* responsibility of each beneficiary in case of recoveries is governed by Article 22.

The beneficiaries (and their action) must remain eligible under the EU programme funding the grant

for the entire duration of the action. Lump sum contributions will be eligible only as long as the beneficiary and the action are eligible.

The **internal roles and responsibilities** of the beneficiaries are divided as follows:

(a) Each beneficiary must:

- (i) keep information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date (see Article 19)
- (ii) inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) immediately of any events or circumstances likely to affect significantly or delay the implementation of the action (see Article 19)
- (iii) submit to the coordinator in good time:
 - the prefinancing guarantees (if required; see Article 23)
 - the financial statements and certificates on the financial statements (CFS): not applicable
 - the contribution to the deliverables and technical reports (see Article 21)
 - any other documents or information required by the granting authority under the Agreement
- (iv) submit via the Portal data and information related to the participation of their affiliated entities.

(b) The coordinator must:

- (i) monitor that the action is implemented properly (see Article 11)
- (ii) act as the intermediary for all communications between the consortium and the granting authority, unless the Agreement or granting authority specifies otherwise, and in particular:
 - submit the prefinancing guarantees to the granting authority (if any)
 - request and review any documents or information required and verify their quality and completeness before passing them on to the granting authority
 - submit the deliverables and reports to the granting authority
 - inform the granting authority about the payments made to the other beneficiaries (report on the distribution of payments; if required, see Articles 22 and 32)
- (iii) distribute the payments received from the granting authority to the other beneficiaries without unjustified delay (see Article 22).

The coordinator may not delegate or subcontract the above-mentioned tasks to any other beneficiary or third party (including affiliated entities).

However, coordinators which are public bodies may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(ii) last

indent and (iii) above to entities with ‘authorisation to administer’ which they have created or which are controlled by or affiliated to them. In this case, the coordinator retains sole responsibility for the payments and for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Moreover, coordinators which are ‘sole beneficiaries’¹¹ (or similar, such as European research infrastructure consortia (ERICs)) may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(i) to (iii) above to one of their members. The coordinator retains sole responsibility for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

The beneficiaries must have **internal arrangements** regarding their operation and co-ordination, to ensure that the action is implemented properly.

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 1), these arrangements must be set out in a written **consortium agreement** between the beneficiaries, covering for instance:

- the internal organisation of the consortium
- the management of access to the Portal
- different distribution keys for the payments and financial responsibilities in case of recoveries (if any)
- additional rules on rights and obligations related to background and results (see Article 16)
- settlement of internal disputes
- liability, indemnification and confidentiality arrangements between the beneficiaries.

The internal arrangements must not contain any provision contrary to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8 — AFFILIATED ENTITIES

Not applicable

ARTICLE 9 — OTHER PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED IN THE ACTION

9.1 Associated partners

The following entities which cooperate with a beneficiary will participate in the action as ‘associated partners’:

- **HOCHSCHULE FULDA-UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES (HSFULDA)**, PIC 998871954
- **UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI SALERNO (UNISA)**, PIC 999899184
- **AO Centrul National de Mediu / PA National Environmental Center (CNM)**, PIC 886307237

¹¹ For the definition, see Article 190(2) EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509: “Where several entities satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant and together form one entity, that entity may be treated as the **sole beneficiary**, including where it is specifically established for the purpose of implementing the action financed by the grant.”

- **PACOON GMBH (PACOON)**, PIC 936185219
- **HOCHSCHULE ALBSTADT-SIGMARINGEN (HSALBSIG)**, PIC 969059489
- **KARLSTADS UNIVERSITET (KU)**, PIC 999874837
- **KULUTTAJALIITTO - KONSUMENTFORBUNDET RY (KULUTTAJALIITTO)**, PIC 939186787

Associated partners must implement the action tasks attributed to them in Annex 1 in accordance with Article 11. They may not charge contributions to the action (no lump sum contributions) and the costs for their tasks are not eligible (may not be included in the estimated budget in Annex 2).

The tasks must be set out in Annex 1.

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interests), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the associated partners.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the associated partners.

9.2 Third parties giving in-kind contributions to the action

Other third parties may give in-kind contributions to the action (i.e. personnel, equipment, other goods, works and services, etc. which are free-of-charge), if necessary for the implementation.

Third parties giving in-kind contributions do not implement any action tasks. They may not charge contributions to the action (no lump sum contributions) and the costs for the in-kind contributions are not eligible (may not be included in the estimated budget in Annex 2).

The third parties and their in-kind contributions should be set out in Annex 1.

9.3 Subcontractors

Subcontractors may participate in the action, if necessary for the implementation.

Subcontractors must implement their action tasks in accordance with Article 11. The beneficiaries' costs for subcontracting are considered entirely covered by the lump sum contributions for implementing the work packages (irrespective of the actual subcontracting costs incurred, if any).

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the subcontractors.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the subcontractors.

9.4 Recipients of financial support to third parties

If the action includes providing financial support to third parties (e.g. grants, prizes or similar forms of support), the beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the third parties receiving the support (recipients).

The beneficiaries must also ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the recipients.

ARTICLE 10 — PARTICIPANTS WITH SPECIAL STATUS

10.1 Non-EU participants

Participants which are established in a non-EU country (if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: use qualified external auditors which are independent and comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC¹²
- for the controls under Article 25: allow for checks, reviews, audits and investigations (including on-the-spot checks, visits and inspections) by the bodies mentioned in that Article (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.).

Special rules on dispute settlement apply (see Data Sheet, Point 5).

10.2 Participants which are international organisations

Participants which are international organisations (IOs; if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: to use either independent public officers or external auditors which comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC¹³
- for the controls under Article 25: to allow for the checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the bodies mentioned in that Article, taking into account the specific agreements concluded by them and the EU (if any).

¹² Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

¹³ Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

For such participants, nothing in the Agreement will be interpreted as a waiver of their privileges or immunities, as accorded by their constituent documents or international law.

Special rules on applicable law and dispute settlement apply (see Article 43 and Data Sheet, Point 5).

10.3 Pillar-assessed participants

Pillar-assessed participants (if any) may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in so far as they have been positively assessed and do not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries.

‘Pillar-assessment’ means a review by the European Commission on the systems, rules and procedures which participants use for managing EU grants (in particular internal control system, accounting system, external audits, financing of third parties, rules on recovery and exclusion, information on recipients and protection of personal data; see Article 157 EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509).

Participants with a positive pillar assessment may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in particular for:

- record-keeping (Article 20): may be done in accordance with internal standards, rules and procedures
- currency conversion for financial statements (Article 21): may be done in accordance with usual accounting practices
- guarantees (Article 23): for public law bodies, prefinancing guarantees are not needed
- certificates (Article 24):
 - certificates on the financial statements (CFS): may be provided by their regular internal or external auditors and in accordance with their internal financial regulations and procedures
 - certificates on usual accounting practices (CoMUC): are not needed if those practices are covered by an ex-ante assessment

and use the following specific rules, for:

- recoveries (Article 22): in case of financial support to third parties, there will be no recovery if the participant has done everything possible to retrieve the undue amounts from the third party receiving the support (including legal proceedings) and non-recovery is not due to an error or negligence on its part
- checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the EU (Article 25): will be conducted taking into account the rules and procedures specifically agreed between them and the framework agreement (if any)
- impact evaluation (Article 26): will be conducted in accordance with the participant’s internal rules and procedures and the framework agreement (if any)
- grant agreement termination (Article 32): the final grant amount and final payment will be calculated taking into account also costs relating to contracts due for execution only after

termination takes effect, if the contract was entered into before the pre-information letter was received and could not reasonably be terminated on legal grounds

- liability for damages (Article 33.2): the granting authority must be compensated for damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement only if the damage is due to an infringement of the participant's internal rules and procedures or due to a violation of third parties' rights by the participant or one of its employees or individual for whom the employees are responsible.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers procurement and granting procedures may also do purchases, subcontracting and financial support to third parties (Article 6.2) in accordance with their internal rules and procedures for purchases, subcontracting and financial support.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers data protection rules may rely on their internal standards, rules and procedures for data protection (Article 15).

The participants may however not rely on provisions which would breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries or call into question the decision awarding the grant, such as in particular:

- eligibility (Article 6)
- consortium roles and set-up (Articles 7-9)
- security and ethics (Articles 13, 14)
- IPR (including background and results, access rights and rights of use), communication, dissemination and visibility (Articles 16 and 17)
- information obligation (Article 19)
- payment, reporting and amendments (Articles 21, 22 and 39)
- rejections, reductions, suspensions and terminations (Articles 27, 28, 29-32)

If the pillar assessment was subject to remedial measures, reliance on the internal systems, rules and procedures is subject to compliance with those remedial measures.

Participants must inform the coordinator without delay of any changes to the systems, rules and procedures that were part of the pillar assessment. The coordinator must immediately inform the granting authority.

Pillar-assessed participants that have also concluded a framework agreement with the EU, may moreover — under the same conditions as those above (i.e. not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries) — rely on provisions set out in that framework agreement.

SECTION 2 RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION

ARTICLE 11 — PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION

11.1 Obligation to properly implement the action

The beneficiaries must implement the action as described in Annex 1 and in compliance with the provisions of the Agreement, the call conditions and all legal obligations under applicable EU, international and national law.

11.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 12 — CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

12.1 Conflict of interests

The beneficiaries must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the Agreement could be compromised for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other direct or indirect interest ('conflict of interests').

They must formally notify the granting authority without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

The granting authority may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.

12.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28) and the grant or the beneficiary may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 13 — CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY

13.1 Sensitive information

The parties must keep confidential any data, documents or other material (in any form) that is identified as sensitive in writing ('sensitive information') — during the implementation of the action and for at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

If a beneficiary requests, the granting authority may agree to keep such information confidential for a longer period.

Unless otherwise agreed between the parties, they may use sensitive information only to implement the Agreement.

The beneficiaries may disclose sensitive information to their personnel or other participants involved in the action only if they:

- (a) need to know it in order to implement the Agreement and
- (b) are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The granting authority may disclose sensitive information to its staff and to other EU institutions and bodies.

It may moreover disclose sensitive information to third parties, if:

- (a) this is necessary to implement the Agreement or safeguard the EU financial interests and
- (b) the recipients of the information are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The confidentiality obligations no longer apply if:

- (a) the disclosing party agrees to release the other party
- (b) the information becomes publicly available, without breaching any confidentiality obligation
- (c) the disclosure of the sensitive information is required by EU, international or national law.

Specific confidentiality rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

13.2 Classified information

The parties must handle classified information in accordance with the applicable EU, international or national law on classified information (in particular, Decision 2015/444¹⁴ and its implementing rules).

Deliverables which contain classified information must be submitted according to special procedures agreed with the granting authority.

Action tasks involving classified information may be subcontracted only after explicit approval (in writing) from the granting authority.

Classified information may not be disclosed to any third party (including participants involved in the action implementation) without prior explicit written approval from the granting authority.

Specific security rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

13.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 14 — ETHICS AND VALUES

14.1 Ethics

¹⁴ Commission Decision 2015/444/EC, Euratom of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

The action must be carried out in line with the highest ethical standards and the applicable EU, international and national law on ethical principles.

Specific ethics rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

14.2 Values

The beneficiaries must commit to and ensure the respect of basic EU values (such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and human rights, including the rights of minorities).

Specific rules on values (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

14.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 15 — DATA PROTECTION

15.1 Data processing by the granting authority

Any personal data under the Agreement will be processed under the responsibility of the data controller of the granting authority in accordance with and for the purposes set out in the Portal Privacy Statement.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission, an EU regulatory or executive agency, joint undertaking or other EU body, the processing will be subject to Regulation 2018/1725¹⁵.

15.2 Data processing by the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries must process personal data under the Agreement in compliance with the applicable EU, international and national law on data protection (in particular, Regulation 2016/679¹⁶).

They must ensure that personal data is:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subjects
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes

¹⁵ Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

¹⁶ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC ('GDPR') (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).

- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is processed and
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the data.

The beneficiaries may grant their personnel access to personal data only if it is strictly necessary for implementing, managing and monitoring the Agreement. The beneficiaries must ensure that the personnel is under a confidentiality obligation.

The beneficiaries must inform the persons whose data are transferred to the granting authority and provide them with the Portal Privacy Statement.

15.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 16 — INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE

16.1 Background and access rights to background

The beneficiaries must give each other and the other participants access to the background identified as needed for implementing the action, subject to any specific rules in Annex 5.

‘Background’ means any data, know-how or information — whatever its form or nature (tangible or intangible), including any rights such as intellectual property rights — that is:

- (a) held by the beneficiaries before they acceded to the Agreement and
- (b) needed to implement the action or exploit the results.

If background is subject to rights of a third party, the beneficiary concerned must ensure that it is able to comply with its obligations under the Agreement.

16.2 Ownership of results

The granting authority does not obtain ownership of the results produced under the action.

‘Results’ means any tangible or intangible effect of the action, such as data, know-how or information, whatever its form or nature, whether or not it can be protected, as well as any rights attached to it, including intellectual property rights.

16.3 Rights of use of the granting authority on materials, documents and information received for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes

The granting authority has the right to use non-sensitive information relating to the action and materials and documents received from the beneficiaries (notably summaries for publication, deliverables, as well as any other material, such as pictures or audio-visual material, in paper or electronic form) for policy information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes — during the action or afterwards.

The right to use the beneficiaries' materials, documents and information is granted in the form of a royalty-free, non-exclusive and irrevocable licence, which includes the following rights:

- (a) **use for its own purposes** (in particular, making them available to persons working for the granting authority or any other EU service (including institutions, bodies, offices, agencies, etc.) or EU Member State institution or body; copying or reproducing them in whole or in part, in unlimited numbers; and communication through press information services)
- (b) **distribution to the public** (in particular, publication as hard copies and in electronic or digital format, publication on the internet, as a downloadable or non-downloadable file, broadcasting by any channel, public display or presentation, communicating through press information services, or inclusion in widely accessible databases or indexes)
- (c) **editing or redrafting** (including shortening, summarising, inserting other elements (e.g. meta-data, legends, other graphic, visual, audio or text elements), extracting parts (e.g. audio or video files), dividing into parts, use in a compilation)
- (d) **translation**
- (e) **storage** in paper, electronic or other form
- (f) **archiving**, in line with applicable document-management rules
- (g) the right to authorise **third parties** to act on its behalf or sub-license to third parties the modes of use set out in Points (b), (c), (d) and (f), if needed for the information, communication and publicity activity of the granting authority and
- (h) **processing**, analysing, aggregating the materials, documents and information received and **producing derivative works**.

The rights of use are granted for the whole duration of the industrial or intellectual property rights concerned.

If materials or documents are subject to moral rights or third party rights (including intellectual property rights or rights of natural persons on their image and voice), the beneficiaries must ensure that they comply with their obligations under this Agreement (in particular, by obtaining the necessary licences and authorisations from the rights holders concerned).

Where applicable, the granting authority will insert the following information:

“© – [year] – [name of the copyright owner]. All rights reserved. Licensed to the [name of granting authority] under conditions.”

16.4 Specific rules on IPR, results and background

Specific rules regarding intellectual property rights, results and background (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

16.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such a breach may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 17 — COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY

17.1 Communication — Dissemination — Promoting the action

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, the beneficiaries must promote the action and its results by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public), in accordance with Annex 1 and in a strategic, coherent and effective manner.

Before engaging in a communication or dissemination activity expected to have a major media impact, the beneficiaries must inform the granting authority.

17.2 Visibility — European flag and funding statement

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, communication activities of the beneficiaries related to the action (including media relations, conferences, seminars, information material, such as brochures, leaflets, posters, presentations, etc., in electronic form, via traditional or social media, etc.), dissemination activities and any infrastructure, equipment, vehicles, supplies or major result funded by the grant must acknowledge the EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate):



Funded by the
European Union



Co-funded by the
European Union



Funded by the
European Union



Co-funded by the
European Union

The emblem must remain distinct and separate and cannot be modified by adding other visual marks, brands or text.

Apart from the emblem, no other visual identity or logo may be used to highlight the EU support.

When displayed in association with other logos (e.g. of beneficiaries or sponsors), the emblem must be displayed at least as prominently and visibly as the other logos.

For the purposes of their obligations under this Article, the beneficiaries may use the emblem without first obtaining approval from the granting authority. This does not, however, give them the right to exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

17.3 Quality of information — Disclaimer

Any communication or dissemination activity related to the action must use factually accurate information.

Moreover, it must indicate the following disclaimer (translated into local languages where appropriate):

“Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or [name of the granting authority]. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.”

17.4 Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules

Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

17.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 18 — SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION

18.1 Specific rules for carrying out the action

Specific rules for implementing the action (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

18.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such a breach may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

SECTION 3 GRANT ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 19 — GENERAL INFORMATION OBLIGATIONS

19.1 Information requests

The beneficiaries must provide — during the action or afterwards and in accordance with Article 7 — any information requested in order to verify eligibility of the lump sum contributions declared, proper implementation of the action and compliance with the other obligations under the Agreement.

The information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

19.2 Participant Register data updates

The beneficiaries must keep — at all times, during the action or afterwards — their information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date, in particular, their name, address, legal representatives, legal form and organisation type.

19.3 Information about events and circumstances which impact the action

The beneficiaries must immediately inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) of any of the following:

(a) **events** which are likely to affect or delay the implementation of the action or affect the EU's financial interests, in particular:

- (i) changes in their legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour signed before grant signature)
- (ii) linked action information: not applicable

(b) **circumstances** affecting:

- (i) the decision to award the grant or
- (ii) compliance with requirements under the Agreement.

19.4 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 20 — RECORD-KEEPING

20.1 Keeping records and supporting documents

The beneficiaries must — at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6) — keep records and other supporting documents to prove the proper implementation of the action (proper implementation of the work and/or achievement of the results as described in Annex 1) in line with the accepted standards in the respective field (if any); beneficiaries do not need to keep specific records on the actual costs incurred.

The records and supporting documents must be made available upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

If there are on-going checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims under the Agreement (including the extension of findings; see Article 25), the beneficiaries must keep these records and other supporting documentation until the end of these procedures.

The beneficiaries must keep the original documents. Digital and digitalised documents are considered originals if they are authorised by the applicable national law. The granting authority may accept non-original documents if they offer a comparable level of assurance.

20.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, lump sum contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 21 — REPORTING

21.1 Continuous reporting

The beneficiaries must report on the progress of the action (e.g. **deliverables, milestones, outputs/outcomes, critical risks, indicators**, etc; if any), in the Portal Continuous Reporting tool and in accordance with the timing and conditions it sets out (as agreed with the granting authority).

Standardised deliverables (e.g. progress reports not linked to payments, reports on cumulative expenditure, special reports, etc; if any) must be submitted using the templates published on the Portal.

21.2 Periodic reporting: Technical reports and financial statements

In addition, the beneficiaries must provide reports to request payments, in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2):

- for additional prefinancings (if any): **an additional prefinancing report**
- for interim payments (if any) and the final payment: a **periodic report**

The prefinancing and periodic reports include a technical and financial part.

The technical part includes an overview of the action implementation. It must be prepared using the template available in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool.

The financial part of the additional prefinancing report includes a statement on the use of the previous prefinancing payment.

The financial part of the periodic report includes:

- the financial statement (consolidated statement for the consortium)
- the explanation on the use of resources (or detailed cost reporting table): not applicable
- the certificates on the financial statements (CFS): not applicable.

The **financial statement** must contain the lump sum contributions indicated in Annex 2, for the work packages that were completed during the reporting period.

For the last reporting period, the beneficiaries may exceptionally also declare partial lump sum contributions for work packages that were not completed (e.g. due to force majeure or technical impossibility).

Lump sum contributions which are not declared in a financial statement will not be taken into account by the granting authority.

By signing the financial statement (directly in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool), the coordinator confirms (on behalf of the consortium) that:

- the information provided is complete, reliable and true
- the lump sum contributions declared are eligible (in particular, the work packages have been completed, that the work has been properly implemented and/or the results were achieved in accordance with Annex 1; see Article 6)
- the proper implementation and/or achievement can be substantiated by adequate records and supporting documents (see Article 20) that will be produced upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Article 25).

In case of recoveries (see Article 22), beneficiaries will be held responsible also for the lump sum contributions declared for their affiliated entities (if any).

21.3 Currency for financial statements and conversion into euros

The financial statements must be drafted in euro.

21.4 Reporting language

The reporting must be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

21.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a report submitted does not comply with this Article, the granting authority may suspend the payment deadline (see Article 29) and apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

If the coordinator breaches its reporting obligations, the granting authority may terminate the grant or the coordinator's participation (see Article 32) or apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 22 — PAYMENTS AND RECOVERIES — CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS DUE

22.1 Payments and payment arrangements

Payments will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

They will be made in euro to the bank account indicated by the coordinator (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2)

and must be distributed without unjustified delay (restrictions may apply to distribution of the initial prefinancing payment; see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

Payments to this bank account will discharge the granting authority from its payment obligation.

The cost of payment transfers will be borne as follows:

- the granting authority bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the beneficiary bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the party causing a repetition of a transfer bears all costs of the repeated transfer.

Payments by the granting authority will be considered to have been carried out on the date when they are debited to its account.

22.2 Recoveries

Recoveries will be made, if — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — it turns out that the granting authority has paid too much and needs to recover the amounts undue.

The general liability regime for recoveries (first-line liability) is as follows: At final payment, the coordinator will be fully liable for recoveries, even if it has not been the final recipient of the undue amounts. At beneficiary termination or after final payment, recoveries will be made directly against the beneficiaries concerned.

Beneficiaries will be fully liable for repaying the debts of their affiliated entities.

In case of enforced recoveries (see Article 22.4):

- the beneficiaries will be jointly and severally liable for repaying debts of another beneficiary under the Agreement (including late-payment interest), if required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- affiliated entities will be held liable for repaying debts of their beneficiaries under the Agreement (including late-payment interest), if required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.4).

22.3 Amounts due

22.3.1 Prefinancing payments

The aim of the prefinancing is to provide the beneficiaries with a float.

It remains the property of the EU until the final payment.

For **initial prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

For **additional prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are also set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2). However, if the statement on the use of the previous prefinancing payment shows that less than 70% was used, the amount set out in the Data Sheet will be reduced by the difference between the 70% threshold and the amount used.

Prefinancing payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries' consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

22.3.2 Amount due at beneficiary termination — Recovery

In case of beneficiary termination, the granting authority will determine the provisional amount due for the beneficiary concerned.

This will be done on the basis of work packages already completed in previous interim payments. Payments for ongoing/not yet completed work packages which the beneficiary was working on before termination (if any) will therefore be made only later on, with the next interim or final payments when those work packages have been completed.

The **amount due** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the 'accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary, on the basis of the beneficiary's lump sum contributions for the work packages which were approved in previous interim payments.

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the 'total accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary.

The **balance** is then calculated by deducting the payments received (if any; see report on the distribution of payments in Article 32), from the total accepted EU contribution:

{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary

minus

{prefinancing and interim payments received (if any)} }.

If the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount due, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered and ask this amount to be paid to the coordinator (**confirmation letter**).

22.3.3 Interim payments

Interim payments reimburse the eligible lump sum contributions claimed for work packages implemented during the reporting periods (if any).

Interim payments (if any) will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the periodic report and the work packages declared. Their approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of their content.

Incomplete work packages and work packages that have not been delivered or cannot be approved will be rejected (see Article 27).

The **interim payment** will be calculated by the granting authority in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘accepted EU contribution’ for the action for the reporting period, by calculating the lump sum contributions for the approved work packages.

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions from beneficiary termination (if any). The resulting amount is the ‘total accepted EU contribution’.

Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

The resulting amount is then capped to ensure that the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments (if any) does not exceed the interim payment ceiling set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Interim payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries’ consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

22.3.4 Final payment — Final grant amount — Revenues and Profit — Recovery

The final payment (payment of the balance) reimburses the remaining eligible lump sum contributions claimed for the implemented work packages (if any).

The final payment will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the final periodic report and the work packages declared. Their

approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of their content.

Work packages (or parts of them) that have not been delivered or cannot be approved will be rejected (see Article 27).

The **final grant amount for the action** will be calculated in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘accepted EU contribution’ for the action for all reporting periods, by calculating the lump sum contributions for the approved work packages.

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the ‘total accepted EU contribution’.

Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

Not applicable

Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

Not applicable

The **balance** (final payment) is then calculated by deducting the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments already made (if any), from the final grant amount:

{final grant amount
minus
{prefinancing and interim payments made (if any)} }.

If the balance is **positive**, it will be **paid** to the coordinator.

The final payment (or part of it) may be offset (without the beneficiaries’ consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

If the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the final grant amount, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered (**confirmation letter**), together with a **debit note** with the terms and date for payment.

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

22.3.5 Audit implementation after final payment — Revised final grant amount — Recovery

If — after the final payment (in particular, after checks, reviews, audits or investigations; see Article 25) — the granting authority rejects lump sum contributions (see Article 27) or reduces the grant (see Article 28), it will calculate the **revised final grant amount** for the beneficiary concerned.

The **beneficiary revised final grant amount** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘revised accepted EU contribution’ for the beneficiary, by calculating the ‘revised accepted contributions’.

After that, it will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting ‘revised total accepted EU contribution’ is the beneficiary revised final grant amount.

If the revised final grant amount is lower than the beneficiary’s final grant amount (i.e. its share in the final grant amount for the action), it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The **beneficiary final grant amount** (i.e. share in the final grant amount for the action) is calculated as follows:

{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary

divided by

total accepted EU contribution for the action}

multiplied by

final grant amount for the action}.

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered (**confirmation letter**), together with a **debit note** with the terms and the date for payment.

Recoveries against affiliated entities (if any) will be handled through their beneficiaries.

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

22.4 Enforced recovery

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the amount due will be recovered:

- (a) by offsetting the amount — without the coordinator or beneficiary's consent — against any amounts owed to the coordinator or beneficiary by the granting authority.

In exceptional circumstances, to safeguard the EU financial interests, the amount may be offset before the payment date specified in the debit note.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, debts may also be offset against amounts owed by other Commission services or executive agencies.

- (b) by drawing on the financial guarantee(s) (if any)
- (c) by holding other beneficiaries jointly and severally liable (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- (d) by holding affiliated entities jointly and severally liable (if any, see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- (e) by taking legal action (see Article 43) or, provided that the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, by adopting an enforceable decision under Article 299 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 100(2) of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509.

The amount to be recovered will be increased by **late-payment interest** at the rate set out in Article 23.5, from the day following the payment date in the debit note, up to and including the date the full payment is received.

Partial payments will be first credited against expenses, charges and late-payment interest and then against the principal.

Bank charges incurred in the recovery process will be borne by the beneficiary, unless Directive 2015/2366¹⁷ applies.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency, enforced recovery by offsetting or enforceable decision will be done by the services of the European Commission (see also Article 43).

22.5 Consequences of non-compliance

22.5.1 If the granting authority does not pay within the payment deadlines (see above), the beneficiaries are entitled to **late-payment interest** at the reference rate applied by the European Central Bank (ECB) for its main refinancing operations in euros, plus the percentage specified in the

¹⁷ Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market, amending Directives 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC and 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010, and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC (OJ L 337, 23.12.2015, p. 35).

Data Sheet (Point 4.2). The ECB reference rate to be used is the rate in force on the first day of the month in which the payment deadline expires, as published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

If the late-payment interest is lower than or equal to EUR 200, it will be paid to the coordinator only on request submitted within two months of receiving the late payment.

Late-payment interest is not due if all beneficiaries are EU Member States (including regional and local government authorities or other public bodies acting on behalf of a Member State for the purpose of this Agreement).

If payments or the payment deadline are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30), payment will not be considered as late.

Late-payment interest covers the period running from the day following the due date for payment (see above), up to and including the date of payment.

Late-payment interest is not considered for the purposes of calculating the final grant amount.

22.5.2 If the coordinator breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28) and the grant or the coordinator may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 23 — GUARANTEES

23.1 Prefinancing guarantee

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2), the beneficiaries must provide (one or more) prefinancing guarantee(s) in accordance with the timing and the amounts set out in the Data Sheet.

The coordinator must submit them to the granting authority in due time before the prefinancing they are linked to.

The guarantees must be drawn up using the template published on the Portal and fulfil the following conditions:

- (a) be provided by a bank or approved financial institution established in the EU or — if requested by the coordinator and accepted by the granting authority — by a third party or a bank or financial institution established outside the EU offering equivalent security
- (b) the guarantor stands as first-call guarantor and does not require the granting authority to first have recourse against the principal debtor (i.e. the beneficiary concerned) and
- (c) remain explicitly in force until the final payment and, if the final payment takes the form of a recovery, until five months after the debit note is notified to a beneficiary.

They will be released within the following month.

23.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If the beneficiaries breach their obligation to provide the prefinancing guarantee, the prefinancing will not be paid.

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 24 — CERTIFICATES

Not applicable

ARTICLE 25 — CHECKS, REVIEWS, AUDITS AND INVESTIGATIONS — EXTENSION OF FINDINGS

25.1 Granting authority checks, reviews and audits

25.1.1 Internal checks

The granting authority may — during the action or afterwards — check the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement, including assessing lump sum contributions, deliverables and reports.

25.1.2 Project reviews

The granting authority may carry out reviews on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement (general project reviews or specific issues reviews).

Such project reviews may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent, outside experts. If it uses outside experts, the coordinator or beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.

The coordinator or beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested — any information and data in addition to deliverables and reports already submitted. The granting authority may request beneficiaries to provide such information to it directly. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may be requested to participate in meetings, including with the outside experts.

For **on-the-spot visits**, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including to the outside experts) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the review findings, a **project review report** will be drawn up.

The granting authority will formally notify the project review report to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations.

Project reviews (including project review reports) will be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

25.1.3 Audits

The granting authority may carry out audits on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Such audits may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

The granting authority may use its own audit service, delegate audits to a centralised service or use external audit firms. If it uses an external firm, the beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.

The beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested — any information (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data) to verify compliance with the Agreement. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

For **on-the-spot** visits, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including for the external audit firm) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the audit findings, a **draft audit report** will be drawn up.

The auditors will formally notify the draft audit report to the beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations (contradictory audit procedure).

The **final audit report** will take into account observations by the beneficiary concerned and will be formally notified to them.

Audits (including audit reports) will be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

25.2 European Commission checks, reviews and audits in grants of other granting authorities

Where the granting authority is not the European Commission, the latter has the same rights of checks, reviews and audits as the granting authority.

25.3 Access to records for assessing simplified forms of funding

The beneficiaries must give the European Commission access to their statutory records for the periodic assessment of simplified forms of funding which are used in EU programmes.

25.4 OLAF, EPPO and ECA audits and investigations

The following bodies may also carry out checks, reviews, audits and investigations — during the action or afterwards:

- the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) under Regulations No 883/2013¹⁸ and No 2185/96¹⁹
- the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) under Regulation 2017/1939
- the European Court of Auditors (ECA) under Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 263 of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509.

If requested by these bodies, the beneficiary concerned must provide full, accurate and complete information in the format requested (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data, including in electronic format) and allow access to sites and premises for on-the-spot visits or inspections — as provided for under these Regulations.

To this end, the beneficiary concerned must keep all relevant information relating to the action, at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (Point 6) and, in any case, until any ongoing checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims have been concluded.

25.5 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations — Extension of findings

25.5.1 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations in this grant

Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations carried out in the context of this grant may lead to rejections (see Article 27), grant reduction (see Article 28) or other measures described in Chapter 5.

Rejections or grant reductions after the final payment will lead to a revised final grant amount (see Article 22).

Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations during the action implementation may lead to a request for amendment (see Article 39), to change the description of the action set out in Annex 1.

Checks, reviews, audits or investigations that find systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations in any EU grant may also lead to consequences in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions ('extension to other grants').

Moreover, findings arising from an OLAF or EPPO investigation may lead to criminal prosecution under national law.

25.5.2 Extension from other grants

Findings of checks, reviews, audits or investigations in other grants may be extended to this grant, if:

- (a) the beneficiary concerned is found, in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions, to

¹⁸ Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999 (OJ L 248, 18/09/2013, p. 1).

¹⁹ Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L 292, 15/11/1996, p. 2).

have committed systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant and

- (b) those findings are formally notified to the beneficiary concerned — together with the list of grants affected by the findings — within the time-limit for audits set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned of the intention to extend the findings and the list of grants affected.

If the extension concerns **rejections of lump sum contributions**: the notification will include:

- (a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings
- (b) the request to submit revised financial statements for all grants affected
- (c) the correction rate for extrapolation, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors, to calculate the amounts to be rejected, if the beneficiary concerned:
 - (i) considers that the submission of revised financial statements is not possible or practicable or
 - (ii) does not submit revised financial statements.

If the extension concerns **grant reductions**: the notification will include:

- (a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings and
- (b) the **correction rate for extrapolation**, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors and the principle of proportionality.

The beneficiary concerned has **60 days** from receiving notification to submit observations, revised financial statements or to propose a duly substantiated **alternative correction method/rate**.

On the basis of this, the granting authority will analyse the impact and decide on the implementation (i.e. start rejection or grant reduction procedures, either on the basis of the revised financial statements or the announced/alternative method/rate or a mix of those; see Articles 27 and 28).

25.6 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, lump sum contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 26 — IMPACT EVALUATIONS

26.1 Impact evaluation

The granting authority may carry out impact evaluations of the action, measured against the objectives and indicators of the EU programme funding the grant.

Such evaluations may be started during implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiaries and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent outside experts.

The coordinator or beneficiaries must provide any information relevant to evaluate the impact of the action, including information in electronic format.

26.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the granting authority may apply the measures described in Chapter 5.

CHAPTER 5 CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

SECTION 1 REJECTIONS AND GRANT REDUCTION

ARTICLE 27 — REJECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

27.1 Conditions

The granting authority will — at interim payment, final payment or afterwards — reject any lump sum contributions which are ineligible (see Article 6), in particular following checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

The rejection may also be based on the extension of findings from other grants to this grant (see Article 25).

Ineligible lump sum contributions will be rejected.

27.2 Procedure

If the rejection does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the rejection, the amounts and the reasons why. The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the rejection (payment review procedure).

If the rejection leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

27.3 Effects

If the granting authority rejects lump sum contributions, it will deduct them from the lump sum contributions declared and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

ARTICLE 28 — GRANT REDUCTION

28.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — reduce the grant for a beneficiary, if:

- (a) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
 - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.), or
- (b) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5).

The amount of the reduction will be calculated for each beneficiary concerned and proportionate to the seriousness and the duration of the errors, irregularities or fraud or breach of obligations, by applying an individual reduction rate to their accepted EU contribution.

28.2 Procedure

If the grant reduction does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the reduction, the amount to be reduced and the reasons why. The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the reduction (payment review procedure).

If the grant reduction leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

28.3 Effects

If the granting authority reduces the grant, it will deduct the reduction and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

SECTION 2 SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION

ARTICLE 29 — PAYMENT DEADLINE SUSPENSION

29.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend the payment deadline if a payment cannot be processed because:

- (a) the required report (see Article 21) has not been submitted or is not complete or additional information is needed
- (b) there are doubts about the amount to be paid (e.g. ongoing extension procedure, queries about eligibility, need for a grant reduction, etc.) and additional checks, reviews, audits or investigations are necessary, or
- (c) there are other issues affecting the EU financial interests.

29.2 Procedure

The granting authority will formally notify the coordinator of the suspension and the reasons why.

The suspension will **take effect** the day the notification is sent.

If the conditions for suspending the payment deadline are no longer met, the suspension will be **lifted** — and the remaining time to pay (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2) will resume.

If the suspension exceeds two months, the coordinator may request the granting authority to confirm if the suspension will continue.

If the payment deadline has been suspended due to the non-compliance of the report and the revised report is not submitted (or was submitted but is also rejected), the granting authority may also terminate the grant or the participation of the coordinator (see Article 32).

ARTICLE 30 — PAYMENT SUSPENSION

30.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend payments, in whole or in part for one or more beneficiaries, if:

- (a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
 - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.), or
- (b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5).

If payments are suspended for one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will make partial payment(s) for the part(s) not suspended. If suspension concerns the final payment, the payment (or

recovery) of the remaining amount after suspension is lifted will be considered to be the payment that closes the action.

30.2 Procedure

Before suspending payments, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to suspend payments and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

At the end of the suspension procedure, the granting authority will also inform the coordinator.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent.

If the conditions for resuming payments are met, the suspension will be **lifted**. The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned (and the coordinator) and set the suspension end date.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid to the beneficiaries concerned. For interim payments, the periodic reports for all reporting periods except the last one (see Article 21) must not contain any financial statements from the beneficiary concerned (or its affiliated entities). The coordinator must include them in the next periodic report after the suspension is lifted or — if suspension is not lifted before the end of the action — in the last periodic report.

ARTICLE 31 — GRANT AGREEMENT SUSPENSION

31.1 Consortium-requested GA suspension

31.1.1 Conditions and procedure

The beneficiaries may request the suspension of the grant or any part of it, if exceptional circumstances — in particular *force majeure* (see Article 35) — make implementation impossible or excessively difficult.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the suspension takes effect; this date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request and
- the expected date of resumption.

The suspension will **take effect** on the day specified in the amendment.

Once circumstances allow for implementation to resume, the coordinator must immediately request another **amendment** of the Agreement to set the suspension end date, the resumption date (one day

after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the amendment. This date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Moreover, no work may be done. Ongoing work packages must be interrupted and no new work packages may be started.

