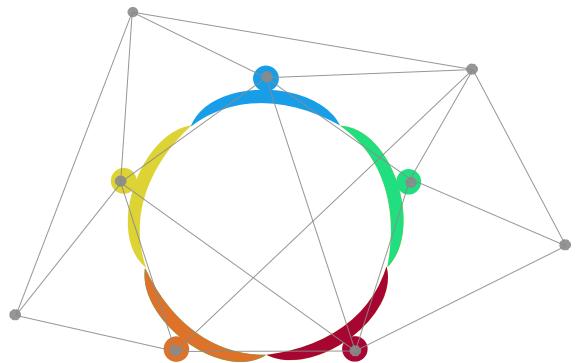


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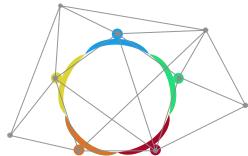


INEDIT
open INnovation Ecosystems
for Do It Together process

D6.4 3D Printing of recycled plastic demonstrator

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1 Executive Summary

2 This report describes the open manufacturing demonstration facility of “*3D printing of recycled*
3 *plastic demonstrator*” developed in the INEDIT project. The main goal is to validate the logisti-
4 cal and technical feasibility of recycled assets to be used in the Do-It-Together (DIT) approach.
5 Therefore, a complete technical description is presented to transform certains plastic wastes
6 into functional objects using 3D printing and desktop plastic injections through multiple experi-
7 mentations. The activities were oriented to produce objects for the purpose of 1) manufacture
8 prototypes for validation prior to production stage, 2) customized objects for personalization
9 of furniture and 3) spare part for reparability to enlarge the life of discarded furniture.

10 These technical and logistical elements were implemented in a recycling pilot platform known
11 locally as the ‘*Green FabLab*’ at the city of Nancy, France. The technical development was
12 based on open design approach in order to be replicable to other countries. The integration
13 was validated according the Key Performance Indicators.

14 There are two majors outcomes of the work done within task 6.4 and documented in this report:

- 15 1. Describe the methodological concept of the distributed recycling via additive manufac-
16 turing (DRAM) system oriented to the revaluation of plastic.
- 17 2. Demonstrate in a relevant environment to prove the integration of a distributed and local
18 plastic recycling with the INEDIT process.

19 The development of open-source technologies that enables to carry out the main stages for
20 plastic recycling constitute a first chain validation. Moreover, the implementation and devel-
21 opment of Use Case 3 proved to validate the technology maturity level from TRL4 to TRL6 and
22 market readiness level from MRL 1 to 3/4 for technologies used such as the smart collector and
23 fused granular fabrication. In addition, the creation of a local and distributed plastic recycling
24 chain in a territorial level constitute an important output for the impact of the project given
25 the high level objectives of INEDIT.

26 1.1 Outline

27 The report is structured into three main parts. The section Section 3 provides a baseline intro-
28 duction regarding the plastic recycling issues in European Union. Then, section Section 4 gives
29 an overview of the context where the 3D printing of recycled plastic demonstrator have been
30 developed, characterizing its main methodological and technical features. After, the section
31 Section 6 presents in detail the operationalization of the demonstrator in the DIT approach.
32 This is illustrated the step-by-step technical elements to consider each element and the illus-
33 trative experimentations made to validate each of the DIT process. The rapport finish with a
34 conclusion section.

2 Introduction

36 INEDIT develops a multi-sided platform pursuing the goal of a new sustainable manufacturing
37 processes integrated in agile manufacturing networks to simplify personalization of furniture.
38 To do that, a numeric platform is devoted to connect consumers, designers, makers, and man-
39 ufacturers. in order to pushes further the access to production means improving the creativity
40 and design in open innovation ecosystems. This trend is enframed in the concept of mass
41 customization, identified as a key major trend by the EU for 2030. In fact, the on-demand pro-
42 duction capacity (all around Europe) enabled by the DIT approach seeks to be environmentally
43 responsible.

44 The Université de Lorraine developed a pilot platform called locally as the ‘Green Fablab’ with
45 the aim to the describe and implement a 3D printing of recycled plastic demonstrator. The
46 ambition of this use case is to test the feasibility of the distributed recycling via additive manu-
47 facturing (DRAM) ([Cruz Sanchez et al., 2020](#)) concept with the purpose to integrate in the Do-It-
48 Together approach. The technical feasibility of the plastic recycling via additive manufacturing
49 was based on a open design approach that could facilitate the replicability and appropriation
50 in different countries.

51 Therefore, the main goal of this task is to validate the logistical and technical feasibility of
52 recycled assets to be used in the DIT approach. These technical and logistical elements were
53 implemented in relevant environment. More precisely in a cultural and citizen third place at
54 Nancy, France.

55 The outputs of this use case aims to illustrate how the 3D printing of recycled plastic demon-
56 strator give a concrete results on the the high-level objectives that the INEDIT project aims to
57 achieve:

- 58 • To unleash the creativity of consumers and designers towards co-creation of new pieces
59 of furniture addressing the needs of the single user in an industrial context.
- 60 • To democratise the access to production resources in the furniture sector.
- 61 • To define, design and manufacturing strategies focusing on lowering ecological impact and
62 addressing societal challenges.

3 Plastic Issues for the European Union

Since 1950', our society have gained enormous advantages in terms of quality of life thanks to the technical development of the development of plastic and polymer materials. Plastic is a material that is widely used in our daily lives and plays a fundamental role in industry and economic development. The plastic material are found in almost all our products: food packaging, cars, technological tools, clothing, among others. The main reason is that plastic materials offer a variety of chemical and mechanical properties to be useful for a wide array of applications. Plastics are extremely useful, but their mismanagement has affected the environment and our health. The over-consumption and especially bad practices (single use, difficulty of reuse, etc.), make plastics one of the major societal challenges of an ecological transition that has become imperative. The main problem is the end-of-life treatment which traditionally uses a centralized system where plastic waste often has to travel thousands of kilometers... to be incinerated or landfilled. In addition to the energy and environmental impact of their production, there is also the impact of the end of life.

Unfortunately, the plastic waste pollution poses a major threat because of the issue of non-degradability affecting the ecological environments ([Hopewell et al., 2009](#); [Ryberg et al., 2019](#); [Thompson et al., 2009](#)). Indeed, recycling rates remain small (approx. 14%) in the plastic packaging field on a global scale ([Hahladakis and Iacovidou, 2018](#)). Even in Europe, which tends to lead on environmental stewardship, the recycling rate is about 32.5 wt% ([Plastics, 2019](#)). However, these values consider the amount of plastic waste collected, rather than the total amount in circulation ([Kranzinger et al., 2018](#)). Rethinking the development and use of plastics is central to the circular economy paradigm, to provide less harmful options for the environment. Thus, more types of plastic packaging are available, but each reflects diverse circular economy strategies

To tackle this accumulation waste problem, the European strategy for plastics in the circular economy (CE) is gaining attention in the policy and business debate surrounding sustainable development of industrial production ([European Commission, 2018](#); [Geissdoerfer et al., 2017](#)). CE tackles a central societal issue concerning the current principle "take, make, dispose" (linear economy) and its negative effects caused by the depletion of natural resources, waste generation, biodiversity loss, pollution (water, air, soil) and non-sustainable economics ([van Buren et al., 2016](#)). The validation (technical, economic, legislative) of waste plastic as a secondary raw material in industrial processes is considered now a core target to integrate CE into the plastic value chain ([Simon, 2019](#)). Strategies of open and closed-loop recycling as well as upcycling and downcycling functionality approaches can offer paths to validate the secondary raw materials ([Zhuo and Levendis, 2014](#)). The promotion of cross-sectorial valorization of plastic wastes through Industrial symbiosis approaches seems to be a relevant strategy for the circular economy strategies of the EU ([Karayilan et al., 2021](#))

Based on this context, it is presented the demostration of the INEDIT project called '3D Printing of Recycling Plastic' that was developed and implemented. In the

4 Context of the 3D Printing of Recycled Plastic Demonstrator

103 4.1 Presentation of the scale of the demonstrator: Rives de Meurthe district 104 (Nancy, France)

105 The demonstrator is placed at the City of Nancy - France, in the region of Lorraine at the
106 northeastern. Nancy is the capital of the Meurthe-et-Moselle department and has a population
107 of approximately 105,000 inhabitants. More precisely, our interest is the *Rives de Meurthe*
108 district as presented by the Figure 1. This district extends between the city center and the
109 Meurthe River for about 7 km from north to south (extending into the municipalities of Jarville-
110 la-Malgrange upstream and Maxéville downstream) and is between 250 and 1,000 m wide.

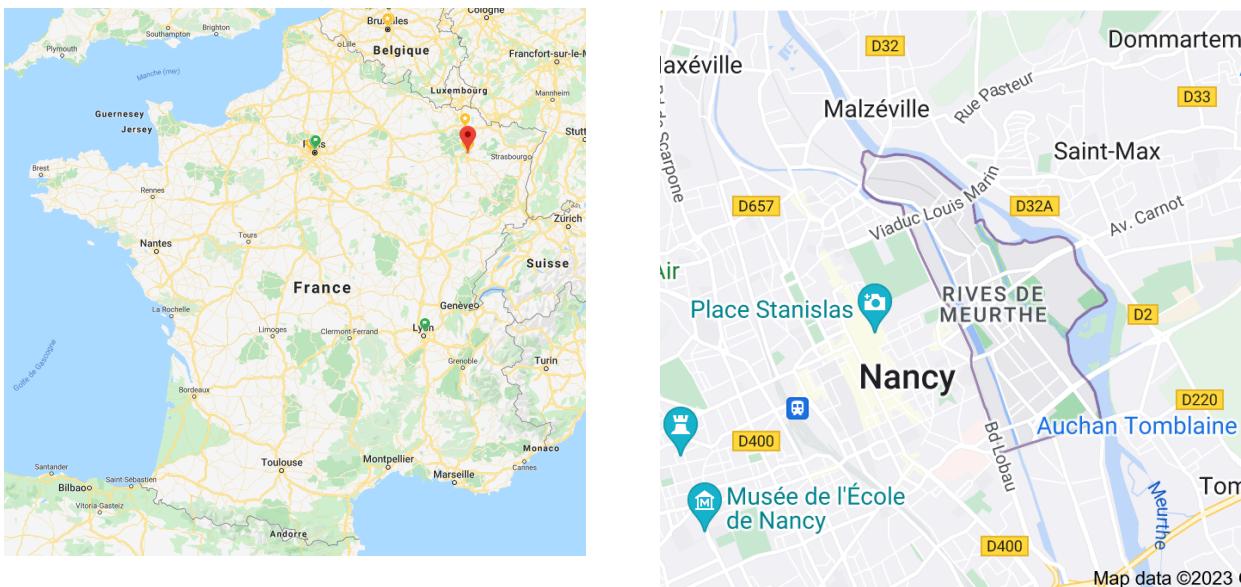


Figure 1: Localization of the Rives de Meurthe district at Nancy, France.

111 Nancy was not born around a waterway and its commercial potential. Its port and river side has
112 long been rather reduced, contrary to the great majority of cities. However, the main interest
113 of the Rives de Meurthe district concerns that it has been a case study in the light of urban
114 regeneration due to flood risk presented in this area (Chiffre et al., 2014; Edelblutte, 2006).
115 Therefore, since end of 1980's, there have been a series of renewal policies of the district with
116 the purpose of going beyond a simple reconversion by broadly rethinking the role of the central
117 and pericentral space of the city.

118 Among the multiples choices, one of the strategic actions taken by the government have been
119 the transformation of the old site of the slaughterhouses in the heart of the Rives de Meurthe
120 district. In 1996, the slaughterhouse activity was transferred to the Épinal-Mirecourt ZAC,
121 marking the end of the site's industrial life. As soon as the activities ceased, a rehabilitation
122 process began in parallel with the development project of the district. The vast 6-hectare site
123 was first carefully demolished to bring back the main buildings constructed at the beginning of
124 the 20th century.

125 In 2017, the city administration took the decision by a public concertation to create exemplary
126 actions in terms of ecological transition at the city level ([Ville de Nancy, 2018](#)). Thus, the
127 creation on the site of the former slaughterhouses was taken. This gives birth in 2019 to the
128 creation of the OK3 association to develop and animate the cultural project of *L'Octroi Nancy*
129 towards the creation of a Cultural and Creative Incubator.¹

130 Given the pandemic situation at the beginning on 2020, the end of works was only finished in
131 2021.

132 4.2 Third place Octroi Nancy

133 The third place Octroi Nancy is a urban project that transforms the former slaughterhouses of
134 the city of Nancy into “cultural, creative and citizen” third place with 4600 m² of renovated
135 buildings ([Pallot et al., 2021](#)).

136 Four large buildings (Figure 2) were refurbished to provide a convivial and multidisciplinary
137 meeting place between culture and innovation; open to experimentation and intended to operate
138 as a creative laboratory for the city. The first building (1) are called the ‘La Petite Halle’
139 (*The Small Hall*) which is an space of 900 m². The purpose is to develop a creative laboratory
140 from which projects of all artistic and creative disciplines may emerge. The second building (2)
141 is the ‘L’Octroi Sud’ (*South Octroi*) where it is intended the professionalization for the actors
142 of the territory, through the installation of resource organizations. The third building (3) is the
143 ‘La Grande Halle’ (*The big Hall*). It is a hangar building of 2,200 m² space for the organization
144 of events, exhibitions and demonstration of artistic and cultural projects. Finally, the fourth
145 bilding (4) is the ‘La Halle ouverte’ (*the Open Hall*) which is an open space of 700 m² to host
146 in particular a weekly organic market and several intermitent cultural activities mostly in the
147 summer holidays.

