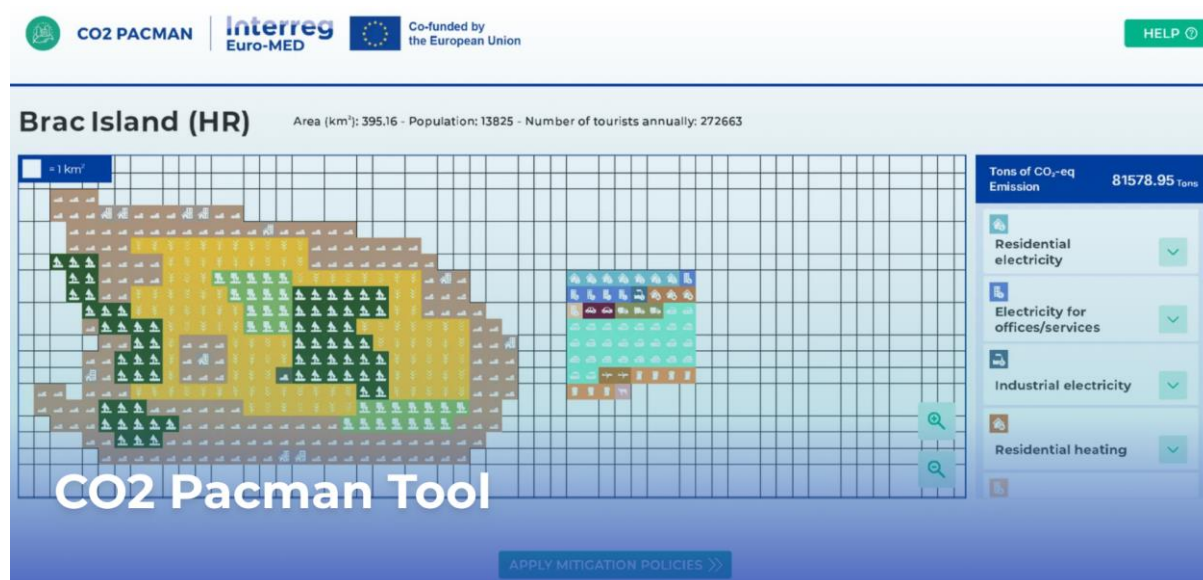




Welcome to the second edition of the Interreg Euro-MED CO2 PACMAN Newsletter!

With a strong first year behind us, we now embark on the final year of the project, rich with new challenges, promising activities, and inspiring outcomes. The last six months have brought significant developments throughout the consortium, reaching well beyond the Rooting Labs. Join us as we reflect on our achievements and look ahead to the milestones of 2026.

## CO2 PACMAN TOOL



We are excited to share that the CO2 PACMAN TOOL was successfully launched. The tool allows users to explore how various decarbonisation measures affect future emission paths and to create realistic, context-specific scenarios for climate neutrality.

Here the link: <https://co2pt.unisi.it/>

## Open Innovation Collaborative Action



### Our mission & vision

The Open Innovation Collaborative Action created a dynamic hub where companies, startups, SMEs and research centers came together to find solutions in the fields of sustainability, decarbonization, and smart resource management. The platform focused on the three pilot islands: Brač (Croatia), Crete (Greece), and Elba (Italy).

Through the platform, participants had the opportunity to co-create innovative strategies that directly support the transition of these islands toward climate neutrality.

- The discussion around these challenges sparked a wave of innovation, demonstrating how cross-sector collaboration can generate impactful solutions for island communities.

The most promising ideas were later showcased during the **Business Forum in Valencia**, where innovators met with stakeholders and explored opportunities for future cooperation.

You can read more about each challenge and explore the detailed proposals on our official website.

<https://www.innovationcolab.eu/oc/challenges>

## The CO2 PACMAN Business Forum in Valencia

At the end of June 2025, the **CO2 PACMAN Business Forum in Valencia** officially wrapped up, bringing together a vibrant community of innovators, decision-makers, and investors committed to shaping a sustainable Mediterranean future.



Over 30 expert speakers, startups, public authorities, and impact investors from seven European countries joined forces to turn 55 innovative proposals into real solutions for the region's most urgent climate challenges. From tackling sustainable mobility and water scarcity to addressing plastic waste and carbon-

neutral events, the Forum was a showcase of bold ideas that have already begun turning into concrete action.

