

DRIVE NEWSLETTER



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Welcome to the third Newsletter of **DRIVE - Driving Rural Innovation through startup Villages across Europe** - is a Horizon Europe Coordination and Support Action dedicated to strengthening rural innovation ecosystems. It does so by connecting startups with accelerators, mentors, and funding bodies through dynamic roadshows, hackathons, and training events.



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The France Roadshow

“Technolac 2050 – A Hackathon Serving Symbiotic Innovation”

From 3 to 5 December, green tech pioneers gathered in France to tackle “A Hackathon Serving Symbiotic Innovation” to convert regional biomass into high value food, materials and energy.

CHALLENGE STATEMENT

The area around Lac du Bourget and near the Savoie Technolac science park is rich in economic stakeholders (innovative companies, committed entrepreneurs, players in tourism, circular economy, energy, agriculture, and local authorities).

However, these stakeholders often operate in isolation.

The challenge is to establish sustainable cooperative loops between these actors to address issues in the following areas.

- Pooling of local resources and flows
- Reducing negative externalities
- Supporting regenerative tourism integrated into local dynamics
- Strengthening interconnections in the circular economy field



The Savoie Technolac science park has launched the Savoie Technolac 2050 project. It is a sustainable development project to initiate transitions in economic, climate, environmental, and societal domains. Additionally, Savoie Technolac brings together key scientific, educational, technical, and entrepreneurial skills (energy, environment, digital, mobility, circular economy).



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OUTCOMES

The solutions that emerged are linked to entrepreneurial projects addressing regional challenges, for example:

1. The emergence of economic model proposals that could lead to the creation of start-ups or local cooperative, association-based, or open data-type initiatives and projects
2. Prototyping of platforms/services, functional mock-ups, or pilot projects in the region
3. Local initiatives for shared energy management, self-consumption, a map of local flows and resources to be valorized (e.g. waste heat, biowaste, tourism offerings, underutilized spaces)



WHAT'S NEXT?

Post-roadshows mentoring programme, delivered through online webinars and coaching workshops.

Stay tuned for details!



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