LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS

DEL 24 – After-Life plan

Project Information

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Dissemination Level

PU	Public	**x**
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (incl. Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (incl. Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for the members of the consortium (incl. Commission Services)	

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Document Log

Version	Date	Description of Change
V1.0	05/02/2025	First draft
V1.1	23/06/2025	Updating with partners contribution
V1.2	16/07/2025	Final version

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1 Executive Summary

The aim of this After-Life Plan is to plan the communication, dissemination of the results achieved in the LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS project for the years that follow the date of completion of the project (28/02/2025). This report highlights the strategy and actions that will be carried out for continuing to give visibility to the projects' results, giving details regarding the actions, when, by whom, and using what sources of finance.

2 Project's description

The LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS project aims to revolutionize the organic fertilizer industry by recycling recovered materials to reduce its environmental impact. This project is a comprehensive initiative that focuses on the development and implementation of innovative techniques for recycling organic fertilizers. By conducting pilot tests in diverse agricultural settings and evaluating the environmental and economic impacts, the project seeks to demonstrate the feasibility and benefits of sustainable organic fertilizer production. The project is not just about creating a more sustainable product but also about promoting sustainable agricultural practices among farmers and stakeholders across the European Union. Ultimately, it aims to set new standards for the industry by integrating environmental efficiency and economic viability in organic fertilizer production.

2.1 Objectives

The specific objectives of the LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS project are to:

- Develop and industrialize innovative techniques for recycling organic fertilizers using recovered materials.
- Conduct extensive pilot tests in various agricultural settings to evaluate the performance and benefits of recycled organic fertilizers.
- Improve the efficiency and environmental impact of organic fertilizer production processes.
- Promote sustainable agricultural practices by demonstrating the benefits of recycled organic fertilizers to farmers and stakeholders.
- Ensure the dissemination and replication of project results across the European Union to foster a wider adoption of sustainable organic fertilizer practices.
- Monitor and evaluate the environmental and economic impacts of recycled organic fertilizers to validate their benefits and feasibility.

2.2 Methodology

The LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS project employs a systematic and innovative approach to develop and implement recycling techniques for organic fertilizers. The methodology includes several key actions:

- **Development of Innovative Techniques**: The project involves engineering advanced methods to recycle organic fertilizers using recovered materials. This phase includes laboratory research, design of recycling processes, and small-scale trials.
- **Pilot Testing**: Once developed, the techniques are subjected to extensive pilot tests in various agricultural settings. These tests are designed to evaluate the performance, feasibility, and benefits of the recycled organic fertilizers under real-world conditions.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation**: A comprehensive monitoring system is established to assess the environmental and economic impacts of the recycled fertilizers. This includes measuring parameters such as soil health, crop yield, cost-effectiveness, and carbon footprint.
- **Adaptation and Optimization**: Based on the pilot tests and monitoring results, the recycling techniques and processes are further optimized to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.
- **Stakeholder Engagement**: The project actively involves farmers, agricultural organizations, and other stakeholders throughout the process to ensure the practical applicability of the results. Workshops, training sessions, and demonstration events are organized to promote the adoption of sustainable practices.

- **Dissemination and Replication**: The successful techniques and results are widely disseminated through publications, conferences, and online platforms. The project also explores opportunities for replicating the methods in other regions and agricultural contexts.

By following this structured methodology, the LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS project aims to achieve significant environmental benefits, promote sustainable agriculture, and set new standards in organic fertilizer production.

2.3 Results achieved

Extended open field tests have been planned and are in progress in three different farms that overall cover an area of 26 hectares two farms are located in Italy, one in Apulia with wheat cultivation, and one other in Calabria with vegetable cultivation. The third farm is located in Greece with wheat cultivation. The farms have been selected on the basis of soil characteristics (alkaline soils with a low content of organic matter, dry and hot summer with increasing desertification and degradation processes of soils).

The two farms that cultivate wheat, have been also chosen considering the pedoclimatic differences to verify if the new fertilizer is able to impact wheat independently from the climatic conditions.

