




re-sourcing

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Synthesis report of networking, awareness raising and community building efforts

Deliverable D2.4

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<http://re-sourcing.eu>

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Executive Summary

The RE-SOURCING Project aims to build a global stakeholder platform for responsible sourcing. The project addresses the challenges facing businesses, NGOs, and policymakers in a rapidly evolving ecological, social, business and regulatory world; through a collective, consultative, and industry & civil society driven approach. The major outcomes of the Platform activities and their impact on networking, awareness raising and community building efforts are summarised in this report. These include peer-learning and co-design events as well as information and knowledge management during the project's lifetime.

Keywords:

Responsible sourcing, sustainability, economy, community building, awareness raising.

1 The RE-SOURCING Multi-Stakeholder Platform and Community

The global stakeholder RE-SOURCING platform is a platform for information exchange and the main access point of the RE-SOURCING project. The RE-SOURCING platform is mainly providing the means for in networking, community building and information sharing activities in order to enable cross-sectoral collaboration, peer-learning and exchange in the mineral raw materials sector. The Platform built a knowledge repository to foster concerted and streamlined efforts for responsible sourcing and is continuously expanded with project results.

Various activities were undertaken during the project's lifetime to build a sustainable community, raise awareness and create a future-oriented platform for information and knowledge exchange. This report summarises the community-building efforts and shows how awareness about responsible sourcing was raised with focused actions and inclusion of all relevant stakeholders.

The RE-SOURCING Platform identifies and manages the relevant stakeholders and engages them in various exchange processes. Three main functions are addressed by the platform:

- (1) Dissemination activities (Flagship cases) and other relevant materials;
- (2) Engagement in strategic EU sectoral roadmap processes;
- (3) Support the wider inclusion of RS in international agendas, agreed concepts and definitions.



Figure 1 The RE-SOURCING Platform

The main platform used to consolidate knowledge and information for all stakeholders is the RE-SOURCING website <https://re-sourcing.eu>.

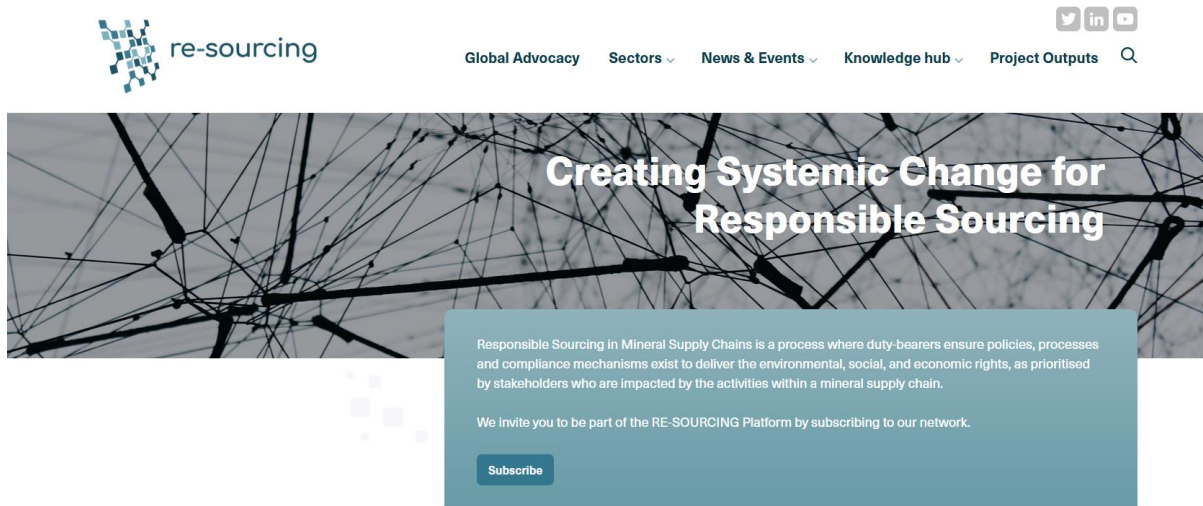


Figure 2 The RE-SOURCING website

The RE-SOURCING website includes the online knowledge repository for responsible sourcing (online knowledge repository) to communicate Flagship cases, sector state-of-plays and roadmaps. The platform structure includes:

- a dynamic section advertising upcoming physical and virtual events and project workshops;
- interactive platform spaces in real- and non-real-time:
 - Non-real-time interactions include discussions (to discuss, assess and validate different opinions of participants regarding a specific topic), stock-taking (to generate knowledge regarding a specific topic);
 - Real-time interactive spaces in the form of webinars (to discuss and elaborate on flag-ship case good practice elements and reflect on their transfer into other institutional contexts);
- training sessions (webinars), videos, webcasts showing the results, features and application of the RE-SOURCING platform, network, and community.

