

"CircE - European regions toward Circular Economy"

INTERREG Europe Project



Priority Opportunities

Project Partner 6 – CD2E

Hauts-de-France

1. Executive summary.....	1
2. Prioritization	1
3. Opportunities ranking.....	2
4. The Stakeholders	4

“This document reflects the author's views only and the Interreg Europe programme authorities are not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained therein”

1. Executive summary

This document is the continuation of the previous Opportunity Report done during semester 2. It provides an overview of the process used by CircE partners and the cd2e to prioritise the former identified opportunities for accelerating the circular economy in the Hauts-de-France region in the textile and plastics sectors. This prioritisation work will be useful to build an efficient action plan which will be implemented in the Region Policy Instruments to steer economy towards a circular model.

2. Prioritization

The key objective of the CircE project is to share knowledge and good practices and circular economy initiatives. In order to be able to replicate the actions taken in one region, it is necessary to understand the regional contexts and the different objectives of the region. Therefore, the project partners of CircE decided to use the same prioritization tool. We decided to use the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) which is a very commonly used approach to deal with various data and multi-criteria decision. This hierarchy approach allows a systematic procedure to organize the priorities by breaking down a problem into its smaller constituent parts. The first steps of this methodology are to clearly define the problem and to reduce the set of solutions or alternatives. These steps were performed during the first semesters of the CircE project and summarized in the previous Opportunity Report. The next step was to build a decision hierarchy in the shape of a criteria tree. The main criteria of the trees have been discussed by the PP during the meetings in Lille (April 2018) and Arnhem (June 2018).

The first hierarchy level is divided in four categories: strategic impact, economic impact, social impact, environmental impact. The strategic impact refers to the replicability of the actions considered, the time scale before the first benefits, the coherence with the RIS3 strategy and the contribution to the local ecosystem development and to the legislation targets. The economic impact focuses on pay-back time and profit. The social impact embraces the job creation, the development of new skills, the increase of public awareness and social inclusion. Then, the environmental impact covers GHG emission saving, energy efficiency and resource efficiency. This last criterion has been divided into two parts: total resource volume saved and strategic resources saved.

If all the Project Partners agreed on this decision tree, we do not have the same objectives and our regional context is not the same. For some actors, circular economy is a key element to create new activities and to boost the regional economy. For others, it is more about preserving natural resources and reduce GHG emission. Therefore, each PP has to amend this criteria tree by defining the weights of the different criteria.

This weighting work was made by the cd2e staff based on our knowledge of the regional priorities and our experience in circular economy. First, we evaluated those weights individually, then we shared our thoughts and we discussed about it. After these discussions, we compared and reevaluated our conclusions with the expressed objectives of the region, which emphasises on economic impact and job creation. No stakeholders were involved in this hierarchy process. The result this evaluation process is summarized in the decision tree below.

