



**COLOR
CIRCLE**

Interreg Europe



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

**In search for circularity:
Collaborations between local authorities
and researchers in circular economy**

30 March, 2023, Belgium

INTRODUCTION

Welcome and introduction



Klaas Fokkinga, Member of the Provincial Council of Friesland and Alternate of the European Committee of the Regions



Michel Terré, President of HESAM Université

Interreg Europe, bridging research and communities on Circular Economy

An outlook on Interreg Europe 2014-20 and perspective from the thematic objective Environment and resource efficiency



Erwin Siweris, Programme Director, Interreg Europe

**Interreg
Europe**



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the European Union

Interreg Europe overview

Erwin Siweris

Programme Director | *Interreg Europe Secretariat*

30 MAR 2023 | 15 Minutes

COLOR CIRCLE final
conference
Brussels - Belgium



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Content

1. Interreg Europe **state of play**
2. Environment and resource efficiency & **COLOR CIRCLE**
3. Interreg Europe **2021-2027**

Interreg
Europe



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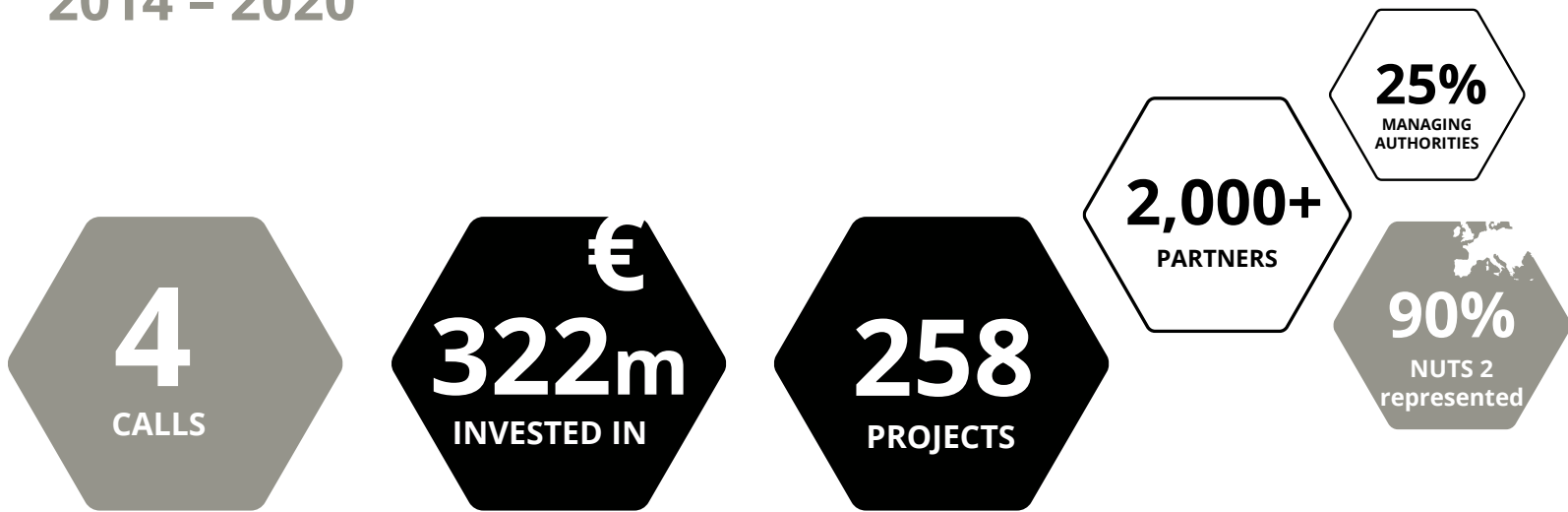
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Interreg Europe
state of play

