

Comparative report on situational analysis of re-use initiatives

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1. Introduction to the 2LIFES project

The 2LIFES project has the major aim to accelerate Europe's entry into the era of re-use. While the European Union has promoted the Waste Hierarchy as the way forward, a significant portion of re-usable products is still prematurely recycled and even incinerated or landfilled. According to UN Environment, 50% of all carbon emissions are caused by the extraction and processing of natural resources (UN Environment, 2019). That is why the European Commission underlines the need for the EU to "strive to reduce its consumption footprint and double its circular material use rate in the coming decade" (European Commission, 2020: p. 4). Therefore, re-use requires a boost to expand across Europe.

This project brings together cities and regions in the backing of re-use. The main expected results are the development of new channels, infrastructures and protocols for re-use, as well as exchange of best practices to enable policy learning and step-up re-use. Awareness-raising of households, businesses and administrations will also be needed. Finally, green jobs around re-use initiatives are also expected.

An initial situational analysis to map re-use activities in all partners' cities and regions was necessary to adequately assess the departure point and monitor its evolution over time. This report will compare the six "Situational Analysis of Re-use Initiatives" reports produced by the partners of the 2LIFES regarding their city or region. EMULSA and RREUSE cooperated to create the guidelines and templates for the partner cities and regions, with the overall goal to map existing initiatives and policy frameworks, thus identifying uncovered gaps and underdeveloped possibilities to promote re-use in these territories.

In practice, the partners proceeded in different manners. Two of the partners drafted a report about the issue, whilst two others filled in a survey to provide a general overview. Finally, two partners developed publicly available online maps showing all relevant re-use initiatives in their territories (for instance, EMULSA developed a map of sustainable businesses in Gijon working in the second-hand, repair, re-use or rental sector). Regional stakeholders were key to gather accurate information and prepare these comprehensive materials.

Finally, it must be added that the methodology used for this situational analysis could be easily replicated in other European contexts. The collection of best practices in re-use in the framework of the 2LIFES project, as well as the comparative report on psychosocial barriers affecting re-use, are also key materials that will help set policy frameworks and incentives to promote re-use, an essential strategy to prevent waste and implement the waste hierarchy.

2. Portraits of 2LIFES partners

EMULSA, Municipal Company of Urban Environment Services of Gijon (Gijón, Spain) is the lead partner of the project. It is a municipal public enterprise that has been directly managing urban waste management in this city since 1978. Its competencies include designing the waste management strategy besides the municipality and executing the waste management plans in force. It is in charge of daily collection and transport to landfills. It is also responsible for citizen awareness-raising campaigns to promote the selective collection of waste and correct environmental behaviour. EMULSA will contribute with its experience in waste management and its specific expertise in waste prevention and re-use. This experience and business model can be extrapolated to the other partners, thus improving their own management models.

Figure 1: Map of 2LIFES partners



Gijón has recently approved the Municipal Waste Management Plan of Gijon 2017-2022, which establishes the strategic lines for waste management in the city of Gijon for the coming years. Whilst EMULSA efforts have primarily focused on recycling until recently, the Municipal Waste Management Plan in force since 2017 focuses to a great extent upon prevention and re-use. The specific priority in the Municipal Waste Management Plan is to “reduce waste generated and foster re-use”. The Municipal Waste Management Plan of Gijon 2017-2022 is expected to be improved thanks to the project through the development of projects promoting re-use inspired in the cooperation, which will further develop the Plan’s approach for re-use.

Aarhus Waste and Heat Reuse (Aarhus, Denmark) is also a local public authority. The Municipality of Aarhus has set up long-term goals towards a vision where the municipality shall be climate neutral within the year 2030. Intending to achieve this objective, the city has implemented several profound and successful initiatives concerning housing, transport, industries and other sectors, including the waste sector. The big challenge now is involving and making the citizens act. The ReUse Centre has been a pilot project for three years and a small step in the right direction, showing how to make the circular economy work in action. It is an innovative space for recycling, upcycling and progressive waste management. Any citizen can pick up prime bulky items for free, therefore preventing them from becoming waste and saving resources and CO2 emissions. Citizens also contribute with their bulky unwanted items. It is more than just an exchange space: it aims to change citizens views and perceptions of waste, therefore hosting exhibitions, events and courses on waste.

Consequently, it has been a decisive space to work upon re-use involving citizens. The Aarhus Municipality has approved a six years extension, thus making Aarhus ReUse evolve from being a pilot project to a fully operational project. Aarhus Waste and Heat Reuse P/A will contribute by providing the knowledge of daily waste management in Aarhus and the specific experience of The ReUse Centre - where the other project partners can come and get inspired.

KRWMC, Klaipeda Regional Waste Management Centre (Klaipeda, Lithuania) is an infrastructure and public service provider. It is a critical institution in the Klaipeda Region responsible for the mixed municipal waste processing strategy, which envisages the improvement of this policy instrument through new re-use projects inspired in other partner regions. The new projects expected in the Klaipeda Region will focus mainly on the creation of a repair and exchange system for worn out household goods and second-hand, the conditioning of “spaces” using the existing infrastructure (bulk stations) serving for exchanges regarding re-use, or the creation of specific IT protocols for re-use of WEEEs/clothes /furniture/books, thus improving existing collection mechanisms and processes. KRWMC will contribute to the project by providing best practices and practical information regarding the initiatives aforementioned, already in place.