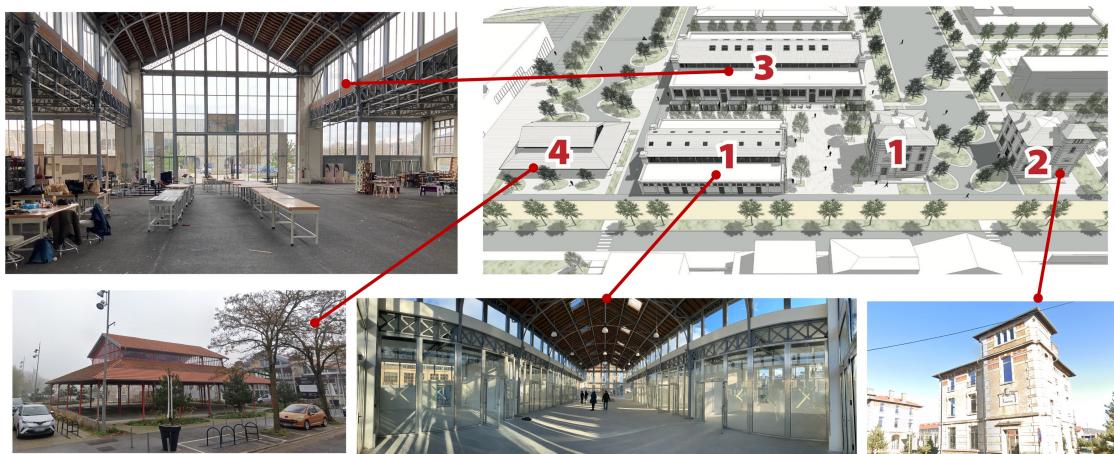


Figure 2: Overview of the Octroi facilities at the Rives of Maeurthe district

148 In summary, these type of third places are open ecosystems that will bring together artists,

¹See more details in <https://www.octroi-nancy.fr/>

149 researchers and creative people with the public, the city's inhabitants and businesses. This
150 initiatives cab be enframed as a socio-technical imaginary projects with new goals and desirable
151 urban transitions in Europe ([Fratini et al., 2019](#)). Starting from existing facilities, this type of
152 urban initiatives can give an opportunity for socially inclusive and environmentally responsible
153 new roles of the local actors regarding the city development.

154 4.3 Lorraine Fab Living Lab®

155 Connected to the Octroi ecosystem, the **Lorraine Smart Cities Living Lab (LSCLL)** is a trans-
156 disciplinary resource center of the Université de Lorraine. It aims to support and link the
157 different societal challenges of the Lorraine territory with the local resources. It enables the
158 integration of different users, implementing collaborative and agile approaches in the service
159 of *Research, Development of Innovations, Training and a Citizen Culture*. Since 2010, this
160 initiative is member of the European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL)², seeking to develop public-
161 private-population partnerships (PPPPs) to disseminate innovation and related practices.

162 Since 2014, the LSCLL formalizes its strategic intention with the the Lorraine Fab Living
163 Lab®(LF2L®) research platform for prospective assessment of innovative usages ([Dupont et al.,
164 2016](#)).

165 The LF2L physical environment is constituted by a collaborative and a fablab space. The collab-
166 orative space allows users to foster co-operation in engineering design with different stakeholders
167 in order to new create concepts/designs. On the other hand, the fablab space allows users
168 to materialize the concepts/designs in an easy and quick way in order to have an prospective
169 evaluation ([Boujut and Blanco, 2003](#); [Dupont et al., 2015, 2014](#)). The synergy of these two
170 spaces enables the project development in a living lab approach taking into account the user
171 centered design principles. The conceptual framework is composed of three main elements as
172 illustrated in Figure 3:

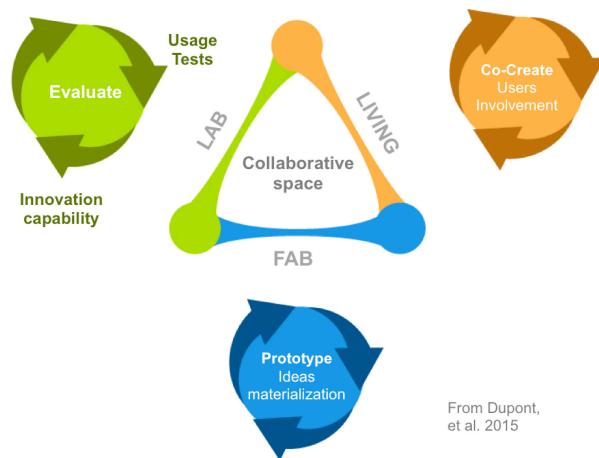


Figure 3: The Lorraine Fab Living Lab methodology.

²4th wave of labelisation)

- 173 1. *Co-creation*: Creative process to find alternative resolution concepts to a problem-topic
174 given integrating the key stakeholders in the process.
- 175 2. *Prototyping*: Materialization (virtual/real) of the concept in order to have a first and quick
176 in-sight.
- 177 3. *Evaluation*: Establishment of the pertinence of the concepts in order to create a feed-
178 back/improvement process.

179 The conceptual innovation framework of LF2L takes into consideration the 2D (concept), 3D
180 (object), 4D (over time) approaches involving different type of stakeholders (e.g. researches,
181 companies, networks,) in order to have a foresight usage evaluation of a new concept, tech-
182 nology or project. The stages and 2D/3D/4D resources allowing prospective assessment of
183 innovative usages in order to support this conceptual framework inside this “innovation space”
184 as indicated in figure 2.3 ([Dupont et al., 2016, 2015](#)). This approach is useful to accelerate the
185 deployment of industrial and/or urban demonstrators.

5 3D Printing of recycled plastic demonstrator: the “Green FabLab”

187 5.1 Rationale for the technological system of the 3D printing recycling demonstra- 188 tor

189 The main goal of the 3D Printing of Recycled Plastic Demonstrator, also known locally as the
190 ‘*Green Fablab*’ as illustrated in the Figure 4, is to validate the logistical and technical feasibility
191 of recycled assets to be used in the DIT approach. The logistical and technical aspects were
192 implemented in a relevant environment in order to prove the integration of a distributed and
193 local plastic recycling chain around Open Manufacturing Demostration Facilitites (OMDF). The
194 *Green Fablab* is the recycling pilot platform based on open design approach with the purpose to
195 be replicable to other countries. The results of this experimentation can be a baseline for many
196 archetypes of open communities such as fablabs, hackerspaces or even industrial prototyping
197 zones. This socio-technical demonstrator combines the hardware development of distributed
198 recycling with a living lab approach that a citizen third place ecosystem can foster.

199 The different key performance indicators were established and validated.



Figure 4: Initial overview of the Green Fablab at November 2021

200 Initially, the initial technical equipment of the Green fablab was first incubated at the the
201 facilities of the LF2L building. This was part of a consolidation of previous research works
202 ([Sanchez, 2016](#)). After the Covid Pandemic situation and the refurbishing that were made at
203 the Octroi ecosystem, the Green Fablab was installed only since November 2021.

204 One of the main ambitions of this demonstrator in the INEDIT project is to prove that plastic
205 waste material can have several uses, and therefore several values, during its life cycle. The
206 same material could be recycled and transformed into new raw material for different products.
207 It is in this spirit that many associations, SMEs, local authorities and individuals are developing
208 new local recycling practices that could allow us to aim for an economy that is more respectful
209 of the environment, fairer for society and more engaging for local politicians.

210 Therefore, it was imperative to understand the key conditions under which to deploy a notion

211 of circular economy with plastic waste to possible establish a secondary raw material market.
212 Likewise, it was required the study of technical parameters for the technological diversity to
213 possible use the waste material including the open source 3D printers and manual desktop injec-
214 tion. The outputs are, not only by minimizing use of the environment as a sink for residuals but -
215 perhaps more importantly - by minimizing the use of virgin materials. Hence, the environmental
216 impact of this technology is significantly reduced.

217 5.2 Distributed recycling via Additive Manufacturing DRAM

218 The technical development of Green Fablab demonstrator is based on the **distributed recycling**
219 **via additive manufacturing (DRAM) approach** ([Cruz Sanchez et al., 2020](#)). This conceptual
220 framework is a major scientific output from the INEDIT project as a proposition of the future
221 industrial landscape.

222 The Additive manufacturing (AM) technology -also known as 3D printing- which is an important
223 industrial vector given its direct (and distributed) manufacturing capabilities. This set of tech-
224 nologies are becoming a key industrial process that could play a relevant role in the transition
225 from a linear to circular economy ([Despeisse et al., 2017](#)). AM technologies is expected to trans-
226 form the production process ([Chen et al., 2017; Jiang et al., 2017; Rahman et al., 2018](#)) thanks
227 to its ability to transform a numerical model into a deposition of material (points, lines or areas)
228 to create a 3D part ([Boureil et al., 2017](#)). The expiration of the first patents has contributed
229 to an increased interest, creating consumer value and potential for disruption ([Beltagui et al.,](#)
230 [2021; West and Kuk, 2016](#)). In economic terms, the global additive manufacturing market is
231 expected to reach USD 23.33 billion by 2026 ([Data, 2019](#)). However, determining when and
232 how to take advantage of the benefits is a challenge for traditional means of production. From
233 a societal viewpoint, Jiang et al. ([2017](#)) reported that the product development could change
234 from traditional stage-gate models to iterative, agile processes changing the scenario by 2030.

235 DRAM is defined as the use of recycled materials by means of mechanical recycling process in
236 the 3D printing process chain. In the literature, DRAM approach emphasizes the technical steps
237 required to reuse plastic waste through the recycling chains for material-extrusion-based 3D
238 printing ([Cruz Sanchez et al., 2020; Little et al., 2020](#)). The use of recycled material, either
239 in the form of raw material or blended with virgin material, is a method of special interest to
240 contribute to sustainable manufacturing ([Zhao et al., 2018](#)).

241 Figure 5 illustrates the conceptual model of DRAM.

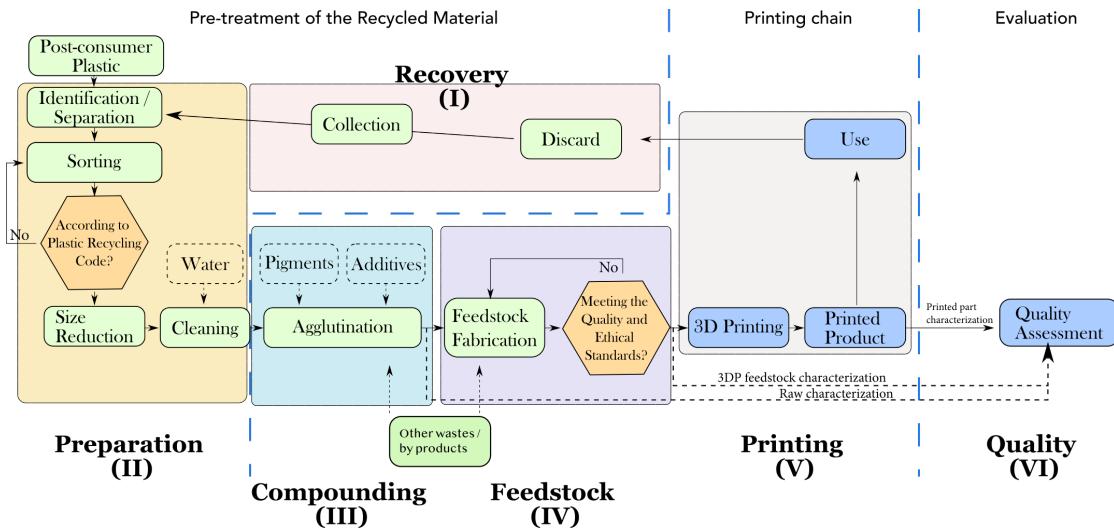


Figure 5: Distributed recycling via additive manufacturing (DRAM) approach (Cruz Sanchez et al., 2020)

In a general overview, the **Recovery (I)** phase concerns the logistic operations to consider to collect the plastic wastes to be reused in DRAM. The **Preparation (II)** phase corresponds to the actions and strategies to identify, separate, sort, size reduce and clean waste plastic to guarantee adequate quality for DRAM. The **Compounding (III)** phase refers to the development of mono- and composite-materials. The **Feedstock (IV)** phase identifies the actions to fabricate the material usable for the printing process, either filament for Fused Filament Fabrication (FFF) or the particle size for Fused Granular Fabrication (FGF). The **Printing (V)** stage identifies applications and process improvements for the recycled printed part. The **Quality (VI)** phase identifies the multi-level technical characterization performed to the recycled material.

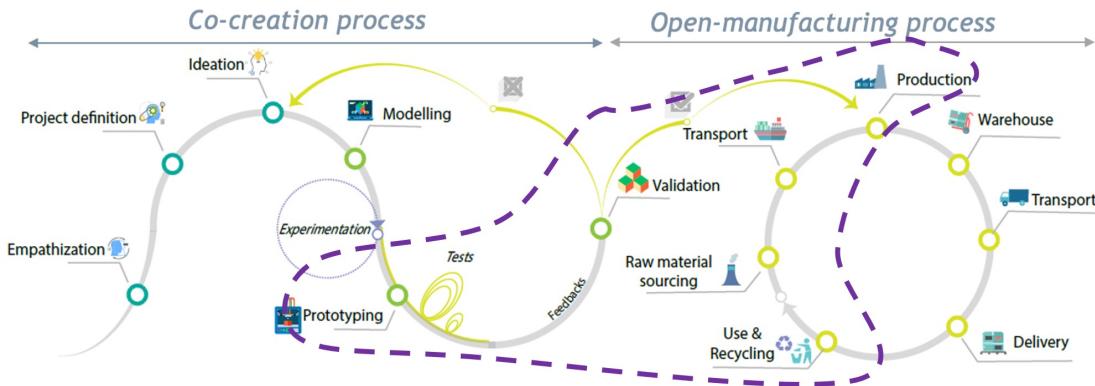
A large number of products can already be manufactured with AM, which affects the geographical spread and density of global value chains (Laplume et al., 2016). It is expected that the reach of AM printable products will be much greater in the future, as the production of multi-material and built-in functionalities (e.g. electronics) will be possible to a large extent. In addition, the production of spare parts can be carried out on-site, modifying the role of suppliers in the production lines (Zanoni et al., 2019). Matt et al. (2015) explored the stages of distributed model factories and decentralized production types ranging from distributed capabilities to cloud production. Thus, the need of transport will be much more carefully because the fact that AM will enable decentralization of production to localities near customers or in the most extreme distributed scenario at the customer's premises (Bonnin Roca et al., 2019; Petersen and Pearce, 2017; Wittbrodt et al., 2013). Moreover, AM technology makes it possible to reduce market entry barriers, reduce capital requirements and achieve an efficient minimum scale of production to promote distributed, flexible forms of production (Despeisse et al., 2017).

