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CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST OF SMES FOR THEIR
PARTICIPATION TO THE REC-N-COMP FINAL EVENT

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REC-N-COMP FINAL EVENT - CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST	
Subject	SMEs selection for their participation to the project final event in Belgium
Project	REC-N-COMP
Call for EOI opening-closing dates	20/12/2023 – 31/01/2024
Period of implementation	22/02/2024 – 23/02/2024



Summary

1. Introduction.....	4
2. The final event of the REC-N-COMP project.....	4
3. Terms of the call	5
4. Eligibility and Evaluation criteria.....	6
5. Funding scheme.....	6
6. Technical assistance.....	7
7. GDPR.....	7



1. Introduction

The REC-N-COMP project, co-funded by the COSME Programme of the European Union, is supporting the internationalization of European SMEs having recently set-up, fine-tuned and consolidated their business in the production of recycled-based composites and/or sustainable recycled materials and their manufacturing technologies, using as input materials end-of-life waste coming from different sectors as Textile & Clothing, Automotive and Furniture.

The project partnership has organised three missions in three target countries: US, Japan and Singapore. A total of 21 SMEs, coming from Italy, France, Belgium and Poland have taken part in these missions.

This call is specifically opened for offering the opportunities to European SMEs interested in the topic recycled based composites to participate at the final event of the project that will take place at the Circular Materials Center at Kortrijk, Belgium on February 22 and 23, 2024.

The partners of the REC-N-COMP project are:

- Next Technology Tecnotessile (Italy)
- Cluster Legno Arredo e Sistema Casa FVG (Italy)
- Techtera (France)
- Flanders Make (Belgium)
- PGM – Polska Grupa Motoryzacyjna (Poland)

and they are hereby referred as the Organizing Partners.

2. The final event of the REC-N-COMP project

The REC-N-COMP final event will be organised in Kortrijk, Belgium on February 22 and 23, 2024 in the form of “capacity building”.

The title of the event is *“From waste to wow: get inspired on recycling and circularity of composites, wood and textiles”* and will see the participation of relevant actors and stakeholders of the composite, textile and wood industry interested in the use of recycled and sustainable materials and technologies.

The companies that will attend the event, will have the opportunity to:

- Acquire specific know-how on technologies and products related to recycled and sustainable materials and technologies
- Get to know the other companies, R&D centers, cluster organizations and other actors interested in the event topic
- Learn about best practices in internationalisation processes
- Receive information about the three target countries (USA, Singapore and Japan) explored in the frame of REC-N-COMP activities.

- Receive further information from REC-N-COMP partners on existing internationalisation opportunities offered by the European Commission or similar initiatives to REC-N-COMP

The event is divided in two half days as detailed here:

Thursday 22 February 2024, afternoon	
15:00	Welcome
15:15	Keynotes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Circular Business Models Wim Van Opstal (VITO) 2. Circular Bonding Technology Isabel Van de Weyenberg (Flanders Make) 3. Internationalisation Opportunities for Recycling & Reuse of Composites, Wood and Textiles Leonardo Marchetti (Next Technology Tecnotessile)
16:30	Company Testimonials
17:00 - 20:00	Micro Fair - CMC Demo Tour - Walking Dinner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get to know new products, technologies and companies at the micro fair • Visit the CMC Innovation Lab with a guided demo tour • Enjoy the walking dinner
Friday 2 February 2024, morning*	
9:00 – 12.30	Company visits

**Please note: the schedules may vary depending on the location of the company(ies) that will be visited*

3. Terms of the call

The main goal of this call is to select and engage EU SMEs to be supported for their participation to the REC-N-COMP final event, by facilitating networking activities, company or innovation centre visits, product showcases and other similar ones, with the aim of offering a “capacity building” service.

- Call publication date: 20/12/2023
- Submission deadline: 31/01/2024
- EOI evaluation period: 01/02/2024 – 02/02/2024

In order to be selected, SMEs have to fill the questionnaire available at this [link](#) by **31/01/2024**.

The SME has to agree on the declaration regarding the GDPR issues and the commitment to attend the full event along its duration, releasing the REC-N-COMP consortium from any act relating to misleading or fraudulent conduct.

Each SME can submit only one application under this call.

4. Eligibility and Evaluation criteria

Proposals will be eligible only if all the following conditions are met:

1. Being a Small or Medium Enterprise as defined in the EU recommendation 2003/361 https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/sme-definition_en
2. Having the headquarters or a branch in one of the Organizing Partners' countries: Italy, France, Belgium or Poland.
3. Having set up, or planning to set up, their activity in the field of recycled-based composites and/or sustainable recycled materials and related technologies using end-of-life materials from the sectors of Textile & Clothing, Automotive or Furniture.
4. Applications must be submitted by the deadline reported in section 3.

REC-N-COMP Steering Committee will perform an eligibility check according to the criteria above. Only submitted applications having passed the eligibility check will be evaluated by REC-N-COMP Steering Committee by ranking them with the ranking criteria reported below.

The outcome applications ranking will be approved by the Steering Committee in a consensus session. The following table reports the criteria and the associated score. Only applications reaching the threshold of 60 points will be retained for financial support. The supported applications can be maximum 15, to be selected among those reaching the highest score. In the event of withdrawal by one of the best ranked, support will be given to the next best ranked company on the ranking list.

	Ranking criteria	Score
1	Having participated in one of the three project missions (USA, Singapore, Japan)	0-20
2	Coherence of the company's activity with the objectives and priorities of the REC-N-COMP project.	0-35
3	Membership to a cluster of the REC-N-COMP partnership	0-10
4	The company's motivation for participating in the event	0-35
	Total score	0-100

In case of even score, priority will be given to the application sent first. All applicants will be notified within 10 working days after the closure of this call for EOIs.

5. Funding scheme

The REC-N-COMP consortium will financially and technically support SMEs participating to the event.

The financial support will cover the costs related to the travel for the mission, namely flight/train ticket and the cost for 1 night accommodation, up to 500,00 Euro per company.

Participants to the event must provide evidence of their attendance presenting boarding tickets, hotel receipts and any other document proving the effective participation.

6. Technical assistance

The REC-N-COMP partners will provide companies participating to the event with technical assistance. The partnership can provide participating companies with specific competences, specialised business support services, strategical contacts in the composite sector.

In the frame of REC-N-COMP project, in-depth analysis of the three target countries has been conducted through specific market studies that have identified the main opportunities and barriers for European companies for future business collaboration. **These results will be made available to the selected applicants.**

7. GDPR

Within the framework of GDPR, the organization of the event will comply with the obligations deriving by the General Data Protection Regulation. The REC-N-COMP consortium protects the information collected; the information is intended for the exclusive use of the REC-N-COMP project.

ORGANIZERS CONTACT DETAILS

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