



# Di-Plast - Digital Circular Economy for the Plastics Industry

## Voucher support guidelines

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If you have any questions regarding the general voucher scheme or the criteria, please contact us:

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# 1. Introduction

Are you a SME or larger enterprise in the packaging and building sector and do you want to introduce or increase recycled plastics in your production chain? The Di-Plast voucher scheme supports you in realizing your project!

Di-Plast is a project funded by the European program Interreg NWE and aims to assist plastic practitioners in increasing and improving the uptake of recycled plastics. The project, therefore, developed and offers an open-access support program and open-access digital tools.

Our Di-Plast tools increase information transparency in the value chain and support you in purchasing and processing recycled materials. Furthermore, within the Di-Plast project we support you with your ideas through workshops, regional uptake managers, expertise and financial support in the form of this voucher scheme.

So if you want to introduce or increase the amount of recycled plastics in your processes and/or improve the material quality of the recyclate in your process, you can apply for a voucher as part of the Di-Plast support program. It is created to give you extra support to realize your project ideas. There are three types of vouchers (see below), each supporting unique aspects of your project ideas. These vouchers will help you work with the digital tools, contribute to matchmaking, give you access to expertise to improve your recyclate uptake or create the foundation for concrete chain cooperation.

The application period for the voucher begins on the 30<sup>th</sup> April and ends 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

## Voucher types

- **Matching vouchers** (up to 1,000 EURO): Voucher to support you with finding the right match for cooperation to use or increase recycled plastics in your manufacturing chain.
- **Expertise vouchers** (up to 4,500 EURO): Voucher to support you to realize project ideas for the (increased) use of recycled plastics with the support of external and specialist expertise.



- **Chain voucher** (up to 7,500 EURO): Voucher to support you with specific purchases to concretize projects to increase the usage of recycled plastics in your manufacturing chain.

Vouchers do not require co-financing and cover 100% of the voucher-value. Projects can exceed the maximum voucher value, however, the extended costs are at the company's own expenses.



## 2. Guidelines

This section provides you with the information on the most important application requirements, the timeframe, rights and obligations and voucher payment conditions.

If you have any further question, please don't hesitate contacting your voucher-scheme-coordinator Erik Plaggenmarsch and Heicke Gaedeke. Please find their contact information on the first page of the document.

**Disclaimer:** Applying for a voucher does not mean that the voucher will automatically be awarded. The application will be reviewed by the regional-voucher-scheme-coordinator and the Di-Plast project team. You will be informed afterwards if your application was successful.

### 1.1 General application requirements

The following are the basic requirements to apply for any of the three vouchers:

**Location I** The applicant has a location and is economically active in the North-West European Region

**Business activities I** The vouchers are only available for Compounders, Converters, Recyclers, Re-compounders, and Companies creating commercial polymer waste, rPM-Uptake companies and Traders active in the packing or construction sector.

**Financial situation I** The applicant is not in moratorium or bankruptcy the period between application and payment of the voucher

**Complete application I** Only complete applications (in English) qualify for one of the vouchers. Companies with incomplete applications will be contacted and requested to complete their applications. When the application is officially complete, companies will be notified and a final decision will be made six weeks after competition.

**Only for application for the chain voucher:** In case of an application for the chain voucher, it is necessary to hand in **three** tender requests from



three different suppliers. For more information, please contact the regional coordinator.

**Exclusion of pilot companies** | Companies that have participated in the pilot-phase of Di-Plast are excluded from the voucher scheme.

**Number of vouchers per company** | A company can only apply for one voucher over the period of the Di-Plast program. If the application is denied, companies can re-apply for another voucher.

## 1.2 Scope for voucher application

**Use of the voucher** | Activities for the vouchers need to be in line with the general idea of the vouchers. Please find the possibly funded activities here <https://www.nweurope.eu/projects/project-search/di-plast-digital-circular-economy-for-the-plastics-industry/#tab-7>. Please check with your regional coordinator if in doubt.

The voucher can be spend at organizations within the Interreg NWE region (expection: Luxembourg, more information:

<https://www.nweurope.eu/about-the-programme/the-nwe-area/>). The vouchers can also be used for seeking assistance from or cooperation with one of the Di-Plast partners. Please contact the regional coordinator to check which activities are eligible for a voucher. The vouchers are publicly funded and should be spent sparingly.

**Exclusion criteria** | A Di-Plast voucher cannot be used for

- the purchase of physical assets (car, laptops etc.) or in-company working hours.
- activities that are already funded by public or private means
- activities carried out by non-independent parties, such as parent companies or subsidiaries
- activities carried out by companies or organizations outside of the Interreg NWE region (see here: <https://www.nweurope.eu/about-the-programme/the-nwe-area/>).

## 1.3 Voucher payment conditions

**General payment condition** | Vouchers can only be paid out if a company:



- completed the proposed activities before 15 April 2022. If not, the applicant loses the right to the voucher and related funding.
- submitted the payment form in time (up to four weeks after the end date of the activity). This form will be send to the selected company after its application was accepted.
- submitted detailed invoice(s)
- Invoices are paid after correct transmission (maximum invoice amount must not exceed voucher value). uploaded three tenders (in case of a Chain Voucher).

**Invoice requirements I** The invoice(s) must clearly state the daily or hourly rate. The invoice and proof of payment must be in the name of the applicant.

**Payment division I** The Di-Plast voucher is paid in one go. Interim payments are not possible.

## 1.4 Rights and obligations if awarded with a voucher

**Cooperation in survey and interviews I** The Di-Plast consortium evaluates the impact of the scheme and the Uptake accelerator program, by means of surveys and / or interviews. The applicant shall cooperate in this. There will never be information provided to third parties without the consent of the applicant.

**External communication I** The Di-Plast consortium can ask whether the applicant wants to contribute to external communication of the results of the activities, for example in the form of articles or presentation on (regional) events. The applicant is required to cooperate in this, unless there are serious objections are not to do this.