The distributed manufacturing/recycling approach enables an alternative option from an economy-of-scale to an economy-of-scope, where the products are highly personalized sat-

267 isfying niche communities or even individuals (Hieneth et al., 2014; Petrick2014?). For
 268 these reasons, the AM technology could be a driver for a shift in manufacturing from globally
 269 distributed production to local facilities. Significant efforts are being made by industry and
 270 the scientific community to move AM techniques from rapid prototyping and tooling stages
 271 towards direct digital manufacturing (DDM) (Gibson et al., 2010; Holmström et al., 2016),
 272 with the concomitant environmental and social benefits. Nevertheless, Niaki et al. (2019)
 273 demonstrated that environmental and social benefits are not the key preferential factors in the
 274 adoption of AM technologies in different industrial sectors. Only the economic factor remains
 275 relevant in the AM implementation, considering time- and cost-saving as the most important
 276 reasons.

277 5.3 Positionnement of Use case for OMDF Functions

278 Regarding the structuration of the INEDIT project³, the 3D printing of recycled plastic demon-
 279 strator is positioned in certain stages of the INEDIT approach as presented in the figure Figure 6.



277 **Figure 6: Connection of the DIT with the INEDIT approach**

280 On the co-creation phase, the use case deals with the prototyping aspect of the possible fur-
 281 niture. On the other hand, in the open-manufacturing process, our use case deals mainly with
 282 the raw material sourcing, production and recycling aspect. These outputs are linked with a
 283 validation stage.

284 Additionally, in the light of the specification of the open manufacturing demonstration facilities
 285 (OMDF) framework⁴ in which defines the role and functions that the demonstrator need to
 286 assure at an industrial scale. Figure 7 illustrated the connection of the primary, secondary and
 287 constraint functions of the OMDF with the 3D printing of recycled plastic demonstrator entails.

³Deliverable 2.2 DIT DESIGN OF THE DIT APPROACH AND XD FRAMEWORK

⁴Deliverable 4.2 SPECIFICATION OF EACH PHYSICAL DEMONSTRATOR (OPEN MANUFACTURING)

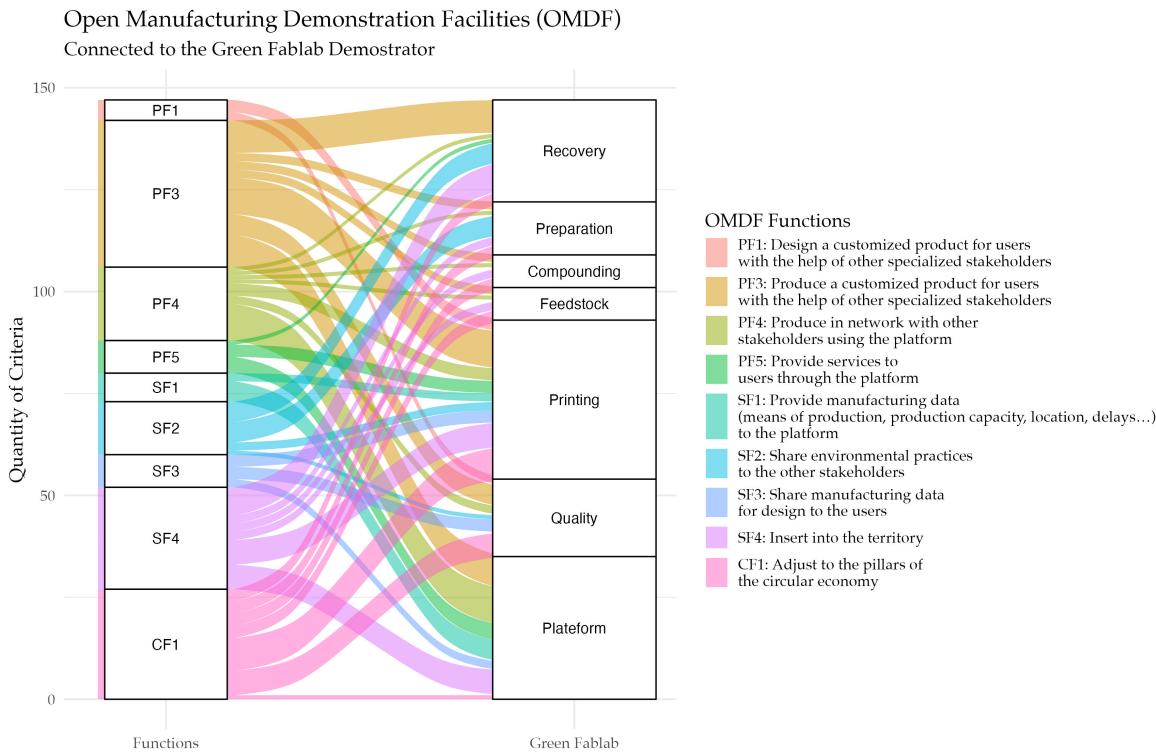


Figure 7: Connection of the 'Green Fablab Use case with the Open Manufacturing Demonstration Facilities (OMDF) functions

288 As presented in the figure, several OMDF functions are treated in the this demonstrator with
 289 each stage of the distributed recycling approach. A more detail analysis is made in the de-
 290 liverable WP4 to explain the detailed success and missing criteria from the user case in the
 291 deployment phase.

292 In the following lines, we explain the assumptions made in the deployment of the demonstrator
 293 and the technical characterization of each phase. The technical characterization entails the
 294 technologies mobilized.

295 **5.3.1 Hypothesis of UL case for deployment in reality**

296 The implementation of the Green Fablab needs to be done considering certain assumptions and
 297 simplifications to reduce the complexity of this socio-technical system. The following assump-
 298 tions were assumed in terms of geographical scale, material recollection and manufacturing
 299 aspects:

- 300 • From a material perspective, only certain types of plastic wastes are considered. Specifi-
 301 cally, Polyethylene terephthalate (PET), High density Polyethylene (HDPE), Polypropylene
 302 (PP) and Polylactic Acid (PLA). The major reason is from the technical perspective relies
 303 on the availability of these materials at the local area around the physical demonstrator.

- 304 - PLA is one of the most used plastics in 3D printing. Thus, as plastic waste source,
305 PLA waste can be found from printed prototypes or 3D printed parts discarded.
- 306
- 307 - HDPE is a thermoplastic widely used in the packaging.
- 308
- 309 - PET is the main material of water bottles in the market.
- 310 • The sorting, separation and cleaning process of plastics wastes are critical processes of
311 the recycling. Therefore, to possible make technical experimentation, the source waste
312 niches needs to be with a non/low contaminaed level. For example, discarded 3D print-
313 ing parts used for prototyping. They are usually mono-material and with a low level of
314 impurities in the polymeric matrix.
- 315 • From a geographical point of view, only plastic waste collected from the smart collectors
316 was considered. This is a as minimal viable option to possible control the input of material
317 on the Green fablab facilities.

318 Based on these assumptions, we present the technical characterization of the Green Fablab

319 5.4 Technical characterization of the 3D printing of recycled demonstrator

320 5.4.1 Recovery I

321 The first step in the implementation of the Green Fablab OMDF is the activity of *Recovery I*.
322 This phase aims to establish a minimal baseline logistic operations to consider to collect the
323 plastic wastes to be recycled in the process. In the scientific literature, the reverse logistic and
324 closed loop supply chains have been extensively studied in the scientific literature. For instance,
325 Santander et al. (2022) evaluated the benefits of a near loop and closed loop recycling network
326 focused on additive manufacturing, mainly producing recycled filament. The main results show
327 an economic and environmental benefit of sourcing filament from recycled plastic rather than
328 purchasing exported virgin filament.

329 This process is the first step to create a closed-loop supply network approach for the distributed
330 manufacturing.

331 The collection tasks consists of collecting plastic waste at different established points, which
332 are then transported to a treatment center where it is recycled. The collection and recycling
333 process aims to generate a recycling micro-network at the local level (neighborhood scale),
334 which allows the recovery and revaluation of plastic waste through 3D printing. This allows to
335 save impacts related to the traditional treatment of plastic waste, as well as to increase the
336 recycling capacity in the city, giving more independence over the recycling process.

337 The main difficult relies in the pertinent identification and the quality state of the plastic
338 waste. Therefore, in the framework of the INEDIT project, the UL case demonstrator devel-
339 oped a “smart collector prototype” as illustrated in the Figure 8. The complete documentation
340 of the technical device can be found in the following open access reference (Gabriel and Cruz,
341 2023). Given the possible implementation in other contexts, the source files are shared in
342 open-source repository with the purpose that open communities to take advantage the experi-
343 ences developed at the Université de Lorraine. Eventually, the open communities can propose

344 improvements and better versions.

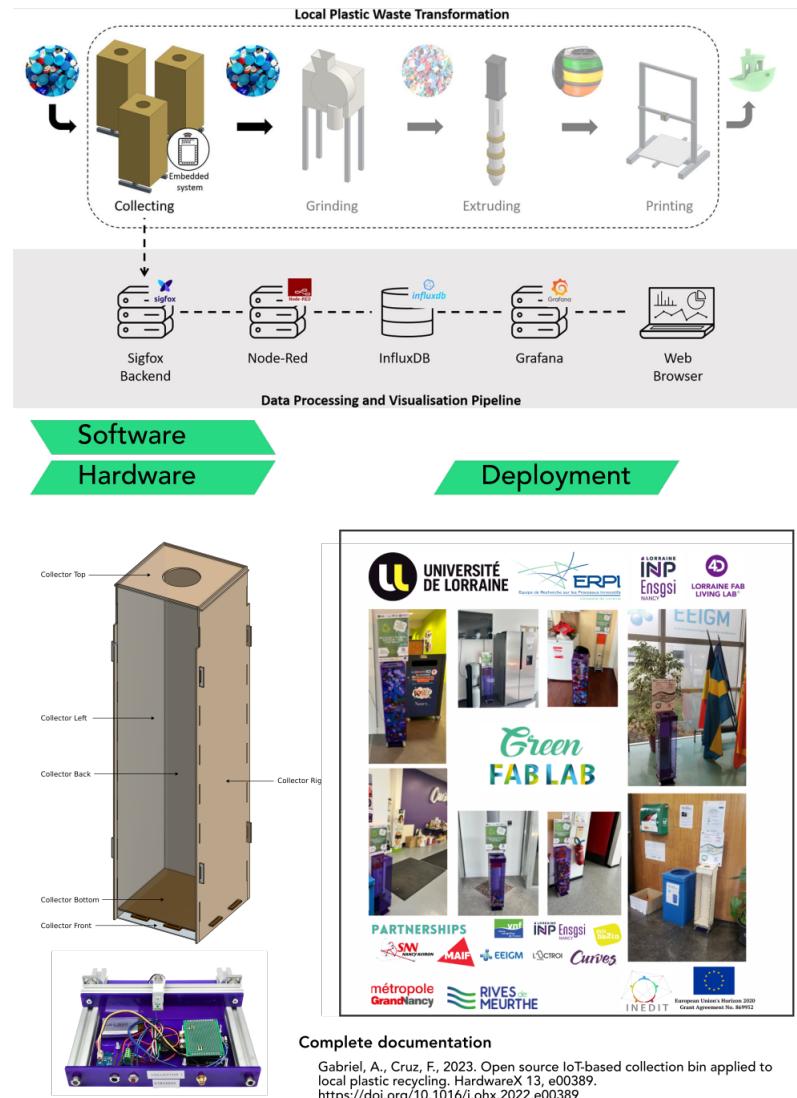


Figure 8: Description of the developed Smart collector

345 This is a relevant strategy given the cross-line of Industry 4.0 and circular economy, which is
 346 opening up fields such as smart waste management systems options to improve the effectiveness
 347 of different materials, including plastic waste (Ranjbari et al., 2021) using information
 348 technology tools with the advent of the Internet of Things (IoT) (Fatimah et al., 2020; Rejeb et
 349 al., 2022). Smart waste management system (SWMS) consists of public garbage collectors with
 350 embedded technology that is used to monitor real-time level of garbage bins in public places
 351 (Bano et al., 2020). The interest of this system is to optimize the path for the garbage collecting van that eventually reduces fuel cost. However, this work is mainly based on simulation.
 352 Therefore, there is an avenue to simplify experimentation in this domain using common open-

354 source technology (hardware and software) ([Pearce and Mushtaq, 2009](#)) to implement projects
355 that require heavy infrastructure such as routers and a gateway to deploy in the territory.

356 The main functional requirement of the smart collector is to collect and provide data about
357 plastic waste production in order to design a local and distributed recycling chain of value.
358 However, the smart collector may be used in various use cases such as:

- 359 • Monitoring the quantity of any other product that is collected over a large area.
- 360 • Generating data about behavior to more precisely dimensions public infrastructure.
- 362 • Monitoring the transformation and recycling process inside the transformation unit to
363 follow the state and quantity of raw material and final product.
- 365 • Initiating a digitization process in the waste management process as the information sys-
366 tem element present here is flexible and commonly used in various types of projects.

