

OUTPUT FACT SHEET

Innovation networks

Version 2

Project index number and acronym	CE1515 CITYCIRCLE
Output number and title	Output O.T4.1 , Transnational CECOMs implemented (Energy and Environment)
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	E-zavod, PP8
Project website	https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/CITYCIRCLE.html
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Summary description of the established innovation network explaining its structure, functions and transnational character

Transnational CECOM's innovation network for Energy and Environment is an online community comprised of various international stakeholders with expertise or/and interest in circular economy promotion and development in this key sector. The network is comprised of public, private, and academic sector actors.

The main challenge the network addresses is identifying relevant trends in Energy and Environment sector and contributing to the development of innovation agenda that will help further drive the CE development of this area in the participating regions. The participants have provided input for this by scanning and presenting the CE potential in their local context and in respect to this identified trends and developments in circular value chains, technologies and business models as well as providing input for a context specific gap analysis. Based on these activities the final session was dedicated to aligning and development of action concepts that the network can pursue in the future.

Identified were some focus areas that participants were interested to work on together in the future, developing new projects and initiatives that will accelerate CE activities across EU. These focus areas are circular economy in public utility services, use of waste energy, citizens focused planning.

They will be included in the innovation agenda for this key sector.

The network was developed through activation of project partners that have nominated suitable network participants from their local networks. CECOMs groups have regularly come together in the second half of 2020 in moderated online conferences, following a joint work process. An interactive Miro board was created that comprises input from all workshops in one online space and is available to all participants. In addition, for each CECOMs group an online discussion forum was created on Teams platform.

NUTS region(s) concerned by the innovation network (relevant NUTS level)

SK04, HR04, ITH4, SI02, SI01, AT34, DE11

Expected impact and benefits of the innovation network for the concerned territories and target groups

The CECOMs innovation network on Energy and Environment supports transnational linkages among actors of local and regional innovation systems (circular economy stakeholders), who are interested and committed to supporting the setting up of transnational circular value chains or circular economy loops related to this sector. These linkages have been forming as part of CECOM's networking sessions, meaning the collaborative potential to work on common challenges together has been strengthened, knowledge shared and expanded and hence improved local capacities have been developed. As such the connectedness between partner regions has been improved and the regional innovation eco-systems strengthened. The long-term benefits of such networking and collaboration will manifest to public and private sectors, to academia and civil society. For example, cities will become better equipped to direct their public procurement towards CE products and services; companies will benefit from promotion and support provided; civil society will benefit from an improved local economy and environment; academia will see the fruits of their work activated in real context and will be able to improve and adapt the models accordingly.

Sustainability of the innovation network and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders

The CECOM's innovation community network for Energy and Environment is an online community of experts, activators, and supporters of CE. Currently the community disposes with 2 online tools for further collaboration (hosted by PP8), the designated Teams platform and the shared Miro board (online working space). The idea is to also integrate these CECOM collaboration spaces into the common marketplace platform, where they will enable further collaboration opportunities to capture CE potentials in this sector. Once available in the market place the network will be available also for other territories (and new members). It can benefit stakeholders from a range of sectors (public -city, municipal administrations, businesses, academic institutions, civil society organizations) providing a cross-sectoral collaboration and co-creation ecosystem that is essential for development of innovative CE initiatives.

There are many tools for creation of online communities of interest that are easily available and practical for use, however due to a rapid shift to online working across EU there is a risk of people experiencing digital overload with less interest to participate in such networks.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

Deliverable D.T4.1.1, Deliverable D.T4.1.2, Deliverable D.T4.1.3

Miro workspace link: https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_klDax8o=/ (password: CIYTCIRCLE)

<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/CITYCIRCLE.html>

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QWgXjd0XymHF5q_ldXbThc3OM3iAmEoP

link to CECOMs Energy and Environment Teams platform

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3acade4ad8353546e6801e2d290e7bc027%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=8cbcff9f-9e52-4064-8a37-bf20e6a98b95&tenantId=84666c86-64ef-43e3-9071-ecbec34a8064>