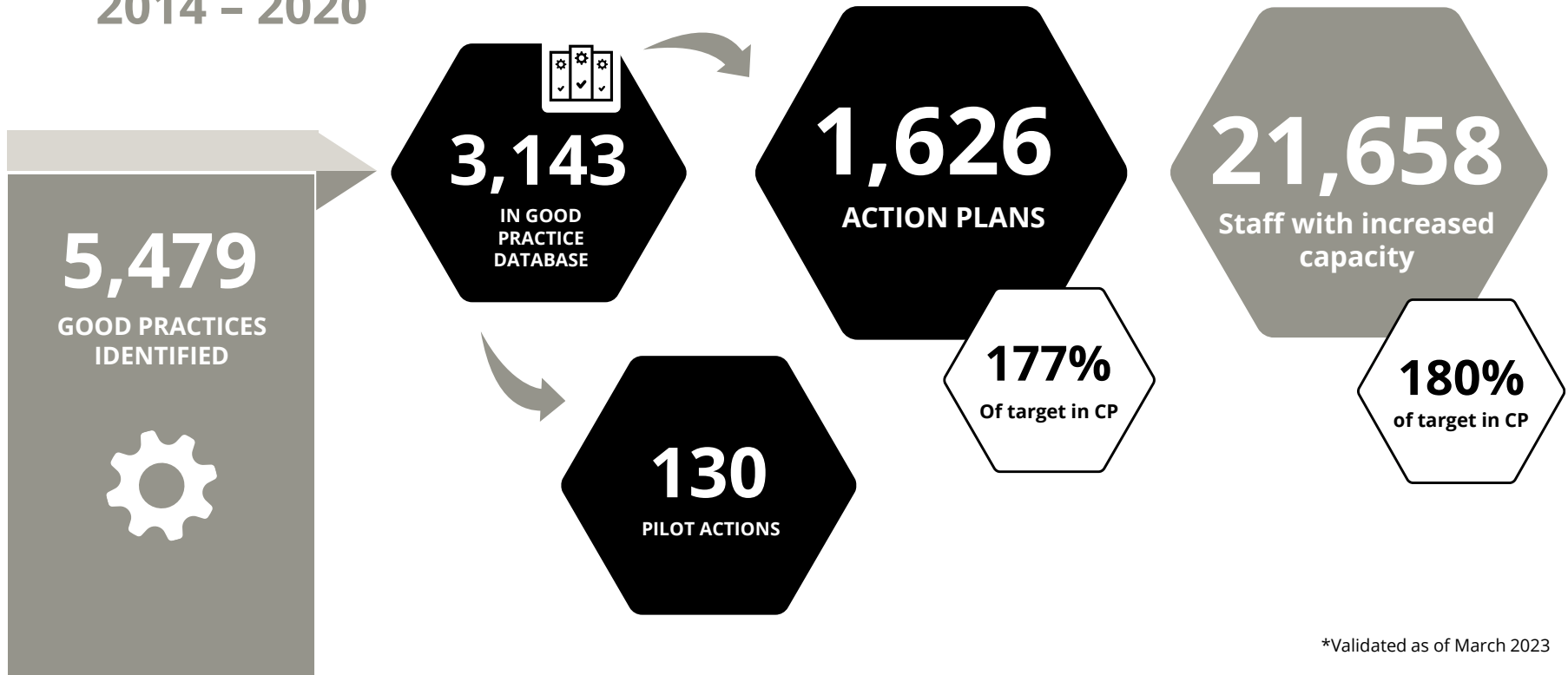
Interregional cooperation **projects**

2014 – 2020



Project* achievements

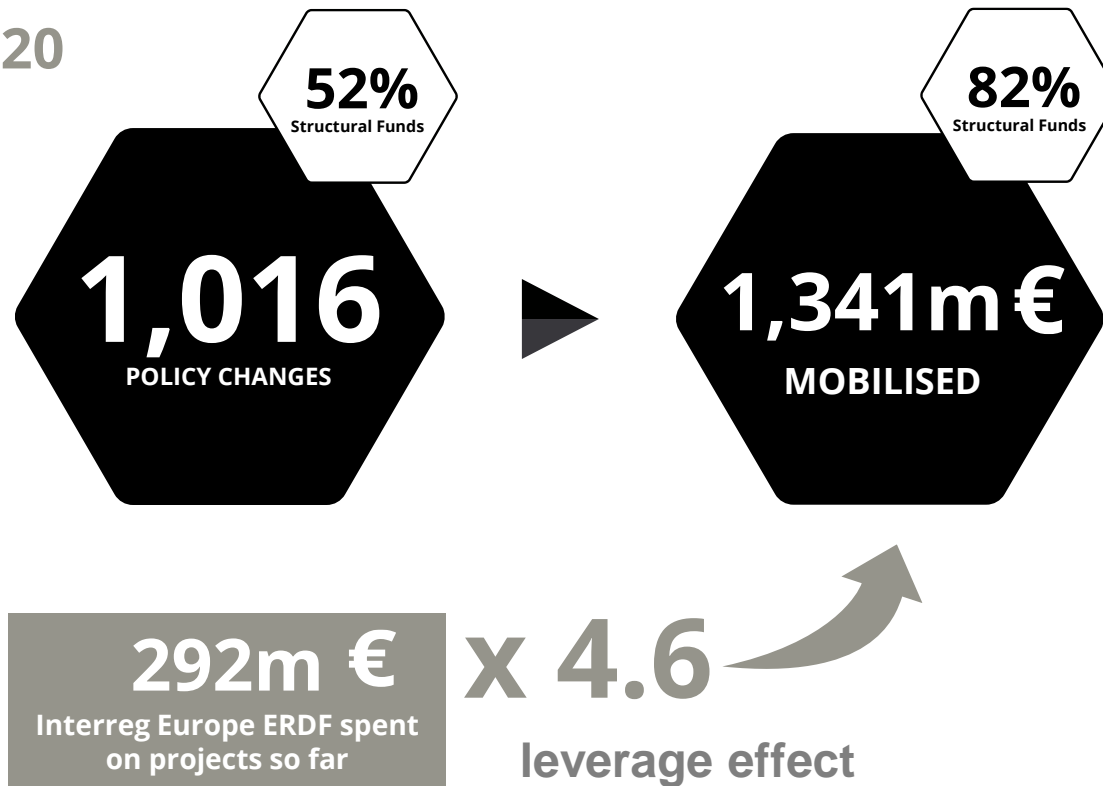
2014 - 2020



*Validated as of March 2023

Results achieved* by projects

2014 – 2020



*Validated as of March 2023

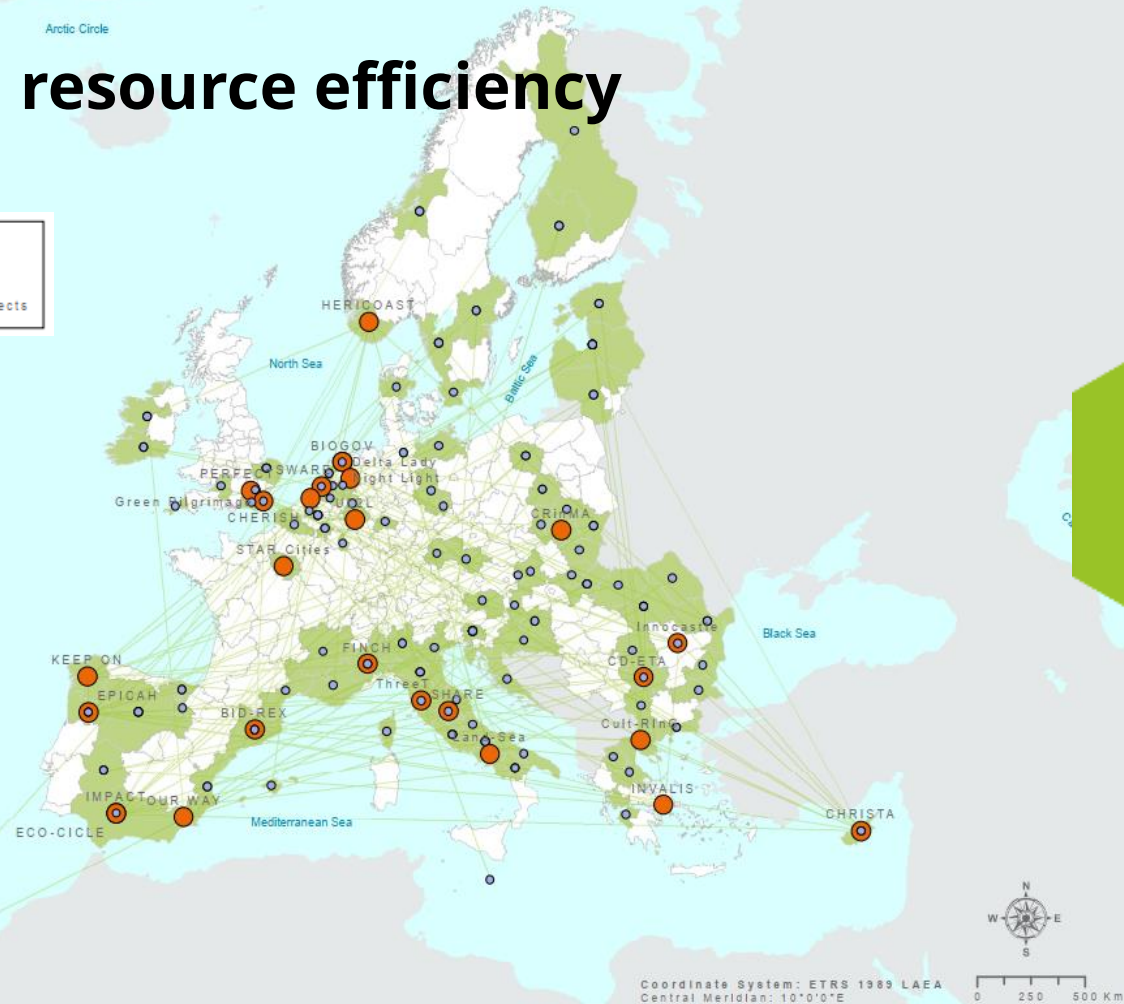
2. Environment and resource efficiency & **COLOR CIRCLE**



Balanced allocation of projects per priority



Cooperation on resource efficiency



31
projects

Circular economy – 11 projects



COLOR CIRCLE
Interreg Europe

COLOR CIRCLE will empower local authorities by connecting them with research teams in relevant fields to unlock the full potential of the circular economy.

www.interreurope.eu/colorcircle

An interregional cooperation project for improving resource-efficient economy policies.

