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## **ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY VERIFICATION (ETV): A TOOL TO DEMONSTRATE THE INNOVATIVENESS OF TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS FOR CIRCULAR TRANSITION**

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### **Abstract**

The Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) tool is part of a voluntary programme to facilitate market access for new environmental technologies. It is a verification protocol for innovative technologies based on their environmental performance, impartially certified by an accredited verification body. As part of the LIFEproETV project, an European initiative aimed at promoting market acceptance and recognition of the ETV scheme, ENEA (Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development) has identified ETV as a key instrument to support innovation in the field of Circular Economy (CE). Indeed, the transition towards circular production and consumption models implies the use and dissemination of new technologies, whose environmental performance must be credible and impartially verified.

The ETV scheme has been successfully applied to verify the performance of 15 innovative environmental solutions with circular applications. These technologies could not be measured or verified using existing regulations, certifications, authorizations, or standards.

In this context, to identify concrete use cases for ETV within Italy's environmental policies and to outline the opportunities and enabling environment for promoting ETV-verified technologies that support the circular economy, ENEA has developed a roadmap. This roadmap defines the potential areas where ETV can be used as a policy tool to help achieve the specific objectives of the National Strategy for the Circular Economy (NSCE). It also explores the value and potential benefits of using the ETV scheme to foster innovation ecosystems, address environmental challenges, and promote sustainable finance.

*Key words:* circular economy, EN ISO 14034, environmental technologies, industrial symbiosis, green performances

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