368 The device uses a controller compatible with batteries and use WAN technology to avoid the
369 deployment of routers for data acquisition. Although using various types of sensors allows us to
370 achieve better results ([Catania and Ventura, 2014](#)) by crossing data, the main indicator remains
371 the weight.

372 The process illustrated by the Figure 8 can be described in the as follows:

- 373 1. **Smart Collector installation:** The first step is to identify the main actors in the neigh-
374 borhood through meetings, visits and interviews in order to propose integration into the
375 recycling network by installing a smart collector on their premises.
- 376 2. **Supervision:** The monitoring is done through a dashboard that provides direct informa-
377 tion sent by the smart collector. This allows to know the weight of each installed smart
378 collector, allowing to have an approximation of its degree of occupancy.
- 379 3. **Receiving and storing plastic waste:** The storage area must be organized and functional
380 with respect to the needs of the demonstrator.
- 381 4. **Plan and execute the collection:** This step aims to establish the collection routine.

382 The main result is to guarantee a constant supply chain of raw material that can be used inside
383 the recycling facilities

384 5.4.2 Preparation II

385 The second phase of the corresponds to the actions and processes to identify, separate, sort,
386 size reduce and clean waste plastic to guarantee with the purpose to obtain feedstock material
387 that is adequate for the distributed recycling process. Figure 9 displays an overview of the space
388 and the machines used presented in the Green Fablab facilities to treat the plastic waste.

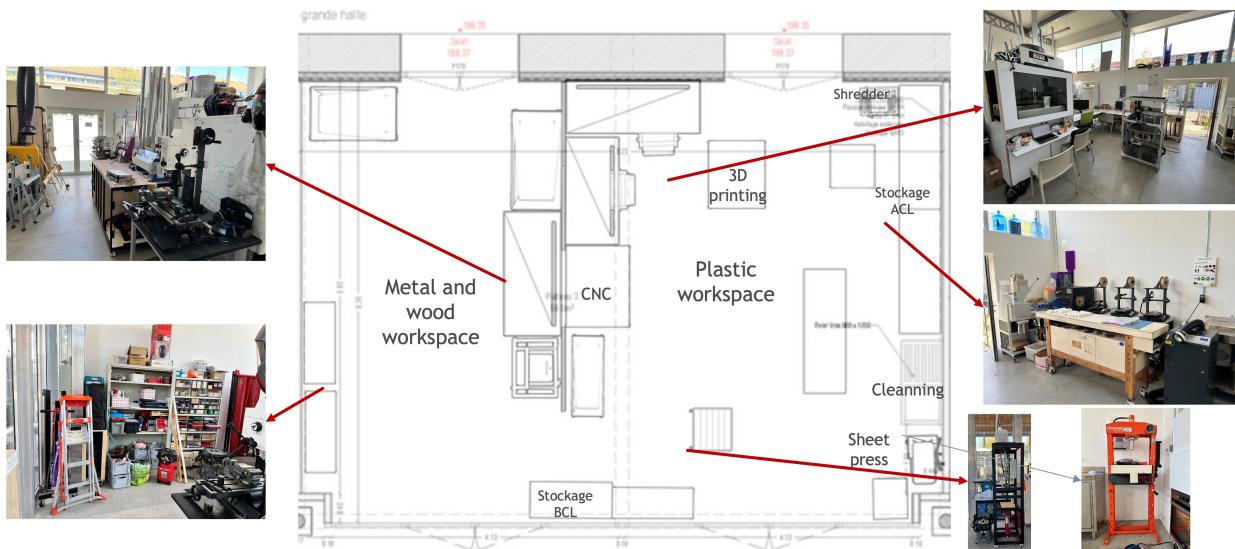


Figure 9: Adequation spaces for the preparation of the waste material

389 The plastic waste preparation process aims to conditioned the collected plastic to the requirements
 390 of 3D printing. Four main sub-processes are considered:

- 391 • **Identification and Sorting:** These two processes aim to identify the type of plastic given
 392 the regular standard for the polymer industry. The process of identification and separation
 393 of plastics is done manually and allows to separate the plastics that can be used as raw
 394 material for further production processes.
- 395 • **Cleaning:** This process is aims to remove the traces of any other substance that may be
 396 present in the plastic waste. In this way the processing machines will not be exposed to
 397 possible anomalies linked to material impurities.
- 398 • **Size reduction:** The size reduction process is carried out to possible obtain an adequate
 399 granulometry. This process allows to adapt the plastic waste for the direct injection
 400 process and/or the extrusion process.
- 401 • **Drying phase:** This step prevents the formation of bubbles in the recycled material when
 402 it is melted during the following extrusion step. Moreover, complete elimination of water
 403 prevent hydrolytic decomposition of the molecular chains during the melting or plasticiza-
 404 tion, so that the treated material has to be as dry as possible.

405 5.4.3 Compounding III

406 The **Compounding** phase is related to the operation, strategies in the development of composite
 407 materials using recycled feedstock intended to be use in a printing process. There have been
 408 several literature reviews about the technical aspect of composite materials in the additive
 409 manufacturing context ([Brenken et al., 2018](#); [Hofstätter et al., 2017](#); [Mohan et al., 2017](#); [Singh
 410 et al., 2017](#)).

411 In the context of the Green Fablab demonstrator of INEDIT project, the focus is to study the 1) mono-recycled material and 2) the virgin-recycled blend material. The development of recycling niches of mono-material where the additive manufacturing can be implemented is key to
412
413 study.

415 The interest is to take into account the inner variability that could be in the recovery process,
416 concerning the type of material given the fact, while there are seven types of recycling symbols
417 for each type of polymer, one major constraint in the current systems is that each manufacturing
418 company have a patented use of the additive in the polymer matrix, in order to fulfill its initial
419 function of the product.

420 5.4.4 Feedstock IV

421 The Feedstock III phase refers to the processes in order to transform the plastic waste into
422 usable material material for the fabrication stage. Two outputs are seen in this etape: 1) the
423 filament feedstock and 2) the pellet feedstock. The use of filament or pellet material are in
424 coherence with the machine process used in the fabrication.

425 The filament and pellet production process makes it possible to produce the necessary raw
426 material from plastic waste. The production of these intermediate products allows the use of
427 different technologies related. Before using these products (filaments and pellets) it is neces-
428 sary to carry out evaluation tests to assess the geometrical characteristics that are necessary
429 in the printing process.

430 Figure 10 present the technical characteristics of the material equipment:



Type of techno: 3DEVO's extrusion machine transforms plastic pellets (new or recycled) into a quality filament for 3D printing.	Parameters - type of material: Within the Green Fab-Lab, for the realization of the filament two types of plastics are used for the moment. PLA and HDPE with a filament diameter of 1.75 mm. Here is the parameters used: <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Plastic</th><th>°C 1</th><th>°C 2</th><th>°C 3</th><th>°C 4</th><th>Extruder speed</th><th>Fan speed</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>PLA</td><td>170</td><td>185</td><td>190</td><td>170</td><td>3,5 rpm</td><td>40%</td></tr><tr><td>HDPE</td><td>200</td><td>215</td><td>230</td><td>240</td><td>3,5 rpm</td><td>40%</td></tr></tbody></table>	Plastic	°C 1	°C 2	°C 3	°C 4	Extruder speed	Fan speed	PLA	170	185	190	170	3,5 rpm	40%	HDPE	200	215	230	240	3,5 rpm	40%
Plastic	°C 1	°C 2	°C 3	°C 4	Extruder speed	Fan speed																
PLA	170	185	190	170	3,5 rpm	40%																
HDPE	200	215	230	240	3,5 rpm	40%																
Operating mode : <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Turn on the machine2. Download the 3DEVO software3. Connect the connector of the machine to the computer4. Set up the extrusion according to the type of material5. Empty the material6. Place the new material Extruder et unpack the filament	Safety Rules: Wear gloves when emptying and winding the filament.																					
Production capacity: Practical information: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PLA 1 hour of extrusion = 340 g• HDPE 2 hours of extrusion = 200 g																						
Advantages : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Easy to use• Allows us to recycle our own waste• Continuous checking of the filament diameter, thanks to the sensors integrated on the machine.• Use of recycled plastic caps• Saves on the purchase of a spool	Constraints : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heating time• Time to adjust the filament diameter• Placement of the filament on the spool• Complete emptying of the extruder when changing material or color.• Difficulty to put the spool holding nut on the rod																					

Figure 10: Extrusion machine to fabricate recycled filament feedstock

431 Filament is produced at 0.4 kg/h using 0.24 kWh/kg with a diameter $\pm 4.6\%$.

432 5.4.5 Manufacturing process - Technological mix to valorize the recycled material

433 In this step, the major output is the valorisation of the plastic waste material using different
434 two alternative paths: 1) desktop injection molding process (small and medium sizes), and 2),
435 3D printing process (fused filament fabrication -FFF- and fused granular fabrication -FGF-).

436 As matter of the validation of the demonstrator at TRL 6 level, the ambition of the demonstrator
437 in the INEDIT project is to experiment and prove a technological ecosystem mix that seeks to
438 valorise in a distributed approach different plastics for different purposes and stakeholders.
439 Therefore, the initial choice is these two paths to create objects injected and 3D printed parts
440 that are useful to the local ecosystem of the demonstrator. The technologies are presented in
441 the following paragraphs.

442 5.4.5.1 Desktop injection moulding Injection moulding is one of the most used technique 443 to form plastic materials.

444 Figure 11 present the major technologies in the ‘Green Fablab’ case to propose a manual recy-
445 cled aspect to possible reuse the plastic waste into small and medium plastics sheets.

Small pieces



Medium size sheets



Plastic injection parts can be very useful to make small ornaments or to generate visual information. (HDPE, PP)

Figure 11: Manual injection in small and medium sizes

446 5.4.5.2 3D printing process: Fused Filament & Granular Fabrication (FFF & FGF) In the
447 era of the additive manufacturing technology, without a doubt, the material extrusion-based
448 systems such as the fused filament fabrication (FFF) has been one of the prominent processes.
449 In fact, the technological development of open-source 3D printers is creating more affordable
450 Additive Manufacturing (AM) machines for society in different applications. It provides the
451 possibility of mass diffusion of this technology, and consequently, AM is being recognised as a
452 disruptive that could up-end the last two centuries of approaches to design and manufacturing
453 (Birtchnell and Urry, 2013; Pearce2014d?).

454 In the Green Fablab demonstrator, we have two types of material-based systems: 1) Fused
 455 filament fabrication (FFF) and 2) Fused Granular Fabrication (FGF):

456 The principle of the filament fabrication was developed and patented in 1989 by Scott Crump as
 457 *Fused Deposition Modelling*, and since 2009, the technology became open source ([Crump1992?](#)),
 458 known as Fused Filament Fabrication, to establish the difference between the registered mark.
 459 A schematic representation of this technology is presented in Figure 12. This process usually
 460 uses thermoplastic polymer filaments that are heated until a temperature slightly higher than
 461 the melting temperature at the nozzle of the machine, reaching a semi-liquid state. At this
 462 point, the polymer is extruded on the platform to create the first layer of the object and after
 463 that, the polymer continues to be printed on top of the previous layer, so that, filament fuses
 464 with the previous layer and then is solidified at room temperature after printing ([Cruz Sanchez et al., 2017; Ngo et al., 2018](#)).
 465



Principle

Type of technic:	3D printing in Fused Filament Fabrication (FFF). Additive manufacturing (3D printing) is defined as a process of joining materials to manufacture objects from 3D models, where the manufacturing process is made layer by layer.		
Parameters - type of material:	rHDPE	vPLA	rPLA
T1	240	190	200
Bed T°	85	60	60
Speed printing mm/s	60	60	50
Production capacity:	Product of •Width: 200 mm •High: 250 mm •Length: 200 mm Size nozzle: 0.4 mm		
Operating mode :	1. Machine cleaning (bed and nozzle) 2. Turn on 3. Home the machine 4. Check the level of the nozzles in relation to the bed. 5. Pre-heat the machine 6. Put the filament 7. Upload the G-code file in the machine. 8. Pre-feeding test 9. Start the printing. 10. Waiting the printing process 11. Remove the object from the bed 12. Turn off the machine		
Safety Rules:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Don't handling while the machine printing •Be careful with heating and electronic elements. 		
Constraints :	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The print size is relatively small 		
Advantages :	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Very easy to use • Quality impression •Easy to move and adaptable to different environments •Recyclability (feed recycled filament plastic) 		

Figure 12: Fused filament fabrication -FFF- principle

466 On the other hand, the Fused Granular Fabrication is a direct extrusion systems of pellets is a key
 467 technical advancement to facilitate the use of recycled material in the printing process. ?@fig-
 468 **gigabot** present the Gigabot X XL machine used in the experimentation. This machine has a long
 469 barrel with 3 heating elements or zone which helps in the melting of the thermoplastic. There
 470 are three main temperatures T1 being the heating block near the nozzle while T2 being in the
 471 middle of T1 and T3. Gigabot X XL is equipped with nozzle of 1.75mm diameter that influences
 472 the deposition rate. As 3D printing smaller cross-section is very hard without a cooling system
 473 near the nozzle therefore a cooling system was designed, 3D printed using ABS material and
 474 installed onto the system



Principle

Type of techno:
3D printing in Fused Granular Fabrication (FGF).
Additive manufacturing (3D printing) is defined as a process of joining materials to manufacture objects from 3D models, where the manufacturing process is made layer by layer.

