

Press Release

CESME Partner Meeting Bulgaria (Sofia, Plovdiv)

3-4 October 2018

Circular economy for SME - good practices in Bulgaria, supportive infrastructure

The Bulgarian Association of Municipal Environmental Experts (BAMEE) will host a partner meeting in Sofia and Plovdiv, Bulgaria on 3rd and 4th of October. The event is organised within CESME project (Circular Economy for SMEs), funded by Interreg Europe Programme including 10 partners from six European countries. By the implementation of this project, parties will share experiences, identify best practices and provide a step-by-step guide for SMEs to apply the circular economy concept within their business. The project also aims to improve the policy impact and effectiveness by providing policy makers with the knowledge and understanding of the benefits of the circular economy and advice on how tools and policy instruments can be used to help SMEs to become a part of the circular economy. *“Circular Economy is a major shift in thinking about the existing paradigms of the economy. It brings new ways of ‘wheeling and dealing’. The main question is of course: what do we need to address?”* says Assya Dobrudzhaliyeva, President of BAMEE.

During the meeting in Sofia, representatives from all partner organizations and stakeholders will visit Trakia Economic Zone – the best developed industrial zone currently in Bulgaria, an example of industrial symbiosis in many aspects, the new Facility of Humanita – a huge textile sorting and processing plant.

The company has a strong fingerprint in social aspect working with the Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations. A good example how circular economy and activities in favour of social benefit could work together, Energy agency of Plovdiv – an example of sustainable management of energy efficient projects and project implemented in the field of the RES. Besides it also providing quality assurance for different products, by-products and material needed for recycling industry, composting companies, waste management facilities and other. The “Beer Box” – the first beer restaurant in Bulgaria, built from used marine transport containers will be visited as well. This is a great example how those containers, which otherwise would have turned into waste are used in an efficient way to create a nice, cosy and comfortable atmosphere. The second day of the meeting will be dedicated to the Steering Committee meeting, further steps and forthcoming events and activities, action plan development and presentation of the BAMEEs WEB platform for exchange of information for waste to be turned into a resource, which is under development.

Sofia, September 29th, 2018