Project Partners

HESAM University (FR)
Central Bohemian Innovation Centre (CZ)
County Council of Granada (ES)
Burgundy-Franche-Comté Regional Council (FR)
Van Hall-Larenstein University of Applied Sciences (NL)
Regional Development Agency Centru (RDA Centru) (RO)

Environment & resource efficiency

1.03 M ERDF

Aug 2019 Jul 2023

European Union
European Regional Development Fund



- **BIOREGIO**
- **CECI**
- **CESME**
- **CirCE**
- **CircPro**
- **REDUCES**
- **REPLACE**
- **RETRACE**
- **SYMBI**
- **TRIS**

Strengths of COLOR CIRCLE

- **Topic high on the EU agenda (Circular economy)**
- **Clear focus on Structural Funds programmes**
(3 policy instruments out of 5)
- **A successful project: more than 50% of policies addressed already improved**
 - Regional planning, sustainable development and equality of territories plan, **FR**
 - Regional Innovation Strategy of the Central Bohemian Region (RIS3 Strategy), **CZ**
 - 2030 Urban Agenda for Sustainable Development in Granada, **ES**

Active contribution



To Policy Learning **Platform** activities:

- **9 good practices** in Good practice database
- Highlighted in **article**: "EU Lawmakers raise the bar for the circular economy"

Programme contribution

The screenshot displays the 'Policy Solutions' search interface on the Interreg Europe website. The search filter is set to 'Circular economy'. The results are categorized into 'Good practices' and 'Stories'. The 'Good practices' section includes a prominent entry: 'Reducing food waste and food poverty: the mission of a social enterprise', which describes a practice from ECOWASTE4FOOD. Other visible results include 'From food to wool production', 'Key learnings of financial instruments for the circular economy', 'Meeting the biowaste challenge: Follow up', 'Webinar recording: The value of cooperation for EU business regions', and 'Webinar recording: Jobs and skills for the energy transition'. The 'Stories' section features 'Collection and recycling of construction and demolition waste: Key learnings' and 'Collection and recycling of WEEE: Key learnings'. A sidebar on the left shows 'Financing, Operation, Maintenance' and '2014-2020' filters. The bottom of the page lists 'Catalonia EMAS Committee: Adopted initiatives to facilitate EMAS registration during COVID-19'.

on circular economy

- **563** good practices
- **8** peer reviews & matchmaking sessions
- **9** policy briefs
- **15** stories
- **9** workshops & webinars

<https://www.interregueurope.eu/policy-solutions>

3.

Interreg Europe
2021-2027



Sharing solutions for better regional policy

€
379m
PROGRAMME
BUDGET

1
PRIORITY
capacity building

29
COUNTRIES
INVOLVED



Interreg Europe **objective**

Supports the identification and transfer of good practices among EU regions in order to **improve regional development policies**

Helps policy makers to find new solutions to their challenges

- Primarily dedicated to **public authorities**
- Focus on **exchange of experience**



Different from cross-border or transnational cooperation

Programme **scope**

1 cross-cutting priority on capacity building → **six topics**



Concentration principle (80%)

Two actions



Projects

Limited number of regions exchanging and transferring experience on a shared regional development issue



Policy Learning Platform

Further exploiting projects' achievements and opening up the programme benefits to all

Platform in a nutshell



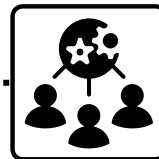
Provides **continuous policy-learning** opportunities

through access to:

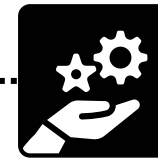
Knowledge



People



**Expert
support**

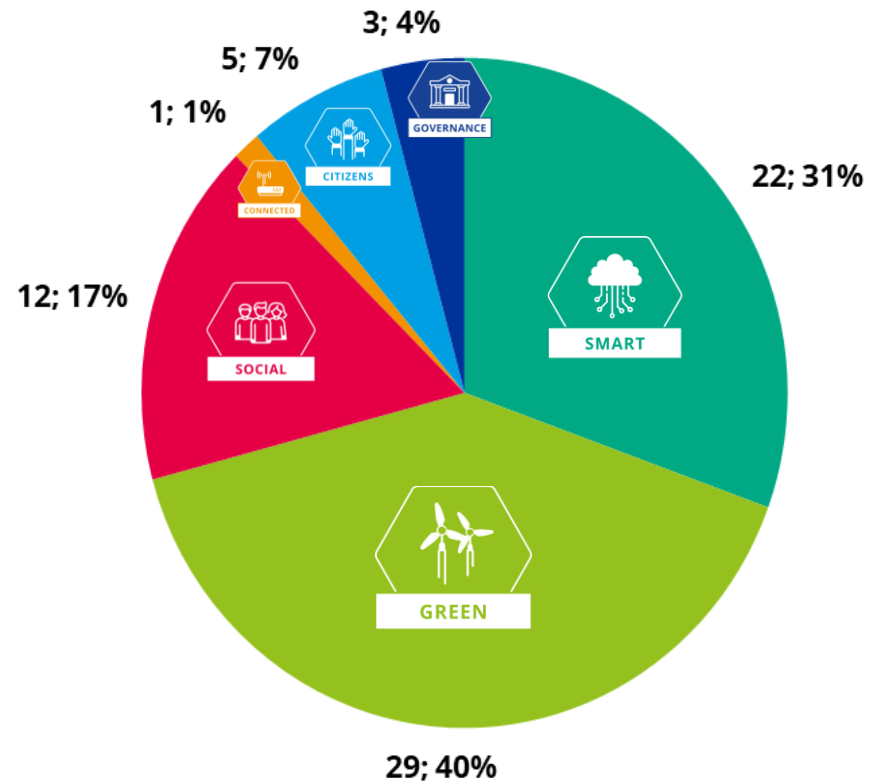


#policylearning

First Call for project proposals

5 April to 31 May 2022

134 proposals submitted
72 projects approved



First call - **first lessons learned**

Eligibility

- Status of the **policy responsible authority**
- At least **one investment for jobs & growth goal programme**

Quality

- Description of the **policy instrument addressed**
- **Innovative character** (Interreg Europe cannot finance follow up projects)
- Geographical coverage **beyond transnational** cooperation areas (e.g., MED covers Slovenia, Bulgaria and part of France)

2nd Call for project proposals

Open from **15 March** to **9 June 2023**

- Please check on our website **the recordings of the pre-call online networking events** organized in 2022:

Smart - 15 Nov 2022

Social - 17 Nov 2022

Green - 29 Nov 2022

Connected, Citizens, Governance - 1 Dec 2022

Policy Learning Platform event - 5 Dec 2022

- The call **launch event**

15 Mar 2023, Stockholm (SE): **Europe, let's cooperate!**

All topics open



Project development assistance during call

Discover the programme

Look for funding

Approved projects

Get policy advice

Find policy

Next call for projects

Discover our terms of reference



1. Check project relevance

Use our self-assessment tool



4. Find partners

Look for relevant organisations

Country specific information

Check your country rules



2. Get inspired

See approved projects and project ideas



5. Ask for feedback

Get guidance before applying



3. Share your project idea

Explain what you want to do with your project



6. Apply for the call

Submit your project proposal

Available during calls

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/apply-for-the-call>

Keep up with **our news**

- Join our **online community**

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/user/register>

- Sign up to our **newsletter**

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/#block-newsletterblock>

Time for questions ?