ANEL, Nicosia Development Agency (Nicosia, Cyprus) is a public agency. It aims to identify existing good practices in the field and transform them into new local projects developed supported by the OP framework and resources. Moreover, the Department of Environment of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment (which is the responsible body for waste management policymaking on a national level as well as the

intermediary body for the implementation of the selected policy instrument) is in the process of establishing synergies with the local authorities and the private sector to boost re-use. Whilst several NGOs operating in the district of Nicosia already apply and promote a wide array of re-use activities, they are not eligible to be financed under the identified policy instrument. Therefore, ANEL will look for examples in the partner regions showing practical cooperation of different local stakeholders for the development of holistic re-use projects

KDRIÜ Central Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency Nonprofit (Székesfehérvár, Hungary) is a regional public agency established by the decision of the government. It covers the Central Transdanubia region of Hungary. It deals with innovation planning and services, project development and network management. Its core focus is to establish and maintain a network of regional services based on the cooperation of different service providers, including universities, businesses, and the public community. Its experience in waste management includes involvement in the drafting of the regional capital's waste management strategy; agreement with the biggest waste management company in the region to jointly develop awareness-raising; cooperation with ten municipalities on waste management initiatives; and the development of a project on re-use and recycle for primary schools (with support of cities). The agency also has experience regarding construction waste. CTRIA will contribute through the provision of GPs in re-use, mainly expertise in plastic re-use and re-use in construction and with its experience in the organization of awareness-raising events.

Marche Region (Ancona, Italy) is a regional public authority. This region put in place in 2015 a plan (the "Regional Waste Management Plan") that included a "Regional Program of Waste Prevention (RPWP)". The responsible authority for the Plan is the Regional Council of the Marche Region. The general objectives are to achieve optimal performance in terms of integrated management of municipal waste. The Regional Programme of Waste Prevention (RPWP) aims specifically at preventing the production of urban waste, focusing on prevention activities in the region, identifying Waste Fractions prevention priorities, setting strategic objectives, influencing permanent changes in behaviour, planning activities and monitoring activities. Through 2LIFES an optimized implementation of the Regional Waste Management Plan is expected, with particular attention to the promotion of a public re-use network centres.

RREUSE Reuse and Recycling European Union Social Enterprises (Brussels, Belgium) is an international non-profit network representing approximately 850 social enterprises active in the field of re-use, repair and recycling. RREUSE strives to help promote a legislative framework that enables the development of re-use centres and networks, especially those

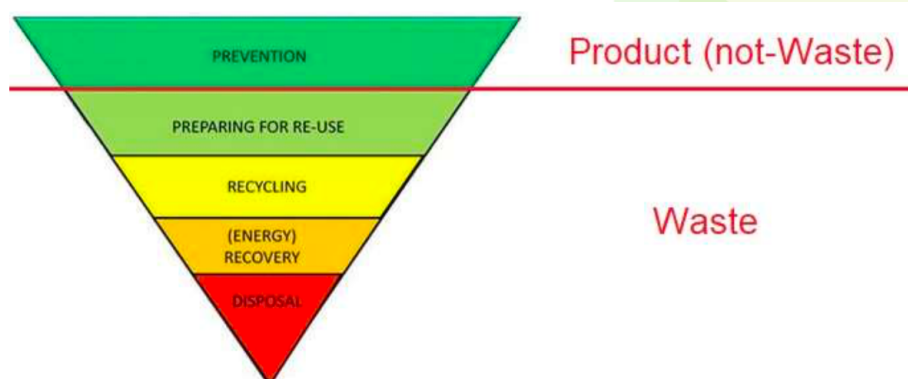
operated as social economy enterprises, leading to local green and inclusive job creation. Moreover, they aim to influence policy proposals on employment conditions, social rights and inclusion, and link them to the circular economy debates. Since its creation in 2001, RREUSE has been involved in numerous EU projects, the majority of which focus(ed) on supporting the re-use both from a practical and policy perspective. In these projects, RREUSE has primarily provided expertise from its network and often support in communications. An overview of these projects can be found on RREUSE's website, including the Life+ LoWaste Project, which was selected as one of the top 5 outstanding Life projects from the programme's 25-year history. As an advisory partner, RREUSE will be in charge of providing expertise to the partnership at various stages in the project.

3. Re-use legislation and policy frameworks in Europe and partner regions

3.1. Legislation on EU level

The basic concepts and definitions of waste management are presented in the European Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC. This document describes end-of-waste criteria clarifying at what point waste ceases to be waste and becomes a secondary raw material, laying down basic waste management principles which should be applied in the EU Member States according to the waste hierarchy. It is also essential to understand the difference between waste and by-products.

Figure 2: Visual representation of the Waste Hierarchy



Re-use centres are active mainly on the top of the waste hierarchy in re-use and preparing for re-use. However, the difference between these two concepts should be clarified:

- Re-use means any operation by which products or components that are not waste are used again for the same purpose for which they were conceived
- Preparing for re-use means checking, cleaning or repairing recovery operations, by which products or components of products that have become waste are prepared so that they can be re-used without any other pre-processing.

However, in practice, whether an object is considered as waste or product depends on national or local legislation. For example an object donated to a charity shop is typically outside of the waste regime and must be considered a key element of waste prevention. However, the same object collected in a municipal waste collection point is in most cases legally considered as waste. Even if the products have similar qualities (in some cases, it is difficult to draw a line between these two regimes), this difference has massive repercussions for re-use and preparation for re-use operators.

The European Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC requires Member States to adopt waste management and waste prevention programmes. They are also required to attain certain outcomes within a given time frame whilst setting up systems to ensure targets are met. For instance, the current Waste Framework Directive sets a minimum mark of 55 % of municipal waste (by weight) to be prepared for re-use and recycled by 2025.