31.2 EU-initiated GA suspension

31.2.1 Conditions

The granting authority may suspend the grant or any part of it, if:

- (a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
 - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.), or
- (b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5)
- (c) other:
 - (i) linked action issues: not applicable
 - (ii) additional GA suspension grounds: not applicable.

31.2.2 Procedure

Before suspending the grant, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

- formally notifying the intention to suspend the grant and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification).

Once the conditions for resuming implementation of the action are met, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator a **lifting of suspension letter**, in which it will set the suspension end date and invite the coordinator to request an amendment of the Agreement to set the resumption date (one day after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the lifting of suspension letter. This date may be before the date on which the letter is sent.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Moreover, no work may be done. Ongoing work packages must be interrupted and no new work packages may be started.

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to suspension by the granting authority (see Article 33).

Grant suspension does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant or a beneficiary (see Article 32) or reduce the grant (see Article 28).

ARTICLE 32 — GRANT AGREEMENT OR BENEFICIARY TERMINATION

32.1 Consortium-requested GA termination

32.1.1 Conditions and procedure

The beneficiaries may request the termination of the grant.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the consortium ends work on the action ('end of work date') and
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no reasons are given or if the granting authority considers the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the grant terminated improperly.

32.1.2 Effects

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the open reporting period until termination).

The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the lump sum contributions for activities implemented before the end of work date (see Article 22). Partial lump sum contributions for work packages that were not completed (e.g. due to technical reasons) may exceptionally be taken into account.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only lump sum contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Improper termination may lead to a grant reduction (see Article 28).

After termination, the beneficiaries' obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

32.2 Consortium-requested beneficiary termination

32.2.1 Conditions and procedure

The coordinator may request the termination of the participation of one or more beneficiaries, on request of the beneficiary concerned or on behalf of the other beneficiaries.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the opinion of the beneficiary concerned (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing)
- the date the beneficiary ends work on the action ('end of work date')
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

If the termination concerns the coordinator and is done without its agreement, the amendment request must be submitted by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the consortium).

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no information is given or if the granting authority considers that the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the beneficiary to have been terminated improperly.

32.2.2 Effects

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

- (i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned
- (ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work
- (iii) a second **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with other amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the reports submitted in previous interim payments (i.e. beneficiary's lump sum contributions for completed and approved work packages).

Lump sum contributions for ongoing/not yet completed work packages will have to be included in the periodic report for the next reporting periods when those work packages have been completed.

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the second request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the second request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

Improper termination may lead to a reduction of the grant (see Article 31) or grant termination (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

32.3 EU-initiated GA or beneficiary termination

32.3.1 Conditions

The granting authority may terminate the grant or the participation of one or more beneficiaries, if:

- (a) one or more beneficiaries do not accede to the Agreement (see Article 40)
- (b) a change to the action or the legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation of a beneficiary is likely to substantially affect the implementation of the action or calls into question the decision to award the grant (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour)
- (c) following termination of one or more beneficiaries, the necessary changes to the Agreement (and their impact on the action) would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants
- (d) implementation of the action has become impossible or the changes necessary for its continuation would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants
- (e) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is subject to bankruptcy proceedings or similar (including insolvency, winding-up, administration by a liquidator or court, arrangement with creditors, suspension of business activities, etc.)
- (f) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is in breach of social security or tax obligations
- (g) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person

essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has been found guilty of grave professional misconduct

- (h) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed fraud, corruption, or is involved in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking
- (i) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) was created under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin (or created another entity with this purpose)
- (j) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
 - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.)
- (k) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5)
- (l) despite a specific request by the granting authority, a beneficiary does not request — through the coordinator — an amendment to the Agreement to end the participation of one of its affiliated entities or associated partners that is in one of the situations under points (d), (f), (e), (g), (h), (i) or (j) and to reallocate its tasks, or
- (m) other:
 - (i) linked action issues: not applicable
 - (ii) additional GA termination grounds: not applicable.

32.3.2 Procedure

Before terminating the grant or participation of one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to terminate and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite

the observations it has received, it will confirm the termination and the date it will take effect (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

For beneficiary terminations, the granting authority will — at the end of the procedure — also inform the coordinator.

The termination will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification; ‘termination date’).

32.3.3 Effects

(a) for **GA termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the last open reporting period until termination).

The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the lump sum contributions for activities implemented before termination takes effect (see Article 22). Partial lump sum contributions for work packages that were not completed (e.g. due to technical reasons) may exceptionally be taken into account.

If the grant is terminated for breach of the obligation to submit reports, the coordinator may not submit any report after termination.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only lump sum contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Termination does not affect the granting authority’s right to reduce the grant (see Article 28) or to impose administrative sanctions (see Article 34).

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to termination by the granting authority (see Article 33).

After termination, the beneficiaries’ obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

(b) for **beneficiary termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

- (i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned
- (ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work
- (iii) a **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with any amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the reports submitted in previous interim payments (i.e. beneficiary's lump sum contributions for completed and approved work packages).

Lump sum contributions for ongoing/not yet completed work packages will have to be included in the periodic report for the next reporting periods when those work packages have been completed.

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

SECTION 3 OTHER CONSEQUENCES: DAMAGES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS

ARTICLE 33 — DAMAGES

33.1 Liability of the granting authority

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the beneficiaries or to third parties as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement, including for gross negligence.

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused by any of the beneficiaries or other participants involved in the action, as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement.

33.2 Liability of the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries must compensate the granting authority for any damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement, provided that it was caused by gross negligence or wilful act.

The liability does not extend to indirect or consequential losses or similar damage (such as loss of profit, loss of revenue or loss of contracts), provided such damage was not caused by wilful act or by a breach of confidentiality.

ARTICLE 34 — ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES

Nothing in this Agreement may be construed as preventing the adoption of administrative sanctions (i.e. exclusion from EU award procedures and/or financial penalties) or other public law measures, in addition or as an alternative to the contractual measures provided under this Agreement (see, for instance, Articles 137 to 148 EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509 and Articles 4 and 7 of Regulation 2988/95²⁰).

SECTION 4 FORCE MAJEURE

ARTICLE 35 — FORCE MAJEURE

A party prevented by force majeure from fulfilling its obligations under the Agreement cannot be considered in breach of them.

‘Force majeure’ means any situation or event that:

- prevents either party from fulfilling their obligations under the Agreement
- was unforeseeable, exceptional situation and beyond the parties’ control
- was not due to error or negligence on their part (or on the part of other participants involved in the action) and
- proves to be inevitable in spite of exercising all due diligence.

Any situation constituting force majeure must be formally notified to the other party without delay, stating the nature, likely duration and foreseeable effects.

The parties must immediately take all the necessary steps to limit any damage due to force majeure and do their best to resume implementation of the action as soon as possible.

CHAPTER 6 FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 36 — COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES

36.1 Forms and means of communication — Electronic management

EU grants are managed fully electronically through the EU Funding & Tenders Portal (‘Portal’).

All communications must be made electronically through the Portal in accordance with the Portal Terms and Conditions and using the forms and templates provided there (except if explicitly instructed otherwise by the granting authority).

Communications must be made in writing and clearly identify the grant agreement (project number and acronym).

²⁰ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

Communications must be made by persons authorised according to the Portal Terms and Conditions. For naming the authorised persons, each beneficiary must have designated — before the signature of this Agreement — a ‘legal entity appointed representative (LEAR)’. The role and tasks of the LEAR are stipulated in their appointment letter (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, instructions will be given on the Portal.

36.2 Date of communication

The sending date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time of sending, as indicated by the time logs.

The receiving date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time the communication is accessed, as indicated by the time logs. Formal notifications that have not been accessed within 10 days after sending, will be considered to have been accessed (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If a communication is exceptionally made on paper (by e-mail or postal service), general principles apply (i.e. date of sending/receipt). Formal notifications by registered post with proof of delivery will be considered to have been received either on the delivery date registered by the postal service or the deadline for collection at the post office.

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, the sending party cannot be considered in breach of its obligation to send a communication within a specified deadline.

36.3 Addresses for communication

The Portal can be accessed via the Europa website.

The address for paper communications to the granting authority (if exceptionally allowed) is the official mailing address indicated on its website.

For beneficiaries, it is the legal address specified in the Portal Participant Register.

ARTICLE 37 — INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The provisions in the Data Sheet take precedence over the rest of the Terms and Conditions of the Agreement.

Annex 5 takes precedence over the Terms and Conditions.

The Terms and Conditions take precedence over the Annexes other than Annex 5.

Annex 2 takes precedence over Annex 1.

ARTICLE 38 — CALCULATION OF PERIODS AND DEADLINES

In accordance with Regulation No 1182/71²¹, periods expressed in days, months or years are calculated from the moment the triggering event occurs.

²¹ Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 1182/71 of the Council of 3 June 1971 determining the rules applicable to periods, dates and time-limits (OJ L 124, 8/6/1971, p. 1).

The day during which that event occurs is not considered as falling within the period.

‘Days’ means calendar days, not working days.

ARTICLE 39 — AMENDMENTS

39.1 Conditions

The Agreement may be amended, unless the amendment entails changes to the Agreement which would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

Amendments may be requested by any of the parties.

39.2 Procedure

The party requesting an amendment must submit a request for amendment signed directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

The coordinator submits and receives requests for amendment on behalf of the beneficiaries (see Annex 3). If a change of coordinator is requested without its agreement, the submission must be done by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the other beneficiaries).

The request for amendment must include:

- the reasons why
- the appropriate supporting documents and
- for a change of coordinator without its agreement: the opinion of the coordinator (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing).

The granting authority may request additional information.

If the party receiving the request agrees, it must sign the amendment in the tool within 45 days of receiving notification (or any additional information the granting authority has requested). If it does not agree, it must formally notify its disagreement within the same deadline. The deadline may be extended, if necessary for the assessment of the request. If no notification is received within the deadline, the request is considered to have been rejected.

An amendment **enters into force** on the day of the signature of the receiving party.

An amendment **takes effect** on the date of entry into force or other date specified in the amendment.

ARTICLE 40 — ACCESSION AND ADDITION OF NEW BENEFICIARIES

40.1 Accession of the beneficiaries mentioned in the Preamble

The beneficiaries which are not coordinator must accede to the grant by signing the accession form (see Annex 3) directly in the Portal Grant Preparation tool, within 30 days after the entry into force of the Agreement (see Article 44).

They will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of its entry into force (see Article 44).

If a beneficiary does not accede to the grant within the above deadline, the coordinator must — within 30 days — request an amendment (see Article 39) to terminate the beneficiary and make any changes necessary to ensure proper implementation of the action. This does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant (see Article 32).

40.2 Addition of new beneficiaries

In justified cases, the beneficiaries may request the addition of a new beneficiary.

For this purpose, the coordinator must submit a request for amendment in accordance with Article 39. It must include an accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

New beneficiaries will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of their accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

Additions are also possible in mono-beneficiary grants.

ARTICLE 41 — TRANSFER OF THE AGREEMENT

In justified cases, the beneficiary of a mono-beneficiary grant may request the transfer of the grant to a new beneficiary, provided that this would not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

The beneficiary must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with

- the reasons why
- the accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool and
- additional supporting documents (if required by the granting authority).

The new beneficiary will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

ARTICLE 42 — ASSIGNMENTS OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT AGAINST THE GRANTING AUTHORITY

The beneficiaries may not assign any of their claims for payment against the granting authority to any third party, except if expressly approved in writing by the granting authority on the basis of a reasoned, written request by the coordinator (on behalf of the beneficiary concerned).

If the granting authority has not accepted the assignment or if the terms of it are not observed, the assignment will have no effect on it.

In no circumstances will an assignment release the beneficiaries from their obligations towards the granting authority.

ARTICLE 43 — APPLICABLE LAW AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

43.1 Applicable law

The Agreement is governed by the applicable EU law, supplemented if necessary by the law of Belgium.

Special rules may apply for beneficiaries which are international organisations (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5).

43.2 Dispute settlement

If a dispute concerns the interpretation, application or validity of the Agreement, the parties must bring action before the EU General Court — or, on appeal, the EU Court of Justice — under Article 272 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU).

For non-EU beneficiaries (if any), such disputes must be brought before the courts of Brussels, Belgium — unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements.

For beneficiaries with arbitration as special dispute settlement forum (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5), the dispute will — in the absence of an amicable settlement — be settled in accordance with the Rules for Arbitration published on the Portal.

If a dispute concerns administrative sanctions, offsetting or an enforceable decision under Article 299 TFEU (see Articles 22 and 34), the beneficiaries must bring action before the General Court — or, on appeal, the Court of Justice — under Article 263 TFEU.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency (see Preamble), actions against offsetting and enforceable decisions must be brought against the European Commission (not against the granting authority; see also Article 22).

ARTICLE 44 — ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Agreement will enter into force on the day of signature by the granting authority or the coordinator, depending on which is later.

SIGNATURES

For the coordinator

Ecas Id n00ajckz signed in the Participant Portal on 2025/11/28 12:05:11 (SigId-27593-14jxiDMDQqsI8GYXmqwpa8T4KzUrgJug0DLWPvhzO9Wqxkek7bjnrgbez u1bEvEj6vSWMI5qpR66mUuaX0BBDSG-m5stpJzr6TdyFIIN0W94Da zXzOS8Swy6YfgndA6bK9WbjaXMKxiKkLSDR1BdIGd08Pj4ju8jrlKFacRfLMOsTnHJ a7nBzwI5XqlYACBPW24E0). Timestamp by thirdparty at 2025/11/28 12:08:14

For the granting authority

Signed by Katharina RIEDIGER with ECAS id riedikn as an authorised representative on 28-11-2025 14:47:12 (transaction id SigId-30192-WkrYyauzqm 9pkvWtKdVOv5Kdbm6a2Ujk5WVXljuDnjVgnyom1uIPVBUh4GUXnJnRvxGuI2xqvl sGDDrIvrudT0-m5stpJzr6TdyFIIN0W94Da FQufoaca16wzjQaA9XctTs8tN7UttKrv2dmaDXBH18VPzeityokPqb0zG5DtZ9CNw ZHSNRmTRkUGC3vIstS3miG)

**ANNEX 1****Erasmus+ (ERASMUS+)****Description of the action (DoA)****Part A****Part B**

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION (PART A)

COVER PAGE

Part A of the Description of the Action (DoA) must be completed directly on the Portal Grant Preparation screens.

PROJECT	
<i>Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Enter the info.</i>	
Project number:	101244066
Project name:	Consumers' role in responsible packaging - Improving circular economy innovation capacities in packaging value chain
Project acronym:	ResPa
Call:	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO
Topic:	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO-EDU-ENTERP
Type of action:	ERASMUS-LS
Service:	EACEA/A/02
Project starting date:	first day of the month following the entry into force date
Project duration:	36 months

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PROJECT SUMMARY

Project summary

Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Provide an overall description of your project (including context and overall objectives, planned activities and main achievements, and expected results and impacts (on target groups, change procedures, capacities, innovation etc)). This summary should give readers a clear idea of what your project is about.

Use the project summary from your proposal.

The overall purpose of the 'Consumers' role in responsible packaging - Improving circular economy innovation capacities in packaging value chain' (ResPa) project is to develop companies' innovation and green skills capabilities in packaging value chain by highlighting the role of the consumer in the context of circular economy. There is a recognized need for improving packaging materials circularity, to avoid over packing and to reduce packaging waste to meet the local, regional, and EU-wide goals related to the reuse and recyclability of packaging materials. Main topics of the ResPa project covers recyclable and re-usable consumer packaging, consumption and post-purchase behavior, understanding consumer's role as a part of the packaging value chain, shaping circular economy (CE) business models and strategies. The project has been designed by the principles of the Quadruple Helix model to improve consumers involvement to packaging materials' circularity through market actors' innovation and capacity building activities. The ResPa project will improve know-how and communication through value chain and give access to knowledge and data sharing, by developing new CE business models in collaboration with HE and VET to the packaging world, without forgetting consumers as an important part of the industrial value chain. The overall goal is to improve packaging materials' circularity and sustainability with capacity building of green skills and innovations through development of a new educational contents implemented through targeted micro-credentials (constellation of 5 digital open badges). In addition, through a multidisciplinary approach the ResPa project will contribute to the development of business models and educational contents and methodologies with different stakeholders by utilising Living Lab approach.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

PARTICIPANTS

Grant Preparation (Beneficiaries screen) — Enter the info.

Number	Role	Short name	Legal name	Country	PIC
1	COO	TAMK	TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY	FI	986178728
2	BEN	HM	HOCHSCHULE FUR ANGEWANDTE WISSENSCHAFTEN MUNCHEN	DE	998322837
3	BEN	PROPLAST	CONSORZIO PER LA PROMOZIONE DELLA CULTURA PLASTICA PROPLAST	IT	997946768
4	BEN	AVEP	ASOCIACION VALENCIANA DE EMPRESAS DEL PLASTICO - AVEP	ES	997807864
5	BEN	Tredu	TAMPEREEN KAUPUNKI	FI	998829080
6	BEN	UNITN	UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI TRENTO	IT	999841954
7	BEN	ECOEMBES	ECOEMBES ENTIDAD ADMINISTRADORA, S.L.	ES	878492626
8	BEN	Broby	SUNNE KOMMUN	SE	875342551
9	AP	HSFULDA	HOCHSCHULE FULDA-UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES	DE	998871954
10	AP	UNISA	UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI SALERNO	IT	999899184

PARTICIPANTS*Grant Preparation (Beneficiaries screen) — Enter the info.*

Number	Role	Short name	Legal name	Country	PIC
11	AP	CNM	AO Centrul National de Mediu / PA National Environmental Center	MD	886307237
12	AP	PACOON	PACOON GMBH	DE	936185219
13	AP	HSALBSIG	HOCHSCHULE ALBSTADT-SIGMARINGEN	DE	969059489
14	AP	KU	KARLSTADS UNIVERSITET	SE	999874837
15	AP	KULUTTAJALIITTO	KULUTTAJALIITTO - KONSUMENTFORBUNDET RY	FI	939186787

LIST OF WORK PACKAGES

Work packages						
Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.						
Work Package No	Work Package name	Lead Beneficiary	Effort (Person-Months)	Start Month	End Month	Deliverables
WP1	Project management and coordination	1 - TAMK	33.00	1	36	D1.1 – External assessment of the project at M18 D1.2 – External assessment of the project at M36
WP2	Framework for innovation and capacity building	1 - TAMK	55.00	1	12	D2.1 – The consumer's role in the packaging value chain, mapping activity D2.2 – Skills development framework definition
WP3	Educational Contents Development	2 - HM	33.00	10	20	D3.1 – Curricula D3.2 – Digital open badges
WP4	Living Labs & Validation with relevant Stakeholders and Consumers (broader socio-economic environment), Innovation and Networking Platform	8 - Broby	61.00	14	26	D4.1 – ResPa Living Labs platform D4.2 – Validation report
WP5	Micro-Credentials Implementations (HEI, VET & enterprises)	5 - Tredu	67.00	10	34	D5.1 – Trainer of the trainer concept D5.2 – Final digital open badges
WP6	Sustainability Strategy & Performance Assessment	4 - AVEP	23.00	1	36	D6.1 – Sustainability Plan and Planning D6.2 – Performance Assessment Plan
WP7	Dissemination and Exploitation	3 - PROPLAST	32.00	1	36	D7.1 – Dissemination and Communication Plan D7.2 – Exploitation Plan D7.3 – Branding and communication materials D7.4 – Tools and activities

Work package WP1 – Project management and coordination

Work Package Number	WP1	Lead Beneficiary	1 - TAMK
Work Package Name	Project management and coordination		
Start Month	1	End Month	36

Objectives
The objectives of the work package are
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To ensure efficient management structure and protocols for all consortium partners to facilitate achieving of the set objectives and outputs of the ResPa project in an effective and timely manner. ▪ To coordinate and monitor the financial and administrative aspects related to the overall implementation of the project. ▪ To actively manage risk monitoring and mitigation procedures. ▪ To establish comprehensive quality assurance structure and procedures to ensure internal evaluation protocol.
Description

T1.1 Project management: TAMK as the coordinator is responsible for the overall project management and coordination (e.g. internal communication, financial coordination, monitoring of the implementation and evaluation) together with pre-designed management bodies.

The Project Management Team (PMT) will be set up to monitor the day-to-day activities of the ResPa project. TAMK will arrange the processes of Grant

Agreement and Partnership Agreement (PA) signed by all partners. The PA will define the responsibilities and commonly agreed internal regulations concerning e.g. financial management and payments, IPR, conflict resolution processes etc. The PMT will meet online once a month unless agreed otherwise (e.g. holiday season), and it will be led by TAMK, and it will have 1-2-representatives from each partner organisations to ensure good communication between all members of the consortium.

A total of 33 online and face-to-face meetings (when combined with other project activities). The main channel for internal communication will be MSTEams; TAMK will set up a dedicated workspace to all partners to ensure access to all key documents and guidelines related to the project's implementation.

T1.2 Monitoring of the project's activities

The monitoring protocol (Operational Work Plan for Monitoring) of the ResPa project will be drafted by TAMK and jointly decided upon all partners, and it will include;

- Rigorous data collection procedure and storage to be agreed upon in the kick-off meeting corresponding to the project's expected outputs and KPIs, which will be assessed annually with E+ impact tool
- Constant analyses of the data and sharing conclusions with all partners with recommendations and when deemed necessary, corrective actions

T1.3 Financial management and reporting Monitoring of the planned delivery schedule of the planned activities (Gantt chart) and expenditure (occurred costs-project budget).

T1.4 Steering Committee meetings Steering committee is the highest decision making body within the project, and it will meet twice a year (6 meetings) for

- Managing potential changes in the consortium having an impact on the implementation;
- Controlling of the finances (e.g. decisions regarding re-allocations)
- Managing contractual changes when deemed necessary
- Reviewing of the overall progress the project's implementation based on feedback from the PMT and WP Leaders, and making decision on corrective measures to ensure timely and effective achievement of the project's outputs

T1.5 Quality Assurance

A specific Task Force for overall quality assurance (QATF) will be appointed for designing and implementing both a

internal evaluation and b) ensuring sufficient external evaluation procedures for the ResPa project (Quality Assurance Plan).

The QATF will have at least one representative from all partner organisations. It will meet quarterly (12 meetings during the project) online/faceto-face to monitor the collection of evaluation data, making recommendations and engaging with an external evaluator in the phases of mid-term and final quality assessment. The QARF is responsible for assigning external evaluators for the mid-term and final quality evaluation processes.

Work package WP2 – Framework for innovation and capacity building

Work Package Number	WP2	Lead Beneficiary	1 - TAMK
Work Package Name	Framework for innovation and capacity building		
Start Month	1	End Month	12

Objectives	
Objectives of the Work Package 2 are	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To create framework for educational content development based on needs analysis of consumer behavioural mechanisms, trends and EU's policies. ▪ To analyse packaging professionals' skills gaps in relation to consumer engagement to CE. ▪ To ensure holistic view to consumer engagement enablers including consumer and companies views and the identified trends and policies. 	

Description	
T2.1 Consumer role definition - Consumer in industrial value chains, mapping activity	
The partners will carry out mapping activity of current definitions about consumer role in CE. A special attention is paid to the factors that are hindering consumer participation to CE. Hindering factors indicate i) companies' skills gaps, and ii) need to develop consumer engagement skills. Companies view to consumer engagement. Consumer roles in CE mapping gives the framework for tasks T3.2 and T3.3 planning.	
T2.2 Insight from market trends and packaging innovations analysis from consumer point of view, interviews, and consumer panel	
To objective is to ensure that the complex consumer behaviour patterns and behavioural changes are tackled according to real-life needs. A special attention will be paid to understanding regulation and consumer relationship in the complex contest of packaging, which will give insights for the development of the consumer's future role in the CE. Carefully chosen sample of consumers will be interviewed and asked to evaluate existing responsible packaging innovations to understand their willingness to participate to CE actions. Attention is paid for consumers' expected support from companies as an enabler of responsible consumption. Finally, T3.2 evaluates correlation between consumer perceptions and T3.3 companies identified skills gaps.	
T2.3 Company and industry workshops and interviews/questionnaire	
Consortium will carry out company and industry interviews (50) and workshops (8) to complete the skills needs analysis based on in-depth information about the company's responsibility skills and tools to engage with the consumer. T2.3 will address and companies' skills to support circular consumption behaviour and value co-creation from the different stages of consumption i) consumption decisions and ii) post-consumption behaviour. Data will be combined with the T2.1 and T2.2 to create a holistic view of the existing skills gaps. Hybrid workshops will be carried out in 5 participating countries.	
T2.4. EU policies and strategies analysis	
Packaging and CE strategies and EU policies will be analysed (e.g ,Green Deal including Packaging and packaging waste directive and Proposal for a revision of EU legislation on Packaging and Packaging Waste, and New circular economy action plan) as enablers for the companies to address more active consumer	

participation. T2.5 gives an input for T3.1.

T2.5. Packaging professionals' skills development - Detailed definitions to address the observed gaps

Themes for the skills development activities will be specified in-depth to respond to the skills gaps identified in the analysis. Then, they will be summarised in a new framework for training contents development (WP4). The main themes can include e.g.

- Value co-creation (to and between consumer and companies)
- Made changes effectiveness measurement
- Effective ways to engage the consumer
- Consumer behaviour, acceptance and Business opportunities

Work package WP3 – Educational Contents Development

Work Package Number	WP3	Lead Beneficiary	2 - HM
Work Package Name	Educational Contents Development		
Start Month	10	End Month	20

Objectives

Objectives of Work Package 3 are:

- To develop educational contents based on the framework and needs analysis of the CE skills for the companies to consumer engagement for circularity. Educational contents development is focused on teaching and collaborations methods alongside the innovation and capacity building.
- To develop and jointly utilized best practices of team coaching, networking and collaboration
- To design digital open badges as tool to ensure quality and recognizability of the developed contents.

Description

T3.1 Study of current training offers

Input from WP2 and T4.1 will create the basis for the educational content development together with existing competence frameworks and EU policies

will be analysed to support the educational contents development (e.g., “GreenComp - The European sustainability competence framework”

2022) Analysis of the current training offers corresponding the identified skills gaps (WP2) among consortium members and beyond

T3.2 Definition of Micro-credentials curricula: objectives, contents and key recognizability

Defining a detailed curricula on based on WP2 and findings from T3.1. to boost innovation and CE capacities to be tested in WP4

Designing joint and individual content for HE, VET and businesses based on education providers expertise to respond to the identified gaps and diversity of the background of end-users. When designing competence-based curricula, T3.2 ensures assessments criteria is supporting the learning outcomes (what students are expected to know after micro credential). Assessment criteria consist of three joint areas knowing, acting and developing as an expert (being).

describing the achieved competence after the training is accomplished. Decision of the most suitable frameworks to be utilised in the implementation to support wider usability within the European context (e.g. adapting EQF levels accreditations)

T3.3 Developing the training methodology of the training program

Drafting of a set of guidelines for the most suitable approach to delivery of the curricula; e.g. utilization of multiple venues i.e versatile teaching methods for demonstrate competence (e.g. drawing from skills demonstrations utilised in the Finnish VET), hybrid delivery modes, gamification, independent study content, workshops. Training methodology considers inclusive aspects such as equal accessibility (incl. digital accessibility) to teaching and studies.

T3.4 Digital open badges in competence development

To create and define digital open badges based on competences from curricula basis (T3.2). Digital open badges are

introduced as part of the microcredentials. Digital open badges will be used to demonstrate and recognise competences. Digital open badges work as a quality check point and ensure constructive alignment whereas learning outcomes, teaching and assessment methods are in line with each other. This Task aims to:

- develop new ways for recognising and making competences visible highlight competences not visible in a diploma
- recognize and highlight competences built flexibly through work, self-studies or formal studies
- make the individual and organisation level competences apparent
- develop and aim the competences in an organisation based on future needs.

There will be evaluation and quality check point in this task to ensure the quality of the developed competency framework requirements.

T3.5 Online-training platform establishment

The objective of the task is to evaluate partners' existing platforms (e.g. Moodle)

and best practices to identify the most suitable online platform for the delivery of the designed educational content to support students/participants digital skills development and inclusivity of the training contents. Designing a detailed plan of the digital open badges and the training itself. The development of digital skills will be supported by linkage to existing learning materials that the partners offer from their own organisation or by partnerships (e.g. Working with Climate Responsibility of Tredu, Consumer Engagement in Circular Economy Value Chains of TAMK and similar kinds of in other educational organisations). The activities of the ResPa embedded in different WP tasks support learning of digital skills and adaptation in digital tools

Work package WP4 – Living Labs &Validation with relevant Stakeholders and Consumers (broader socio-economic environment), Innovation and Networking Platform

Work Package Number	WP4	Lead Beneficiary	8 - Broby
Work Package Name	Living Labs &Validation with relevant Stakeholders and Consumers (broader socio-economic environment), Innovation and Networking Platform		
Start Month	14	End Month	26

Objectives

Objectives of Work Package 4 are:

- To ensure that the designed educational inputs are validated among the key stakeholders, hence leading to successful knowledge valorisation.
- To ensure the active participation of the stakeholders by conduction the validation process according to Living Labs approach. Living Labs offer a powerful tool for user engagement, co-creation, open innovation and total value chain involvement.
- To speed up adaptation and deployment of new educational contents and methods connect the validation actions with real-life settings to bring an additional added value.

Description

T4.1 Joint definition of Living Labs and validation methods

Living Labs is an ambiguous concept, allowing many definitions and various perspectives towards the methods and actions to be taken. In Task 5.1, the project partners discuss and agree on the most relevant features of the Living Labs concept to be applied throughout this project, including recruitment of value chain actors, selection of set of co creation, facilitation and service design methods, and platforms for real-life validation (e.g. research, innovation and learning environments). Partners will also define the set of validation tools to be applied in T4.4.

T4.2 Engagement of relevant stakeholders for the validation

Partners identify, contact and engage the most relevant actors of the value chain to join the Living Labs validation to contribute to the co creation process of the educational content responding to the identified skills gaps.

T4.3 Conducting Living Labs as networking platform and implementation

10 Co-creation workshops to support open innovation (1-2 in each country); Best practices from companies responsible packaging solutions will be identified and tested/evaluated by consumer panel by using the living lab methodology.

(incl. fit for purpose, packaging materials, printings and claims, consumption and post-consumption decision making) for strengthening the alignment with the developed educational content

T4.4 Validation of the Living Labs exercise
Implementation of the selected validation tools for conducted Living Lab activities to ensure continuation of the iterative co creation processes for WP5

Work package WP5 – Micro-Credentials Implementations (HEI, VET & enterprises)

Work Package Number	WP5	Lead Beneficiary	5 - Tredu
Work Package Name	Micro-Credentials Implementations (HEI, VET & enterprises)		
Start Month	10	End Month	34

Objectives

The objectives of this work package are:

- To implement developed educational contents, for piloting/training in micro-credentials and to ensure collaboration between different educational levels. The pilot program considers multi-locality and multidisciplinary approach. Innovative teaching methods such as coaching is focusing on competency building by fostering collaboration (HE, VET, companies), to encouraging training participants to improve and show visibly their capacity and professional competence. Digital open badges are used as a tool for participants competency development and to ensure wider utilisation of the project's results beyond its life-cycle.
- Knowledge: improved consumer and CE innovation methods
- Skills: Digital skills, green skills, entrepreneurial mindset
- Coaching: Network building, peer coaching
- Support: Tools such as digital platforms (partners' digital learning environments such as Moodle), innovation techniques
- Development: Green transition and digitalisation.

Description

T5.1 Designing content for the train-the trainers programme

Train-the-trainers approach will ensure cohesion of micro-credentials implementation and students/participants learning journey during the pilot program, as well as wider usability of the developed educational content in the future.

The overall purpose is to enable well planned stimulating and safe learning path and experience for students (T5.2)

T5.2 Implementation of the Train-the-trainers programme

For the selected teachers/trainers a get together of two days face-to-face meetings/hackathons carried out during internal workshops (3), which will be organised to boost co-creation innovativeness and smoothening the pilot programme implementation.

T5.3 Pilot training programme implementation

The aim of the task is to implement the designed educational content with VET, HE, business and other stakeholders of the ResPa project

- Micro-credentials /modules “pilot programme”
- Collaborative cross-sectional working methods

The programme implementation includes a comprehensive feed-back and selfreflection of the participants (teachers and students), which will be utilised in the final development of the digital open badges (T5.4)

T5.4 Digital open badges based on competences application process

Based on work carried out in WP2-WP5, ResPa project will develop digital open badges (5) which, after piloting and project completion, will be transferred to the educational institutes pedagogical badge constellation to ensure wider usability of the developed education content. A descriptive text will be included with a mention that the badge has been developed as part of the project, which promotes the sustainability of the project.

Work package WP6 – Sustainability Strategy & Performance Assessment

Work Package Number	WP6	Lead Beneficiary	4 - AVEP
Work Package Name	Sustainability Strategy & Performance Assessment		
Start Month	1	End Month	36

Objectives
Objective of the Work Package 6 is to ensure project sustainability and utilization of the project deliverables after the project ends. Transnational collaboration and convertible educational contents are the key for successful project sustainability.

Description
<p>T6.1 Sustainability strategy A Sustainability strategy is jointly develop with the all the consortium members. The ResPa project develops digital open badges which, after piloting and project completion, will be transferred to the educational institutes pedagogical badge constellation. The descriptive text will be included with a mention that the badge has been developed as part of the project which promotes sustainability of the project. The strategy will also be considered during the project development to incorporate in the decision-making process the sustainability dimension. The after-project lifetime exploitation by the partners will also be a must to be taken into consideration in the sustainability strategy definition.</p>
<p>T6.2 Sustainability actions implementation A complete list of activities to ensure the project results sustainability will be defined according to following main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of concrete activities and a list of considerations during project execution that facilitate Respa Project exploitation. • Identification of entities (research centers, universities, training organizations, consumer associations, etc.) in a wide range of fields that can have active interest in taking advantage of knowledge generated • Commitment of those entities in participate actively in project result exploitation. • Ensurance of micro-credentials sustainability
<p>T6.3 Performance assessment Methodology and implementation Define a methodology and procedure to evaluate and measure the impact in education actions within the training activities. The main goal will be to define and implement a procedure able to guarantee the knowledge acquisition during the training regarding the stakeholders participating in the validation actions. The methodology will analyse and define:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • variables and training objectives and their impact in knowledge acquisition • Measurements technologies and validation protocol • Conclusions of validation <p>training regarding the stakeholders participating in the validation actions. The methodology will analyse and define:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • variables and training objectives and their impact in knowledge acquisition • Measurements technologies and validation protocol • Conclusions of validation

Work package WP7 – Dissemination and Exploitation

Work Package Number	WP7	Lead Beneficiary	3 - PROPLAST
Work Package Name	Dissemination and Exploitation		
Start Month	1	End Month	36

Objectives
<p>Objectives of the Work Package 7 is to ensure the widespread and awareness and its outcomes, specially within the High Education Institutions (HE), VET Centres, packaging companies, distribution companies, consumers/consumers associations, and society in general. WP 7 will ensure the maximum number of stakeholders and target groups within the partners participants counties in order to build constructive feedbacks, motivate the collaboration within companies, consumers, HE and VET Centres.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Informed stakeholders and target groups about the activities and results of the ResPa project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the impact and the value of the project outcomes in relation to the packaging market sector Overall impact will be increased by inspiring and engaging stakeholders in the ResPa project concept development and promoting future exploitation of results. beyond the initial consortium reaching other High Education Institution (HE), VET centres, packaging companies, distribution companies, students, consumers/consumers associations, and policymakers.
Description
<p>T7.1 Dissemination and Communication monitoring</p>
<p>The task will be dedicated to developing an effective Dissemination and Communication Plan. It will be elaborated at the beginning of the project including a detailed calendar and provision of responsibilities and resources. The activities related will be permanently monitored and updated in month 12, 24 and 34 of the project life. The Plan will define the strategies according to its impact, the project advances and the audience needs and demands. Measurable criteria of the dissemination efforts will be included to evaluate the activities foreseen.</p>
<p>T7.2 Exploitation Plan</p>
<p>An exploitation plan including the proposals actions to be carried out in WP7 will be defined during the first 18 months of the Project to help Project development to focus the transition of Project execution in the medium and long term. The strategy and goals defined in the Exploitation plan in this WP will be aligned with WPs decisions in terms of future Project results replication, and durability.</p>
<p>T7.3 Implementation of the dissemination and communication branding and material support</p>
<p>The material that will support the activities of the project will be defined in the Dissemination and Communication Plan document. It will be regular and updated, as required by the project. These materials will be available on the project website and some of them will be eventually printed for local events, informative sessions and meetings with stakeholders. In addition, it will be available opened and translated into partnership languages and English.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branding (M2): A project logo and branding will be designed and incorporated to the dissemination materials together with TAMK and Brobygrafiska. Moreover, the templates for presentations, reports, and official papers will be included in these materials. • Banner (M2): a project banner to be used in Social Media Channels of the project and other visual elements like an appropriated roll-up will be included as supporting of network activities. • Newsletters and Press releases (M6-M36): The newsletter and press releases will be produced to provide information about the project, its advances and events. They will be shared each 6-months (for a total of 6) to contacts from the project database (newsletter) and to local, regional and national mass media (press releases). Each participant country partner/s will translate them into their national languages to disseminate among their personal contacts and target audience. • Publications (M3-M36): An informative flyer to present the project and to be uploaded on the project website will be designed that will include relevant information of the project goals and activities. It will be prepared considering the target groups and audience. An additional brochure will be updated when the programme and timing of the training course will be defined. A model for each country will be prepared in their national languages. Other kind of publications could be used to reach the different target groups like reports and articles in the countries and languages of the partners. • Video presentation (M6): two videos will be created: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The first one, responsibility of PROPLAST will be a video presentation of the project that includes the partners describing in simple terms the goals of the projects and roles. o The second one, responsibility of TAMK, will be an engaging video directed to a broader public including the consumers, describing the advantages of waste management and Circular economy
<p>T7.4 Implementation of the dissemination and communication tools and activities Tools and activities will be defined and specified in the Dissemination and Communication Plan and updated during the project life.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website (M3): An official ResPa Project Website will be the hub for both internal and external communication. It will include general information (goals, partners, events, news, etc.), non-confidential outcomes, access to the courses, case studies and link with external resources. It will be a way to learn about the projects and to be informed about the

initiatives and outcomes. In order to ensure that the results and benefits of the ResPa project will be spread effectively within and after project lifetime, the website and its contents will be available for five years after the end of the project and translated in the languages of the partners and in English.