In Calabria, southern Italy, with dry and hot summer and increasing degradation process of soils, 2 hectares are dedicated to test vegetables in seasonal crop rotation. Falcone Farm is located in San Lorenzo (Reggio Calabria) on soils with an alkaline pH poor in organic matter. After 9 months of field experiments after winter crop harvesting, we observed an improvement in soil properties in presence of the new fertilizer RecOrgFert PLUS. The soil pH was significantly lowered compared to the other treatments, and the water content increased in soil doubling its value. This means that the parcels treated with RecOrgFert PLUS, correct the soil pH allowing plants to efficiently take up nutrients and the increase in water holding capacity require soils less water from rainfall or irrigation, increasing their resilience and reducing the cost of irrigation and associated infrastructure. An increase in organic matter content has been also observed while no changes in soil enzyme activities has been observed.

The experiment on wheat has been carried on in 13 hectares located in Lucera Foggia Apulia (Italy) to test durum wheat productivity. Soils belonged to the following textural classes sandy-loam, loamy sand and sandy. The soil analysis evidenced that the soil treated with RecOrgFert PLUS -decreased the pH conversely the other treatments increased the pH values, and the new fertilizer increased the water holding capacity of soils. Soil organic matter decreased in all treatments.

Final results are reported directly by Professor Muscolo in the following video: https://youtu.be/lpCs7r-fNnM

3 Communication strategy

The primary goal of the dissemination and communication strategy for the LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS project is to raise awareness about the project's activities and results, ensuring they are exploitable and sustainable in the long term. This objective will be achieved through various communication channels, including the project's website, social media, press releases, scientific articles, and participation in relevant events and conferences.

Dissemination and communication activities have been ongoing since the project's inception and will continue after the project end upon information provided by partners. The strategy aims to maintain and enhance public awareness of the project's key outcomes, fostering the adoption of recycled organic fertilizers among European farmers and stakeholders. Particular emphasis will be placed on communicating the environmental benefits, economic viability, and innovative aspects of the recycled organic fertilizers developed within the project. This will include highlighting the techniques used for recycling, the positive impacts on soil fertility and productivity, and the alignment with EU policies on sustainability and circular economy. By engaging with a diverse audience, including policymakers, agricultural organizations, farmers, and the general public, the project aims to ensure widespread dissemination and encourage the uptake of sustainable agricultural practices across Europe. Communication and Dissemination will be supported by the material developed at the beginning of the project (brochure and poster) and using the Layman report created at the end of the project to communicate about project results to a larger audience.

4 Target audience

The target audience for the LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS project includes both internal and external groups. Internally, the project focuses on disseminating information and coordinating activities among the consortium members and partners to ensure effective collaboration and communication. Externally, the project aims to reach a broader audience, including farmers, agricultural organizations, policymakers, environmental agencies, and the general public. The objective is to raise awareness about the project's innovative techniques for recycling organic fertilizers and promote the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices across Europe. The dissemination efforts will utilize various communication channels such as the project website, social media, events, conferences, and publications to engage with these target groups effectively.

4.1 Dissemination within the LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS partners (Internal Dissemination)

Internal communication aim is to coordinate internal activities and reach success in promoting LIFE ZEROGWP project. The members of the project consortium and institution need to stay well informed about project’s future opportunities. Partners’ main channels are:

- Project promotional material already produced and diffused: the material could be brought to in-person events or shared in electronic version via email and during online events.
- Events: These events will be announced via mailing list and naturally the website will be a major channel for the dissemination of any events’ information.

The Project Coordinator uses several means in order to ensure that the consortium and key role players have the necessary tools and procedures to effectively communicate avoiding potential risks of lack of communication.

4.2 Dissemination beyond the LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS partners (External Dissemination)

The primary goal of external dissemination is to facilitate the exchange of information, build potential cooperation frameworks, inform potential users about the outputs and benefits of the project, and consolidate its role as a key initiative within the EU research framework. LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS aims to disseminate its results and findings to four main target groups:

- **Consumers and end-users**: Both private and public stakeholders who can benefit from the innovative recycled organic fertilizers.

