



DIALOGUE LIVING LAB STAKEHOLDERS INPUT SERIES # 2

BUILDING ACTIONS TO ADDRESS EPS/XPS PRESENCE ON THE OCEAN

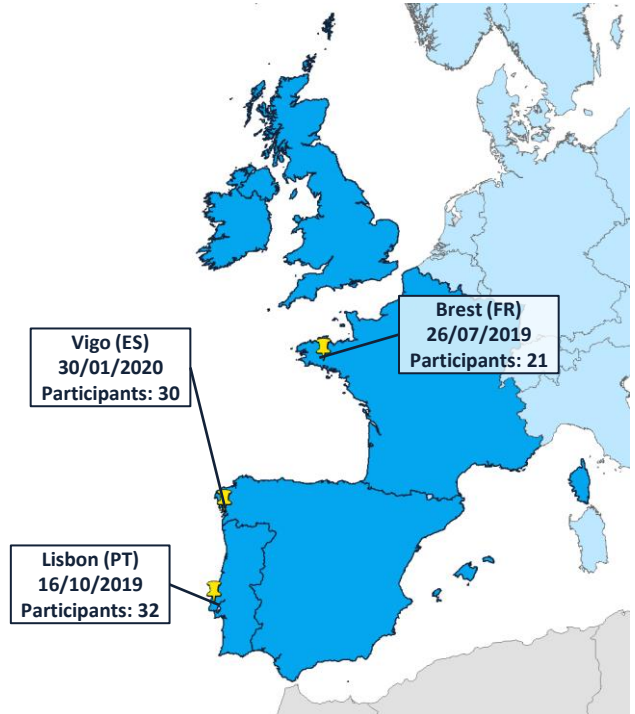
2nd workshop partners round

Objective: Collaboratively define a roadmap for EPS/XPS products to achieve a 100% circular economy.

In the 2nd workshop participants worked in eighth structured groups of common use ESP/XPS products:

- Group 1.** Fish and shellfish boxes
- Group 2.** Supermarket trays and packaging
- Group 3.** Consumer products packaging
- Group 4.** Granulated filling material
- Group 5.** Floating structures in ports and marinas
- Group 6.** Civil construction sector
- Group 7.** Other material made of EPS
- Group 8.** Other uses

The challenge posed to participants was to transform the products life cycles into a 100% circular life cycle, by answering **“How to close the EPS/XPS cycle, so that it is maintained in the economic system?”**. For that they had to look at each stage of the product life cycle and take into account the Ellen MacArthur Foundation circular economy model. As a result they identified the critical factors to be considered to reach a circular life cycle, while bringing to the table the priorities from the 1st Workshop and identifying new ones considered very relevant. A **ROADMAP was built to overcome the critical factors of achieving a 100% circular life cycle for EPS/XPS products.**



Attendees

A total of 83 stakeholders participated, coming from different sectors such as environmental management, waste management, industries of production, recycling of expanded polystyrene, distributor systems, users and legislator.

Main results:

A ROADMAP to achieve the 100% circular life cycle for EPS/XPS products collectively built

A ROADMAP for each common use EPS/XPS product was jointly built by each group, identifying the critical factors and the respective stage of the lifecycle when they occur, making proposals to overcome those critical factors, and identifying synergies needed to implement those proposals.

In general, the main issues that emerged within the ROADMAPs in the three countries (PT; ES; FR) were related to:

- the need for eco-design, new materials or the use of composable options and the lack of alternatives for materials that match the advantages of EPS;
- the low production and the product’s price, since raw material have to be more expensive than the recycle EPS (currently it is the opposite);
- the selective collection systems and the recycling costs;
- the need for more investments in R&D and awareness campaigns for producers, distributors, and final consumer;
- more regulation for the production of short-life products and the introduction of eco-tax.