- Social networks (M3): ResPa will have an active presence in social media (E.g., Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter) to assure the broad and wide dissemination of all project activities and results.
- Project contacts database. The website will include a form to be filled in to collect emails for the mailing list of the project.

These contacts will use to send specific invitations, newsletters and project communications, creating in this sense, a European project network. The Project database of contacts will grow, during the project thanks to proactive recruitment tactics and energetic online, marketing campaign involving: - Signup for newsletter on project dedicated page - Prominent links from partners own websites - Social media – Facebook, LinkedIn

- Partners' contacts database. Partners will prepare their own contacts database and it will be not integrated in a common one, taking into account GDPR, to be used by themselves for the project communications and dissemination activities.
- Events. The partners of ResPa project will organize their own events in each participating countries to disseminate the project outcomes. They will organize 2 workshops for each country in their own language: 1 to promote the training course (M18) and 1 to disseminate the results of the projects (M36). In the countries where there is one or more partners, they will cooperate in the celebration of it. All the other related events are detailed in section 4.2. In addition, the project will have an active presence in external events, with the presentation of results at national/international conferences. It is expected to attend at least to three events with this profile to ensure dissemination.

The specific fairs/events will be defined during the project run, but some examples have been provided in point 3.2. Multiplication. It will be reached by the integration of information within the European Networks collaborating in the project that have interest in the training materials in which the partners are integrated.

T7.5 Connection with society and public administration

Communication and dissemination action plan and activities will be focused to different levels and target groups of the training, in particular professionals, trainers and trainees. Nevertheless, a series of publications will be aimed at and addressed to the involvement of policymakers, public administrations and other stakeholders and interested parties directly involved in the plastic packaging stakeholders) will be able to benefit from them and to learn more about the project initiatives and outcomes. Involving public administration, policymakers, and stakeholders from both EU participating countries and the rest of EU member states into the EU academia-industry collaboration sector and value chain. In this way, all interested (plastics industry, universities, students, professors, public authorities, companies' associations, and other hubs will foster innovation and competence building beyond the project lifetime.

STAFF EFFORT

Staff effort per participant								
Participant	WP1	WP2	WP3	WP4	WP5	WP6	WP7	Total Person-Months
1 - TAMK	9.00	12.00	4.00	6.00	8.00	2.00	4.00	45.00
2 - HM	3.00	3.00	9.00	7.00	18.00	2.00	3.00	45.00
3 - PROPLAST	4.00	9.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	5.00	12.00	48.00
4 - AVEP	4.00	6.00	6.00	9.00	8.00	9.00	4.00	46.00
5 - Tredu	2.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	4.00		1.00	14.00
6 - UNITN	3.00	13.00		4.00	2.00	1.00	3.00	26.00
7 - ECOEMBES	4.00	6.00		12.00	8.00		2.00	32.00
8 - Broby	4.00	4.00	7.00	14.00	12.00	4.00	3.00	48.00
Total Person-Months	33.00	55.00	33.00	61.00	67.00	23.00	32.00	304.00

LIST OF DELIVERABLES

Deliverables

Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.

The labels used mean:

Public — fully open  automatically posted online)

Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement

EU classified — RESTRIET-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision [2015/444](#)

Deliverable No	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month)
D1.1	External assessment of the project at M18	WP1	1 - TAMK	R — Document, report	SEN - Sensitive	18
D1.2	External assessment of the project at M36	WP1	1 - TAMK	R — Document, report	SEN - Sensitive	36
D2.1	The consumer's role in the packaging value chain, mapping activity	WP2	1 - TAMK	R — Document, report	PU - Public	12
D2.2	Skills development framework definition	WP2	6 - UNITN	R — Document, report	PU - Public	12
D3.1	Curricula	WP3	2 - HM	OTHER	PU - Public	16
D3.2	Digital open badges	WP3	1 - TAMK	OTHER	PU - Public	17
D4.1	ResPa Living Labs platform	WP4	8 - Broby	DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype	PU - Public	20
D4.2	Validation report	WP4	2 - HM	R — Document, report	PU - Public	24
D5.1	Trainer of the trainer concept	WP5	2 - HM	R — Document, report	PU - Public	19
D5.2	Final digital open badges	WP5	1 - TAMK	OTHER	PU - Public	33
D6.1	Sustainability Plan and Planning	WP6	4 - AVEP	R — Document, report	PU - Public	24
D6.2	Performance Assessment Plan	WP6	4 - AVEP	R — Document, report	PU - Public	32
D7.1	Dissemination and Communication Plan	WP7	3 - PROPLAST	R — Document, report	SEN - Sensitive	2

Deliverables

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Deliverable No	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month)
D7.2	Exploitation Plan	WP7	4 - AVEP	R — Document, report	PU - Public	18
D7.3	Branding and communication materials	WP7	3 - PROPLAST	DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc	PU - Public	3
D7.4	Tools and activities	WP7	3 - PROPLAST	DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc	PU - Public	3

Deliverable D1.1 – External assessment of the project at M18

Deliverable Number	D1.1	Lead Beneficiary	1 - TAMK
Deliverable Name	External assessment of the project at M18		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	SEN - Sensitive
Due Date (month)	18	Work Package No	WP1

Description
An external evaluation report based on the results of project activities implemented (M1-M18) also linked to the set KPIs and other success indicators (pdf).

Deliverable D1.2 – External assessment of the project at M36

Deliverable Number	D1.2	Lead Beneficiary	1 - TAMK
Deliverable Name	External assessment of the project at M36		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	SEN - Sensitive
Due Date (month)	36	Work Package No	WP1

Description
An external evaluation report based on the results of project activities implemented (M19-M36) also linked to the set KPIs and other success indicators (pdf)

Deliverable D2.1 – The consumer’s role in the packaging value chain, mapping activity

Deliverable Number	D2.1	Lead Beneficiary	1 - TAMK
Deliverable Name	The consumer’s role in the packaging value chain, mapping activity		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	12	Work Package No	WP2

Description
A report of the key observations having an impact to the consumer’s role in the packaging value-chain.

Deliverable D2.2 – Skills development framework definition

Deliverable Number	D2.2	Lead Beneficiary	6 - UNITN
Deliverable Name	Skills development framework definition		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	12	Work Package No	WP2

Description
Framework published (English, pdf).

Deliverable D3.1 – Curricula

Deliverable Number	D3.1	Lead Beneficiary	2 - HM
Deliverable Name	Curricula		
Type	OTHER	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	16	Work Package No	WP3

Description
A detailed curricula on the new educational content (electronic publication, English)

Deliverable D3.2 – Digital open badges

Deliverable Number	D3.2	Lead Beneficiary	1 - TAMK
Deliverable Name	Digital open badges		
Type	OTHER	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	17	Work Package No	WP3

Description
A catalogue of the developed micro credentials (website, English)

Deliverable D4.1 – ResPa Living Labs platform

Deliverable Number	D4.1	Lead Beneficiary	8 - Broby
Deliverable Name	ResPa Living Labs platform		
Type	DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	20	Work Package No	WP4

Description
Key outputs from 10 LL events in electronic form (Pdf, Ppt or other accessible document in English)

Deliverable D4.2 – Validation report

Deliverable Number	D4.2	Lead Beneficiary	2 - HM
Deliverable Name	Validation report		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	24	Work Package No	WP4

Description
Pdf report (English, published at the project website and shared among all stakeholders taking part in activities)

Deliverable D5.1 – Trainer of the trainer concept

Deliverable Number	D5.1	Lead Beneficiary	2 - HM
Deliverable Name	Trainer of the trainer concept		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	19	Work Package No	WP5

Description	
Trainer of the trainer concept document. Pdf, English.	

Deliverable D5.2 – Final digital open badges

Deliverable Number	D5.2	Lead Beneficiary	1 - TAMK
Deliverable Name	Final digital open badges		
Type	OTHER	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	33	Work Package No	WP5

Description	
5 digital open badges transferred to education institution of the ResPa project (English, Finnish, Italian, Swedish, Spanish).	

Deliverable D6.1 – Sustainability Plan and Planning

Deliverable Number	D6.1	Lead Beneficiary	4 - AVEP
Deliverable Name	Sustainability Plan and Planning		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	24	Work Package No	WP6

Description	
Report, pdf (English).	

Deliverable D6.2 – Performance Assessment Plan

Deliverable Number	D6.2	Lead Beneficiary	4 - AVEP
Deliverable Name	Performance Assessment Plan		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	32	Work Package No	WP6

Description	
Report, pdf (English).	

Deliverable D7.1 – Dissemination and Communication Plan

Deliverable Number	D7.1	Lead Beneficiary	3 - PROPLAST
Deliverable Name	Dissemination and Communication Plan		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	SEN - Sensitive
Due Date (month)	2	Work Package No	WP7

Description	
<p>This report will include the plan with the activities to be carried out concerning the dissemination and communication of the project by partners, using the dissemination materials developed in the project and carrying out the dissemination events foreseen. Moreover, it will include guidelines about how and when to send the dissemination materials to the partner's contact list, how the campaign in social media should be undertaken, how and when to send the newsletter and to carry out the local events. The plan will describe goals, target groups, dissemination channels the basic features and style/tone of communication, and the main communication messages, and an individual approach for each partner. The plan will provide a regular flow of information and contribute to the establishment of recognition. Dissemination achievements will be reported describing results in publications, exhibitions, conferences, workshops, seminars, press releases, promotion materials, web presence and relations with stakeholders. The deliverable will be periodically revised. The updates will contain a specific section about monitoring. Peer reviewed between two partners. Electronic. English.</p>	

Deliverable D7.2 – Exploitation Plan

Deliverable Number	D7.2	Lead Beneficiary	4 - AVEP
Deliverable Name	Exploitation Plan		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	18	Work Package No	WP7

Description	
The exploitation plan will be published on the project website. English.	

Deliverable D7.3 – Branding and communication materials

Deliverable Number	D7.3	Lead Beneficiary	3 - PROPLAST
Deliverable Name	Branding and communication materials		
Type	DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	3	Work Package No	WP7

Description	
In this report will be described the brand of the project and the supporting materials needed to implement the internal and external communication. Furthermore, it will illustrate timing and more effective methods of massive outreach to attract stakeholders for participation. Electronic. English and partner languages.	

Deliverable D7.4 – Tools and activities

Deliverable Number	D7.4	Lead Beneficiary	3 - PROPLAST
Deliverable Name	Tools and activities		
Type	DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	3	Work Package No	WP7

Description
<p>The report of this Deliverable will contain the plan with the tools and activities that will be carry out during the project. The project website will be prepared by the definition of design and pages, and, in the other hand, the creation of social media project dedicated accounts like Twitter and Facebook (if needed), LinkedIn and YouTube. Moreover, the report will be described how and where will be collected the project data base. At the end it will be include the specifications regarding the organization of events, workshops and international conferences. Electronic. English.</p>

LIST OF MILESTONES

Milestones					
<i>Grant Preparation (Milestones screen) — Enter the info.</i>					
Milestone No	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Means of Verification	Due Date (month)
1	Appointment of the management bodies and Quality Assurance Task Force 1	WP1	1 - TAMK	Minutes from the Kick-off meeting with details of the appointment.	1
2	Operational Work Plan for Monitoring	WP1	1 - TAMK	Internal Guidelines shared with all partners (electronic report)	2
3	Quality Assurance Plan	WP1	6 - UNITN	Internal Guidelines shared with all partners (electronic report).	4
4	Company representative and consumers interviews	WP2	1 - TAMK	Internal report (summarised results)	8
5	Workshops and interviews with industry and companies	WP2	6 - UNITN	Internal report (summarised results)	8
6	Review of the study offerings	WP3	2 - HM	Summary of the key findings	13
7	Online platform	WP3	2 - HM	Launching of the platform for the project.	14
8	Joint definition of Living Lab concept	WP4	1 - TAMK	Concept paper shared among partner network and published at project website (English, pdf)	14
9	Engaging with key stakeholders	WP4	8 - Broby	Stakeholder analysis for internal monitoring and list of LL implementation participants (English, electronic report shared among the partners)	17
10	Coaches- Teachers selected for the Train-the-trainer programme	WP5	2 - HM	List of participants confirmed.	20
11	Participants selected to the pilot training programme implementation	WP5	5 - Tredu	List of participants	24
12	Performance assessment improvement	WP6	4 - AVEP	A report analysing the status of the comparative performance assessment improvement.	20

Milestones

Grant Preparation (Milestones screen) — Enter the info.

Milestone No	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Means of Verification	Due Date (month)
13	A minimum of 7 to 10 Interest Declaration Forms	WP6	4 - AVEP	Written DoI forms collected.	32
14	Communication and Dissemination monitoring delivered	WP7	3 - PROPLAST	Publication	36

LIST OF CRITICAL RISKS

Critical risks & risk management strategy

Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.

Risk number	Description	Work Package No(s)	Proposed Mitigation Measures
1	A Partner withdraws from the consortium (low probability)	WP1	a contingency plan to be described in the Consortium Agreement. The plan is activated if a Partner leaves/is forced to leave. This plan includes identification of alternative partners and a plan to redistribute workload and resources among remaining partners.
2	Loss of personnel resources (low)	WP1, WP3, WP2, WP7, WP4, WP6, WP5	Project has a document management system to ensure all information is accessible for all members, including those taking the responsibility of the left personnel and new projects staff. If necessary, more personnel are recruited.
3	A Partner does not reach the expected output (low).	WP1, WP3, WP2, WP7, WP4, WP6, WP5	The Project Coordinator will establish clear KPIs and a regular progress monitoring and quality control systems. Any arising issues will be addressed promptly, and corrective measures are taken immediately if deviations are inspected.
4	Deviations in budgetary and project time schedule issues - Delays in accomplishing the deliverables (low)	WP3, WP2, WP4, WP6, WP5	Detailed project plan with clear timelines, milestones, and deadlines. Detailed budget allocation per partner and per WP. Regular progress monitoring and reporting. Necessary corrective actions will be done immediately.

Critical risks & risk management strategy			
<i>Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.</i>			
Risk number	Description	Work Package No(s)	Proposed Mitigation Measures
5	Lack of engagement of stakeholders, especially business partners to training pilots (medium)	WP4, WP5	Active engagement with all consortium members (inc. associated partners) to ensure active communication with partners, since the beginning of the project. Recruitment of new business partners from partner's organisational and personal networks to take part in pilots if the consortium members are not able to reach the set targets.
6	Lack of engagement of students to training pilots (low)	WP5	Recruitment of sufficient number of subject-specific coaches/teachers for the trainer-of-the-trainer training in the early phase of the project. Active promotion of all project activities to students and engaging with them also as representatives of the civil society (Quadruple Helix approach).
7	Lack of consumers, companies and industry representatives' engagement to project events and interviews (medium)	WP2	Active promotion of the project's activities targeted specially to these target groups using all communication channels (WP7).
8	Quality of sample and data to meet the skills gaps of packaging professionals (low)	WP3	Deep collaboration with education and research institutions and businesses with relevant expertise and in-depth understanding of the state-of-the-art packaging value chain (TAMK-HM-Proplast-UNITN) to design and implement efficient and high quality procedures for data collection. Consulting external experts when deemed necessary (e.g. associated partners representing businesses and packaging alliances).
9	Definition of Living Lab approach and stakeholders' engagement to validate training contents (low)	WP4	Ensuring adequate time and resources for creating a shared understanding of the concept and for the selections of the validation tools accordingly. Seeking external expertise when deemed necessary (e.g. ENoLL training).
10	Used training methodology and contents support inclusivity and different learners (low)	WP5	Engaging with a strong pedagogical expert team from each educational institution (VET & HE) to address inclusivity aspects to the developed training.
11	Low dissemination rate of project results (low)	WP7	Project Partners will establish external partnerships with relevant stakeholders such as industry and consumer associations, policy makers, and RTOs nationally and across Europe to ensure the efficient dissemination of the results among wider audience.
12	Low attendance rate at public events (low)	WP7	Regular engagement and communication with regional, national, and European stakeholders to arise interest and keep in ongoing.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

What is the Application Form?

The Application Form is the template for EU grants applications; it must be submitted via the EU Funding & Tenders Portal before the call deadline.

The Form consists of 2 parts:

- Part A contains structured administrative information
- Part B is a narrative technical description of the project.

Part A is generated by the IT system. It is based on the information which you enter into the Portal Submission System screens.

Part B needs to be uploaded as PDF (+ annexes) in the Submission System. The templates to use are available there.

How to prepare and submit it?

The Application Form must be prepared by the consortium and submitted by a representative. Once submitted, you will receive a confirmation.

Character and page limits:

- page limit normally 40 pages for calls for low value grants (60 000 or below); 120 pages for all other calls (unless otherwise provided for in the Call document/Programme Guide)
- supporting documents can be provided as an annex and do not count towards the page limit
- minimum font size — Arial 9 points
- page size: A4
- margins (top, bottom, left and right): at least 15 mm (not including headers & footers).

Please abide by the formatting rules. They are NOT a target! Keep your text as concise as possible. Do not use hyperlinks to show information that is an essential part of your application.

 If you attempt to upload an application that exceeds the specified limit, you will receive an automatic warning asking you to shorten and re-upload your application. For applications that are not shortened, the excess pages will be made invisible and thus disregarded by the evaluators.

 Please do NOT delete any instructions in the document. The overall page limit has been raised to ensure equal treatment of all applicants.

 This document is tagged. Be careful not to delete the tags; they are needed for the processing.

Call: [**SEP-211129464**] — [ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO-EDU-ENTERP]

EU Grants: Application form (ERASMUS BB and LS Type II): V2.0 – 01.06.2022

ADMINISTRATIVE FORMS (PART A)

Part A of the Application Form must be filled out directly in the Portal Submission System screens.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION (PART B)

COVER PAGE

Part B of the Application Form must be downloaded from the Portal Submission System, completed and then assembled and re-uploaded as PDF in the system. Page 1 with the grey IMPORTANT NOTICE box should be deleted before uploading.

Note: Please read carefully the conditions set out in the Call document/Programme Guide (for open calls: published on the Portal). Pay particular attention to the award criteria; they explain how the application will be evaluated.

PROJECT	
Project name:	Consumers' role in responsible packaging - Improving circular economy innovation capacities in packaging value chain
Project acronym:	ResPa
Coordinator contact:	Silja Kostia, Tampere University of Applied Sciences

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PROJECT SUMMARY

Project summary (in English)

See Abstract (Application Form Part A).

§§PRJ-SUM-PS§§#@REL-EVA-RE@# #@PRJ-OBJ-PO@#

1. RELEVANCE

1.1 Background and general objectives

Background and general objectives

Please address all guiding points presented in the Call document/Programme Guide under the award criterion 'Relevance'.

Describe the background and rationale of the project.

How is the project relevant to the scope of the call? How does the project address the general objectives of the call? What is the project's contribution to the priorities of the call (if applicable)?

The proposed 'Consumers' role in responsible packaging - Improving circular economy innovation capacities in packaging value chain' – ResPa project has been carefully designed to foster the European Commission's high-level aim to be climate-neutral by 2050, and all planned activities are aligned with the following key EC policies and strategies related to packaging, including the following; a) The European Green Deal (COM/2029/640 final) ensures the transformation to a climate-neutral, resource efficient, and competitive economy; b) The Circular Economy Action Plan accelerates the transformational change providing an agenda based on idea of co-creation with economic actors, consumers, citizens, and civil society organisations towards a more sustainable future; c) The Competitiveness Compass for the EU (European Commission, 2025) outlines that the green and digital transitions are crucial for Europe's future, emphasizing the need for sustainable and digital innovations to drive economic growth and environmental protection. It highlights the importance of integrating digital technologies to enhance efficiency and sustainability across various sectors. Additionally, the Compass stresses the role of education and skills development in preparing the workforce for these transformative changes.

ResPa project's focus is on packaging, as it is one of the main users of virgin materials within Europe; up to 40% of plastics and 50% of paper used in the EU are destined for packaging. Furthermore, the EU has estimated an increase in packaging waste up to 19% by 2030, including a 46% increase of plastic packaging waste. This challenge is related to the above-mentioned EU policies and corresponding national ones, as well as the proposed revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (PPWR) (EU 2019/1020; Directive 2019/904, Directive 94/62/EC); and the EU policy framework on biobased, biodegradable, and compostable plastics (COM/2022/682 final).

ResPa project gives the framework for companies to cooperate across the value chain, and it will also support the successful implementation of PPWR requiring a lot of new tasks for the companies. ResPa project's timing fits very well to the PPWR (PPWR 2025/40) implementation timeline since the PPWR entered into force on 11 February 2025 and its general date of application is 18 months after that. Requirement of all packaging materials' full recyclability (100 %) enters into force by 2030. PPWR for example aims to prevent and reduce packaging waste including reuse and refill, which further

means that companies either produce or use packaging materials need new skills and innovation capabilities to focus on how to consider consumer adaption aligned with PPWR requirements. Re-use and re-fill systems adaption requires special attention from companies how to ensure consumers' acceptance and circular engagement of new models and ways of operating. PPWR opens new possibilities for consumers to participate in selection of the used packaging materials in circular economy, e.g. by offering the possibilities to use consumers own containers when buying take-away food. On the other hand, PPWR also increase consumers responsibility to participate to use the take back systems i.e., participation to sorting and recycling process (PPWR brings on the table harmonised waste sorting labels), in this manner companies operating in the packaging value chain has huge responsibility to ensure cooperation with consumers, to engage consumers as an active player for their CE network.

Another challenge is that much of the recyclable packaging materials, including plastics, ends up in landfill because of dysfunctional sorting. The EU has set a target for the recycling rate to be 70% for all packaging waste, and 55% for plastics by 2030 [1]. For the sorting of packages, the challenge is that sorting labels in the EU countries vary, and the actors of packaging value chain differ between countries. One solution is to utilise EU wide harmonised symbols, such as the Nordic Pictograms [3] introduced 2024 on bins and packaging to indicate correct sorting within Scandinavia. Furthermore, the target is to ensure reusable and recyclable packaging solutions in an economically viable way by 2030.

According to the Industrial Strategy for Europe the Green and Digital Transitions will be leading the change in which all industrial value chains have a key role to play. The packaging value chain players including packaging material producers and packaging materials users, brand owners, retailers, and recyclers operate in the fast-moving consumer goods sector (FMCG) who now must face these challenges. Moreover, it is recognised that the role of the consumer is central in achieving the set packaging waste goals at the EU level. To support consumers' behaviour towards green transition in packaging, new solutions for reusable packaging (e.g., understandable labels to support recycling) as well as reducing the amount of unnecessary packaging and overpackaging should be developed in cooperation with different stakeholders in the value-chain.

The Green and Digital Transition and the successful implementation of EU and national policies and agendas, as well as legislative initiatives announced in PPWR requires employees with green skills in all parts of the value chain. This is supported by ResPa project with the European approach to micro-credentials accompanied by digital open badges for lifelong learning. Micro-credentials are developed during the project in a co-creation of knowledge between higher education institutions (HEIs), vocational education and training (VETs) institutions, the public sector, and businesses. Micro-credentials can be implemented for HEI's upskilling scientists and VET's aim for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness, and resilience as well as continuous learning purposes. New professionals are needed in the industry. The press release of the European commission in November 2022 'European Green Deal: Putting an end to wasteful packaging, boosting reuse and recycling' outlines that the job creation impact will be positive. Boosting the reuse of packages is expected to create 600,000 new job opportunities in Europe in this industry.

New packaging solutions and up-scaled skills offers novel business opportunities to boost innovation capacity in recycling, which makes Europe less dependent on primary resources and external suppliers. The development requires stimulating a two-way knowledge transfer and co-creation processes leading to innovations between educational institutions (VET and HE), businesses, public sector representatives and citizens; the latter not only as the end-users, but as active members of the value-chain who can act and improve their consumption and post-consumption behaviour such as sorting skills. Thus, innovation and capacity building are crucial elements when transition forces a conceptual mind-set change. Working in a collaboration answers the question of how industrial and businesses can support consumers engagement towards a greener tomorrow to achieve these European targets.

Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) can encourage companies to develop new, more sustainable products and services promoting innovations that benefit both consumers and the environment while increased reporting and transparency can build consumer trust in companies. When companies demonstrate their commitment to sustainability, consumers can feel more confident in their purchasing decisions.

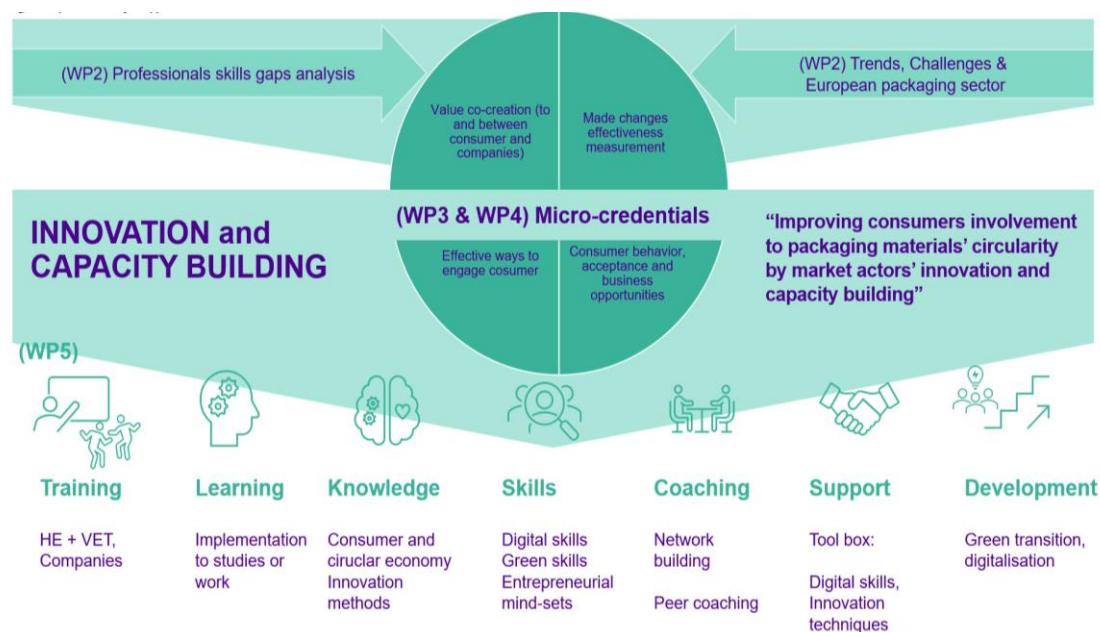
The ResPa project enables increased collaboration of education and enterprises operating in various parts of the packaging value chain towards the objectives of the EU. It brings together leading experts and key business partners in the field from Finland, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Sweden. According to the statistics [2], the recycling rates of the packaging waste in 2020 for the project partner countries were already relatively high - 68.5% in Finland, 68.1% in Germany, 67.6% in Italy, 63.9% in Spain, and 60.2% in Sweden which indicates that the project partners are well equipped to support development of new, innovative solutions. More importantly, it is building up the needed skills-base towards reducing the amount to packaging waste including the utilisation of the developed educational content in the form of micro-credentials in less-developed environments. The added value of a

transnational nature of consortium is an opportunity to gain on a comprehensive view of the EU market area for packaging value chain including different kinds of consumers and sorting cultures and accordingly disseminate the outcomes of the project widely.

The ResPa project aims to bridge the gap between the European Research Agenda (ERA) and EIA by co-creating and facilitating the knowledge flow between research and innovation institutions and education providers as well as other stakeholders which is in accordance with Competitiveness Compass for the EU (European Commission, 2025). The stakeholders for the project not only include primarily enterprises, but also policy makers and public sector engaged in circular economy value chain in the context of packaging to support changing attitudes towards Green and Digital Transition. Moreover, it also contributes to the European Education Area (EEA) statements by improving the quality of Higher Education and VET and simultaneously emphasising horizontal values such as digitalisation, resilience, and inclusiveness according to the European standardised frameworks (e.g. GreenComp, DigiComp).

The new competences acquired by the professionals trained inside ResPAa will help the society for practicing sustainability as a global skill to be applied to all spheres of life, both personally and collectively. Throughout the application of innovative technical advances in packaging development (e.g. digital passport), and the use of a proper communication strategies for all target groups, the new professionals will be able to stimulate in the consumers a new mindset towards waste management, which is a key point in reaching the circularity targets.

Figure 1. Overview of the ResPa project's objectives



Priority and main objectives

A major priority of the ResPa project is to promote the transition to a Circular Economy (CE), and to support EU's Circular Economy Action Plan and Green Deal by increasing empowerment and commitment for greener consumption. **The ResPa project responds to the recognised need for improving packaging materials' circularity, avoiding overpackaging, and reducing packaging waste to meet the local, regional, and EU-wide goals by focusing on the role of the consumer.** The main objectives of the project are stated below:

- *To stimulate re-use and the recyclability of packaging by highlighting the need to change consumer behaviour.*
- *To engage packaging value chain actors collaboratively identify needs for new skills and innovation capacities to be better prepared for the sustainable and circular future.*
- *To provide companies possibilities to create new CE technologies and business models and strategies related to packaging value chain and consumer engagement.*
- *To support education and training providers in Green and Digital Transition by responding to the identified skills gaps by developing modern learning tools by following the European approach to micro-credentials.*

Selected references:

The Competitiveness Compass for the EU (European Commission, 2025) https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_339

[1]https://ec.europa.eu/environment/topics/waste-and-recycling/packaging-waste_en

[2]https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Packaging_waste_statistics#Waste_generation_by_packaging_material

[3]<https://www.eupicto.com/about-the-pictogram-system/>

1.2 Needs analysis and specific objectives

Needs analysis and specific objectives

Please address the specific conditions/objectives set out in the Call document/ Programme Guide, if applicable.

Describe how the objectives of the project are based on a sound needs analysis in line with the specific objectives of the call. What issue/challenge/gap does the project aim to address?

The objectives should be clear, measureable, realistic and achievable within the duration of the project. For each objective, define appropriate indicators for measuring achievement (including a unit of measurement, baseline value and target value).

The consumption of plastics is expected to double in the coming 20 years (322 million tons in 2015), and packaging is the largest sector of the plastic industry, representing almost 40 % of total plastic consumption. According to recent studies, the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) packaging producers and recycling operators need support to be able to develop their operations so that the consumers will become more willing to participate to the re-use schemes and/or recycle the packaging more efficiently in the future. The current information on the factors guiding customer behaviours and attitudes is deficient throughout the Europe. The packaging value-chain is formed by the producers of the FMCG packaging's, brand owners, retailers and e-commerce players, consumers, and recycling actors. Overall, the importance of the role of the consumer is not well recognized now. The barriers and needs of the FMCG packaging producers related to the packaging information that supports consumers' circular behaviour, their role in the packaging value-chain need to be determined to support the development. Also, development of means which motivate and support consumers to circulate packaging is needed to improve the level of correct sorting. In other words, companies should have capabilities to engage consumers for circular packaging and activities including cascading, packaging collection and re-use.

Based on previous studies by project partners and several research papers, **a lack of objective and comprehensive data of consumer behaviour is a pressing challenge**: the consumers tend to evaluate themselves better sorters than they are, which opens a new important market area for many brands and retailers. Maitre-Ekern and Dalhammer (2019) highlight the consumer's role when thinking CE goals achievability; consumers should be seen as an active market participant alongside the other parties. However, consumers are seen critical in sustainable development and circular economy (Steward and Niero, 2018), but according to Steward and Niero (2018) companies are yet mostly focused on collaboration between businesses, and thus forgetting the consumer role. As an example, Hansen and Schmitt's (2021) work have shown the need for the circular economy competency development in companies.

The ResPa project is tackling this urgent, cross-border challenge of the existing gap between the EU's target for recycling rate for all packaging waste and plastics waste and the present recycling rate. The key elements of Respa's success rely on fostering the development of new and innovative approaches to teaching and learning through multidisciplinary collaboration between education and enterprises. The ResPa project focuses on companies and packaging professionals' innovation capabilities and skills to influence, to 'nudge' the consumer to make sustainable choices. Hence, it will allow the new curricula development, innovative learning approaches and methods that will address the green and digital skills needed to support packaging industry, and more widely packaging value chain and network, transition toward circular and green economies.

The ResPa project will improve know-how and communication through value-chain and give access to knowledge and data sharing, by developing new CE business models to the packaging world, without forgetting consumers as an important part of the industrial value-chain. Based on ResPa partners' specific knowledge and complementary expertise, the aim is to further analyse the main skills gaps and needs in the field of consumers packaging purchase, use and post-purchase behaviour, and the knowledge gap and current state of the utilization of CE business models and strategies related to packaging (WP2). The information from consumers' circular behaviour (the detected enablers and barriers) guide businesses to identify skills gaps with hinder their circular actions. For example, improving

sorting information in packages would not only tackle the frustration of how to sort, but also enhance the overall circularity. According to Zhu et al. (2022) new packaging CE design strategies are needed to transfer it to consumers and e.g., incentives in the packaging design could help to engage them towards circular consumption. As an example, in Finland a non-profit company Suomen palautuspakkaus Oy (Palpa) manages deposit-based recycling systems for beverage packages with recycling rate approximately 90- 98 % (varies by type of container). A suitable deposit (financial benefit), return point locations, and reverse vending machines functionality are the key incentives for recycling. (Palpa, n.d.).

The aim is to improve packaging professionals' knowledge and skills regarding not only reducing the amount of (plastic) packaging, but also how to choose and develop recyclable and reusable packaging accepted by consumers. We will also gather insights and make a positive effect on how to turn the participation in the CE of packaging into a profitable activity for the enterprises through university business –consumer/citizen collaboration (e.g. Living Labs, WP4). In addition, the ResPa project will develop skills-base of companies so that they can better measure the effectiveness of their circular economic activities in engaging consumers and consequently boost their circular business (targeted micro-credentials, WP5). When the ResPa project will pilot the new training program it will truly promote lifelong learning culture in packaging sector (incl. companies, employees, and educational providers) whereas transition is accelerated by EU policies and tightening regulation (e.g. recyclability of packaging and recycling targets of the packaging materials). Conceptual mind-set change is needed from single use packaging to innovative re-usable packaging solutions without forgetting the importance of consumer acceptance of new, sustainable, and innovative models. All this highlights the importance of multidisciplinary lifelong learning opportunities and value chain communication.

An initial needs analysis was carried out in January-February 2025. The ResPa partners engaged with their key stakeholders and conducted an online survey, which provided a good basis and justification for the proposed project. The needs analysis was also important to commit stakeholders to ResPa project's activities, since most of the respondents gave permission to further contacting.

The survey consisted of 10 background questions, 11 questions focusing on consumer engagement and circular economy, and two additional ones. Responses to quantitative questions highlighted the importance of involvement to circular economy. The responses revealed that the companies are willing and ready to invest in consumer engagement. Qualitative questions highlighted the need to up-scale the required skills and competences, which were:

- 1) ability to cross-functional collaboration,
- 2) communication skills (including e.g. how to support return activities, awareness-building),
- 3) innovation skills/competences (inc. technological skills, understanding of circular business models),
- 4) skills related to infrastructure (recycling),
- 5) design skills (incl. product design, understanding of materials, system design etc.),
- 6) knowledge of consumer behaviour,
- 7) joint understanding of circular economy concept between organisations and stakeholders,
- 8) knowledge of regulation, i.e. capability to follow PPWR requirements.

In addition, research-based knowledge and scientific competence were regarded as important. **To summarize, consumers' preferences, behaviour, and activation are too often an unknown factor for the key actors of packaging value chain because of lack of skills and competences to obtain the information and to apply it.**

According to the extended producer responsibility (EPR), producers are responsible from the entire life cycle from design until the end of life of the products including packaging. Therefore, there is a need to create new knowledge and educational responses to the e.g. to the following issues related to green skills and sustainable development:

- *Re-use models should be acceptable by both consumers and companies. In order to implement sustainable and responsible re-use models successfully, enterprises need tools to evaluate and compare different approaches.*

Key background information (N=29)

Location of the company's office* were Sweden (7), Finland (8), Germany (5), Spain (4), Italy (3), Moldova (1)

*Multinational companies 18 (34 %)

13 responses (45 %) were received from the organisations with over 1000 employees, 1 response from an organisation with less than 10 employees. The rest of were rather evenly distributed between the two categories.

The respondents' activity sectors were 'packaging producers' (12), 'food & beverages' (7), 'FMCG' and 'pharma & supplements' (4), 'recycler' (3) and other activities less - except activity category 'others' (8)

*It was possible to choose more than one option)

The position of respondents were Manager (9), Director (5), Specialist (8), Employee (5).

