



Welcome to the workshop

MAPPING CIRCULAR STRATEGIES IN EUROPE

European Economic and Social Committee, JDE62

7 March 2019, 09:30 – 10:50

Objective

- **Share comprehensive mapping of circular economy strategies across the EU**
- **Review the current state of implementation for circular economy policies in all Member States**

Schedule

Welcome by the Leaders

Research on 'Mapping Circular Economy strategies in Europe'

Giacomo Salvatori & Frank Holstein

Spatial Foresight

@Spatial4sight

The Italian approach to Circular Economy

Laura Cutaia

Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development

@ENEAofficial

Developing a Circular Economy strategy for Romania

Elena-Simina Lakatos

Institute for Circular Economy and Environment "Ernest Lupan" (IRCEM)

@IRCEM2

50 steps towards a Circular Economy in France

Sylvain Chevassus

Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition

@Min_Ecologie

Open floor discussion

Wrap up by the workshop Leaders

Key Questions

- **Where have European governments adopted circular economy strategies to date** and where are such roadmaps currently being developed?
- **What common threads form the hallmarks of a circular economy strategy in Europe?** Can a synthesis of these overlaps provide a blueprint for governments and civil society drafting a strategy?
- To what extent have the strategies in place been implemented? **What are the preconditions for successful and consistent implementation of circular policy commitments?** What role do civil and social organisations play in delivering these alongside businesses and governments?
- **Are circular economy strategies coherent with overarching social and economic strategies?** How can they support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially 12 (sustainable production and consumption) and 17 (partnerships for the goals)?

Setting the scene

While the circular economy (CE) was unheard of in European policy a mere decade ago, the term seems to have become ubiquitous by 2019. In parallel to the European Commission implementing its "Closing the loop" action plan since December 2015, a burgeoning set of CE policies has been adopted by governments across Europe. These range from national action plans (**France, Slovenia**) that contribute to European targets for climate change mitigation and waste management, to regional initiatives (**Central Macedonia, Pääjät-Häme**) directly linked to European structural and investment funds, and local strategies (**Maribor, Brussels**) catalysing a systemic rethink of the relationship municipalities have with the resources that flow in and out of their territories.





Despite CE becoming a mainstay of industrial strategy over the past few years, there has been no comprehensive mapping of circular policies across Europe to date. As more and more civil and social organisations are teaming up with businesses and national, regional and local governments across Europe to draft such pathways to sustainable resource use, there is a wealth of potential expertise and knowledge that could support these actors taking their first steps towards a circular economy.

The **European Economic and Social Committee**, which provides the Secretariat of the **European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform**, has commissioned policy research on circular economy strategies in Europe to overcome this evidence gap and provide circular newcomers with actionable guidelines on drafting CE strategies. Interim findings from this research will be presented at this workshop alongside presentations of national initiatives in Italy, Romania and France, while contributions from the floor can help shape the **adaptable model strategy** being developed.

Coming up

- A **summary report** highlighting the strategies and the challenges governments, civil society and businesses face in implementing these will be published on the ECESP website and sent to participants
- **Presentations** will be published on the conference webpage upon authors' consent
- Spatial Foresight will publish its **final report on Circular economy strategies and roadmaps in Europe** by May 2019
- As the coordinator of **ICESP (Italian Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform)**, ENEA will continue supporting Italy's public administration and private enterprises with implementing circular strategies. In partnership with the Ministries of Environment and Economic Development, **ENEA is designing an indicator set to monitor the circular economy in Italy**.
- **IRCEM** is campaigning for Romania's government to adopt a circular economy strategy. To ensure citizen and civil society engagement provides buy-in for such a strategy, IRCEM will be hosting 7 regional consultations in collaboration with Romania's Ministry of Environment and host a **final conference on June 11th in Bucharest** to present the **Roadmap for developing a strategy on the circular economy in Romania**.
- The **4th Circular Change Conference**, to be held 16-17 May in Maribor, will tackle the 4 priority sectors of the **Slovenian roadmap towards the circular economy** and focus on business cases delivering this roadmap.

About the workshop leads



Dr Laura Cutaia is a researcher at the **Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA)** with a background in raw materials engineering. Her research topics include Industrial Symbiosis and Technology for raw and secondary materials treatment among others. She is responsible for the Resources Valorisation Laboratory at ENEA, working on: circular economy and resource efficiency, LCA, environmental certification schemes, REACH and sustainable industrial areas.



The **Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA)** provides applied research, technology transfer and technical-scientific support to companies, associations, territories, central and local administrations. Among the emerging issues, ENEA supports the productive system as well as public authorities (Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Economic Development in particular) in the transition towards the circular economy and full resource efficiency.



Dr Elena-Simina Lakatos is co-founder and president of the **Institute for Circular Economy and Environment "Ernest Lupan" (IRCEM)**. Simina also lectures on Strategic Management in the Department of Management and Economical Engineering at the Technical University Cluj-Napoca, where she gained a PhD in Engineering and Management (2011). Her research focuses on Circular Development Strategies, Social Circular Economy, Life-Cycle-Assessment, and Environmental Certification.



The **Institute for Research in Circular Economy and Environment "Ernest Lupan"** was launched in 2012 as an independent non-governmental organisation in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. IRCEM collaborates in promoting the circular economy and supports eco-efficient technological innovations that are designed to ensure a sustainable natural environment.

Want to keep the conversation going? Contribute your good practice on circulareconomy.europa.eu, join the online forum or drop us a line: CEStakeholderEU@eesc.europa.eu

