

## How to assess circular economy projects?

### *Report of the #EURegionsWeek Pitch of the 13/10/2020 at 12.30*

REPLACE project, together with SCREEN project, Lazio Region and Veltha organized the 15 minutes Pitch 'How to assess circular economy projects?' within the most important annual *kermess* dedicated to the European territorial cooperation: the European Week of Regions and Cities.

The Pitch was promoted within the European Week of Regions and Cities, the Interreg Europe website, as well as by REPLACE project social media and website, as well as in the Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform.

The Pitch took place on the 13/10/2020 at 12.30 with 57 participants of the 98 totally registered.

The Pitch opened with the welcome of the moderator Miss Sara Bergamin (Veltha), REPLACE communication manager; she presented the online event and introduced the speaker Mr Ferdinando Rossi (Lazio Region), REPLACE project manager.

Ferdinando Rossi greeted the audience and introduced the work that allowed the creation of the assessment criteria, namely the effort of SCREEN project revolving around the Policy Lab and the 2 years discussion among 17 European regions and technical partners. He explained the link between SCREEN and the follow-up REPLACE project, as well as their main actions and targets.

Then, the assessment criteria grid was exhibited to the audience, accompanied by a brief showcasing of its main components; the presentation continued by highlighting the barriers and challenges so far encountered in their formal adoption. Of the latter, the most pressing relates to the lack of uniformity in assessment methodologies within and across policy owners and managing authorities.

The pitch explained how to assess circular economy projects by practically adapting the developed SCREEN and REPLACE assessment criteria grid to the already existing procedures.

Concluded the speaker's contribution, the moderator posed 2 questions arising from the chat discussion and after Mr Rossi quick explanations of the raised points, the pitch concluded by thanking the public for taking part in the online meeting.





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**The slides presented:**



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## HOW TO ASSESS CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS?

**#EURegionsWeek Pitch**

*13th of October 2020 from 12:30 to 12:45*

Moderator: Sara Bergamin [VELTHA – REPLACE communication manager]  
Speaker: Ferdinando Rossi [REGIONE LAZIO – REPLACE project manager]

[www.interregeurope.eu/replace](http://www.interregeurope.eu/replace)  
[www.screen-lab.eu](http://www.screen-lab.eu)

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### HOW TO ASSESS CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS?

#### ASSESSMENT CRITERIA DEVELOPED BY THE H2020 SCREEN PROJECT:

from October 2016 to October 2018

- 17 European Regions + Institutional Advisory partners
- Cross-regional cooperation: SCREEN Policy Lab
- Open Questionnaire: Consultation

Assessment Criteria in line with the 10 indicators issued by the European Commission on 16/01/2018: Communication "on a monitoring framework for the circular economy"

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/pdf/monitoring-framework.pdf>



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#### REPLACE Interreg Europe project Aug 2019 to January 2023

**OBJECTIVE: ENHANCE POLICY INSTRUMENTS TARGETING CIRCULAR ECONOMY BY EXPLOITING BOTH THE LESSON LEARNT AND THE RESULTS OF SCREEN PROJECT, TO TEST THE CO-CREATED TOOLS AND METHODS WITHIN THE CURRENT REGIONAL OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES**



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### HOW TO ASSESS CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS?

