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# RAW4RES NEWSLETTER

A NEWSLETTER ON THE PROGRESS AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES OF THE  
RAW4RES PROJECT

## ENHANCING RESPONSIBLE MINING POLICIES AND RAW MATERIALS RESILIENCE IN EU REGIONS

Dear readers,

Welcome to the 2nd edition of our newsletter! We are pleased to share updates on the completed, ongoing, and upcoming activities of our project, RAW4RES. This project aims to improve the design of policy instruments related to strengthening the resilience of CRMs and raw materials related value chains, responsible domestic mining and the development of secondary markets for the project's participating regions.

In this issue, we will provide a snapshot of our recent achievements, ongoing initiatives, and exciting prospects for the future.

ERDF  
1,568,044 €

DURATION  
1 Mar 2023 -  
31 May 2027

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### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To assess and forecast raw materials vulnerabilities in participating regions' value chains, and develop mitigation measures.
- To promote mining green sustainability through responsible policies, principles, and practices.
- To foster processes of open discussion, and consensus-building and assisting in conflict resolution between local communities, civil society, businesses, and stakeholders.
- To promote circular economy, to maximise resource efficiency, minimise waste, and tap into regions' unvalorised recycling potential.

## COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

We are happy to announce the completion of Activity A1.1 "Exchange of experience on contention points between growth strategies vis-à-vis environmental protection policies." The methodology and final report for this activity were expertly conducted by our Slovenian partner BSC, while our partners provided territorial input and documented discrepancies between regional growth strategies in the raw materials (RM) sector and environmental regulations. The findings highlight potential conflicts with civil society actors, forming the basis for a comprehensive survey and subsequent analysis.



These findings underscore the multifaceted challenges within the raw materials sector and emphasize the need for strategic interventions to address these issues comprehensively. To address the identified challenges, recommendations have been developed.

**Find out more on our official [RAW4RES](#) website!**

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES

All partners are currently conducting policy review sessions with experts through the Policy Learning Platform, to assess the need for additional environmental criteria in own strategies to address the challenges highlighted in Activity A1.1.

### Policy Learning Platform

The Policy Learning Platform constitutes a key initiative within the framework of the Interreg Europe programme. It consists of an international team of experts specialized in the policy fields addressed by the programme or possessing expertise in knowledge management and communication and features an interactive web interface designed to facilitate networking, information sharing, and the exchange of knowledge.

This platform actively promotes continuous policy learning and is open to engagement from interested regions throughout Europe. Its core services involve leveraging the knowledge generated by Interreg Europe's projects, making it accessible to a broader audience, irrespective of their direct involvement in a specific project.







**Bucharest - Ilfov Regional Development Agency 1st stakeholder meeting**



**BSC Kranj - 1st stakeholder meeting at the Regional Chamber of Craft and Small Business of Kranj**

## STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

ADR-BI, BSC, and KOZANI held their first stakeholder meetings with the objective of introducing the project to their local communities and initiating a dialogue on local challenges and development opportunities. The discussions centered around the main characteristics of the Interreg Europe Program, details on RAW4RES project – implementation period, partnership, objectives, main activities foreseen to be implemented during the project lifetime, future actions and networking. These meetings also covered a short overview of the most relevant European and national regulations on critical raw materials, discussions on Activity A1.1 and Project’s Pilot Action. PROMEA provided the guidelines for the organization of the stakeholder meetings. Find out more on our official [\*\*RAW4RES\*\*](#) website!



**The Mayor of Municipality of Kozani, with members of the stakeholder group**

## PILOT ACTION

# Testing the development of open collaboration ecosystems to promote the domestic sourcing of Critical Raw Materials (CRMs)

In the following semesters **BSC** and **KOZANI** will test how the provision of targeted training and mentorship services to businesses (incl. SMEs) can significantly accelerate the formation of triple-helix ecosystems to promote CRMs recycling in the territories of Gorenjska (Slovenia) and Kozani (Greece).

The pilot action is based on Extremadura's public intervention to introduce circular economy in own region; FUNDECYT pilot tested the provision of consultation and training services to businesses in 2021, in order to:

- address innovation and knowledge gaps, as well as concerns regarding newly introduced concepts and business models, and
- there upon foster collaborations between regional actors, for the latter to harness circular economy funding opportunities by valorising the new knowledge acquired.

The training and mentorship aspect of the pilot action is based on three main pillars:

- presenting successful examples and elaborating on synergetic business models that can secure profitability, including green growth financial opportunities (i.e., Green Deal),
- different governance models and approaches regarding synergetic schemes, and
- technological and infrastructure considerations.

The best practice, initially developed during the IE 2014-2020 SYMBI project and recognised as such by EIT Raw Materials, will be updated by PROMEA by integrating EIT Raw Materials



# WHAT ELSE IS NEXT?

## Joint thematic analysis activities

- In an online collaborative session organized by KOZANI, partners will collectively explore good governance practices for balancing environmental, social, and economic trade-offs in raw materials value chains. KOZANI will deliver a good practice handbook on how partners can modify existing stakeholder engagement approaches to maximise conflict resolution capacities and achieve consensus-building with local communities and stakeholders.
- RSE will analyze partners' input and the results from a joint online mapping exercise to deliver tailored recommendations for managing public opposition to raw materials mining and realizing SLO (a 'social licence to operate') success in each territory.



## Workshop on best practices for valorising mining waste and revitalising closed mines

The purpose of this workshop, organized by ADR-BI, is to share knowledge on best practices for valorizing mining waste and revitalizing closed mines and policy instrument changes needed for exploiting own regional untapped potential. It aims to explore barriers, innovative technologies, and financial measures influencing these activities, fostering interregional learning and capacity building. ADR-BI will encapsulate all lessons learned during the workshop into a comprehensive summary report, providing valuable knowledge for all RAW4RES participants.



## 2nd Steering Group Meeting

The 2nd Steering Group meeting, where project development will be discussed, will be organized by FHN and take place in February 2024.



## THE PARTNERSHIP



Region of Central Greece - RSE  
**(Lead Partner)**  
**(EL)**



Municipality of Frederikshavn - FHN  
**(DK)**



BSC, Business Support Centre,  
Kranj, Ltd - BSC  
**(SI)**



Bucharest – Ilfov Regional  
Development Agency - ADR-BI  
**(RO)**



FUNDECYT Scientific and  
Technological Park of  
Extremadura - FUNDECYT  
**(ES)**



Municipality of Kozani - KOZANI  
**(EL)**



The Hellenic Society for the  
Promotion of Research and  
Development Methodologies -  
PROMEA **(Advisory Partner)**  
**(EL)**

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