- **Agricultural industries and fertilizer distributors**: Entities involved in commercial dissemination actions who can adopt and promote the project's techniques and products.
- **Policymakers, policy advising and regulatory bodies, and European and national authorities**: Key decision-makers who can influence policies and regulations to support the widespread adoption of sustainable practices.
- **General audience**: The wider public to raise awareness and foster a broader understanding of the project's environmental and economic benefits.

Specific dissemination actions for each of the above groups will be implemented. The tools used to perform these dissemination activities include:

- **Project website**: Regularly updated with valuable information and news about the project to keep stakeholders informed.
- **Social media**: LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS will maintain a presence on platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube to share relevant updates and engage with the audience.
- **Participation in conferences and events**: Involvement in international conferences, fairs, and events (both in-person and online) to ensure a broad dissemination of project results to end-users and key stakeholders.
- **Publication of articles in sectorial magazines**: Disseminating findings through technical journals, sector-specific magazines, and other relevant publications to reach a specialized audience.

5 Past dissemination activities

The project website (https://www.life-recorgfertplus.eu/), was designed to be professional, attractive, user-friendly, with an events section systematically updated and easy to find.
LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS website provides:

- a brief summary of the project, a description of its objectives, the presentation of its structure and phases, as well as the list of its foreseen impact, testing and results;
- a section dedicated to news and events (26 News published on the website);
- a section to download publications and presentations done at external conferences;
- a page dedicated to project results;
- link to LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS partners' websites.

The project's website will be kept updated for the next three years, ensuring continued support and visibility to the Partners work within the LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS Project framework.

5.1 Social Networks

The project is on LinkedIn and YouTube: on LinkedIn, project events, interesting news about desertification, fertilizers and climate change have been shared. On YouTube, a video recording of the LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS Mid-Term Conference and two videos with project results have been published.

Concerning the communication activity done through the project's website and social media, here are the main results achieved:

- 138 followers on LinkedIn
- 3239 impressions for the LinkedIn page
- 4% was the interest rate of the posts on LinkedIn
- taking part in the #LIFEamplifiers social media campaign launched by the European Commission.

The project LinkedIn and YouTube account will be kept open and updated also after the end of the project and posts related to main updating, participation to events and publication will be shared.

Figure 1: LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS LinkedIn profile

5.2 Dissemination material

At the beginning of the project, a brochure, a notice board and a roll up have been prepared: the aim was to synthetize the key information about the project, such as the main aim and objectives, using product images as a major means of communication to make this document particularly catchy and appealing. At the end of the project, a Layman Report describing the project results and the impacts the project had on environment and on the market was developed. The Layman report can be used by partners in its web version or as printed material to be shared at conferences and events. All the material is downloadable from the project website at the following link: https://www.life-recorgfertplus.eu/download/

Figure 2: Layman Report and project brochure

Figure 3: LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS Roll up

5.3 Press releases, scientific and technical articles

Press release has been published in specialized journals, sectorial magazines, websites, and newspapers announcing project objectives, initiatives, events and services and relevant achievements. Articles have been published on the project website and shared on the project social media. This is the list of the scientific publication developed since the beginning of the project.

Nr	PUBLICATION TITLE	DATE	PUBLISHER	AUDIENCE
1	Waste-Derived Fertilizer Acts as Biostimulant, Boosting Tomato Quality and Aroma	14/11/2023	MDPI JOURNAL AGRONOMY	International researechers and engineers
2	Effects of fertilizer produced from agro-industrial wastes on the quality of two different soils	10/10/2023	ARCHIVES OF AGRONOMY AND SOIL SCIENCE	International researechers and engineers
3	Growth, nutritional quality and antioxidant capacity of lettuce grown on two different soils with sulphur-based fertilizer, organic and chemical fertilizers	11/08/2022	Scientia Horticulturae	International researechers and engineers
4	Recycling agricultural, municipal and industrial pollutant wastes into fertilizers for a sustainable healthy food production	17/09/2021	Journal of Environmental Management	International researechers and engineers
5	Sulfur bentonite-organic-based fertilizers as tool for improving bio-compounds with antioxidant activities in red onion	30/01/2020	Science of Food and Agriculture	International researechers and engineers

