

"CircE - European regions toward Circular Economy"

INTERREG Europe Project



Opportunities Report

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Introduction

In this report an overview of the Circular Economy (CE) opportunities identified by the CircE Project Partners is provided.

A specific chapter is dedicated to each Project Partner. We keep them as different files, in order to help the reading.

This introduction represents a synthetic description of the way these opportunities have been identified.

In particular, the identification of opportunities has been developed following the rationale and the approach proposed by the CircE Methodology (the CircE tool), identified as the common project methodology at the beginning of the project.

The identification of opportunities has been carried out for the economic sectors selected as sectors of interest of the project, in particular:

- Built environment;
- Plastics;
- Food waste;
- Textile;
- WEEE-strategic metals;
- Tourism;
- Biomass;
- Raw materials.

Namely, for the identification of opportunities, the following activities have been carried out:

- Select the most suitable source of information, in order to build a reference knowledge, useful to bear the sectors analysis and to map good practices and opportunities of CE in the regional contexts.
- Develop a specific analysis on the regional Smart Specialization Strategies; assuming that in many economic sectors the development of CE is significantly linked to innovation, a general overview of the Smart specialization strategy (S3) has been produced, reading the strategy from the CE perspective and emphasising the most interesting contents, where room for CE can be found.
- Collect and analyse specific statistical data on the chosen sectors (such as Employees in the region, Turnover, Gross Value Added, Companies in the region, Resource productivity, Volume of waste generated, Share of waste reused/remanufactured, Share of waste recycled, Share of waste incinerated, Share of waste landfilled, Energy Consumption).
- Map Circular economy Actors, Good practices and cross-cutting projects; this mapping activity is important to increase the knowledge of the regional contexts, to understand the regional readiness to develop Circular Economy and to discover the local performances concerning Circular Economy. Moreover, this activity is useful to allow the cross-sectorial and cross-regional analysis among partners in order to identify possible links, networking and ideas-gaps (opportunities) in Circular economy to be developed and addressed in different regional contexts.

A specific room (a dedicated chapter in each partner's document) in this document has been dedicated to the good practices, because in the project approach, their role is important for the exchange of experiences and for identifying opportunities.



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