

## Happy 1<sup>st</sup> birthday, SUSTRACK!

Rome, 31/10/2023 - Happy birthday, [SUSTRACK project](#)! Funded by the European Commission as a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) and led by the [UnitelmaSapienza University of Rome](#), the three-year project aims at supporting the identification of policy priorities and recommendations for designing a sustainable track towards circular bio-based systems, and has now reached its first year of activities.

During these first 12 months, many results were achieved, in order to support the circular bioeconomy transition.

Gülşah Yılan, the SUSTRACK project manager from [UnitelmaSapienza University of Rome](#), gives some insights on the work done so far: *“SUSTRACK conducted an analysis based on desk research with a focus on construction, chemicals, plastics, and textiles sectors, and collected results on environmental, economic, social and cultural limitations of the linear, fossil-based economy, as well as barriers and potential improvements associated with transitioning to a circular bio-based economy. We also reviewed the existing knowledge for monitoring and evaluating the transition to circular bio-based systems and identified major gaps across indicators and methods generally used to monitor and evaluate the bioeconomy across the three major policy-level analysis, micro, meso and macro levels. The suitability of the identified indicators for policy formulation will be verified through the analysis of 10 selected case studies across the four sectors”*.

SUSTRACK is going even farther. To reach the ambitious objective of illustrating a portfolio of policies that are important for a transformation to a circular bio-based economy and the analyses of their impacts, a policy portfolio scenario is being generated for the targeted focus sectors of construction, chemicals, plastics and textile. For each sector, the scenarios will have two components: one scenario that shows the status quo of policies influencing the envisaged circular-bio-based economy, and one more ambitious policy goal scenario, that supports a faster transformation of the economy into a circular and bio-based one. These scenarios will be instrumental to evaluate which policy instruments are necessary to reach the fastest possible transformation to a circular bio-based economy in the four sectors in Europe.

*“We worked hard in this first year and already achieved important and interesting research results, with a clear objective in mind: identifying policy priorities to move towards the circular bioeconomy transition.”* Says Piergiuseppe Morone, professor and researcher at [UnitelmaSapienza University of Rome](#) and SUSTRACK project coordinator. He adds: *“If you are interested in diving deep in the work done so far, and have your say on what is really important for promoting a sustainable transition, join the upcoming SUSTRACK INSPIRE conference! It takes a strong and collective effort to address the global challenges we are facing and no one is exempt from it.”*

The [SUSTRACK INSPIRE Conference](#) is designed to explore the forward-looking pathways for a sustainable transition from linear fossil-based economy to circular bio-based economy and to shape impactful policies, involving a multistakeholder panel discussion. The event will be held online on November, 16th, 2023, from 09:00 to 16:00 CET. All the details about the conference and the registration are available on [SUSTRACK website](#).

More information about the project, its ambitious objectives, results and collaboration opportunities are accessible on the [website](#), in the [first SUSTRACK newsletter](#) and the dedicated social media profiles ([Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#)).