- Consumers often do not separate packaging parts. One example is a yoghurt cup with an aluminium lid and a carton band. If these are not separated, the whole packaging is assigned to one material group (aluminium, paper or plastic) during recycling, and other materials are lost.
- Quantitative information is also needed on how consumers can be motivated to sort packaging materials, e.g., by printings and advice. When consumers do not separate packaging, the packaging producers and band owners need information and competence for better packaging design.
- Better understanding is required on how consumers can be motivated to follow sorting guidance and improve sorted fractions quality. The sorting quality by consumer must be tested before and after measures (e.g., printed logos).
- Packaging fit for purpose (materials, size of the packaging etc.) For example, an optimum must be found between bought quantity and food loss by too big packaging.
- More information about food losses before and after sensitization of consumers is yet needed: e.g., the consumer can be informed and motived by printings on packaging. Their quantitative effectivity must be evaluated and compared with the situation before.

Therefore, clearer guidelines are required to overcome the challenges in consumer packaging.

The guidelines should include what can be expected from consumers, e.g., buying decisions, separation, right disposal, and also what cannot be expected. For new proposals in packaging re-design, a platform for sharing information and for communication is required for the sorting and recycling plants, packaging designers, brand, retailers and interested consumers.

Responding to the abovementioned and other issues related to developing greener economy and more sustainable value-chains in the packaging industry require urgent identification and responses to the emerging professional needs. The ResPa project will address this by effective identification of the significant skills gaps in deep collaboration with education and enterprises to develop flexible and targeted educational content with and for businesses, HE and VET through digital open badges (transferable micro-credentials).

Table 1. ResPa project's alignment with the call

Objective of the call	ResPa work packages responding objective of the call	Expected outputs and indicators of success
Objective: Improving the quality and relevance of skills developed and certified through education and training systems (including new skills and tackling skills mismatches)	WP2: Framework for innovation and capacity building Main objective: To analyse skills gaps (for example in consumer behavioural mechanisms, trends and EU's policies) WP3: Educational contents development Main objective: To develop educational contents based on identified skills gap and in accordance with European approach to micro-credentials.	At least 40 cross-border industry and company workshop participants (hybrid delivery) At least 8 national workshops with different stakeholders At least 50 value chain actors interviewed. New framework of the key skills gaps, number of new consumer engagement skills identified 4
Objective: Fostering new, innovative, and multidisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning: fostering innovation in education design and delivery, teaching methods, assessment techniques, learning environments and developing new skills	WP3: Educational contents development Main objective: To develop educational contents based on identified skills gap and in accordance with European approach to micro-credentials. WP 4: Living Labs & validation with relevant stakeholders and consumers (broader socio-economic environment), innovation and networking platform Main objective: to validate designed educational inputs among	Piloting of the training programme (micro-credentials) with 300 participants (businesses, HE, VET). Transferable, competence based digital open badges (targeted micro-credentials develop to match the needs of the businesses, HE and VET); 4-6 micro-credentials.

	<p>stakeholders conducted by living lab approach</p> <p>WP 5: Micro-credential implementations (HEI, VET & enterprises) Main objective: to pilot micro-credentials</p>	
<p>Objective: Facilitating the flow and co-creation of knowledge between higher education and vocational education and training, research, the public sector and the business sector</p>	<p>WP 2: Framework for innovation and capacity building Main objective: to generate research spill overs based on university-business collaboration.</p> <p>WP 4: Living Labs & validation with relevant stakeholders and consumers (broader socio-economic environment), innovation and networking platform Main objective: to ensure active participating of stakeholders</p> <p>WP 5: Micro-Credentials implementations (HEI, VET & enterprises) Main objective: to ensure wider utilization of micro-credentials by fostering collaboration HE-VET-companies</p> <p>Work Package 7: Dissemination and exploitation Main objective: to conduct efficient dissemination and ensure impact of the project</p>	<p>10 co-creation workshops in 5 countries</p> <p>250 participants from industry, education providers, public sector and citizens (students)</p> <p>Integration of the developed micro-credentials to existing 2-3 study degree curricula.</p> <p>3 conference papers or peer-reviewed journal articles or book chapters</p> <p>2 international RDI initiatives (CE and packaging industry)</p>
<p>Objective: Fostering corporate social responsibility (e.g. equity, inclusion, climate change, environmental protection and sustainable development)</p>	<p>WP 2: Framework for innovation and capacity building Main objective: to generating new knowledge on the active role of the consumer in CE value-chain in packaging industry</p> <p>WP3: Educational contents development Main objective: to identify resilience-related, market needs and emerging professions in the sector needed to support sustainable development.</p>	<p>At least 30 consumer participants for sustainable packaging solutions evaluation</p> <p>3 new business models stimulating customer's CE behaviour.</p>

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Steward, R., Niero, M. 2018. Circular economy in corporate sustainability strategies: A review of corporate sustainability reports in the fast-moving consumer goods sector. *Business Strategy and the Environment*. Volume 27, 1005-1022. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.2048>

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#@COM-PLE-CP@#

1.3 Complementarity with other actions and innovation — European added value

Complementarity with other actions and innovation

Explain how the project builds on the results of past activities carried out in the field, and describe its innovative aspects (if any).

Explain how the activities are complementary to other activities carried out by other organisations (if applicable). Illustrate the trans-national dimension of the project; its impact/interest in the EU area; possibility to use the results in other countries, potential to develop /cross-border cooperation among Programme countries and Partner countries, if applicable, etc.

If your proposal is based on the results of one or more previous or ongoing projects, please provide precise references to these projects.

Erasmus+ Alliances for Innovation are important transnational networks driving flow and exchange of knowledge between education and research and enterprises to boost innovation. The proposed ResPa project operates in the context of the packaging value-chain by focusing on the role of the consumers and the development of new educational context generated through co-creation processes with different stakeholders (education institutions – businesses - public sectors – citizens/students) to increase innovation capacity (e.g., by making greater use of digital open badges as micro-credentials) and to support development of green skills (e.g., new business models to support customers' behaviour towards CE and waste reducing, recycling and reusability).

The ResPa project is jointly designed by a leading group of European education institutions covering vocational training, higher education, and research as well as industry partners from Finland, Germany, Italy, Spain and Sweden brought together by a shared vision of the future of packaging value chain with reduced waste and increased recycling and reuse of packaging. The partners also possess strong links to consumer pools in all countries, which facilitates citizen engagement in each country involved. The partners have dedicated to work together intensively to share best practices and to stimulate knowledge flow and transfer through co-creation processes leading to sustainable outputs that will be utilized beyond the project's lifecycle.

The ResPa project's wider added European value will be achieved by the strong shared international element and iterative co-creation processes, in which each phase builds on each other (e.g., partly trans-national Living Lab activities). The wider benefits to the European society can be summarized through the following key points:

- **Strong alignment with European CE policies and objectives**

The ResPa project is dedicated to work towards the set packaging waste reduction targets set for the European countries (e.g., European Green Deal COM/2029/640 final; Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive EU 2019/1020; Directive 2019/904, Directive 94/62/EC) and EU policy framework on biobased, biodegradable, and compostable plastics COM/2022/682 final). The project directly contributes to the implementation of the European Innovation Agenda adopted by the European Commission in July 2022. The project fosters the creation of green and sustainable innovations in the packaging sector and facilitates their market take-up, accessibility, and acceptability among consumers in Europe and beyond. The project increases the competences degree programme students and provides professionals in working life new ways for upgrading and upscaling their competences via micro-credentials and digital open badges.

The ResPa project's activities will address these issues by generating new knowledge base spurring from urgent needs analysis, and by creating a framework (WP2) for educational content development (i.e., analyse consumer behavioural mechanisms, trends, and EU's policies). These aspects lead to packaging professionals' skills gaps analysis, especially in relation to consumer engagement to CE (e.g., sorting and reuse). To ensure a holistic approach, both consumer and company perspectives are considered in the skills gaps analysis alongside with the identified trends and policies as important engagement enablers.

- **Responding to the skills gaps related to green skills and innovation capacities through Micro-credentials and digital open badges**

ResPa project's activities will address the green skills gaps by developing new educational content implemented through micro-credentials, such as digital open badges. A badge is an electronic micro-credential that can be used for identification, recognition and promotion of competences acquired through formal, non-formal and informal learning. The micro-credentials will respond directly to the identified skills gaps through flexible and targeted trainings, which can be utilised widely beyond the ResPa project's life cycle. The educational needs identified in (WP2) and their development to curricula (WP3) and micro-credentials (WP5) will be aligned with the current European policies and frameworks (Competitiveness Compass, EntreComp, DigiComp, GreenComp) in the circular economy labour market to ensure broader relevance of the new educational content. However, the ResPa project is highly relevant for both, higher education, and VET, which is clearly demonstrated by easy curricula implementation of micro-credentials, competence-based training contents.

- **Creating a joint vision of the future of the packaging value chain in Europe**

The ResPa project's activities enable establishing a long term collaboration with leading European partners representing experts in the field. Transnationality of the ResPa project will enable finding synergies between VET, higher education, research and packaging industry and CE associations to stimulate flow of knowledge through joint activities e.g., Living Labs (WP4) by leading to innovative results and solutions for market needs. This ensures creating a mutual understanding of the development of the sector and needed skills and capacities beyond the state-of-the-art for the future. Wide dissemination activities ensure sharing the outputs from all ResPa project's phases across Europe to relevant stakeholders (WP7). The ResPa project is focusing on complex consumer packaging value chain. Thus, ResPa will address businesses operating in consumer business wider than just packaging field e.g. retailers, brand owners, recyclers. It can be underlined that other European key product value chains like textiles, electronics are products to be packed and this way ResPa will bring widely added value for the companies operating in consumer goods business. Hence, training contents are scalable and transferable for other European key product value chains to support the innovation capacity building and transition towards CE, since the consumer active role in circular product value chains is seen crucial.

Furthermore, many of the ResPa project's partners have a long history of previous collaboration to ensure that the consortium has complementary expertise to addresses the future development needs to support green transition and CE of the packaging industry. The ResPa project builds on results obtained from previous large-scale development projects in the sector, such as listed below (the list is not exhaustive, further information about past and on-going initiatives is provided in the Annex covering previously funded projects in the past four years).

- TAMK, Proplast and ECOEMBES collaborated previously in PackAlliance project (European Alliance for Innovation Training & Collaboration towards Future Packaging) funded by Erasmus+ programme (2019-2022), which aimed to develop a post-graduate programme that helps plastics packaging industry for implementing Circular Economy processes. The programme is based on identified competence needs during the project. One of the four thematic areas of PackAlliance is citizen and consumer engagement to plastic packaging circularity. Interview of 47 package industry representatives from Finland, Italy, Poland, and Spain revealed the need for enhancement of communication between companies and consumers. PackAlliance provides a valuable background information about company-consumer communication and perspective to package circularity topic. The seven partners of the project in addition to TAMK provides a valuable network for dissemination as well. (Link to report https://www.packall.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/r2.2-survey_interviews_workshops_packalliance_report.pdf). Project reference number: 612212-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-EPPKA2-KA.
- One of TAMK's on-going initiatives related to the ResPa projects is continuous learning programme, Packaging value chain circular economy expert training (30 cr, EQF 5) which was implemented in 2023-2024 and in renewed format in 2025. Training is partly one demonstration of the PackAlliance project sustainability and impact. Packaging value chain circular economy expert is a 30 ECTS working life oriented continuous learning entity for those working in the packaging value chain and who want to develop their circular economy competences and ability to work effectively and innovatively in a digitized working environment. The training's goal is to promote digitalization and the green transition by providing circular economy knowledge and practical skills for the changing working life. One of the outcomes of the project is that consumer related skills development is crucial for the professionals working in packaging value chain. These facts are highlighted in Finland, national context, by packaging professionals operating in

the international companies and participating to the training program. (108/1458/2022 Packaging value chain circular economy expert training (Funded by the Service Centre for Continuous Learning and Employment (SECLE)/Funded by the European Union's Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) -Digitalization and green transition).

- RUOKO (Home-delivered meals – smartly and sustainably (2021-2023), was a regional development project funded by ERDF (The Council of Tampere Region). The need for the project was recognized when a lot of people started to work at home due to Covid pandemic. The number of home-delivered meal increased as well as the awareness of growing amount of package waste. The first survey of the project and especially the open questions resulted in findings that clear labelling on packaging together with written instructions, indicative information on packaging material, accessibility of recycling containers, guidance e.g., how clean the packages should be are the key issues to improve correct sorting and thus material recycling of take-away packages. The survey got 382 respondents of which certain age and gender groups were overrepresented. The experiences, results, citizen engagement methods and the network can be benefitted also during the ResPa project. Project reference number: A76911.
- Proplast has been involved in several collaborative research projects at European (Ecofishent, Frontsh1p, Plasticircle, Newpack - H2020) and national level (NODES, 2G-Chem, Reciplast, Prime, Deflect – Piedmont Region), and in different type of collaborative cluster projects at European Level (CIRCVET, PackAlliance, 4zeroPlast, and ICT Plast – ERASMUS+ Programme, S3-4AlpClusters – Alpine Space Programme, Materialix- H2020 and WIINTECH- Cosme Programme).
- Brobygrafiska has been a partner in several relevant projects as a leading VET in the sector, e.g.; Packaging and its emission from the production chain covered and calculated from a database built by scientists and researchers at Karlstad Universitet; FLAMM (Fossile free laminations) – by Paper Province; Laser-cleaned aniloxes. Less chemicals, less ink, less material same result; Algorithms to recalculate values from inks so less printing needs to take place to create documents on material and ink properties.
- AVEP has actively took part in RTD and Innovative projects including EU calls such as: Research for SMEs and AGs, COSME, LIFE and Life +; Research for the Benefit of SME-Ags. GREEN PACK "Fully recyclable 100% PET package for food contact with O2 barrier, improved transparency and low CO2 footprint"; RESEARCH FOR THE BENEFIT OF SMEs FP7-SME-2013-1. BANUS "Definition and development of functional barriers for the use of recycled materials in multilayer food packaging"; Circular economy of commercial plastic packaging in urban environments - LIFE RECYPACK; "Development of a Training Program on Advanced ICT Tools for enhancing Manufacturing Process Planning competences in Plastic Industries SMEs"

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2. QUALITY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

2.1.1 Concept and methodology

Concept and methodology

Please address all guiding points presented in the Call document/Programme Guide under the award criterion 'Quality of the project design and implementation'.

Outline the approach and methodology behind the project. Explain why they are the most suitable for achieving the project's objectives.

The ResPa project builds on three key components:

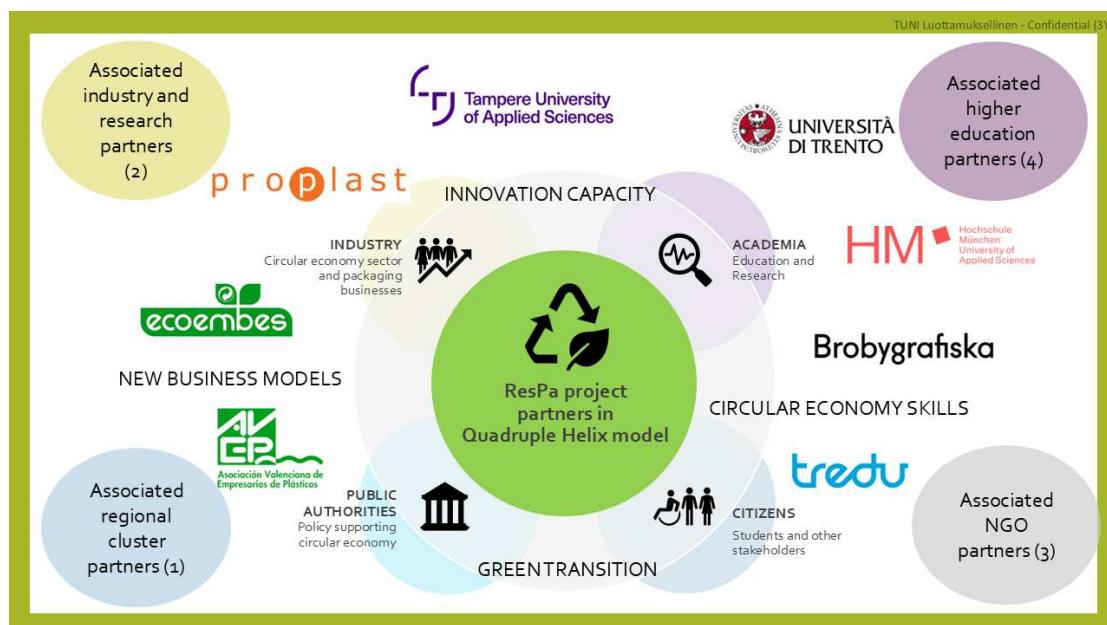
1. *Quadruple Helix model addressing the overall concept behind the methodology of the project to ensure active engagement of all stakeholders.*
2. *Living Lab approach to ensure authentic innovation environment for co-creation activities and iterative innovation process.*
3. *Micro-credentials to implement new educational content efficiently and to ensure competence achievement and recognition through digital open badge constellation).*

Quadruple Helix as the overall concept

The ResPa project has been designed on the basic principles of the Quadruple Helix (QH) model to ensure active engagement of all stakeholders and iterative co-creation process throughout different phases of the project. The QH involves representatives from all members of the society; public authorities, industry, academia and citizens. In the ResPa project, 'Academia' includes universities and vocational education institutions with specific expertise on packaging industry, circular economy and economics, 'Industry' consists of businesses partners including retail and packaging companies, 'Citizens' are represented through consumer's unions, students and other citizens engaged in the co-creation processes (e.g. skills gaps and the development of the educational content), and finally, 'Public authorities' are represented through various public actors related to the circular economy and especially package waste chain, such as regional development agencies driving CE policies, public waste stations and recycling centres.

The QH approach was deemed to be the most useful one in achieving the ambitious goals of the ResPa project, namely to i) improve consumers involvement to packaging materials' circularity through market actors' innovation and ii) related capacity building activities. Reinforcing linkages between industry and higher as well as vocational education and training are of great importance in identifying skills gaps, facilitating two-way knowledge transfer, and equipping future graduates with innovative capacities needed to respond to the current issues of the sector in question – in this case, new approaches to reduce package waste and re-defining the role of the customer in packaging value chain. However, often innovative processes may lack the involvement of citizens and end-users and/or the public sector representatives, latter of which is crucial in maximizing the impact of the new solutions through policy design and other public sector initiatives steering consumers' behaviour towards green transition. Instead of viewing the citizens/end-users as passive recipients ('consumers') of the new products and services, the QH model enables their active engagement to the innovation processes to avoid the development of unsuitable new business model related to CE and package value chain, lack of transparency and communication between innovators, educators, and end-users

Figure 2. ResPa Project in Quadruple Helix configuration



Living Lab approach

Living Labs enable user-centred innovation environment and/or an innovation approach in real-life setting to share ideas, experiences, and knowledge to stimulate, challenge and test the developed educational content as well as speeds up the lifecycle of realization of innovations. According to the European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL), where TAMK is an effective member since 2009, Living labs are defined as user-centred, open innovation ecosystems based on a systematic user co-creation approach integrating research and innovation processes in real life communities and settings. In practice, living labs place the citizen at the centre of innovation, and have thus shown the ability to better mould the opportunities offered by new concepts and solutions to the specific needs and aspirations of local contexts, cultures, and creativity potentials. In the proposed ResPa project, the participation of all the stakeholders of the QH

configuration will be operationalized in all content work packages, especially in WP5 in which the Living Lab (LL) approach will be utilised to ensure a truly iterative co-creation process to achieve the set goals, deliver expected outcomes as well as to maximise the impact by ensuring transnational outreach of the project results.

Micro-credentials and digital open badges

Recent years have seen an increased interest in competence-oriented education, training and learning in higher education, leading to the development of numerous technical, pedagogical applications and theoretical guidelines (Brauer, 2021). Currently, new 'alternative credentials' – such as micro-credentials, digital open badges and industry-recognised certificates (OECD, 2020) are gaining popularity as an alternative approach to formal, degree-driven competence development (Brauer & Korhonen, 2022). The term "micro-credentials" has been defined in a variety of ways in different settings. The Respa project will adopt the European approach to micro-credentials (European Union, 2022), with the suggestion being put forward that micro-credentials could assist in the certification of the outcomes of small, tailored learning experiences.

According to the European Union (2022), micro-credentials can significantly support EU policy initiatives for digital and green transitions. They can help to achieve the goals of the Digital Education Action Plan 2021–2027 by providing flexible learning opportunities for digital skills and meeting the targets of the 2030 Digital Compass for a digitally skilled population. Additionally, micro-credentials can contribute to the European Green Deal, which aims to transform Europe's economy and society towards sustainability. Digital open badges represent a concept that lends itself to application in a variety of contexts, consolidating a broad spectrum of skills and knowledge acquired over time and in diverse settings. A badge is an electronic micro-credential that can be used for identification, recognition and promotion of competences acquired through formal, non-formal and informal learning. Moreover, it is of particular significance that an individual can manage and maintain their own achievements, determining the manner and combinations through which to showcase their competence. This is in line with the EU's recommendation on micro-credentials (2022), and supports broader strategic goals to develop workplace learning and validation of acquired skills (cf. Halttunen et al., 2024).

Digital open badges are official digital certificates of acquired skills. The badges are used to:

- *Develop new ways for recognising and making competences visible*
- *Highlight competences not visible in a diploma (non-formal education)*
- *Recognize and highlight competences built flexibly through work, self-studies/non-formal or formal studies*
- *Make the individual and organisation level competences apparent*
- *Develop and aim the competences in an organisation based on future needs.*

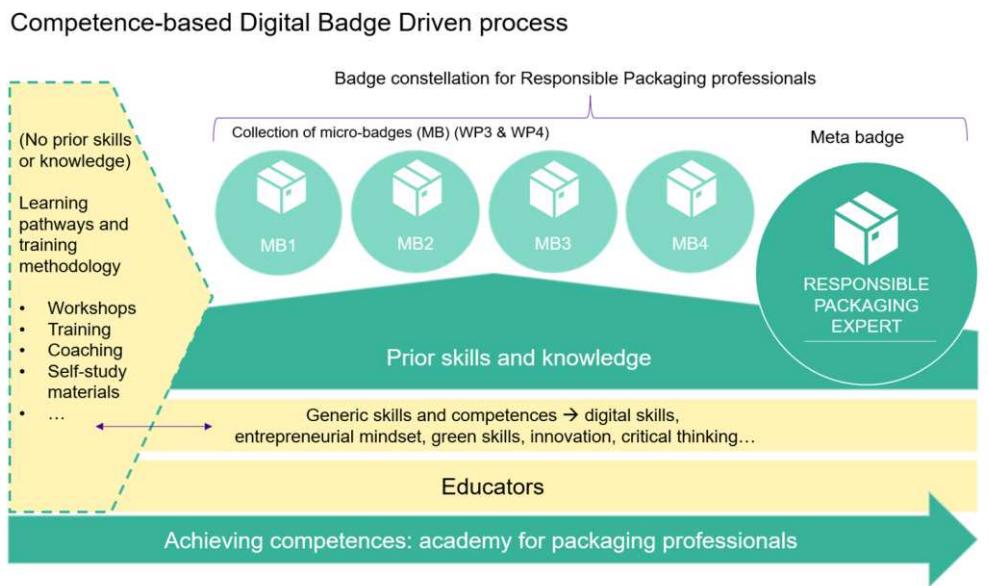
Training contents will be developed to support flexible, transparent, and inclusive non-formal learning opportunities, targeted way to help people to develop their knowledge, skills, and competences. In the proposed ResPa project, the main topics to be covered in the development of educational content to boost innovation skills and circular packaging capacities including recyclable and re-usable packaging, consumer packaging, purchase, and post-purchase behaviour, understanding consumer's role as a part of the packaging value chain, shaping circular economy (CE) business models and strategies.

The ResPa project develops digital open badge constellation (see figure 3) based on relevant and identified competence needs. The meta badge covers approx. 3-5 micro badges to boost the project impact and sustainability for multipurpose. Companies and pilot training participants can choose the micro-credentials that best suits their organisational and individual needs, i.e., micro-badges from pilot training offer. If the participant has a need to cover all the training targets, participants will achieve a meta badge of a 'Responsible Packaging Expert'. After piloting and project completion, constellation will be transferable to higher and vocational institutions non-formal and formal education as a part of continuing education.

Digital badges as a recognition for competences, and digital open badge-driven learning process has been already largely researched (e.g. Halttunen et al., 2024; Law & Storrar, 2024; Brauer, 2019; Brauer et al. 2018). Digital open badges, aligned with the European Skills, Competences, Qualifications, and Occupations (ESCO) wider framework (European Commission, 2021), highlight specific continuing education (CE) skills of the project's target groups. They support the recognition of informal and non-formal learning achievements. This alignment with a common European standard allows these badges to be combined from different education providers using the International Europass of Lifelong Learning.

Consequently, this enhances the usability of the badges across training institutions in Europe and ensures a sustainable impact beyond the ResPa project's life cycle. **The development of digital skills will be supported by linkage to existing learning materials that the partners offer from their own organisation or through partnerships. The activities of the ResPa embedded in different WP tasks support learning of digital skills and adaptation in digital tools.**

Figure 3. ResPa project's approach to the competence-based digital open badge-driven process.



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Law P. & Storrar R. (2024). The motivation to earn digital badges: a large-scale study of online courses. *Distance Education*. DOI: 10.1080/01587919.2024.2338732

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OECD. (2020). The Emergence of Alternative Credentials. Education Working Paper No. 216 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Directorate for Education and

Skills. [http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=EDU/WKP\(2020\)4&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=EDU/WKP(2020)4&docLanguage=En)

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2.1.2 Project management, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Project management, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Describe the measures foreseen to ensure that the project implementation is of high quality and completed in time.

Describe the methods to ensure good quality, monitoring, planning and control.

Describe the evaluation methods and indicators (quantitative and qualitative) to monitor and verify the outreach and coverage of the activities and results (including unit of measurement, baseline and target values). The indicators proposed to measure progress should be relevant, realistic and measurable.

Should the ResPa project be granted funding, a set of measures to ensure high-quality and timely implementation of the prosed activities has been pre-designed. Also, the ResPa project has a drafted a specific protocol for monitoring and controlling the expected outcomes and other KPIs and evaluation methods as describes in the following section.

Project management (WP1) Prior to the official launching of the ResPa project, TAMK as the Coordinator will ensure active participation of its Project Management Office and Finance Department, which together will facilitate administrative processes and thus smoothen the overall implementation of the project. Furthermore, TAMK has undertook the responsibility as the Coordinator to effectively communicate to all partners and associated partners the results, evaluation and the key steps to be taken already prior to the official start of the ResPa project. A pre-meeting will be organized to discuss about the initial roles and tasks of each partner and issues that might have an effect on the initial work plan (e.g. change of staff members), advice partners about communication and reporting channels and to decide on the date of the kick-off meeting. The initial management structure for the ResPa Project will be confirmed and members appointed to the different management bodies from all partner organisations. The partners can jointly discuss about potential deviations to the initial plan to ensure participatory and democratic approach to project leadership, which will be jointly carried by members of the management bodies and WP leaders together with the Coordinator.

TAMK will manage its contractual responsibilities with the funding authority (e.g., signing of the grant agreement) and partners (e.g., signing off the partnership agreement and timely distribution of the pre-financing) in a timely and effective manner. Furthermore, TAMK will be responsible for reporting to the funding authority as per agreed in the Grant agreement. For this purpose, TAMK will engage WP leaders and other partners responsible for the delivery of outputs, events and other project activities as described in the work plan to gather information about the progress, outputs, and financial aspects of related to the implementation of the project from all partners.

A Project management team (PMT) will be appointed as early as possible to run day-to-day activities of the ResPa project. The PMT will meet online once a month unless agreed otherwise (e.g. holiday season), and it will be led by TAMK, and it will have 1-2-representatives from each partner organisations to ensure good communication between all members of the consortium. Representatives from the associated partner organisations will be invited to take part in the PMT meetings whenever subject/target group specific expertise is required. Also, external experts will be invited to ensure 360° evaluation of the project (observations, evaluations finding on the internal practices and related recommendations). TAMK will prepare an agenda for each meeting and share it with the PMT group at least week before the meeting takes place. Minutes of the meetings will be available to all project partners in the chosen digital communication platform maintained by the Coordinator (MSTeams) to ensure easy access to follow the progress of the day-to-day operation of the project (e.g. schedule, outputs and occurred costs). Should the PMT observe any significant deviations from the project plan or other issues hindering effective implementation of the project's, decision-making body of the project (Steering group) will be notified (e.g., unforeseen urgent issues, conflicts).

TAMK as the Coordinator is responsible for the overall monitoring processes (WP1 – Project Management and evaluation), which concerns the main activities and outputs of the project. Together with the PMT, TAMK will regularly assess the progress of implementation of the key activities (activity monitoring) and the related outcomes (process monitoring). Continuous monitoring will be carried out during the entire project's life cycle to address all deviations of the initial work plan having an impact on achieving the set objectives. The monitoring protocol will include; rigorous data collection procedure and storage agreed upon in the kick-off meeting (Work Plan for Monitoring), constant analyses of the data and sharing conclusions with all partners with recommendations and when deemed necessary, corrective

actions, monitoring of the planned delivery schedule of the planned activities (Gantt chart) and expenditure (occurred costs - project budget).

Conflict resolution (WP1)

Partner Agreement signed by all partners will clearly outline the contractual obligations of all partners to the project and also detail the procedures for conflict resolution described below. Unresolved issues will first be brought to the PMT, where all partners have a seat and a voice. In case of potential diverging views regarding the project strategy and/or dealing with 'sleeping partners', the PMT will undertake pragmatic negotiations, on a bi-lateral or country basis, attempting to isolate the problem. Should the consensus be not achievable by negotiation, a majority vote will take place, each of the consortium members holding one vote. The conflicting issues will be taken to the Steering Committee for consultation if appropriate. The project coordinator will be in charge to manage the conflict resolution process in this case and report to the EACEA only when needed.

Special attention will be paid to the risks and their mitigation strategies defined in Section 2.1.5 Risk Management. The ones often encountered include: 1) Methodological controversies, which will be openly discussed, if occurred, aiming at consensus within the PMT. 2) Challenges in meeting the set time schedules to be anticipated before escalation by effective monitoring actions and facilitated by the project communication platforms. 3) Management challenges related to transnational collaboration and internal communication will be tackled by the Coordinator by co-creating an open and trustful project communication and actively scheduling bi-lateral meetings online with individual partners if needed.

Quality Assurance and Evaluation Strategy (WP1, WP7)

Quality assurance and evaluation processes are integrated in all project activities in order to make sure that all results and deliverables can be achieved according to schedule, budget and the set quality standards. For this purpose, the following protocols have been designed by the ResPa partners:

- Appointment of a specific Quality Assurance Task Force to design a detailed protocol for internal and external evaluation procedures (what kind of qualitative data will be collected, when and how, e.g. feedback surveys, impact and other self-assessments related to all project activities; what kind of quantitative data will be collected, when and how, e.g. number of participant to open LL events, developed micro-credentials (Open Digital Badges and their utilisation) and business models / start-ups / educational innovations for sustainable packaging industry). The QATF will be led by the University of Trento and it have at least participant from all partner organisations, and it will have quarterly meetings to monitor the progress of the evaluation data collection and for notifying PTM on significant deviations.
- The QATF will design and execute an extensive internal quality evaluation procedure before the interim reporting (M16). The mid-term internal evaluation will be carried out concerning all KPIs among all partners, and its report will be included in the interim report (D1.1). In addition, an external evaluator will be purchased by a public procurement procedure to conduct an expert mid-term quality assessment (MS4). The outcomes of the internal and external mid-term evaluation processes will be concluded by University of Trento and communicated to all partners. These results will be taken into account to re-design and implement the tasks during the second implementation period of the project (M19-34) to ensure improved the quality of the deliverables and processes towards the final report (D1.2). Furthermore, an external evaluator will be purchased to evaluate to overall performance of the ResPa project against the set objectives and KPIs (MS5). This external quality evaluation process will be jointly carried out by the QATF and the Coordinator and finalised before the end of the project (M34).

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2.1.3 Project teams, staff and experts

Project teams and staff

Describe the project teams and how they will work together to implement the project.

List the staff included in the project budget (budget category A) by function/profile (e.g. project manager, senior expert/advisor/researcher, junior expert/advisor/researcher, trainers/teachers, technical personnel, administrative personnel etc — use the same profiles as in the detailed budget table, if any (*n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants*)) and describe briefly their tasks. Provide CVs of all key actors (if required by the Call document/Programme Guide).

