

SymbioSteel Newsletter No 2, 2025

SymbioSteel, as an EU RFCS project, focuses on Industrial Symbiosis, which concerns the use by one company or sector of underutilized resources from another, making those resources last for longer to enhance efficiency and sustainability. It aims to transform the steel sector by promoting collaboration and reducing environmental impact. The project aims to accelerate the adoption of Industrial Symbiosis in the steel industry, supporting decarbonization and resource efficiency.

The project is now at its mid-point, with one year completed, and one year yet to go. Year one included an initial focus on setting up project structures, communication platforms and the initial inventory of previous research and EU-funded projects involving steel industry symbioses.

Now, our focus is shifting to delivering the analysis and review of previous research. We have already conducted a literature review and have begun a survey to better understand both current state, enablers and barriers, as well as future opportunities for Industrial Symbiosis in the steel sector.

Already in the past 6 months, initial results have begun to be presented at conferences such as the Slag Workshop organized by FEhS and ESTEP in Duisburg in March, the ESTEP Spring Dissemination Event 2025 in Krakow, and the European Biomass Conference and Exhibition 2025 in Valencia, both in June.

Just last week, a presentation of the project status and initial results was made at the Swerim Resource and Recycling Day 2025 webinar, and a SymbioSteel review paper is undergoing Peer Review for publication in an ESTAD 2025 special issue of Matériaux et Technologiques.

More details about completed and upcoming activities are presented over the coming pages!

Consortium team:



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Main completed activities

Since March, the SymbioSteel project has completed the following activities:

- Project meeting in Duisburg **March 4th**
- Launch of the project website at **www.symbiosteel.eu**
- SymbioSteel session (workshop 1) and presentation at ESTEP & FehS slag workshop in **Duisburg March 6th** (see below)
- Construction and launch of **online survey** (see below)
- Poster at **ESTEP Spring Dissemination event, June 5th and 6th** (see below)
- Presentation of poster « Steel and biomass symbioses » at **EUBCE, June 11th**. (see below)
- Completion and publication of **Comprehensive overview of project, and Ethical and legal guidelines**.
- Submission of a SymbioSteel review paper for **ESTAD 2025** (see below)
- Presentation in **Resource and Recycling Day** (Webinar), **September 26th**.
- An updated report on Key Performance Indicators

A survey on Industrial Symbiosis in Steel

One of the research goals of the project is to get a more complete view of the implementation and insight into Industrial Symbiosis practices in the European steel sector. In June, the SymbioSteel project launched a « *Survey on activities and trends on Industrial Symbiosis in the steel sector* », as a way to investigate both adoption and to map future opportunities.

The survey is aimed at the whole process industry, as many sectors can be part of symbiotic relationships.

Any actor with insight into European process industry is welcome to fill out the survey!

Fill out the survey



QR code to survey



Duisburg presentation

As part of the workshop «*The role of slags and other by-products within circular economy in the steel industry*», organised by FEhS and ESTEP, SymbioSteel organised a session focused on topics Related to Industrial Symbiosis.

The two-day event was attended by around 100 participants, and SymbioSteel colleagues Valentina Colla and Teresia Anunciata Branca made a presentation titled « **Assessing the progress of the impact of Industrial Symbiosis on the steel sector in recent initiatives based on the SymbioSteel project** », highlighting the initial set of Key Performance Indicators for steel industry symbiosis identified in the project.

Find the presentation here (LINK) ►

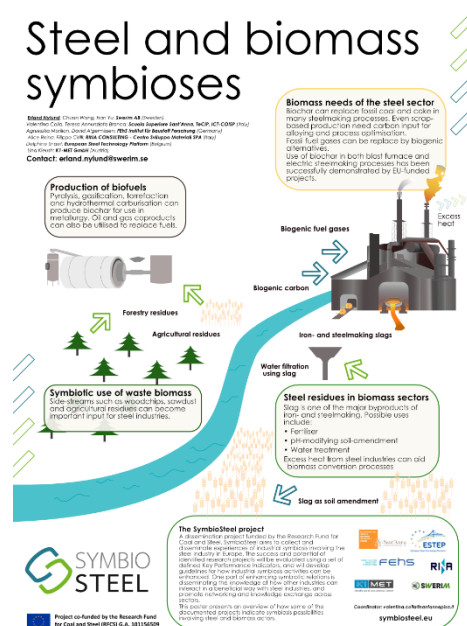


EUBCE poster presentation

Erland Nylund presented the poster “Steel and biomass symbioses”, highlighting the research on technologies synergistically connecting steel and biomass sector in EUBCE 2025.

Please see the poster by following the link below:

Poster in LinkedIn page ▶





Poster in ESTEP spring event

SymbioSteel colleagues participated in the ESTEP Spring Dissemination event. A poster highlighting our project was presented, event participants were invited to join our survey (as shown above) on activities and emerging trends in industrial symbiosis within the steel sector.

Find the poster



Presentation in Resource and Recycling Day

In the webinar Swerim Resource and Recycling Day, on June 26th, 2025, Prof. Valentina and Dr. Han Yu delivered the presentation of SymbioSteel project to an audience of more than 100 participants, focusing on the project aims, progress and recent results.

Resource and Recycling day (LINK)



SymbioSteel at ESTAD – Recent achievements of Industrial Symbiosis in the steel sector

The session “Circular Economy & Industrial Symbiosis” in ESTAD will be held on Oct 7, 2025, as Symbio-Steel’s workshop 2. Our project leader, Prof. Valentina Colla, will deliver a presentation introducing SymbioSteel project, highlighting its progress, and showcasing recent achievements of industrial Symbiosis in the industrial sector. This includes an analysis of different themes in the extant literature – such as Barriers, Drivers and Methodologies, as well as analysis of areas of future importance such as social impacts and regulatory support.

We are also pleased that our contribution to the conference has been selected for possible publication on the ESTAD 2025 special issue of Matériaux et Technologiques.

We warmly welcome you to join the presentation and session.

[Click to the session](#)

Stay tuned for updates

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