The digital and virtual components of the RE-SOURCING platform act as a tool for networking, exchange and learning for stakeholders and consist of:

- audio-visual storytelling videos (each about 10-15min) highlighting the specific RS challenges and potential solutions from each of the FS-sectors (RES, MES, EEES)
- expert interview videos for all three sectors, with high-level expert stakeholders with the aim to increase outreach, accessibility and a broader understanding of RS for a wider audience.
- online webinars - live training sessions in the form of webinars with the objective to disseminate final results and show the features and application of the RE-SOURCING website to a larger audience.
- webcasts based on webinars and physical platform activities. The webcasts will allow users to digitally access information from physical platform activities and fully be able grasp the content and features.
- virtual conferences will be organised in collaboration with a virtual conference provider. The event will incorporate webcasts and live key notes, a virtual exhibition, webinars and Q&A bulletin boards and attract participants from all over the globe.

As of October 2023, the YouTube channel consists of 66 videos and recorded live streams, spanning the entire project duration.

More on the website and the implementation is described in Deliverable 2.3. All generated outputs and videos are published on the project's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@re-sourcingstakeholderplat8099>. Additionally, the project disseminates its results, events, and generated information over LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/re-sourcing-stakeholder-platform> and X (Twitter): https://twitter.com/re_sourcing.

2 Peer learning, collaboration and co-design

The RE-SOURCING platform engaged in various peer-learning, collaboration, and co-design activities. These include flagship labs and case studies, virtual events, virtual and physical conferences, participation and organisation of global advocacy fora, collaborative roadmap design, the inclusion of the advisory board and platform steering committee, as well as a number of clustering events. The processes behind and the results of these activities were processed and disseminated across the RE-SOURCING network. More on this in chapter 3.

2.1 Advisory Board and Platform Steering Committee

The core of the RE-SOURCING project is formed by the 12 project partners and the Advisory Board and Platform Steering Committee. All actions described in the following chapters were organised and led by the consortium and consulted with the board and steering committee. This ensured the inclusion of different stakeholders and perspectives to ensure the projects overall coverage of topics in RS.

The board and steering committee were consulted for major project outputs like the roadmaps in designated workshop sessions and were kept informed about the progress of the project in different consultation and information sessions.

2.2 Flagship labs

Facilitating peer learning efforts mainly for industry but also the other stakeholders on the good practice of flagship cases was an important part of the RE-SOURCING Platform. The work on the flagship cases and the surrounding efforts spanned during the whole project lifetime and delivered input for various other project outputs like for example the sectoral good practice guidelines and sectoral roadmaps.

The generated knowledge and information from the flagship labs and roadmap workshops (15 in total across all three sectors) were disseminated through different presentations by the project consortium and made publicly available by recordings of the sessions on the project's YouTube channel.

The main efforts of the flagship cases are presented in the three good practice guidelines as well as in the synthesised report on cross sectoral good practice guidelines (D5.5). The guidelines facilitate the improvement of FS Cases along the three selected sectors (RES, MS, EEES) by:

- (a) Identifying and elaborating FS case good practice in each sector;
- (b) organising different virtual events and webinars for peer-learning, collaboration and dissemination, and
- (c) 7 Flagship labs (Workshops) to increase the context-relevance of FS Cases allowing elaboration of different stakeholder perspectives and engage in peer learning to develop hands-on knowledge of good practice.

The companies highlighted in the flagship labs were added to the RE-SOURCING network and were included and considered in clustering events, conferences, and further activities.

2.3 Roadmaps

One of the main goals and outputs of the RE-SOURCING project was the creation of sector-specific roadmaps elaborating on necessary activities of companies up until the year 2050 to ensure a sustainable future within the sectors.