Name and function	Organisation	Role/tasks	Professional profile and expertise

Nina Kukkasniemi	TAMK	Senior Lecturer/ Specialist	<p>Nina Kukkasniemi, MSc (Tech) is a Senior Lecturer in Bioproduct Engineering at TAMK and a key expert in the project. She was involved in TAMK's packaging development project PackAlliance (Erasmus+) where she provides understanding of consumer engagement to plastic packaging circularity. For a regional development project RUOKO she was providing expertise in packages and contact with producers and brand owners. Kukkasniemi was running a project, continuous learning programme 'Packaging value chain circular economy expert' which is a 30 ECTS working life oriented continuous learning entity for those professionals working in the packaging value chain and who want to develop their circular economy competences and ability to work effectively and innovatively in a digitized working environment. The training's goal is to promote digitalization and the green transition by providing circular economy knowledge and practical skills for the changing working life, e.g. highlighting the tightening regulation and important role of consumer and citizen involvement. Before TAMK she worked in the packaging industry as a Customer Value Manager and led several value driven customer projects. She has experience in continuous packaging design and value chain improvement and innovations.</p>
Sanna Ruhalahti	TAMK	Researcher/ Lecturer	<p>Sanna Ruhalahti, PhD, works as a Principal lecturer at TAMK UAS, Applied Research Centre, and as an educational developer in the field of professional development. Her main areas of expertise are pedagogical learning design, micro-credentials and digital open badge-driven learning model. She has been developing and researching digital badges for over ten years. She has been involved as an educational and pedagogical developer in a dozen development projects at global and national level. She worked as the Digivisio 2030 Coordinator to promote TAMK's digital education offerings.</p>
Silja Kostia	TAMK	Researcher	<p>Silja Kostia, PhD, MBA, works as Principal lecturer at TAMK UAS, Applied Research Center (ARC). Her main area of expertise is sustainability in industry and currently she works as researcher in two project focusing on sustainability in manufacturing industry. She leads two of TAMK's RDI teams focusing on sustainability and circular economy. She has in depth knowledge and understanding of collaboration between educational institutions and working life organisations and proven experience in applied research and development together with stakeholders both regionally and internationally.</p>
Hanna-Greta Puurtinen	TAMK	Project Manager	<p>Ms. Hanna-Greta Puurtinen currently holds twofold positions as Head of RDI in the School of Built Environment and Bioeconomy and as Senior specialist in Project Management Office in Tampere University of Applied Sciences. She received her Master of Science and Licentiate of Technology degrees (Biomedical Engineering) from Tampere University of Technology in 2000 and 2002, respectively. In addition, she has graduated as Master of Arts from University of Tampere in 1998.</p> <p>Ms. Puurtinen has a 25-year work experience consisting of various duties and assignments related to</p>

			<p>international scientific and applied research & innovation projects. She possesses extensive and sustainable networks and partnerships within education and R&I community both in Finland and internationally. The focus of her work relates to expertise in EU policy frameworks as well as European and national project funding instruments such as Horizon Europe. She has experience as manager and expert of projects financed by funding schemes such as Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships, Interreg Europe, Central Baltic Programme, Business Finland and Ministry of Education.</p> <p>In the ResPa project, Ms. Puurtinen contributes especially to the professional management and administration tasks. In addition, she contributes to the dissemination and communication activities.</p>
Prof. Dr. Sven Saengerlaub	HM Hochschule München University of Applied Sciences	Supervision and research	<p>Professor of packaging technology. Expert in packaging materials and sustainable packaging.</p>
Susana Remotti (Cluster PM)	Proplast	<p>Senior expert/ WP Leader Dissemination activities</p>	<p>Degree in Graphic design and communication. For more than 15 years, she has involved in budget and grant management for financed projects (H2020, Erasmus+, Interreg Program, FP7, Life+, LLP Culture, etc). Moreover, she collaborates with the research dept. submitting European projects and monitoring the financial part of them.</p> <p>From 2016, she has undertaken the coordination of the "Green Chemistry and advanced materials Regional Cluster" activities as well as the technical co-management part of European Cluster projects.</p> <p>She also carries out Proplast networking, training, dissemination, and communication activities. She manages the Proplast's social media channels and is active promoting plastics good practices towards the wider community.</p> <p>She has managed several European Cluster projects such as: Materialix (COSME Programme), S3-4AlpClusters (Alpine Space), 4zeroPlast, ICT Plast PackAlliance (ERASMUS+ Programme), and currently CIRCVET (ERASMUS+ Programme) organizing the networking and dissemination activities between companies and universities.</p> <p>For the Piedmont Region, she has collaborated for the preparation of the regional Smart Specialization Strategy (S3) and the organization of the companies' interviews for the future calls for proposals.</p>
Maria Teresa Scrivani (R&D PM)	Proplast	<p>Project Manager/ Senior researcher</p>	<p>Degree in Chemistry in 1996 at the University of Genova. She has been working in polymer companies (Basell Polyolefines, M&G polymers), as project manager in R&D area on different topics: polymer synthesis (PET, polyamide polyolefines) in lab scale and pilot plant; optimization of formulations vs. the final application and transformation technology (injection molding, extrusion, blow molding) using compounding techniques and reactive extrusion.</p>

			<p>At present, she is project manager of applied research projects on thermoplastic polymers focusing in development of new thermoplastic materials (via chemical synthesis and/or compounding process) for various industrial applications, recycled plastic properties optimization, polymer synthesis, analytical methods development, industrial scale-up of materials optimised in laboratory scale.</p> <p>She is involved in training modules for high schools, post graduated people and courses designed for specific company needs.</p> <p>She works in the following areas: PET chemistry and packaging technology; Polymers for energy application; Analytical characterization of polymers and polymer parts using problem-solving technique; Polymer processing: compounding, melt blending; Recycling and regulation for circular economy. Her skills include training, project management and general operation management.</p> <p>She is co-author of 5 scientific papers and a patent.</p> <p>She collaborates with COREPLA (National Consortium for the Collection, Recycling and Recovery of Plastic Packaging) to the dissemination of the dissemination of good recycling practices to the community. She manages the collaboration with PRE and the stakeholders for recyclability evaluation of packaging, according Recyclclass standards.</p> <p>Relevant R&D Projects: Frontsh1p and Plasticircle (H2020 Programme), Light-Pet (LIFE+ 2011 Programme), Reciplast (FESR). Regarding Cluster projects, during the PackAlliance project (ERASMUS+) she oversaw the development of the training material used in the Ecodesign for Packaging Module.</p>
Puja Irene Lo Monaco (Cluster & Communication)	Proplast	Communication assistant	Degree in Communication (University of Turin, Italy) and Assistant of Cluster Dept. From 2023, she supports the Proplast's communication and dissemination activities, monitoring and updating projects websites and media channels and organizing workshops, seminars and networking events.
Maria Luana Montalbano (R&D Project manager)	Proplast	Senior Expert	<p>Master's degree in chemical engineering 2011 at the University of Study of Palermo. She worked as temporary research assistant at University of Palermo, improving her scientific knowledge on thermoplastics polymers. After that, she worked in ECNP (European Centre for Nanostructured Polymers).</p> <p>In Proplast, she is involved as R&D project manager in several research projects on different topics, in particular from the technological and industrial points of view. In these fields, she had been strengthened her expertise in different aspects, like the development of new formulations, exploiting polymer mixing techniques (compounding and blends), the processing techniques for the development of high-performance polymers, the characterization techniques (thermal, morphological, chemical, viscoelastic, rheological and mechanical analysis).</p>

			<p>She is involved in training modules for high schools, post graduated people and different courses designed for specific company needs and for VET institutes and Universities.</p> <p>Relevant Projects: Newpack (H2020 Programme) – PackAlliance (ERASMUS+) – DEFLeCT (ERDF 2014/2020) – AURAE (ERDF 2014/2020)</p>
Cristina Monge	AVEP	General Manager	<p>Degree in Economics & Business Administration (Carlos III and Maastricht Universities). Member of Spanish Economist Professional College (COEV). AVEP General Manager since 1996. Previous 5 years' experience in International TI consultancy firm. Managerial, commercial and language skills (English and French).</p> <p>Project management activities in one FP6 project: FLOWFREE, four FP7 projects: CLUSTERPLAST, PLASTIVAL, SLIPSAFE, BANUS and one coordinated: GREENPACK; one Cosme Programme – Cluster Excellence Programme: MATERIALIX and one LIFE+: WETCOMP.</p> <p>Strong commitment in the development of projects and initiatives that target to benefit the hole group of small and medium enterprises from the plastic sector in the Valencian Region through increasing their competitiveness.</p> <p>Main role at AVEP: Legal representative; Government and authorities' relationship.</p>
Etelvina Ortiz	AVEP	Project Manager	<p>Degree in Enology and Agricultural Engineering, master's degree in Environment & Quality Management. AVEP Project and Training Manager since 2008, experience as regional and European project manager and training program coordinator. Assistance to partners on project management issues: reporting templates, justification, etc. Project management activities in five FP7 projects: CLUSTERPLAST, PLASTIVAL, GREENPACK, SLIPSAFE, BANUS; one Cosme Programme – Cluster Excellence Programme: MATERIALIX and one LIFE+: WETCOMP. And 4zeroPlast, and ICT Plast (ERASMUS+ Programme as coordinator).</p> <p>Strong commitment in the development of projects and initiatives that target to benefit the hole group of small and medium enterprises from the plastic sector in the Valencian Region through increasing their competitiveness.</p> <p>Main role at AVEP: Project manager (regional, national and European level; International promotion and training activities; Communication and marketing).</p>
Johanna Veijanen	City of Tampere, Tampere Vocational College Tredu	Project manager / Lecturer	<p>Johanna Veijanen is a dedicated professional teacher and lecturer at Tampere Vocational College Tredu with a passion for fostering international relationships within the media department. She holds a Master of Culture and Arts and a special vocational qualification in sustainability and environmental technology. She has focused on environmental education and currently teaches courses in packaging design, photography, and graphic design, shaping the next generation of creative professionals.</p>

			<p>Johanna's expertise in sustainability and environmental technology, along with her Specialist vocational qualification and experience in the Media sector, positions her perfectly to contribute to the project's sustainability goals. She can provide valuable insights into environmentally friendly packaging solutions and educate the team on best practices for reducing environmental impact.</p>
Vesa Ala-Lahti, lecturer	City of Tampere, Tampere Vocational College Tredu	Specialist in vocational Qualification in Business	<p>Vesa Ala-Lahti is a versatile and experienced professional who has dedicated his career to both business and education. He holds a Master of Science in Economics from the University of Jyväskylä, with a focus on computer science, accounting, and educational science. Vesa has a wide industry experience from the mobile technology sector.</p> <p>Since 2014, Vesa has been an adult educator at Tampere Vocational College Tredu, where he teaches business economy. His teaching subjects cover a wide range of topics, including profitability, office tools, financing, insurance and risk management, investments in stocks and funds, project management, leadership, software engineering, and quality management.</p> <p>Vesa's background in business economics and profitability analysis helps to develop economically sustainable solutions that support environmentally friendly practices. His experience in risk management and quality management ensures that sustainability goals are achieved efficiently and reliably.</p> <p>Vesa's expertise in computer science and software engineering is valuable in developing and implementing digital tools and systems in this project.</p>
Erja Takala, specialist	City of Tampere, Tampere Vocational College Tredu	Administrative staff	Financial Planner, accounting, archiving.
Dr Andrea Caputo, Head of Unit	University of Trento	Researcher	<p>Andrea Caputo, PhD, is Associate Professor in Management at the University of Trento, Italy, and at the University of Lincoln, United Kingdom, where in 2018 he co-founded with other academics the UNESCO Chair in Responsible Foresight for Sustainable Development. His main research interests include entrepreneurial decision-making, negotiation, digitalization and sustainability, internationalization and strategic management of SMEs. Considering his expertise in negotiation and conflict management, his role will be fundamental in facilitating the communication and cooperation among the different stakeholders involved. In addition, he is also an expert in individual and group decision making, which are crucial in re-designing the role of the customer's decisions in the reduction of packaging waste.</p>
Maria Lucia Della	University of Trento	Researcher	<p>Business Management at the University of Trento in Italy. Her main areas of research, teaching and training include local development and sustainability, destination management and governance, culture-led regeneration, creative cities and creative tourism, Internet and social media marketing, and economic impact analysis as</p>

			investment decision making tools. She has coordinated several research projects within her areas of interest and authored and co-authored publications in leading tourism journals, together with numerous book chapters and two monographs. Her expertise in sustainable business models can be exploited to re-design the business model as consumer-centred, improving circular economy innovation capacities.
Matteo Ploner	University of Trento	Researcher	Matteo Ploner is a Full Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics and Management of the University of Trento. He is deputy manager of the Cognitive and Experimental Economics Laboratory (CEEL) of the University of Trento. His fields of competence are Experimental Economics, Behavioral Economics, and Behavioral Finance. He is interested in understanding human decision making in social environments. His expertise in experimental economics can be exploited to understand consumers' decisions and rationale behind a more sustainable approach towards plastic packaging consumption.
Erica Santini	University of Trento	Resarcher	Erica Santini is Assistant Professor of Management at the University of Trento. She was a visiting PhD student at the Business School of the University of Birmingham, and Postdoc in innovation and new manufacturing at the University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. Her research focuses on innovation, entrepreneurial ecosystems, servitization strategies, product- service innovation and digitalization of manufacturing, EU policy and industrial policy. Her expertise in EU and industrial policy is crucial for connecting the European Research Agenda (ERA) with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). She plays a key role in fostering knowledge exchange among research and innovation institutions, educational entities, businesses, policymakers, and the public sector.
Oksana Tokarchuk	University of Trento	Researcher	Dr Oksana Tokarchuk, PhD, is an Assistant professor in Management at the University of Trento, her expertise is in consumer behaviour and analytics, marketing and consumption, sustainable strategies. Her main research interests include behavioral economics, consumer behavior, quality of life and applied statistics/econometrics. Her expertise in consumer behaviour and marketing plays a key role in supporting innovative ways to implement CE of packaging strategies.
Diego Polo Benito, Innovation Coordinator	Ecoembes	Expert	He holds an Industrial Engineering degree and a Master's in Data Science and Machine Learning from the University of La Rioja. He has been working as a Machine Learning Engineer and IA & Data Manager. As a Project Manager he has participated in different projects including national, regional and EU funded project. He won several first prizes in ML competitions.
Ismael García Gil-Velilla, Innovation Specialist	Ecoembes	Expert	Graduate in Sociology, specialized in the study of the brain and emotions through a Master's in Applied Neuroscience (UCM) and Neuropsychology (URJC). Later, he completed a Master's in Big Data & Analytics (UCM). Currently, he is part of the Citizen Area within the Innovation Department at Ecoembes.
Daniel Menchaca Martínez,	Ecoembes	Expert	Telecom Engineer (Universidad de Zaragoza) with a master degree in Project Management and International MBA with more than 14 years of experience leading

Innovation Specialist			with European Projects of the FP7, H2020, ECSEL, Erasmus+, Climate KIC, Cascade Founding but also in other national and regional programs.
Sara Larsson	Brobygrafi ska	Head of design, Teacher	Sara Larsson has Bachelor Degree of of Arts at Örebro University, she has also studied Graphic Design at Charles Sturt University in Australia. Sara has been head of graphic design at Brobygrafiska since 2006. In parallel with her teaching at Brobygrafiska Sara has worked as a graphic designer for over 20 years. Sara has also worked as a university lecture at Charles Sturt University, Karlstad University, Beckmans design högskola and Forsbergs design school. Sara's expertise is primarily packaging design and strategic brand communication and in this field she is often hired as a lecturer and expert advisor by both the graphic industry and other faculties. Sara has been a board member of Sweflex a packaging organization based by the packaging industry in Sweden. Sara has also been involved in research projects with Karlstad's University and Lidl. Collaboration with brand owners like IKEA, Orkla, Cloetta and Nestle is part of her daily work at Brobygrafiska. A close collaboration with the brand owners gives her unique insight in
Marie Falk	Brobygrafi ska	Teacher	Marie has been the Head of Packaging Design at Brobygrafiska since 2021 and teaches structural design. She is a trained Art Director from Berghs School of Communication, holding a degree in System Programming and Graphic Design, along with an equivalent Bachelor's degree in Packaging Engineering. Throughout her entire career, she has worked with product development and design for both the domestic and international markets, and her expertise spans across a variety of industries. This allows her to apply a holistic customer perspective and understanding across different market scenarios. By analyzing and understanding the complex driving forces and cultural differences that impact the success of a product or service, she has gained profound insight into why certain products or behaviours may thrive in one country while facing economic challenges in another. Marie's focus is to reduce food waste with better packaging, and to examine consumer behavior. In this field she also has been hired as a lecturer at Ondokuz mayis University in Turky and Linköpings University in Sweden. Her profession at Brobygrafiska requires close contact with both packaging producers like DS Smith, Holmen and Stora Enso, and brand owners like Lidl, and different packaging organisations and faculties like Sweflex Pro Carton and Karlstad Universitet.

Outside resources (subcontracting, seconded staff, etc)

If you do not have all skills/resources in-house, describe how you intend to get them (contributions of members, partner organisations, subcontracting, etc).

If there is subcontracting, please also complete the table in section 4.

N/A

2.1.4 Cost effectiveness and financial management

Cost effectiveness and financial management (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)

Describe the measures adopted to ensure that the proposed results and objectives will be achieved in the most cost-effective way.

Indicate the arrangements adopted for the financial management of the project and, in particular, how the financial resources will be allocated and managed within the consortium.

 Do NOT compare and justify the costs of each work package, but summarize briefly why your budget is cost effective.

The ResPa project has been designed in a collaborative manner with all project partners (regular online meetings for the whole consortium and individual meetings with WP leaders) to ensure that the roles of each partner correspond to their specific areas of expertise and that each partner is dedicated to carry out all project activities assigned to their organisation. This collaborative process facilitated finding the best possible solutions so that each project activity can be carried out cost-effectively and that there is a common understanding on the financial management related to the overall implementation of the project. The proposed budget has been discussed with all partners and the plan has been drafted taking into consideration the 'minimum possible expenditure' in allocating HR, travel, and other costs, which have been carefully based with all partners. The financial planning is based on existing expertise and actual in-house staff costs of each partner organisation. Many of the partners are highly renewed in their respective fields (circular economy, packaging industry and consumer behaviour, business and innovation studies, digital pedagogy, project management) and have already worked together in previous projects, with facilities smooth implementation of the project also when considering financial aspects. Previous trust-building and efficient communication enable all WP leads and their teams to concentrate on the content-specific issues on their respective work packages. Also, TAMK as has strong experience on managing different EU-funded project, which ensures that there are high-quality tools and support available for the financial and administrative aspects.

Financial management is an elementary part of the monitoring and reporting of the project. The official guidelines of financial management are set in the Grant Agreement, Consortium Agreement, and the internal project Operational Work Plan for Monitoring (T1.2). The quality and timely delivery of the project results is ensured by the management and quality procedures. The Coordinator coordinates and monitors the financial management at the project level and collects the necessary reports and financial documents from the partners. The budget of the project has been designed using principles of cost effectiveness and sound financial management. In case of deviations, the Coordinator will take immediate actions according to the risk management mitigation procedures and conflict resolution processes set in the Operational Work Plan for Monitoring. Furthermore, cost-efficiency has been considered in planning of the travels so that all activities are combined with management body meetings (e.g., Steering Committee meetings). This ensures avoiding redundant travelling costs and is aligned with Green Travel principles. Priority will be given on efficient and up-to-date online communication tools to support collaboration between the project partners.

Engagement of the key stakeholders related to the ResPa project's goals has been secured by utilising partner organisations' and individual experts' networks especially in carrying out the needs analysis and engaging with associated partner. This facilitates further cooperation and enables achieving the project results whilst optimising the use of resource as well as achieving wider impact without increasing the expenditure of the proposed activities. All partners have committed to co-financing the ResPa project overall budget (20%), which will be covered by HR (financial administration, project management, researchers) and dissemination costs.

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2.1.5 Risk management

Critical risks and risk management strategy

Describe critical risks, uncertainties or difficulties related to the implementation of your project, and your measures/strategy for addressing them.

Indicate for each risk (in the description) the impact and the likelihood that the risk will materialise (high, medium, low), even after taking into account the mitigating measures.

Note: Uncertainties and unexpected events occur in all organisations, even if very well-run. The risk analysis will help you to predict issues that could delay or hinder project activities. A good risk management strategy is essential for good project management.

Risk No	Description	Work package No	Proposed risk-mitigation measures
1	A Partner withdraws from the consortium (low probability)	WP1	The Project Coordinator develops a contingency plan to be described in the Consortium Agreement. The plan is activated if a Partner leaves/is forced to leave. This plan includes identification of alternative partners and a plan to redistribute workload and resources among remaining partners.
2	Loss of personnel resources (low)	WP1-WP7	Project has a document management system to ensure all information is accessible for all members, including those taking the responsibility of the left personnel and new projects staff. If necessary, more personnel are recruited.
3	A Partner does not reach the expected output (low)	WP1-WP7	The Project Coordinator will establish clear KPIs and a regular progress monitoring and quality control systems. Any arising issues will be addressed promptly, and corrective measures are taken immediately if deviations are inspected.
4	Deviations in budgetary and project time schedule issues - Delays in accomplishing the deliverables (low)	WP2-WP6	Detailed project plan with clear timelines, milestones, and deadlines. Detailed budget allocation per partner and per WP. Regular progress monitoring and reporting. Necessary corrective actions will be done immediately.
5	Lack of engagement of stakeholders, especially business partners to training pilots (medium)	WP4-WP5	Active engagement with all consortium members (inc. associated partners) to ensure active communication with stakeholders, especially business partners, since the beginning of the project. Recruitment of new business partners from partner's organisational and personal networks to take part in pilots if the consortium members are not able to reach the set targets.
6	Lack of engagement of students to training pilots (low)	WP5	Recruitment of sufficient number of subject-specific coaches/teachers for the trainer-of-the-trainer training in the early phase of the project. Active promotion of all project activities to students and engaging with them also as representatives of the civil

			society (Quadruple Helix approach).
7	Lack of consumers, companies and industry representatives' engagement to project events and interviews (medium)	WP2	Active promotion of the project's activities targeted specially to these target groups using all communication channels (WP7).
8	Quality of sample and data to meet the skills gaps of packaging professionals (low)	WP3	Deep collaboration with education and research institutions and businesses with relevant expertise and in-depth understanding of the state-of-the-art packaging value chain (TAMK-HM-Proplast-UNITN) to design and implement efficient and high-quality procedures for data collection. Consulting external experts when deemed necessary (e.g. associated partners representing businesses and packaging alliances).
9	Definition of Living Lab approach and stakeholders' engagement to validate training contents (low)	WP4	Ensuring adequate time and resources for creating a shared understanding of the concept and for the selections of the validation tools accordingly. Seeking external expertise when deemed necessary (e.g. ENoLL training).
10	Used training methodology and contents support inclusivity and different learners (low)	WP5	Engaging with a strong pedagogical expert team from each educational institution (VET & HE) to address inclusivity aspects to the developed training.
11	Low dissemination rate of project results (low)	WP7	Project Partners will establish external partnerships with relevant stakeholders such as industry and consumer associations, policy makers, and RTOs nationally and across Europe to ensure the efficient dissemination of the results among wider audience.
12	Low attendance rate at public events (low)	WP7	Regular engagement and communication with regional, national, and European stakeholders to arise interest and keep in ongoing.

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2.2 PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION ARRANGEMENTS

2.2.1 Consortium set-up

Consortium cooperation and division of roles (if applicable)

Please address all guiding points presented in the Call document/Programme Guide under the award criterion 'Quality of the partnership and the cooperation arrangements'.

Describe the participants (Beneficiaries, Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners and others, if any) and explain how they will work together to implement the project. How will they bring together the necessary expertise? How will they complement each other?

In what way does each of the participants contribute to the project? Show that each has a valid role and adequate resources to fulfil that role.

Higher Education

Tampere University of Applied Sciences (TAMK) is a multidisciplinary and international higher education institution with over 11,000 students and 700 staff members. TAMK is actively involved in development of the regional innovation ecosystem and collaborating with Finnish forest and packaging industry. Packaging is an important competence area of bioproduct engineering program of TAMK, which is among a few HE institutions providing the education in Finland. TAMK is also actively providing continuous learning programs for packaging professionals. Both education and RDI is done in close collaboration with industry ensuring need-based approach. The foci of RDI at TAMK supports development of innovative circular economy-based packaging solutions which has been identified as a promising competence area for new openings. TAMK also offers professional teacher education based on recent research and participatory pedagogy principles. TAMK has extensive project experience and has successfully managed and coordinated projects funded by various instruments, including for example Erasmus+, Horizon 2020, and Business Finland.

The HM Hochschule München University of Applied Sciences (HM) is the second largest university of applied sciences in Germany with 18,000 students. HM is one of the few HE institutions in Germany providing degree studies in packaging. In HM, large number of lecturers from the industry provide practice-oriented classes enhanced by a wide range of research activities. Teaching, academic thesis work, and doctoral theses conducted in cooperation with industry support the industrial advancements and develop innovations that meet existing market needs. Department for Technical Systems, Processes and Communication possesses significant include expertise and experience in education, applied research, innovation, and market uptake. In study field Paper Packaging Technology, the primary focus is on the industrial high-tech production and use of paper as well as optimised processing technology and creative product development for the packaging industry. Sustainability and energy efficiency also figure prominently in this field of study. HM conducts a wide range of joint R&I projects with the local, regional, and national industries, ranging from global companies to innovative SMEs, microenterprises, and start-ups. Consumer engagement is well represented in their project portfolio, often translated into transdisciplinary activities across HM's Departments.

University of Trento (UniTrento) is in the Northeast Italy and has about 17,000 students. UniTrento is founded in 1962 and constantly pursues the improvement of the quality of research and teaching and the strengthening of its international dimension, networking with qualified universities and research centres from all over the world, making its campuses international and encouraging the presence in Trento of foreign visiting professors, researchers, and students. The strong commitment in international research and mobility projects have boosted its attractiveness and position in both national and international rankings. The broad academic offer is complemented by a proven experience in the organization of double, multiple and joint degrees, international Master and PhD programmes, student and staff mobility, short term programs, workshops, joint projects shared with partners over the years also under different EU programmes (EIT KICs, Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe incl. ERC projects, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions); about 10% of international students, widespread international exchange mobility thanks to EU and international programmes and a significant number of bilateral agreements with prominent institutions and organizations all over the world. UniTrento brings competence in business and innovations to ResPa project.

Vocational education institutions

Tampere Vocational College Tredu is the second largest vocational college in Finland with approximately 18 000 young and adult students and 1100 employees. Tredu operates under the City of Tampere and the 14 campuses are located all around the Tampere city area, as well as in the surrounding municipalities. Additionally, Tredu offers different trainings all over Finland. Tredu offers flexible and individual study paths to a Basic Vocational Qualification (EQF level 4), Further Qualification and Specialist Qualification – within almost any vocational field in Finland and always in close cooperation with working life. Also, services for immigrants are provided. A vocational qualification provides students with the opportunity to apply to further studies in a university of applied science and university. Tredu has capabilities to offer tailored vocational education solutions to meet the various competence development needs in different areas such as customer experience development and service design, planning and implementation of sales and customer service, marketing communication and packaging materials production. Tredu has wide experience and evidence to support international organizations, entrepreneurs, companies and other client's competence development. With a proven quality in

organising VET mobility for students and staff, Tredu has been accredited as a holder of Erasmus+ VET Mobility Charter again for 2021-2027.

Brobygrafiska Higher Vocational Education (Brobygrafiska) is known for its emphasis on creativity and innovation, and its students have won numerous awards for their work. The school has a strong focus on hands-on learning, and students have access to state-of-the-art facilities and equipment. The faculty is made up of experienced professionals from the media and design industries, who bring a wealth of real-world knowledge and expertise to the classroom. Brobygrafiska operates under a municipality Sunne Kommun (councilship) and granted acceptance as an educational institution by the Swedish National Agency for Higher Vocational Education. This agency follows working life's expectation of available competence and does not distribute financial funds without confirmed facts about the employability of graduates. A management group has been formed for each educational program and these groups are represented by employers and mentors from the business sector having a firm idea of regulations, market trends and tools that need to be embedded into syllabuses. Sustainability in the process of packaging design has been present in pilot operations since the early 2000s. Assigners and project leaders from the business sector are frequently adding value into Brobygrafiska's own commitment to decrease the climate footprint. Brobygrafiska works with commissioned training and tests for the graphic industry and brand owners in the packaging industry. It is currently working on developing training certificates and customized training for the industry using online/distance learning platforms. Brobygrafiska collaborates with the entire packaging industry from brand owners, design agencies to material suppliers, packaging producers and printers. It is part of Sweflex and FTA (flexographic printing industry) in Europe and in addition to training courses for the member companies, the modern testbeds offer the opportunity to test and produce prototypes. The test environment represents the latest technology in the industry developed in close collaboration with the school and various hardware and software suppliers.

PROPLAST is a center focused on research and innovation in the polymer and composite field, whose mission is the creation of a multidisciplinary network by integrating the industrial and academic worlds and harmonizing their competences, approaches, and needs. Proplast was created in 1998 and is organized as a Cluster (recognized at European level - ESCA silver labelled), that nowadays includes 157 enterprises, 7 industrial associations, 12 academic members, and 1 foundation. Since 2008, Proplast is recognized as the managing body of the new materials innovation cluster, which since 2016, changed into "CGreen - Green chemistry and advanced materials" in Italian Piedmont region. Proplast supports industrial development of the Cluster members and companies in general, by organizing training courses, workshops, seminars, focus groups, B2Bs, and participation at fairs and congresses. In the packaging sector, Proplast has participated in several research projects both in the EU (e.g. Horizon2020) and national and regional level as well as in development projects (e.g. Erasmus+) aiming at training courses for the packaging sector. In the last five years, Proplast has started a strong collaboration with Plastics Recyclers Europe. It was recognized as an independent laboratory to support companies in the assessment of the circularity of their packaging products and technologies, according RecyClass testing methods. This enlarged the relationship with European stakeholders in packaging sectors. This wide net of companies can be considered crucial in the implementation of the training contents based on real needs.

ASOCIACION VALENCIANA DE EMPRESARIOS DE PLÁSTICOS - AVEP is an association for Valencian companies in the Plastics industry, a not-for-profit organisation that was founded in 1977. Nowadays AVEP represents around 150 companies (mostly SMEs) being the representative industrial association of the plastic processing industry in Valencian region. AVEP represent the common interests of its members to regulatory and other authorities including Trade Union relationship fixing the labour regulatory framework for Plastic Industries in Valencia. AVEP provides fiscal, legal, administrative, financial, economic, and technological assistance to its members and elaborate studies and publish reports and bulletins including information about production, import, export, and consumption figures. Own magazine promotes and disseminates information at national and international level. AVEP participates actively in seminars, congresses, convention etc. about the Industry 4.0 paradigm, circular economy, recycling, European Regulations, and its implementation in the plastics sector and in RTD and innovative projects promoting circular economy and green packaging as well as competence building (COSME, LIFE and Life +). AVEP is affiliated and shares regular activities to several organizations: Chamber of Commerce, CEV (Valencian Industry Federation), AIMPLAS (Technology Institute for the Plastics Industry), ITENE (Technology institute for the Packaging and Transport Industry).

ECOEMBES is a non-profit organization whose corporate purpose is to devise and run systems created specifically for selective collection, recovery of packaging, packaging waste and for its ulterior treatment and upgrading. The process starts with consumers depositing packaging in the correct bins, which are

picked up and transported to recycling plants and turned into new raw materials that are used to make new products. This is undertaken to guarantee the fulfilment of the goals (recycling and valorization) regarding packaging and packaging waste. ECOEMBES' Mission is to provide society with a collective response from financial players to the environmental concerns related to the consumption of household packaged products so that we can comply with the legally specified objectives while making the most effective use of the Company's resources. ECOEMBES has been actively involved in several EU funded projects.

ASSOCIATED PARTNERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

The Consumers' Union of Finland (FIN, Kuluttajaliitto ry) is a non-governmental and the only general consumer organisation in Finland safeguarding the interests of consumers, patients and clients of social services and health care. Its aims are to promote consumer awareness and encourage them to further their interests nationwide through an active local consumer association network. Business as usual duties cover both national and international policy work (e.g. the Consumer's Union is a member of The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), consumer education, and legal advice for consumers. The organisation gives special attention to sustainable consumption and environmental protection. In the ResPa project, they bring their valuable contribution to consumer engagement and dissemination activities.

Karlstad University (SWE) is a higher education university working in close collaboration with Brobygrafiska in the local and regional industry ecosystem. Karlstad University's expertise in green transition covers education, scientific and applied research and innovation. Together with Brobygrafiska they will investigate the design and adoption of educational contents and pathways from vocational level up to the doctorate level (EQF ISCED 4-8). In the project, they will contribute to the need and gap analysis as well as provide ways for dissemination within their academic, industrial and public authority networks.

Pacoon GmbH (DE) is an SME focusing on packaging design and sustainable packaging. They collaborate effectively with Hochschule Munchen in their region, providing business insights, strategies and consulting as well as expertise in design and technologies related to responsible packaging. As an active SME they are aware of the latest tendencies and market situations and reflect them back to the project implementation and outcomes. Pacoon GmbH possesses a solid project portfolio in cooperation with other industrial entities in Germany.

Other important collaborators, which have promised to contribute to the ResPa project by participating in co-creation and knowledge exchange, and by taking part in workshop and living lab activities are **Kao Germany GmbH** (a research laboratory), **Bund Deutscher Verpackungsingenieure (bdvi) e.V.** (an association), **IPV** (a packaging association), **Hochschule Fulda** and **Sustainable Packaging Institute (SPI)**, which is one out of 7 research institutes of **Albstadt-Sigmaringen University**. In addition, the **University of Salerno (UNISA)** and **M.I.A.C. S.c.p.a. - Polo agrifood** (a regional cluster) has given support to the project.

PA National Environmental Center (MD, AO Centrul National de Mediu) The National Environmental Center (CNM) is a non-governmental, non-politically affiliated public association, registered in 2010 is an important player in development of waste management infrastructure in Republic of Moldova as well as in neighbouring countries. The involvement of PA National Environmental Center in the ResPa project as an AO fully complements this widening mission, engaging this AO and its national partners into the ResPa EU partnership and its experiences and expertise in terms of capacity building, industry collaboration and innovation. The Republic of Moldova has signed a financing agreement with the European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. There are two financing agreements, in the form of sovereign loans, for the construction of the national waste management infrastructure. These loans are intended to implement the national waste management development strategy. Currently, pilot projects will begin for areas 5-1-8, and this year, the feasibility study for areas 4-7, 6 (which has been divided between 4 and 7), as well as areas 2 and 3, will begin. The goal for these areas is to maximize waste recovery, either through energy production or recycling, which involves a combined approach including composting and minimizing waste sent to landfills. In this context, it is essential to focus on public education, especially regarding the separate collection of waste..

Moldova has also improved its legislation concerning extended producer responsibility (EPR) and waste management. A new mechanism, the deposit-return system, was introduced through amendments to the waste law last year (2024). At the beginning of the 2025 year, the Government's decision should be approved, which will establish the rules for creating the administrator of the deposit-return system, its functioning, targets for Deposit-Return System, and other related details. These legislative changes align with recent EU regulations concerning packaging, which establish the creation of a deposit-return system across the European Union by 2029. Moldova's national legislation has set a deadline for this system to be operational by 2027. Regarding packaging under EPR, there is a lot of

confusion and a significant information gap between producers and importers who must be part of the extended producer responsibility system. It is important for businesses to understand the differences and the importance of this collective system, as the funds collected will be used to recycle packaging.

Given Moldova's aspirations for EU integration, NEC will act as a strategic bridge for aligning national policies with European circular economy regulations, particularly in packaging waste management and consumer engagement. The ResPa project provides an opportunity to adapt and implement EU packaging waste regulations in a country that is still developing its circular economy framework. By leveraging insights from EU partners, NEC ensures that Moldova benefits from proven models of extended producer responsibility (EPR), deposit-return systems (DRS), and sustainable packaging initiatives. NEC contributes by analyzing how ResPa's findings can be tailored to the Moldovan context, ensuring that recommendations for circular economy innovation are practical, scalable, and effective in emerging markets. This includes identifying barriers to consumer participation in recycling systems, improving waste sorting behaviors, and supporting businesses in adopting sustainable packaging practices.

All ResPA project partners and associated partners will utilise their extensive national and international partnerships and networks in dissemination and scaling up the project result for the benefit of their wider exploitation and sustainability. Examples of these European-wide and global networks include European Network of Living Labs (TAMK as an effective member since 2009), University Industry Innovation Network (UIIN), Triple Helix Association (THA), European Regions' Research and Innovation Network (ERRIN) etc. Especially important is the methodological base of Living Labs approach conceptualised and supported by ENoLL. Other important stakeholders to be informed and partially also engaged in the project activities are cities and municipalities, regional and national HEI, VET and relevant industry associations, with whom all the partners have their existing connections.

The ResPa consortium has dedicated to work together intensively according to the plan and schedule that has been drawn up. The consortium and the implementation of the project is built up so that everyone can contribute and share their best expertise, competence and practices but has also confirmed to have a motivation to give their best to get the outcome to be utilized beyond the project's lifecycle. Project partners share the understanding that working together supports and stimulates knowledge flow and transfer through co-creation processes leading to sustainable outputs. The consortium has been carefully balanced to include expertise and voices of different stakeholders of the packaging value chain and the expertise of consortium members complement each other. The tasks and responsibilities have been carefully considered and the budget balanced accordingly.

Industry partners and associations

Proplast and AVEP bring to the consortium unique expertise of RDI complementing the RDI competence of HEIs. Both Proplast and AVEP have connections with a considerable number of SMEs, industrial associations, academia, and foundations to facilitate comprehensive needs analysis and stakeholder engagement for the ResPa. This wide network of companies can be considered crucial in the implementation of the training contents based on real needs. They are also highly experienced in dissemination activities of RDI activities. For ECOEMBES it is important for the education and training of the citizen to obtain a better recycling rate in the country (collection and sorting will be more efficient if the citizens participate better in the waste system).

The project has seven official **associated partner organisations** committed to take part in the needs analysis (research partner Karlstad University, Sweden, which will work closely with Brobygrafiska) and the development of the micro-credentials (sustainable packaging and design expert, Pacoon GmbH, Germany). Other associated partners representing important actors of packaging value chain are very valuable in knowledge sharing and co-creation as well as in dissemination. Furthermore, Associated Partner PA National Environmental Center as an NGO reaching out to both public authorities and civil society in Moldova will bring their expertise and contribution to the Quadruple Helix approach.

Higher education institutions

HEI brings expertise in packaging technology and related education and RDI (HM), circular economy and sustainability in packaging and digital pedagogical innovations (TAMK) and research experience on sustainability issues in business and economics crucial in identification of new business models spurring from the more active engagement of the customers in the packaging value chain (UniTrento).

Vocational education and training (VET)

VET providers (Tredu and Brobygrafiska) bring expertise in sustainability of the processes of packaging chain, and they bring relevant study programmes and excellent work-life contacts to ensure sustainability of the project outputs. Vocational education providers can be responsible for developing and

implementing practical training modules, while higher education institutions can focus on theoretical teaching and research. For VET providers the added value is to benefit from new training materials and methods that enhance their teaching and attract new students.

Roles and responsibilities in WPs

WP1: Project management and coordination (lead TAMK): TAMK can use its competence as an experienced leader of international projects to ensure that the project is implemented according to plan, in schedule, according to quality requirements and in good collaboration. Other partners and associated partners can use their experience and competence in international projects to give their contribution as jointly agreed in the plan.

WP2: Framework for Innovation and Capacity Building (lead TAMK): All partners and associated partners can contribute to framework building for educational content development by bringing together their expertise and networks. They can participate in engaging of stakeholders to interviews and questionnaires, consumer panels, and workshops to build understanding of consumers behaviour. TAMK and UniTrento can use their RDI competence for mapping, interviews, co-creation activities and skills gap analysis. Both HE institutions and VETs can use their competence in skills development. Industry partner and association as well as associated partners can use their knowledge about market trends and EU regulations and give their valuable outlook in packaging professionals' skills gaps analysis in relation to consumer engagement to CE.

WP3: Educational Contents Development (HM): HM can use RDI competence and broad networks in comparison of identified skills gaps (WP2) and the current training supply among consortium members and beyond. Based on the study, HM, TAMK, both VETs and AVEP and Proplast can jointly develop educational contents to boost innovation and CE capacities considering wider usability within the European context and to develop a set of guidelines and methodology for implementation of the curricula in trainings. HE institutions can contribute to design of digital open badges as tool to ensure quality and recognizability of the developed contents. VET institutions can bring their expertise together with HEIs in online-training platform establishment based on evaluation of existing platforms.

WP4: Living Labs & Validation with relevant Stakeholders and Consumers (broader socio-economic environment), Innovation and Networking Platform (lead Broby): All the partners and associated partners can contribute to definition of Living Labs, choosing of validation methods, as well as participate in engagement of relevant stakeholders for the validation and implementation. UniTrento can contribute to development from business and innovation knowledge point of view while others represent more directly packaging value chain thus complementing each other. All partners can contribute to co-creation workshops to support open innovations, and consumers panels testing responsible packaging solutions using living lab approach. Validation of the Living Labs exercise will be performed by HM, TAMK and VETs.

WP5: Micro-Credentials Implementations (HEI, VET & enterprises) (lead Tredu): HEIs and VETs together with Proplast can contribute to designing the content for the train-the-trainers programme and in implementation. All partners and associate partners can contribute to the programme implementation which includes a comprehensive feed-back and self-reflection. The outcome will be utilised in the final development of the digital open badges by TAMK, HM, VETs and Proplast.

WP6: Sustainability Strategy & Performance Assessment (lead AVEP): All consortium members (lead by AVEP and Proplast) can contribute to creating a sustainability strategy ensuring that digital open badges will be transferred to the educational institutes pedagogical badge constellation after piloting and project completion. AVEP, Proplast, TAMK and BroBy can define performance assessment methodology and implementation.

WP7: Dissemination and Exploitation (lead Proplast): Proplast as an experienced and recognized actor can use their competence in leading dissemination and exploitation activities. Partner and associated partners can contribute by active participation.

The ResPa project is jointly designed by a leading group of European education institutions covering vocational training, higher education, and research as well as industry partners from Finland, Germany, Sweden, Italy and Spain. The consortium was brought together by shared vision of the future of packaging value chain with reduced waste and increased recycling by focusing on the role of the customer.

