3rd LIAISE COST ACTION TRAINING SCHOOL: From Mapping to Implementation — Designing Viable Industrial Symbiosis Networks

09-11 February 2027
Istanbul, Türkiye

Call for Trainees

Date & Location: Istanbul, Türkiye, 09-11 February (3 working days)
Local host: Bahçeşehir University, Faculty of Economic, Administrative and Social Sciences and Cifal Istanbul-UNITAR
Venue: Bahçeşehir University, Çırağan Caddesi, No: 4 – 6, 34353 Beşiktaş / İstanbul

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 Third LIAISE COST Action Training School brings together researchers, professionals and other stakeholders interested in turning Industrial Symbiosis opportunities into practical, viable solutions. Building on the topics explored in the previous editions, this three-day programme focuses on the pathway from territorial analysis and resource mapping to feasibility assessment, stakeholder collaboration and implementation. Participants will explore an Industrial Symbiosis implementation methodology and learn how Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can support the identification of potential synergies between companies and across territories.

Through expert-led sessions, practical exercises and collaborative group work, participants will examine the role of Industrial Symbiosis facilitators, apply Safe and Sustainable by Design principles, and explore environmental and economic assessment approaches to support business decisions. Working on a shared case throughout the programme, they will develop an implementation

roadmap addressing resource exchanges, stakeholder engagement, feasibility, governance and monitoring. The Training School will provide a space for interdisciplinary learning, knowledge exchange and networking, equipping participants with practical approaches they can adapt to their own industrial and regional contexts.

The program overview is detailed below[1]:

Day 1: Mapping the Territory and Identifying Industrial Symbiosis Opportunities

- Industrial Symbiosis implementation methodology and context analysis: from opportunity identification to implementation, including area selection and assessment of the industrial landscape, local conditions and existing infrastructure.
- Resource mapping and AI-supported synergy identification: identifying available materials, energy, water and potential users, with practical examples of data-driven resource matching and discussion of data quality and validation needs.
- Introduction and practical workshop on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Industrial Symbiosis: basic concepts, data requirements and practical applications.
- Group work: selecting a potential synergy to develop throughout the Training School.

Day 2: Designing Safe, Sustainable and Collaborative Industrial Symbiosis Solutions

- The Industrial Symbiosis facilitator: connecting actors and engaging companies, collecting and validating resource data, managing confidentiality, building trust and facilitating negotiations to support synergy development.
- Assessing material quality, hazardous substances, traceability and potential risks associated with the proposed synergies.
- Environmental assessment and performance monitoring of Industrial Symbiosis: an introduction to Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) for comparing existing practices with proposed solutions, and selected environmental indicators (including greenhouse gas emissions, resource savings and circularity) to assess potential benefits and guide improvements.
- Practical group session: developing a stakeholder engagement approach and conducting a preliminary safety and environmental assessment of the selected synergy.

Day 3: Building the Business Case and Planning Implementation

- Economic feasibility and business models for Industrial Symbiosis: assessing investment needs, operating costs, potential savings and revenue opportunities, including the allocation of costs, benefits and risks among participating actors.
- From feasibility to implementation: technical and regulatory requirements, logistics, resource quality and continuity of supply.
- Management and governance models: defining coordination arrangements, responsibilities and agreements.
- Final group challenge: developing and presenting an Industrial Symbiosis implementation roadmap, integrating spatial analysis, stakeholder engagement, safety, environmental and economic considerations.
- Feedback from trainers, closing reflections and next steps for participants.
- Study visits to an industrial area of Türkiye with case studies of Industrial Symbiosis.

[1] The programme below is indicative. The scope and duration of individual sessions will be adjusted in coordination with the selected trainers and according to the field visit arrangements, ensuring sufficient time for practical activities and discussion.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Describe the main stages of an Industrial Symbiosis implementation methodology, including context analysis, area selection, synergy identification, feasibility assessment and implementation planning.
- Identify potential resource synergies between companies, considering material, energy and water flows, infrastructure and territorial conditions.
- Perform basic GIS mapping tasks with guidance to explore potential Industrial Symbiosis opportunities, considering company locations, proximity and available infrastructure.
- Explain how AI can support resource matching and synergy identification, recognising the importance of data quality and the need to validate suggested matches.
- Identify and practise key facilitation techniques for engaging companies, collecting relevant information, managing confidentiality, building trust and supporting collaboration.
- Identify preliminary safety considerations for resource exchanges, including material quality, hazardous substances, traceability and potential risks requiring further assessment.
- Explain how LCA and selected environmental indicators can support the assessment of Industrial Symbiosis opportunities, considering greenhouse gas emissions, resource savings, circularity, environmental trade-offs and data limitations.
- Outline a preliminary business case for potential synergy, identifying investment needs, operating costs, potential benefits, uncertainties and options for sharing costs and risks.
- Outline suitable management and governance arrangements, including stakeholder responsibilities, coordination mechanisms and agreements.
- Develop and present a preliminary Industrial Symbiosis implementation roadmap, drawing on the practical exercises to identify key feasibility considerations, information gaps and next steps.

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 30 participants.
- A contribution to travel costs (up to 400 € in total), as well as accommodation and subsistence costs (daily allowance of 209 €).
- Expenses are reimbursed between 30-60 days after the event has taken place and the reimbursement claim is correctly submitted.
- There are no registration fees.

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: 20th November 2026

The applicants will be informed about the result of their application via e-mail by 30th November 2026. 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-color 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.