As preparation for the creation of the roadmaps a state of play report was published for each sector focusing on challenges and impacts of the respective industry. The Roadmaps and Guidance documents address issues such as human rights violations and significant environmental impacts, lack of commitment to fair wages and gender equality, as well as conflicts with local populations. These reports are the result of a co-creative and consultative multi-stakeholder process and were co-designed at the flagship labs and roadmap consultation sessions respectively with participant from all stakeholder groups and discussed with the project’s Platform Steering Committee and Advisory Board.

In addition, the development process for the roadmaps was based on consultations in the form of webinars and interviews with experts from all stakeholder groups and relevant regions, which led to the identification of necessary points of action and the establishment of recommendations for all stakeholders combined as well as each stakeholder group individually (industry, civil society, policy).

To facilitate the dissemination and pinpoint key findings of the roadmap development process, each roadmap was integrated into an interactive presentation available on the respective sector websites:

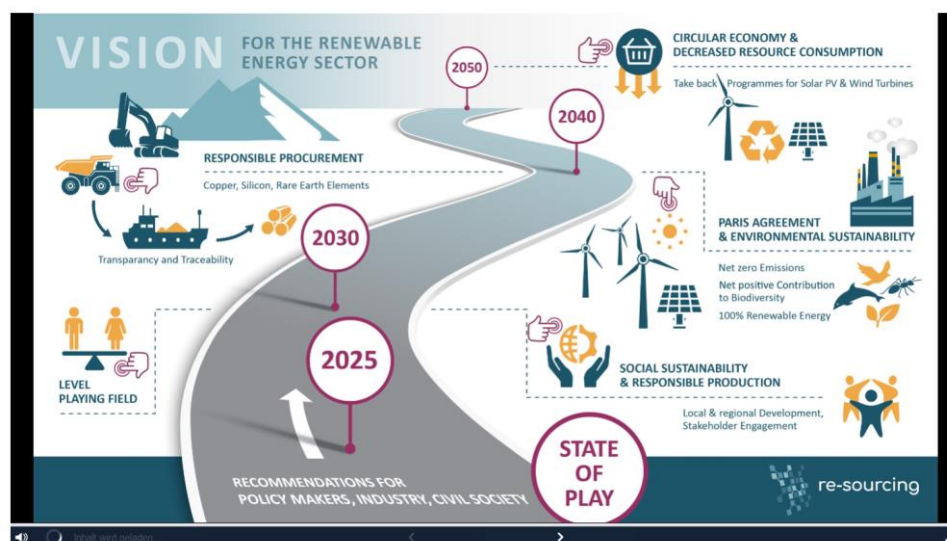


Figure 3 Interactive presentation of the [Roadmap for the Renewable Energy Sector](#)

2.4 Conferences and virtual events

Enabling active exchange and networking during the project was hindered by the COVID-19 crisis in the beginning of the project. The physically envisioned conferences were switched to online formats, except for the final conference which took place in Vienna in September 2023 with around 150 participants attending the event. Two conferences, one in the beginning of the project and one during the project, were organised virtually and are available on the project's YouTube channel.

Further, different virtual events and webinars were organised, covering various stakeholder perspectives, use cases, topics and current regulations discussed with experts of the field. Active participation was ensured by promotion of the events beforehand as well as an interactive design of the sessions themselves.

Gaining an international perspective on RS helped to further develop the future direction of the field. The organisation of international exchanges at the Global Advocacy Fora, further elaborated on in the following chapter, was one of the main activities to ensure the global exchange.

2.5 Global Advocacy Fora

The global dimension of the RE-SOURCING Platform was covered by engaging with the relevant international stakeholders to foster the application of responsible sourcing concepts in global agenda setting. Activities included the identification of relevant and active international stakeholders and establishing a professional exchange through appropriate communication. This dedicated exchange enabled the project to be aware of and consider international developments that have significant impact on RS activities in the political, economic and civil society arena. The engagement, moreover, facilitated the inclusion of the RS concept in the setting of global agendas, whilst supporting broad comprehension of key project results by relevant international actors.

In total, three global advocacy fora were organised: one in Chile covering the Latin American perspective, one in South Africa covering the African perspective, and one in China covering the Asian perspective. Each forum consisted of a short interview with relevant experts in advance of the event, a project presentation on-site to introduce the efforts of the RE-SOURCING Platform to the audience, panel discussions with high level experts and regional stakeholders as well as networking efforts by the present project partners.

