



Call for Proposal

Pilot action of Biocompack-CE project

Project title: *Developing and strengthening cross-sectoral linkages among actors in sustainable biocomposite packaging innovation systems in a Central European circular economy*

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1. Background

Within the international consortium of Biocompack-CE we intend to improve sustainable linkages among actors of the innovation systems for strengthening regional innovation capacity in central Europe in the field of packaging.

We mainly focus on the fact, that the appearance of microplastics in recycled paper secondary materials and compost is becoming a major concern. There is a high potential for mobilizing synergies between business and research in the area of combined paper-bioplastics packaging design, production and recycling in Central Europe. Linkages are not sufficiently established due to lack of awareness among paper packaging producers on new bioplastics materials, a separated focus on plastics and paper in clusters and branch organizations, the lack of a common innovation strategy within a clear European and national legal and economic context and the lack of dedicated tools to support SME's in introducing new paper-plastics packaging solutions.

2. Project Goals and Transnational Biocomposite Packaging Service (TBPS)

Our main project objective is to provide stronger linkages between R&D institutions and companies in the area of paper-plastics packaging solutions with the aim to introduce verified biodegradable materials in paper and cardboard packaging. The project foresees an innovative cross-sectoral approach and the involvement of clusters, branch organizations and stakeholders, that will allow to focus on regional economic specializations and to speed up technology transfer. The Project Partners will establish a Transnational Biocomposite Packaging Centre as a virtual RDI platform that brings together cross-sectoral capacities in paper and bioplastics, linked with regional innovation systems and the European Enterprise Network, supported by an integrated cross-sectoral business support service including a set of dedicated tools tested under pilot actions and disseminated among cluster coordinators and EEN consultants. A Central European Strategy on biocomposite packaging innovation systems shall set the framework, a handbook: "Sustainable Paper-Plastic Design" and an audit tool will help companies to quickly verify opportunities and chose for change.



As to carry out the project's pilot actions dedicated to test the developed business support service, our international consortium is seeking companies interested in participating in the process.

The pilot action consists of the completion of an audit tool and a technological feasibility questionnaire, which will be evaluated by the experts of the consortium and serve as the base for an economic feasibility adapted to a tailor-made business solution offered for the participating company. (Detailed process in annex)

3. Anticipated Selection Schedule

The evaluation of the applicants is continuous with the limitation to 3-4 companies from each consortium member country.

4. Time and Place of Submission of Proposals

1st May, 2019 – 15th June, 2019

Proposals should be submitted to Mr. Zsolt Keresztúri (Omnipack First Hungarian Packaging Technology Cluster- Cluster manager) via email: zsolt.kereszturi@dbh-group.com

or

national contact points in partner countries: A.Kržan (SLO), C.Wojcik (PL), G.Baničević (CRO), D.Bakoš (SK), G.Elegir (IT), Z.Kereszturi (H) – for full contacts see BIOCMPACK-CE project webpage.

5. Timeline

The pilot actions will take place between June-September 2019 at the premises of the participating companies with the assistance of an expert representing the consortium.

6. Elements of Proposal

Short description of the company, main profile, ongoing activities with the indication of contact person and possible availability for the pilot action to be carried out.

7. Evaluation Criteria

Our consortium is seeking companies:

- located in one of the consortium member countries (Croatia, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia)
- involved in the value chain of packaging
- interested in the main focus of the project



- open to testing new business support services and solutions in the field of biocomposite packaging technology

Discover more about Biocompack-CE:

www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/BIOCOMPACK-CE.html

www.facebook.com/Biocompack



ANNEX

PILOT ACTION

draft

Preliminary phase:

- first contact with applicant via phone
- audit tool, technological feasibility tool to be submitted via e-mail

Field visit (2-3 hours):

- meeting with general manager, technical manager of the company
- completing the audit tool and technological feasibility tool with special regards to additional company specific data
- discussion of possible business support solutions

Evaluation phase:

- a report is to be submitted to the company based on the outcome of the meeting as well an economic feasibility based on the tailor-made business support solution offered for the applicant
- discussion of the process of the pilot actions based on the feedbacks from the applicant
- preparation of a case study