2.2.2 Consortium management and decision-making

Consortium management and decision-making (if applicable)

Explain the management structures and decision-making mechanisms within the consortium. Describe how decisions will be taken and how regular and effective communication will be ensured. Describe methods to ensure planning and control.

Note: The concept (including organisational structure and decision-making mechanisms) must be adapted to the complexity and scale of the project.

A clear and transparent project management structure has been designed in order to achieve the ambitious goals set for ResPa project, and to ensure efficient coordination and engagement of all partners and associated partner organisations. The management structure is aimed to facilitate creating a shared understanding of the decision-making process to support delivering high-quality outputs as well as a joint vision for cooperation beyond the project's lifecycle.

The management structure is based on cooperation and shared ownership between project partners and associated partners. For this purpose, the role and responsibilities for each member of the consortium has been designed based on their individual competencies, including both subject-specific expertise as well as previous experience of managing EU funded projects.

Key managing bodies and responsibilities

Steering committee

Steering committee (SC) is the highest decision-making body within the project. One representative from each partner organisation will be appointed to the committee. The SC will meet twice a year (6 meetings during the project) in both online and face-to-face meetings (the latter when combined with other project activities). The responsibilities of the steering committee include; • Managing potential changes in the consortium having an impact on the implementation; • Controlling of the finances (e.g. decisions in regard to re-allocations); • Managing contractual changes when deemed necessary; • Reviewing of the overall progress the project's implementation based on feedback from the PMT and WP Leaders and making decision on corrective measures to ensure timely and effective achievement of the project's outputs.

Project management team

The Project Management Team (PMT) will be set up to run and monitor the day-to-day activities of the ResPa project in collaboration with the Coordinator. The PMT will be led by TAMK, and it will have 1-2-representatives from each partner organisations to ensure good communication between all members of the consortium. Representatives from the associated partner organisations will be invited to take part in the PMT meetings whenever subject/target group specific expertise is required. The PMT will meet online once a month unless agreed otherwise (e.g. holiday season). During the project, ca. 33 online and face-to-face meetings will be held (latter when combined with other project activities) to

- Follow the progress of the implementation and to discuss practical issues related to carrying out project's activities - all significant deviations in the project implementation and observed risks will be brought to the attention of the SC;
- Monitor the schedule and budgetary issues in accordance with the project plan;
- Ensure partners active engagement to all ResPa project's activities (e.g. dissemination and exploitation, performance assessment);
- Ensure strong stakeholder engagement for reaching a wider impact.

WP Leaders

Each Work Package (1-7) will be led by one representative from the organisation leading the WP. The WP Leaders of the ResPa projects will form a working group to ensure effective and timely implementation of the subject-specific as well as management/dissemination/performance assessment activities in cooperation with all partners. WP Leaders will meet online every three months (expect during the holiday season) and on ad-hoc basis when deemed necessary to discuss about a specific topic related to the implementation of the WPs. The WP Leaders meeting can be combined with the PTM meetings to ensure strong internal communication within the ResPa project consortium.

Communication among the project partners

Effective communication between the project partners will be ensured by regular, pre-defined communication measures aligned with the roles and responsibilities of various bodies defined above. The internal communication guidelines will be defined in the Communication and Dissemination Plan (D7.1). The main channels for internal communication are via the project internal platform, email and other jointly agreed communication platforms (e.g. Slack), online meeting tools (Teams, Zoom), regular mobile phones, and physical meetings. The pre-defined and regular communications occurrences such as SC, PMT and WP Leaders' meetings are agreed and well prepared in advance to ensure effective and engaging participation. The bodies and partners responsible for progress monitoring and reporting are offered standard templates to facilitate effective communication regarding the progress. Continuous communication between the Partners is encouraged, and the Coordinator together with the partners aims to create a trustful and open atmosphere to facilitate effective and respectful communication among the partnership.

Decision-making and conflict resolution processes

The above-mentioned managing bodies (Steering committee, Project management team and WP Leaders) all are engaged in the decision-making related to the project implementation. The WP Leaders are responsible for the practical implementation actions and the duly reporting to the PMT. At PMT level, data-driven decision-making procedure is utilised. PMT regularly follows the essential KPIs, resource allocation etc, and can jointly make minor decisions regarding the daily re-organisation of activities. PMT is responsible for timely reporting to the SC in case of any major risk emergence. SC is project's highest body to make major decisions concerning the project. The more detailed decision-making and conflict resolution procedures will be included in the jointly agreed and signed Consortium Agreement and Operational Work Plan for Monitoring (T.2.1).

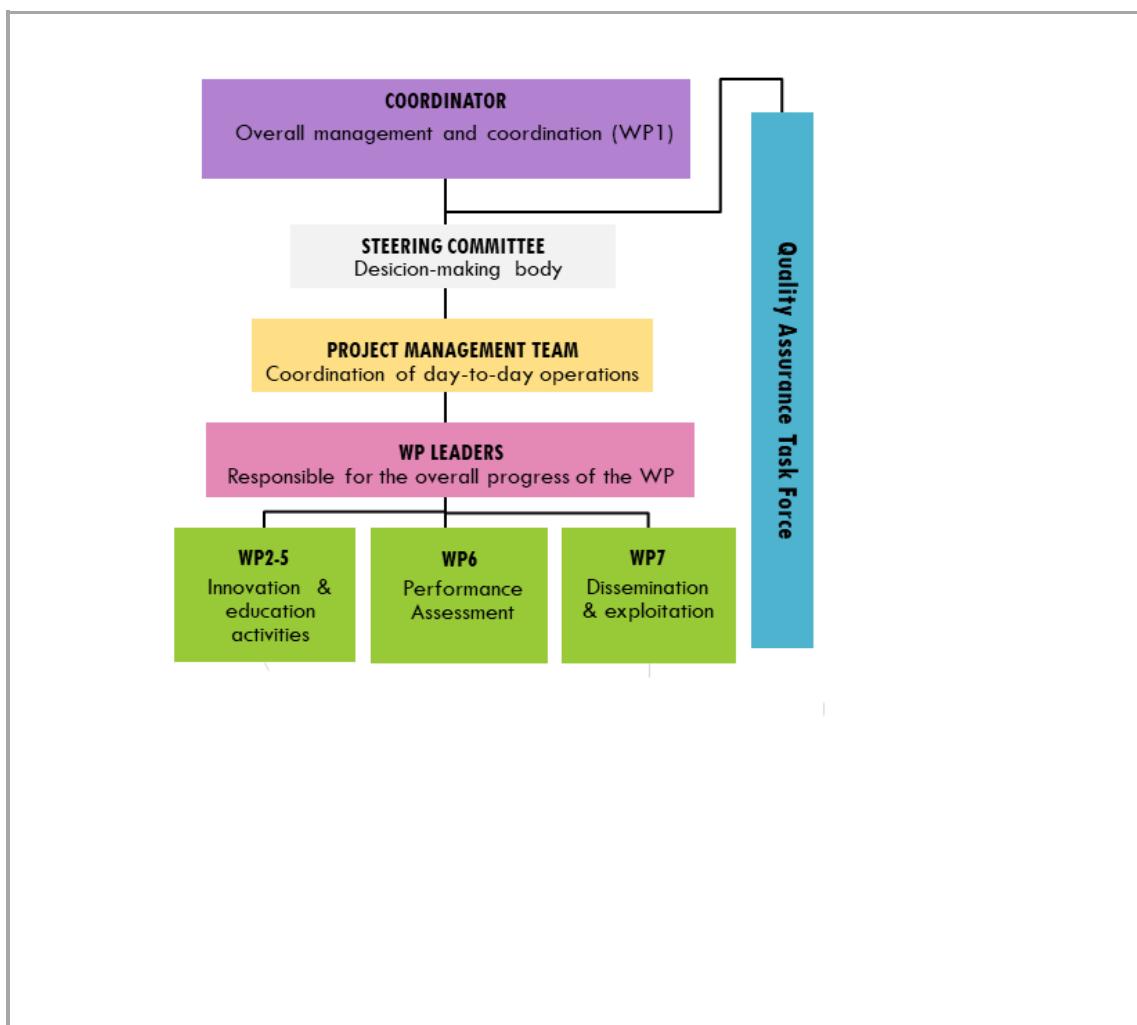
Quality Assurance Task Force

A specific Quality Assurance Task Force (QATF) will be appointed to design a detailed protocol for internal and external evaluation procedures for the ResPa project. The QATF will be led by the University of Trento and it have at least participant from all partner organisations. It will have quarterly online meetings to monitor the progress of the evaluation data collection and for notifying PTM on significant deviations. The QATF's main responsibilities are to

- Design internal and external evaluation procedures for the ResPa project and to communicate these to all project partners. QTF will specify in detail
- what kind of qualitative data will be collected, when and how (e.g. feedback surveys, impact and other self-assessments related to all project activities)
- what kind of quantitative data will be collected, when and how, e.g. number of participant to open LL events, developed micro-credentials (Open Digital Badges and their utilisation) and business models / start-ups / educational innovations for sustainable packaging industry)

Procurement of an external evaluator to conduct an overall performance of the ResPa project against the set objectives and KPIs in collaboration with the Coordinator.

Figure 4. ResPa project's management structure



#\$CON-SOR-CS\$# #\$QUA-LIT-QL\$# #@IMP-ACT-IA@#

3. IMPACT

3.1 Impact and ambition

Impact and ambition

Please address each guiding points presented in the Call document/Programme Guide under the award criterion 'Impact'.

Define the expected short, medium and long-term effects of the project. Who are the target groups? How will the target groups benefit concretely from the project and what would change for them?

One of the most important goals of the European Green Deal in 2050 is a clean, more sustainable and energy-efficient industry, that thrives in the EU and global markets. To achieve this goal, it is fundamental to change the way we produce and consume. A recently published Competitiveness Compass for the EU outlines that “closing the innovation gap” and “promoting skills and quality jobs while ensuring social fairness” are important among other things to strengthen the competitiveness of Europe.

The new circular economy action plan (CEAP) is one of the main building blocks of The European Green Deal focusing on seven key value chains of which packaging is one. An active consumer role is very important in green transition towards a circular economy (Maitre-Ekern & Dalhamer, 2019) and thus also in achieving these related EC's high-level policy goals. The expected impact of the ResPa project reaches beyond the packaging sector, as the outputs and outcomes of the project can be applied in other key value chains, e.g. in textiles and plastics. This increases the exploitation potential beyond the project's lifecycle and sector. Furthermore, the role of consumers is especially relevant to address the existing gaps in the circular economy competence literature, which currently highlights circular user engagement in

designers' competence requirements (Sumter et al. 2020), even though the needs for competence development are emphasized throughout the value chain players. The ResPa project' approach to employing Quadruple Helix configuration and Living Lab approach to piloting ensures addressing all relevant target groups through targeted measures.

ResPa project plan integrates the emphasis on European wide impact by making expertise visible and accessible through commonly developed criteria, digital tools and educational content. This ambitious goal is relevant from both individual and industry-wide perspective by building on the partners' shared knowledge-base, including their expertise on existing training programme, which will facilitate successful implementation of joint training pilots to participants from different target groups. In addition, the planned project activities are based on the importance of systematic dissemination of researched-based development and continuity of co-creation processes (new, collaborative working methods including citizen engagement employed by companies). The project advances especially to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 'Responsible consumption and production' (SDG 12), 'Industry, innovation and infrastructure' (SDG 9), 'Sustainable cities and communities' (SDG 11), and 'Quality education' (SDG 4).

The expected short, medium and long-term effects of the ResPa

The effect of ResPa is buildup of the expected outcomes, the consortium and the way the project is executed. The chosen living lab approach allows multi-stakeholder engagement and knowledge transfer to facilitate the exploration of opportunities for companies to develop new circular economy technologies, business models and strategies related to the packaging value chain and consumer engagement beyond the project's lifespan.

The expected outcomes of ResPa will ensure the European level impact in promoting the CE and the European Green Deal. ResPa will strengthen the collaboration among the stakeholders in the FMCG value chain and collaboration between consumers and companies by highlighting the value of co-creation opportunities. Competence-based digital open badges constellation 'Responsible packaging expert' for employees, students and packaging professionals provides a toolbox for the professionals working in the packaging value chain by generating new knowledge and targeted micro-credentials. Respa will open avenues for circular business models accepted by consumers as well as for professionals and enterprises to implement consumer engagement in circular packaging solutions, and to measure effectiveness of made changes e.g., enhancing package sorting behaviour. The project's outputs are expected to cause positive changes in the mindset and attitudes, including entrepreneurship.

The composition of the ResPa consortium ensures the impact of the project. It includes leading educational organizations in packaging research and education, in innovation research, in vocational education and development and organizations which serves companies in their capacity building by providing up-to-date education and training in packaging. The collaboratively developed micro-credentials with research-based content can be integrated into the existing degree programmes, in continuous learning modules and in offerings to companies seeking for up-to-date training and education. The impact on EU wide network building will be shown in high-quality curricula development, teaching and training methods development and research spill overs (European-national and regional RDI initiatives).

The ResPa project will reach the following main target groups according to the Quadruple Helix configuration to ensure societal, economic and educational relevance of the activities based on their existing and emerging needs.

Table 2. Expected Impact of the ResPa project summarised

Target group	Benefits	What will change?
Companies and business operators in the packaging value chain (FMCG) (manufacturers and users of packaging, retailers, recyclers).	<p>Better understanding of consumer active role in the value chain.</p> <p>Improved skills, knowledge and competence of employees and future workforce in innovation, co-creation and digital tools.</p> <p>New connections and practices for industry-academia collaboration.</p>	<p>Better opportunities to CE business models development, to reach sustainability and responsibility target, and for image building.</p> <p>Greater access to collaboration with educational institutions.</p>
Higher and vocational education institutions and other education, training and RDI providers	<p>Improved quality and relevance of the education and training programs as well as opportunities to develop new products for lifelong learning.</p> <p>Opportunities for learning and capacity building for staff and organizations.</p> <p>Opportunities for networking and development of new research and development projects.</p>	<p>The knowledge, skills and competences of graduates fit better to the needs of enterprises and organizations in the packaging value chain.</p> <p>Improved competitiveness among similar organizations.</p> <p>Improved possibilities for industry-academia collaboration.</p> <p>Up-dated study programmes and study modules related to packaging and CE.</p>
Students and trainees (EQF levels 3-8 and citizens from the working age group) currently enrolled in vocational education and training (VET) and higher education (HE) programs related to packaging value chain (for example paper and packaging industry, marketing, design, customer experience).	<p>Up-to-date content of education in packaging competence.</p> <p>Possibility to complement already existing degree.</p> <p>Possibility to study micro credentials and get competence based open digital badges.</p>	<p>Improved opportunities to get a job.</p> <p>New possibilities for employment and career building.</p> <p>Improved possibilities in EU level employment by digital open badges.</p>
Employees (and unemployed) current and future employees in packaging value chain	<p>New opportunities for upskilling</p> <p>Possibility to complement already existing degree.</p> <p>Possibility to study micro credentials and get competence based open digital badges.</p>	<p>Improved opportunities to get a job.</p> <p>New possibilities for employment and career building.</p> <p>Improved possibilities in EU level employment by digital open badges.</p>
Industry associations representing packaging industry value chain	Increased awareness and knowledge of consumers' role in value chain.	<p>Possible to use in development actions (e.g. employment or collaborative working methods).</p> <p>To serve better members of the association.</p>
Public authorities responsible for VET education and employment training.	<p>Up-to-date information about knowledge, skills and competence requirements recommended by industry stakeholders and policy makers is available.</p> <p>Information about piloting micro credential and digital open badges is available.</p>	Valuable information is available to be applied in development and improvement of match on supply and needs for the training programmes.
Policy-makers and governmental agencies responsible for education, consumers, packaging and sustainability policies.	Increased public-private collaboration and improved knowledge about needs of the industry.	Improved possibilities to steer the future development of the sector.
Society and citizens	Collaboration among the stakeholders in the FMCG value chain has a positive impact on the efforts to promote the CE and Green Deal.	Positive changes in the mindset and attitudes of consumers toward greener consumption and better environment for all.

The expected short, medium and long-term effects of the ResPa with KPIs

Short-term effect

- Framework creation gives research-based and joint understanding about skills gaps (for example in consumer behavioral mechanisms, trends and EU's policies) which can be utilized not only in the project but outside it as well
- Active participation in project activities improves the ability to use and utilize new and innovative digital teaching, learning, communication and co-creation methods.
- Piloting of micro credentials improves participants' skills and knowledge in packaging and in usage of digital teaching learning tools.
- Consumers' participation in panels, Living Labs and dissemination activities result in up-scaled awareness building on green skills and CE.
- For industries, participation brings improved access to talent, knowledge, and innovative approaches and enhanced innovation skills of both employees and organisations.
- Students will improve career building opportunities and international employability by accomplishing 'Responsible packaging experts' competence based digital open badges

Short-term effect impact KPIs

- Number of participants tells how important the project activities is seen among the packaging value chain actors and stakeholders which also indicates the motivation to put ResPa outcomes into operation
 - o number of participants in the value chain actor interviews
 - o number of cross-border industry and company workshop participants
 - o number of participants and organizations in 8 national stakeholder workshops
 - o number of participants in 10 co-creation workshops in 5 countries
 - o number of consumer participants in sustainable packaging solutions evaluation
 - o number of participants and organisations they represent in pilots of micro-credentials
- Feedback collected from the participants about the importance of project activities in development of packaging value chain towards CE goals
- Number of publications
- Number of RDI initiatives

Medium-term effect:

- Enhanced capabilities of businesses to respond to EU's tightening packaging regulations and to engage consumers.
- Increased number of novel business opportunities and models for value co-creation between consumers and companies
- Development of curricula and study programmes in all participating educational institutes (both partners and associated partners) through using micro-credentials
- Development of micro-credentials by 'fit for purpose' modifications within the curricula
- Increased implementations of micro-credentials and competence-based digital open badges on different EQF-levels.

Medium-term effect impact KPIs:

- Number of new innovative CE approaches
- Number of business models stimulating customer's CE behavior
- Number of existing study degree curricula where micro-credentials are integrated into
- Number of 'fit-for-purpose' modifications into larger entities for upper and post-secondary VET levels (EQF 3-5) and HE levels (EQF 6-8) curricula.

Long-term effect impact:

- Improved consumer awareness building, access to re-use models and inclusive sorting experience.
- Improved recycling rates and re-usable packaging options across the EU.
- Changes in conceptual mind-set in enterprises due to systemic improvement for innovation and capacity building in consumer engagement.
- Improved circular economy related educational offerings' quality and relevance in academic institutions.

- Improved imago and role of the institutions in driving green transition as essential actors in their national and regional ecosystems
- Improved academy-industry collaboration in competence requirements of packaging industry's future professionals.
- Improved opportunities for academic staff to enhance academic career, build professional network, and create new projects

Long-term effect impact KPIs:

- Number of consumer awareness building initiatives in companies and enterprises
- Number of initiatives aiming at following improved recycling rates
- Number of new academy – industry collaboration initiatives
- Number of industry initiatives having consumers as active actors in development and stimulates collaboration also with public authorities and NGOs (citizens).
- Number of initiatives where ResPa outcomes have been adapted in other CE key value chains
- Number of academic institutions which have adapted ResPa outcomes to improve CE education offerings
- Number of academic staff who have advanced their career

The E+ Impact tool will be applied annually for measurement and assurance of exploitation to ensure that the project's outcomes by partners and other stakeholders are effectively measured both during the project lifetime and afterward. It will also facilitate assessing the societal, economic, and policy relevance and outreach of the project, ensuring a significant impact at local, regional, national, and European level by leveraging on shared efforts of all partners. The tool will include measures, targets, and indicators to monitor progress and assess the expected impact with KPIs (short, medium and short long-term as listed above) on the relevant target groups and stakeholders, including those in education and training. The E+ tool will be employed to a) assess the impact achieved, and b) implement corrective measures as needed. Besides the standard E+ impact matrix, an additional analysis of the impact on the industry and value chain will be integrated into the assessment.

The short-term KPI's will be initially based on indicators set in Table 1., and they will be assessed in mid-term and final evaluation of the ResPa project. The higher education partners with strong academic orientation will explore opportunities for longitudinal studies for research-based assessment and evaluation of the achievement of medium and short-term KPIs beyond the ResPa project's lifecycle (e.g. through individual PhD research projects).

Key references

Maitre-Ekern, E.; Dalhamer, C. 2019. Towards a hierarchy of consumption behavior in the circular economy. *Maastricht Journal of European and Comparative Law* 2019. 26 (3), 394–420. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1023263X19840943>

Sumter, D., de Koning, J., Bakker, C. and Balkenende, R. (2020). Circular Economy Competencies for Design. *Sustainability*, 12(4), p.1561. doi:<https://doi.org/10.3390/su12041561>.

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3.2 Communication, dissemination and visibility

Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding

Describe the communication and dissemination activities which are planned in order to promote the activities/results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many, etc.). Clarify how you will reach the target groups, relevant stakeholders, policymakers and the general public and explain the choice of the dissemination channels.

Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.

ResPa project's detailed dissemination and exploitation plans will ensure sharing of the key results to all relevant stakeholders according to the QH model; enterprises (new knowledge on the skills gaps and educational content; increased innovation capacities, networking opportunities), education providers (curricula development, novel pedagogical approaches and increased flow of knowledge between VET/HE and enterprises), public authorities (sharing of the key results having an impact on the customer behaviour in the context of packaging industry can feed into regional, national and EU level policy design

processes) and citizens (awareness raising and increased engagement to packaging value chain). (short term impact)

In addition, through dissemination activities the ResPa consortium will ensure that a wider utilisation potential is considered in European level. Thus, collaboration between different educational levels (VET/HE) and multidisciplinary approaches will be improved (long term impact)

Communication and dissemination are part of ResPa project's concrete activities, which will be operational along the project lifetime. The overall activity, coordinated by the Project Communication Leader (PROPLAST), aims to ensure the project's visibility between higher education and vocational education and training, research, the public sector, and the business sector according to the Quadruple Helix approach. It also aims to reach feasible short and long-term objectives in terms of targets and impacts in the national education and employment systems all over Europe, by guaranteeing the transferability of knowledge and usability of the developed educational content. A good communication strategy is a key factor in the success of any project. The ResPa project's communication strategy is based on accurateness, honesty, and concrete messages, using relevant channels of communication and digital tools to connect different audiences. The communication strategy is defined to ensure the engagement of the main stakeholders and targets in the project activities and results, including the application of the outputs, deploying the action plans including the new/improved policies and programmes. The key elements of the strategy will be to:

- *Inform stakeholders and target groups about the project objectives, activities, outputs, and results.*
- *Motivate the key target groups within the consortium, policy officers and stakeholders, to participate in the project activities.*
- *Engage those key targets to apply the project outputs and results, implementing the action plans.*
- *Inform and motivate the key stakeholders and target groups beyond the consortium to know and use the project outputs and results.*

This information and motivation of target groups and stakeholders will be obtained through the participation of the project of the key actors: networks of interest, VET associations, labour market actors, etc. Each project partner will actively engage their local, regional and national stakeholder groups into this process. In addition, key European and international partnerships, e.g. in relevant European University Alliances such as UNINOVIS, and networks such as ENOLL will be engaged in the communication actions. The number of Associated Partners and supporting organisations, which have provided their Letter of Intents attached to this proposal, present an outstanding but not exclusive list of these stakeholders. A targeted campaign will be executed to complement this list of beneficiaries which will ensure the outreach of the created results and impact beyond directly involved institutions.

Communication will be considered in two complementary ways:

- *Internal, ensuring effective and efficient interaction within the partnership in order to organise the project activities. In addition, partners will involve stakeholders and actors in the countries/regions of the partners and involving them in the project activities and in the application of the project results.*
- *External, extending the information and knowledge about the project activities and results to a wide number of regions.*

Communication Manager, provided by project partner PROPLAST with a long experience in the communication of collaborative European projects, will be in charge to assure the deployment, coordination, and monitoring of all the communication planning, production and activities. The partners will be responsible to organise and disseminate the activities and results of the project in their regions and countries, using their own communication channels according to the jointly agreed Dissemination and Communication Plan.

The ResPa project will have a complete Dissemination and Communication Plan (D7.1) early in the project (M2), and it will include the following main elements:

Objective: To assure the dissemination and scale-up of the good practices, the application of the model and the guidelines, and their use beyond the consortium, as well as their sustainability after the end of the EU funding.

Target Groups: Each partner will prepare a GDPR-compatible comprehensive contacts' database including all the relevant contacts from their stakeholders and the target groups defined.

Primary target groups are:

- *Potential students for the training programme, e.g. professionals and future professionals from plastics companies*

- *Higher education institutions and VET Centres: academic staff, teachers, trainers, VET Centres network, facilitators of workshops,*
- *Public authorities responsible of HE and VET education*
- *Industry related sector: SMEs and companies from plastic and packaging industries, associations and Clusters of companies working in CE*
- *Consumers: the community (also including students) and the private sector*
- *Policymakers and regional governments designing education and CE policies*

The ResPa project will collect a GDPR-compatible database obtained from registrations on the project website. Each partner may have an internal contacts' database including all relevant contacts from their stakeholders to be used for their dissemination activities.

Key Messages: Different messages will be explored and tested to engage the different target groups. Some of the initial ones will be:

- *Do you know how to recycle? How to separate the waste? Would you like to learn more?*
- *Where does this go? Composite – Landfill – Recycling*
- *Sort your waste correctly!*
- *Are you a plastic professional? Become a certified professional in Circular Economy!*

The main intention will be to deliver simple, direct messages that engage users. Also, storytelling will be used to describe complex stories around Circular Economy. The final decision of the slogan to be used for the project communication and dissemination will be taken by the partners through consultation.

The main communication and dissemination channels will be:

- *The ResPa Website will be the one-stop-shop for the communication of the project, especially for external communication (internal communications focused on encrypted MsTeams platform providing partners and stakeholders communication facilities), for promoting events, to act as a repository of documentation and outputs, contacts, etc.*
- *Social networks – The ResPa project benefit from extensive use of the most common 'professional' and 'social networks': Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube, as an easy way to reach the target groups, especially the young people.*
- *Brochures and newsletters – Printed materials, in electronic and paper formats (paper format only if needed), will be to extend the information about the project plans, activities and results.*
- *Presence in conferences and events – External and Internal Conferences and events will be used to disseminate and distribute information about ResPa activities and results, and with a big relevance to reach out and convince relevant policy actors across Europe.*
- *Press & other Media – Mass media will be a way to reach and influence policy officers. The ResPa project and its individual partners will use it to spread their message related with the project subject and topics.*

In addition to joint ResPa media channels coordinated by the WP7 Leader Proplast, each partner will provide their own C&D channels to disseminate the activities and results of the project.

Materials

- *ResPa project's Brand Image: an appropriated ResPa brand for the whole communication will be designed and approved by the partners.*
- *Publications: the results of the project such as Plans, Reports, Articles, etc. will be prepared in interactive format and available on the Website of the project.*
- *Video presentations: two videos will be designed and broadcasted via various channels: 1) The first one, responsibility of Proplast, will be a video presentation of the project that includes the partners describing in simple terms the goals of the projects and roles. 2) The second one, responsibility of TAMK, will be an engaging video directed to a broader public including the consumers, describing the advantages of sorting and the development of other green skills related to CE.*
- *Banner: banner and other elements (roll-ups, templates, etc.) will be ready for the use of the partners in all the communication activities, including the internal of the project.*

- *Newsletters: communication will be sent to the project contact database and to the partners' contact databases and posted in the media channels with the most important information and results that will be produced.*

Most of the materials will be translated by the partners in their own languages (see WP7).

Activities

- *Web design, creation, publication, and permanent update.*
- *Contacts database creation and enlargement by every partner (it is necessary to take into account that databases with personal data cannot be shared by the partners without previous agreement from the registered).*
- *Branding design, application to all the materials, and use in all the activities.*
- *Social networks presence: the communication manager will act as community manager with this purpose.*
- *Media presence, from the communication manager and all the communication departments of all the partners and associated partners.*
- *Communication using the e-Newsletters, e-Brochures and segmented messages.*
- *Events organization and participation in external events. ResPa will organize their own events in each participating countries to disseminate the project outcomes. It will be organized 2 workshops for each country in their own language: 1 to promote the training course (M18) and 1 to disseminate the results of the projects (M36). In the countries where there is one or more partners, they will cooperate in the celebration of it. All the other related events are detailed in section 4.2.*
- *An active presence in external events, with the presentation of results at national/international conferences. It is expected to attend at least to three events with this profile to ensure dissemination. The specific fairs/events will be defined during the project run: Multiplication through associated partners and networks where the partners are members, which is a very important element to assure the broad dissemination and further up-scale of ResPa.*

Long-term dissemination strategies are closely related to the WP6 Sustainability and continuation. Associated partners have institutional presence at European, national and regional levels, where are relevant to disseminate and promote the outputs, results and materials obtained in ResPa project; and also, to reinforce the engagement and involvement of other significant stakeholders at these levels. The materials and the information about the results of the project will be distributed to the Associated partners in order to facilitate their dissemination and promotion. All these parts related with channels, materials and activities are describe in more detail in the corresponding Work Package 7.

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3.3 Sustainability and continuation

Sustainability, long-term impact and continuation

Describe the follow-up of the project after the EU funding ends. How will the project impact be ensured and sustained? What will need to be done? Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained? How will this be achieved? Which resources will be necessary to continue the project? How will the results be used?

Are there any possible synergies/complementarities with other (EU funded) activities that can build on the project results?

In ResPa project's sustainability, long-term impact and continuation will be ensured as part of its core activities. A dedicated work package (WP6) led by AVEP ensures that all aspects, increasing the wider impact and usability of the project's results as well as ensuring continued collaboration of the project partners. Dissemination and sustainability activities within the ResPa project's context are interlinked and support one another. Therefore, there will be collaboration and shared responsibilities with WP6 and WP7 regarding to the exploitation of the project's result. Proplast (WP7) will collaborate actively with AVEP (WP7), which has a broad experience in Erasmus-funded projects for all dissemination, communication, and exploitation activities. This important and specific activity will be addressed to guarantee the future sustainability of the results, the dissemination, replication and scale-up of ResPa

project and course after the end of the EU-funded project. The sustainability strategies are defined in detailed during the project, but the principles are as follows:

The key idea of the project is co-development between actors of packaging value chain and in the context of Quadruple Helix. This enables discussion between the actors on the practices in which the project results and outputs will be integrated in the operational and strategic activities of the parties involved, which ensures the sustainability of the project's outcomes. Annual assessments of the project's achievements will be carried out with E+ Impact tool to ensure optimal efforts to ensure continuity of the activities and wide exploitation of the key outputs.

Project's activities generate new ideas, which can be developed further as new business and/or as joint research projects. The ideas are refined either as part of companies' innovation processes or part of research consortiums. Suitable funding sources can be national (especially business ideas) or international like programmes of EU Structural Fund or Horizon Europe program. Suitable funding sources and open calls will be identified among project partners during the project. ResPa partners know well different funding sources and are experienced in applying RDI funding.

The sustainability of the outputs related to new skills and knowledge (micro-credentials, digital open badges) is ensured by integration in the normal operations of educational institutions, the curriculum development process, implementation of existing courses and the development of continuous learning products. Cooperation with employment authorities, which provide training to those outside the labor market, can also be used to increase the sustainability of products. ResPa consortium includes experts in leadership and development processes in educational institutions.

Active and open communication in various communication channels is one key element to ensure both impact and sustainability of outputs. As mentioned in the proposal, although ResPa focus on packaging value chain, new knowledge, skills, and competences collaboratively developed in the project can be adapted to other value chains as well. ResPa partners are involved in several networks, ecosystems and platforms which ensures that outcomes of the project are also disseminated outside packaging value chain.

The WP leaders coordinate the strategy to promote the activities and results of the project, but each partner will be responsible to properly disseminate and promote the activities and results of the project within the consortium, in its region and country in collaboration with the stakeholder identified, with special attention to consumers and citizen in general. ResPa consortium includes responsible and enthusiastic experts who are motivated to ensure impact and sustainable of the project.

The Coordinator of the ResPa project, TAMK, is dedicated to exploring collaboration opportunities with all stakeholders of the project as well as with other ongoing projects relates to the development of the green skills. One example of such project is 'Academy of Educators for Sustainable Future' (Edusta), also coordinated by TAMK, which creates open digital badge-driven learning pathways for teachers' sustainability competences supported by multimodal learning modules.

The ResPa material and tools will be prepared in English, which will be partly will be translated into the languages of the partners (Finnish, Swedish, Spanish, Italian, and German) to increase adaptation of the results (e.g. integration of the developed micro-credentials to existing study programme curricula on institutional level, such as 'Working with Climate Responsibility' of Tredu, 'Consumer Engagement in Circular Economy Value Chains' of TAMK and similar kinds of programmes in other educational organisations). Training material will be freely available online and promoted through open licenses and linked open data format. This will allow interested individuals and organizations to easily access and use the resources. The material will be also connected to national learning ecosystems, such as Digivisio 2030 in Finland.

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4. WORK PLAN, WORK PACKAGES, ACTIVITIES, RESOURCES AND TIMING

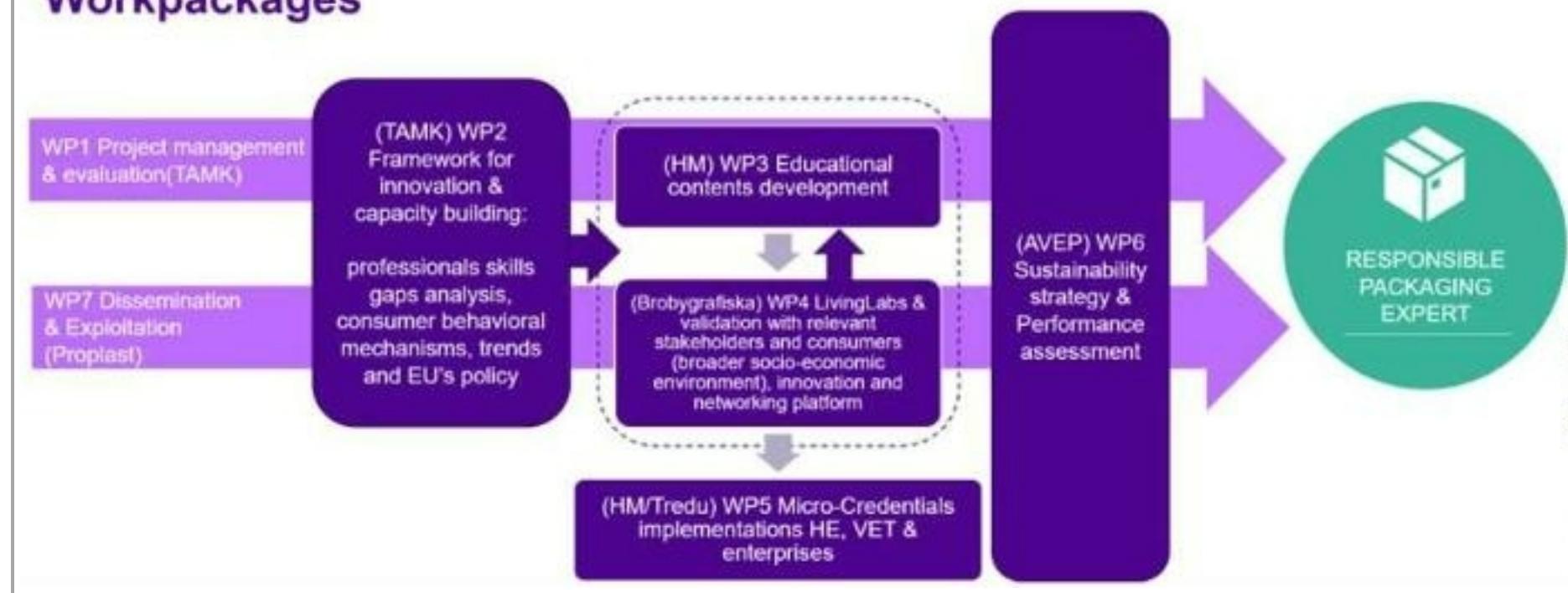
4.1 Work plan

Work plan

Provide a brief description of the overall structure of the work plan (list of work packages or graphical presentation (Pert chart or similar)).

Figure 5. The WP plan of the ResPa project

Workpackages



4.2 Work packages, activities, resources and timing

WORK PACKAGES

Work packages

This section concerns a detailed description of the project activities.

Group your activities into work packages. A **work package means a major sub-division of the project**. For each work package, enter an objective (expected outcome) and list the activities, milestones and deliverables that belong to it. The grouping should be logical and guided by identifiable deliverables/outputs.

Projects should normally have a minimum of 2 work packages. WP1 should cover the management and coordination activities (meetings, coordination, project monitoring and evaluation, financial management, progress reports, etc.) and all the activities which are cross-cutting and therefore difficult to assign to another specific work package (do not try splitting these activities across different work packages). WP2 and further WPs should be used for the other project activities. You can create as many work packages as needed by copying WP1. The last WP should be dedicated to Impact and dissemination

Please refer to the Call document/Programme Guide for specific requirements concerning the number and the typology of work packages.

Work packages covering financial support to third parties (only allowed if authorised in the Call document/Programme Guide) must describe the conditions for implementing the support (for grants: max amounts per third party; criteria for calculating the exact amounts, types of activity that qualify (closed list), persons/categories of persons to be supported and criteria and procedures for giving support; for prizes: eligibility and award criteria, amount of the prize and payment arrangements).

