

## SOPHIA Consortium Gathers in Spain for First Progress Meeting



Photo Caption: SOPHIA project partners at the first consortium meeting in Villafranca de los Barros (Spain). November 2025.

Six months into the SOPHIA project, partners gathered in **Villafranca de los Barros, Spain**, for the **first consortium meeting**, hosted by **La Hormiga Verde (LHV)** and organized by **AIMPLAS**, the project coordinator. This meeting took place on 20 November and served as an important milestone to review progress across all work packages, align on next steps, and strengthen collaboration among partners working to increase the circularity of photovoltaic (PV) panels across Europe.

Participants also had the opportunity to visit **LHV's WEEE and photovoltaic recycling facilities**, gaining first-hand insights into their innovative recycling processes and their inclusive social business model. LHV plays a key role within SOPHIA, contributing to the development of a pilot for PV panel monitoring and repair that will support higher reuse rates and extend the lifetime of existing solar installations.

The meeting fostered productive discussions and reinforced the shared vision of building a more circular and efficient PV value chain. By combining advanced digital tools, improved repair and recycling capabilities, and greater traceability across the lifecycle of solar panels, SOPHIA aims to contribute to a more sustainable and competitive European solar industry.



Photo Caption: SOPHIA project partners visiting La Hormiga Verde's WEE recycling facility.

The SOPHIA project, launched on 1 June 2025, brings together 15 partners from across Europe, coordinated by **AIMPLAS (ES)**: CIDETEC (ES), Fraunhofer (DE), WILOCK (ES), LHV (ES), SADAKO (ES), BIOSOLAR (NL), AKUMPT (BG), SISECAM (TR), FERROG (ES), IS (LT), Recyclia (ES), Recycling Europe (BE), CEPS (BE), ENCO (IT).

Through strong cooperation and continuous innovation, SOPHIA is taking important steps toward boosting circularity throughout the entire PV panel value chain.

You can contact us at [ecdqpro@aimplas.es](mailto:ecdqpro@aimplas.es) or [info@recyclingeurope.org](mailto:info@recyclingeurope.org).

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