Table 1: LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS Publications

17 articles were published thought the Italian online press to communicate about LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS main achievements and results:

- 26-11-2023 | Gazzetta del sud "**Industria e agricoltura, l'ambiente ringrazia"** Click here >>
- 19-09-2023 | L'imprenditore **"CALAMARÀ (SBS): "IL NOSTRO IMPEGNO CONTRO LA DESERTIFICAZIONE DEI TERRENI"** Click here >>
- 15-12-2022 | Il Sole 24 ORE **"SBS Steel Belt Systems: il futuro è adesso"** Click here >>
- 06-04-2022 | nonsologreen.it **"Un fertilizzante high quality dagli scarti di arance e dallo zolfo: il progetto LIFE RecOrgFert plus"** Click here>>
- 30-03-2022 | VARESEFOCUS.IT "**Polvere di arancia e zolfo contro la desertificazione"** Click here >>
- 16-03-2022 | UNINDUSTRIAREGGIOEMILIA.IT **"Da scarti di arance e dallo zolfo un rivoluzionario fertilizzante organico-minerale: per LIFE RecOrgFert Plus, SBS Steel Belt Systems sceglie Warrant Hub – Tinexta Group"** Click here >>
- 14-03-2022 | AGRIGIORNALE.NET **"Da scarti di arance e dallo zolfo un rivoluzionario fertilizzante organico-minerale"** Click here >>
- 14-03-2022 | 247.LIBERO.IT **"Contrastare la desertificazione del suolo con scarti di arance e zolfo: SBS sceglie Warrant Hub per il progetto LIFE RecOrgFert Plus"** Click here >>
- 14-03-2022 | INNOVATIONPOST.IT **"Contrastare la desertificazione del suolo con scarti di arance e zolfo: SBS sceglie Warrant Hub per il progetto LIFE RecOrgFert Plus"** Click here >>
- 14-03-2022 | ITALIAFRUIT.NET **"Dagli scarti di arance nasce un rivoluzionario fertilizzante"** Click here >>
- 10-03-2022 | BITMAT.IT "**SBS Steel Belt Systems sceglie Warrant Hub per rivoluzionare il settore dei fertilizzanti"** Click here >>
- 10-03-2022 | ITISMAGAZINE.IT **"SBS supportata da Warrant Hub per LIFE RecOrgFert Plus"** Click here >>
- 10-03-2022 | ALTERNATIVASOSTENIBILE.IT **"Economia circolare. Da scarti di arance e zolfo il nuovo fertilizzante rivoluzionario anche per l'ambiente"** Click here >>
- 10-03-2022 | 247.LIBERO.IT **"SBS Steel Belt Systems sceglie Warrant Hub per rivoluzionare il settore dei fertilizzanti"** Click here >>
- 10-03-2022 | Warrant Hub "**Da scarti di arance e dallo zolfo un rivoluzionario fertilizzante organico-minerale: per LIFE RecOrgFert Plus, SBS Steel Belt Systems sceglie Warrant Hub – Tinexta Group"** Click here >>
- 07-03-2022 | Imprenditore.com **"Il fertilizzante di SBS: un esempio di economia circolare"** Click here >>
- 14-12-2021 | **SBS and Confindustria (Italian Entrepreneurial Association) shooted a VIDEO focused on LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS Project** Click here >>

Moreover, Confindustria Varese, the association of industrial companies of the territory of Varese (northern Italy), published a video to present SBS and LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS as a success story of innovation in the territory. Confindustria Varese is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit business association belonging to the Confindustria System. Its members include 1,039 companies with 67,239 employees. The video is present at the following link: https://youtu.be/LhxH0t_HUrs