However, while the Directive calls on Member States to promote re-use and preparation for re-use activities, notably by encouraging the establishment of re-use and repair networks, no separate target for re-use and preparation for re-use activities, away from recycling, has been established. The current combined target for preparing for re-use and recycling allows Member States to fulfil the obligation only by focusing on the latter and does not stimulate the development of the preparation for re-use sector. Therefore, there are large amounts of re-usable objects ending up in the waste stream.

In 2018, the updated Waste Framework Directive was issued. One of the key changes brought by this version was the obligation for the Member States to report their preparing for re-use rates separately from recycling rates, as well as monitoring data regarding re-use. Moreover, by 2024, the European Commission must look into the feasibility of setting separate quantitative targets for re-use and preparation for re-use. This would allow an increase in re-use rates, since according to estimates, 1/3 of all material arriving at recycling centres and civic amenity sites are being prematurely disposed of or recycled, since they still have significant re-use value. Re-use targets could also help create partnerships between re-use and preparing for

re-use actors and other stakeholders to achieve such targets whilst creating green jobs for vulnerable groups.

The last critical development in waste management and circular economy policy was the much-anticipated Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP), published in 2020. This action plan included some proposals such as using value-added tax (VAT) rates to promote repair services, boost textiles re-use as a key pillar of the future EU Strategy for Textiles, or the explicit recognition and support for the role of social enterprises in the circular economy, which was a step in the good direction regarding promoting an inclusive and just circular transition, according to RREUSE¹, the European association of re-use and repair social enterprises.

RREUSE has put forward a number of suggestions to support the sector and promote the circular economy. One of them, already mentioned, is setting a separate preparing for re-use target away from recycling. While there are large amounts of re-usable objects ending up in the waste stream, one of the most significant obstacles for preparing for re-use operators is to get access to discarded goods which are still re-useable and save them from being prematurely recycled, incinerated or landfilled. A separate target for preparing for re-use would stimulate cooperation among the waste management actors in order to reach that objective. Some countries and regions in Europe took their own initiative and introduced separate targets to support re-use. Spain introduced a separate preparing for re-use target for furniture, textiles, electricals, and other suitable goods. In Belgium, the Flemish region set a per capita re-use target. Similarly, the Walloon region introduced a separate target for preparing for re-use of waste electrical and electronic equipment.

Another critical aspect of the current waste proposals is setting rules for implementing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). EPR is a market based instrument to help implement EU waste legislation, including a complete application of the waste hierarchy. RREUSE believes that EPR schemes should be financially responsible for the entire lifecycle of a product and priorities waste prevention and preparing for re-use activities. However, EPR rarely supports waste prevention or re-use activities and can even bring restrictions for re-use centres to access re-usable items. Nevertheless, in Europe there are examples of EPR schemes working with social economy actors on promoting re-use, such as in Belgium or France.

¹ Circular Economy Action Plan: A socially inclusive vision with re-use and repair at heart (Available [here](#)).

3.2. Legislation in 2LIFES partners' regions

The previous section showed that the European Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC requires Member States to adopt waste management and waste prevention programmes. In turn, Member States can also delegate this responsibility to regional or local authorities, depending on the specificities of each country (even though all Member States must transpose European legislation to the national legislation, and usually set at least framework policies to be developed by regional and local authorities).

Therefore, this section's purpose is not to explain how EU-wide legislation has been transposed to Member States, but rather show the specificities of public financial support, legislative measures, and regulatory approach towards re-use in 2LIFES partners' regions.

ANEL (Nicosia, Cyprus) and AffaldVarme (Central Region, Denmark) highlighted some indirect regulation, but no specific measures on re-use. For instance, while Danish legislation observes the waste hierarchy (not in vain, it's included in various clauses in the Danish Waste Ordinance), therefore prioritizing waste prevention, preparation for re-use, and recycling, no comprehensive measures have been taken to promote re-use specifically.

Region Marche (Italy) and CTRIA (Central Transdanubia, Hungary) pointed out instead that there were regulations tailored to re-use and preparation for re-use underway. In Italy, re-use is considered to fall within the waste prevention sphere, as it concerns goods that are still in the status of "product", and not "waste". Since the National Waste Prevention Program aims to decouple growth from environmental impacts, it identifies re-use as one of the six vital general measures towards waste reduction: this is why Regional Waste Management Plans must set prevention targets, therefore undertaking efforts to promote re-use. A similar situation can be observed in Hungary, where legislation supports the preparation of waste for re-use and the networking of re-use and repair systems through legal, economic, and technical means, setting criteria for products to be re-used, and setting quantified targets. Hence, a certification system for re-use centres is being developed, along with establishing these centres and measures to connect them as networks. Moreover, the National Waste Management Plan includes the principle according to which re-use initiatives should be interconnected to social measures, which can be seen as a measure to enshrine the role of social enterprises in the re-use and preparation for re-use sector.

Interestingly enough, while in Nicosia (Cyprus) and Central Region (Denmark) the main actors include public authorities, private businesses and initiatives, and social or charitable

enterprises, in Marche Region (Italy), the main actors are public authorities, social or charitable enterprises, and voluntary initiatives (private businesses and initiatives are thus not a key factor in the re-use operational ecosystem). In contrast, in Hungary most re-use operators are either private businesses or initiatives, or social or charitable enterprises (and therefore, public authorities do not play a vital role on the ground, beyond regulatory efforts).