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SESSION 1: EUROPEAN PUBLIC POLICIES RELATED TO CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The cooperation between research and territories on circular economy at the EU level

Moderator



Mara Bubberman, Advisor EU Public Affairs in charge of circular economy and responsible for the Northern Netherlands at House of Dutch Provinces

The cooperation between research and territories on circular economy at the EU level

Taking forward the European Green Deal and the EU's Circular economy Action plan



Emmanuelle Maire, Head of Unit for Circular Economy, sustainable products and consumption, Directorate General for Environment, European Commission



European
Commission

Circular Economy Action Plan

For a cleaner and
more competitive
Europe

Emmanuelle Maire

Head of Unit

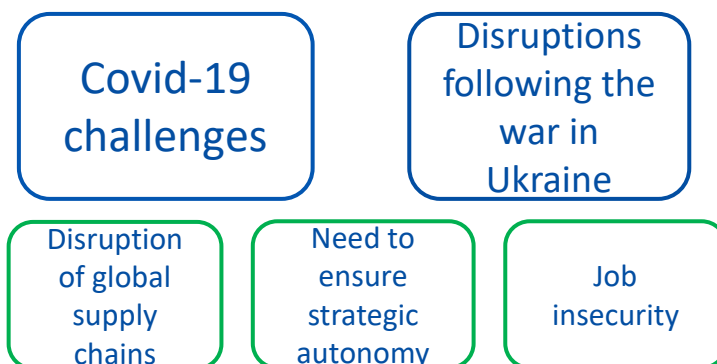
Circular Economy, Sustainable Production and
Consumption

DG Environment

European Commission



A key to strategic autonomy

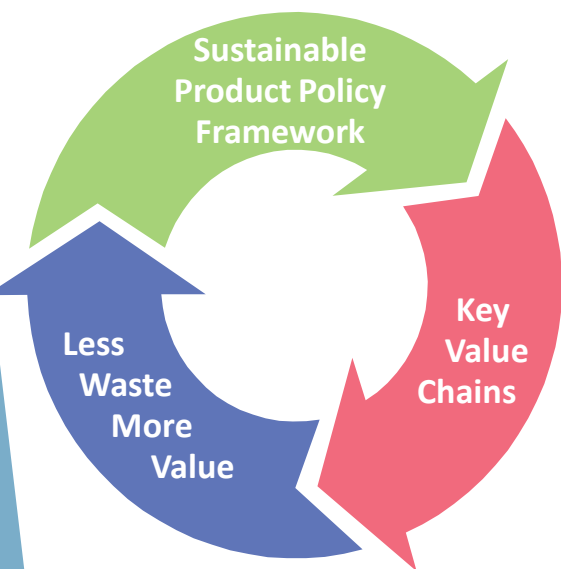


Circular economy is expected to:

Impacts



Changing the way Europe consumes and produces



35 actions

Make sustainable products the norm in the EU
Empower consumers and public buyers
Sustainable production processes

Electronics and ICT
Batteries and vehicles
Packaging
Plastics
Textiles
Construction and buildings
Food, water and nutrients

Reduce Waste
Reduce Waste Exports
Boost market for high quality and safe secondary raw materials

Making circular economy work for people, regions and cities

Circular economy as a requisite for climate neutrality

Getting the Economics Right

Financial Markets

Investments and R&I

Global Level Playing Field

Monitoring

Implementation: Phase I

- **New regulatory framework on batteries (2020)** ✓
 - **Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE) (2021)**
 - **Proposal to review EU rules on concentration limits of persistent organic pollutants in waste (2021)**
 - **Proposal for a revision of the EU Waste Shipment Regulation (2021)**
-
- **Green City Accord** launched in October 2020
 - **Pact for Skills** launched in October 2020
 - **Revision of the Skills Agenda** adopted in July 2020



Implementation: Phase II (2022)

SPRING PACKAGE

(30 March)

- ▶ Proposal for a Regulation on Ecodesign for Sustainable Products
- ▶ EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles
- ▶ Updated EU consumer rules to empower consumers for the green transition
- ▶ Revision of Construction Products Regulation

AUTUMN PACKAGE

(30 November)

- Policy framework on bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics
- Revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive
- Proposal for a Regulation on an EU certification for carbon removals

Implementation: Phase III

Critical Raw Materials Act, March 15 2023

- Increase and diversify critical raw materials supply, strengthen circularity, foster resilience and support research and innovation.

Green claims initiative, March 22 2023

- Legislative initiative covering voluntary green claims made on products, services and organisations in the EU.

Legislative proposal on the 'Right to Repair', March 22 2023

- Incentives and tools to consumers to use goods for a longer time, including by repairing defective goods.

What's to come in 2023

Revision of the Monitoring Framework for the Circular Economy

- Update and include new indicators

Revision of rules on end-of-life vehicles (ELVs)

- to encourage the car industry to adopt more sustainable design and production models via improved collection, treatment and recycling of ELVs.

Targeted revision of the Waste Framework Directive (WFD)

- Focus on textiles and food waste streams, to reduce waste generation and improve waste collection, in line with the EU's circular ambitions.

Initiative addressing unintentional release of microplastics

Towards a global circular economy



Leading efforts at global level to:

Keep resource use within planetary boundaries

Decouple global economic growth from resource use

Promote jobs creation within and outside the EU

An agenda to promote CE at bilateral, regional and multilateral level, including through development & international cooperation programmes

Kick-start negotiations for a Global agreement on plastics

At UNEA 5.2, March 2022, resolution adopted to fight pollution by forging an internationally binding agreement by 2024

Global Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency Alliance

Launched 02/2021

UNEA 5.1



CE in free trade agreements

Outreach activities - i.a. Circular Economy Missions

Ongoing

Initiate discussions for a global agreement on natural resource management + 'Safe operating space' for natural resource use



['Leading the way to a global circular economy: state of play and outlook'](#)

Stakeholder engagement

#CEstakeholderEU

European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform

A joint initiative by the European Commission and the European Economic and Social Committee

- **Advancing the circular economy concept on the ground**
- **Strengthening cooperation among stakeholders' networks**

representatives of networks of businesses, civil society and local, regional and national public authorities



Submit your own good practices, knowledge, strategies and voluntary commitments!

Link to website: <http://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/>

Learn more & Keep in touch



[Circular economy action plan \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)



[@EU_ENV](https://twitter.com/EU_ENV)



[@EUEnvironment](https://www.facebook.com/EUEnvironment)



[EU Environment and Climate](https://www.linkedin.com/company/eu-environment-and-climate)



[ourplanet_eu](https://www.instagram.com/ourplanet_eu)



[Emmanuelle. MAIRE@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Emmanuelle.MAIRE@ec.europa.eu)