5.4 Events and conferences

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITY	TARGET GROUP	OUTREACH/IMPACT	DETAILED DESCRIPTION
9th International Conference on Sustainable Solid Waste Management Corfu (Greece) 15-18 June 2022	Industries and farmers Policy makers, Policy advising and Regulatory Bodies and European and National Authorities General audience	/	https://www.life-recorgfertplus.eu/9th-international-conference-on-sustainable-solid-waste-management/
Opening Conference Virtual 30 June 2022	Industries and farmers Policy makers, Policy advising and Regulatory Bodies and European and National Authorities	312 Video recording views 84 participants	https://www.life-recorgfertplus.eu/it/opening-conference-life-project-recorgfert-plus/
ACHEMA 2022 Frankfurt (Germany) 22-26 August 2022	Industries and farmers Policy makers, Policy advising and Regulatory Bodies and European and National Authorities General audience	Over 2,200 exhibitors from more than 50 countries	https://www.life-recorgfertplus.eu/sbs-steel-belt-systems-at-achema-2022/
MACFRUT "Direzione Africa" Rimini (Italy) 3 May 2023	Policy makers, Policy advising and Regulatory Bodies and European and National Authorities	1,100 exhibitors 61,000 visitors	https://www.life-recorgfertplus.eu/life-recorgfert-plus-at-direzione-africa-event/

Mid-Term Conference Virtual 22 September 2023	Industries and farmers Policy makers, Policy advising and Regulatory Bodies and European and National Authorities General audience	26 video recording views	https://www.life-recorgfertplus.eu/it/life-recorgfert-plus-mid-term-conference/
LIFE Platform Meeting on Soil Pamplona (Spain) 10-11 April 2023	Industries and farmers Policy makers, Policy advising and Regulatory Bodies and European and National Authorities	More than 50 projects	https://www.life-recorgfertplus.eu/life-recorgfert-plus-at-the-life-platform-meeting-on-soil-conference-in-pamplona-spain/
Soil Health: Current Status and Future Needs Chania (Greece) 7-9 October 2024	Industries and farmers Policy makers, Policy advising and Regulatory Bodies and European and National Authorities	/	https://www.life-recorgfertplus.eu/participation-in-the-conference-on-soil-health-current-status-and-future-needs/

Table 2: LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS participated events and conferences

Many activities after the end of the project have been already implementing since February 2025:

a. Dissemination: next conferences have been selected in order to participate to different events and disseminate the results achieved related to the organic fertilizers and the machinery.

b. Location: we are still actively search for a new location to move the Pilot Plant we have installed in Villafranca Tirrena (Messina) which has been stopped by the local authorities. We are speaking to other Companies within Sicily and specifically to the refinery in Augusta, Sicily. We want to find a location which is suitable for producing and selling the organic fertilizers and we will move the Pilot Plant to the new location at the expenses of SBS.

c. Business Development in Europe: several contacts are activated in Greece such as Biosolids with which we are discussing the sale of one full turn-key machinery because Biosolids is the leader in the organic fertilizer industry in Greece. Another important contact is Melissa which is the top producer in Greece of pasta (second market share after Barilla – imported pasta) and it would like to have more and more organic durum wheat from the network of its farmers. There are nearly 500 farmers supplying the durum wheat to Melissa and we

are discussing to organize a Consortium of farmers to buy one full tunr-key production line by SBS and produce in Greece organic fertilizers which could be used in the farmers' land (captive use).

d. Business Development out of Europe: discussions for full turn-key production lines (more than one) for organic fertilizers are undergoing with Kazakhstan and with Egypt. In Kazakhstan we spoke to some local authorities because the agri-business sector is under control of the National Government, while in Egypt we are dealing with Ecaru which is one of the biggest Companies producing chemical and also natural fertilizers, and they are interested in organic fertilizers produced in Egypt with SBS machinery.

6 Plan of future Dissemination activities, and timing

NR	EVENT NAME	LOCATION and DATE	PARTNER INVOLVED	TARGET	EXPECTED COSTS (euro)
1	Sulphur + Sulphuric Acid Expoconference	USA 3-5/11/2025	SBS	Raw materials Industry	**€ 14.000**
2	Global Summit on Recycling and Waste Management	London (UK) 25–26/03/2026	UNIRC	Experts in recycling and waste management	**€ 699**
3	MACFRUT 2026	Rimini (Italy) 21-23/04/2026	SBS	Food industry	/
4	7th Conference AISSA UNDER 40 at University of Turin	Torino (Italy) 12-13/06/2026	UNIRC	Young researchers	**€ 145**
5	ACHEMA 2027	Frankfurt (Germany) 14-18/06/2027	SBS	Manufacturing Industry	**€ 65.000,00**