A similar pattern can be seen regarding financial subsidy options from the government for re-use. While 2LIFES partners in Central Region (Denmark) and Marche Region (Italy) observe significant financial support measures from public authorities, in Nicosia (Cyprus) these support measures are somewhat limited, whilst in Central Transdanubia (Hungary) there are no governmental subsidies for supporting re-use related activities. Therefore, the few existing re-use activities in this region are mainly private (either private businesses or initiatives, or social or charitable enterprises), and in the absence of relevant state support, the issue of re-use legislation implementation is still unresolved.

This situation is completely different in Central Region and Marche Region. For instance, the Danish Environmental Protection Agency manages several programmes where it is possible to apply for grants for waste projects which are related to waste prevention and also re-use and preparation for re-use activities. In Marche Region, regional and local public authorities provide support to Regional Re-use Playgrounds (*Ludoteca Rìù*), which are initiatives that aim to educate children and families to the themes of prevention of waste production and separate waste collection. Authorities in this region have also allocated significant funding to encourage the creation of Re-use Centres (mainly deriving from the special landfill tax by municipalities).

While existing EU-wide legislation has provided in the last decade a boost to discuss and promote re-use and preparation for re-use measures, it must be noted that ambition can be higher: as explained in the previous section, some regions have already implemented re-use and preparation for re-use targets as well as other pioneering measures to boost the sector. These national and regional initiatives can serve as inspiration for the EU and the other Member States and regional and local authorities since these authorities can also go further than European environmental legislation.

4. Re-use initiatives

4.1. Re-use centres and second-hand charity shops

No re-use centres were identified in Central Transdanubia; while there have been some projects, no specific plans or actions have been taken to implement them. Two re-use centres were found in Nicosia (PASYKAF re-use centre & Anakyklos re-use centre), and five or six in the Central Region of Denmark. One example of a re-use centre in this region is RE-USE, a centre located in Aarhus and managed by AffaldVarme, which covers around 2,000 square meters: indeed, all kind of products are collected in this centre.

However, the Italian Marche region stands out regarding the number of re-use centres. Not in vain, the region has promoted the creation of 25 re-use centres across the region, of which 18 are operational at the moment (some of which have been temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic). Regional authorities have issued Regional Guidelines for the management of these centres. It has been estimated that about 12,000 citizens have been involved, saving around 7,000 EUR per year².

Second-hand shops were found quite widespread in all analyzed regions, except in Central Transdanubia (Hungary), where only a few were found (mainly run by non-profit organizations and social cooperatives). In Central Region (Denmark), around 15 second-hand shops were identified only in Aarhus, some owned by private enterprises and others by social enterprises and NGOs. Actually, second-hand shops are trendy in the region and have been functioning for many decades.

Finally, it must be added that all kinds of products can be found in second-hand shops in all areas subject to this situational analysis. Still, textile products (including clothes, shoes, home textiles and other accessories) are particularly popular, even though furniture was a very usual product in Denmark as well. Other typical products are books, household goods, electrical appliances, jewellery, toys, and sports equipment.

4.2. Collection points and types of goods collected

All partners found waste collection points in their regions, also including collection points to collect for re-use. However, these points were relatively small-scale in Central

² Taking as a reference a cost of 180 EUR for every ton of waste to be disposed of.

Transdanubia, where only a few initiatives were found, mainly by non-profits and with no public support. In the public sphere, no waste management organization operates a re-use centre. Landfill centres are located in county seats and collect the rubbish of the surrounding villages and towns. Still, waste is transported to an incinerator for energy valorization and not really for re-use. Furthermore, the collection for re-use initiatives found were located in Budapest, which is near Central Transdanubia, but not part of the region.

In Marche Region, re-use centres, mentioned above, are places where in which citizens can deliver re-usable products that they don't want to use anymore, free of charge. Actually, all re-use centres were found to be located next to a waste collection point, so that citizens going to the waste collection point with the idea to throw away re-usable products can find the Re-use Centre (thus becoming a strategic location for awareness-raising purposes). In the city of Aargus (Denmark), RE-USE receives on a daily basis more than 2 tonnes of products, primarily from 6 other recycling stations. Furthermore, more than 1,200 tonnes of clothes are collected. Finally, around 3,000-3,100 collection points were identified in Cyprus, including public, private and social enterprise initiatives for all kinds of products and purposes.

All kinds of products can be collected in the abovementioned collection points, spanning from toys to batteries and electronics. However, textiles products (especially clothes) and furniture were found to be particularly common.

4.3. Other circular initiatives

While repair cafés and similar repair initiatives were relatively unknown or unexisting in Marche Region, Central Transdanubia and Nicosia, repair cafés are a fast-growing trend in Denmark, including the Central Denmark region. Indeed, many municipalities and institutions organize now repair events in cooperation with civil society organizations, aiming to prevent waste and empower citizens to extend the lifespan of their products. For instance, the city of Aarhus has one permanent Repair Café and three or four recurrent repair events.

Renting, leasing and sharing schemes for products were quite popular in Central Transdanubia, where car rental and equipment rental services are more common. These services include, among others, machines, equipment for housework or serious handicraft, gardening, and cleaning, but also even other common re-use waste streams such as bicycles, sports, clothes, and events equipment. Sharing schemes are prevalent regarding alternative mobility options, but also garden machines in communities.

