Going circular in cities
Best practice examples from EUROCITIES

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Connecting cities

- Influencing
- Visibility
- Networking

Cities have started - they need help to move on

- Oslo
- Gothenburg
- Belfast
- Dusseldorf
- Amsterdam
- Antwerp
- Brussels
- Turin
- Porto
- Guimarães
- Copenhagen
- Milan
- London
- Paris
- Ljubljana

City of Oslo

Waste management strategy for 2017-2025:
• 30% reduction of residual waste
• 30% reduction of food waste
• More reuse - think reuse and repair before recycling
• Together with industry - identify barriers for waste prevention and recycling

Developing a new strategy for reduced consumption
- Communication through campaigns
- Use of local legal instruments
- Cooperation with stakeholders, business and enterprises
- Use of city taxes
- Stimulate by subsidies

Improve public procurement as instrument for environmental performance
- Important part of new Public Procurement Strategy (2017)
- Concrete examples:
  - Requirements for waste prevention for suppliers of packaging
  - Use of LCA as a criterion
  - Implement ecological food in new contracts
  - Agreement of reuse of furniture's and electrical products

City of Amsterdam

The Amsterdam Approach: Broad commitment and close cooperation between businesses, research institutes, citizens and government. To proof in practice that a circular economy adds value to society.

First city: research on regional/city level
- Greatest potential: building/construction + organic value chains
- Added value
- Less material use
- Less CO2-emissie

Amsterdam approach, learning by doing
- 20 projects
- Municipality in charge
- Circular redevelopment of big transformation area
- Circular buildings

Partners in the city accelerate transition:
- Joint research programs
- Portfolio of innovation projects
- Industrial symbioses
- 60 partners

www.amsterdam.nl/physicalplanning/circular
City of Copenhagen

City project: Copenhagen, Hamburg, Lisbon and Genoa

- Engage cities, enterprises, citizens and academia in 16 value chain partnerships to develop eco-innovative solutions (four lead partnerships and 12 local partnerships).
- Develop 10 viable end-markets solutions, by demonstrating new applications for plastic waste, metals (used electrical and electronic devices), food and bio-waste, and wood waste.

Other initiatives:
The "Goldmine" is a laboratory for developing new methods for reuse, recycle, repair, redesign, and distribute materials from the recycling stations. In total 12 "golddiggar-initiatives" have been started, e.g. up-cycled children's clothes. Source: http://guldminen.dk/om-guldminen/

Together with Copenhagen Business School, Copenhagen co-finances a PhD in circular, public procurement and calculation models. The city is interested in methods to assess the costs of circular procurement and to identify circular procurement criteria.

City of Turin

Turin’s Circular Economy Initiatives

1. How to improve the quality of materials recovered from municipal waste, food waste?
2. How to promote re-use and repair more widely across the city?
3. How to refresh and refine green public procurement for Bellac as all its contracts?
4. How to foster a collaborative economy and industrial symbiosis at a Council-owned estate?

The project made of research organisations, SMEs, public bodies in the UK, Belgium, Germany and Ireland, all of which are working on various projects with the goal of turning waste into a resource.

Urban Agenda Partnership on Circular Economy

The overall goals for the Urban Agenda Partnership

- Better governance: The urban agenda for the EU should integrate and disseminate implementation of existing EU policies, regulations and instruments.
- Better results: The urban agenda for the EU should be used by cities to develop, support and guide efforts to achieve ambitious targets, in line with the 2030 Agenda.
- Better regulation: The Urban Agenda for the EU will contribute to enhancing the knowledge base, structural and investment funds (ESIF) (in accordance with the legal and institutional practices and knowledge.
- Better funding: The Urban Agenda for the EU will contribute to identifying, supporting, implementing and integrating, and improving traditional, innovative and user-friendly sources of funding for urban areas at the European level, including from European structural and investment funds (ESIF) (in accordance with the legal and institutional practices and knowledge.

Objectives for Urban Agenda partnership on Circular Economy

- Waste management (turn waste into a resource)
- Buildings
- Mobility
- Services and utilities

City of Düsseldorf: Use returnable dishes and cups for catering during events on municipal premises and in municipal buildings, e.g. in Düsseldorf's soccer arena.

City of Guimaraes: Invested in waste valorisation and models that deliver social benefits such as reuse of medical equipment like crutches and paper food initiative destined to increase recycling.

City of Gothenburg: Focusing on waste prevention and reuse. Learning from good practices and collaboration between various parties, is key to achieving long term results.

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City of Turin: Sharing economy elements, cloths library, bag and backpacks out of jeans. City heating: collective management of grass mowing machines, branches shredder. Redrawing framework for package-collection, sorting and recycling (Flemish organisation of various parties, is key to achieving long term results.

City of Aachen: Sharing economy elements, cloths library, bag and backpacks out of jeans. City heating: collective management of grass mowing machines, branches shredder. Redrawing framework for package-collection, sorting and recycling (Flemish organisation of various parties, is key to achieving long term results.

City of Copenhagen: A Resourceful Belfast Board established (Waste Management, Procurement and Economic Development)

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Scope - Draft Four themes to be discussed

- Urban mining – waste as a resource
  - Identify resources within urban areas, including resources in buildings, infrastructure and green areas
  - Increase recycling
  - Promote source separation
  - Increase the quality of recyclables
  - To increase quantity and quality of waste as resource for new production

- Circular Economy as a business driver
  - Bio economy
  - Sharing economy
  - Eco-design as a driver towards a Circular Economy
  - How to start dialogue with industry on production

- Circular consumption
  - Identify city potentials for waste prevention
  - To increase reuse in urban areas
  - Identify possibilities for Reparability
  - Identify possibilities for Sharing economy
  - Food waste prevention
  - Sustainable food systems

- Public Procurement
  - European recommendations or guidelines
  - Cooperation with ICLEI – circular procurement
  - EU guidelines, recommendations etc

EUROCITIES waste regulation demands

- Definition of Municipal Waste - delete the quantitative criteria
- Definition of recycling - final input is correct. The target is recycling, not collection
- Use of EPR criteria, should include cost coverage for municipalities and partly cost coverage of littering
- Establish a system for knowledge exchange between municipalities

EUROCITIES priorities

The EU needs to close the loop

1. The EU legislative framework should ensure that products do not feature built-in obsolescence, are designed for reuse and recycling, are easy to maintain and repair and use recycled materials. Also, we need a more ambitious strategy for using the eco-design directive to ensure effective product design provisions for easy reuse and repairs, efficient dismantling and recycling.

2. To enhance sustainable consumption and recyclability, a label on resource efficiency would be a useful tool. Such a label should provide information on hazardous substances, amount of virgin or recycled materials, and repair and maintenance.

3. Clear common rules on extended producer responsibility (EPR) will be helpful to provide economic incentives for more sustainable product design.

Assistance to help bridge the implementation gap

1. Knowledge sharing platforms on priority areas, such as food waste and plastic, to exchange best practices between key stakeholders - including cities - would be useful to ensure we move towards a strong circular economy for the EU.

2. The European Commission and member states should facilitate and finance cooperation between cities and industry, to make products more sustainable and promoting behavioral changes in consumption patterns.

The Circular Economy is not only about waste targets

EUROCITIES next steps:

- Circular economy Task Force chaired by Amsterdam
- EUROCITIES 2017 LUIRJANA CIRCULAR ECONOMY 15 - 17 NOVEMBER