

## #PLASTIXmobility –staff exchange in Tampere

The PLASTIX project's staff exchange was held in Tampere, Finland, 21–22 May 2025, and the Council of Tampere Region and the Baltic Institute of Finland had the pleasure of hosting project colleagues.



The two-day visit welcomed project partners and stakeholders from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy, and Ukraine, including representatives from City Development Agency-CIDEA, AFIL – Associazione Fabbrica Intelligente Lombardia, and Zhytomyr Polytechnic State University, alongside industry representatives from the Italian company ROLD.

### A Hands-On Look at Circular Economy in Action

Participants were given a deep dive into how plastic circular economy is being implemented in Tampere region and across Finland. Through expert presentations, site visits, and interactive discussions, the exchange offered a wealth of insights into innovative practices and regional cooperation models.

The programme featured engaging sessions and excursions hosted by:

- Molok Ltd. – showcasing sustainable waste container manufacturing
- Pirkanmaan Jätehuolto (municipal waste company) – introducing local plastic collection pilots and reuse trials
- Ekokumppanit Oy (Ecofellows Ltd.) – discussing the public sector's role in circular economy initiatives
- Hyötykeräys & Hyötypaalaus – offering a look into plastic sorting and baling operations
- VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland – presenting Finnish excellence in plastics research
- Suomen Rengaskierrätys Oy (Finnish Tyre Recycling Ltd.) – demonstrating tyre recycling systems and material recovery



### Collaboration, Innovation, and Shared Learning

The exchange sparked lively discussions about the role of public organisations in enabling and promoting circular economy strategies. Participants also explored pilot projects focused on reusable plastic packaging and

efficient plastic collection models, offering practical examples of scalable solutions. By experiencing firsthand how regional authorities, research institutions, and businesses work together, visitors gained valuable perspectives to take back to their home countries.

#### Why Circularity in Plastics Matters

Circular economy for plastics is crucial in reducing environmental impact, preserving natural resources, and fostering innovation in product design and waste management. It plays a key role in supporting green transition in Europe and beyond.

The PLASTIX project is committed to advancing interregional cooperation and knowledge exchange on circular plastics. By connecting stakeholders from different regions, the project helps identify best practices, support policy development, and strengthen local and regional capabilities in tackling plastic waste.

A heartfelt thank you to all the organisations and individuals who contributed to this successful exchange — and to Interreg Europe for making this collaboration possible.