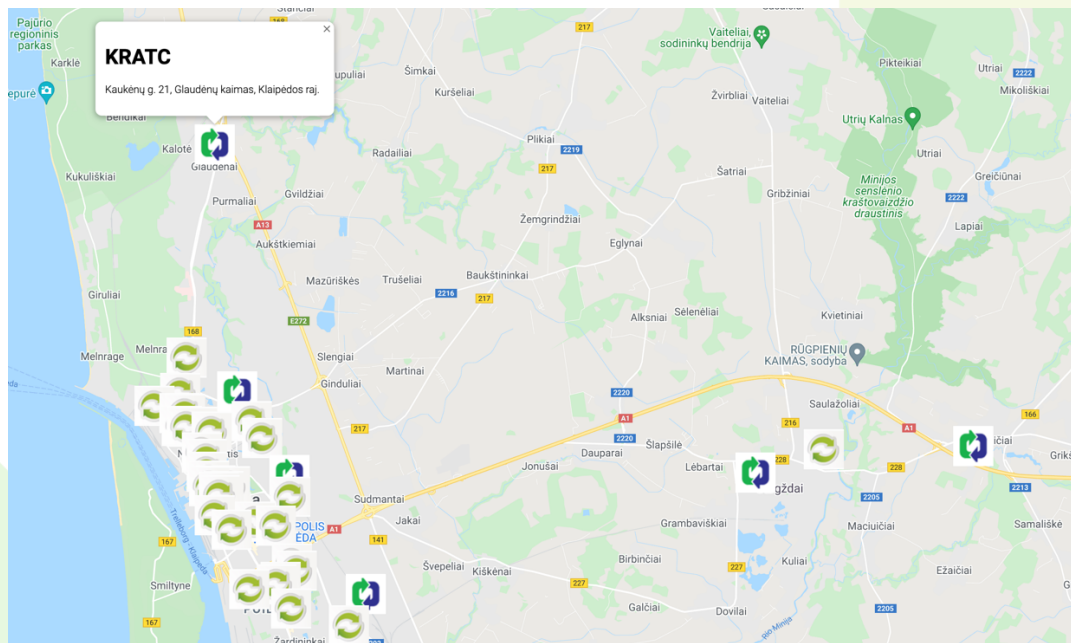
All partners observed the existence of mobile applications, websites or social media groups facilitating the donation or collection of re-usable products, even though these could span from professional applications to Facebook groups created by citizens³. Moreover, such examples focus on different aspects of the circular economy, from informing citizens about how to participate in waste collection schemes to databases with information to repair products or user-friendly marketplace apps that make it easy for users to sell and buy second-hand products (electronics, clothing, accessories, furniture and many more).

4.4. Mapping re-use initiatives through online interactive maps

Two partners of the 2LIFES projects haven't appeared in this report because they focused on preparing publicly available online interactive maps rather than writing a report to analyze the situation of re-use in their regions. This kind of maps can help policymakers and citizens easily visualise where re-use collections points and stores are located.

Therefore, KRWMC prepare an online interactive map to show the location of all re-use initiatives in Klaipeda and its surroundings, compared to its own centres. Users can easily click on any of the points to reveal the specific address of that initiative, store, or collection point.

Figure 3: Online interactive map of re-use initiatives in Klaipeda, prepared by KRWMC



Source: the original online interactive map can be found [here](#).

³ These groups can reach a rather large number of followers. For instance, in Central Denmark, a region with 1,314,000 inhabitants, groups with more than 60,000 members were observed.

EMULSA, in Gijón, not only mapped re-use initiatives, but all sort of stores, initiatives and collection points related to the circular economy or, more broadly, sustainability, including second-hand stores, repair businesses, waste collection points, fair trade stores, stores of ecological products, and more. Users can easily navigate the map by choosing what specific kind of place are they looking for, and then finding out where can they find it.

Figure 4: Map of circular and sustainable initiatives in Gijón, prepared by EMULSA.



Source: the original online interactive map can be found [here](#).

5. Annex 1: Best practices in the Marche Region

5.1. Santa Maria Nuova– Ludoteca regionale del Riuo Riù

The Municipality of Santa Maria Nuova in the Province of Ancona is the owner of one of the locations of the Ludoteche regionali del Riuo Riù in the Marche Region and of one of the Reuse Centres surveyed. In order to enhance and strengthen the educational role of the Reuse Centre, the Municipality decided to develop a part of the Ludoteca del Riuo Riù project at the Reuse Centre (project Ludoteca Riù 0-99). Therefore, educators from the Ludoteca Riù 0-99 carry out educational activities at the Reuse Centre and in schools and at public events.

5.2. Bottegone del Riuo - Pesaro

This is a large second-hand shop managed by a non-profit organization, set up a few meters from the waste separated collection centre and the local Reuse Centre. It occupies a vast area. It is a fascinating case because the Social Services of the municipalities involved point out citizens in economic difficulties and can pick up goods for free. An agreement with the local waste management company gives the non-profit organization the possibility (after appropriate assessment) of collecting goods from the homes of citizens who need to get rid of objects. To date, the organization employs 39 staff and 210 volunteers and is economically self-sufficient.

