



## The CircSyst project, coordinated by AIJU, has reached a key milestone by bringing its circular economy solutions to the European market



### Plastic, Packaging

Strategies to solve the problem of hardly recyclable Packaging Materials



### Bio-Waste

Extracting valuable compounds from different Bio-waste streams



### Water

Water Symbiosis Strategies in Industry, Agriculture, and Urban contexts

- The project allocates almost the totality (around 90%) of its budget to demonstrators in 9 European regions: Valencian Community and Castilla la Mancha (Spain), Podravje (Slovenia), Flanders (Belgium), Visby (Sweden), Pajjat-Hame-Lahti (Finland), Central Macedonia (Greece), and East and Central Hungary.
- One of the most significant milestones to date has been the roll-out of the initial results in the Greek market, where the aim is for retailers to use products manufactured from post-consumer packaging waste
- The progress made by CircSyst covers three value chains identified as priorities by the European Union's Circular Economy Action Plan: water, bio-waste and plastics

[www.circsyst.eu](http://www.circsyst.eu)

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Funded by  
the European Union

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The **CircSyst project**, coordinated by the Technological Institute for Children's and Leisure Products (AIJU), has reached a decisive milestone by demonstrating that its circular economy solutions are viable, scalable and replicable across Europe.

The initiative, funded by the European Commission through Horizon Europe and under the umbrella of the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI), has already succeeded in bringing its **initial results to market and in establishing innovative models for waste recovery in three strategic areas: water, bio-waste and plastics.**

The project brings together 32 public and private organisations from eight European countries, including Spain, Belgium, Finland, Greece, Sweden, Austria, Slovenia and Hungary, and has a budget of 10 million euros. The main aim of this project is to develop **nine large-scale pilot schemes** capable of implementing circular business models that can be replicated across Europe.

In this regard, one of the most significant milestones achieved to date has been the roll out of the initial results in the Greek market, where products manufactured from **post-consumer packaging waste are already being used by retailers.** This initiative, which has been developed through awareness-raising and public engagement campaigns in supermarkets, represents a key step in **demonstrating that circular models can be successfully transferred from the laboratory to real-world** economic activity.

As Joaquín Vilaplana, coordinator of CircSyst, contends:

*The project is driving the transition towards a circular economy through innovative and scalable solutions that integrate advanced technologies for water management, the recovery of biological waste and the recycling of plastics. Our aim is to provide industries, public authorities, consumers and policymakers with practical tools to reduce waste, optimise resources and move towards a more sustainable model.*

### **Examples of progress made across the three value chains: water, bio-waste and plastics**

The progress made by CircSyst covers three value chains identified as priorities in the European Union's Circular Economy Action Plan.

In the field of **water**, the project is demonstrating solutions for the reuse of wastewater in industrial applications. Led by AIDIMME, one of the most advanced pilot schemes is being carried out in Riba-Roja de Túria (Valencia), where tertiary treatment processes and

smart monitoring systems are being implemented that could enable the reuse of between 20% and 50% of the water currently discharged.

In the field of [bio-waste](#), one of the demonstration plants, located in Alcoi, has validated biorefinery technologies capable of transforming organic waste from the food industry into high value-added materials and using the remaining fibres as fillers in plastic matrices, thereby promoting new models of the circular bioeconomy.

Finally, with regard to [packaging](#), the project combines eco-design, advanced recycling and public participation to improve the collection and recovery of plastic waste, particularly those types that are currently the most difficult to recycle.

One of the key features of CircSyst is its commitment to involving all key stakeholders in the development of circular economy solutions. To this end, the project has established a [Community of Practice](#) comprising businesses, public authorities, research organisations and other interested parties, who are actively involved in the design and validation of the initiatives being promoted.

Through a series of workshops and study visits held in the regions where the pilot projects are being carried out, those listed in this database identify challenges and opportunities, propose measures to improve public policy and analyse how these solutions can be transferred to other European regions. The aim is to ensure that the innovations developed not only work at a local level but can also be successfully replicated in different contexts.

The European Commission has welcomed the progress made by the project and highlights that the demonstrators are already delivering promising results, particularly in areas such as the safe reuse of water and the reduction of hard-to-recycle plastic waste.

**About CircSyst:** <https://circsyst.eu/>