The pilot islands of **Brač, Crete, and Elba** presented nine real-world challenges, and innovators rose to the occasion with scalable, smart, and sustainable answers. The result was a replicable model for other islands across the Mediterranean and beyond, stronger public and private partnerships, and new connections between innovation and green investment.



Above all, the event became a living demonstration of how open innovation can truly drive climate action.

Special thanks go to our hosts, **CEEI Valencia (Centro Europeo de Empresas e Innovación de Valencia)**, for making this milestone event possible.





## The Island I Would Like Lab in Brač, Croatia

From October 14 to 16, 2025, the island of Brač hosted the CO<sub>2</sub> PACMAN “The Island I Would Like” Lab, a vibrant three-day event dedicated to empowering citizens to adapt to climate change and reduce carbon dioxide emissions through collaboration, innovation, and education.

Held in Supetar, the Lab brought together residents, students, and local institutions in an inspiring exchange of ideas on sustainable island living. The initiative was organized under the coordination of the County of Split-Dalmatia, as part of the CO<sub>2</sub> PACMAN project connecting Brač (Croatia), Elba (Italy), and Crete (Greece) in their shared journey toward climate neutrality.



## Empowering Communities for a Sustainable Future

The CO<sub>2</sub> PACMAN Living Lab in Brač



highlighted the power of community engagement and youth-driven innovation in the transition toward a climate-neutral future. Through workshops, presentations, simulations, and virtual reality experiences, citizens, students, researchers, and local authorities explored practical solutions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving sustainable mobility, enhancing waste management, and accelerating the island’s energy transition. The active involvement of high school students from Supetar and Bol, together with the evaluation of alternative landscape scenarios, demonstrated how knowledge, collaboration, and interactive tools can shape a shared vision

for a greener Brač. More details and insights are available on our [website](#).

## AskyourcitizenonCaN and Vox Populi: Giving Voice to the Community



**Discover the survey results**

Two participatory activities, AskyourcitizenonCaN and Vox Populi played an essential role in gathering opinions, concerns, and aspirations from residents.

- AskyourcitizenonCaN invited participants to express concrete ideas and challenges they face in their daily lives, helping identify local priorities for climate action. A survey on the perception and attitude towards transition of Mediterranean islands towards climate neutrality has been developed and targeted to the general public. The survey has been conducted in 3 pilot islands through a common questionnaire and interviews. The results obtained include climate change mitigation, attitudes and behaviours of citizens regarding CO2 neutrality. Please have a look at the [website](#) for more information
- [Vox Populi](#), a public-engagement tool, allowed citizens to vocalize their expectations for a climate-neutral Brač, contributing valuable qualitative insights that will support future planning. Listen to the [interview!](#)

Both activities strengthened **community involvement** and ensured that the vision for the island's future truly reflects the **voices of its people**.

## What is next for CO2 PACMAN...? The Island I Would Like Labs in Crete and Elba and the final conference

After the successful Lab in Brač the CO2 PACMAN project is moving forward with the next edition of The Island I Would Like Labs in Elba and Crete. The upcoming three-day workshops will take place in Elba **between 22-24 March 2026** and in Crete **between 28-30 April 2026**. The workshops will develop the insights, experiences, and collaborative solutions generated during the first series of Labs.

This new edition will put a stronger emphasis on turning research findings and co-created ideas into concrete actions for decarbonization. Designed as a dynamic, hands-on environment, the Lab will combine discourse, onsite exploration, and participatory design.

The workshop will focus on critical sectors for the island's sustainable transition, including renewable energy and storage, sustainable mobility, waste and water management, food systems, low-carbon industries, ecosystem-based approaches, and sustainable tourism. Insights emerging from these sessions will directly inform the update of Brač's greenhouse gas balance and the refinement of its roadmap toward carbon neutrality.



We will hold our final conference on **26-27 May 2026 in Larnaca (Cyprus)** and we would like to count on you. So, save the date!



As part of this ongoing engagement, the project's Podcast series continues to play a key role in sharing knowledge and amplifying community voices. Several new episodes have been released, highlighting expert perspectives, local experiences, and innovative ideas that complement the work carried out during the Labs.

In this [episode](#), recorded at the CO2 PACMAN Business Forum 2025, we turn to the innovators who answered the island challenges.

## How to Get Involved

**Visit our website, follow us on social media, contribute to discussions, and share our updates within your networks. Together, we can make a significant impact for sustainable and greener future. Stay Connected!**

[Website](#)

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2<sup>nd</sup> CO2 PACMAN Newsletter