5.3. Collaboration between the Reuse Center of Agugliano and the Mercatopoli second-hand shop

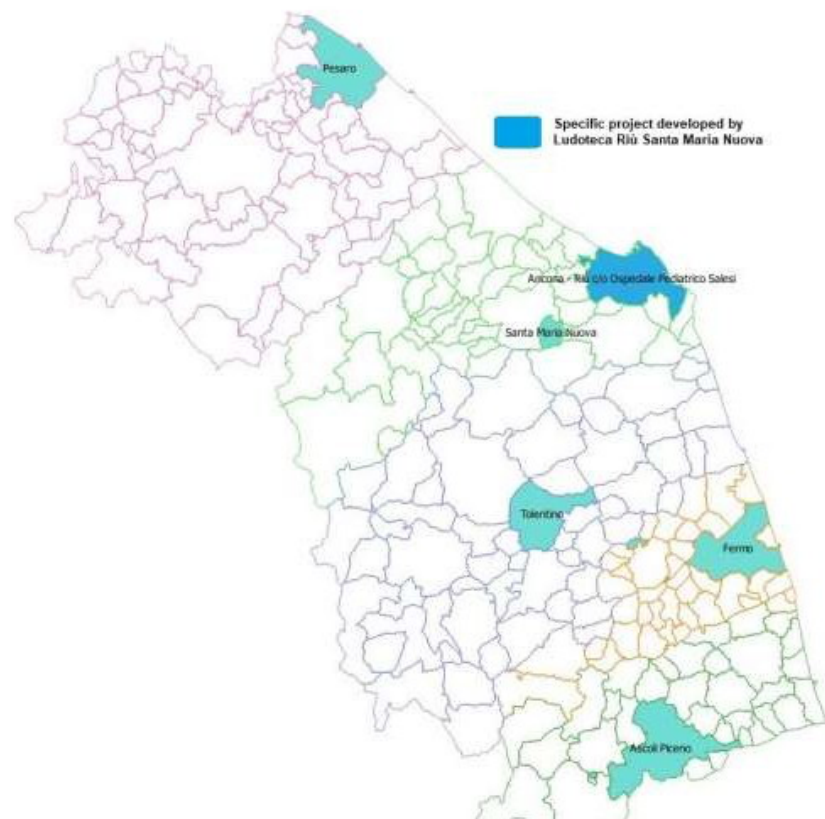
A collaboration between the Mercatopoli second-hand shop in Ancona and the Reuse Center in Agugliano (a municipality bordering Ancona) has recently been promoted through Facebook. By virtue of this collaboration Mercatopoli gives free of charge to the Reuse Center goods that have not been sold, to give these goods a further chance to be re-used.

5.4. Ludoteche Regionali del Riuso RiÙ

Since 2000, the Marche Region has financed a network of Ludoteche regionali del Riuso RiÙ. There are currently 5 toy libraries (one for each province of the Marche Region). The Ludoteche are located in the following Municipalities / Provinces:

- Pesaro - Province of Pesaro and Urbino
- Santa Maria Nuova - Province of Ancona
- Tolentino - Province of Macerata Fermo - Province of Fermo
- Ascoli Piceno - Province of Ascoli Piceno

Figure 5: Municipalities hosting a Ludoteca RiÙ



There is also a special RiÙ project at the Salesi paediatric hospital in Ancona. Activities carried out by the Ludoteca RiÙ (short of Ludoteca regionale del Riuso RiÙ) represent a unique experience at national level and an excellent opportunity to raise awareness and educate the new generations on the topic of waste prevention and re-use. Ludoteca RiÙ is part of a broad objective seeking to encourage behavioural change among children and young adults, promoting more sustainable and ethical habits respectful of the environment. Attention is paid to inform on reducing waste production, including through re-use practices as well as separate collection of waste for recycling. The Ludoteca RiÙ project promotes the idea that re-usable

goods and materials are valuable resources. In the recreation areas of the Ludoteca RiÙ, imagination, creativity and craftwork enable the repurposing and upcycling of these goods and materials.

This project involves schools, families, as well as cultural, social and voluntary bodies. To benefit all audiences, the Ludoteca RiÙ organises both activities designed directly for young children and teenagers and workshops for teachers and parents.

In addition, collecting items and re-usable materials also becomes an opportunity to build relationships and foster cultural exchanges between managers of the waste collection services and the companies and households that discard them. A network is thus created, involving all the actors in the cycle: from the producers to the young “re-users”.

5.5. Re-use of natural stone materials from demolition following the 2016 earthquake

In the Marche Region, following the severe damage suffered by the historical and artistic heritage due to the earthquake of 2016, there is great interest in rebuilding historic villages and the renovation of valuable buildings using energy efficient technologies, and re-using stones and brick in order to respect and enhance the identity of the territory, subject to historical landscape protection. New objectives and new activities concerning the re-use of materials and objects, the issue of re-use of stone materials (natural stones) resulting from the demolition of masonry buildings following a seismic event or, in general, materials resulting from "selective demolition" or "deconstruction" (bricks, tiles, natural wood beams, etc.) are of significant interest in Marche Region at the moment. In particular, the attention is now pointed to re-using the monumental building elements and maximizing the re-use of all kinds of natural stones and traditional and handmade traditional brick (difficult to replicate) and woodworks. Marche Region in collaboration with the waste management companies and the ministry of cultural heritage catalogued and stored many tons of this kind of material to be re-used. Specific objective: maximize re-use, lower consumption of raw materials, save energy, protect, and enhance cultural heritage and landscape, maintain territorial identity.

5.6. Use of washable nappies for babies

In Marche Region there are many initiatives about this topic, sustained and promoted by the region and other public bodies, in the past and on-going. The use of “washable nappies”

instead of disposable ones is not a return to the past, but a choice made with a new awareness, a new conscience, which is not only for the environment, but also for your baby's health (for example Municipalities of Ancona, Jesi, Folignano). The project *Lavabile è sano* (Washable is Healthy), proposed by public authority ATA Rifiuti of the Province of Ancona in collaboration with Stella del Mattino and HORT cooperatives, is particularly relevant. It provides a laundry service and diaper rental for kindergarden or families. This project involves both nurseries and families and aims to create a complete supply chain at local level.