The outputs and results of the fora were consolidated in respective conference reports, audio-visual storytelling videos and a subsection on the RE-SOURCING website: <http://re-sourcing.eu/sustainability-responsible-sourcing-mining-africa-latin-america-china/>



Figure 4 The Global Advocacy subsite on the RE-SOURCING webpage

2.6 Clustering events and efforts

Throughout the project duration and with the support of the created and growing network, the project gained traction and project members were asked to present the work and outputs at different international events across the globe and to provide their expertise on the field of RS. These not only include other Horizon 2020 projects, but also international conferences and organisations in digital and physical formats.

The project was, for example, represented and raising awareness for responsible sourcing at the following clustering activities:

- PDAC Convention (Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada) 2022 and 2023 in Canada,
- EIT Raw Materials Summit 2022 and 2023 in Germany,
- EIT Expert Raw Materials Forum 2022 in Germany,
- World Resources Forum 2022 and 2023,
- the Global Advocacy Fora as described above.
- poster presentation at EU-Latin America Convention on Raw Materials 2021 (MDNP, EU-funded),
- 1st Workshop of the BlackCycle (H2020),
- JRC/HaDEA clustering workshop 2021 "Channeling knowledge from European projects into the Raw Materials Information System (RMIS)" (EC JRC),
- additional event participations of liaising/clustering partners such as the OECD (also an AB member; non Horizon) or EIT RM (also a consortium member),
- and a series of informal bilateral coordination and liaising online meetings.

Expert talks, panel discussions and presentations at these events were organised in collaboration with partner projects such as the SUMEX project, AfricaMaVal and the CIRAN project.

For the Virtual Conference in 2021, in total eight relevant projects and organisations were invited to present their innovative work for advancing responsible sourcing across different industries and

supply chain stages: MDNP (non-Horizon, EU funded), Circular (non-Horizon, private sector), GemFair (non-Horizon, private sector), NEXT (H2020 project), SUSMAGPRO (H2020 project), ETH Nadel (non-Horizon, research institution), CEWASTE (H2020 project), BlackCycle (H2020 project). The project presentations were followed by an informal online meeting for presenters and audience to exchange, network and identify joint opportunities.

During the project’s final conference in September 2023 in Vienna, the first physical event of the project, a designated day was organised to enable different partners and projects, such as the WWF and the MaDiTraCe project, to present their work, hold workshops for the conference participants and create a communication and network base for relevant stakeholders.

Clustering events and efforts were also used as a platform to expand the network and promote the project activities by providing information and knowledge through flyers, videos and participating project partners.

3 Information and knowledge management

The peer learning, network-building and awareness raising efforts as previously described were all disseminated through various channels and mediums. The most important ones are described in the following.

3.1 Videos and dissemination efforts

Wherever possible, the events and activities were recorded, edited, and published on the project’s YouTube channel. This makes it possible for the project outputs and activities to remain available to interested parties and for stakeholders to build up on the work of the RE-SOURCING Platform. The webinars and live events were also live streamed to YouTube to expand the outreach of the respective events and enable the participation to a wider audience.

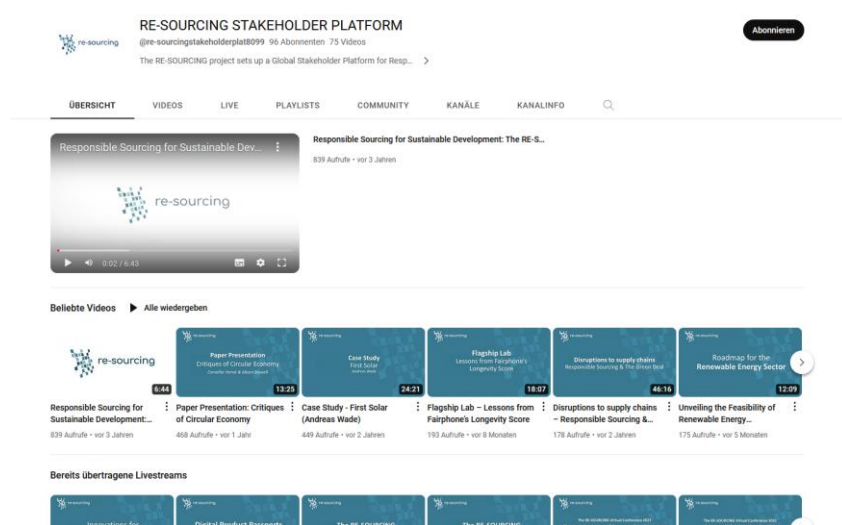


Figure 5 Landing page of the YouTube channel

Project outputs, activities and videos were also disseminated over the social media channels of the project, which include LinkedIn and X (Twitter).

