



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Report from the conference: ***Circular Economy: one year after adaption, working together for the future***, Brussels 9-10th March, 2017

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Participation in various meetings / sessions:

Afternoon on the 8th March

The conference started in the morning on the 9th. Thus, the travel to Brussels was taken on the 8th and the opportunity to have a meeting in Helsinki EU-office was utilized.

- SYMBI-project was presented to the staff of the office
- The possibilities for the future activities to promote industrial symbiosis and circular economy in EU-countries were discussed
- European Regions Research and Innovation Network (ERRIN, www.errin.eu) was discussed and it was found to be one possible venue for SYMBI-partners to continue the work to promote circular economy after SYMBI

Participation in various meetings / sessions:

Morning hours on the 9th March

Introduction and keynotes, please refer to:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=9074

<http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.events-and-activities-circular-eco-future-webstream>

This material will be available for two years.

Participation in various meetings / sessions:

Afternoon on the 9th March:

Breakout session: ***Promotion of water reuse***

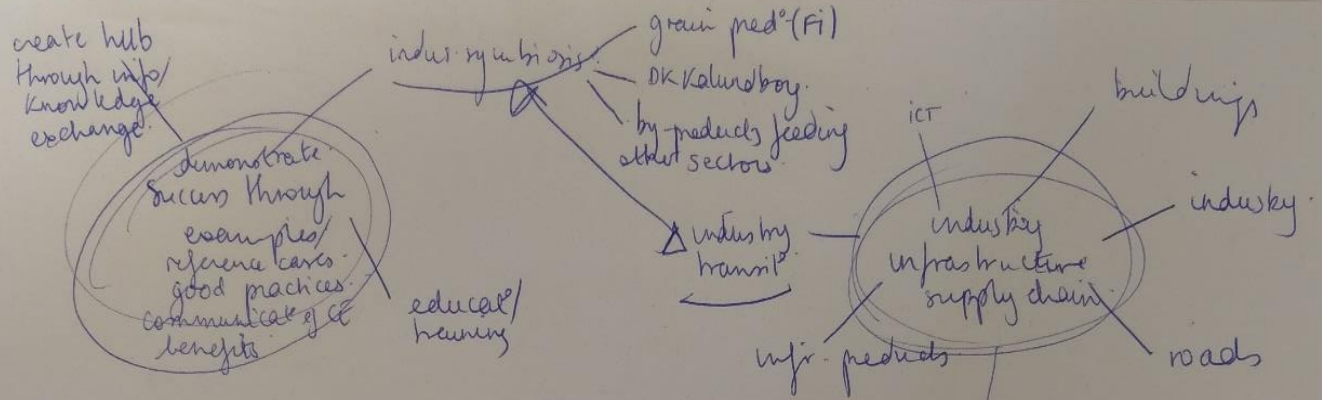
- Water stress is affecting 1/3 of EU-area only (all year round!)
- Please refer to: www.water-reuse.eu and www.demoware.eu

Participation in various meetings / sessions:

The 10th March

Interactive workshops to give ideas / guidance in developing an ***European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform***

- The 600 participants were forming groups of about 5 to 7 persons listing the ideas for the future use. The ideas from the group the SYMBI representative participated are presented in the next three slides.



EIT-KIC

climate dev / exchange on CC feed into website. internationally.

communication education tool

communication info engagement

Key enabling technologies

supply chain

Resource management

ongoing EU info on policy + funds / research / innovation

CE vocabulary library with material

reward good practices

Question 2a)

How do we ensure the Platform is effective?

"Do's"

develop tools

- L1 LIBRARY/ ONLINE
- L1 PHONE/ APPLICATION
- WEB PLATFORM.

L1 MS EQUIVALENT PLATFORM

develop training

- L1 WE PLATFORM VIA COMMON TRAINING/ PROGRAMME
- L1 UNIVERSITY CURRICULA
- ETC

CLUSTER BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES & INDUSTRIES ON CE

MAKE PLATFORM USABLE FOR POLICY-MAKERS

- L1 CENTRALISE CE EXPERIENCE
- NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS OF LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS.

FUNDING RESEARCH AT EU/ LOCAL LEVEL ↓

+ PUTTING INTO PRACTICE

- L1 PREPARATORY WORKS DECIDING ON PRIORITIES.

Question 2b)

How do we ensure the Platform is effective?

"Don'ts"

PLEASE CLARIFY

EXPECTATIONS.
DELIVERABLES.
INPUT TO LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES.

DON'T FORGET PEOPLE EXCHANGE

DON'T FUND WITHOUT CE CRITERIA

DON'T FORGET EVALUATION/ REVIEW PROCESS FOR THE PLATFORM.

DON'T FOCUS ONLY ON WASTE

Name of the table rapporteur: _____

A final word

What one KEY message would you offer to the Platform developers?

- UPDATE THE PLATFORM/ACTIVITIES ACTIVELY
- ADVERTISE - NOT JUST DISCRIMINATE GOOD PRACTICES.
- ↳ LET USERS PUT THEIR OWN CONTENT.
- REVIEW STANDARDS THAT CAN SUPPORT CE|.
- EXPORT PLATFORM OUTSIDE EUROPE



European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform

The organisation team of the conference got so many opinions about the content of the coming platform that the final result can be just anything. Anyhow, hopefully it is going to be useful!

The report of this exercise will be published by the organisation team before the summer 2017.

The platform is supposed to be in use before the end of the year 2017.

Some notes:

- The circular economy conference will be organized annually. Thus, this could be one applicable venue for reporting SYMBI results in the future. We just have to take contact with the organizers early enough.
- In quite many talks circular economy was still dealt like waste circulation only.
- On the other hand, the concept of upcycling (increasing the value of a product or material during its life span) was mentioned also.
- SYMBI project got some interest among the participants: the brochures (about 80 pieces) taken in the conference were all delivered in the first morning!

The conference was hosted by ***European Economic and Social Committee, EESC***

The home page of the occasion:

<http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.events-and-activities-circular-eco-future>

There you can find some extra material like an *Opinion paper on The functional economy* also:

<http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.events-and-activities-circular-eco-future-opinion>