5.7. Projects to replace polystyrene boxes with re-usable plastic in the fisheries sector

As part of the strategies to prevent the production of urban waste and limit its impact on the natural environment, it is appropriate to implement actions to reduce the effect caused by the dispersion of plastic waste in the sea and on beaches, in line with the aims of Regional Law no. 33 "Regional provisions to encourage the reduction of plastic waste in the sea and on beaches". A significant contribution to prevention can be made by replacing polystyrene crate systems in the fisheries sector with systems using plastic crates, because of the greater re-usability of plastic containers due to the material's durability and difficult dispersal. In Marche Region, Ancona Fishery is implementing a project co-financed by FEAMP.

5.8. Use of washable plastic cups instead of disposable plastic cups in public premises

The Municipality of Jesi has launched a small pilot project called "Bevi a rendere" to encourage the adoption of washable plastic cups instead of disposable plastic cups in public places (bars, pubs, and cafés) in the city.

5.9. Public events for the exchange, donation and sale of used goods by private persons

Several municipalities in the Region have promoted the organisation (and regularly promote), in squares or other public places, of initiatives or events to encourage the exchange, donation or occasional sale of used goods by citizens. The initiatives organised by the Municipalities of Falconara Marittima (AN) and Ancona called "Svuota Cantine" (Empty Cellars) and "Manco'navanzo" were particularly successful.

6. Annex 2: Comparative summary four local / regional situational analyses

	ANEL	AFFALDVARME	REGION MARCHE	CTRIA
Region	Nicosia (Cyprus)	Central Region (Denmark)	Marche (Italy)	Central Transdanubia (Hungary)
Inhabitants	310,355	1,314,000	1,541,692	1,100,000
Characteristics	Predominantly urban	Predominantly suburban	-	Predominantly suburban
Regulatory approach towards re-use	Some indirect regulation but no specific measures on re-use	Some indirect regulation but no specific measures on re-use	Regulation on re-use is underway	Regulation on re-use is underway
Further comments on regulatory approach	-	The Danish waste hierarchy prioritizes waste management subsequent principles: minimizing waste, preparing for re-use, recycling, utilization of materials, disposal. The waste hierarchy is included in various clauses in the Danish Waste Ordinance.	Re-use falls within the waste prevention sphere, as it concerns goods that are still in the status of "product", and not "waste". The National Waste Prevention Program aims to decouple growth from environmental impacts, thus identifying re-use as one of the general measures towards waste reduction. Regional Waste Management Plans and, above all, Regional Program of waste prevention shall set prevention targets.	Legislation supports the preparation of waste for re-use, the networking of re-use and repair systems through legal, economic and technical means, setting criteria for products to be re-used, and setting quantified targets. The main point of widespread re-use is the development of an appropriate re-use system. Its elements are developing a certification system for re-use centres; establishment of certified re-use centres; and networking them.
Regional re-use activities mainly associated with	Private businesses and/or private initiatives; social or charitable enterprises; voluntary initiatives.	Public authorities; private businesses and/or private initiatives; social or charitable enterprises.	Public authorities.	Private businesses / private initiatives; social or charitable enterprises
Financial subsidy options from the government for re-use	Limited direct/indirect financial support measures.	There is some significant direct/indirect financial support measures.	There is some significant direct financial support measures.	No governmental subsidies for supporting re-use related activities.

<p>Further comments on financial support</p>	<p>There are no subsidies, but some incentives coming either from the Ministry of Environment or from local authorities.</p>	<p>The Danish Environmental Protection Agency manages a number of programmes, where it is possible to apply for grants for waste projects including MUDP, Food Waste and Plastic Packaging.</p>	<p>Regional and local entities provide support to Regional Re-use Playgrounds, which are initiatives on the creative valorization of re-usable waste. Marche Region has also allocated significant funding to encourage the creation of Re-use Centres (mainly deriving from the special landfill tax by municipalities).</p>	<p>The few existing re-use activities are mainly private. Experience has shown that the management would be open to introducing and encouraging re-use, but in the absence of relevant state support, the issue of its implementation is still unresolved.</p>
<p>Re-use centres in the region</p>	<p>There are 2 established re-use centres.</p>	<p>There are 5 or 6 established re-use centres.</p>	<p>The region has promoted the creation of 25 re-use centres across the region (18 of them operational at the moment).</p>	<p>No specific re-use activities are yet underway in Central Transdanubia. There were some projects, but no draft has yet been made and no concrete steps have been taken.</p>
<p>Further comments on existing re-use centres</p>	<p>PASYKAF re-use centre & Anakyklos re-use centre.</p>	<p>Firstly, RE-USE in Aarhus (administrated by AVA), but there are several other re-use centres in the major cities in the Region. RE-USE in Aarhus covers around 2,000 square meters.</p>	<p>Marche region has also issued Regional Guidelines for their management. Re-use Centres activities are strongly conditioned by the COVID-19 emergency. Evidence of success: It has been estimated that about 12,000 citizens have been involved, saving around 7,000 EUR per year considering 180 EUR / ton for disposal.</p>	<p>-</p>

