

Buddie-Pack project: european project on reuse plastic packaging

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The European project BUDDIE-PACK, funded by the new Horizon Europe programme and coordinated by the Industrial Technical Centre for Plastics and Composites (IPC), brings together 19 partners from 6 different countries and will take place over a period of three and a half years with a budget of nearly 7 million euros.

Buddie-Pack is a circular economy project aimed at developing a systemic approach to the large-scale deployment of reusable plastic packaging (RPP), based on a multidisciplinary approach combining social, technological and economic innovations. The project will focus on innovative cleaning solutions to guarantee the safety of consumers against the possible contamination and ageing of RPP during their repeated use, and the durability of their functional properties to avoid food spoilage. Viable economic models will ensure the sustainability of the proposed solutions thanks to the profitability of stakeholders throughout the value chain, including solutions based on social & solidarity economy models.

Safety of RPP is at the heart of the project, covered by the work-package 5 which aims to develop the approach for risk assessment and management of reusable packaging after use. The functional properties and safety (presence of contaminants, chemical migration, microorganisms...) of reusable packaging will be assessed after multiple cycles of reuse/cleaning. Microplastic release will be quantified throughout the life cycle. Cleaning technologies will be optimised and integrated in a cleaning pilot line.