

A Vision for a Greener Future in Pharmaceuticals

On 10th December morning, the DG RTD premises in Brussels became the backdrop for an inspiring gathering. Five groundbreaking EU-funded projects (ENVIROMED, IMPACTIVE, ETERNAL, SUS-PHARMA, TRANSPHARM), united by a shared mission to transform pharmaceutical manufacturing into a more sustainable endeavour, came together to collaborate, share ideas, and spark new possibilities.

This informal “green pharmaceuticals” cluster marked a significant milestone in the journey toward environmentally friendly pharma practices.

As the day began, **Irene Norstedt**, Director of DG RTD, set the tone with her opening remarks, framing the challenge ahead. The morning sessions featured insightful presentations from **Momir Radulović** (Slovenian Agency for Medicinal Products) and **Sofie Norager** (DG RTD), culminating in a lively Q&A that brought fresh perspectives from the audience.

Each project took the stage, sharing its unique progress, challenges, and aspirations. Together, their voices painted a hopeful picture of a pharmaceutical industry ready to embrace sustainability by design.

The highlight of the morning was a **thought-provoking panel discussion** led by **Carmen Laplaza** (DG RTD). Experts like **Evelina Colacino** (IMPACTIVE project), **Kirsty Reid** (Director for Science Policy at EFPIA), and representatives from DG Environment, DG GROW, and the Slovenian Agency for Medicinal Products dove into critical topics such as:

- How do we harmonize standards for sustainability?
- What role can renewable resources and biodegradable compounds play?
- How do we align policies and approval processes to accelerate the change?





The discussion also raised pressing questions:

- How do we accelerate results and move to industrialization?
- How to find a smart solution how to use an existing data?
- Are end users ready for greener pharmaceuticals?
- Can innovative technologies truly transform green pharma manufacturing?
- How do we ensure society benefits from this green transition?
- What are the costs, and where can we find additional sources of decarbonization?

After a morning of dynamic dialogue, the afternoon sessions took a focused approach, with strategic meetings involving EMA and EFPIA and working groups diving deeper into action plans.

By the end of the day, it was clear: this gathering wasn't just about sharing progress-it was about uniting a community around a vision. A vision of pharmaceuticals that are **safe, effective, and sustainable**.

This is just the beginning of an exciting journey. Together, with collaboration, innovation, and determination, we can make a real impact.