Table 3: Future Dissemination activities

UNIRC is planning the publication of scientific articles to keep disseminating project results at international level. At the moment, researchers are working in the following topics:

1. Impact of Agro-Industrial Waste-Based Fertilizers on Hazelnut (Corylus avellana L.) Quality and Yield Parameters.
2. Soil Quality and Environmental Impacts of Diverse Fertilizer Sources: An Integrated Assessment.
3. Circular Fertilization Strategy Using Sulphur with Orange Waste Enhances Soil Health and Broccoli Nutritional and Nutraceutical Quality in Mediterranean Systems.

The article, once published, will be added to the "Scientific publication" section of the project website and promoted on the LinkedIn project channel.

7 Cost of the future dissemination activities, and sources of finance

To continue the communication and the dissemination activities of LIFE RECORGFERT PLUS project, SBS and other partners will use its own resources as no other external financial sources have been identified. The other project partners will also use own resources for carry on their respective activities.

SBS participates to two important international conferences that have been identified as interesting to share LIFE RECORGFERT PLUS to a large audience. The first one is the "Sulphur + Sulphuric Acid Expoconference" that will take place from the 3rd to the 11th of November 2025 in the United States. SBS has already booked a booth of 2x3m2 (EUR 6.110,51) and has already booked the some of the logistics (EUR 1.652,68). In addition to the previous costs, SBS will have to add the costs related to additional logistics, transports, personnel costs for 2 participants and communication material. Taking into consideration all these expenses, SBS foreseen a cost of about 14,000 EUR. Regarding the participation to ACHEMA 2027, the cost present in table 3 is an estimation considering the money invested in previous participation. The total amount of 65,000 is comprehensive of the booth set up, communication and dissemination material, material delivering, accommodation, logistic, personnel costs for 4 participants and additional costs.

MACFRUT is an international fair that every year attract more than 60,000 visitors and 1,500 investors all round the world. During this event, SBS will not set a booth but the presence of the Project Coordinator as invited speaker could be taken into consideration without paying any fees.

UNIRC has already programmed two events to join next year to present LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS main results: the first one is the Global Summit on Recycling and Waste Management that will be held in London (UK) on the 26th and 26th of March 2026. For this event, UNIRC is planning to participate as speaker and the fee for this kind of participation is EUR 699. UNIRC will present the project at the 7th Conference AISSA UNDER 40 at the University of Turin (Italy) on June 12th and 13th, 2026. The agenda of the event is not ready yet but key topics will include agroecological practices, circular economy, biotechnology, precision agriculture, and sustainable land management. The goal is to build a network of academics and promote advanced, eco-friendly solutions for agriculture and food production. The participation fee is 145 EUR but a discount is foreseen for the people part of the Italian Society of Italian Society of Agricultural Genetics.

8 Conclusions

The LIFE RecOrgFert PLUS project does not end with the conclusion of EU funding: numerous actions are already underway to ensure its continuity and to enhance the results achieved.
We are confident that the developed model can evolve into a sustainable and profitable business, capable of generating employment both in the production site in Sicily (or elsewhere) and in the commercial network for selling fertilizers and equipment.

Main actions planned after the end of the project:

- Participation in international conferences to promote the project results and developed technologies (e.g., Sulphur + Sulphuric Acid Expoconference, ACHEMA 2027).
- Relocation of the pilot plant currently inactive in Villafranca Tirrena (ME), with the goal of resuming production in a new site in Sicily employing several employees both as workers for managing the production in the plant in and as sales-agents for the machinery and for the organic fertilizer itself.
- Business development in Europe, particularly in Greece, with negotiations for the sale of turnkey plants and the creation of a farmers' consortium.
- Expansion outside Europe, with active contacts in Kazakhstan and Egypt for the installation of organic fertilizer production lines.
- Publication of scientific articles in international journals to disseminate project results at the academic level.
- Continuous updates of the website and social media channels to maintain high visibility of the project and its developments.
- Use of partners' own resources to support post-project communication and dissemination activities.