

Interreg Mediterranean



GRASPINNO participation in the activities of Interreg MED Green Growth Community *Presented by Constantino Kounas*

Capitalization Workshop

«Green Public Procurement – Energy Efficiency –
GRASPINNO Interreg MED project»,
Mytilini, Lesvos Island, Greece, 8 th May 2019

Interreg Med Horizontal Project “SYNGGI – Synergies for Green Growth Initiatives – Energising the Impact of Innovation in the Mediterranean”.



SYNGGI aims to support, unify and enhance the activities and results of the modular projects of the Green Growth axis through communication activities, dissemination, networking and joint capitalization, to facilitate the transfer and the wider dissemination of results at the level transnational, not only within the MED area but also towards all European regions.



Establishment of a solid “Green Growth Community”, stimulating the sharing of project results and the transversal exchange of innovative practices among stakeholders. Furthermore, SYNGGI wants to be a valid tool to prevent duplication of results and maximize the impact of modular projects.

The **Green Growth Community** of the Interreg MED Programme is composed of over 150 partners including public authorities, SMEs, research organizations and NGOs involved as partners or stakeholders.

In the framework of the **SYNGGI** Capitalization Work Package, the Interreg MED Green Growth Community will analyse and transfer the results delivered by the Modular Projects (MPs) of the community to capitalize the main outcomes to reach EU stakeholders and create policy recommendations for EU policy-makers.

The following outputs will be elaborated by the MED Green Growth community:

- Technical reports (white papers)
- Policy recommendations
- Legal recommendations and legal acts recommendations
- MED Green Growth bible

Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) have been created in order to facilitate systematic technical cooperation, synergies and joint work among the modular projects in view of capitalization and policy outputs.

TWG 1 - Production and Consumption: Resource Efficiency

TWG 2 - Production and Consumption: Smart and Green Public Services

TWG 3 - Waste Prevention and Management

TWG 4 - Competitiveness and Innovation

Timeframe:

Date & place	Objective / Activity
First week of November 2018 <i>online</i>	MPs are informed by email about the creation of the Thematic Working Groups and thematics, and eventual input is collected.
14th November 2018 <i>Durres / Albania - GG community building event</i>	-> Creation of the TWGs -> Agreement by all the modulars concerning the objectives, expected outcomes and working methodology of each TWG (TWG Roadmaps)
December 2018	Designate representatives of each MPs that will participate in the TWG.
January - May 2019 <i>online meetings (last week of the month)</i>	Monthly online meetings of the TWGs (using GoToMeeting application) to advance on the production of the policy inputs / recommendations under the coordination of SYNGGI partners.
March 2019 (<i>6th March, Thessaloniki, Greece</i>)	TWGs members face-to-face meeting to work on their respective topics and contribute to Green Growth policies recommendations and white papers. External experts will participate in the meeting.
June - July 2019	Production of final versions of GG White Papers by SYNGGI and experts based on the TWGs inputs.
July – September 2019	Elaboration and presentation of policy and legal recommendations based on TWGs inputs by SYNGGI.
October 2019	Creation of the MED Green Growth book compiling all the policies results and process of the MED Green Growth community by SYNGGI with inputs from TWGs.

LCC **Life Cycle Costing**

Life Cycle Costing Analysis is an evaluation method that allows you to determine the total cost of a product, considering its entire life cycle.

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LCA **Life Cycle Assessment**

The Life Cycle Assessment considers the entire life cycle, thus including the phases of pre-production (and therefore also the extraction and processing of raw materials), production, distribution, use (and therefore also re-use and maintenance), recycling and final disposal

TWG2: Overview of the TWG and the concept of a circular economy (CE)

The TWG belongs to the broader circular economy pillar, “Production and Consumption” that addresses **issues** linked to eco-design, best available techniques, advanced manufacturing technologies, product green claims, green public procurement, green technologies, innovation capacity and awareness-raising, bio-based materials, key materials produced within the EU, sustainable management of natural resources.

Within the “Production and Consumption” pillar, two complementary TWGs have been created:

Resource efficiency - TWG1 and Smart and Green Public Services - TWG2

Each of the four Circular economy TWGs created within INTERREG MED Green Growth community aim to contribute to at least one indicator from the EC “Circular economy monitoring framework”.

TWG2 will mainly contribute to the 2nd indicator, Green Public Procurement, defined as “the share of major public procurements in the EU that include environmental requirements”.

HOW TO INCREASE GPP FOR PA and SME's?

1. Promote the use of LCC by public authorities in general, including in the procurement process;
2. Encourage capacity building initiatives of PAs and SMEs to use green and innovative procurement (especially for energy efficiency solutions);
3. Promote open systems and open data frameworks for public services, including for mobility issues;
4. Promote models for the efficient maintenance and upgrade of infrastructure and services, including at procurement level;
5. Strengthen SMEs and entrepreneurs capacities to enter the green market (energy, smart city, mobility) and use/exploit open data opportunities;
6. Promote/raise awareness of the green and smart mobility industry towards SMEs, entrepreneurs, PAs and the general public;
7. Advocate a correct inclusion of green and smart mobility industry in the ROPs and national funding programmes;
8. Increase awareness for the “business case” of GPP;

TWG 4 Competitiveness and innovation

It will address **issues** linked to smart specialization, public-private partnerships, innovative funding, private investments, Innovation capacity and awareness-raising, SMEs and entrepreneurship, job creation, Clustering and economic cooperation, patents.

European Commission set up different sub-indicators to measure the “competitiveness and innovation” at EU level:

- 1 - investments, employment and gross value added
- 2 - patents related to recycling and secondary raw materials as a proxy for innovation.

These circular economy indicators are, therefore, relevant for this TWG.

