

## CLUSTERING ACTIVITIES

Recognising collaboration as a cornerstone of scientific progress, the European Commission fosters partnerships and knowledge exchange through its funding programmes for research and innovation.

In the context of EU-funded projects, a cluster typically refers to a group or network of related projects that focus on a common research theme, topic, or area. The aim of forming a cluster is to facilitate synergies and knowledge exchange, ultimately accelerating scientific progress and innovation.

upPE-T has thus developed a series of clustering activities during its implementation.

Such a **clustering activity** is the one with two other H2020 projects - **UPLIFT** and **PRESERVE** - focusing on transforming food and drink packaging into new materials or products of better quality or for better environmental value, ensuring that micro-plastics are avoided.

Within this H2020 sister projects' cluster three working groups have been created related to the topics; policy, standardization and citizens' engagement and two webinars have been organized.

One on 27 April 2022 about **Standardization and circular economy**, which aimed at showing how standardisation can support valorising research and innovation (R&I) results.

You can watch it here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwTHEk3CvYw>





A second webinar on **Bioplastics** was organized on 14th June 2023 together with **Rewind** and **Preserve** focusing on upcycling strategies for the production of sustainable bioplastics. The event was also organized in collaboration with Horizon Results Booster and is available on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rb5qXN21sVE>

upPE-T together with Rewind and PRESERVE projects have also jointly applied for the **HR booster European service for dissemination** as a cluster called **Bio4Plastic**. These three projects have also developed a joint video and leaflet available on [www.uppet.eu](http://www.uppet.eu) website



Another clustering collaboration has been developed between upPE-T and the **GreenLand** project, which led to the organisation of a webinar about microplastics on 3rd November **2023** “**Solving the problem of microplastics through evolving recycling technology**”. Representatives from UPLIFT and PRESERVE were invited to participate in this webinar as speakers. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vps06hF\\_8pU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vps06hF_8pU)



Furthermore upPE-T is represented by the lead partner **CETEC** in the clusters **Prevent Plastic Alliance** and **Circular Plastic Alliance**, participating in workshops, webinars and surveys.



In March 2023 upPE-T participated in the permanent cluster of projects **Innovation Forum4Plastic** meeting together with other 25 European projects, where projects were presented and synergies discussed.

([https://theinnovationforum.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/innovation\\_forum\\_4plastics\\_agenda\\_15032023.pdf](https://theinnovationforum.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/innovation_forum_4plastics_agenda_15032023.pdf))