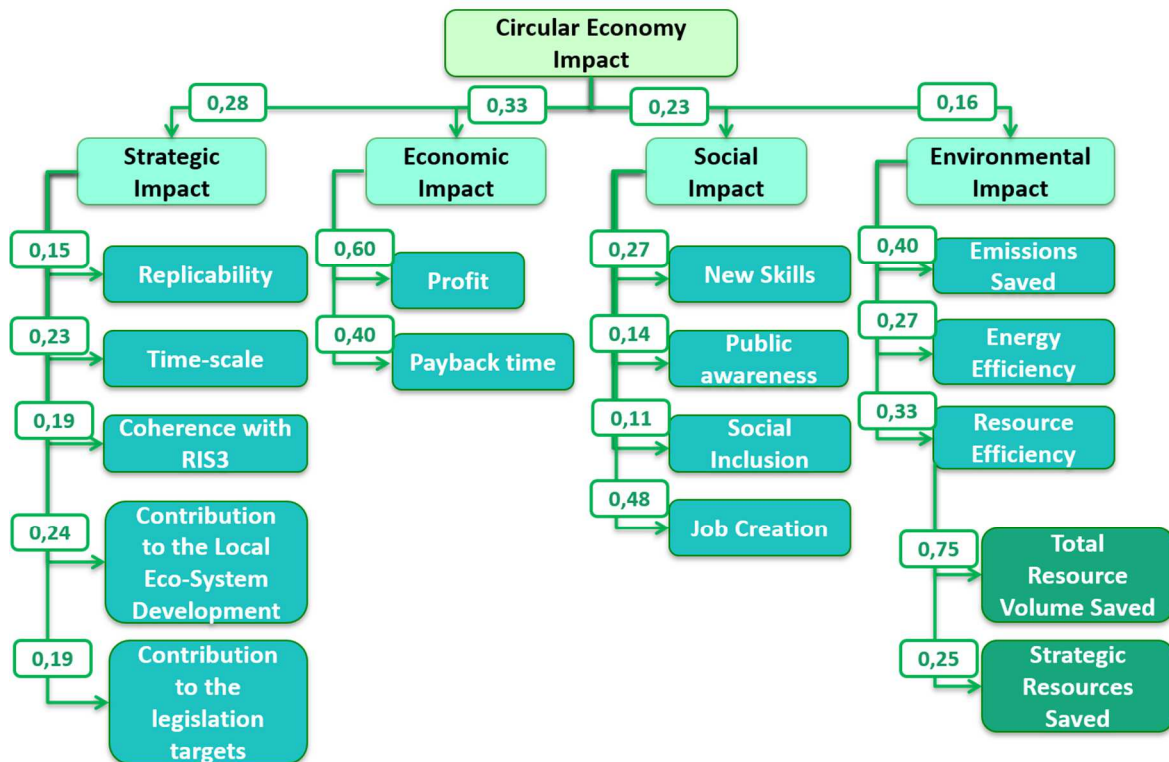


Figure 1: PP6 CD2E Decision Tree

3. Opportunities ranking

The final priority ranking for the opportunities was achieved through inputting each of the opportunities identified into the AHP tool, and ranking each of the criteria for that opportunity using a score from 1-5 (1 being least desirable and 5 being the most desirable). This scoring was conducted by the cd2e staff. In order to illustrate the importance of sharing knowledge among different regions and to highlight the benefits of the CircE program, we decided to put some actions identified by other PPs in their Opportunities Report into our personal criteria tree to have an idea of their ranking. The final scores are presented below. Any opportunity which had a final score over 3 was considered a priority opportunity.

Further details of these opportunities are contained within the opportunities report, and CircE tools.

Table 1: Textile opportunities ranking

Opportunity	Ranking value	Precisions
Promote local textiles rather than textiles coming from the other end of the world	3,9	This opportunity needs to be declined in strong operational actions to support the offer of local textiles
Strengthen sorting activities linked to professional integration schemes	3,6	This opportunity concerns all sectors
Structure the sales of used textiles	3,5	

Increase the ecological tax to help SSE companies to be competitive	3,4	Ecological taxes may seem to be unpopular from a foreign point of view but they remain admissible solutions for French people if they prove a social benefit
Develop new recycling jobs and new recycling technologies	3,4	
Build a material database on textile resources and ways of recovery	3,2	<i>This opportunity has been identified by PP1 Lombardy in its Opportunity Report</i>
Raise awareness on overconsumption in people's habits	3,2	To foster quality over quantity may impact the global economy as a reduction of volume sales but may benefit the local economy as an increase on money spend
Communicate on the opportunities of repairing used textiles	3,2	
Reuse of waste textiles in other sectors (built industry)	3,1	This opportunity can benefit to two different sectors at the same time, the built industry is eager to reuse new materials
Communicate on the opportunities of recycling used textiles	3,0	
Develop new ways of textile recovery	2,9	
Create coherence between the different owners of the containers	2,9	This action can be an opportunity to create new regulations both on a regional and national scale
Promote labels about the ecological impact of products	2,9	This label has to be defined precisely, ecological impact and local production do not always meet. This label can be an easy way to drive public procurement
Encourage people to sort their used and clean textiles in the appropriate containers	2,9	It may seem easy to encourage people but to be effective, communication campaign will have to be very specific to cities and territories culture
Support R&D in the technical textiles field	2,8	Some Interreg projects and regional clusters are already supporting R&D
Give incentives to fashion designers to use sustainable, reused materials	2,8	<i>This opportunity comes from the work of PP1 Lombardy</i>
Offer a no cost energetic recovery for unrecyclable textiles	2,0	Energetic recovery should remain the last option

