

Project Newsletter #11



The project GreenIndustrialAreas empowers public authorities to increase the share of smart and climate-neutral industrial areas and co-develop a transnational certification standard. The project is funded by the Interreg Baltic Sea Region programme of the European Union.



We had a great Final conference in Schwerin

Participants enjoyed a day of discussions at the project's final event in Schwerin, Germany. The project partners presented the outputs of the project and their uptake across the partner regions. In the afternoon, an interesting panel discussion featuring among others Mecklenburg-Vorpommern's Minister of the Economy highlighted how green industrial areas and energy transition link to European resilience while still promoting the fight to limit the impacts of industrial activities on the climate. The event concluded with a poster presentation of the project's pilot sites and an outlook to the future of Interreg in the 2028-2034 EU financing period. On the second day, the participants were invited to a field trip to Grevesmühlen, one of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania's awarded green industrial areas.

In addition, local closing events also took place in Central Finland and Latvia. You can find details about these events on our [website](#) and on [LinkedIn](#).



Meet our partner: City of Jyväskylä (FI)

Jyväskylä, a vibrant city in Central Finland of 150 000 residents, is known for its strong industrial base and commitment to sustainability. The city joined the Green Industrial Areas initiative to accelerate climate-neutral growth and embed circular economy principles into regional development. The city leads the Eteläportti pilot area, promoting smart technologies and low-carbon models, while sharing expertise and driving circular economy practices among local businesses. Jyväskylä's participation reflects its ambition to combine industrial innovation, competitiveness, and environmental responsibility, leveraging EU cooperation to build a greener future.

Photo below: Eteläportti industrial area



Grevesmühlen pioneers green sustainable urban planning since 2014



The Grevesmühlen Northwest green industrial area (see pictures above and below) is considered a pioneering example of sustainable urban planning. At its heart is Germany's first energy-plus sewage treatment plant, which has been generating more renewable electricity and heat than it consumes since 2014. A photovoltaic system also supports solar sewage sludge drying.

The waste heat from the plant covers almost the entire heating requirements of the commercial area via three local heating networks. These supply, among others, a shrimp farm, the sewage treatment

The cooperation is the result of many years of strategic planning, which, according to Mayor Lars Prahler, shows that saving energy also saves money. 81 percent of the total electricity demand in the area is covered by renewable energies, mainly from two solar parks, one of which was realized as a community solar park. A newly established district heating connection to the malt factory uses bio natural gas from a local biogas plant. In the future, a nursing home, assisted living facility, and a new residential area are to be connected to this network. A key new component is the company Novocarbo, which uses pyrolysis to process plant residues into biochar, thereby generating renewable energy. The municipality's use of waste heat makes it possible to increase the share of renewable energies in the heating network from 60% to 75% and to shut down a natural gas combined heat and power plant.

plant itself, and the company Enosys Recycling.



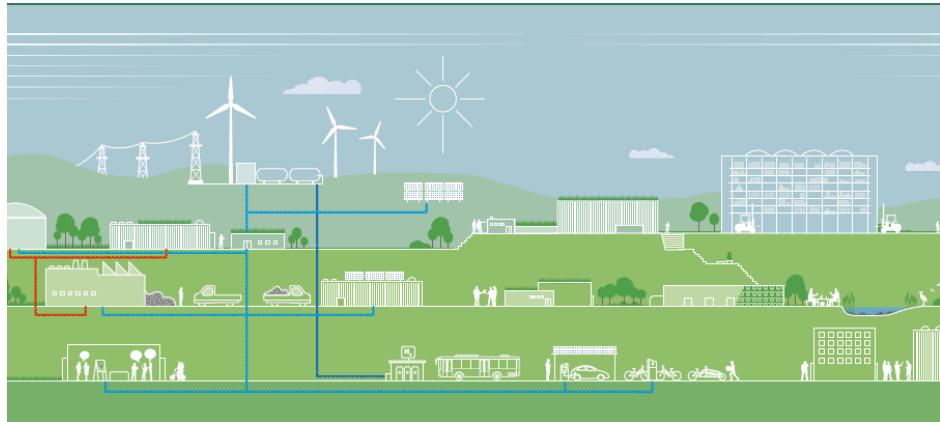
What others have to say about the project..



Bengt Fellbe, SSEC (Sweden)

"I have followed the project with great interest, albeit from a distance. I have had the privilege of participating in two study trips, both of which have been good and inspiring. Not only as study visits in themselves, but it is as you emphasize in the project and my experience is that precisely collaborative meetings with others (dissimilar and like-minded) are what are the core of success. Industrial symbiosis or Circular Bioeconomy is fundamentally based on collaboration. That is what also makes it complex.

When it comes to the project's "toolbox", it is a substantial and well-worked material. The material is comprehensive and well exemplified with case studies/good examples. The positive thing is also that there are now municipalities/regions that intend to use/try their way with the help of this."



On our website: Second project output published

The project consortium recently published the second output on the project website: a Tool-box including technologies and approaches to become a green industrial area. The Tool-box is addressed to both single companies and managers of industrial areas.

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