 Enter each activity/milestone/output/outcome/deliverable only once (under one work package).

 Ensure consistence with the detailed budget table/calculator (if applicable). (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)

Objectives

List the specific objectives to which the work package is linked.

Activities and division of work (WP description)

Provide a concise overview of the work (planned tasks). Be specific and give a short name and number for each task.

Show who is participating in each task: Coordinator (COO), and if applicable Beneficiaries (BEN), Affiliated Entities (AE), Associated Partners (AP) and others, indicating **in bold** the task leader.

Add information on other participants' involvement in the project e.g. subcontractors, in-kind contributions.

Note:

In-kind contributions: In-kind contributions for free are cost-neutral, i.e. cannot be declared as cost. Please indicate the in-kind contributions that are provided in the context of the work package.

The Coordinator remains fully responsible for the coordination tasks, even if they are delegated to someone else. Coordinator tasks cannot be subcontracted.

If there is subcontracting, please also complete the table below.

Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)

Milestones are control points in the project that help to chart progress (e.g. completion of a key deliverable allowing the next phase of the work to begin). Use them only for major outputs in complex projects, otherwise leave the section empty. Please limit the number of milestones by work package.

Means of verification are how you intend to prove that a milestone has been reached. If appropriate, you can also refer to indicators.

Deliverables are project outputs which are submitted to show project progress (any format). Refer only to major outputs. Do not include minor sub-items, internal working papers, meeting minutes, etc. It is recommended to limit the number of deliverables to max 10-15 for the entire project. You may be asked to further reduce the number during grant preparation.

For deliverables such as meetings, events, seminars, trainings, workshops, webinars, conferences, etc., enter each deliverable separately and provide the following in the 'Description' field: invitation, agenda, signed presence list, target group, number of estimated participants, duration of the event, report of the event, training material package, presentations, evaluation report, feedback questionnaire.

For deliverables such as manuals, toolkits, guides, reports, leaflets, brochures, training materials etc., add in the 'Description' field: format (electronic or printed), language(s), approximate number of pages and estimated number of copies of publications (if any).

For each deliverable you will have to indicate a due month by when you commit to upload it in the Portal. The due month of the deliverable cannot be outside the duration of the work package and must be in line with the timeline provided below. Month 1 marks the start of the project and all deadlines should be related to this starting date.

The labels used mean:

Public — fully open  automatically posted online on the Project Results platforms)

Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement

EU classified — RESTRICTED-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision [2015/444](#). For items classified under other rules (e.g. national or international organisation), please select the equivalent EU classification level.

Work Package 1

Work Package 1: [Project management and coordination]

Duration:	M1 – M36	Lead Beneficiary: Tampere University of Applied Sciences	TAMK
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Objectives

The objectives of the work package are

- To ensure efficient management structure and protocols for all consortium partners to facilitate achieving of the set objectives and outputs of the ResPa project in an effective and timely manner.
- To coordinate and monitor the financial and administrative aspects related to the overall implementation of the project.

- To actively manage risk monitoring and mitigation procedures.
- To establish comprehensive quality assurance structure and procedures to ensure internal evaluation protocol.

Activities and division of work (WP description)

Task No (continuo us numberin g linked to WP)	Task Name	Description	Participants		In-kind Contributions and Subcontracting (Yes/No and which)
			Name	Role (COO, BEN, AE, AP, OTHER)	
T1.1	Project management	<p>TAMK as the coordinator is responsible for the overall project management and coordination (e.g. internal communication, financial coordination, monitoring of the implementation and evaluation) together with pre-designed management bodies. The Project Management Team (PMT) will be set up to monitor the day-to-day activities of the ResPa project.</p> <p>TAMK will arrange the processes of Grant Agreement and Partnership Agreement (PA) signed by all partners. The PA will define the responsibilities and commonly agreed internal regulations concerning e.g. financial management and payments, IPR, conflict resolution processes etc.</p> <p>The PMT will meet online once a month unless agreed otherwise (e.g. holiday season), and it will be led by TAMK, and it will have 1-2-representatives from each partner organisations to ensure good</p>	TAMK ALL	COO ALL BEN	No

		<p>communication between all members of the consortium.</p> <p>A total of 33 online and face-to-face meetings (when combined with other project activities). The main channel for internal communication will be MSTeams; TAMK will set up a dedicated workspace to all partners to ensure access to all key documents and guidelines related to the project's implementation.</p>			
T1.2	Monitoring of the project's activities	<p>The monitoring protocol (Operational Work Plan for Monitoring) of the ResPa project will be drafted by TAMK and jointly decided upon all partners, and it will include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rigorous data collection procedure and storage to be agreed upon in the kick-off meeting corresponding to the project's expected outputs and KPIs, which will be assessed annually with E+ impact tool • Constant analyses of the data and sharing conclusions with all partners with recommendations and when deemed necessary, corrective actions 	TAMK ALL	COO ALL BEN	No
T1.3	Financial management and reporting	Monitoring of the planned delivery schedule of the planned activities (Gantt chart) and expenditure (occurred costs - project budget).	TAMK ALL BEN	COO ALL BEN	No

T1.4	Steering Committee meetings	<p>Steering committee is the highest decision making body within the project, and it will meet twice a year (6 meetings) for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing potential changes in the consortium having an impact on the implementation; • Controlling of the finances (e.g. decisions regarding re-allocations) • Managing contractual changes when deemed necessary • Reviewing of the overall progress the project's implementation based on feedback from the PMT and WP Leaders, and making decision on corrective measures to ensure timely and effective achievement of the project's outputs 	TAMK ALL	COO ALL BEN	No
T1.5	Quality Assurance	<p>A specific Task Force for overall quality assurance (QATF) will be appointed for designing and implementing both a) internal evaluation and b) ensuring sufficient external evaluation procedures for the ResPa project (Quality Assurance Plan).</p> <p>The QATF will have at least one representative from all partner organisations. It will meet quarterly (12 meetings during the project) online/face-to-face to monitor the collection of evaluation data, making recommendations and engaging with an external evaluator in the phases of mid-term and final quality assessment.</p>	UINTN ALL	ALL	No

		The QARF is responsible for assigning external evaluators for the mid-term and final quality evaluation processes.				
Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)						
Milestone No (continuous numbering not linked to WP)	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Description	Due Date (month number)	Means of Verification
MS1	Appointment of the management bodies and Quality Assurance Task Force 1	1	TAMK	All key management bodies and Quality Assurance Task force appointed and ready to start working according to the pre-designed management structure of the ResPa project.	1	Minutes from the Kick-off meeting with details of the appointment.
MS2	Operational Work Plan for Monitoring	1	TAMK	Monitoring protocol related to the ResPa project's implementation.	2	Internal Guidelines shared with all partners (electronic report)
MS3	Quality Assurance Plan	1	UNITN	Monitoring protocol of the internal and external evaluation procedures of the ResPa project.	4	Internal Guidelines shared with all partners (electronic report).
MS4	Mid-term Quality Assurance Report	1	UNITN	Results of the mid-term internal and external quality evaluation processes	16	Internal Guidelines shared with all partners (electronic report).

MS5	Final Quality Assurance Report	1	UINTN	Recommendations of the mid-term internal and external quality evaluation processes to be included in the Final Report D1.2.	32	Internal Guidelines shared with all partners (electronic report).	
Deliverable No (continuous numbering linked to WP)							
Deliverable No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month number)	Description (including format and language)
D1.1	Interim Report	1	TAMK	[R — Document, report]	[PU — Public]	M18	Electronic report with detailed information on the project's performance and results.
D1.2	Final Report	1	TAMK	[R — Document, report]	[PU — Public]	M36	Electronic report with detailed information on the project's performance and results.

Estimated budget — Resources (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)

Participant	Costs									
	A. Personnel	B. Subcontracting	C.1a Travel	C.1b Accommodation	C.1c Subsistence	C.2 Equipment	C.3 Other goods, works and services	D.1 Financial support to third parties	E. Indirect costs	Total costs

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EU Grants: Application form (ERASMUS BB and LS Type II): V2.0 – 01.06.2022

[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X grants	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR				
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR				
Total	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X grants X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR				

For certain Lump Sum Grants, see detailed budget table/calculator (annex 1 to Part B; see [Portal Reference Documents](#)).

Work Package 2

Work Package 2: Framework for Innovation and Capacity Building				
Duration:	M1 – M12	Lead Beneficiary: Tampere University of Applied Sciences		TAMK
Objectives				

Objectives of the Work Package 2 are

- To create framework for educational content development based on needs analysis of consumer behavioural mechanisms, trends and EU's policies.
- To analyse packaging professionals' skills gaps in relation to consumer engagement to CE.
- To ensure holistic view to consumer engagement enablers including consumer and companies views and the identified trends and policies.

Activities and division of work (WP description)

Task No (continuo us numberin g linked to WP)	Task Name	Description	Participants		In-kind Contributions and Subcontracting (Yes/No and which)
			Name	Role (COO, BEN, AE, AP, OTHER)	
T2.1	Consumer role definition - Consumer in industrial value chains, mapping activity	The partners will carry out mapping activity of current definitions about consumer role in CE. A special attention is paid to the factors that are hindering consumer participation to CE. Hindering factors indicate i) companies' skills gaps, and ii) need to develop consumer engagement skills. Companies view to consumer engagement. Consumer roles in CE mapping gives the framework for tasks T3.2 and T3.3 planning.	TAMK UNITN	COO BEN	No
T2.2	Insight from market trends and packaging innovations analysis from consumer point of view, interviews, and consumer panel	To objective is to ensure that the complex consumer behaviour patterns and behavioural changes are tackled according to real-life needs. A special attention will be paid to understanding regulation and consumer relationship in	TAMK UNITN PROPLAST AVEP	COO BEN BEN BEN	No

		<p>the complex contest of packaging, which will give insights for the development of the consumer's future role in the CE. Carefully chosen sample of consumers will be interviewed and asked to evaluate existing responsible packaging innovations to understand their willingness to participate to CE actions. Attention is paid for consumers' expected support from companies as an enabler of responsible consumption. Finally, T3.2 evaluates correlation between consumer perceptions and T3.3 companies identified skills gaps.</p>	ECOEMBES All Associated Partners	BEN ALL AP	
T2.3	Company and industry workshops and interviews/questionnaire	<p>Consortium will carry out company and industry interviews (50) and workshops (8) to complete the skills needs analysis based on in-depth information about the company's responsibility skills and tools to engage with the consumer. T2.3 will address and companies' skills to support circular consumption behaviour and value co-creation from the different stages of consumption i) consumption decisions and ii) post-consumption behaviour. Data will be combined with the T2.1 and T2.2 to create a holistic view of the existing skills gaps. Hybrid workshops will be carried out in 5 participating countries.</p>	TAMK ALL All Associated Partners	COO ALL BEN ALL AP	No
T2.4.	EU policies and strategies analysis	<p>Packaging and CE strategies and EU policies will be analysed (e.g ,Green Deal including Packaging and packaging waste directive and Proposal for a revision of EU legislation on Packaging and Packaging Waste, and New circular economy action</p>	AVEP TAMK HM Proplast	BEN COO BEN BEN	No

		plan) as enablers for the companies to address more active consumer participation. T2.5 gives an input for T3.1.			
T2.5.	Packaging professionals' skills development - Detailed definitions to address the observed gaps	<p>Themes for the skills development activities will be specified in-depth to respond to the skills gaps identified in the analysis. Then, they will be summarised in a new framework for training contents development (WP4). The main themes can include e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value co-creation (to and between consumer and companies) • Made changes effectiveness measurement • Effective ways to engage the consumer • Consumer behaviour, acceptance and Business opportunities 	TAMK UNITN HM Broby Tredu ECOEMBES	COO BEN BEN BEN BEN BEN	No

Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)

Milestone No (continuous numbering not linked to WP)	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Description	Due Date (month number)	Means of Verification
MS6	Company representative and consumers interviews	2	TAMK	Qualitative data collection for creating an in-depth understanding of the skills gaps related to CE, innovation capacity and the role of the customer in the package value-chain.	M8	Internal report (summarised results)

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MS7	Workshops and interviews with industry and companies	2	UNITN	Key findings of the skills gaps related to the company's innovation and CE skills to support and engage with the customer.		M8	Internal report (summarised results)
Deliverable No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month number)	Description (including format and language)
D2.1	The consumer's role in the packaging value chain, mapping activity	2	TAMK, UNITN	[R — Document, report]	[PU — Public]	12	A report of the key observations having an impact to the consumer's role in the packaging value-chain.
D2.2	Skills development framework definition	2	UNITN	[R — Document, report]	[PU — Public]	12	Framework published (English, pdf).

Estimated budget — Resources (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)

Participant	Costs								
	A. Personnel	B. Subcontracting	C.1a Travel	C.1b Accommodation	C.1c Subsistence	C.2 Equipment	C.3 Other goods, works and services	D.1 Financial support to third parties	E. Indirect costs

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[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X grants	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR				
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR				
Total	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X grants X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR				
For certain Lump Sum Grants, see detailed budget table/calculator (annex 1 to Part B; see Portal Reference Documents).														

Work Package 3

Work Package 3: Educational Contents Development				
Duration:	M10 – M20	Lead Beneficiary: Hochschule Munchen	HM	
Objectives				

Objectives of Work Package 3 are:

- To develop educational contents based on the framework and needs analysis of the CE skills for the companies to consumer engagement for circularity. Educational contents development is focused on teaching and collaborations methods alongside the innovation and capacity building.
- To develop and jointly utilized best practices of team coaching, networking and collaboration
- To design digital open badges as tool to ensure quality and recognizability of the developed contents.

Activities and division of work (WP description)

Task No (continuo us numberin g linked to WP)	Task Name	Description	Participants		In-kind Contributions and Subcontracting (Yes/No and which)
			Name	Role (COO, BEN, AE, AP, OTHER)	
T3.1	Study of current training offers	Input from WP2 and T4.1 will create the basis for the educational content development together with existing competence frameworks and EU policies will be analysed to support the educational contents development (e.g., "GreenComp - The European sustainability competence framework" 2022). Analysis of the current training offers corresponding the identified skills gaps (WP2) among consortium members and beyond.	HM	BEN	No
T3.2	Definition of Micro-credentials curricula: objectives, contents and key recognizability	Defining a detailed curricula on based on WP2 and findings from T3.1. to boost innovation and CE capacities to be tested in WP4.	HM TAMK BROBY	BEN COO BEN	No

		<p>Designing joint and individual content for HE, VET and businesses based on education providers expertise to respond to the identified gaps and diversity of the background of end-users. When designing competence-based curricula, T3.2 ensures assessments criteria is supporting the learning outcomes (what students are expected to know after micro credential). Assessment criteria consist of three joint areas knowing, acting and developing as an expert (being). describing the achieved competence after the training is accomplished.</p> <p>Decision of the most suitable frameworks to be utilised in the implementation to support wider usability within the European context (e.g, adapting EQF levels accreditations).</p>	TREDU AVEP PROPLAST	BEN BEN BEN	
T3.3	Developing the training methodology of the training program	<p>Drafting of a set of guidelines for the most suitable approach to delivery of the curricula; e.g. utilization of multiple venues i.e versatile teaching methods for demonstrate competence (e.g. drawing from skills demonstrations utilised in the Finnish VET), hybrid delivery modes, gamification, independent study content, workshops. Training methodology considers inclusive aspects such as equal accessibility (incl. digital accessibility) to teaching and studies.</p>	TREDU HM TAMK BROBY AVEP PROPLAST	BEN BEN COO BEN BEN BEN	No
T3.4	Digital open badges in competence development	<p>To create and define digital open badges based on competences from curricula basis (T3.2). Digital open badges are</p>	TAMK UNITN	COO BEN	No

		<p>introduced as part of the micro-credentials. Digital open badges will be used to demonstrate and recognise competences. Digital open badges work as a quality check point and ensure constructive alignment whereas learning outcomes, teaching and assessment methods are in line with each other. This Task aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop new ways for recognising and making competences visible highlight competences not visible in a diploma • recognize and highlight competences built flexibly through work, self-studies or formal studies • make the individual and organisation level competences apparent • develop and aim the competences in an organisation based on future needs. <p>There will be evaluation and quality check point in this task to ensure the quality of the developed competency framework requirements.</p>	HM	BEN	
T3.5	Online-training platform establishment	<p>The objective of the task is to evaluate partners' existing platforms (e.g. Moodle) and best practices to identify the most suitable online platform for the delivery of the designed educational content to support students/participants digital skills development and inclusivity of the training contents. Designing a detailed plan of the digital open badges and the training itself. The development of digital skills will be</p>	HM TAMK Brobygrafiska Tredu	BEN COOP BEN BEN	No

	<p>supported by linkage to existing learning materials that the partners offer from their own organisation or by partnerships (e.g. Working with Climate Responsibility of Tredu, Consumer Engagement in Circular Economy Value Chains of TAMK and similar kinds of in other educational organisations). The activities of the ResPa embedded in different WP tasks support learning of digital skills and adaptation in digital tools.</p>		
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Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)

Milestone No (continuous numbering not linked to WP)	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Description		Due Date (month number)	Means of Verification
MS8	Review of the study offerings	2-3	HM	Reviewing the existing training offerings responding to the identified skills gaps (WP2)		13	Summary of the key findings
MS9	Online platform	3	HM	Online platform selected for training		14	Launching of the platform for the project
Deliverable No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month number)	Description (including format and language)
D3.1	Curricula	3	HM	[OTHER]	[PU — Public]	16	A detailed curricula on the new educational content (electronic publication, English)

D3.2	Digital open badges	3	TAMK	[OTHER]	[PU — Public]	17	A catalogue of the developed micro credentials (website, English)
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Estimated budget — Resources (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)														
Participant	Costs													
	A. Personnel		B. Subcontracting	C.1a Travel			C.1b Accommodation	C.1c Subsistence	C.2 Equipment	C.3 Other goods, works and services	D.1 Financial support to third parties		E. Indirect costs	Total costs
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X grants	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR
Total	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X grants X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR

travelling

For certain Lump Sum Grants, see detailed budget table/calculator (annex 1 to Part B; see [Portal Reference Documents](#)).

Work Package 4

<p>Work Package 4: : Living Labs & Validation with relevant Stakeholders and Consumers (broader socio-economic environment), Innovation and Networking Platform</p>				
Duration:	M14 – M26	Lead Beneficiary: Brobygrafiska	Broby	
<p>Objectives</p> <p>Objectives of Work Package 4 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To ensure that the designed educational inputs are validated among the key stakeholders, hence leading to successful knowledge valorisation. - To ensure the active participation of the stakeholders by conduction the validation process according to Living Labs approach. Living Labs offer a powerful tool for user engagement, co-creation, open innovation and total value chain involvement. - To speed up adaptation and deployment of new educational contents and methods connect the validation actions with real-life settings to bring an additional added value. 				

g linked to WP)				(COO, BEN, AE, AP, OTHER)	
T4.1	Joint definition of Living Labs and validation methods	Living Labs is an ambiguous concept, allowing many definitions and various perspectives towards the methods and actions to be taken. In Task 5.1, the project partners discuss and agree on the most relevant features of the Living Labs concept to be applied throughout this project, including recruitment of value chain actors, selection of set of co-creation, facilitation and service design methods, and platforms for real-life validation (e.g. research, innovation and learning environments). Partners will also define the set of validation tools to be applied in T4.4.	TAMK ALL	COO BEN	No
T4.2	Engagement of relevant stakeholders for the validation	Partners identify, contact and engage the most relevant actors of the value chain to join the Living Labs validation to contribute to the co creation process of the educational content responding to the identified skills gaps.	Broby TAMK HM ECOEMBES AVEP PROPLAST	BEN COO BEN BEN BEN BEN	No
T4.3	Conducting Living Labs as networking platform and implementation	10 Co-creation workshops to support open innovation (1-2 in each country); Best practices from companies responsible packaging solutions will be identified and tested/evaluated by consumer panel by using the living lab	ALL	COO, BEN	No

		methodology. (incl. fit for purpose, packaging materials, printings and claims, consumption and post-consumption decision making) for strengthening the alignment with the developed educational content.			
T4.4	Validation of the Living Labs exercise	Implementation of the selected validation tools for conducted Living Lab activities to ensure continuation of the iterative co-creation processes for WP5.	Broby TAMK TREDU HM	BEN COO BEN BEN	No

Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)

Milestone No (continuous numbering not linked to WP)	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Description	Due Date (month number)	Means of Verification
MS10	Joint definition of Living Lab concept	4	TAMK	Creating a shared understanding of the LL concept within the context of the ResPa project	14	Concept paper shared among partner network and published at project website (English, pdf)
MS11	Engaging with key stakeholders	4	Broby	Confirming that key actors of each education institutions' global / national networks are represented in T4.3. according to the Quadrupole Helix model (academia, industry, public sector, citizens) according to set quantitative indicator.	17	Stakeholder analysis for internal monitoring and list of LL implementation participants (English, electronic report shared among the partners)

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Deliverable No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month number)	Description (including format and language)
D4.1	ResPa Living Labs platform	4	Broby	[DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype]	[PU — Public]	20	Key outputs from 10 LL events in electronic form (Pdf, Ppt or other accessible document in English)
D4.2	Validation report	4	HM	[R — Document, report]	[PU — Public]	24	Pdf report (English, published at the project website and shared among all stakeholders taking part in activities)

Estimated budget — Resources (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)														
Participant	Costs													
	A. Personnel		B. Subcontr acting		C.1a Travel			C.1b Accomo dation	C.1c Subsis tence	C.2 Equipmen t	C.3 Other goods, works and services	D.1 Financial support to third parties	E. Indirect costs	Total costs
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X perso ns travelli ng	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X grants	X EUR	X EUR

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[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR					
Total	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X grants X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR					
For certain Lump Sum Grants, see detailed budget table/calculator (annex 1 to Part B; see Portal Reference Documents).															

Work Package 5

Work Package 5: Micro-Credentials Implementations (HEI, VET & enterprises)			
Duration:	M24 – M34	Lead Beneficiary: Tampere Vocational College	Tredu
Objectives			
<p>The objectives of this work package are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To implement developed educational contents, for piloting/training in micro-credentials and to ensure collaboration between different educational levels. The pilot program considers multi-locality and multidisciplinary approach. Innovative teaching methods such as coaching is focusing on competency building by fostering collaboration (HE, VET, companies), to encouraging training participants to improve and show visibly their capacity and professional 			

competence. Digital open badges are used as a tool for participants competency development and to ensure wider utilisation of the project's results beyond its life-cycle.

- Knowledge: improved consumer and CE innovation methods
- Skills: Digital skills, green skills, entrepreneurial mindset
- Coaching: Network building, peer coaching
- Support: Tools such as digital platforms (partners' digital learning environments such as Moodle), innovation techniques
- Development: Green transition and digitalisation

Activities and division of work (WP description)

Task No (continuo us numberin g linked to WP)	Task Name	Description	Participants		In-kind Contributions and Subcontracting (Yes/No and which)
			Name	Role (COO, BEN, AE, AP, OTHER)	
T5.1	Designing content for the train-the-trainers programme	Train-the-trainers approach will ensure cohesion of micro-credentials implementation and students/participants learning journey during the pilot program, as well as wider usability of the developed educational content in the future. The overall purpose is to enable well planned stimulating and safe learning path and experience for students (T5.2)	HM Tredu UNITN TAMK Broby Proplast	BEN BEN BEN COO BEN BEN	No
T5.2	Implementation of the Train-the-trainers programme	For the selected teachers/trainers a get together of two days face-to-face meetings/hackathons carried out during internal workshops (3), which will be organised to boost co-creation,	HM Tredu UNITN TAMK	BEN BEN BEN COO	No

		innovativeness and smoothening the pilot programme implementation.	Broby Proplast	BEN BEN	
T5.3	Pilot training programme implementation;	<p>The aim of the task is to implement the designed educational content with VET, HE, business and other stakeholders of the ResPa project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro-credentials /modules “pilot programme” • Collaborative cross-sectional working methods <p>The programme implementation includes a comprehensive feed-back and self-reflection of the participants (teachers and students), which will be utilised in the final development of the digital open badges (T5.4)</p>	ALL, COO	BEN	No
T5.4	Digital open badges based on competences application process	Based on work carried out in WP2-WP5, ResPa project will develop digital open badges (5) which, after piloting and project completion, will be transferred to the educational institutes pedagogical badge constellation to ensure wider usability of the developed education content. A descriptive text will be included with a mention that the badge has been developed as part of the project, which promotes the sustainability of the project.	TAMK HM Broby Tredu Proplast	COO BEN BEN BEN BEN	No

Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)

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Milestone No (continuous numbering not linked to WP)	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Description		Due Date (month number)	Means of Verification
MS12	Coaches- Teachers selected for the Train-the-trainer programme	5	HM	Selection of the coacher and teachers for the Train-the-trainer programme (50).		20	List of participants confirmed
MS13	Participants selected to the pilot training programme implementation	5	Tredu	Selection of participants (students, business partners, public sector representatives, citizens) to the pilot training programme implementation (300).		24	List of participants
Deliverable No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month number)	Description (including format and language)
D5.1	Trainer of the trainer concept	5	HM	[R — Document, report]	[PU — Public]	19	Pdf, English
D5.2	Final digital open badges	5	TAMK	[OTHER]	[PU — Public]	33	5 digital open badges transferred to education institution of the ResPa project (English, Finnish, Italian, Swedish, Spanish)

Estimated budget — Resources (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)														
Participant	Costs													
	A. Personnel		B. Subcontracting	C.1a Travel			C.1b Accommodation	C.1c Subsistence	C.2 Equipment	C.3 Other goods, works and services	D.1 Financial support to third parties		E. Indirect costs	Total costs
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X grants	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR
Total	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X grants X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR

For certain Lump Sum Grants, see detailed budget table/calculator (annex 1 to Part B; see [Portal Reference Documents](#)).

Work Package 6: Sustainability Strategy & Performance Assessment

Duration:	M1 – M36	Lead Beneficiary:	AVEP					
Objectives								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective of the Work Package 6 is to ensure project sustainability and utilization of the project deliverables after the project ends. Transnational collaboration and convertible educational contents are the key for successful project sustainability 								
Activities and division of work (WP description)								
Task No (continuo us numberin g linked to WP)	Task Name	Description	Participants		In-kind Contributions and Subcontracting (Yes/No and which)			
			Name	Role (COO, BEN, AE, AP, OTHER)				
T6.1	Sustainability strategy	<p>A Sustainability strategy is jointly developed with all the consortium members.</p> <p>The ResPa project develops digital open badges which, after piloting and project completion, will be transferred to the educational institutes pedagogical badge constellation. The descriptive text will be included with a mention that the badge has been developed as part of the project which promotes sustainability of the project.</p> <p>The strategy will also be considered during the project development to</p>	AVEP ALL	BEN	No			

		<p>incorporate in the decision-making process the sustainability dimension.</p> <p>The after-project lifetime exploitation by the partners will also be a must to be taken into consideration in the sustainability strategy definition.</p>			
T6.2	Sustainability actions implementation	<p>A complete list of activities to ensure the project results sustainability will be defined according to following main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of concrete activities and a list of considerations during project execution that facilitate Respa Project exploitation. • Identification of entities (research centers, universities, training organizations, consumer associations, etc.) in a wide range of fields that can have active interest in taking advantage of knowledge generated • Commitment of those entities in participate actively in project result exploitation. • Ensurance of micro-credentials sustainability 	<p>AVEP PROPLAST ALL</p>	<p>BEN Leader BEN</p>	No
T6.3	Performance assessment Methodology and implementation	<p>Define a methodology and procedure to evaluate and measure the impact in education actions within the training activities.</p> <p>The main goal will be to define and implement a procedure able to guarantee the knowledge acquisition during the</p>	<p>AVEP PROPLAST HM Broby TAMK</p>	<p>BEN BEN BEN BEN COO</p>	No

	<p>training regarding the stakeholders participating in the validation actions.</p> <p>The methodology will analyse and define:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> variables and training objectives and their impact in knowledge acquisition Measurements technologies and validation protocol Conclusions of validation 		
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Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)

Milestone No (continuous numbering not linked to WP)	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Description	Due Date (month number)	Means of Verification
MS14	Performance assessment improvement	6	AVEP	Fix and reach a minimum (70% of total evaluation) level of improvement of performance assessment once the training and credentials are obtained by the participants	20	A report analysing the status of the comparative performance assessment improvement
MS15	A minimum of 7 to 10 Interest Declaration Forms	6	AVEP ALL	Identification of entities (research centers, universities, training organizations, consumer associations, etc.) in a wide range of fields that can have active interest in taking advantage of knowledge generated	32	Written Dol forms collected
Deliverable No	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month number)
						Description (including format and language)

(continuous numbering linked to WP)							
D6.1	Sustainability Plan and Planning	6	AVEP	[R — Document, report]	[PU — Public]	24	Report, pdf (English)
D6.2	Performance Assessment Plan	6	AVEP	[R — Document, report]	[PU — Public]	32	Report, pdf (English)

Estimated budget — Resources (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)																		
Participant	Costs																	
	A. Personnel		B. Subcontracting		C.1a Travel			C.1b Accommodation		C.1c Subsistence		C.2 Equipment		C.3 Other goods, works and services		D.1 Financial support to third parties		E. Indirect costs
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X grants	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR

Total	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X perso ns travelling	X EUR	X grants X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR				
For certain Lump Sum Grants, see detailed budget table/calculator (annex 1 to Part B; see Portal Reference Documents).														

Work Package 7

Work Package 7: Dissemination and Exploitation			
Duration:	M1 – M36	Lead Beneficiary: Proplast	Proplast
Objectives			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives of the Work Package 7 is to ensure the widespread and awareness and its outcomes, specially within the High Education Institutions (HE), VET Centres, packaging companies, distribution companies, consumers/consumers associations, and society in general. WP 7 will ensure the maximum number of stakeholders and target groups within the partners participants counties in order to build constructive feedbacks, motivate the collaboration within companies, consumers, HE and VET Centres. Informed stakeholders and target groups about the activities and results of the ResPa project Increase the impact and the value of the project outcomes in relation to the packaging market sector Overall impact will be increased by inspiring and engaging stakeholders in the ResPa project concept development and promoting future exploitation of results. beyond the initial consortium reaching other High Education Institution (HE), VET centres, packaging companies, distribution companies, students, consumers/consumers associations, and policymakers. 			

Activities and division of work (WP description)					
Task No (continuo us numberin g linked to WP)	Task Name	Description	Participants		In-kind Contributions and Subcontracting (Yes/No and which)
			Name	Role (COO, BEN, AE, AP, OTHER)	
T7.1	Dissemination and Communication monitoring	<p>The task will be dedicated to developing an effective Dissemination and Communication Plan. It will be elaborated at the beginning of the project including a detailed calendar and provision of responsibilities and resources. The activities related will be permanently monitored and updated in month 12, 24 and 34 of the project life. The Plan will define the strategies according to its impact, the project advances and the audience needs and demands.</p> <p>Measurable criteria of the dissemination efforts will be included to evaluate the activities foreseen.</p>	PROPLAST ALL	BEN COO, BEN	No
T7.2	Exploitation Plan	An exploitation plan including the proposals actions to be carried out in WP7 will be defined during the first 18 months of the Project to help Project development to focus the transition of Project execution in the medium and long term. The strategy and goals defined in the Exploitation plan in this WP will be aligned with WPs	AVEP ALL	BEN COO, BEN	No

		decisions in terms of future Project results replication, and durability.			
T7.3	Implementation of the dissemination and communication branding and material support	<p>The material that will support the activities of the project will be defined in the Dissemination and Communication Plan document. It will be regular and updated, as required by the project. These materials will be available on the project website and some of them will be eventually printed for local events, informative sessions and meetings with stakeholders. In addition, it will be available opened and translated into partnership languages and English.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branding (M2): A project logo and branding will be designed and incorporated to the dissemination materials together with TAMK and Brobygrafiska. Moreover, the templates for presentations, reports, and official papers will be included in these materials. • Banner (M2): a project banner to be used in Social Media Channels of the project and other visual elements like an appropriated roll-up will be included as supporting of network activities. • Newsletters and Press releases (M6-M36): The newsletter and press releases will be produced to provide information about the project, its advances and events. They will be shared each 6-months (for a total of 6) to contacts from the project database (newsletter) and to local, regional and national mass media 	PROPLAST ALL	BEN COO, BEN	Yes. Agency of Website Design and digital marketing

	<p>(press releases). Each participant country partner/s will translate them into their national languages to disseminate among their personal contacts and target audience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publications (M3-M36): An informative flyer to present the project and to be uploaded on the project website will be designed that will include relevant information of the project goals and activities. It will be prepared considering the target groups and audience. An additional brochure will be updated when the programme and timing of the training course will be defined. A model for each country will be prepared in their national languages. Other kind of publications could be used to reach the different target groups like reports and articles in the countries and languages of the partners.• Video presentation (M6): two videos will be created:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o The first one, responsibility of PROPLAST will be a video presentation of the project that includes the partners describing in simple terms the goals of the projects and roles.o The second one, responsibility of TAMK, will be an engaging video directed to a broader public including the consumers, describing the advantages of waste management and Circular economy		
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T7.4	Implementation of the dissemination and communication tools and activities	<p>Tools and activities will be defined and specified in the Dissemination and Communication Plan and updated during the project life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website (M3): An official ResPa Project Website will be the hub for both internal and external communication. It will include general information (goals, partners, events, news, etc.), non-confidential outcomes, access to the courses, case studies and link with external resources. It will be a way to learn about the projects and to be informed about the initiatives and outcomes. In order to ensure that the results and benefits of the ResPa project will be spread effectively within and after project lifetime, the website and its contents will be available for five years after the end of the project and translated in the languages of the partners and in English. Social networks (M3): ResPa will have an active presence in social media (E.g., Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter) to assure the broad and wide dissemination of all project activities and results. Project contacts database. The website will include a form to be filled in to collect emails for the mailing list of the project. These contacts will use to send specific invitations, newsletters and project communications, creating in this sense, a European project network. The Project database of contacts will grow, during the project thanks to proactive recruitment 	PROPLAST ALL	BEN COO, BEN	Yes. Agency of Website Design and digital marketing. The design and implementation of the brand and the website need specific and technical competences. Therefore, the management and the further activities regarding the related tools will be led by the WP7 leader.
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	<p>tactics and energetic online, marketing campaign involving: - Signup for newsletter on project dedicated page - Prominent links from partners own websites - Social media – Facebook, LinkedIn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partners' contacts database. Partners will prepare their own contacts database and it will be not integrated in a common one, taking into account GDPR, to be used by themselves for the project communications and dissemination activities.• Events. The partners of ResPa project will organize their own events in each participating countries to disseminate the project outcomes. They will organize 2 workshops for each country in their own language: 1 to promote the training course (M18) and 1 to disseminate the results of the projects (M36). In the countries where there is one or more partners, they will cooperate in the celebration of it. All the other related events are detailed in section 4.2. In addition, the project will have an active presence in external events, with the presentation of results at national/international conferences. It is expected to attend at least to three events with this profile to ensure dissemination. The specific fairs/events will be defined during the project run, but some examples have been provided in point 3.2.Multiplication. It will be reached by the integration of information within the European Networks collaborating in the project that have interest in the training		
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		materials in which the partners are integrated.			
T7.5	Connection with society and public administration	Communication and dissemination action plan and activities will be focused to different levels and target groups of the training, in particular professionals, trainers and trainees. Nevertheless, a series of publications will be aimed at and addressed to the involvement of policymakers, public administrations and other stakeholders and interested parties directly involved in the plastic packaging stakeholders) will be able to benefit from them and to learn more about the project initiatives and outcomes. Involving public administration, policymakers, and stakeholders from both EU participating countries and the rest of EU member states into the EU academia-industry collaboration sector and value chain. In this way, all interested (plastics industry, universities, students, professors, public authorities, companies' associations, and other hubs will foster innovation and competence building beyond the project lifetime.	PROPLAST ALL All Associated Partners	BEN COO, BEN ALL AP	No

Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)

Milestone No (continuous numbering not linked to WP)	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Description	Due Date (month number)	Means of Verification
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MS16	Communication and Dissemination monitoring delivered	7	PROPLAST	Monitoring of the work progress of the project Dissemination activities.	6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36	Publication	
Deliverable No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month number)	
D7.1	Dissemination and Communication Plan	7	PROPLAST	Document, report	[R — [SEN — Sensitive]]	M2 – updated on M12, 24 and 34	<p>This report will include the plan with the activities to be carried out concerning the dissemination and communication of the project by partners, using the dissemination materials developed in the project and carrying out the dissemination events foreseen. Moreover, it will include guidelines about how and when to send the dissemination materials to the partner's contact list, how the campaign in social media should be undertaken, how and when to send the newsletter and to carry out the local events. The</p>

							<p>plan will describe goals, target groups, dissemination channels the basic features and style/tone of communication, and the main communication messages, and an individual approach for each partner. The plan will provide a regular flow of information and contribute to the establishment of recognition.</p> <p>Dissemination achievements will be reported describing results in publications, exhibitions, conferences, workshops, seminars, press releases, promotion materials, web presence and relations with stakeholders. The deliverable will be periodically revised. The updates will contain a specific section about monitoring. Peer reviewed between two partners. Electronic. English.</p>
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D7.2	Exploitation Plan	7	AVEP	[R — Document, report]	[PU — Public]	18	The exploitation plan will be published on the project website. English.
D7.3	Branding and communication materials	7	PROPLAST	[DEC — Websites, patent filings, videos, etc]	[PU — Public]	3 – constant regular updates	In this report will be described the brand of the project and the supporting materials needed to implement the internal and external communication. Furthermore, it will illustrate timing and more effective methods of massive outreach to attract stakeholders for participation. Electronic. English and partner languages
D7.4	Tools and activities	7	PROPLAST	[DEC — Websites, patent filings, videos, etc]	[PU — Public]	M3 – updated M 12, 24 and 32	The report of this Deliverable will contain the plan with the tools and activities that will be carry out during the project. The project website will be prepared by the definition of design and pages, and, in the other hand, the creation of social media project_dedicated accounts like Twitter and Facebook (if needed), LinkedIn and YouTube. Moreover, the report will

								be described how and where will be collected the project data base. At the end it will be include the specifications regarding the organization of events, workshops and international conferences. Electronic. English.
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Estimated budget — Resources (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)

Participant	Costs												
	A. Personnel		B. Subcontracting	C.1a Travel			C.1b Accommodation	C.1c Subsistence	C.2 Equipment	C.3 Other goods, works and services	D.1 Financial support to third parties		E. Indirect costs
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X grants	X EUR	X EUR
[name]	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X persons travelling	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR	X prizes	X EUR	X EUR

Total	X person months	X EUR	X EUR	X travels	X perso ns travelling	X EUR	X grants X prizes	X EUR	X EUR	X EUR				
For certain Lump Sum Grants, see detailed budget table/calculator (annex 1 to Part B; see Portal Reference Documents).														