3.2 Newsletter and news snippets

One of the main activities and channels for distributing the project outputs and for keeping the RE-SOURCING Platform and Network updated with the latest information is the project’s newsletter and weekly news snippets. The subscribers of the newsletter grew over the project duration and summed up to over 930 subscribers as of October 2023.



Figure 6 RE-SOURCING Newsletter

During the final year of the project, the communication was expanded and included weekly news snippets send out to the network. These included information on new legislations, upcoming events, recent publications of project activities, recaps on past events, as well as information on relevant projects, thus further contributing to clustering efforts.

The dissemination and promotion of the flagship cases and roadmaps helped raise awareness for challenges, needs and solutions in responsible sourcing in mineral supply chains and further promote the project’s results.

3.3 Additional community building efforts

Creating the platform and fostering exchange in the network was also encouraged by other activities.

In December 2021, the project leader WU together with the Mitsubishi UFJ Research & Consulting (MURC) organised a meeting between representatives of DG GROW and DG TRADE, and the Japanese Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC) on the other. The purpose of the meeting was an ongoing consultation project in which MURC collected international good practice examples on CO₂

reductions and the responsible sourcing of mineral raw materials, thus enhancing the global outreach of the EUs efforts in fostering responsible sourcing.

The RE-SOURCING Roadmaps were published on different platforms, such as the Industry Transition Tracker (<https://www.industrytransition.org/industry-transition-tracker/>). In May 2022, RESOURCING established contact with LeadIT (non-Horizon project) which is responsible for the development and update of the Tracker. LeadIT included the Roadmap of the Renewable Energy Sector during its update over the summer/autumn 2022.

The University of Buenos Aires contacted RE-SOURCING via the project partner MUL with the inquiry to promote a planned Delphi Study on international perspectives about the challenges to achieve a more sustainable and just lithium value chain. The Delphi Study was announced in RE-SOURCING's newsletter and shared within the consortium. Selected RE-SOURCING project partners including the coordinator represented by Alexander Graf participated in the study.

Bilateral exchanges with several other projects and organisations such as the EPRM, GIZ, Rovjok, etc. to stay informed about each other's activities have been conducted on an ongoing on-demand basis (mainly non-Horizon). In addition, RE-SOURCING successfully applied for the Horizon Results Booster which further supported and advanced the project's liaising activities, both within and outside the Horizon programme. The roadmaps, good practice guidelines as well as the concept note for Responsible Sourcing have been published on the Horizon Results Platform.

Core findings of the project for each of the three sectors have been given a subsection on the Raw Materials Information System (RMIS) of the JRC. Each sector is represented with its challenges and gaps, solutions, the roadmap as well as key findings of the good practice guidelines and flagship cases. The concept note summarises and consolidates findings in relation to the definition and a common approach to Responsible Sourcing, also considering the results of the global perspective on the field.

4 Impact and concluding remarks

The impact of the network building efforts can be measured with achieving the pre-defined project KPIs. Each event and conference organised by the project was followed with a survey to assess the participants opinion on the respective activity as well as the networking efforts.

The RE-SOURCING Platform encompasses over 900 individuals from different stakeholder categories, making it a multi-stakeholder community. These community members have all profited from multiple networking and awareness raising events and opportunities, thus enhancing the communication and exchange within the responsible sourcing field.

In general, these members and participants indicated a gain in awareness about responsible sourcing practices, challenges, and possible solutions. Additionally, they indicated a positive influence on their knowledge about the field as well as the support of the implementation of the practices presented by the project.

Thus, the undertaken measures in peer-learning, collaboration and co-design were successful in building an information and knowledge hub as well as a sustainable and future-oriented platform for exchange in the field of responsible sourcing.

During the project duration, the project consortium as well as members of the community participated in different activities also outside of the project scope and were valued for the expertise in the field.



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