Production capacity:

Product of
•Width: 500 mm
•High: 450 mm
•Length: 650 mm
Size nozzle: 1.75 mm

Parameters - type of material:

Type of material	rPet-rHDPE	vPLA	VPET
T1	264	190	240
T2	230	185	200
T3	220	170	185
Bed T°	85	60	80
Speed printing mm/s	20	60	50

Operating mode :

- 1.Machine cleaning (bed and nozzle)
- 2.Turn on
- 3.Intranet connexion
- 4.Home the machine
- 5.Check the level of the nozzles in relation to the bed.
- 6.Set up the machine parameters in the intranet
- 7.Pre-heat the machine
- 8.Charge of the material
- 9.Upload the G-code file in the intranet.
- 10.Before extrusion check the temperatures indications
- 11.Pre-feeding test
- 12.Start the printing.
- 13.Waiting the printing process
- 14.Remove the object from the bed
- 15.Turn off the machine

Safety Rules:

- Don't handling while the machine printing
- Be careful with heating and electronic elements.

Constraints :

- Feeding issues for high size pellets
- High skills required for its upgrading

Advantages :

- Large dimension a printing
- Reduction in printing time
- Open source machine
- Capacity of complex objects manufacturing
- Don't filament required
- Recyclability (feed recycled plastic)

Figure 13: Fused granular fabrication -FGF- principle

475 In the following section, we present how was the operationalization of the DIT for the 3D printing
476 of recycled Plastic demonstrator.

6 Operationalization of DIT process for the Use Case

478 6.1 Integration of the 3D Printing Recycled Plastic

479 Explanation of the INEDIT project but focusing on the Open Manufacturing Demonstration Facil-
480 ities process

Steps ID	Steps Description	Corresponding ID_DIT process
STEP 1 - RECEIVE DESIGN AND SPECIFICATION	Information about materials, finish, colour, texture, etc. from the INEDIT platform are sent to the manufacturing centre chosen by the ERP module and the Sustainability Driven Orchestrator (SDO). The expected files to be imported are: CAD file of the object, colour and texture, technical requirements identified in the design phase.	7_1
STEP 2 - VALIDATION OF THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF MODEL TO FABRICATE	Furniture producers or FabLab with the support of 3D printing technical experts evaluate the printability (if the part can be printed with the available technology) as well as validate the design.	7_2
STEP 3 - IDENTIFY LOCAL SOURCES OF PLASTIC WASTE	This step starts identifying local sources of plastic waste at least 2 km far from the production site. Designers and technicians will evaluate the quantity and quality of possible plastic wastes that could be used as secondary raw material.	9_2
STEP 4 - PUT IN PLACE SMART COLLECTOR	By using the Smart Collector developed by UL in the local areas (< 2 km) it is enabled to collect plastic waste from the sources identified before.	9_6
STEP 5 - TRANSPORT WASTE MATERIAL TO THE RECYCLING FACILITIES	All the recycled plastic waste is collected and transported to the recycling facilities	9_9
STEP 6 - ADEQUATION AND PREPARATION OF THE MATERIAL, MATERIAL PRINTABILITY VERIFICATION	The collected material has to be adequate in order to be utilised as recycled feedstock (sorting of usable material, cleaning, etc). The treated material needs to be tested and validated (evaluation on usage and printability).	10_4
STEP 7 - PATH PLANNING-3D PRINTING	Path planning software generates the best printing strategy to reduce the material used and time. The high-tech solution developed by UL manufactures using at least 30% of recycled plastic the product in the previously chosen manufacturing centre.	5_1_2
STEP 8 - POST PROCESSING	If needed, a post-processing phase refines the product in terms of aesthetic quality in order to meet customer requirements. Some parts need to be assembled in the manufacturing site before shipping to the customer.	5_1_2
STEP 9 - TEST BY USE	The DIT innovation space enables the designer to test the just realized prototype, to ensure proper functioning in real conditions.	6_1_1
STEP 10 - RE-DESIGN AND AFFINATION OF FABRICATION	If the test by use of the prototype fails, the failure is improved and corrected, repeating the process (re-involving the necessary stakeholders and the technologies used).	5_2_2
STEP 11 - VALIDATION	The use case ends validating the product printed, first by the manufacturer and the designer, second by a responsible entity for verification of design feasibility that provides safety and environmental certification and lastly by the customer use (feedback).	6_1_2

481 6.2 Step 1 - Receive Design and Specification

482 The first step in the reception of the design models and specifications from the INEDIT platform.
483 The starting point of this activity is the downloading the respective documents that contains
484 the 3D model to be manufactured by the use case as presented in the Figure 14.

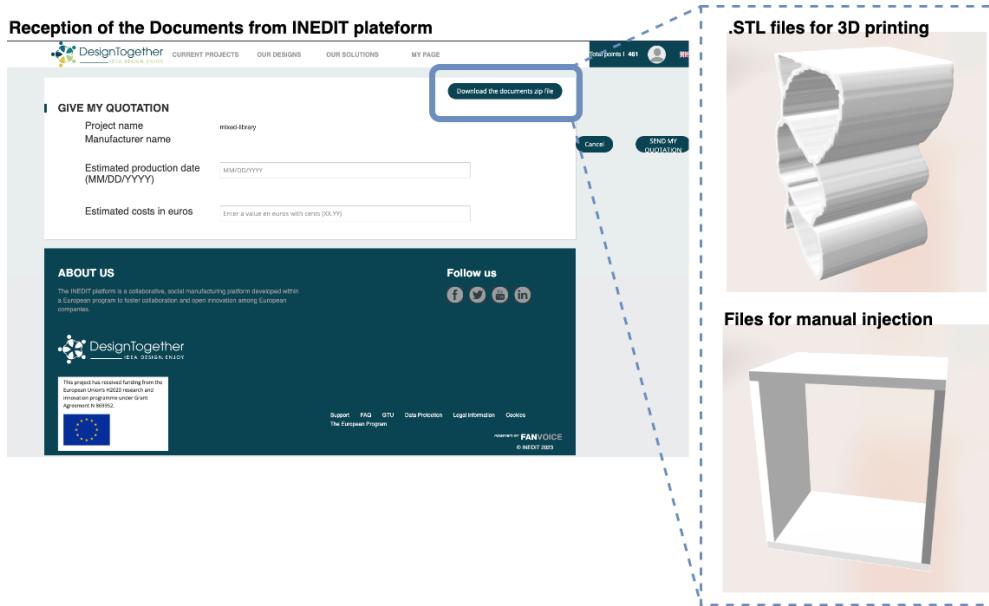


Figure 14: Reception of the exploitable documents for the fabrication process

485 One of the outputs of the co-creation phase of INEDIT plateform is the creation of a first initial
486 model that can be exploitable in the open manufacturing process. In that way, the model is
487 received taking into account the specific requirements of the customer, and the required inputs
488 to determine if the technologies available in the demonstrated have the capacity to produce the
489 product. In the case that it cannot be produced, it is necessary to notify immediately together
490 with the arguments why it cannot be produced and offer ways of improvement.

491 6.3 Step 2 - Validation of the technical specifications of model to fabricate

492 The main purpose of the second step is to establish the criteria for the validation specifications
493 of the model to fabricate. In the case of the Green FabLab, three main criteria were established
494 concerning:

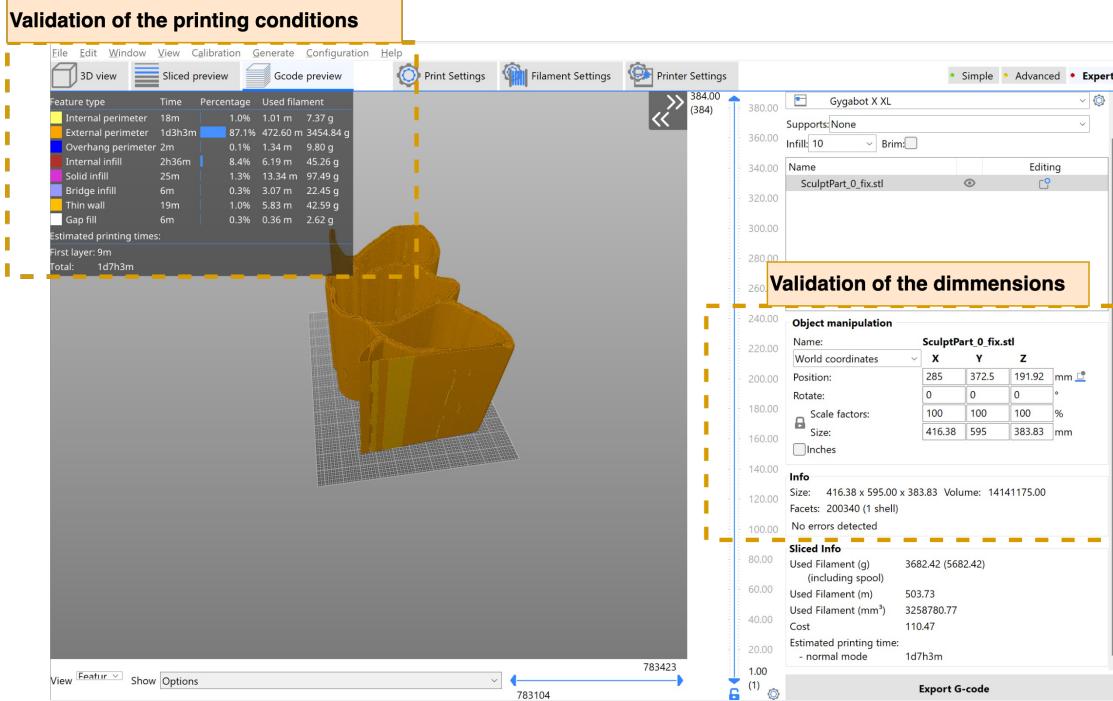


Figure 15: Validation of the printing conditions

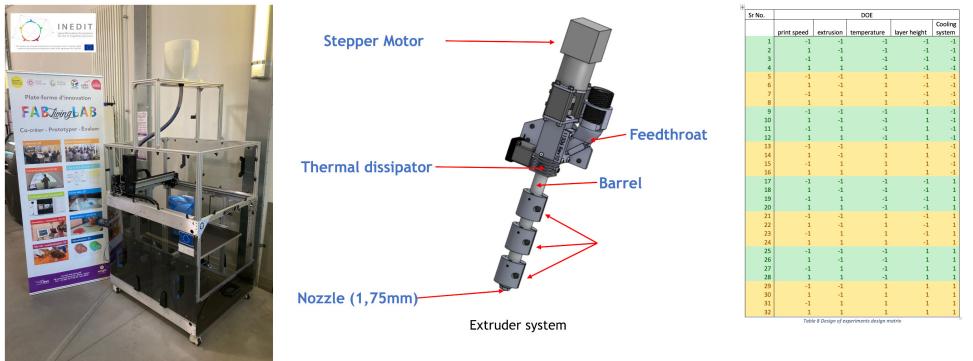
- 495 1. the dimensions of the part
 496 2. the orientation and quality of the STL
 497 3. the printability of the material

498 Using the software SuperSlicer and the machine-specific configuration (e.g. for FGF or FFF
 499 printer), it is validated that the global dimensions of the proposed part are coherent. This
 500 needs to be in the range of the maximal working dimensions of the 3D printers.

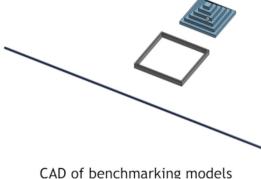
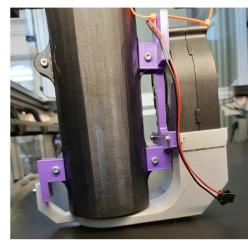
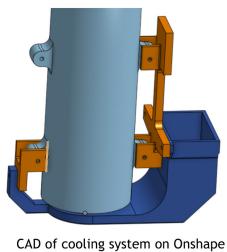
501 Lastly, the printability test are based on the characteristics of the material and the variables
 502 of the machine (namely, the temperatures of the barrel, the rotation of the stepper motors
 503 and the diameter of the nozzle). Different tests of printability were made in order to have a
 504 baseline of usable printed part as illustrated in the Figure 16.

505 The test of printability consist in the selection the technical parameters of the machine
 506 (e.g. print speed, extrusion factor, temperature, layer heighth) using a Design of Experiments
 507 (DoE) approach. Then, with a basic benchmarking model (e.g. lines, cubes, pyramids
 508 in Figure 16b), it is possible to identify the errors in the printing process using statistical
 509 approaoches as ANOVA and measures of standard error.

510 A technical paper to describe in more detail the results of this printability approach is being
 511 prepared at the time of writing this final rapport.



Improvements

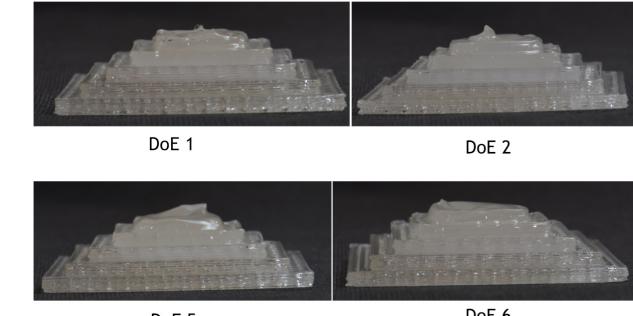


Visual Inspection

Print quality - colour unevenness.

Process parameter affecting it - print speed and T1 heating block temperature

T1 heating block temperature and print speed at higher limit results in early colour unevenness.



Sr No.	DOE				
	print speed	extrusion	temperature	layer height	Cooling system
1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
2	1	-1	-1	-1	-1
5	-1	-1	1	-1	-1
6	1	-1	1	-1	-1

(b) Validation of the printability

Figure 16: Experimental protocol to validate the printability tests.

512 6.4 Step 3 - Identify local source of plastic waste

513 This step seeks to establish a first network of plastic wastes source from the local ecosystem.
 514 The task of the identification of local source of plastic is fundamental as the first stage in the
 515 recovery process. An exchange with key actors in territorial development was necessary in
 516 order to achieve this task.