Thank you



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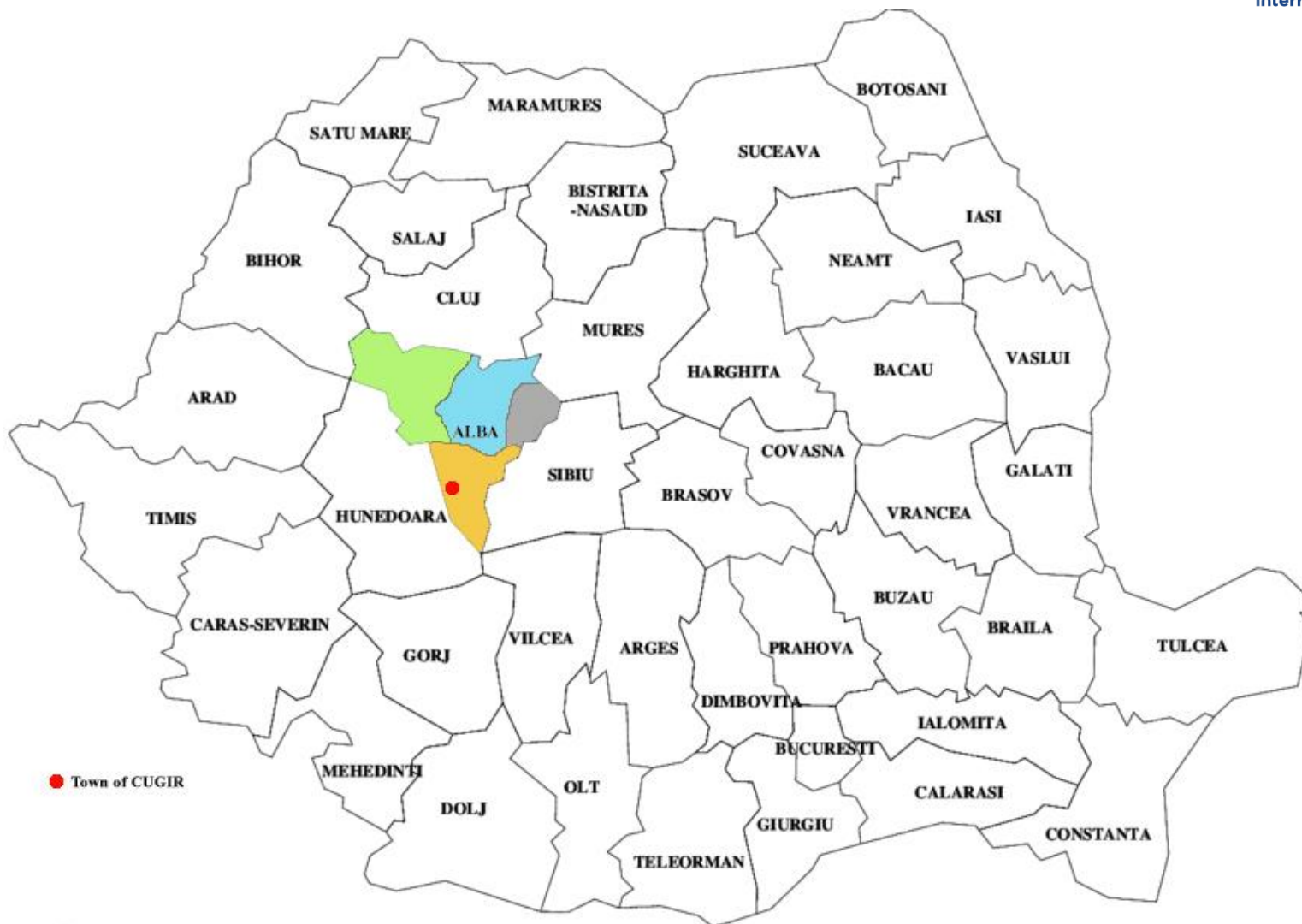


The cooperation between research and territories on circular economy at the EU level

Taking forward the European Green Deal and the EU's Circular economy Action plan



Adrian Ovidiu Teban, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, Member of COTER Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget, and Mayor of Cugir



View of circular economy

We need, locally, a consistent view of the overall aim of a circular economy:

- Transitioning out of a ‘take, make, dispose’ linear model;
- Creating a system that allows for longevity, optimal use, refurbishment, remanufacturing and recycling of products and materials while maintaining a continuation of quality of products for the users, which can be achieved without loss of revenue or extra costs

Principles of Circular Economy:

1. Design pollution and waste out of the system (Ex.: “Pay for what you throw away”)
2. Keep material and products in use at optimal level (Long term shot in our towns, moreover in Central and Eastern Europe)
3. Build and restore natural capital and regenerate natural systems (Ex.: mountain policies, ecosystem services etc.).



Role of research for a local public authority and for an elected representative and CoR Member

The Committee of the Regions offers large informational support for the rapporteurs and members from a very large **library** well established in the last 25 years – information on policy and legislative work.

CoR can also call on the help of **external experts** to create scientific studies on certain topics of interest.

In addition to studies published by the CoR, the **European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS)** also produces briefings and analyses relating to and supporting the CoR's consultative work, following a Cooperation Agreement between the European Committee of the Regions and the European Parliament from 2014.

Finally, a rapporteur benefits from the services of **one or more experts**, plus a wide array of data studies provided by stakeholders during the elaboration of a report or opinion.

Contributions of local authorities to the European Green Deal

Implementing the European Green Deal in local communities encompasses:

- New legislative efforts as well as revisions of existing acts and policy instruments within the local councils.
- Some initiatives, such as the European Climate Pact, invite citizens to get directly involved in the implementation of the European Green Deal in their communities.
- Due to different starting points and political profiles, many cities and regions do not always agree on the proposed measures.
- There is a gap between the population's perceptions on what climate change mitigation and adaptation presupposes and the actual policies.
- We need to involve citizens and raise the level of awareness of all projects related to the Green Deal: **communication + public involvement** are necessary.
- The transition will be long and difficult, therefore we must take into account local social issues related to Just Transition, technological neutrality, and financially balanced measures in order for the Green Deal policies to be duly accepted and understood at local level.

Role of local entrepreneurs in moving forward circular economy

Locally, there will be significant changes in businesses' behaviour, focused on **encouraging investments in the market's green and sustainable direction**.

The energy system will become acquainted with a decarbonizing process by using renewable sources, creating a smart infrastructure, and reducing waste – an effort shared together with local authorities.

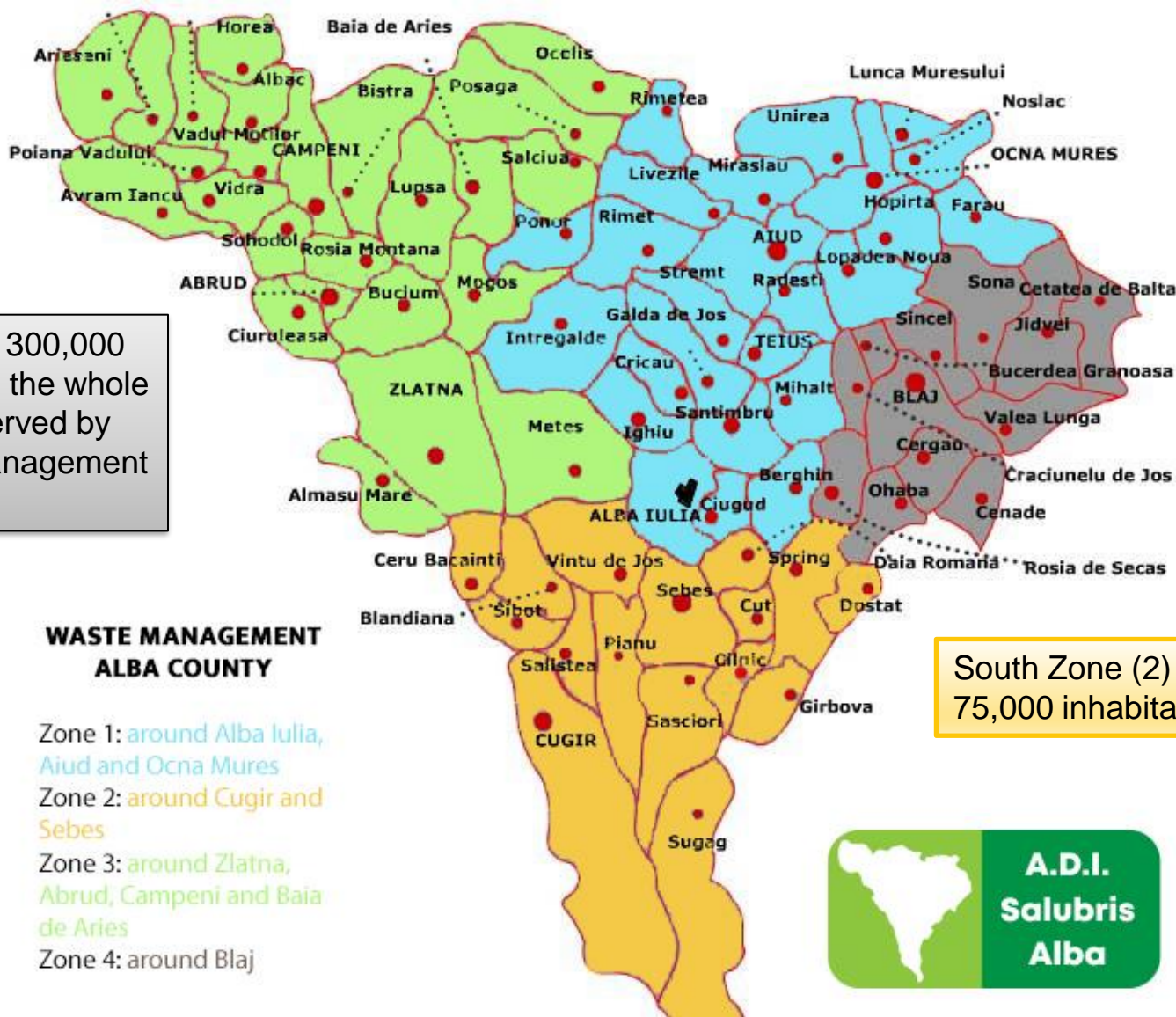
Local authorities should reconsider their own energy plans – think of designing energy communities – and reassess their mobility plans.