Table 2: Plastics opportunities ranking

Opportunity	Ranking value	Precisions
Train employees of waste treatment plants to improve the sorting quality	3,6	Plastics are in fact very diversified and should be sorted in more categories
Foster eco-design (integration or recycled materials and increase of the recyclability)	3,5	This opportunity concerns all sectors but is particularly true with plastic, a very modular material
Give incentives to develop biodegradable and bio-sourced plastics	3,2	<i>This opportunity has been identified by PP1 Lombardy in its Opportunity Report</i>
Support regional plastics companies using recycled plastics	3,2	
Increase percentage of recycled plastics into new products	3,1	<i>This opportunity has been identified by PP1 Lombardy in its Opportunity Report</i>
Integrate ICT to make progress at every moment of the value chain	3,1	This opportunity is really suitable for very automatized industry
Create awareness to further sort plastics wastes	3,1	It should concern both consumers and producers
Develop the sorting of 5 materials (paper, metal, glass, plastics, wood)	3,1	This opportunity may become a national regulation
Extend the life of products	3,0	This opportunity is following the actual discussion on disposable plastic
Public procurement that gives priority to recycled plastics	3,0	In many sectors, public procurement is driving the economy. It is less true for plastics, but it remains a big actor
Put in place separated circuits for plastics (separation at the source)	2,8	
Organize regular meetings between regional stakeholders	2,6	This is an opportunity to ease the implementation of the other actions
Develop economic incentive mechanisms to develop the recycling of regional plastic wastes	2,5	For the automobile industry for example, virgin plastics is often way cheaper than recycled one
Develop energetic recovery	2,4	Energetic recovery should remain the last option

4. The Stakeholders

The opportunities identified in the previous Opportunity Report were identified by several stakeholders during some regional working groups. However, stakeholders were not invited to participate in the prioritization process. As a consequence, the ranking presented above illustrate the objectives of the Region in terms of impact that the Region seeks to generate. The priority opportunities identified remain very large and adaptable and should be declined in operational actions with the help of SHs.

5. Conclusion

Based on the prioritization work made by the cd2e, we identified 16 priority opportunities in the textile and plastic sectors in the Hauts-de-France region. These opportunities will be discussed with the other CircE partners and will be integrated in the future regional action plan and declined in more concrete actions.

	Opportunity	Sector
1	Promote local textiles rather than textiles coming from the other end of the world	Textile
2	Strengthen sorting activities linked to professional integration schemes	Textile, Plastics
3	Structure the sales of used textiles	Textile
4	Foster eco-design (integration or recycled materials and increase of the recyclability)	Textile, Plastics
5	Increase the ecological tax to help SSE companies to be competitive	Textile, Plastics
6	Build a material database on textile or plastic resources and ways of recovery	Textile, Plastics
7	Give incentives to develop biodegradable and bio-sourced plastics	Plastics
8	Raise awareness on overconsumption in people's habits	Textile, Plastics
9	Support regional plastics companies using recycled plastics	Plastics
10	Communicate on the opportunities of repairing used textiles	Textile
11	Reuse of waste textiles in other sectors (built industry)	Textile
12	Increase percentage of recycled plastics into new products	Plastics
13	Integrate ICT to make progress at every moment of the value chain	Plastics
14	Develop the sorting of 5 materials (paper, metal, glass, plastics, wood)	Plastics
15	Extend the life of products	Textile, Plastics
16	Public procurement that gives priority to recycled plastics	Plastics