

November 2020

CircLean Network



CircLean Network Charter

CircLean Project team



Version 1

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1 The CircLean Network

1.1 Purpose of the CircLean Network

The *CircLean Network: European Network of Businesses and SMEs for Industrial Symbiosis* is a project implemented by Technopolis Group with a consortium of partners composed of Trinomics, International Synergies and Arctik on the behalf of the European Commission's DG GROW. The purpose of the CircLean Network is to mobilise industries and relevant stakeholders to overcome the barriers of industrial symbiosis' uptake in Europe, and to seize the necessary business opportunities to meet these challenges. The CircLean Network will provide a unique environment for its members to exchange and jointly co-design ways to develop a common methodology, an online tool for reliable monitoring and reporting of industrial symbiosis transactions and an industrial symbiosis label.

The main challenges of industrial symbiosis today are related to the lack of awareness on the role of industrial symbiosis in supporting the development of a circular economy, insufficiently motivating enabling framework conditions, and lack of evidence and recognition of the potential benefits.

Therefore, the CircLean Network shall pursue three objectives to increase industrial symbiosis in the EU:

- To establish and administer a network of businesses, public authorities including EU regions and municipalities, public/private partnerships, business associations and academic/research with actual, or potential, involvement in industrial symbiosis changes
- To explore the role of utility companies in forging or facilitating industrial symbiosis
- To encourage exchanges and co-operation among public administrations in Europe to support industrial symbiosis implementation on the ground.

2 Network Charter and Code of Conduct

2.1 Objective of the CircLean Network Charter and main principles

The present Charter defines the code of conduct for the CircLean network that all members of are required to sign as a condition of membership.

The objective of this Charter is to ensure that the members of the CircLean network meet the highest levels of professional conduct and ethical standards in supporting the functions of the CircLean Network, and that they act in the spirit of cooperation and with commitment to fostering the development of industrial symbiosis activities within the CircLean network and contribute to ensure the sustainability of the network beyond project end. It applies to all members.

The Charter is guided by the following main principles:

- Adherence to the CircLean code of conduct
- Professionalism and commitment to the mission and objective of the CircLean network

2.1.1 Adherence to the CircLean code of conduct

All members of the CircLean network pledge to follow the CircLean Code of Conduct, including all provisions regarding labor, human rights, environment, bribery, and corruption.



Members are expected to be thoroughly familiar with and adhere to provisions of the CircLean Code of Conduct.

The following elements are of particular relevance to stimulating the upscale of industrial symbiosis in the EU:

- Recognition of the CircLean network among the business community in the EU and internationally (through endorsement by the European Commission and by the business community)
- Mutual respect and integrity-based relationships among members
- Comprehensive and effective governance mechanism based on democratic principles and set on a collaborative arrangement
- Motivated members that are involved in the industrial symbiosis' activities, or have a strong interest in participating in or promoting these activities
- Allows membership at least for the following stakeholders: industry organisations of all sizes including utility companies, business associations, cluster organisations, industrial symbiosis facilitators, regional and municipal organisations, research organisations, while classifying them under various membership categories
- Clearly defined commitments and roles of the members
- Clearly defined benefits for the members
- Among the key products for members are an industrial symbiosis reporting methodology, tool and a label – all co-created with selected members and jointly endorsed
- Co-creation and engagement are the core of the approaches in any development
- Geographical coverage focused on the EU, but allows neighbourhood countries to join
- No restrictions based on industrial sector
- The CircLean network is to be self-sustained as from the end of the project. It has clearly defined strategy for sustaining activities in the long term, with the well-established model for functioning, financing and offering services, supporting the industrial symbiosis monitoring and reporting as well as the further development and uptake of the methodology, protocol, tool and label.

2.1.2 *Professionalism and commitment to the mission and objective of the CircLean network*

All members of the CircLean network pledge to enhance cooperation and the development of industrial symbiosis practices. Further, members pledge their commitment to the mission and objectives of the CircLean network and to the observance of its Code of Conduct. Specifically, members undertake to act professionally in regard to knowledge, advocacy and independence, and personal conduct.

Knowledge

A member of the CircLean network shall ensure that its officers and staff:

- a. Stay informed of this Code of Conduct and the decisions taken by the Management Board of the CircLean network.
- b. Disseminate without delay any (non-confidential) information or other resources obtained through the CircLean network amongst the stakeholders and constituencies of the member, including businesses, industry associations, public authorities, R&I



organisations, networks, intergovernmental, international, regional and sectoral organizations, partnerships and initiatives that may contribute to accelerate the upscale of industrial symbiosis in the EU (and in the neighbouring countries).

Advocacy and Independence

A member of the CircLean network shall ensure that its officers and staff:

- a. Engage honestly in activities of the CircLean network to stimulate cooperation on industrial symbiosis.
- b. Provide only factual and relevant information and are neither misleading nor unfair to others when undertaking work on behalf of the CircLean network.
- c. Refrain from using or permitting to use the name, abbreviation, emblem or logo of the CircLean network, Technopolis Group, International Synergies, Trinomics, and the European Commission, or of any other partner institution of the CircLean network in connection with the member's activities, unless the member has been specifically authorized to do so, in writing, by or on behalf of the Director of the CircLean network, or the concerned partner institution.

Personal Conduct

A member of the CircLean network shall ensure that its officers and staff:

- a. Operate the business and practice of the member in such a manner to reflect generally accepted professional conduct.
- b. Maintain in good standing reputation and character at all times; and
- c. Refrain from knowingly providing the CircLean network with false, inaccurate, misleading or incomplete information at any time.

2.2 Breaches of this code of conduct

Any breach of this Code of Conduct by a member, brought to the attention of the CircLean network, will be considered reasonable cause to terminate the membership.

Name of organisation

Signature

technopolis
group 

www.technopolis-group.com