



30 March 2023

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## **INTRODUCTION**

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**08:30** Welcome of registered participants

**09:00** 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

**09:25** Interreg Europe, bridging research and communities on Circular Economy: outlook on Interreg Europe 2014-20 and perspective from the thematic objective Environment and resource efficiency

- **Erwin Siweris**, Programme Director, Interreg Europe

*Interreg Europe supports the connection of research institutions and local/ regional authorities on various areas, including circular economy, part of the green topic under Interreg Europe 2021-2027. This intervention will enable us to identify the programme journey between 2014 and today and identify relevant opportunities under this new programming period to continue supporting the cooperation between research and communities on circular economy.*

## EUROPEAN PUBLIC POLICIES RELATED TO CIRCULAR ECONOMY

### The cooperation between research and territories on circular economy at the EU level: the role of European Regions in taking forward the European Green Deal and the EU's Circular Economy Action Plan

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

**9:40** Keynote speeches: 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, DG ENV, 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

*EU Regions are key to achieve the EU objectives on green transition, including on assuming the shift from linear to circular economy. Indeed, local governments are the closest levels to the citizens, while the EU strongly supports the regions through the cohesion policy.*

**10:10** Conversations about the role of European Regions in the implementation of the EU's Circular Economy Action Plan and the European Green Deal

#### **Conversation 1 - Launching a circular living lab, the Fjildlab**

- **Emiel Elferink**, Van Hall Larenstein University, Fjildlab  
*The aim of Fjildlab is to consolidate an ecologically responsible agricultural sector, as circular as possible in the north-east of the Netherlands and to function as a hub of knowledge for the rest of the regions. The region is characterized by a variety of agriculture and animal husbandry, large and small enterprises, organic farming and traditional methods for animal husbandry.*
- **Ovidia Caba**, RDA Centru, Setting up a Circular Urban Living Lab  
*Circular Urban Living Lab is a concept which captures the idea of a lab designed to strengthen the circular economy. Based on this concept, RDA Centru aims to set up 5 regional working groups which will include the quadruple helix organisations, designed to support the development of an environment suitable for innovation and of an strategic project. This platform will ensure that the public authorities request (on smart city, circular economy, etc) are met and all conditions for support and facilitation for the stakeholders are created. The 5 working groups are formed around the objectives promoted by the POR 2021-2027. 1. Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions 2. Green infrastructure 3. Blue infrastructure 4. Green and recreational spaces 5. Urban Regeneration.*



## **Conversation 2 – Supporting SMEs in adopting circular principles**

- **Justine Bettinger**, Bourgogne-Franche-Comté “Circular Economy project booster”

*The circular economy project booster consists in a regional call for proposals to support local CE projects. Within this project the annual calls for proposals are organized to support local authorities, public and private organizations in the development of their projects related to circular economy. It is part of the regional policy for circular economy.*

- **Jakub Pechlát**, Central Bohemian Region, implementing a consultancy Programme for SMEs for Circular Economy

*The action under COLOR CIRCLE enlarges the current portfolio of expert services to SMEs with the area of circular economy to spread state-of-the-art approaches to resource management among SMEs in the region with a view to help them operate more efficiently in current times of cost increase of various inputs. This programme will offer specialized consultancy / coaching / mentoring services.*

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

- **Hanna Uma Laufer**, HESAM Université « 1000 doctorants pour les territoires » programme

*This State program is managed by HESAM. It facilitates the access of PhD students in territories, NGOs and local entities for three years. A system/platform supports this process between three types of actors: the future PhD student, its host institution, which can be a public administration or an association and the PhD supervisor, who is a researcher.*

- **Trinidad Manrique de Lara Vílchez**, Diputación de Granada, the Puentes Project

*Within the framework of the COLOR CIRCLE project, the initiative has been transferred in Granada, Spain as the ‘Puentes’ (Bridges) project. It will allow the transfer of knowledge from the academy to the territory, thanks to extracurricular internships of university students in their last year of their degree or master's degree for a 6-month period. The internship will be done in the framework of actions of Local Urban Agenda of municipalities. Students will receive a specific training in local development and circular economy.*

**10:40** Comments by the panel experts: European views of local actions

- **Emmanuelle Maire**, Head of Unit for Circular Economy, sustainable products and consumption, DG ENV, 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

**10:50** Q&A session

**11:05** coffee break

## CREATING AN ECOSYSTEM INVOLVING ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO IMPLEMENT CIRCULAR ECONOMY

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

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

**11:20** Introductory remarks

**11:25** Roundtable discussion: How do we create an ecosystem supporting and enabling discussions between public authorities, researchers, citizens and companies?

- 1) How do we connect training with the territories to get the skills needed?
- 2) How do we raise awareness of circular economy among local public authorities, including promoting reused or repair materials in the public order?
- 3) How to raise awareness among target groups, including citizens who can influence companies?
- 4) How to extend innovations to other regions?
- 5) How to conjugate research and territorial needs? More specifically how can one involve researchers at the local level for them to create solutions in cooperation with local authorities?

- **Ludek Benes**, deputy of the municipality Dymokury
- **Jerome Friedrichs**, policy officer, the European Association of Development Agencies
- **Raluca Rijnita**, researcher, IRCEM - Institute for Research in Circular Economy and Environment "Ernest Lupan"
- **Esteban Romero-Frías**, director for Participation and Social Innovation and of the Research Laboratory for Digital Culture and Society, University of Granada
- **Pieter van der Valk**, entrepreneur, Agricycling
- **Iryna Veryzhenko**, researcher, Le Cnam

**12:00** discussions

**12:30** Closing remarks

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

## CONCLUSION

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**12:35** Closing speech

- **Michel Terré**, President of HESAM Université

**12:50** Lunch break and networking opportunity