Overview of the TWG and the concept of a circular economy (CE)

In 2015, the Commission established a unique comprehensive strategy, the [Circular Economy Package](#), aiming to close the resource loop by introducing measures covering the whole lifecycle of products and materials.

A circular economy is part of the modernisation and transformation needed for the EU to become the world's first major economy to go **climate neutral by 2050**

The circular economy approach is, therefore, a key challenge to promote not only a long-term sustainability but also competitiveness and innovation in Europe, while considering the entire life cycle of products as well as their impacts on the environment.

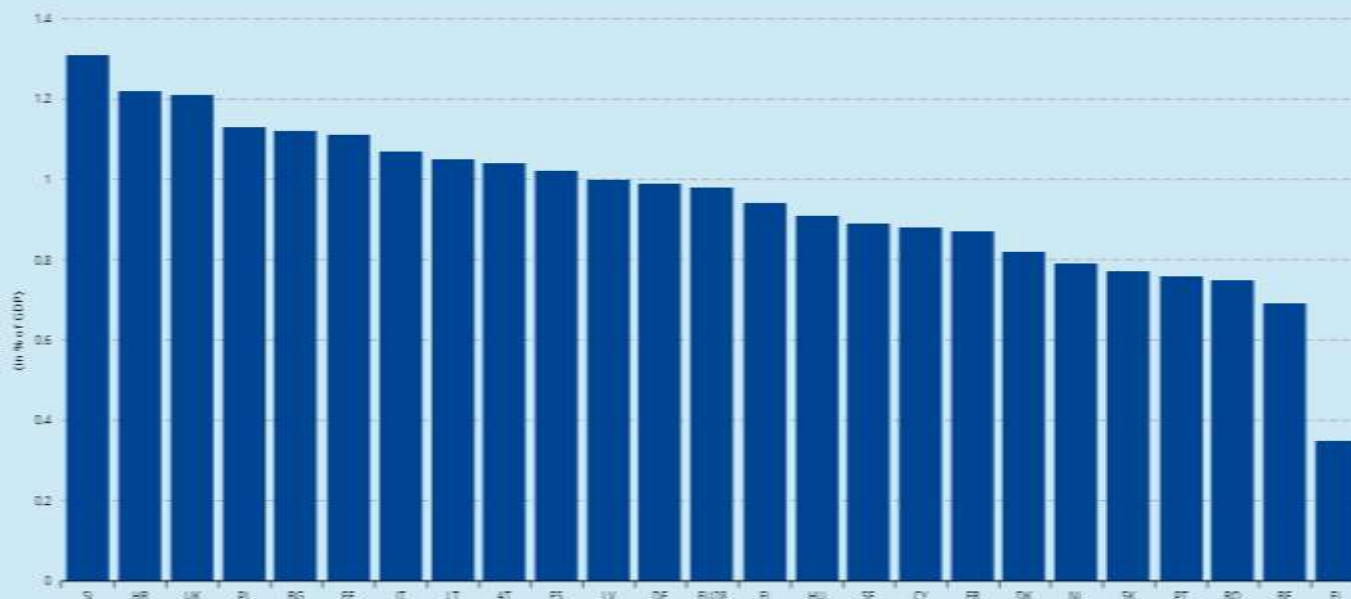
Indeed **circular economy can protect businesses against scarcity of resources and volatile prices**, it can boost innovation and generate new opportunities as well as it can enhance efficient ways of producing and consuming and create new jobs and opportunities for social integration and cohesion.

Competitiveness and innovation

The circular economy also contributes to the creation of jobs and growth. The development of innovative technologies improves product designs to ease re-use and to promote innovative industrial processes.

Statistical indicators such as gross value added, investments or employment are used in order to measure competitiveness and innovation in the EU.

Gross value added in the recycling sector and repair and reuse sector, 2016 (in % of GDP)



Countries for which data is not available are not displayed in the chart.

The source dataset is available [here](#)

eurostat

Figure 2. Eurostat, Gross value added in the recycling sector and repair and reuse sector, 2016 in % of Gross Domestic Product GDP



Competitiveness and innovation

This area comprises 2 indicators:

- Private investments, jobs and gross value added;
- Patents related to recycling and secondary raw materials as a proxy for innovation.

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The circular economy contributes to the creation of jobs and growth, as illustrated below. The development of innovative technologies improves product designs for easier re-use and promotes innovative industrial processes.

Jobs, growth and investment in circular economy sectors



3.9 million jobs



Value added in 2014
EUR 141 billion



An increase of 6.1 %
compared to 2012



Private investments
EUR 17 billion

Figura 1. Eurostat, Competitiveness and Innovation indicators

Challenges that the TWG will need to address

Creativity driven innovation in green SME's – creativity is a way of thinking (Programme COSME - European Incubation Network(s) for Creativity-Driven Innovation)

Enabling the access to the financing sector for innovative SME's

Green private public procurement at all levels

Financial instruments for technology infrastructure

Circular economy and driving innovation

Delays in incorporating research, technology and innovation into legislation and governance

Political objectives of the TWG

In the light of the above described challenges, the following aspects were highlighted in the meetings of the TWG 4 as important policy considerations.

1. To show the environmental and economic benefits of the implementation of the technology
2. To find innovative solutions and then to foster the implementation of those solutions

CONCLUSIONS

Stakeholders to be involved

From the TWGs emerged that there are two main target groups for our recommendations: SMEs (and their clusters and associations) and local/regional Public Authorities

TWGs Proposed Outputs

1. Technical reports (white papers)
2. Policy recommendations
3. Legal recommendations and legal acts recommendations
4. MED Green Growth handbook

Thank you for your attention

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