

Strengthen your business and your environmental work - at the same time!

through local collaboration for increased resource efficiency



Sotenäs
kommun

Symbiosentrum

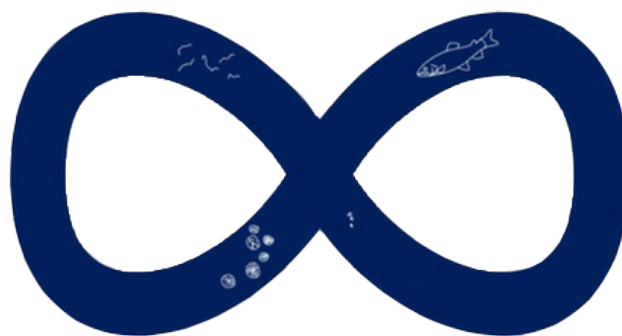
Circular economy through industrial and social symbiosis

Investing in circular economy and green business models generates profits for both the company, society and the environment. According to the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise, working with circular economy means great opportunities for growth and new business opportunities.

One way is to increase our resource efficiency and see all waste as resources. For example, by increasing the use of recycled raw materials, developing the business model to offer services instead of selling products, through improved circular product design with lower resource consumption or increased service life, better resource management or more efficient energy use.

Industrial and social symbiosis is a strategy for strengthening local collaboration and achieving win-win situations. In an industrial symbiosis, one's waste or residual product becomes another's raw material. By companies and other organizations collaborating, the system becomes more efficient than if everyone optimizes their own business. Resource collaboration can also involve joint use of infrastructure, premises and services. Local partnerships that leads to better businesses and better environment.

In a social symbiosis, the focus is instead on human resources, but in the same way the benefit is greater through cooperation. For example, the need for skills can be mapped in companies, and based on the needs, relevant educations are created so that people can be trained for attractive professions. Social symbiosis is also about strengthening relationships and collaborations - because it is people who make the industrial symbiosis work and develop further.



Take advantage of opportunities to meet and get to know your neighbors and other companies in the area. At any time, a new, sustainable business opportunity can emerge!





Strengthened local collaboration - a path to increased profitability

Investing in a circular economy as well as industrial and social symbiosis generates profits for both companies, the environment and society. Most companies are already very good at managing their resources efficiently within the company. However, to meet existing and future resource challenges, we need to look beyond the individual company's products and processes. Such work entails increased collaboration between companies - through value chains and between industries.

Resource collaboration between companies can involve any of the following:

- Residual flows and by-products can be used in another business or by society. This can be done directly or via an actor who is responsible for some form of further processing of the raw material.
- Shared use of resources and infrastructure - energy, compressed air, water and sewage, waste management, premises, etc.
- Joint use of services - purchasing, logistics, waste management, maintenance.
- Joint investments for increased utilization rate and increased profitability.
- Collaborations with other actors to create new products, services or processes.

Collaboration according to the principles above generates competitive profits through reduced costs and a strengthened environmental profile for the participating companies.

Collaborations that may be relevant for your company - here is some inspiration!

The basic principle of collaboration for more efficient resource utilization is about meeting companies and businesses in your area to discuss what resources you have that are not fully utilized and what you need. Also, tell us about your future plans and ideas so maybe new opportunities arise.

Some inspiring examples of what such discussions can be about:

- Discuss opportunities for collaboration linked to transport and logistics needs. Opportunities can mean an increased degree of filling in transports or a common requirement for renewable energy in the transport services that are procured.
- Are you in need of office interiors - furniture, floor sections, interior doors, glass sections, ceilings, etc.?
Reuse - when needs change, there may be potential to exchange products with other companies.
- Do you need to dry materials such as biomass? Maybe there is a business in your area that has access to residual heat or has facilities that are underutilized.
- Do you have a waste from your business that costs you money?
Maybe someone else sees it as a resource in their business.
- Are you thinking of investing in renewable energy - solar cells, charging stations or geenergy? Perhaps more businesses in your area are doing the same, consider the possibility of joint investment for increased profitability.
- Are you cramped and need more office or production space?
Companies in your area may have underutilized premises.



This is how you can get support

At Sotenäs Symbioscentrum (which is a municipal department under business and development), we help you turn problems and challenges into opportunities. We offer support to take ideas to practice or development projects, and to find know-how.

Through collaboration, we find solutions that provide greater benefit for everyone involved than if each individual company operates in stand-alone. You as an entrepreneur can obtain support in efforts to identify and create effective resource collaborations with operations primarily in your area. The support involves both competence development and green business development as well as the opportunity for support for the investigation of identified opportunities. We share our broad network and help find grants / support for your projects and ideas.

If you have questions, thoughts or ideas - feel free to come to us for a cup of coffee or book us in for a digital coffee.

Let's find out how we can help you!

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