Staff effort (n/a for Lump Sum Grants)

Staff effort per work package

Fill in the summary on work package information and effort per work package.

Work Package No	Work Package Title	Lead Participant No	Lead Participant Short Name	Start Month	End Month	Person-Months
Total Person-Months						

Staff effort per participant

Fill in the effort per work package and Beneficiary/Affiliated Entity.

Please indicate the number of person/months over the whole duration of the planned work.

*Identify the work-package leader for each work package by showing the relevant person/month figure in **bold**.*

Participant	WP1	WP2	WP...	Total Person-Months
[name]				
[name]				
Total Person-Months				

Subcontracting (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)

Subcontracting

Give details on subcontracted project tasks (if any) and explain the reasons why (as opposed to direct implementation by the Beneficiaries/Affiliated Entities).

Subcontracting — Subcontracting means the implementation of 'action tasks', i.e. specific tasks which are part of the EU grant and are described in Annex 1 of the Grant Agreement.

Note: Subcontracting concerns the outsourcing of a part of the project to a party outside the consortium. It is not simply about purchasing goods or services. We normally expect that the participants to have sufficient operational capacity to implement the project activities themselves. Subcontracting should therefore be exceptional.

Include only subcontracts that comply with the rules (i.e. best value for money and no conflict of interest; no subcontracting of project coordination tasks).

Work Package No	Subcontract No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Subcontract Name (subcontracted action tasks)	Description (including task number and BEN/AE to which it is linked)	Estimated Costs (EUR)	Justification (why is subcontracting necessary?)	Best-Value-for-Money (how do you intend to ensure it?)
	S1.1					
	S1.2					
Other issues:		Insert text <i>If subcontracting for the project goes beyond 30% of the total eligible costs, give specific reasons.</i>				

Events meetings and mobility

Events meetings and mobility

This table is to be completed for events, meetings and mobility that have been mentioned as part of the activities in the work packages above. Give more details on the type, location, number of persons attending, etc.

Event No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Participant	Description					Attendees
		Name	Type	Area	Location	Duration (days)	
E1.1	ALL	Kick-off meeting and steering committee meetings (6)	Meeting	Project management, reporting, quality assurance	Tampere, Finland; Sunne, Sweden; Valencia, Spain; Alessandria, Italy; Munich, Germany; Trento, Italy	2 days	11 participants/meeting
E2.1	ALL	Company and industry workshops (8)	Workshop	Identification of the skills gaps related to the company's innovation and CE skills to support and engage with the customer.	Tampere, Finland; Sunne, Sweden; Valencia, Spain; Alessandria, Italy; Munich, Germany	1 day /workshop	40 companies and other stakeholder actors participation to workshops (200 individual participants)
E4.1	ALL	Living Lab co-creation workshops (10)	Workshop	Workshops to support open innovation (1-2 in each country); Best practices from companies responsible	Tampere, Finland; Sunne, Sweden; Valencia, Spain; Alessandria /Trento, Italy; Munich, Germany	1 day /workshop	25 participants per workshop (250)

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				packaging solutions will be identified and tested/evaluated by consumer panel by using the living lab methodology. (incl. fit for purpose, packaging materials, printings and claims, consumption and post-consumption decision making) for strengthening the alignment with the developed educational content.			
E4.2	ALL	Consumer panel / (5)	Panel	Packaging solutions evaluation events	Tampere, Finland; Sunne, Sweden; Valencia, Spain; Alessandria, Italy; Munich, Germany	1 day /panel	15 participants / panel (75)
E5.1	TAMK UNITN HM Broby Tredu	Train-the-trainers programme (3 modules)	Training	Face-to-face meetings / hackathons carried out during internal workshops (3), which will be organised to boost co-creation, innovativeness and smoothening the pilot programme implementation.	Munich, Germany; Sunne, Sweden; Tampere, Finland	2 days /training	20 participants / training (60)
E5.2	ALL	Piloting of training programme (4 micro-credentials)	Training	Implementation of the developed Digital Open Badges with	Tampere, Finland; Sunne, Sweden;	2 days /training	300 participants

		leading to meta-badge)		enterprises, VET and HE (hybrid-delivery)	Munich, Germany; Alessandria, Italy		
E7.1	ALL	Dissemination events (10)	Event	ResPa partners will organize their own events in each participating countries to disseminate the project outcomes. 2 workshops in each country in their own language: 1 to promote the training course (M18) and 1 to disseminate the results of the projects (M36).	Tampere, Finland; Sunne, Sweden; Valencia, Spain; Alessandria /Trento, Italy; Munich, Germany	1 day /event	30 participants / event (300)

Timetable

ACTIVITY	YEAR 1				YEAR 2				YEAR 3				YEAR 4				YEAR 5				YEAR 6						
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4			
Task 1.1 - Project Management																	D 1.2										
Task 1.2 - Monitoring of the project's activities																	D 1.3										
Task 1.3. Financial monitoring and reporting								D1.1									D.2.										
Task 1.4. Steering committee meetings																											
Task 1.5. Quality assurance																											
Task 2.1. Consumer role definition - Consumer in industrial value chains, review				D2.1																							
Task 2.2. Insight from market trends and packaging innovations analysis from consumer point of view, interviews, and consumer panel			D 2.1																								
Task 2.3 Company and industry workshops and interviews/questionnaire						D 2.2																					
Task 2.4 Eu policies and strategies analysis																											
Task 2.6. Packaging professionals' skills development - Detailed definitions to address the observed gaps																											
Task 3.1 Study of current training offers																											
Task 3.2 Definition of Micro-credentials curricula: objectives, contents and key recognizability							D3.1																				

#\$WRK-PLA-WP\$#

5. OTHER

5.1 Ethics

Ethics (if applicable)

If the Call document/Programme Guide contains a section on ethics, describe ethics issues that may arise during the project implementation and the measures you intend to take to solve/avoid them.

Describe how you will ensure gender mainstreaming and children's rights in the project activities.

Describe how you will ensure gender mainstreaming and children's rights in the project activities. Ethics aspects will be carefully considered in all ResPa project's activities that include data collection processing and storage. The ResPa project is dedicated to follow the Relevant international, European Union (EU), and national laws for the protection of personal data: The Data Protection Act 1050/2018, Regulation EU 2016/679, and the Data Protection Regulation are all related. The Coordinator TAMK is committed to by Finnish National Board on Research Integrity's (TENK) guideline Responsible Conduct of Research and Procedures for Handling Allegations of Misconduct in Finland (pdf, TENK 2012), which will be followed as a general principle in ResPa project's data collection. Although, each individual researcher, expert and member of a research group is primarily responsible for adhering to the principles of responsible conduct of research (RCR), but part of responsibility also rests on the whole research community (i.e. supervisor, PI, research group, organisation).

The RCR within the ResPa project entails:

- *Meticulousness and accuracy in all the phases of research*
- *Employing ethically sustainable data acquisition, research and evaluation methods*
- *Openness and responsible science communication in reporting research findings*
- *Taking due account of the work and achievements of other researchers, e.g. in citing their publications appropriately*
- *Complying with the standards set for scientific knowledge in planning and conducting research*
- *Acquiring necessary research permits and in case of certain fields and research projects submitting the research plan for the required preliminary ethical review*
- *Agreeing (within a research project or a team from the beginning) on the researchers' rights, responsibilities and obligations, on principles concerning authorship, and on questions concerning achieving and accessing the data*
- *Announcing sources of financing, conflicts of interest or other commitments to all research project members as well as in reporting research results*
- *Refraining from all research-related evaluation and decision-making situations where there is reason to suspect conflict of interest*
- *Adhering to good personnel and financial administration practices and taking into account the data protection legislation During the ResPa project, the participation of vulnerable target groups to research activities (e.g. minors or disabled persons) is not expected.*

5.2 Security

Security

Not applicable.

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6. DECLARATIONS

Double funding	
Information concerning other EU grants for this project	YES/NO
<p> Please note that there is a strict prohibition of double funding from the EU budget (except under EU Synergies actions).</p> <p>We confirm that to our best knowledge neither the project as a whole nor any parts of it have benefitted from any other EU grant (<i>including EU funding managed by authorities in EU Member States or other funding bodies, e.g. Erasmus, EU Regional Funds, EU Agricultural Funds, etc.</i>). If NO, explain and provide details.</p>	YES
<p>We confirm that to our best knowledge neither the project as a whole nor any parts of it are (nor will be) submitted for any other EU grant (<i>including EU funding managed by authorities in EU Member States or other funding bodies, e.g. Erasmus, EU Regional Funds, EU Agricultural Funds, etc.</i>). If NO, explain and provide details.</p>	YES

Financial support to third parties (if applicable)	
<p><i>If your project requires a higher maximum amount per third party than the threshold amount set in the Call document/Programme Guide, justify and explain why this is necessary in order to fulfil your project's objectives.</i></p>	N/A

Seal of Excellence (if applicable)	
<p><i>If provided in the Call document, proposals that pass the evaluation but are below the budget threshold (i.e. pass the minimum thresholds but are not ranked high enough to receive funding) will be awarded a Seal of Excellence.</i></p> <p><i>In this context we may share information about your proposal with other EU or national funding bodies through the Erasmus+ National Agencies.</i></p>	

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ANNEXES

LIST OF ANNEXES

Standard

Detailed budget table/Calculator (annex 1 to Part B) — *mandatory for certain Lump Sum Grants (see [Portal Reference Documents](#))*

CVs (annex 2 to Part B) — *mandatory, if required in the Call document/Programme Guide*

Annual activity reports (annex 3 to Part B) — *not applicable*

List of previous projects (annex 4 to Part B) — *mandatory, if required in the Call document/Programme Guide*

Special

Other annexes — *mandatory, if required in the Call document/Programme Guide*

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LIST OF PREVIOUS PROJECTS

List of previous projects					
Please provide a list of your previous projects for the last 4 years.					
Participant	Project Reference No and Title, Funding programme	Period (start and end date)	Role (COO, BEN, AE, OTHER)	Amount (EUR)	Website (if any)
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-11 101178794 Visionary roadmaps: Crafting an Inclusive and Participatory European Democracy with Youth and Communities (YOUROPE)	1.11.2024 – 31.10.2027	BEN	279735	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ CBHE: ERASMUS-EDU-2024-CBHE-STRAND-2 101179451 — BEWBU Blended Education in Western Balkans Universities (BEWBU)	1.11.2024-31.10.2027	BEN	89221	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	ERASMUS-EDU-2024-EUR-UNIV-1 — European Universities - Development of deep institutional transnational cooperation (Topic 1) 101177239-UNINOVIS DATA FOR L.I.F.E. (UNINOVIS)	1.1.2025-31.12.2028	BEN	1185599	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships (CP) 2021-2027 KA220-HED 2024-1-DK01-KA220-HED-000254371 Gamification, Teaching & Entrepreneurship (GATE)	1.9.2024-31.8.2027	BEN	83046	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ CBHE: ERASMUS-EDU-2024-CBHE-STRAND-3 101179301, University-industry co-creation to build Entrepreneurial Universities in the Southern African Development Community (UNIICo-create)	1.12.2024-31.11.2027	BEN	62792	
Tampere University of	Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships (CP) 2021-2027 KA220-HED	1.10.2023-30.9.2026	BEN	128 500	

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Applied Sciences Ltd	2023-1-EE01-KA220 - HED-000156969 Micro degree for modern harmonized electrical engineering (ElMicro)				
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships (CP) 2021-2027 KA220-HED 2023-1-LT01-KA220-HED-000160132 Personal Green Skills in Higher Education	1.11.2023 - 31.10.2025	BEN	59 560	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships (CP) 2021-2027 KA220-HED KA220-HED - 0B87ACAB EntreAction: An Innovative Case-to-video story Approach in Entrepreneurial Education	9/2022-6/2025	BEN	85810	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ Teacher Academies 2021-2027 2021-PEX-TEACH-ACA-101055951 Academy for Sustainable Future Educators (EduSTA)	6/2022-5/2025	COO	540 083	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships (CP) 2021-2027 2021-PCOOP-ENGO-101049115 EQUAL TREATMENT: Supporting rights and access of people with intellectual disabilities to secondary and tertiary healthcare services	4/2022-9/2024	BEN	60 540	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	EuropeAid EuropeAid/170212/ID/AC T/AL EU 4 Inclusive Teaching	2/2022-12/2024	COO	601 971	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships (CP) 2021-2027 KA220-HED 2021-1-FI01-KA220-HED-000027545 Genetic and Genomic Nursing Education – GenoNurse	2/2022-1/2025	COO	118 226	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships (CP) 2021-2027 KA220-HED 2021-1-SE01-KA220-HED-000023529	1/2022-12/2024	BEN	74 517	

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	BRIDGE - BRilliant Innovation through DiGital Engagement				
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships (CP) 2021-2027 KA220-HED 2021-1-FI01-KA220-HED-000027535 Promoting Digital Learning in STEM Subjects - DigiSTEM	12/2021-11/2024	COO	100 695	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus + KA2 Strategic partnership 2020-1-IE02-KA226-HE-000783 Framework for Online Radiographer Clinical Education	5/2021-4/2023	BEN	18 667	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus + KA2 Strategic partnership 2020-1-RO01-KA226-HE-095384 Enhancing Intercultural and Digital COnPeteNces oF Mobile STUDENTs in Times of Crisis - CONFIDENT	4/2021-3/2023	BEN	65 833	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus + KA2 Strategic partnership 2020-1-CZ01-KA226-HE-094288 Mitigating COVID Together: Enhancing Capacities of Academics and Students in Virtual Learning and Teaching Spaces	3/2021-2/2023	BEN	65 795	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus + KA2 Strategic partnership 2020-1-PL01-KA226-095455 Towards e-coaching, the first step to build trust with a digital coach	3/2021-2/2023	BEN	70 597	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus + KA2 Strategic partnership KA226-AABF6063 VERSATILE - Virtual Education Readiness Semester - Adaptive Toolbox for an International Learning Experience	3/2021-5/2023	BEN	65 008	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus + KA2 CBHE 617545-EPP-1-2020-1-FI-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP	11/2020-11/2023	COO	188 549	

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	Teachers' and Nursing Students' Competencies in Digital Nursing (SmartNu)				
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Baltic Sea Region #X020 AREA 21+action	10/2020-11/2021	BEN	76 600	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus + KA2 Strategic partnership 2020-1-PL01-KA203-081777 BOT-Learning as a modern teaching method of GEN Z	9/2020-6/2023	BEN	57 040	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus + KA2 Strategic partnership KA203-1DB80087 SALES PLATFORM STUDIES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION	9/2020-8/2023	BEN	55 006	
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd	Erasmus + KA2 Knowledge Alliances 612212-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-EPPKA2-KA PackAlliance: European alliance for innovation training & collaboration towards future packaging	01/2020-12/2022	BEN	154 520	
HM, Prof. Dr. Gudrun Socher, Faculty of Computer Science and Mathematics	Grant no. 2014-1-DE01-KA203-000695, DECOMP, ERASMUS+	01-09-2014 and 31-08-2017	COO	414.818 €	https://mydecamp.eu
HM, Prof. Dr. Lars Brehm, Faculty of Business Administration	Project Reference: 2021-1-SE01-KA220-HED-000023529, ERASMUS+	Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2024	Partner	240.244 €	http://www.bridge-digital-impact-day.eu/
Proplast	Circvet – GA 101055916 - ERASMUS-EDU-2021-PI-ALL-INNO-EDU-ENTERP	01/09/2022-31/08/2025	BEN	€1.497.955	www.circvet.eu
Proplast	PackAlliance - ID n. 612212-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-EPPKA2-KA – ERASMUS+	01/01/2020 - 31/12/2022	BEN	€991.620	www.packall.eu
Proplast	FrontSH1P – N 101037031 H2020-LC-GD-2020	01/11/2021 - 31/10/2025	BEN	€16.118.418	https://frontsh1p.eu/
Proplast	EcoeFISHent – N 101036428 - H2020-LC-GD-2020	01/10/2021 – 30/09/2026	BEN	€15.170.720	https://ecoefishent.eu/
Proplast	4zeroPlast - ID n. 1475873 - 2018-1-ES01-	01/11/2018 - 30/04/2021	BEN	€269.885	www.4zeroplast.eu

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	KA202-050726 – ERASMUS+				
Proplast	Newpack – GA 792261-H2020 BBI	01/06/2018 - 31/08/2021	BEN	€4.950.000	www.newpack-h2020.eu
Proplast	Plasticircle - ID n. 730292 - H2020	01/06/2017 - 31/05/2021	BEN	€7.100.000	www.plasticircle.eu
Proplast	Circvet – GA 101055916 - ERASMUS-EDU-2021-PI-ALL-INNO-EDU-ENTERP	01/09/2022-31/08/2025	BEN	€1.497.955	www.circvet.eu
Proplast	PackAlliance - ID n. 612212-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-EPPKA2-KA – ERASMUS+	01/01/2020 - 31/12/2022	BEN	€991.620	www.packall.eu
Proplast	FrontSH1P – N 101037031 H2020-LC-GD-2020	01/11/2021 - 31/10/2025	BEN	€16.118.418	https://frontsh1p.eu/
Proplast	EcoeFISHent – N 101036428 - H2020-LC-GD-2020	01/10/2021 – 30/09/2026	BEN	€15.170.720	https://ecoefishent.eu/
Proplast	4zeroPlast - ID n. 1475873 - 2018-1-ES01-KA202-050726 – ERASMUS+	01/11/2018 - 30/04/2021	BEN	€269.885	www.4zeroplast.eu
AVEP	INENTI/2019/7 Foro de Economía Circular AVEP	2019	Coordinator	47.423,99€	https://www.avep.es/proyectos-nacionales/
AVEP	PACPEC COVID 2020 – Programa de Adaptación Competitiva del SECTOR PLÁSTICO a la Economía Circular en entorno COVID19	07/08/20203 0/11/2020	Coordinator	100.000€	https://www.avep.es/proyectos-nacionales/
AVEP	INENTI/2021/22 Ayudas para planes de Industrialización desarrollados por asociaciones empresariales	01/01/2021-07/11/2021	Coordinator	59.875,75€	https://www.avep.es/proyectos-nacionales/
AVEP	2018-1-ES01-KA202-050726 4ZEROPLAST: Development of a training program for enhancing the adaptation of plastic SMEs business models to Industry 4.0 Erasmus+ – Cooperation for Innovation and the exchange of good practices	01/11/2018-30/04/2021	Coordinator	€269.885	https://www.4zeroplast.eu/
AVEP	INENTI/2022/11 Ayudas para los planes integrales que impulsen la competitividad industrial sostenible, desarrollados por	01/01/2022-07/11/2022	Coordinator	83.459,58€	https://www.avep.es/proyectos-nacionales/

Call: [SEP-211129464] — [ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO-EDU-ENTERP]

EU Grants: Application form (ERASMUS BB and LS Type II): V2.0 – 01.06.2022

	asociaciones empresariales				
AVEP	Grant Agreement No 101057971 REPURPOSE – Rubbery plastic designed for recycling. HORIZON-CL4-2021-RESILIENCE-01	01/09/2022 – 31/08/2026	Partner	6,06 M€	https://www.repurposeproject.eu/
AVEP	INENTI/2019/7 Foro de Economía Circular AVEP	2019	Coordinator	47.423,99€	https://www.avep.es/proyectos-nacionales/
AVEP	PACPEC COVID 2020 – Programa de Adaptación Competitiva del SECTOR PLÁSTICO a la Economía Circular en entorno COVID19	07/08/20203 0/11/2020	Coordinator	100.000€	https://www.avep.es/proyectos-nacionales/
AVEP	INENTI/2021/22 Ayudas para planes de Industrialización desarrollados por asociaciones empresariales	01/01/2021-07/11/2021	Coordinator	59.875,75€	https://www.avep.es/proyectos-nacionales/
Tredu, City of Tampere	Erasmus+ KA121 2024 (2024-1-FI01-KA121-VET-000199157)	1.6.2024 – 31.5.2025	COO	280 845	
Tredu, City of Tampere	Tredu EU-Modules Erasmus+, Jean Monnet, Learning EU (ERASMUS-JMO-2023-OFET-LEARNING-EU 101127219)	1.9.2023 – 31.8.2026	COO	30 000	
Tredu, City of Tampere	Joiner 4.0 Erasmus+ KA202 (2023-1-DE02-KA202-VET-000154860)	1.9.2023 – 31.8.2025	BEN	250 000	<u>DIGITAL JOINER 4.0 - Digital key skills for joiner trainees</u>
Tredu, City of Tampere	Erasmus+ KA121 2023 (2023-1-FI01-KA121-VET-000115497)	1.6.2023 – 31.5.2025	COO	412 860	
Tredu, City of Tampere	Erasmus+ KA121 2022 (2022-1-FI01-KA121-VET-000053215)	1.6.2022 – 31.5.2024	COO	460 006	
Tredu, City of Tampere	Erasmus+ KA121 2021 (2021-1-FI01-KA121-VET-000004803)	1.9.2021 – 31.8.2023	COO	222 760	
Tredu, city of Tampere	Erasmus+ KA116 2020 (2020-1-FI01-KA116-066346)	1.6.2020 - 31.7.2022	COO	389 867	
Tredu, city of Tampere	Team We - Team Teaching in Welfare	1.9.2019 - 31.12.2022	COO	147 682	

Call: [SEP-211129464] — [ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO-EDU-ENTERP]

EU Grants: Application form (ERASMUS BB and LS Type II): V2.0 – 01.06.2022

	Technology, Erasmus+ KA202 (2019-1-FI01-KA202-060714)				
Geschäftsstelle für EU-Projekte und berufliche Qualifizierung der Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf	EUMOSS - EUropean MOdules in the Security Sector in VET (2021-2-DE02-KA210-VET-000048344)	1.3.2022 – 29.2.2024	BEN	60 000	
Belfast Metropolitan College, UK	Digital Transformation for VET – DITRAVET Erasmus+ KA226 (2020-1-UK01-KA226-VET-094509)	1.7.2020 – 30.6.2023	BEN	299 755 (Tredu 41 300)	
Kiipula, FI	VACCINE, Erasmus+ KA226 (2020-1-FI01-KA226-VET-092679)	1.3.2020 – 31.5.2023	BEN	216 386 (Tredu 29 975)	
Berufsbildende Schulen des Landkreises Osnabrück, DE	ARVETI, Erasmus+ KA202 (2020-1-DE02-KA202-007497)	1.10.2020 – 31.5.2023	BEN	163 187 (Tredu 33 632)	
Gewerbliche Schule Lahr, DE	Nachhaltigkeit - Kreieren und Leben (creating and living sustainability) Erasmus+ KA229 (2020-1-DE03-KA229-077422_4)	1.12.2020 – 31.8.2023	BEN	163 187 (Tredu 32 946)	
ECOEMBES	BIOPLASTICS EUROPE Grant agreement No. 860407 CE-BG-06-2019 Sustainable solutions for bio-based plastics on land and sea	October 2019 – March 2024	BEN	EU Funds 8.127.842, 50 € (Ecoembes 350.000 €)	https://bioplastics-europe.eu/
ECOEMBES	PACK ALLIANCE Project ID: 612212-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-EPPKA2-KA Erasmus+ - Key Action 2 (28/02/2019)	Jan 2020 – Dec 2022	BEN	EU Funds 991.620,00 € (Ecoembes 102.220,00 €)	https://www.packall.eu/
ECOEMBES	CIRC-PACK Grant agreement No 730423 CIRC-01-2016-2017 - Systemic, eco-innovative approaches for the circular economy: large-	May 2017 - Jun 2020	BEN	EU Funds 7.237.305, 13 € Ecoembes 256.875,00 €	http://circpack.eu/

Call: [SEP-211129464] — [ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO-EDU-ENTERP]

EU Grants: Application form (ERASMUS BB and LS Type II): V2.0 – 01.06.2022

	scale demonstration projects				
ECOEMBES	PLASTICIRCLE Grant agreement No 730292 CIRC-01-2016-2017 - Systemic, eco-innovative approaches for the circular economy: large- scale demonstration projects	Jun 2017 - May 2021	BEN	EU Funds 7.774.017, 00 € Ecoembes 294.500,00 €	http://plasticircle.eu/

HISTORY OF CHANGES

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	25.02.2021	Initial version (new MFF).
2.0	01.06.2022	Consolidation, formatting and layout changes. Tags added.

ANNEX 2**ESTIMATED BUDGET (LUMP SUM BREAKDOWN) FOR THE ACTION**

Estimated EU contribution								Maximum grant amount ¹	
Estimated eligible lump sum contributions (per work package)									
WP1 Project management and coordination	WP2 Framework for innovation and capacity building	WP3 Educational Contents Development	WP4 Living Labs &Validation with relevant Stakeholders and Consumers (broader socio-economic environment), Innovation and Networking Platform	WP5 Micro-Credentials Implementations (HEI, VET & enterprises)	WP6 Sustainability Strategy & Performance Assessment	WP7 Dissemination and Exploitation			
Forms of funding	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution		
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h = a + b + c + d + e + f + g	
1 - TAMK	72 376.00	59 130.00	28 361.00	43 035.00	66 653.00	13 732.00	23 029.00	306 316.00	
2 - HM	21 725.00	21 828.00	42 372.00	39 290.00	69 935.00	12 840.00	18 404.00	226 394.00	
3 - PROPLAST	16 846.00	34 368.00	17 163.00	27 375.00	34 540.00	16 136.00	54 493.00	200 921.00	
4 - AVEP	13 850.00	18 832.00	17 206.00	23 882.00	31 586.00	25 680.00	9 673.00	140 709.00	
5 - Tredu	13 379.00	10 443.00	9 673.00	20 313.00	19 346.00	0.00	5 692.00	78 846.00	
6 - UNITN	17 959.00	52 901.00	0.00	21 691.00	14 706.00	3 253.00	14 038.00	124 548.00	
7 - ECOEMBES	21 725.00	27 478.00	0.00	56 667.00	39 153.00	0.00	14 442.00	159 465.00	
8 - Broby	16 247.00	17 719.00	23 626.00	58 482.00	57 523.00	13 182.00	13 610.00	200 389.00	
9 - HSFULDA									
10 - UNISA									
11 - CNM									
12 - PACOON									
13 - HSALBSIG									
14 - KU									
15 - KULUTTAJALIITTO									
Σ consortium	194 107.00	242 699.00	138 401.00	290 735.00	333 442.00	84 823.00	153 381.00	1 437 588.00	

¹ The 'maximum grant amount' is the maximum grant amount fixed in the grant agreement (on the basis of the sum of the beneficiaries' lump sum shares for the work packages).

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

HOCHSCHULE FUR ANGEWANDTE WISSENSCHAFTEN MUNCHEN (HM), PIC 998322837, established in LOTHSTRASSE 34, MUNCHEN 80335, Germany,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101244066 — ResPa ('the Agreement')

between TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY (TAMK) and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Ecas Id n00222yw signed in the Participant Portal on 2025/12/03 09:12:20
(SigId-62800-4cfmERQ1QIAxWUTlglHkIyWGFvhb6FWUDcZVpTLQIq6cZhuuNzQh
k8AJNIRrP09OyuRooXzqjLkXtYlC4MPRba-m5stpjzr6TdyFlIN0W94Da
I70yAIdHzsiNkVcvPWo0CT2cYi7LPDyEt5MtqMwUsFaBHF211tH10pnOuSR3W
UocCzzRkaCS0agRASY54BkDW). Timestamp by thirdparty at 2025/12/03 09:12:

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

CONSORZIO PER LA PROMOZIONE DELLA CULTURA PLASTICA PROPLAST (PROPLAST), PIC 997946768, established in VIA ROBERTO DI FERRO N. 86, ALESSANDRIA 15122, Italy,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101244066 — ResPa ('the Agreement')

between TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY (TAMK) and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Ecas Id naugugiu signed in the Participant Portal on 2025/11/28 15:00:18 (SigId-30462-YQUkjTqNb0WuoZDzurpCyISR6oFcWbgzSXCPBvEzb4c7qeZzTdDXzPVpcHw3u1k3KUimZzvtS81WG20IHaejzv-m5stpJzr6TdyFIIN0W94DaKSXf8LMMpAuRHX19gdMe4wijxdbjPCzbbArMnYg7r2FVNd4rhkUi1BzuDKNoPdHVwpgNCLguy09ducpxiYdKazW). Timestamp by thirdparty at 2025/11/28 15:01:
06

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

ASOCIACION VALENCIANA DE EMPRESAS DEL PLASTICO - AVEP (AVEP), PIC 997807864, established in AVENIDA DEL OESTE 38 2A, VALENCIA 46001, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101244066 — ResPa ('the Agreement')

between TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY (TAMK) and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Ecas Id nmongecr signed in the Participant Portal on 2025/12/03 14:15:48
(SigId-68505-1b2BaOMIdnAdYS78fzhn4SzS0uEBgSkXCpvZ26go0gl4jvulS00H1t4Y
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TKPtUWLYgWPkaPVc18uDW). Timestamp by thirdparty at 2025/12/03 14:15:50

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

TAMPEREEN KAUPUNKI (Tredu), PIC 998829080, established in ALEKSIS KIVEN KATU 14-16, TAMPERE 33101, Finland,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101244066 — ResPa ('the Agreement')

between TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY (TAMK) and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI TRENTO (UNITN), PIC 999841954, established in VIA CALEPINA 14, TRENTO 38122, Italy,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101244066 — ResPa ('the Agreement')

between TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY (TAMK) and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Ecas Id nbasside signed in the Participant Portal on 2025/12/03 15:10:09 (SigId-69660-6U1rZ63sdiGKW8aIiu6f4Sak9wD2rnzjUoVHe3b3msFV1zTx99w4zWkRs6Pf2vzSTBKrxwJ2bzNQLhjBDYMj5WzG-m5stpJzr6TdyFIIN0W94Da dnMtIDRN1g41zG0Y4yzv1zhuehBZ1mNtCvnWSQhXnDfxNgchjY4n7kgJpVxIR5pj cTC6CHgcBlvzzP7Dtg4Yrsm). Timestamp by thirdparty at 2025/12/03 15:10:11

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

ECOEMBES ENTIDAD ADMINISTRADORA, S.L. (ECOEMBES), PIC 878492626, established in Calle del Cardenal Marcelo Spínola, 14, 2nd floor, Madrid 28016, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101244066 — ResPa ('the Agreement')

between TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY (TAMK) and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Jose Luis MORENO DE CASTRO with ECAS id nmenodjo signed in the Participant Portal on 05/12/2025 at 10:50:08 (transaction id SigId-92956-uaFitWo5TnGwyjWuzNxrQ8A7U7LQsvRhfiRzWY6TUDBVQvHFFNj0fNcCDKY0FhNPg3M589VzzKGncC0624bTdbe-m5stpJzr6TdyFIIN0W94Da-13LpM0flzY33rOfbO9ioRjvTAE0v84syQwarAzpChcImp0IHLkya9ng25f7zmfaD0UffFDuECD0cHXP6Z430hAY0).
Timestamp by third party at
2025.12.05 10:50:15 CET

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

SUNNE KOMMUN (Broby), PIC 875342551, established in 1. KOMMUNKANSLIET, SUNNE 686 80, Sweden,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101244066 — ResPa ('the Agreement')

between TAMPEREEN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU OY (TAMK) and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Ecas Id n00jx9pm signed in the Participant Portal on 2025/12/01 18:59:40
(SigId-47026-pm2tr1dChuRxyhxtyrN2CnYTEg6zWstgElojztO8RNYGVeEeS2N5ZF
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RKZ2Iip6bpXThc4RPAVNPK. Timestamp by thirdparty at 2025/12/01 18:59:43

ANNEX 4 XXX LUMP SUM MGA — MULTI & MONO

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE ACTION FOR REPORTING PERIOD [NUMBER]

	EU contribution											Requested EU contribution	
	Eligible lump sum contributions (per work package)												
	WP1 [name]	WP2 [name]	WP3 [name]	WP4 [name]	WP5 [name]	WP6 [name]	WP7 [name]	WP8 [name]	WP9 [name]	WP10 [name]	WP [XX]		
Forms of funding	[Lump sum contribution]/[Financing not linked to costs]												
Status of completion	COMPLETED	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	COMPLETED	NOT COMPLETED								
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	$I = a + b + c + d + e + f + g + h + i + j + k$	
1 – [short name beneficiary]													
1.1 – [short name affiliated entity]													
2 – [short name beneficiary]													
2.1 – [short name affiliated entity]													
X – [short name associated partner]													
Total consortium													

The consortium hereby confirms that:

The information provided is complete, reliable and true.

The lump sum contributions declared are eligible (in particular, the work packages have been completed and the work has been properly implemented and/or the results were achieved; see Article 6).

The proper implementation of the action/achievement of the results can be substantiated by adequate records and supporting documentation that will be produced upon request or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Articles 19, 21 and 25).

ANNEX 5

SPECIFIC RULES

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE (— ARTICLE 16)

Rights of use of the granting authority on results for information, communication, publicity and dissemination purposes

The granting authority also has the right to exploit non-sensitive results of the action for information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes, using any of the following modes:

- **use for its own purposes** (in particular, making them available to persons working for the granting authority or any other EU service (including institutions, bodies, offices, agencies, etc.) or EU Member State institution or body; copying or reproducing them in whole or in part, in unlimited numbers; and communication through press information services)
- **distribution to the public** in hard copies, in electronic or digital format, on the internet including social networks, as a downloadable or non-downloadable file
- **editing or redrafting** (including shortening, summarising, changing, correcting, cutting, inserting elements (e.g. meta-data, legends or other graphic, visual, audio or text elements extracting parts (e.g. audio or video files), dividing into parts or use in a compilation
- **translation** (including inserting subtitles/dubbing) in all official languages of EU
- **storage** in paper, electronic or other form
- **archiving** in line with applicable document-management rules
- the right to authorise **third parties** to act on its behalf or sub-license to third parties, including if there is licensed background, any of the rights or modes of exploitation set out in this provision
- **processing**, analysing, aggregating the results and **producing derivative works**
- **disseminating** the results in widely accessible databases or indexes (such as through ‘open access’ or ‘open data’ portals or similar repositories, whether free of charge or not.

The beneficiaries must ensure these rights of use for the whole duration they are protected by industrial or intellectual property rights.

If results are subject to moral rights or third party rights (including intellectual property rights or rights of natural persons on their image and voice), the beneficiaries must ensure that they

comply with their obligations under this Agreement (in particular, by obtaining the necessary licences and authorisations from the rights holders concerned).

Access rights for the granting authority, EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies and national authorities to results for policy purposes

The beneficiaries must grant access to their results — on a royalty-free basis — to the granting authority, other EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies, for developing, implementing and monitoring EU policies or programmes.

Such access rights are limited to non-commercial and non-competitive use.

The access rights also extend to national authorities of EU Member States or associated countries, for developing, implementing and monitoring their policies or programmes in this area. In this case, access is subject to a bilateral agreement to define specific conditions ensuring that:

- the access will be used only for the intended purpose and
- appropriate confidentiality obligations are in place.

Moreover, the requesting national authority or EU institution, body, office or agency (including the granting authority) must inform all other national authorities of such a request.

Access rights for third parties to ensure continuity and interoperability

Where the call conditions impose continuity or interoperability obligations, the beneficiaries must make the materials, documents and information and results produced in the framework of the action available to the public (freely accessible on the Internet under open licences or open source licences).

COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY (— ARTICLE 17)

Additional communication and dissemination activities

The beneficiaries must engage in the following additional communication and dissemination activities:

- **present the project** (including project summary, coordinator contact details, list of participants, European flag and funding statement and project results) on the beneficiaries' **websites or social media accounts**
- for actions involving public **events**, display signs and posters mentioning the action and the European flag and funding statement
- upload the public **project results** to the Erasmus+ Project Results platform, available through the Funding & Tenders Portal.

SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION (— ARTICLE 18)

EU restrictive measures

The beneficiaries must ensure that the EU grant does not benefit any affiliated entities, associated partners, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties that are

subject to restrictive measures adopted under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union or Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU).



Digitally sealed by the European Commission

Date: 2025-11-28T10:30:37 CEST

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Any attempt to modify the content will lead to a breach of the electronic seal, which can be verified at any time by clicking on the digital seal validation symbol.