

agenda

01/03/2014 - 31/03/2014

In March 2014, the second of three panels of experts will be held, allowing analysis of the development and progress of the ecoRae project.

ecoRae in brief

Programme

Life 11 ENV/ES/574

Subject matter

WEEE. Waste electrical and electronic equipment.

Consortium

Three partner companies from Galicia (Spain)

Coordinator

Universidade de Vigo

Partners

revertia
EnergyLab

Duration

36 months

Commencement date

2 July 2012

Completion date

30 June 2015

Budget

€1,269,155

EU Contribution

€622,038 (50% of the eligible budget).

Main objective

Demonstrate that, through reuse, the WEEE problem can be solved in a way that is economically, technically and environmentally viable.

Web

www.life-ecoraee.eu



monitoring meetings

Having passed the project's halfway point, on 8 November 2013 the consulting company Astrale Geie made an ecoRae project monitoring visit to assess the work being undertaken at the request of the European Commission.

During the session, which was held at the Project Management building at the Universidade de Vigo, the various partners involved in the project presented the actions that have been undertaken to date.

The current state of the project, both technical and financial, was given a good bill of health by the Astrale Geie representative, Dimas Ramos.

In the words of José Antonio Vilán, the vice-dean of Transfer of Knowledge and ecoRae coordinator, after a complex start which was partly due to the lack of experience of those taking part in projects such as this, the first Life+ at the Universidade de Vigo,

it is now making great progress and comfortably meeting all expectations. The most exciting parts of the projects are now approaching, such as the assembly of two physical islands which will allow computer equipment to be truly recycled and allow numerical measurement of the life cycle, as well as checking the applications which were theoretically planned.

During the session, the Astrale Geie representative, Dimas Ramos, and representatives of the consortium were met in the Universidade de Vigo Vice-Chancellor's Office by the Vice-Chancellor, Salustiano Mato de la Iglesia.

ongoing action

B1 Action

The meeting of our B1 Action targets is expected to be concluded soon, starting with the LCA of the reuse preparation process and comparing this to the recycling process based on reference data, including verification of the LCA theoretical results obtained from the work islands installed at the Universidade de Vigo and revertia in order to draw up a proposal to improve the process from an environmental perspective.

The various teams are currently working on achieving the first target, the LCA of the reuse process as well as preparing the "LCA Process Results Report". The other areas of the project will be completed throughout 2014 as planned, on the basis of the results from this first stage.

The LCA of the reuse preparation process will be drawn up from the information obtained in the B2 activities (outlining of the protocol, scope of the processes and the initial business plan) and B4 activities (process implementation and demonstration), based on the research framework defined in A1 and whose results will be used in C2.

Four analysis models have been designed, one for each of the demonstrations planned in B4 action, to be reflected in the LCA of the office computer/component reuse preparation process and the LCA of the industrial computer/component reuse preparation process, with three variants in the latter case.

Based on the calculation methodology described for A1 activities, the aim and scope of the calculation is then defined in accordance with project specifications. When deciding upon project scope, the need to compare the reuse and recycling processes has been taken into account, thus allowing both systems to be compared in future tasks.

These criteria have been used to define system functions based on the research necessary to satisfy the industrial needs outlined in each case for the demonstration variants I, II and III and office computer needs of a conventional user, as shown in demonstration variant IV.

Based on the diagram of the preparation process flow and estimated inventory records for the development of each sub-task, a skeleton diagram has been prepared for the calculation model with the help of SimaPro 7.3.3 software, for each of the demonstration variants and which has allowed the first results to

be obtained from estimated data provided by the process designers and demonstrators.

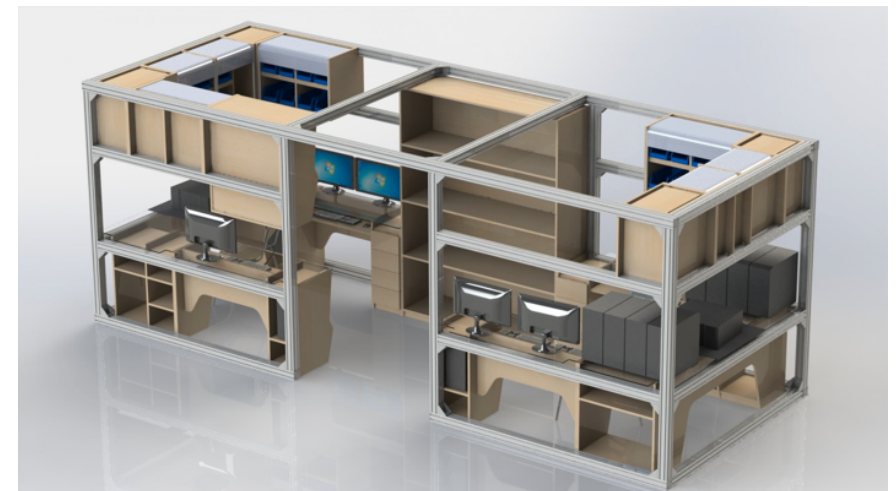
In the coming tasks we will be using real data collected in the demonstration experiences in order to feed the calculation model, increasing the accuracy of the results by ensuring a larger statistical sample of the data to be studied.

