

SECOND NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2017

PARTNERS



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Dear reader

We would like to open this Second SYMBI Newsletter with the speech of the Eu Commissioner for the Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, **Mr. Karmenu Vella**, about a latest report on Circular Economy, pointing out the groundbreaking, attractive innovation and investment opportunities for all EU Member State, Citizens and SMEs coming from a correct approach to Circular Economy.

“The European Commission’s circular economy package resulted from a genuine cross-sectoral effort within the Commission, and benefited from fruitful discussions with businesses, NGOs, national authorities and academia. It remains a central political project for Europe, with an enormous potential for renewed competitiveness, innovation and job creation. The circular economy can make a substantial contribution to sustainable development; as well as to some of our major political commitments. We are progressing towards a circular economy; implementing the package and learning with others in the process. Investment is of course a key element here. The environmental community needs to work together with the investment community to ensure that we deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement on climate change, the transition to resource-efficient, circular economies, to halting biodiversity loss and the degradation of our natural capital”.



SYMBI Project Activities

SYMBI Project Partners are carrying out different exchange of experiences activities between regional authorities from the participating regions and key stakeholders.

All the Partners have already run several Stakeholders meeting at Regional Level, those Meetings have seen the participation of relevant stakeholder.

1ST POLICY WORKSHOP ON INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS AND 2ND STEERING GROUP MEETING HOSTED BY HUNGARIAN PARTNER PANNON NOVUM IN CITY OF GYŐR (15-17TH NOVEMBER 2016)

The main objective of the **Workshop** was to discuss about topics highly relevant for the project's purposes including:

- Challenges and barriers hindering the adoption of circular economy business practices
- The European strategy (action plan) for circular economy
- Removing barriers and building incentives to stimulate private sector investments

As for key conclusions of the workshop, participants agreed that most **important barriers** in adoption of circular economy and industrial symbiosis include the **lack of information about benefits, high levels of**

bureaucracy, lack of proper infrastructure and lack of awareness. On the other hand, actions as increased investments in R&D, building trust, stimulating cooperation amongst key economic actors and boosting green public procurement are considered to be main enabling factors. Also some best practices have been mentioned during the workshop such as METANOGENIA from Spain, INLATTE from Italy or rice production. Participants also debated **current EU policy instruments intended for encouraging private sector investments** in circular economy such as the EU's Circular Economy Package, the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe or Europe's Bio economy Strategy and possible barriers in the adoption of

these instruments on regional levels (restrictive national legislations, uncertainties related to implementation, etc.). Amongst key financial instruments created to support circular economy and industrial symbiosis projects mention has been made to the Investment Plan for Europe or Horizon 2020. The one-and-a-half-day workshop has been concluded with a short discussion on current financial instruments and their impact in Hungary. **Participation in the SYMBI workshop has been highly constructive** for our colleagues since we were able to get a quick insight in current best practices and challenges in the fields of circular economy and industrial symbiosis besides having the possibility to widen our network with experts.



SYMBI Project Activities

Project Partner Chamber Of Commerce of Molise had its Second Stakeholders Meeting on 16th of March, the meeting was successfully thanks to the strong participation in the discussion of the invited stakeholders. The Meeting was attended by relevant Stakeholders such as ISPRA - National Institute for Research and Environmental Protection, whose representative, Dr. Patrizia De Luca addressed his speech on the Green Public Procurement. Other relevant stakeholders attending the meeting were the Councilor of Isernia Municipality and the Ceo of RePLASTIC Spa, a national known company operating in the field of recycle Waste of electric and electronic equipment (WEEE or E-waste).



An interesting Project Related Event in FINLAND, “TESTING GOOD PRACTICES – FISS OPERATING MODEL”, with the Participation of HAMK University.

Circular Economy to Practice workshop was organized in Riihimäki, Finland in 31.1.2017, with the Participation of the Finnish Symbi Project Partner HAMK University. The workshop was carried out following the operating model of Finnish Industrial Symbiosis System

(FISS). The aim of the workshop was to bring together local providers and utilizers of resources and services and collect information about resources they have to offer and then identify possible synergies. The objective was to create networking and new interactions and sharing between

companies. One's trash can be a valuable resource to the other.

The workshop was organized by SYKLI (Environmental School of Finland) and there were participants from multiple different sectors such as waste management and recycling, construction, public research center, university and environmental experts. New networking was achieved and possible synergies were recognized especially in utilization and recycling of waste materials such as metals and soils, sharing storage facilities and offering internship placements for university students.



The Project Partner Malopolska Region has brought to the attention of the whole partnership the established of an Interdepartmental Circular Economy Group in Poland

An Interdepartmental Circular Economy Group has been established by the Polish Ministry of Development.

The aim of the group is to:

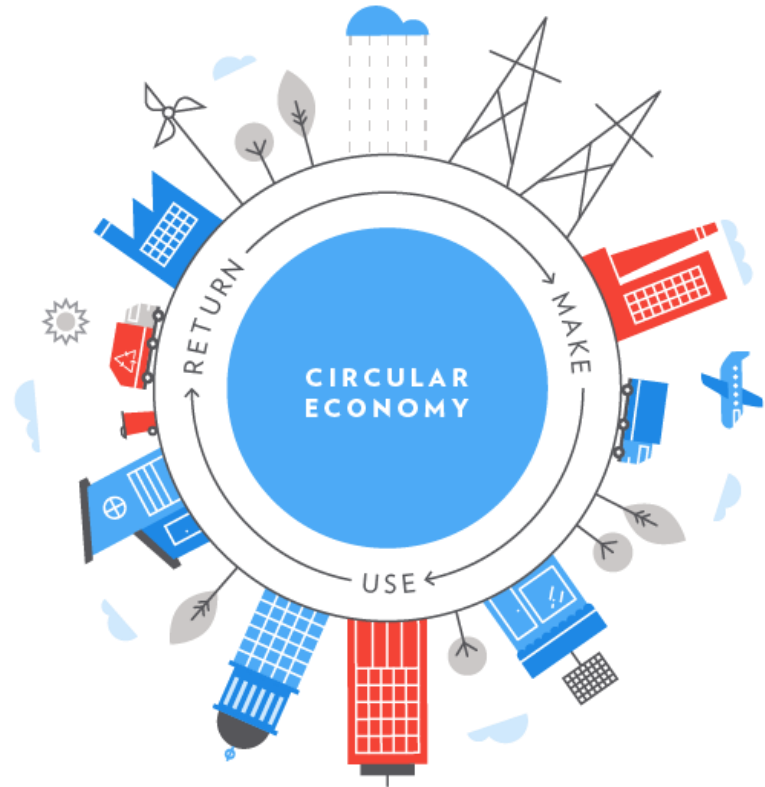
- identify opportunities, threats, strengths, and weaknesses in the context of the transition towards CE;
- develop a position with regard to the European Union initiatives related to the transformation towards CE;
- develop a roadmap for the implementation of CE in Poland, specifying the objectives and priorities along with their time horizon and institutions responsible for their implementation.

The group held its first meeting on 8th November 2016. The idea of CE was introduced to all appointed group members from various areas: environment, education, energy, infrastructure,

social policy, agriculture and public health.

The second group meeting took place on 19th January 2017 included a discussion about the Circular Economy Roadmap project developed by

the Ministry of Development. The group decided to create four thematic teams (waste, bioeconomy, business models, and soft actions), which will consist of industrial and socioeconomic partners.



In January 2017 the Surplus Mall project started its activities, funded by the Climate-KIC, the project aims at developing a new business model for the exchange of industrial surplus. Surplus Mall furthermore aims to analyze the feasibility of a new business model, aligned with the circular economy and European strategies on industrial symbiosis, based on a

cloud platform for the exchange of industrial surplus.

The platform will make possible to realize the intersection between the demand and supply of raw materials by different enterprises, as well as with third party that can facilitate the logistics and management. The model promotes the reuse and the exploitation of by-products and residues, reintroducing them as second-

ary raw materials in other production processes, as proposed by the Concept of Industrial Symbiosis.

The benefits of the model, consequently, will be related to the reduction of the consumption of raw materials (material and energy), the generation of waste and consequently also of the emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

For more info please visit www.aster.it

Surplus Mall



Next Project Events

The Project Partner Municipality of Kozani will organize the Third Project Steering Committee Meeting and the Second Interregional Workshop at the end of June, the event will take place in Kozani in Greece.



Upcoming thematic Events

WORLD CIRCULAR ECONOMY FORUM 2017 IN HELSINKI - FINALD

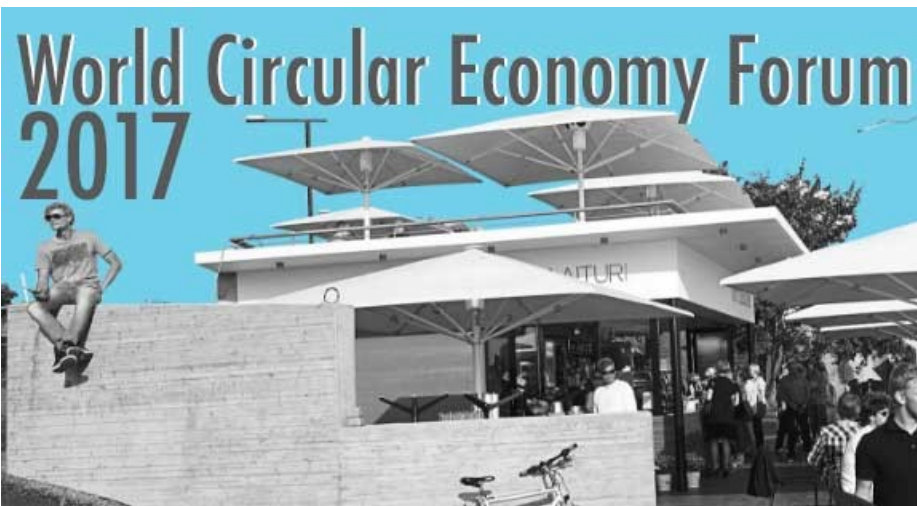
The World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF) gathers together 1,200 key people including the world's leaders, top experts, entrepreneurs, financiers and the civil society to share their ideas

and to find common visions towards the transition to a Circular Economy globally. The event will take place in Helsinki, Finland on the 5th and 6th of June 2017 and it is organized by the Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra.

The forum aims to clarify how Circular Economy solutions can contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals by generating growth and jobs in different parts of the world.

More about the event:

<https://www.sitra.fi/en/events/circular-economy/world-circular-economy-forum-2017>



Upcoming thematic Events

The LUXEMBOURG CIRCULAR ECONOMY HOTSPOT will start on the 20 of June 2017

One of the most important event about Circular Economy will be the Luxembourg Circular Economy Hotspot 2017.

This major three-day event will offer a forum for debate, exchange, face-to-face meetings and networking for 200 delegates from worldwide.

The circular economy is an important step forward for all of us. Therefore they are seeking greater participation from their economic and political allies from both the Greater Region and the entire Benelux area.

For more info and to register to the event:

<http://circularhotspot2017.lu>



Social Media Contacts

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Editorial

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