517 The first step was to identify relevant stakeholders in the local ecosystems to inquire on the
 518 issue of plastic wastes source. First, they needed to belong into a geographical range perimeter
 519 (less than 2km around the facilities) following the observations of ([Cruz Sanchez et al., 2020](#);
 520 [Santander et al., 2020](#)). Limiting the geographical perimeter of collection helps in the
 521 reduction of environmental impact because of the reduction of transport impact. Second, the
 522 diversification of the actor profile that can be sensibilized to the participation of the collection
 523 (general public, employees, students) and/or stakeholder's status (Public, Private, Associative)
 524 where the smart collector can be deployed. These two elements were essential to consider
 525 because the experimentation seeks to establish a baseline of the recovery process given the
 526 uncertainties of participation of the local context and the sensitization to the management of
 527 the plastic by the general public.

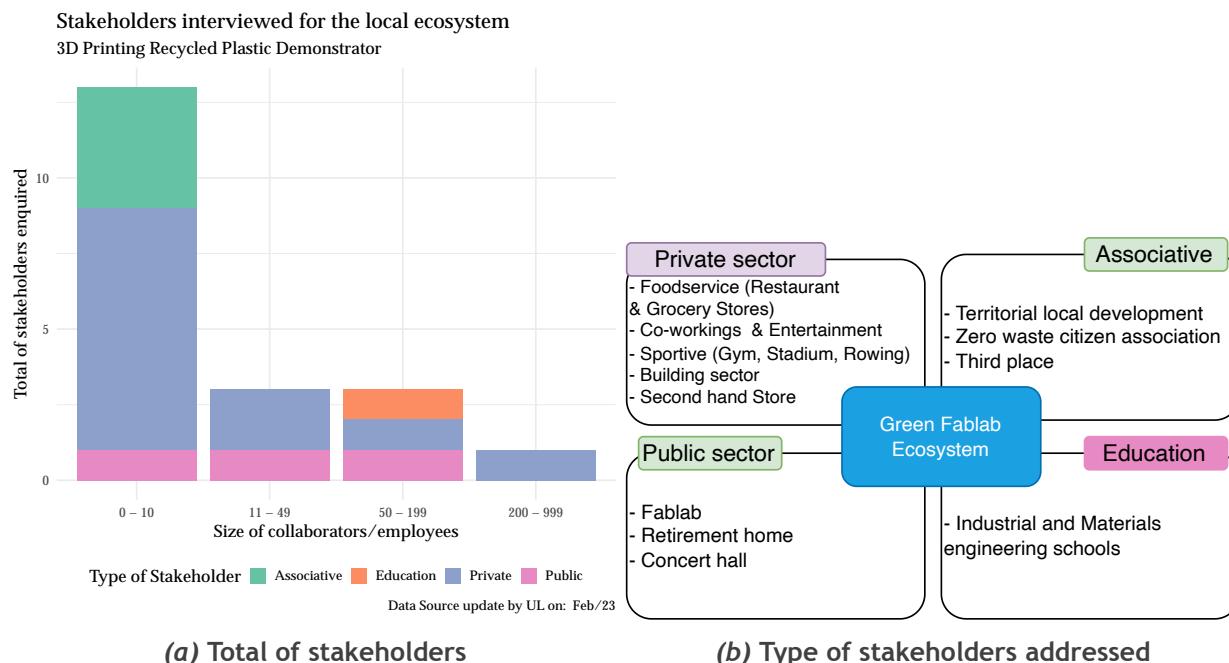
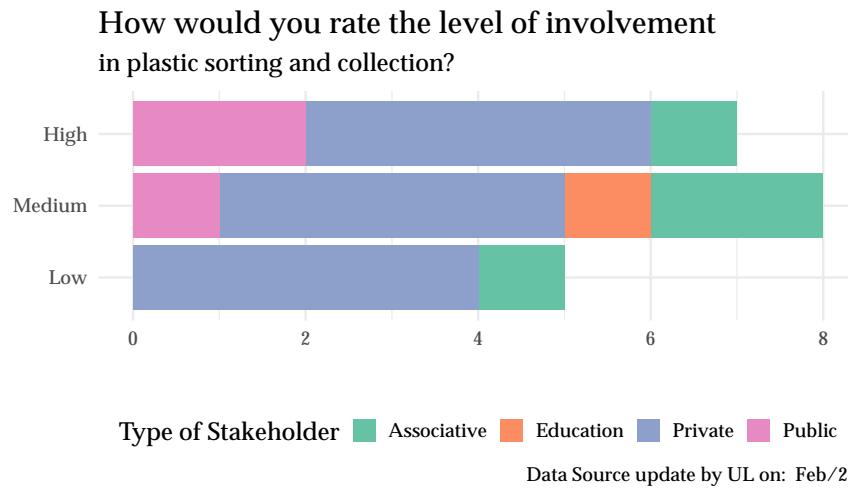


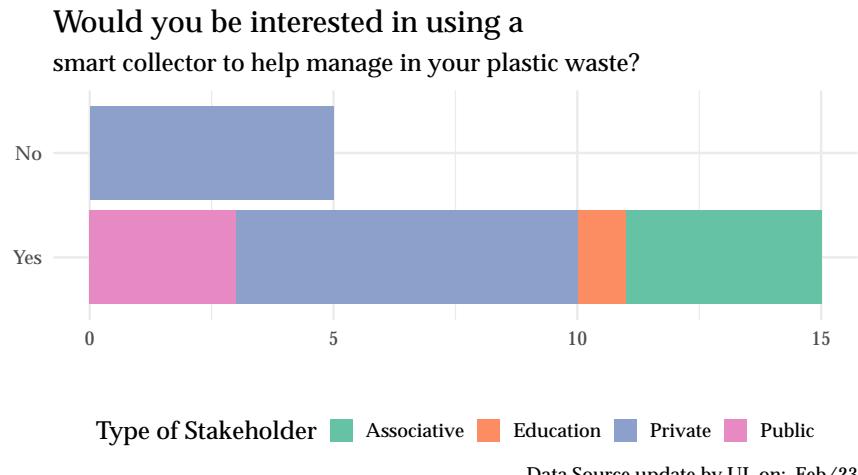
Figure 17: Local ecosystem interviewed about the implementation of 3D printing recycled demonstrator

528 A total of 23 actors were interviewed, of which 21 by physical or telephone interview and
 529 2 by electronic questionnaire. They were mainly companies (X% small and Y% medium size),
 530 associative entities, academic sector. The diversity of the public was an interesting criterion
 531 for the study. Participants in the economic, cultural and social dynamics of the district through
 532 their membership in the local association of economic actors of the territory.

533 The scope of activity of most of the respondents is local (at the level of the neighborhood or
 534 city) which may reflect a strong territorial anchoring and a commitment to local concerns and
 535 issues (waste management, social welfare, local job creation...). The majority of their business
 536 decisions are made locally, which reduces the risk of depending on the interests of entities
 537 outside the territory.



(a) Local ecosystem interviewed about the implementation of a 3D printing recycled demonstrator



(b) Acceptability of the possible use of 'smart collector' for the

Figure 18: Answers of the local ecosystem enquired about the implementation of a through the smart collector prototype

538 First, an inventory of their plastic waste practices was carried out.
 539 The majority of the establishments surveyed generate plastic waste which is mainly food waste
 540 (bottles and packaging). However, they do not all have a specific system for the management
 541 of this waste, but above all they sort glass and cardboard/paper. This can be explained by a
 542 lack of internal resources, such as the absence of suitable materials for sorting plastic, or the

543 lack of dedicated skills (only 5 establishments have staff in charge of waste management). In
544 some cases, the sorting process is not complete, as the sorted waste is mixed with other types
545 of waste at the time of collection due to a lack of awareness. Other establishments depend
546 on the system of public or private collection companies, which limits their involvement in the
547 management of this plastic, and sometimes leads to a lack of information on what happens to
548 this waste after collection. The majority of respondents confirm that they were favorable to
549 participate in civic initiatives, to commit to environmental protection and to participate in the
550 dissemination of these good practices to their local ecosystem.

551 When mentioning a smart collector to the interviewees, this means for them a collector “*that*
552 *does the sorting by itself*” or a technology that allows to “*count plastic waste on a territory*
553 *scale*”. These terms reflect a need for such equipment to help these facilities manage their
554 waste more easily, especially when most of them do not have plastic-specific sorting equipment.
555 Most of the interviewees were motivated to receive one or more smart collectors: “*a large*
556 *quantity of plastic caps and bottles are available at our place*”, “*very good, we'll go for it!*”,
557 “*why not all that goes in the direction of the improvement of the daily life...*”. However,
558 these comments are accompanied by some fears such as the difficulty in managing the external
559 public to respect the material, that other waste is mixed with plastic, or the need to take
560 the time to explain the approach to the internal and external people of the institutions. The
561 minority refusing to receive a smart collector or to participate in the experimentation. The
562 stated reasons and constraints such as the low frequentation of the building, the lack of time
563 to manage such an approach, the need to have a consensus at the level of all the occupants
564 decision-makers of the building, lack of visibility on the technique, or by personal conviction
565 (e.g. “*I am not too electronic and assisted, I like it when people manage by themselves*”).

566 Based on these insights, we could made a mapping of the role of each actor that could have in
567 the recovery process. Secondly, we identified the sources of plastic waste collection, and then
568 identify the sources of 3D printing and potential synergies with the Green Fablab.

569 6.5 Step 4: Put in place smart collectors

570 Thanks to the step 3, we have identified the collection sites at the local territory for the de-
571 ployment of the smart collector. In this step the main purpose was the deployment of a set
572 of *smart collectors* around the neighborhood. Figure 19 presents the selected points around
573 the Green FabLab for the installation of the prototype. The smart collector is produced and
574 mounted manually at Green FabLab facilities. The specific details and step-by-step assemble
575 process can be found in the technical paper ([Gabriel and Cruz, 2023](#)).

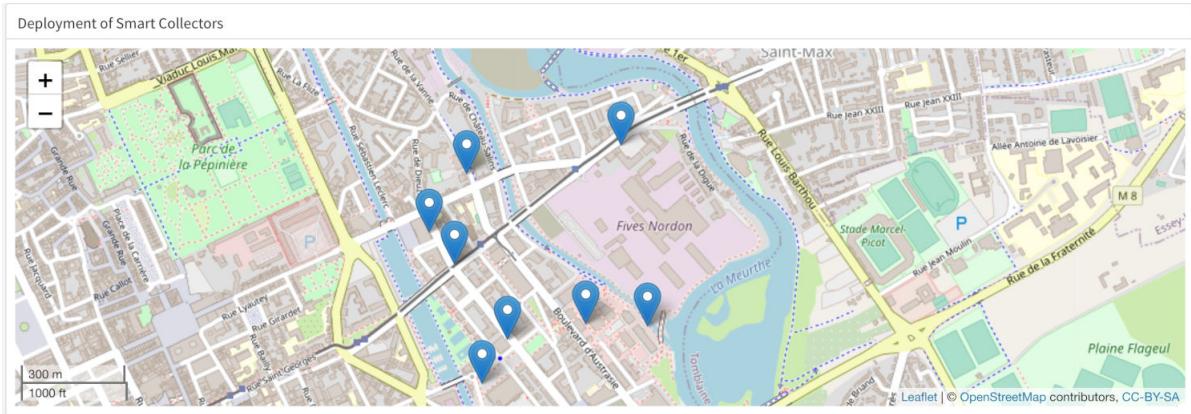


Figure 19: Deployment of the Smart Collectors.

576 The selection of the places were based on the steps 3. For the experimentation, eight sites
 577 were selected for the deployment as listed in the Table 1.

Table 1: Selected points of deployment of the smart collector in the neighbourhood of Rives de Meurthe, Nancy - France.

ID	Type	Potential public	Main activity
1	Association	+300	Cultural/leisure activities
2	Association	+1000	Third place, Co-working space
3	Private Enterprise	+100	Sport Gym
4	University	300	Engineering school
5	Private Enterprise	50	Mutual Insurance
6	University	500	Engineering school
7	Public Enterprise	50	Management of waterways network
8	Association	+100	Sports club (Rowing)

578 First, face-to-face meetings with the local actors were made to obtain the agreement for the
 579 installation of the prototype. As a relevant criteria, the installation needed to be in a location
 580 were the visitors/employees/customers of the selected point are able to see the device. We
 581 designed an appropriate communication that enables to explain the purpose of the device and
 582 connect to the information of INEDIT projet (see Figure 20)

583 Then, a system activation is putted in place to begin the collection gate. Once the smart
 584 collector is online, it is necessary to survey the online dashboard to control the waste plastic
 585 quantity. In the moment that the dashboard present a weight more than 3 kg, we mapped
 586 the collection point in the stage of ‘to collect’ and we plan the recovery. The distance of the
 587 collection place is less than 2 km so is carried out by bicycle or on foot to avoid the possible
 588 impact produced for a combustion or electric vehicle. Once the recovery process is made, at
 589 the Green Fablab When the waste plastic is collected, it is stored at the facilities of the Green



(a) Smart collector at the collection point



(b) Communication strategy of the device

Figure 20: Deployment example of the smart collector at the collection point

590 FabaLab before posterior treatment and adequation.

591 we have build a central collector where the material is stored before it is treated.