The industries must be transformed, given that a significant part of pollution is related to industry.

A new circular-economy action plan, which includes sustainable-product policies, must be proposed in collaboration with entrepreneurs. They must design **local projects aiming at reparations, renewing, re-use, recycling will be designed; also, develop local businesses to prolong products' life and apply the cradle to cradle principle**.

Public information campaign carried out by authority + entrepreneurs for reducing **“greenwashing”** and digitalization tools are mandatory.

Waste management zoning in Alba County



Aproximately 300,000 inhabitants in the whole county are served by the waste management system.

South Zone (2) numbers 75,000 inhabitants.

WASTE MANAGEMENT ALBA COUNTY

- Zone 1: around Alba Iulia, Aiud and Ocna Mures
- Zone 2: around Cugir and Sebes
- Zone 3: around Zlatna, Abrud, Campeni and Baia de Aries
- Zone 4: around Blaj



A collaborative view of circular economy

SALUBRIS Alba is an Intercommunity Development Association and was established for the implementation of the new integrated waste system, in 2009 in Alba county. It includes all the administrative-territorial units of the county. In order to implement the Integrated Waste Management System, Alba County was divided into operational zones and sub-zones as shown in the previous slide.

The Association was established for the purpose of establishing, organizing, financing, exploiting, monitoring and joint management of sanitation services within the competence of the member administrative-territorial units, as well as the joint implementation of public investment projects of zonal or regional interest.



A local view of circular economy. Case of Cugir

Target for waste collection: 40%

Current rate of collection in urban area: 32%

Rate of collection in rural areas: 23%

"Pay for what you throw away":

- Cugir Town Hall implemented 59 selective collection points, with limited access, for the people living in neighbourhoods;
- new platforms have been created to meet the practical needs of the population;
- Selective Collection Point, where almost any type of waste can be handed for free, the basic condition being that one brings it selected according to its type.

Voluntary collection centers: in addition to the classic pet, paper, rubble, textiles, there is in the making a center for organic waste/compost. The center is approved - currently it is under construction. Further approval: operational costs.



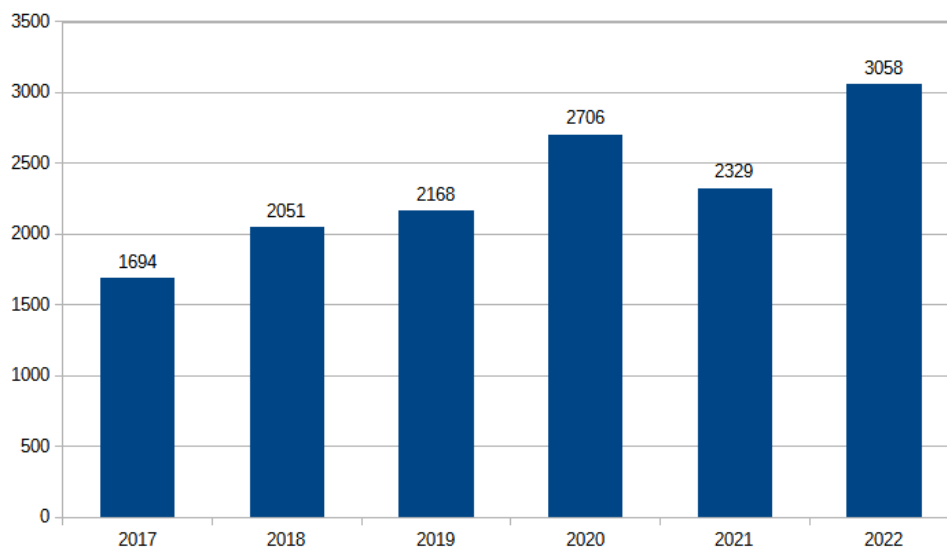
A local view of circular economy. Case of Cugir (2)

Situation in 2022:

- A total of 7377 Tons were collected from the population and from the public domain,
- 4319 Tons were stored in authorized dumps,
- 3058 Tons were recyclable and utilizable in different forms, of which waste paper, cardboard , plastics, PET, iron, glass.

During 2022, the operator that manages the waste collection organized in Cugir and Vinerea 2 bulky waste and hazardous waste collection campaigns, in Quarter II and IV, in 2 locations in Cugir and one location in Vinerea (dependent village).

Evolution of recyclable waste over the last years:





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European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Thank you!



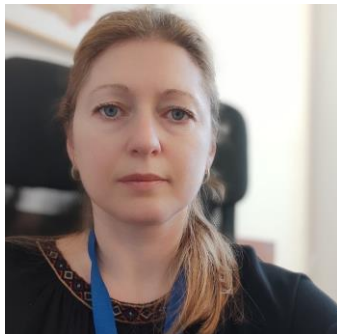
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The cooperation between research and territories on circular economy at the EU level

Conversation 1 - Launching a circular living lab, the Fjildlab



Emiel Elferink, Professor in Sustainable Soil Management, Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences



Ovidia Simona Caba, Director of Regional Policies and Programs Unit, Regional Development Agency Centru

Northeast Fryslân Region

Facts

- 1 province, 1 water board, 4 municipalities
- 3 knowledge institutes >1.000 farmers, 1.200 entrepreneurs 120.000 inhabitants

Challenges

- National landscape: requires different earning models
- Population: declining, aging, braindrain
- Economics: low incomes, high assistance, low GRP
- Environment: climate change, biodiversity, SDG's

