

CURIOST



# CURIOST MoU

DELIVERABLE 3.5.2

## Memorandum of Understanding

**CURIOST**

Concerning Participation in the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE project (CE0200602) “CircUlaR design and develOpment of Sustainable producTs in 4 key sectors in Central Europe” we, the undersigned, hereby declare our intent to support and participate in the CURIOST initiative - Circular Design and Development of Sustainable Products - with a specific focus on fostering circular economy practices, sustainable product development, innovation and new business models for SMEs and small mid-cap companies across Central Europe.

### Context and Commitment

We acknowledge that SMEs in the mechanics and mechatronics, packaging, plastics, and construction and building sectors in Central Europe often face barriers in adopting circular economy solutions, due to limited financial and technical resources. At the same time, we recognise the growing demand from consumers, industries, and policymakers for greener, more resource-efficient, and socially responsible business models.

### We endorse CURIOST’s mission to:

1. Support SMEs and small mid-cap companies in developing sustainable products and circular business models.
2. Provide mentoring and expert guidance to enterprises integrating sustainability into their daily operations, enabling them to discover new market opportunities.
3. Focus on strategic sectors including mechanics and mechatronics, packaging, plastics, and construction.
4. Facilitate the uptake of CURIOST Action Plan at policy level.
5. Strengthen international cooperation through networking events, knowledge exchange, and partnership building.
6. Raise awareness and build capacities through campaigns.

### Role and Contribution

By signing this Memorandum, we express our willingness to:

1. Collaborate with project partners beyond the project lifetime on further adoption of circular design and development of sustainable products, including any future EU-funded projects.
2. Inform stakeholders reached within the project of future initiatives concerning sustainable product development and cooperation opportunities.

3. Support the dissemination of results, outputs, and tools at regional and international level.
4. Facilitate dialogue between Project Partners, SMEs and small mid-cap companies, stakeholders and policymakers.

We recognise the urgency of a systemic shift towards a greener, more circular, and resilient economy and consider the CURIOST initiative a timely and impactful contribution in this direction.

This Memorandum of Understanding is non-binding and does not entail any financial or legal obligation. It reflects a shared commitment to the goals and spirit of CURIOST.

This Memorandum of Understanding is drawn up in one original copy (digitally signed), which is held by the lead partner. Each partner receives a digital copy.

### Signing parties:

#### Project partners

Business Upper Austria OÖ Wirtschaftsagentur GmbH

ConPlusUltra FlexCo

Bratislava University of Economics and Business (EUBA)

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Pécs-Baranya

South Poland Cleantech Cluster Ltd.

STEP RI Science and Technology Park of the University of Rijeka Ltd.

Development and Training Centre for the Metal Industry - Metal Centre Čakovec

CENTRO SERVIZI INDUSTRIE SRL (MESAP Innovation Cluster)

ENVIRONMENT PARK SPA - Science and Technology Park for Environment

Bayern Innovativ

Cluster of Environmental Technologies Bavaria

#### Associated partners

Amt der Oberösterreichischen Landesregierung - Abteilung Wirtschaft und Forschung

Netzwerk Haus der Digitalisierung ecoplus Digital GmbH

Slovenská marketingová asociácia

Innomine Digital Innovation Hub Nonprofit Kft.

Stowarzyszenie Gmin Polska Sieć „Energie Cités”

Riječka razvojna agencija Porin

Javna ustanova za razvoj Međimurske županije

Confindustria Piemonte

Città Metropolitana di Torino

Bayerischer Industrie- und Handelskammertag (BIHK) e. V.