<p>Situation charity / second-hand shops in the region</p>	<p>There are around 15.</p>	<p>There are a lot (around 15 only in the city of Aarhus) and of all kinds, some owned by private enterprises and other by social enterprises & NGOs. Second hand shops are very popular and have been functioning for many decades.</p>	<p>There is the option for Re-use Centres to be externally managed by social enterprises. Non-profit associations and social cooperatives of type "B" are given priority in this regard.</p>	<p>Charity shops or donation shops are not yet widespread (mainly non-profit organisations and social cooperatives). Good practices include initiatives by civil society groups, such as Humus Association. The National Waste Management Plan includes the principle according to which re-use initiatives should be interconnected to social measures.</p>
<p>Type of second-hand goods sold in stores</p>	<p>Textiles (Clothes, Shoes & Accessories), Toys, Electronic equipment, Furniture, Household items, electrical appliances, Books, CDs, DVDs, video games etc.</p>	<p>Most shops focus on fashion/clothes or furniture/retro.</p>	<p>All kind of goods.</p>	<p>Mainly clothing, but also some books, household goods, jewelry, toys, and sports equipment.</p>
<p>Waste collection points in the region</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>There is RE-USE and 6 other recycling stations spread out in the Aarhus Municipality. In one of the recycling stations there is a possibility to deliver goods to direct recycling (450 tons /year)</p>	<p>17 Re-use Centres are actually located next to a waste collection point, so that citizens that were going there with the idea to throw away re-usable products can find the Re-use Centre (thus being a strategic location for awareness-raising purposes)</p>	<p>Most collection plants are operated and maintained by local governments in the corporate form of non-profit Ltd. However, no waste management organizations operates a re-use centre. Landfill centres are located in county seats and collect the rubbish of the surrounding villages and towns. Waste is transported for energy use, i.e. to an incinerator</p>

Collection points to collect for re-use	Yes.	RE-USE in Aarhus receives on a daily basis more than 2 tonnes of products, primarily in containers from the 6 other recycling stations. Furthermore, more than 1200 tonnes of clothes are collected.	Re-use Centres, mentioned above, are collection points of items in good condition, that can still be used. They are free of charge for the citizen.	Some few initiatives, mainly by non-profits, but small-scale and no public support. Moreover, most of these initiatives are in Budapest, not Central Transdanubia.
How many collection points	Around 3,000-3,100: 9 Green Points, 9 Cyta shops (Cyprus Telli), 7 (Green Dot), 5 (for glass), 135 (PASYKAF), 1906 (AFIS CYPRUS), 426 (Anakyklos Perivallontiki), 2 (Stephanis), 1 (H&M), etc.	Around 7 recycling stations in the Aarhus municipality.	In MR there are municipal or inter-municipal waste collection centers. Most of the re-use centers for items still in good condition are located at the entrance to the waste collection centers. The network of re-use centers is growing and the realization of new re-use centers is foreseen in the coming years.	-
Type of goods collected	Clothes, Shoes, Accessories, toys, batteries, electronics,	Furniture, kitchen utensils, toys, books, sports gear, pictures...	Clothes, furniture, household goods, small electronics and electrical appliances...	Textiles, furniture
Repair cafés and similar initiatives	-	Repair cafés is a fast growing trend in Denmark. Many municipalities and institutions organize now repair events in cooperation with civil society organizations. Aarhus has 1 permanent Repair Café and 3-4 recurrent repair events.	Only one initiative in this regard, but no other initiatives have been reported.	Only one repair café in Budapest, but not in Central Transdanubia.

<p>Renting / leasing schemes for products</p>	-	-	-	<p>Car rental and equipment rental are more common, also regarding machines, equipment for housework or serious handicraft, gardening, and cleaning. Also rental services for bicycles, sports, clothes, and events equipment.</p>
<p>Sharing schemes for products</p>	-	-	-	<p>Community bike, scooter and car rentals in Budapest (but not Central Transdanubia). Sometimes shared garden machines in communities.</p>
<p>Mobile applications facilitating the donation / collection of products</p>	<p>Yes, around 5. Some examples: ReCYcling CY, Bazaraki, Cypruser - Cyprus APP - Buy & Sell Marketplace.</p>	<p>There are some site and apps in which users can offer all kinds of products for free. These sites and apps are very popular in Denmark.</p>	<p>Facebook groups are created by private initiative, non-profit, to facilitate the exchange, sale or donation of used goods by citizens.</p>	<p>Online second-hand trade is constantly evolving, but there are no Hungarian-language applications developed in Hungary on re-use.</p>
<p>Main characteristics of the app(s)</p>	<p>ReCYcling CY: it provides all the necessary information someone needs in order to participate in the packaging and in the battery recycling program. Bazaraki: An app where people can sell, buy second hand cars, mobile phones, clothing, furniture, appliance. Cypruser is an online marketplace to sell & buy your stuff second-hand (electronics, clothing, accessories, furniture and many more).</p>	<p>They are user-friendly: they have a very simple and easy to handle interfaces. Overall, there are 3 or 4 on the national level, plus several on the regional and local level.</p>	<p>The number of citizens who follow these groups is significant. They certainly contribute to propagate the culture of re-use and encourage the circulation of used goods that are still in good condition. Some of these regional groups reach more than 60,000 members.</p>	<p>There are, however, apps containing databases for repairing products, and to inform against illegal waste practices.</p>

<p>Type of goods more subject to re-use in the region</p>	<p>Textiles (clothing, bedding); electronic equipment (TV, computer, cellphone, desktops, printers, tablets); books, CDs, DVDs, and videogames; others (bags, accessories, footwear, toys, etc.).</p>	<p>Textiles (clothing, bedding); electronic equipment (TV, computer, cellphone, desktops, printers, tablets); household electrical appliances (oven, dishwasher, washing machine).</p>	<p>Textiles (clothing, bedding) [in terms of being donated]</p>	<p>The most popular products are clothing (not only garments, but also home textiles, bedclothes and piece goods) and furniture.</p>
<p>Type of goods less subject to re-use in the region</p>	<p>Furniture (couch, table, chairs, beds, etc.); Household electrical appliances (oven, dishwasher, washing machine etc)</p>	<p>Textiles (clothing, bedding)</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>The least popular products to be re-used are electronic devices, as they carry (or are conceived as carrying) more risks.</p>