CoR, Brussels, 31 January 2017 - Françoise Bonnet-ACR+  

Going circular at a regional scale: regions as frontrunners

Association of Cities and Regions for sustainable resource management

98 members 23 countries 1100 local authorities

To promote a sustainable management of material resources through prevention at source, reuse and recycling

The Circular Europe Network in a nutshell

ACR+ Members & desk research

Advisory Committee

Cooperation with national networks

ACR+ vision: 5 pillars for circular economy

- Territorial hierarchy
- Multi-R approach
- The role of LRAs
- Shared governance
- New business models

LRAs = Facilitators

- Citizens
- Consumers
- Local enterprises, mainly SME’s via the Local and Regional Authorities (LRA)

ACR+ vision: 5 pillars for circular economy

• Territorial hierarchy
• Multi-R approach
• The role of LRAs
• Shared governance
• New business models

LRAs = Facilitators

• Citizens
• Consumers
• Local enterprises, mainly SME’s via the Local and Regional Authorities (LRA)
Large variety of leviers

- Behaviour change (citizens, enterprises)
- Awareness campaigns, Regulations, Local taxes as Pay-As-You-Throw System (PAYT)...
- Public procurement (public authorities)
- Green, innovation
- Infrastructures
- Incubator, Re-use center, selective collection and recycling, eco-parks...
- Business Support Scheme
- Innovation support, financial instruments, official recognition
- Fiscal framework
- Local levies
- Regulation

Strategy

Planning

Monitoring

Demand/Consumption

Supply/Production

The Regional level

Regions include different kind of territories: urban and rural – how to combine them, how to create synergies, incentives,...

Complementarity with other levels of competencies (cities): a regional strategy must be an encompassing strategy

In some Member States: important administrative competences that make the difference

→ NEED to strengthen LRAs capacities

HOW to strengthen LRAs capacities?

1. Strategic planning and evidence-based management allowing the formulation and monitoring of objectives and goals;
2. Stakeholders’ involvement in all components of the policy cycle (design, decision, production and evaluation);
3. Appropriate administrative structures (ministries, agencies, fusion of organisations, etc.);

4. Simplification and rationalisation of administrative procedures
5. Management of partnerships with different crucial actors in the field (e.g. other governmental bodies, NGOs, private and business partners);
6. Results orientation: impact assessment, evaluation, monitoring and audit to assure the transparency and accountability in terms of efficiency and effectiveness;
7. Socially responsible behaviour: ethical, environmental, non-discrimination, gender equality;

Source: EIPA

Frontrunners

- Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region: strategy for circular economy
- Brussels Regional Programme for a Circular Economy
- Catalunya
- Circular Friesland strategy
- Flanders Materials Programme
- Liguria Circular
- Nord Pas de Calais: the Third Industrial Regional Master Plan 2030
- Making things last in Scotland

Source: EIPA

Brussels regional plan for circular economy (PREC)

- Based on experience of Employment-Environment Alliance (2009-2014) + urban metabolism study
- 111 measures in 4 parts: transversal, territorial, governance, sectorial
- Sectorial public-private actions plans on circular economy (Resource/Waste, Construction, Logistic, Retail, Food)
- Examples of focus: eco-design, product-service systems, support to SMEs & innovative businesses
Liguria Circular

- Permanent regional forum on circular economy created by the city of Genoa & AMIU
- 3 main actions:
  - Development of Circular Economy projects in Liguria.
  - 4 working groups (food waste reduction, resource efficient buildings; sustainable products design; waste as resource)
  - Dissemination of Circular Economy culture
  - Networking between all local stakeholders and with the national and EU levels
- Various projects under construction (reprocessing of products, ICT tools, industrial processes, 3D printing based on recycled plastics, etc.)

Making things last in Scotland

- Strategy developed by Scottish government & Zero Waste Scotland
- Focus on 4 themes:
  - Food & drink and bio-economy;
  - Remanufacture;
  - Construction;
  - Energy infrastructure
- Legal framework to preserve resources (+ procurement reform in 2014)
- Circular Economy Investment Fund (to support SMEs)
- Education & communication (including coaching and branch agreements)

The local and regional authorities: Key messages

- LRAs are the Facilitators on their territory towards circular economy
- The transition towards circular economy includes a societal challenge: requires a change of behavior from both producers and consumers
- Research and Innovation are key in order to achieve our transition towards circular economy;
- Multistakeholders approach and complementarity must be key drivers

Economic aspect: New business models

- Sharing economy
- Economy of functionality

Contact: fb@acrplus.org
Françoise Bonnet, ACR+