

IRISS - the International ecosystem for accelerating the transition to Safe-and-Sustainable-by-design materials, products and processes

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1. Introduction

The IRISS project aims to connect, synergize and transform the SSbD community in Europe and globally towards a life cycle thinking where there is a holistic integration of safety, climate neutrality, circularity and functionality of materials, products and processes throughout their lifecycle to meet the EU Green Deal, EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, and UN SDGs.

One of the main goals is to build an EU-led permanent network through development of a state-of-the-art SSbD ecosystem that is supportive for the uptake of SSbD strategies by all stakeholders in the society, facilitating implementation of the EU SSbD framework. The project offers a platform for knowledge sharing towards a common understanding and implementation of the SSbD concept. The engagement of a broader community is achieved through the international dissemination activities. In addition, IRISS is committed to engage multiple stakeholders with different roles in the society in dialogues, co-creation and cooperation on SSbD as an enabler for resilience and competitiveness.

The project is also developing broadly supported overarching and value chain specific SSbD roadmaps targeting scientific research needs; skills, competences and education needs; knowledge and information sharing needs. The IRISS project enables to facilitate adaptation to new requirements for design and production processes that will lead to technological development. The project contributes to both policy understanding and exchange of experience between different value chains and sectors, highlighting the challenges and opportunities the SSbD concept entails. The value chains are assessing the challenges and providing solutions through specific roadmaps, which describe innovation proposals for SSbD products. The knowledge exchange and dissemination of case study results facilitates faster uptake within the market, supporting SSbD implementation, with emphasis on SMEs. The collaboration with the PARC partnership and both Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects ensures the knowledge transfer needed for the implementation of the SSbD concept. The developed roadmaps will assure the companies' integration of SSbD at the forefront as well as creating regulatory feedback.



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