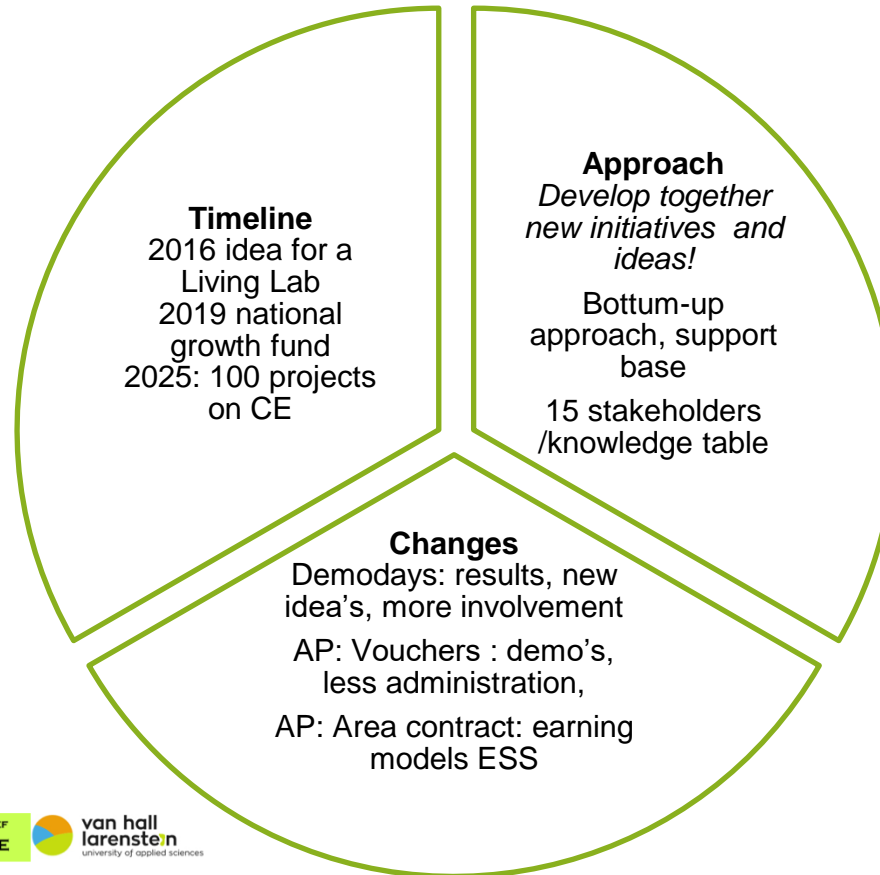


Collaboration and innovation needed



Circular economy as one unifying concept for sustainability

A living lab for the strengthening of the circular economy and a sustainable agricultural sector in Northeast Fryslân



Centru Region

Facts

6 counties, 34.100 kmp - 2,3 million inhabitants (2021)
57% urbanization rate – 57 urban areas (25 are former monoindustrial cities)
GDP/capita: 20 100 euros, in 2020; 3rd region at national level (67% EU)
Industrial decline after 1990 and population decrease

Challenges

- Difficulties for authorities in managing industrial landscape
- Insufficient green spaces/inhabitant
- Climate change impact on landscape/community
- Compliance with Green Deal targets for 2023
- Insufficient collaboration/involvement/consultation of stakeholders in designing solutions for circular economy

Goals

- Consolidate the capacity of local stakeholders in strategic and integrated planning
- Support models of collaboration: energy efficiency, urban regeneration, green infrastructure, blue infrastructure, green spaces



Need to insure better living conditions for citizens

RO-NL BILATERAL MEETING

Exchange know-how and share experience with the Dutch COLOR CIRCLE partners on the Fjildlab initiative

Several meetings with VHL leading to RDA Centru action plan : support the development of a living lab in Centru Region Romania

1 Action plan – Setting-up 5 working groups on the following themes and reinforcing the Regional programme

Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions Green infrastructure, Blue infrastructure, Green spaces ,Urban Regeneration

Next step

- 1 concept note,
- 1 innovative project involving both academia and public organisation for submission under the strategic project developed under ROP Centru and integrating the results of the meeting into the guidelines, ensuring stakeholders participation, according to EU's partnership and multi-level governance principles

For more information please visit <https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/colorcircle/>

The cooperation between research and territories on circular economy at the EU level

Conversation 2 – Supporting SMEs in adopting circular principles



Justine Bettinger, Policy officer responsible for cross-cutting projects and partnerships, Bourgogne-Franche-Comté



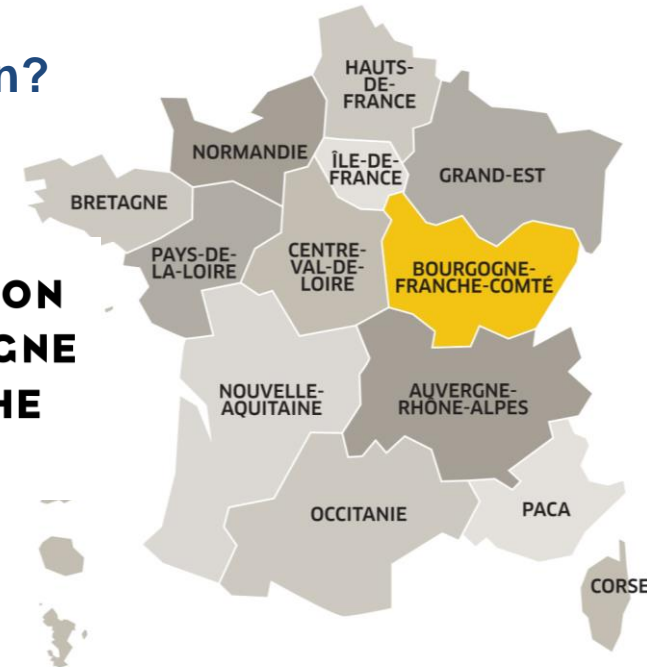
Jakub Pechlat, Regional Innovation Strategy Manager, the Central Bohemian Innovation Center

The Circular economy project booster

What is at stake in Burgundy-Franche-Comté Region?

- High level of resources consumption and waste production
- Sobriety and efficiency in the use of resources: top priorities
- Promoting repaired and recycled products in local authority purchasing policies
- Improve understanding of the various dimensions of circular economy

REGION
BOURGOGNE
FRANCHE
COMTE



The regional circular economy roadmap (FREC), June 2020

- ▶ **4 principles:** preservation of resources, sobriety and efficiency in the use of resources, substitution of non-renewable resources
- ▶ Involving and federating all actors of the territory to guarantee a **general mobilization** on the field of circular economy

The Circular Economy project booster

Why joining the COLOR Circle project?

- ▶ Strengthen the links between research and circular economy approaches
- ▶ Create a network of local stakeholders
- ▶ Foster new projects to emerge
- ▶ Boost the implementation of the regional circular economy roadmap (FREC)



Our action plan – main goals

- ▶ Connecting research actors and local territories under the FREC
- ▶ Bring project holders into FREC's operational tools and improve its implementation
- ▶ **Main topics** of interest: zero treatment wood and reused wood, bulk and instructions / alternative solutions to packaging, low carbon concrete.

The Circular economy project booster – presentation

- ▶ Set up by the **French Agency for Ecological Transition** (ADEME) and the Burgundy-Franche-Comté Region in 2018



- ▶ **Main goals:** accelerate the identification & implementation of projects related to circular economy and waste prevention, develop synergies between different regional actors
- ▶ **Types of projects supported:** studies, animation, investments, buildings



188 supported projects

(over 376 received)

*46% from private companies
31% from associations*



38 million euros granted

The Circular economy project booster - project examples

2^{nde}
Chance



Eco-designed and returnable sneakers

Young Start Up – Second chance (Côte-d'Or Département)

2021

- **Feasibility study** for: design & environmental assessment and eco-design action plan (€8,911)
- Incubation at DECA-BFC **business incubator**
- **Marketing and digital strategy** (support by the CREGO Laboratory - UB) and creation of a **website** (€81,651)



2023

Launch of
the shoe
range



2020

Selected in the
BFC circular
economy call
for projects



2022

Launch of
manufacturing

Loans contracted

(Initiative 21 - entreprendre
Bourgogne network -
Bpifrance - BFC Region)



The Circular economy project booster - project examples

Construction of an exemplary building in a cradle-to-cradle approach, using

reused, local and bio sourced materials

Sas le Cédre (Paray le Monial)

Main goal: build a new building to welcome 50 new employees



2021
Selected in the BFC circular economy call for projects

2022
Support for cradle-to-cradle design and reuse studies (€29,228)

Support for investments: €600,000 out of €3 million

2023
Launch of the construction

Main building characteristics - passive building:

- Reinforced building envelope
- Renewable energy
- Elimination of plastics, glues, toxic products
- Construction processes allowing dismantling at end of life
- Use of recycled materials
- Rainwater recovery device
- Conservation of trees and revegetation of the site
- Parking spaces divided by 2
- ...

