



ACCELERATING SYSTEM CHANGE FOR A CIRCULAR TRANSITION IN CITIES AND REGIONS



OVERVIEW

ACR+, **Francesco Lembo**, Association of Cities and Regions for sustainable Resource management, **Françoise Bonnet**, Association of Cities and Regions for sustainable Resource management

- The LG on Cities and Regions continued analysing indicators measuring the transition to the circular economy in cities and regions: linking the work on the indicators, examining how they are used by cities and regions, and providing information on supporting schemes.

CCRI Initiative, **Jan Maarten de Vet**, CCRI-CSO

- The Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI) aims to increase collaboration, unlock knowledge and share initiatives between cities and regions.
- For the next six years, a large budget is available to support the initiatives (Horizon Europe funding programme).

Circular City Centre Initiative, **Desislava Krалеva**, European Investment Advisory Hub, EIB

- The Circular City Centre initiative ("C3"), a competence and resource centre within the European Investment Bank, was launched last year and takes a more targeted approach to helping EU cities with their circular economy transition.
- It offers webinars to showcase exemplary circular cities, guidance documents and advisory programmes to work with cities in partnership.
- The Circular Economy Technical Assistance Facility (CETAF) will support investment projects and programmes contributing to the circular economy transition in cities and regions across Europe via a competitive application process.

The OECD Programme on Circular Cities and Regions, **Oriana Romano**, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

- The OECD programme has three main pillars:

1. Learning: establishing multilevel dialogues in cities and regions to identify challenges and opportunities
 2. Sharing: favouring peer-to-peer learning, good practices and lessons from international experience
 3. Measuring: developing an indicator framework for decision making and evaluation of circular economy strategies
- Tailored guidance is provided on shifting from a linear to a circular city.
 - Since 2018, there has been an exponential increase in interest and willingness of policy makers in cities and regions to embrace the circular transition.

Circle Economy, **Jordi Pascual**

- The circular economy can be a tool to achieve prosperity for all and mitigate climate change in cities.

City of Prague, **Vojtech Voseck**

- The city of Prague aims to become climate neutral by 2050 through systemic solutions organised around three main pillars: minimising waste, turning waste into resources and regenerating local ecosystems.

NEW CHALLENGES

- A vast amount of knowledge is available but not accessible to many cities. Information must reach all cities within the EU.
- Governance is the key to success. Local government should embrace a certain level of commitment.
- We need to double the circular economy by 2032 to achieve our climate targets, and for this we need to redesign our cities as they are the epicentre of our global system.

KEY MESSAGES

- The workshop emphasised that cities are at the centre of the circular transition which can become a tool to achieve socio-economic prosperity while respecting planetary boundaries.
- It is important to bring all stakeholders together and have everyone in the same learning space.
- From vision to implementation: we need to make sure that recommendations and action plans are truly implemented and used.