



REPLACE Kick-off meetings

REPLACE 1ST EVENT REPORT

REPLACE exploited the biggest annual event for regional and local public authorities, namely the European Week of Region and Cities, to perform its Kick-off Meetings to gain the maximum visibility and to position itself at best. REPLACE organized two events in Brussels:

- **1st REPLACE public event** on 10.10.19 from 14:00 to 17:30;
- **REPLACE kick-off meeting with Steering Committee** on 11.10.19 from 10:00 to 14:00

The **public session of REPLACE Kick-off Meeting** was held at the European Economic and Social Committee premises in Brussels in rue des Treves 74, the event was successfully accredited as official side event of the European Week of Region and Cities; in fact, it was mentioned in the European Union website [https://europa.eu/regions-and-cities/side-events_en?page=2].

In order to maximize its impact and to fully capitalize on the already developed knowledge, REPLACE invited other projects to present their outputs, describe their experiences and to join the discussion; moreover, networks and trustworthy relationships were generated with other actors employed in the field of cross-regional cooperation for circular economy. 31 people attended REPLACE first public conference.

To greet the audience, the event opened with a welcoming speech of Bernd Dittmann of the EESC, then, Lorenzo Lo Cascio (Lazio Region) underlined the new initiatives launched by Lazio Region to promote circular economic models. REPLACE and its goals were briefly presented by the project manager Ferdinando Rossi (Lazio Region). Afterwards, the 3 guest projects exhibited their objectives and their achieved results, highlighting also the barriers they encountered. Two Interreg Europe projects (RETRACE and COCOON) and an H2020 (CICERONE) accepted the invitation and partook in the conference.

Ph.D Carolina Giraldo (Polytechnic Turin) presented Interreg Europe 1st call project RETRACE by stressing the centrality of the systemic thinking for achieving positive circular economy results in combining waste among diverse productive processes; interestingly, she outlined also the encountered policy gaps.

As the spokesperson for Interreg Europe project COCOON, Eddie Wille (Flanders Region) explained the new role of landfills in the context of a circular economy, a novel function achievable only through a dynamic management approach; he also described pressing issues deriving from the lack of information regarding previous landfill sites across Europe, posing harmful threats to both the environment and the public health.

H2020 CICERONE representative Cliona Howie (Climate-KIC) introduced the platform for efficient circular economy the project aims to develop to overcome the fragmentation and dispersion of all the valuable results acquired by the countless actions performed in the field of circular economy.

In fact, CICERONE wants to promote a synergic capitalization between the already attained impacts and the new call for proposals through the generation of a strategic governance to monitor the operational programmes at local, regional, national and European levels, in order to avoid duplication.





Then, the round table, moderated by Bernd Dittmann (EESC), opened the conversation on the use of regional policy instruments for supporting the transition toward a circular economy, with interventions of Lorenzo Lo Cascio (Lazio Region); Eddy Wille (Flanders Region); Carolina Giraldo (Turin Polytechnic); Sander Happaerts (European Commission: DG REGIO); Silvia Giannisi (Veltha) and Joan Prummel (Rijkswaterstaat).

Thanks to the format of the open discussion, numerous member of the audience engaged in the discourse, contributing with additional points of view and insights. Ultimately, SCREEN project manager Carlo Polidori (Veltha) concluded REPLACE 1st public event with his closing remarks by thanking all participants.

The **internal session of REPLACE Kick-off meeting** with the **Steering Committee** reunion was held at the Catalunya Government EU Delegation in Brussels in Rue de la Loi 227. Each project partner participated with at least 2 staff members; unfortunately, Lodzkie region did not attend.

The gathering started with a welcoming speech of REPLACE project manager Ferdinando Rossi (Lazio Region); then, all participants presented themselves, stated their functions within their institutions, their role in REPLACE and briefly described their Interreg Europe experiences.

After having acquainted with all the staff in attendance, each project partner was introduced through a concise power point presentation lasting a couple of minutes.

REPLACE project manager Ferdinando Rossi illustrated main objectives, activities and deadlines for the first semester; while the overall management and coordination structure was approved by the Steering Committee.

In the role of SCREEN project manager, and, as staff member of the advisory partner, Carlo Polidori highlighted Veltha's critical function of enabling the correct conveyance of SCREEN project results into REPLACE learning outputs at first, and into incisive and efficacious policy instruments later on. He unfolded crucial technical aspects: local analysis, mapping tool, cross-regional value chains, Memorandum of Understanding and Assessment Criteria.

Then, Bart Volkers and Sander Bos (Fryslan Province) explained the circularity excellence level and the related benchmark methodology, describing the necessary work to achieve the overall results; they engaged all participants by asking for possible indicators, qualitative and quantitative measures to employ. They remembered the partners the upcoming first learning event hosted and organized by the Province of Fryslan in Leeuwarden on the 3rd and 4th December 2019, enunciating the implementation of the 1st circularity tour.

REPLACE financial manager Emanuele Rotili (Lazio Region) pinpointed the financial and reporting matters and duties, indicating deadlines and articulating extensively the main rules, eligible expenditures and cost typologies.

REPLACE communication manager Sara Bergamin (Veltha) marked the targets for the first semester, characterized both function and tasks of the communication team and clarified the obligations regarding the use of the logo and the display of the poster. REPLACE social media presence was portrayed and discussed with all participants: it was decided to open also a Facebook account for the project.





Emanuele Rotili (Lazio Region), as REPLACE financial manager, introduced the iOLF platform to the audience, he explained how to insert the data needed for the report.

Ferdinando Rossi (Lazio Region), as REPLACE project manager, terminated the Kick-off meeting by summarizing the tackled topics and enumerating the upcoming steps and deadlines, he outlined the decisions jointly undertaken, as well as the main conclusions.

Important points

- ❑ Fill in the Google sheet with all contact details
- ❑ Communicate the iOLF ID user (email address), at least one per partner
- ❑ Conference call at the beginning of November 2019 (date to be fixed)
- ❑ 1st learning event in Leeuwarden on the 3rd and 4th December 2019
- ❑ Shared folder will be created via Google Drive, all material will be uploaded
- ❑ Financial matters: prepare a list of questions and forward it to REPLACE financial manager Emanuele Rotili so he can create a document with all explanations.
- ❑ Print and display REPLACE poster in a visible spot at your office (poster will be uploaded in Google shared folder)
- ❑ Visit REPLACE project website at least two times a month www.interregeurope.eu/replace
- ❑ Mention REPLACE in your website
- ❑ Connect with REPLACE twitter account @PolicyReplace www.twitter.com/PolicyReplace
- ❑ Add REPLACE in your work experience section via LinkedIn REPLACEpolicy4circulareconomy www.linkedin.com/company/replacepolicy4circulareconomy/