The Circular economy project booster – lessons learned

- A **readable and accessible system** for project holders, (joint ADEME / Region call for projects)
- A **flexible system** providing **personalized support** to project holders
- **Improved governance:**
 - ❖ Consolidation of the **transversality** across the different working sectors of the Regional council
 - ❖ Consolidation of the **partnership** with the ADEME
- A help for **structuring sectors** (bulk, deposit, packaging, electronic waste and equipment, construction waste, bicycles, textiles, furniture, culture, etc.)
- Clarification of the **regional council's positioning on waste**



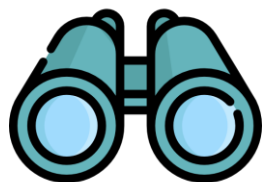
The Circular Economy project booster – lessons to be shared

Effects of the COLOR Circle project

- For **our organization**: increased transversality ; strengthened collaboration around the regional circular economy roadmap
- For **our network**: better knowledge of the actors engaged in circular economy, sharing good practices, common issues and establishing new links



Perspectives



- **Evaluation of the project booster impacts**: territorial impacts, employment, material savings and waste reduction
- A need to clarify and **secure emerging economic models** related to circular economy activities
- Will to **identify pilot territories** to roll out actions in the areas of circular economy, waste reduction, eco-materials

The cooperation between research and territories on circular economy at the EU level

Conversation 2 – Supporting SMEs in adopting circular principles



Jakub Pechlat, Regional Innovation Strategy Manager, the Central Bohemian Innovation Center



Justine Bettinger, Policy officer responsible for cross-cutting projects and partnerships, Bourgogne-Franche-Comté

Central Bohemian Region

Facts

In the course of the implementation of the COLOR CIRCLE project, the circular economy was included in the RIS3 strategy as another horizontal theme. The updated RIS3 Strategy was approved by the Regional Assembly. The Central Bohemian Innovation Center started to develop possible pilot projects that were supposed to become parts of the Color Circle's and/or RIS3 Strategy's action plans and be implemented in 2022 and 2023.

Circular Economy Action Plan for the Central Bohemia Region

Action plan is about Consultancy Programme for SMEs in the field of Circular Economy: regional entrepreneurs can get advisory services in areas of business development, organization, cooperation and finances. As a part to RIS3 policy development, circular economy theme was added as a new topic to this programme.

Added value of the project for the region

- Including circular economy to the RIS3 strategy → better management of the local governance of resources in this area
- Increase the awareness of the circular economy in the region

Adapting a good practice from another region

Good practices adopted

- Circular itineraries using biomimetic canvas (Spain) - Service for SMEs supporting their uptake of circular economy principles.
- The circular economy project booster: a regional call for proposals to support local CE projects (France) - Programme to support local initiatives and projects to use CE principles and raise awareness.

Criteria for good practices adopted

- Transferability to regional conditions
- Suitable organizations (i.e. owners/guarantors) for implementation
- Relevance to chosen policy instrument's (RIS3 strategy) objective and availability of funds for implementation

Expected results of the pilot call

- 300,000 CZK (€12,000) for the pilot call – provision of up to 200 hrs of expert services
- 3 – 8 supported SMEs

First companies supported in our pilot

- **Fair&Bio** – complete analysis of their production operations and to adapt their company culture
- **Classic Oil** – consultations in the preparation of a new communication strategy
- **Art Carbon** – communication strategy for the sale of a circular water purifier
- **Ecom** – analyze their production and set priorities for improvement in future ESG reporting

The cooperation between research and territories on circular economy at the EU level

Conversation 3 - Enabling students to match the research needs of academic institutions with the priorities of territories



Hanna Uma Laufer, Project leader “1000 doctorants pour les territoires”, HESAM Université



Trinidad Manrique de Lara Vílchez, Technician on European Projects, Provincial Council of Granada

Granada Province – Provincial Council

Facts

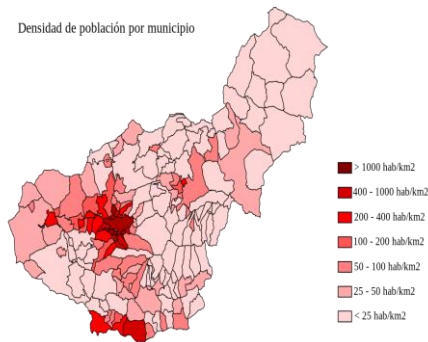
- 174 town councils
- 71% construction companies – 13% agricultural companies – 9% industrial companies – 7% services companies
- Promote a balanced, sustainable development of the territory

Challenges

- Depopulation and ageing (specially in rural areas)
- Unbalanced distribution of population

Action plan

- Goal : bringing together territorial needs and expert knowledge, paying attention to circular economy approach, in order to improve urban agendas of the province of Granada
- Action 1 : PUENTES (“Bridges”) - extracurricular internship program through which master’s degree students design/implement projects of the Local Urban Agendas of the provincial territory
- Action 2 : “IMPRONTA GRANADA” linking University and Territory - service of the University to attend needs of municipalities that are implementing an urban agenda



Overview of first results and self-reflection

Some good surprises

- The **living labs** launched around some of the challenges identified in the urban agendas. They are the result of the collaboration between the County Council (territory) and the University of Granada. Such collaboration implies also the participation of several stakeholders to connect need and knowledge
- The creation of « **Impronta Granada** », initially foreseen to improve the provincial urban agendas but that can easily be turned into a **general framework** to exchange knowledge by both institutions.

Added value

- New tools to allow a closer collaboration University - territory: improvement of the urban agendas and other local policy instruments
- More accessibility of information to allow local entities to play a greater role in the introduction of the circular economy approach.
 - **Changes which are directly connected to the project:**
 - Improvement of the policy instrument
 - Tools for a new territorial governance where university and other center of knowledge can play a role in the design of public policies.

Comments by the panel experts

European views of local actions



Emmanuelle Maire, Head of Unit for Circular Economy, sustainable products and consumption, Directorate General for Environment, European Commission



Adrian Ovidiu Teban, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, Member of COTER Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget, and Mayor of Cugir

Q&A SESSION

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 2: CREATING AN ECOSYSTEM INVOLVING ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO IMPLEMENT CIRCULAR ECONOMY

New challenges ahead of circular economy and peer-learning, as well as cohesion policy

Moderator



Jordana A. Harriss, Head of Advocacy - Sustainable Cities and Territories, WWF France

New challenges ahead of circular economy and peer-learning, as well as cohesion policy



Ludek Benes, deputy mayor of the municipality Dymokury



Esteban Romero-Frías, Director for Participation and Social Innovation and of the Research Laboratory for Digital Culture and Society, University of Granada



Jerome Friedrichs, Policy officer, the European Association of Development Agen



Pieter van der Valk, entrepreneur, Agricycling



Raluca Rijnita, researcher, IRCEM - Institute for Research in Circular Economy and Environment "Ernest Lupan"



Iryna Veryzhenko, researcher, Le Cnam

CONCLUSION

Closing speech



Michel Terré, President of HESAM Université



**COLOR
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European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Thank you!

Questions welcome



#InterregCOLORCIRCLE