ECOMONDO is one of the prominent EU industrial exhibitions on material recovery and valorization, resource and energy efficiencies, and sustainable industrial growth. It is hosting the exhibition stands of about 1200 major enterprises along with over than 100 scientific/technical workshops and conferences in a 100,000 square meters facility visited by over than 80,000 delegates from industries, academia and governmental institutions from over 40 different countries, mostly from the Mediterranean basins. The major industrial areas covered in terms of policy, RTD and innovation by ECOMONDO exhibition and workshops/conferences are, among others:

- waste production reduction, waste collection, fractionation, recycling, exploitation
- biomass and biowaste exploitation via integrated biorefinery scheme and bioplastics and biobased products; Green and sustainable chemistry have also key priorities of this area
- water resources monitoring and protection; wastewater treatment and valorization with nutrients recovery; marine resources protection and exploitation
- sustainable remediation of contaminated sites and marine ecosystems
- indoor and outdoor air monitoring and clean up.

The major innovative tools, technologies and solutions related to the sustainable management of waste, water, air and energy in our urban living are implemented in a confined area of 6,000 m² where a pilot scale smart/sustainable city is built up to display the innovation to experts, citizens, students and the others delegates who can see, test, and validate the proposed technologies and innovation products.

Then another area of ECOMONDO is devoted to European Eco Innovation in the field of green economy. Here Horizon2020 priorities and relevant innovation funding opportunities will be presented by delegates of the EU commission; the coordinators of the Biobased Industry JTI and those of the PPP on resource efficiency and waste exploitation (BRIDGE), the EIP on water and raw materials, the KIC climate and that on raw materials will present the major objectives and actions of their initiatives. This to provide information on the major EU innovation policies, actions and funding opportunities and catalyze the formation of industry-academia and NGO partnerships interested in applying for the EU funding opportunities offered by the EU commission (Horizon2020 and other EU funding system).

Another initiative is dedicated to the promotion of industrial symbiosis and networking, i.e. the creation of partnerships between industries working in the complementary sectors or different countries; in the same frame, dissemination activities associated with the most prominent international and EU RTD and industrial projects are also hosted. Thus, ECOMONDO is a special opportunity for SMEs and industries, which can find a fertile and dynamic international environment for presenting/proposing their products and technologies (via the exhibition area) and participating in scientific technical conferences, meeting new industrial and academic partners, knowing new EU innovation policies, priorities and opportunities and being involved in partnerships applying for public funds for supporting eco-innovation. It is also a special opportunity for the academia and the young scientists in particular, who can attend and present their work in scientific technical conferences, publish their results on a international journal, meet relevant industries, enter the EU innovation and being involved in partnerships applying for grants supporting ecoinnovation. The same is applying for the public institutions, which can be rapidly updated on the new national and EU industrial policies and innovation priorities and the major international players that are promoting them.

Thus ECOMONDO is a relevant “Euro-Mediterranean Technology Platform” on Green Economy.

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Chair of the Technical and Scientific CommitteeECOMONDO 2013 - RIMINI 6-9 november 2013