

2ND LIAISE COST ACTION TRAINING SCHOOL

27-29 January 2026

Belgrade, Serbia

Call for Trainees

Date & Location: Belgrade, Serbia, 27-29 January (3 working days)

Local host: University of Belgrade, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

Venue: Kraljice Marije 16, Belgrade, Serbia

LIAISE COST ACTION

The LIAISE COST Action (Cooperation, development and cross-border transfer of Industrial Symbiosis) is a collaborative initiative under the COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) framework.

The primary objective of LIAISE is to ensure an inclusive and holistic Industrial Symbiosis approach by generating relevant synergies among different actors from the q-helix stakeholders' model and by setting the groundwork for increased and robust development of knowledge, apart from promoting future results-oriented R&D. By fostering interdisciplinary cooperation and facilitating the exchange of knowledge, LIAISE aims to improve the quality and relevance of Industrial symbiosis implementation, ensuring that they better address environmental, social, and economic challenges.

Through its activities, LIAISE seeks to contribute to informed decision-making processes by promoting advanced methodologies and tools for assessing the potential impacts of Industrial Symbiosis. These efforts are aligned with broader goals of sustainable governance, green transitions, and inclusive development across Europe.

LIAISE brings together researchers, academics, companies, policymakers, and practitioners, providing a platform for collaborative research, capacity-building, and knowledge-sharing.

ABOUT THIS TRAINING SCHOOL

The Second LIAISE COST Action Training School brings together Ph.D. students, early-career researchers, and professionals in Industrial Symbiosis (IS), circular economy, and sustainability policy development. This edition focuses on deepening participants' understanding of Industrial Symbiosis, emphasizing its practical applications, strategic value creation, and communication skills for implementation and impact.

Over three intensive days, the program explores Industrial Symbiosis from environmental, economic, and social perspectives, combining theoretical insights with real-world case studies, interactive exercises, and proposal development sessions.

The Training School is led by distinguished experts from across Europe. Trainers will guide participants through the core principles of Industrial Symbiosis and its strategic role in sustainability transitions, providing both conceptual understanding and applied tools.

The program is highly interactive, fostering discussion, teamwork, and networking. Participants will engage in hands-on workshops, SWOT analyses, and pitching sessions, enabling them to translate knowledge into actionable strategies and strengthen collaboration within the LIAISE network.

The program overview is detailed below¹:

Day 1: Industrial Symbiosis: Fundamentals, Challenges and Case Studies

- Circular Economy basics and its link to IS
- Definition and key concepts of IS
- Barriers and challenges for IS implementation
- Case studies from Serbia, the EU, and worldwide
- Interactive group session for reflection and discussion

Day 2: Creating Value through Industrial Symbiosis: Strategies and ESG Reporting

- Strategic management for circular economy and sustainable consumption
- Empowering sustainable consumption through SWOT analysis and strategy design
- ESG reporting in the context of IS
- Group work on practical applications and strategy building

Day 3: From Theory to Action: Proposals, Communication and Pitch Decks

- How to write successful proposals related to IS
- Using social media to boost IS initiatives
- Pitch deck session: Advancing Your Industrial Symbiosis Initiatives
- Closing reflections and next steps for participants

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the LIAISE COST Action Training School, participants will be able to:

- Gain a comprehensive understanding of IS fundamentals and its link to circular economy and ESG frameworks.
- Develop strategic and analytical skills to design and implement IS initiatives.
- Enhance their communication, proposal writing, and pitching abilities.
- Expand their professional networks across academia, industry, and policymaking communities.

All trainees will receive a certificate of participation.

PRACTICAL DETAILS

- The duration of this training school is three working days.
- Grants will be provided for around 20 participants.
- A contribution for travel costs (up to 400 € in total), as well as accommodation and subsistence costs (daily allowance of 196 €).
- Expenses are reimbursed 30 days after the event has taken place and the reimbursement claim is correctly submitted.
- There are no registration fees.

¹ Changes could be done to the program according to the trainers requirements

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Eligible to apply to the training school are:

- Graduate and Ph.D. students, .
- Researchers and Postdoctoral researchers
- Workers in any industrial company (holds at least a graduate degree) interested in applying IS.
- Cluster Managers
- Academics
- Any other person interested on IS topic

APPLICATIONS PROCEDURE

Applicants to the training school should:

- Have an [e-cost profile](#);
- [Apply](#) to join one of the WGs of the action;
- Submit a motivation letter, not exceeding 300-500 words, which must include a rationale of why you are interested in the training school and how you envisage the training school to contribute to your learning and research objectives of LIAISE COST Action; an indication of whether you would like to be considered for funding;
- Submit a short CV (2 pages maximum);

Please send your application to this email: liaisecostaction@gmail.com

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 14th November 2025

The applicants will be informed about the result of their application via e-mail by 28th November 2025. Applicants who will not receive a grant but do receive an invitation can participate with their own or their institution's funding or join the Training School online.

Accepted participants (trainees) will be required to provide the following documents along with their grant reimbursement claim:

1. A full-colour scan of your passport's main page exhibits your name, surname and passport number.
2. Scanned copies of invoices, receipts, bills, tickets and other proofs of payments for all types of costs, including hotel accommodation, travel, meals, etc.