




ROMANIA'S
STRATEGY FOR THE
TRANSITION TO A
CIRCULAR
ECONOMY (ROCES)
2020-2030

PROIECT052/IRCEM/2018-2019
- Framework -









DESCRIPTION



The project “ROMANIA’S STRATEGY FOR THE TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY (ROCES) 2020-2030” aims to define the pillars which will support Romania’s transition to a circular economy by involving all relevant stakeholders (i.e. civil society, public administration, industry, academics, social infrastructure), and by attracting the necessary financial support. The study aims to collect all the opinions from relevant actors on the level of penetration of the circular economy in terms of regional collaboration, such that we achieve our vision of Romania being a leader in Central and South-East Europe in the circular economy.



Vice-prime minister Grațiela Leocadia Gavrilescu, the minister of environment, expressed her support for the project on December 6th, 2018, at the “Virtuous Circles Mission to Romania – Circular economy success stories”, where the project has been presented to the public for the very first time: [...] “For us, the transition to a circular economy is an exceptional opportunity to achieve a zero-waste policy. We support your project and we would like to propose that you organize the National Conference on the Strategy on Circular Economy once Romania takes over the European Commission Presidency [...]”.



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OBJECTIVES

The proposed project ensures and stimulates a collaborative environment in which the complex systems that define economic development will change the way in which we see waste and urbanization by taking the responsibility to act in a participatory and proactive manner which allows us to contribute to our collective wellbeing and to promote our vision regarding the circular economy. Romania has been in a privileged position in terms of the availability and access to resources, yet the moment has come to take advantage of what we have already spent.

In short, we offer the opportunity to contribute to the biggest challenge of the 21st Century: **transforming the linear economy into a circular one**. You will contribute to the development of Romania's strategy on circular economy 2020-2030.

The project's activities will be focused on:

1. The analysis of Romania's potential to become a leader in the circular economy in Eastern Europe.
2. Involvement of the interested parties in the identification and the inclusion of the circular economy's methods.
3. Developing recommendations for the Romanian Government in order to facilitate an efficient transition towards the circular economy.
4. Recognizing the opportunities offered by the circular economy, such that the international competitiveness is consolidated and the overall quality of life is improved.
5. Outlining Romania's strategy on the circular economy 2020-2030.

Therefore, we suggest analyzing the way we can reinforce the efficiency of prime resources and materials, raising the value of materials and of products and services, developing circular business models, securing energy efficiency, closing material flows, preventing waste, encouraging sustainable acquisitions and responsible consumption, modifying production methods towards the circular economy, and developing a circular culture.

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METHODOLOGY

Switching to a circular economy is a complex and thorough process, and it implies long-term thinking. In order to better understand this process, we will follow the principles of the circular economy and we will consider the objectives defined in the National Sustainable Development Strategy Romania 2018-2030, the National Research, Development and Innovation Strategy, and the National Competitiveness Strategy 2014-2020.

The project's key objectives are tied to the identification of the regional and local opportunities of the circular economy sector in Romania. For this purpose, IRCEM and the Ministry of Environment are collaborating with the Department for Sustainable Development in Romania, as well as other 12 ministries and other partners. They will participate in 8 different work groups, one in each region of Romania, aiming to develop the strategy. The results of the conferences and the workshops, which have as background regional consultations and a European conference, will take into account the international context and formulate Romania's strategy on the circular economy 2020-2030. During December 2018 and November 2019, the coordinators invite you to the following events:

- I. Launch conference ROCES – **Iasi, April 12, 2019.**
- II. Dynamic actions in a national context – 8 regional conferences and 8 interactive workshops:
 1. **Iasi, April 12, 2019: ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION TOWARDS THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR SUSTAINABLE CLOTHING AND TEXTILES.**

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2. **Constanta, April 19, 2019:** THE APPLICATION OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE WATER SECTOR.
 3. **Cluj-Napoca, May 10, 2019:** SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTIONS FOR CIRCULAR, INTELLIGENT AND INCLUSIVE CITIES.
 4. **Buzsu, May 16, 2019:** SCALING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR MANAGING RECOVERED WASTE RESOURCES.
 5. **Timisoara, May 20, 2019:** THE ROLE OF MATERIALS IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE PACKAGING, LOGISTICS AND RETAIL INDUSTRY.
 6. **Brasov, May 31, 2019:** THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY.
 7. **Calarasi, June 3, 2019:** CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND FORESTRY RESOURCES.
 8. **Craiova, June 7, 2019:** THE IMPACT OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE MANUFACTURING AND TRANSPORT INDUSTRY.
- III. The European Conference - **Bucharest, June 11, 2019**, ROADMAP FOR DEVELOPING A STRATEGY ON THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ROMANIA, #ROstrategyCircularEconomyforSustainability2030. (good European practices)
- IV. Researching the Romanian market by means of involving all relevant stakeholders from the governmental and economic departments, groups of interest and other experts from various fields of work. The main research method is through interviews and questionnaires.
- V. Recurrent meeting of 6 workgroups, as follows:
1. Research and development, diffusion of knowledge and education.
 2. Political and governance tools.
 3. Tools for measuring circularity.
 4. Sustainable and circular systems for design, production, distribution, and consumption.
 5. Cities and regions.

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6. Best practices/models and integrated approaches.
- VI. Active involvement of the interested parties in the project's activities.
- VII. Continuous communication with the public with regards to the progress of the project on websites, social media, and other mass media channels.

At the same time, our ambition is to involve 50 organizations from Romania which can embrace the strategy on the circular economy for 2030. IRCEM, in its quality as a member in the coordination group of the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform (ECESP), a common initiative of the European Economic and Social Committee and the European Commission, will organize all the regional activities and the national involvement actions. The European conference is coordinated by IRCEM under the supervision of ECESP and the Romanian Ministry of Environment. More information about this project can be found on our website, <http://www.ircem.ro/> or on <https://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/en/dialogue>

With great hopes for a conducive collaboration, we welcome your support and your help towards facilitating the transition to a circular economy in Romania.

More details regarding current activities within the project can be found on <http://www.ircem.ro/roadmap-for-developing-a-strategy-on-the-circular-economy-in-romania/> or on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/www.ircem.ro/>

Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information!

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