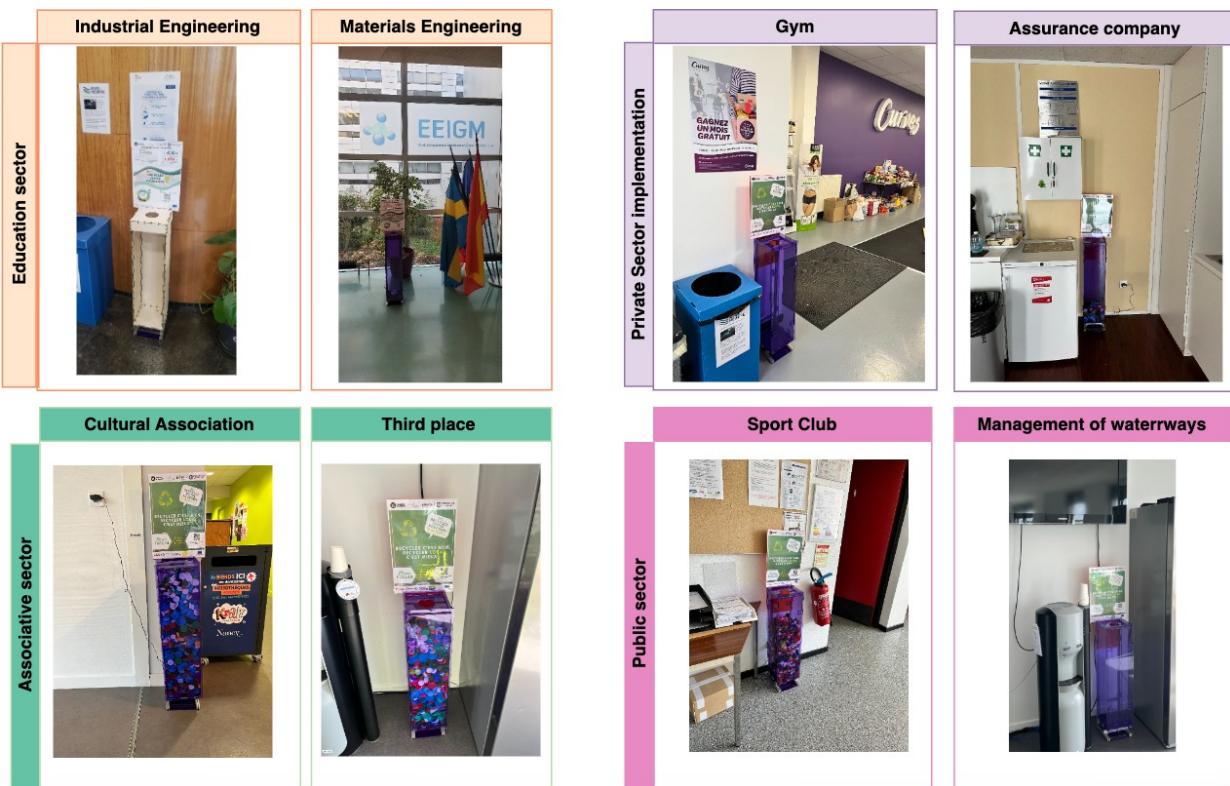


Figure 21: Smart collectors deployed in the territory

592 6.6 Step 5: Transport waste material to the recycling facilities

593 The recovery process took place once a week on average. The plastic waste is collected and
 594 transported to facilities, and then it is stored in a central collector as illustrated by the figure
 595 Figure 23.

596 Throughout the experimentation of the deployment, we have mapped the quantity of collected
 597 material. Figure 23 corresponds to the profile of quantity collection per month. In average, we
 598 have collected 3kg per week.



(a) Central storage of plastic waste



(b) Communication flyer for the smart collector

Figure 22: Smart collector

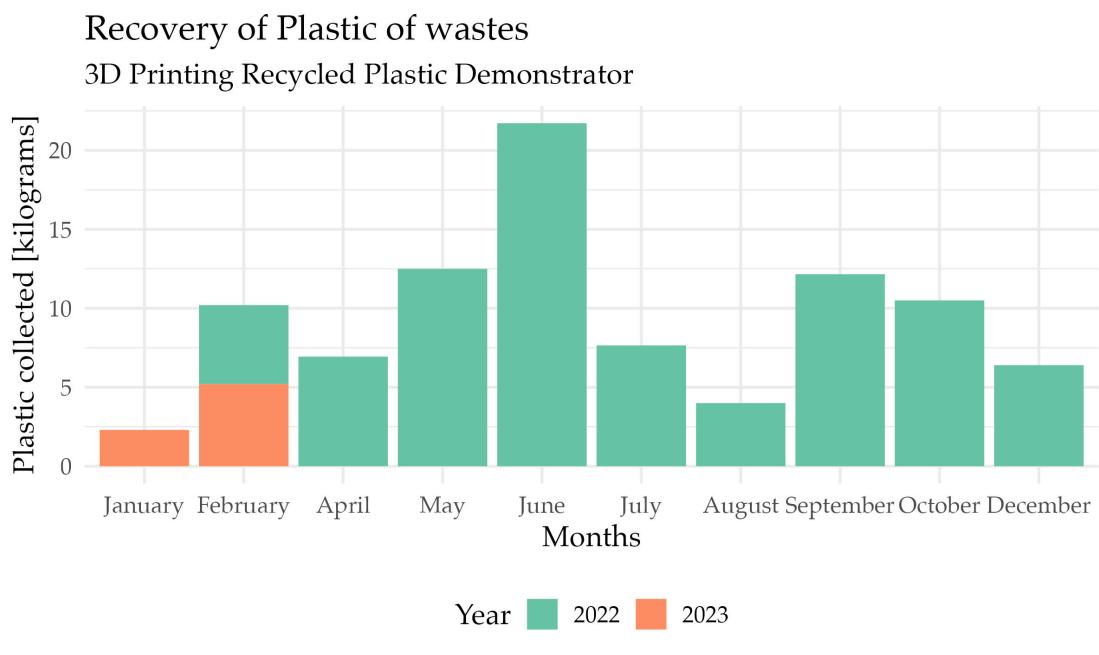


Figure 23: Recovery profile of plastic

625 process is much more controlled. The process is carried out in a small ultrasonic cleaning
 626 machine, to ensure that impurities are removed. The cleaner ultrasonic machine wash 200gr
 627 of plastic en 1 L of water. This process takes 20 mins with a consuption of 2kWh.



Type of technuo:
the pulsation of the simultaneously generated micro-currents ensures the continuous removal of impurities from the surface of the parts to be cleaned.

Production capacity:
3L container

- Operating mode :
1. Set up the cleaner on a flat, stable surface.
 2. Add the cleaning solution of your choice to the water in the tank, making sure that the tank does not overflow when the part to be cleaned is immersed in it. Add the object to be cleaned.
 3. Connect the cleaner to the mains and turn the switch on.
 4. Set the temperature and duration of the cleaning cycle.
 5. Turn on the power.
 6. To stop the cleaning or heating process, press the corresponding buttons again

Advantages :

- Deep cleaning
- Easy to use
- fast cleaning cycles, between 15 to 20 minutes

Parameters - type of material:

Type of material	rPet-rHDPE	vPLA	vPET
T1	264	190	240
	230	185	200
	220	170	185
Bed T°	85	60	80

Safety Rules:

- Do not move the tank when it is full.
- In case of water leakage, turn off the power at the circuit breaker.
- Do not touch the power cable with wet hands
- Never leave the appliance running without supervision.
- Never connect the appliance without water in the tank

Constraints :

- small size for cleaning of large quantities

Figure 26: Technical characterization of the ultrasonic cleaning

628 The second step in the preparation of the waste material is the size reduction process. In this
 629 step, the washed and sorted plastic is sent through shredding machine where it is grounded
 630 into smaller pieces of plastic. A critical parameters in the control of the granulometry. The
 631 purpose of the size reduction is to obtain plastic waste where the granulometry correspond to
 632 the extrusion / printing. The plastic waste need to be in reduced from a range of between
 633 25-50 mm to 3-5mm approximately after grinding. A cutting mill machine SM 300 Retsch®
 634 with a selectable speed range from 700 to 3,000 rpm was used. The selected speed was
 635 1500 rpm. Normally we use a rotational speed of 1500 which produces an energy consumption
 636 of 0.7 kWh. The process takes 15 minutes per kilogram of material with a loss of approximately
 637 10%. Therefore, after shredding it is necessary to sieve to possible identify the optimum size.



Type of technuo:
Small injected products: To melt plastics (virgin and recycled), then to inject them into molds by manual force.

Production capacity:
depends on the size of the part, the volume of the container
is 3 L

- Operating mode :
1. Make sure it is clean
 2. Turn on
 3. Set the speed
 4. Puts the desired material inside
 5. Once the material has been crushed, turn it off.
 6. Disassemble the container and collects the material
 7. Cleaning

Advantages :

- Easy and quick to use
- Possibility to adjust the speed (700rpm to 3000rpm)

Parameters - type of material:

Type of material	rHD PE	rPP	PLA
RPM	1500	1500	1500

Safety Rules:

- Use of gloves and protective glasses.
- Sound-isolating headphones

Constraints :

- Cleaning must be carried out carefully
- Noisy during operation
- Small feeding container

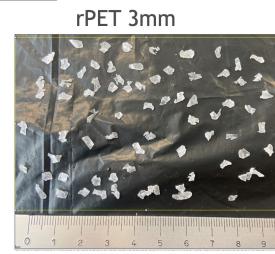


Figure 27: Photo of the Shredding process

660 printability tests, the initial model was developed using the CAD software Onshape to validate
661 the technical printability of PLA virgin assets. Using the case of a personalization of a commer-
662 cial furniture-arranging tool as displayed in Figure 30, several printed parts were manufactured
663 to evaluate the technical pertinence of the results as part of existing furniture.



From 3D model to personalize existing furniture

Figure 30: Personalizing a existing furniture

664 In this case, only 3D printer Gigabot was used to validate the robustness and the quality of the
665 printed part.

666 6.10.2 Refurbishing of the an old furniture

667 In this case, the experimentation was a step further. The main idea was to refurbishing of the
668 an old wood workbench, connecting the tools of INEDIT. Therefore, the idea was to use the
669 scanner and the sketch features of the DesignTogether tool developed by the colleges of ENSAM
670 / TTPS. Based on that inputs, the manufacturing tools at the Green fablab including the 3D
671 printing were mobilized.



Figure 31: Refurbishing an old wood workbench using the INEDIT technologies

672 Figure 31 presents the processes entailed in the experimentation. First, once the workbench
 673 was dismantled, it was scanned using the an Ipad Pro considering the technical characteristics
 674 needed for the application. Then, the model was upload in the DesignTogether application in or-
 675 der to make a brainstorming ideas of features that are required to consider for the refurbishing.
 676 This was in input in the co-creation aspect of the process.

677 Afterwards, the model enables a first materialization of the of the proposition that could be
 678 made. So, the different manual task started in function



(a) Initial recovered workbench



(b) Refurbished workbench

Figure 32: Experimentation on refurbishing an wood workbench model

679 6.10.3 Connecting the Recycling part and the Smartification

680 In this experimentation, the idea was to connect the smartification process developed by the
 681 Uninova partners with the capabilities of our use case manufacturing. The purpose was to built
 682 a piece of furniture to test the integration of the plastic and smartification technologies. In
 683 this case, Figure 33 illustrates the manufacturing of a recycled plastic bar specifically made to
 684 be part of the entire furniture.



Figure 33: Fabrication of a prototype kitchen at the ICE-IAMOT Conference at Nancy June 2022

685 Therefore, as a part of the ICE-IAMOT conference demonstrator that took place on June 2022
686 at Nancy, we have built the complete wood structure of a kitchen furniture as presented in the
687 Figure 34. The colleges of Uninova installed the electrical components in order to adjust the
688 kitchen to the smart options. Here, the recycled plastic bar was used as sensor protection and
689 masking of the sensor needed in the electrical mounting. Moreover, the value of the recycled
690 material added a personalisation finishing of the final prototype.



Figure 34: Smartification of a kitchen

691 **6.10.4 Collaborative Desk building**

692 At the INEDIT consortium, it was decided to build a collaborative desk. The challenge in this
693 experimentation was to connect all the different competences that are present in the different
694 use cases. Regarding our use case, we supported the creation of the prototype of this desk
695 in a reduced scale using recycled filament. Additionally, it was also the opportunity to make
696 recycled production from printing and injection processes for the customization pieces.

697 Firstly, Figure 35 illustrates several attempts made using the DesignTogether tool for ideas of
698 personalization of the furniture. A workshop with 20 students of the National National School
699 in Industrial Systems Engineering (ENSGSI) was organized to create several ideas on the same
700 object.

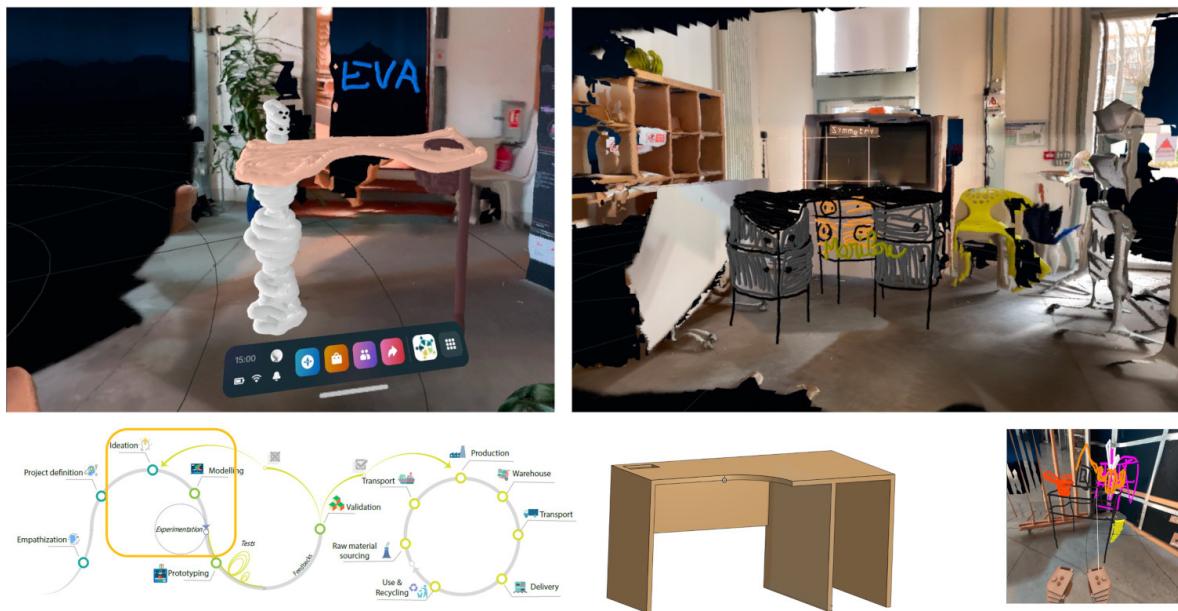


Figure 35: Co-creation stage on the personalization for the

701 Once the ideation phase was made, a second step was focused on the manufacturing of a small
702 prototype of the desk using plastic assets as presented in figure Figure 37. This made possible
703 to define the components that were manufacturing at real scale.

