

# European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform



#CEStakeholderEU

March 2022

Dear circular economy community,

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference, 2022

On 1 and 2 March, the European Economic and Social Committee and the European Commission hosted the 2022 European Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference, titled "Towards a new normal: Sustainable products for sustainable consumption".

More than 1800 participants registered for the [Annual Conference](#), with 1099 attendees over the two days. Speakers included Dame Ellen MacArthur, Frans Timmermans, Barbara Pompili, Christa Schweng, Virginijus Sinkevičius, Cillian Lohan and many more.

The [ECESP Coordination Group](#) led the eight participatory workshops on Day 2, focussing on the circular economy in the following areas: Food waste, Cities and Regions, Circular Procurement, Network Governance, Textiles, Construction and Infrastructure, Consumers and Skills, and Economic Incentives. As in the previous editions, reports were prepared for each workshop and remain available online. The recordings of the Plenaries and workshops are available on our [conference website](#).

The Annual Conference also included a Coffee Corner where participants could chat with each other, a Matchmaking area where they could connect with participants with similar interests, and an Expo Village with 10 different booths containing Circular Economy tools, the French EU Council Presidency and a range of organisations where participants were able to view links and documents as well as talk to representatives of these organisations.

### News and events

#### **Fifth MeetingPack conference on 20-21 April 2022 in Valencia**

On **20 - 21 April**, the [MeetingPack](#) Conference, held every two years by AIMPLAS and AINIA, will take place at the Valencia Conference centre. This event aims to bring together packaging value chain stakeholders to discuss Barrier Packaging Solutions: A Challenge for the Circular Economy.

#### **Accelerator Programme for Sustainable Textile and Fashion Designers**

The EU-funded [Fashion for Change 2022 Accelerator Programme](#) aims to support designers, innovators and start-ups from the European textiles and fashion industry in the circular transition. Applicants can submit their proposal until **19 May**.

Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) and [subscribe](#) to the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform's [newsletter](#) to receive the latest updates.

## #EUCircularTalks

Save the date for the first #EUCircularTalk of the year 2022 – with many more to come!

**5 April:** [Together for Circular Packaging – Learnings from the Consumer Insight Action Panel's Packaging Club](#) (CSCP)

Did you participate in any of our #EUCircularTalks in 2021? We want to hear from you! Fill in the survey [here](#). You can read the [final reports](#) of #EUCircularTalks or watch the [recordings](#), and feel free to join the online [discussion](#)!

More about [news and events](#)

## Knowledge and strategies

### **Circular public procurement: a framework for cities**

The **Ellen MacArthur** Foundation published a [guide](#) to help practitioners in a city government to adopt a more circular approach to public procurement. As public procurement processes differ between cities, this guide provides an overarching framework that should be adapted to the local context and the realities of each city.

### **The Circular Economy and Green Jobs in the EU and Beyond**

This [book](#), published by the Foundation For European Progressive Studies, offers clarification in the meaning and implications of Circular Economy across different contexts. Particular emphasis is placed on the implications for jobs and different business models as well as on questions of equity.

More about [knowledge](#) and [strategies](#)

## Good practices

### **Laboratorio Cartiera: leather and a social conscience!**

The Italian [Cartiera](#) is an ethical fashion workshop that makes leather and fabric items, promoting a Circular Economy process through upcycling techniques. They also offer pathways for employment and integration of disadvantaged people.

### **Wegozero: mapping businesses with zero waste potential in Europe**

The zero waste consultancy [wegozero](#) has mapped more than 1000 businesses with zero waste potential in four European cities (Amsterdam, Athens, Berlin and Budapest). They inform people which businesses in their city are sustainable and geared towards circular thinking.

More about [good practices](#)

## Circular updates from the European Commission

### **Promoting a greener choice: EU Ecolabel turns 30**

On **23 March 2022**, the EU Ecolabel officially turned 30 years old. With over 80 000 goods and services awarded the label across 24 product groups, the EU Ecolabel is widely recognised across Europe. Have a look at the [many activities](#) that are planned to commemorate the achievements of the Ecolabel, continuously inspiring consumers, businesses and retailers to lead a more sustainable lifestyle.

### **The European Commission is consulting on microplastics**

The European Commission has now opened a [consultation](#) on microplastics pollution. It is accessible to all stakeholders to express views about a possible policy to tackle microplastic pollution and to find measures to reduce its impact on the environment. The last date for the contributions is **17 May 2022**.

### **Public consultation and call for evidence open for legislative initiative on the Right to Repair**

The European Commission is preparing a legislative proposal on the Right to Repair, headed “Sustainable consumption of goods – promoting repair and reuse”. The overall goal of the initiative is to extend the time during which consumers use the product before discarding it. The [public consultation and call for evidence](#) are currently ongoing and will run until **5 April 2022**.

Are you making the circular economy happen? Can your project inspire others?  
[Share](#) your good practice and connect with the circular economy community!