B3 Action

Based on the definition of the operations required for equipment reuse, the CIMA group has defined an optimal layout of the various workstations required for its execution, bearing in mind the ergonomics of the stations, the availability of the space required to install the island and to optimise material flow.

The fixtures and fittings for the prototype island have been decided upon by the Universidade de Vigo. The completion of its assembly and start-up is expected in the first quarter of 2014, with the island providing the reused equipment for three of the four demonstration models (B4 action).

Based on the defined layout, revertia will be building a second WEEE-reuse prototype island at its facilities, which will provide the equipment for a quarter of all demonstration processes.



net- working

Networking day at Anfac

On 11 December 2013, ecoRae members took part in an EU Life+ project networking session aimed at exchanging views and experiences in order to be able to better undertake these projects and with a view to the future.

The event, which was held at the Anfac-Cecopesca premises in Vigo, was organised as follows:

09.00 am. Reception.

09.30 am. Presentation of the INDUFOOD, ecoRae and HTWT projects.

11.30 am. Visit to the Anfac-Cecopesca museum and pilot plant.

01.30 pm. Lunch.

04.00 pm. Final conclusions.

The session was a continuation of an earlier Life+ project networking event held in the Spanish town of Lorca on 10 October 2013 at which the Medicool medicool.org (the installation of solar refrigeration on the roof of a warehouse for pharmaceutical products in order to ensure temperature requirements), Metabioresor metabioresor.eu

(development of a pilot plant for the complete recovery of energy from municipal and agricultural waste and sub-products) and Ening eninglife.eu (the demonstration of viable economic and environmental solutions aimed at reducing CO₂ emissions from industrial estates, with the construction of an industrial warehouse where the planned systems are tested and viability is assessed through monitoring) projects were presented.



IDENTIS WEEE

ecoRae is now working on the IDENTIS WEEE LIFE 10 ENV/IT/393 project, the aim of which is to increase selective WEEE collection through awareness-raising and communications campaigns, as well as the installation of specific containers and the implementation of an IT system that allows greater traceability and more accurate analysis of the information.

identisweee.net/es

ecoRae

Life

The Life Programme is the European Union's main financial instrument offering support to the application, as well as updating and developing policy and EC regulation on environmental matters, in particular with regard to the integration of the environment through the sustainable development of the European Community and other policies. There is also a focus on the search for new solutions to environmental problems on a European level through demonstration projects.

The Life programme began in 1992 and consisted of three phases: Life I (1992-1995), Life II (1996-1999) and Life III (2000-2006). Over this period, Life co-financed some 3,104 projects across the EU, subsidising the protection of the environment to the tune of approximately 2.2 billion euros. The 2007-2013 phase of the programme, Life+, has a budget of 2.143 billion euros.

The Life+ programme is in turn divided into three areas:

- Life+ Nature & Biodiversity
- Life+ Environment Policy & Governance
- Life+ Information and Communication



Universidade de Vigo



revertia

the ecoRae consortium

Universidade de Vigo

Founded in 1990, Universidade de Vigo has succeeded in establishing itself as a point of reference in terms of modernity and innovation in Galicia in such a short time. Its three campuses in Ourense, Pontevedra and Vigo offer degree courses in the sciences, humanities, technology and legal/social areas. Its firm commitment to the transfer of knowledge and social development has had a direct impact on a European level, working on more than 50 European projects in the last 10 years as well as numerous domestically financed programmes. Selected in 2010 as a campus of international excellence thanks to the Campus do Mar project, Universidade de Vigo is now one of Spain's leading public universities and in recent years has joined the list of the finest universities in the world.

EnergyLab

EnergyLab, the Technological Centre for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability, is a private, non-profit making foundation

which seeks to develop and disseminate technologies, products and consumer habits which optimise energy efficiency and sustainability in the industrial, tertiary and transport sectors, as well as in society in general. EnergyLab is a leading centre on both a national and international level, offering services aimed at energy efficiency adjusted to all business contexts. To this end, objective measures and indicators were established, both in terms of energy optimisation and in purely economic terms, achieving measurable short-term results in the company in question. These activities are based on supervision of the state of various technologies and a study of their application through demonstration projects, the dissemination of results and the technical training of users.

revertia

revertia Reusing and Recycling, S.L. is a business initiative which seeks to facilitate innovative solutions for companies, institutions and individuals regarding the management of electrical and electronic waste, with a commitment to the reuse of obsolete devices which can still offer a service to other potential users. With offices in Vigo and Madrid, revertia provides responses that are adapted to the specific needs of each client on a national level. The aim is to turn WEEE management problems into an opportunity to find a new use for these old devices. revertia has a professional team with extensive

experience of environmental law and corporate social responsibility, as well as technical experts in the reuse of computer components and other auxiliary IT equipment.



press releases

O proxecto EcoRaeE, coordinado pola Universidade de Vigo e que conta coa participación do centro EnergyLab e da empresa Revertia, acada o seu ecuador co visto e prace do titor, Dimas Ramos, nomeado pola Comisión Europea encargado da realización dunha auditoría técnica e outra económica, obrigatorias para os proxectos Life+ que contan con financiamento comunitario (...)

contact details

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