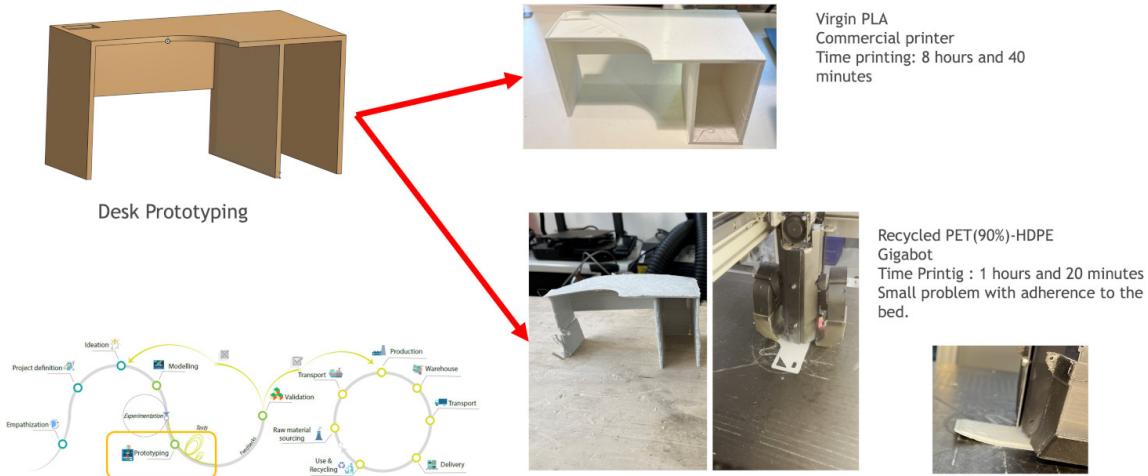


Figure 36: Prototype of the desk

704 The prototype enabled to identify three main customization object, namely 1) PC monitor sup-
 705 port, 2) an ajustable folder separation and 3) the drawer handler. as displayed in the Figure 37.
 706 The PC monitor support was built entirely using the manual injection molding. The drawer han-
 707 dler was completely 3D printed. On finnaly, the ajustable folder was a combination of injection
 708 and 3D printed processes

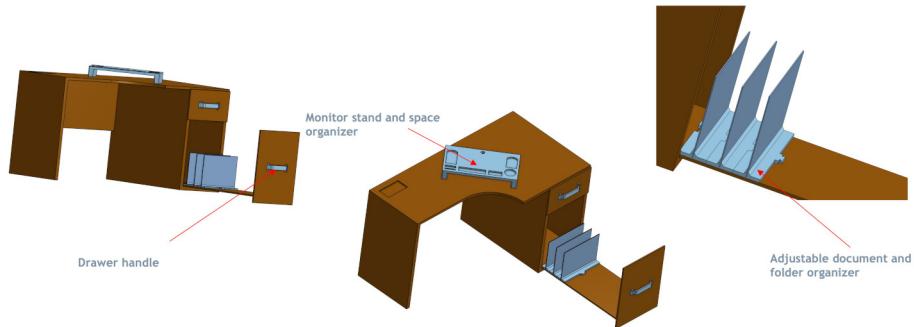


Figure 37: 3D model of the recycled pieces to be made

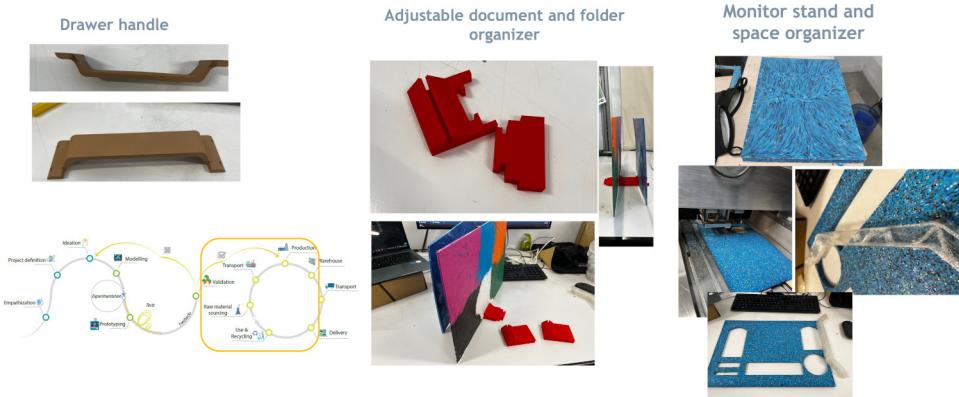
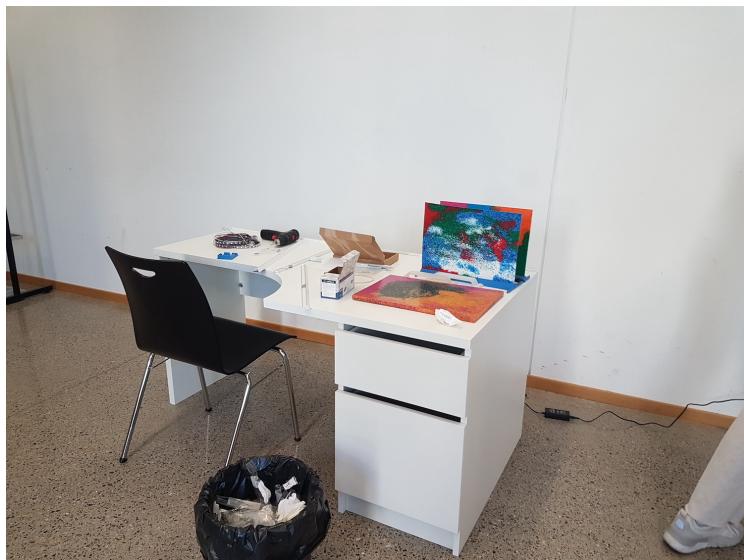


Figure 38: Manufacturing of the recycled parts (PC support, adjustable folder separation and drawer handler)

709 This experimentation was then confronted with the consortium to obtain a feedback about the
 710 possible improvements in the echnicall level. But more importantly, to identify the possible
 711 continuum and interaction between the different technologies and models. Figure



(a) Final assembling of the desk



(b) Exchange and discussion on the interaction and possible improvements

Figure 39: Feedbacks on the improvement of the recycled printed and injected parts

712 **6.10.5 Bookshelf**

713 Working on....

714 **6.10.6 Local collaboration with the Green fablab: the case of the ‘L’appaillet’ &**

715 One important element of INEDIT project is the interaction with external designers and local
716 ecosystem. The implementation of the Green Fablab inside the Octroi ecosystem make this
717 interaction valuable and fruitful to better align the expectations of designers and architects
718 with the possible maturity that the different technologies can have inside the INEDIT project.

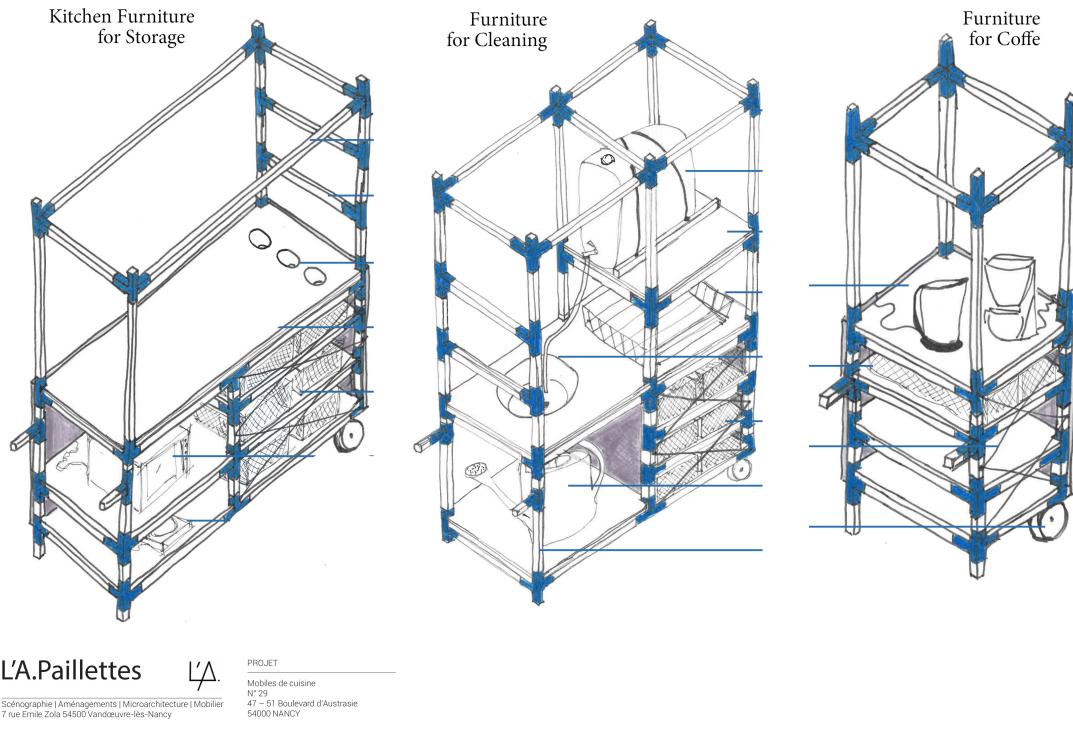


Figure 40: Sketch models designed by the local actor L'A.Paillette

719 For instance, we made an experimentation project with the local association of designers called
720 L'A.Paillette⁵. The project was to design and build 3 mobile modules and movable for a kitchen
721 for the Octroi community. These modules will allow heating equipment, preparation equipment
722 and cleaning equipment to be placed and moved. The first proposition of the models are pre-
723 sented in the Figure 42b.

⁵See the communication page at <https://www.facebook.com/L.A.Paillettes/>

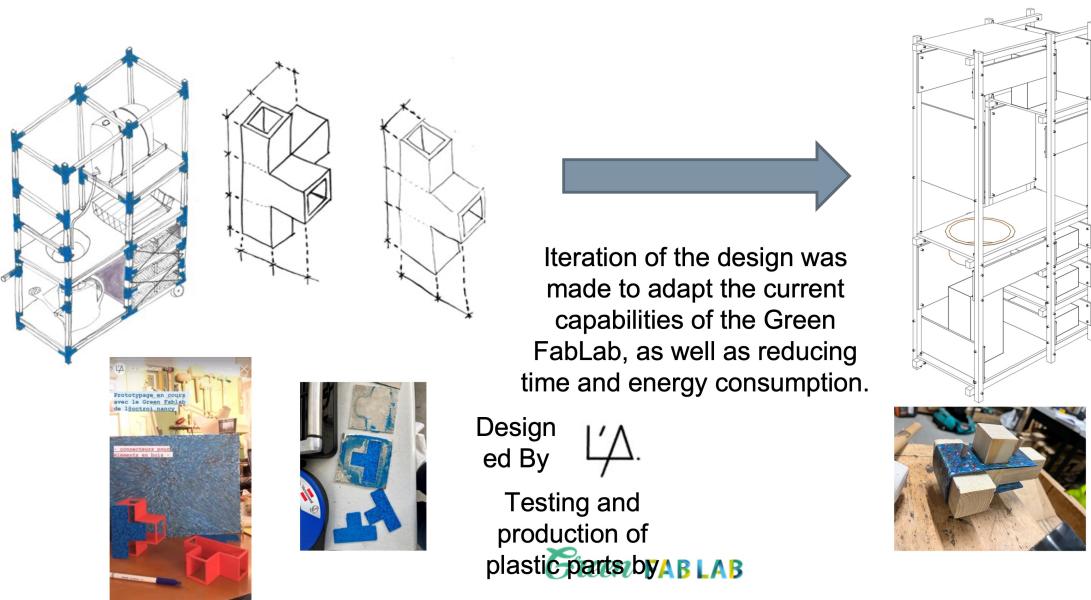


Figure 41: Iteration and re-design of the proposed recycled parts

724 Several iterations were need in order to transform the initial requirement into possible manu-
 725 factured pieces given the possibilities of the technology presented of our use case as displayed
 726 in Figure 41. Based on a prototype and a test by use, we could identified certain failures in the
 727 proposed part. Therefore, the failure was improved and corrected involving the designers of
 728 the l'A.Paillette.

729 Finally, the production consisted on 3 sheet in rAfter several attemps, a version of recycled
 730 wheets, pins were decided to fabricate. This final model was fabricated using 400g per sheet,
 731 96 plastic pin joints (20g per pin), having a total recycled plastic used about 3,1 kg aprox.
 732 (around 800 bottle taps). The final furniture made is presented iin the Figure 42.



(a)



(b)

Figure 42: Final furniture made in collaboration with the local designers at Octroi.

7 Conclusions

⁷³⁴ More examples neeed it in the recycling for education purposes

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