

# PRESS RELEASE

## ICARUS PROJECT KICK-OFF

*Advancing circular economy principles through groundbreaking research and innovative technologies.*

**Brussels, 06 February:** 18 partners from 7 countries (Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Italy, Denmark, France, The Netherlands) gathered in Madrid, Spain on January 23 and 24<sup>th</sup> to kick off ICARUS, an EU-funded project working to **advance circular economy**. By **upcycling waste material resources** from energy heavy industries, ICARUS will support the transformation towards circular and sustainable process industries.

The construction sector's resource usage (housing and infrastructure) accounts for 50% of the total material extraction and is responsible for more than 35% of waste streams in the EU. Furthermore, as of 2021, the level of circularity for the construction sector in the EU was of approximately 12.4% material use rate. ICARUS addresses the importance of energy-intensive and construction industries on the transition to more green and digital processes industries by **providing technological support to stakeholders from these sectors**.

ICARUS' groundbreaking research will result in the development of new technologies to upgrade Secondary Raw Materials, ensuring similar quality as primary raw materials, resulting in the improvement of circular economy principles in several energy-intensive industries. ICARUS will also foster collaboration across key industry players, recyclers, public authorities, and standardization actors, helping to co-create processes and introduce groundbreaking construction materials in regional and global markets.

On the specific challenges that ICARUS will address and provide a solution for, **Aina Soler Jofra**, Project Manager & Researcher, **ACCIONA Agua**, said:

*"By implementing cellulose recovery in wastewater treatment plants, we aim not only to obtain a product that can be used in construction, but also to reduce the energy demands of wastewater treatment by recovering this cellulose."*

Join ICARUS to be part of the future of sustainable materials, processes, and industries through cutting-edge research and collaboration. Find out more at [project-icarus.eu](https://project-icarus.eu).

\*\*\*Ends\*\*\*

Stay up to date with ICARUS by following us on X and LinkedIn and [signing up to our newsletter!](#)

**X:** [@ICARUSEUProject](#)

**LinkedIn:** [ICARUS EU Project](#)

### Media Contact

Aleksandra Starčević - Project Manager [aleksandra@revolve.media](mailto:aleksandra@revolve.media)