

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY 101

## What is circular economy?

Circular economy is a concept of economy that aims at reducing or eliminating waste and to efficiently use resources. Methods to achieve circular economy include reuse, share, reparation, refurbishing, redesign, and recycling, preferably in a connected manner that includes various methods in a closed system of stakeholders. Reduction of waste, pollution, and successful reuse of byproducts is the key goal that circular economy strives for. The system of circular economy is, basically, meant to create input or material for production in one subject from waste of another subject.

## Why circular economy?

We conduct business in a world that has many finite resources and solutions are necessary to make sure that we do not run out of those resources. Circular economy provides solutions to eliminate waste of materials and byproducts, making one subject's waste another subject's production material. The transition to a circular economy also means more networking, cooperation and long-term planning, making it a key factor in sustainable development of business, both on a local, national and international level.

## How much does it cost?

Transition to a circular economy is meant to create new values, new jobs and more growth for companies. It provides business opportunities and new products, reduces costs of waste disposal and forms business partnerships. Therefore, circular economy may take some initial adaptation and compromising, but in the long run, it is the best chance of sustainable economic and social growth and development.



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Content.Node/CITYCIRCLE.html](http://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/CITYCIRCLE.html)

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# CITYCIRCLE

URBAN CENTRES of so-called peripheral regions in the Central Europe widely lack innovation and business development spirit due to their limited access to global innovation processes and cooperation partners. Various Circular economy models offer options for the sustainable and resource-efficient development of cities and municipalities and for pooling innovation, new technologies, services, solutions and business models. To help cities overcome those challenges, we created CITYCIRCLE.

The CITYCIRCLE project will facilitate innovation and technology transfer and improve services and business models in peripheral cities. By providing these with tools and knowledge linked to the circular economy, the project will enable a new generation of innovative solutions in their urban ecosystems in a long run. A full circular economy package for cities will deploy organizational structures, knowledge and tools, transnational value chains and present visible benefits to their citizens.

# PARTNERS IN THE CIRCLE OF CITYCIRCLE

## Slovakia

Technical University of Košice  
European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Via Carpatia with Limited Liability

## Croatia

Development Agency North Ltd  
City Municipality of Varaždin

## Italy

Energy Management Agency of Friuli Venezia Giulia  
Municipality of Udine

## Slovenia

City of Kranj  
E-institute, Institute for comprehensive development solutions

## Austria

Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences

## Germany

Bwcon

10  
project  
partners

7  
regions

6  
countries

# Number of partner per region



## The main outputs of the project are expected to be:

- 1 Advanced CE knowledgebase, including CE maturity index
- 1 Transnational marketplace for critical raw materials implemented
- 5 Circular economy hubs implemented
- 1 Transnational learning platform established
- 5 CE pilot implementations
- 5 Capacity building training for hub/accelerator managers and staff members and relevant stakeholders
- 5 Circular economy strategies agreed upon by the stakeholder groups in each target region
- 1 Transnational joint CE strategy and value chains defined
- 3 Transnational CECOMs implemented

## PROJECT DURATION

| START DATE 01.04.2019 → END DATE 31.03.2022 |

## The project will result in:

- Establishment of HUB/accelerators of circular economy in participating cities that will connect key stakeholders in circular economy (companies, public administration, universities, citizens)
- Enabling of an innovation process by educating stakeholders and providing tools for management of an efficient Circular economy process
- Set up of a transnational value chain and network for key materials - byproducts, directed by a joint strategy for circular economy



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