#### CIRCULAR ECONOMY ASSESSMENT CRITERIA TABLE VERSION 3

	A	B	C	D	E	F	
	N	CRITERION	Explanation	Metrics	Additional parameters	Assessment indicator	Weight
PRODUCTION	1	ECO- Design	Re-shaping the first stage of an industrial process (Product design) in order to reduce the waste generated AND/OR increase the life of the final product	Kg/year of virgin material avoided through the new process AND/OR by the prolongation of the product's life	Economic value of the virgin material (€/Kg)	Metrics x additional parameter (€/year)	10
	2	New production process accepting "secondary raw material"	Replacement, total or partial, of virgin material with "secondary raw material"	Kg/year of virgin material avoided through the new process	Economic value of the virgin material (€/Kg)	Metrics x additional parameter (€/year)	8
CONSUMPTION	3	RE-Use, Re-Manufacturing, Refurbishment,	Prolongation of the life of a certain product that otherwise will be disposed	Kg/year of virgin material avoided by the prolongation of the product's life	Economic value of the virgin material (€/Kg)	Metrics x additional parameter (€/year)	8
DISPOSAL	5	Mass of waste resources recovered and re-introduced in a production cycle as secondary raw material	The new process generates waste that can be re-used in the same process or in another production process	Kg/year	Economic value of the secondary raw material(€/Kg) minus Cost of its transport to the production site (€/Kg) (*)	Metrics x additional parameter (€/year)	8
	6	Project promoting waste recycling	Promotional campaign with a specific target producing a specific waste	Waste produced by the target Kg/year	Cost of disposal (€/Kg)	Metrics x additional parameter (€/year)	6
ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA	7	"Net Energy balance respect to the previous system" or "Amount of energy recovered"	Energy (KWh) used in the old process per unit of product divided by energy used in the new process for the same unit of product	Number that can be lower or higher than 1		Metrics (the number in column C)	1 (the assessment indicator is "per se" a weight)
	8	Reduction of emissions	Emissions of CO2 (**) generated by the old process per unit of product divided by emissions used in the new process for the same unit of product	Number that can be lower or higher than 1		Metrics (the number in column C)	
SOCIAL CRITERION	9	Net balance of jobs	Number of new jobs created by the circular economy project, minus the number of jobs lost in the previous linear process	N = Number of full time working units (can be positive or negative)	P = Number of full time working units in the old process	$1 + \frac{(N)}{P}$	
Applicants may select <u>only one</u> of these two boxes			Implementation of "CIRCULAR PROCUREMENT" in the project (tick the box if relevant)	The weight of the related project is increased by 50%			
			Educational projects targeted to relevant stakeholders (tick the box if relevant)	The weight of the related project is increased by 20%			



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### HOW TO ASSESS CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS?

**Barriers** so far encountered in the process of adoption of the Assessment Criteria:

- Lack of Uniformity in the evaluation methodologies
- Inadequate skills and knowledge level

**BUT**

**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA** are highly **ADAPTABLE** to the diverse assessment schemes.

The **main CHALLENGE** is the **ENGAGEMENT** of relevant **staff: webinars for policy-learning**

	N.	CRITERION	Explanation
PRODUCTION	1	ECO- Design	Re-shaping the first stage of an industrial process (Product design) in order to reduce the waste generated AND/OR increase the life of the final product
	2	New production process accepting "secondary raw material"	Replacement, total or partial, of virgin material with "secondary raw material"
CONSUMPTION	3	RE-Use, Re-Manufacturing, Refurbishment,	Prolongation of the life of a certain product that otherwise will be disposed
DISPOSAL	5	Mass of waste resources recovered and re-introduced in a production cycle as secondary raw material	The new process generates waste that can be re-used in the same process or in another production process
	6	Project promoting waste recycling	Promotional campaign with a specific target producing a specific waste
ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA	7	"Net Energy balance respect to the previous system" or "Amount of energy recovered"	Energy (KWh) used in the old process per unit of product divided by energy used in the new process for the same unit of product
	8	Reduction of emissions	Emissions of CO2 (**) generated by the old process per unit of product divided by emissions used in the new process for the same unit of product
SOCIAL CRITERION	9	Net balance of jobs	Number of new jobs created by the circular economy project, minus the number of jobs lost in the previous linear process



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So, **HOW TO ASSESS CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS?**

Use **SCREEN** and **REPLACE** Assessment Criteria Table, by:

- **ADAPTING it to the usual evaluation Grid:** matching criteria, choosing those that are relevant for the purpose and the scope of the call
- **ADAPTING and inserting it within the currently used evaluation methodology,** without having to modify the consolidated *modus-operandi* of the staff members responsible for the assessment procedures
- **ENGAGING and EMPOWERING** the key staff members and the Managing Authorities through dedicated co-creational workshop in which the Assessment Criteria are tested and inserted within the evaluation procedures, in order to meet the Circular Economy Transition targets and objectives



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**HOW TO ASSESS CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS?**

**Stay tuned with REPLACE project** to keep up with the **progress in the adoption of the Assessment Criteria**, as well as, to remain informed about the other project outputs and to discover the advancements on the **selection of common and shared evaluation criteria to establish a consistent and comparable monitoring framework within the participating regions**, open to be implemented by external actors.

**Keep in touch!**

**Twitter:** @PolicyReplace

**Linkedin:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/replacepolicy4circularconomy/>

**Facebook:** <https://it-it.facebook.com/Replace-Interreg-Europe-103715587934729/>

**Website:** [www.interregeurope.eu/replace](http://www.interregeurope.eu/replace)



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## Q&A

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## Thank you for participating! #EURegionsWeek

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