

L'economia circolare nel meeting fra la Città Metropolitana di Bologna e Austin (Texas)

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The circular economy and CESME project, in particular, were among the central themes of the three-day meeting between the Metropolitan City of Bologna and the delegation of Austin (Texas - USA). The meeting held in Bologna part of the project of International Urban Cooperation (IUC), a long-term EU strategy to promote sustainable urban development in cooperation with the sectors both public and private. A program that aims to promote exchanges between cities on the environment and urban resilience considered that the rate of world urbanization is increasing rapidly. Cities are increasingly recognized as the arena in which solutions to major social and environmental challenges must be implemented. This rapid change has put a strain on many cities, including Austin. Also, they see increasing demand for services in the energy, water, health and transport. The circular economy can be an answer to these problems. So the City of Bologna Metro has shown the strengths and analyzes carried out thanks to CESME project participated by 10 partners from 6 different countries (Italy, Finland, Denmark, Bulgaria, the UK and Greece). The project objectives are: to address and improve the effectiveness and impact of policy instruments, to foster SMEs towards green innovation and circular economy at best, examine how regional and local authorities and development agencies business can implement tools and support packages to help SMEs to enter the circular economy, provide concrete tools to help SMEs to approach the green economy.

The project makes available to SMEs that want to deal with the change to the circular economy three useful tools. The first is the White Book already available online at <http://www.cesme-book.eu/> with information and best practices of circular economy, the circularly Economy Toolkit to get some sort of online advisory circular on their farm potential (the tool is available at www.circulareconomytoolkit.com) and finally the social Return on Investment, an indicator to quantify the economic, social and environmental company "circular."

During the meeting, the US delegation was able to follow even the presentation of Professor Elettra Agliardi Bologna University who presented a very close study circular economy, monitoring of its benefits and some good practices in the Emilia-Romagna region. The American delegation has enjoyed the whole meeting and made the most of these tools and best practices presented.