

Workshop 1: Workshop for building trust between value chain actors

The goal of the workshop was to prepare comprehensive and diverse solutions to the identified challenges. The countries surrounding the Baltic Sea address waste management issues individually and will participate with best of their knowledge and industrial capabilities in finding solutions for recycling. This project required organising four workshops, which covered target group's needs on creating plans for the project and presenting the scheduling deliverables and results. Preparation for the workshops was planned to begin with sharing best practices and information, which included site visits and building a trust between target groups and stakeholders in the value chain.

The workshop was held on 9.6.25 in Lappeenranta, Finland, where members of the project met in person. The event was open for all actors in the value chain. The project's goals were specified, and connections were built between the members during the workshop. The event started with greetings to the whole project team, after which the group activities started. This helped create a warm and open environment, which in turn facilitated smoother discussion on the main topic.

The project was presented with a general overview before gathering the in-depth information. This provided comprehensive discussions on the projects goals, challenges and other topics regarding the project. The discussion topics were compiled to support further development, including interactive and participatory working methods, as well as to provide a foundation for comprehensive documentation. An important aspect highlighted in the workshop was the Safe Space policy, aimed at ensuring a secure environment and promoting best practices during the seminar. The Safe Space principle enabled active listening to all participants and sharing of insights, which helps advance the project.

The project's first workshop concluded with a strong shared understanding of which areas need further development and who should be involved in the various activities. Several solutions and ideas were identified for information gathering, which helped to address and resolve different challenges. The day ended with a shared dinner, rounding off a successful first workshop.