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Abstract Details

Abstract Title

TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY – INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS IN ROMANIA

Abstract Text

Industrial symbiosis constitutes a major part of industrial ecology, which states that an industrial ecosystem may behave in a similar way to the natural ecosystem, wherein everything gets valued and nothing is wasted. These ideas have been incorporated in a LIFE+ Project – Application of Industrial Ecosystems Principles to Regional Development, that sought to implement industrial symbiosis principles within a pilot area - Suceava County (North East of Romania). More than 230 economic and social units from various fields and industrial sectors were included in a pilot regional symbiotic network. More than 240 synergetic connections between these units were identified with almost 200 being implemented resulting in more than 500.000 tones of waste diverted from landfill, 3,100 ha of forest preserved, reduction of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions of more than 139,000 tones of CO₂ and 60,000 m³ of industrial water saved. The paper is presenting the approach used to develop the regional symbiotic network in which waste, by-products and other materials that are leaving one production cycle can become valuable resources for another one, saving important financial resources, reducing virgin materials consumptions and having a positive impact upon the environment. Case studies involving synergetic partnerships established within the created industrial symbiosis network are also presented.

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Presentation

Contribution proposed for: oral presentation

