

# ICLEI Europe's circular economy projects & initiatives



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# Open opportunities

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# Circular Initiatives

# Circular Cities Declaration

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The European Circular City Declaration (CCD) is a commitment document which local and regional governments across Europe can sign to help accelerate the transition from a linear to a circular economy in Europe. Signatories get access to exclusive knowledge-sharing and networking opportunities.

## Get involved!

[Contact us](#) to sign the Declaration!

## Resources:

- [CCD Report 2024](#)



[Visit the website](#)



[Simon Clement](#)

# Circular City Centre - C3

The Circular City Centre - C3 is a competence and resource centre within the European Investment Bank (EIB) that supports EU cities in their transition to a circular economy. C3 supports cities in four different ways: awareness raising & mobilisation, knowledge sharing & dissemination, Circular City Advisory (CCA) and Circular Project Advisory (CPA).

## Get involved!

Cities interested in participating in the C3 advisory programmes can express their interest by contacting [C3@eib.org](mailto:C3@eib.org)



[Visit the website](#)



[Simon Clement](mailto:Simon.Clement@eib.org)

# Frontrunner cities group

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In a bid to accelerate Europe's transition to a circular economy, a coalition of European cities has written an open letter to newly elected Members of the European Parliament (MEPs). Led by the City of Amsterdam with support from ICLEI Europe and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, the Circular Cities Frontrunner Group is advocating for stronger policies to reinforce the role of cities in the circular transition.

Get involved!

Contact us to support the initiative.



[Visit the website](#)



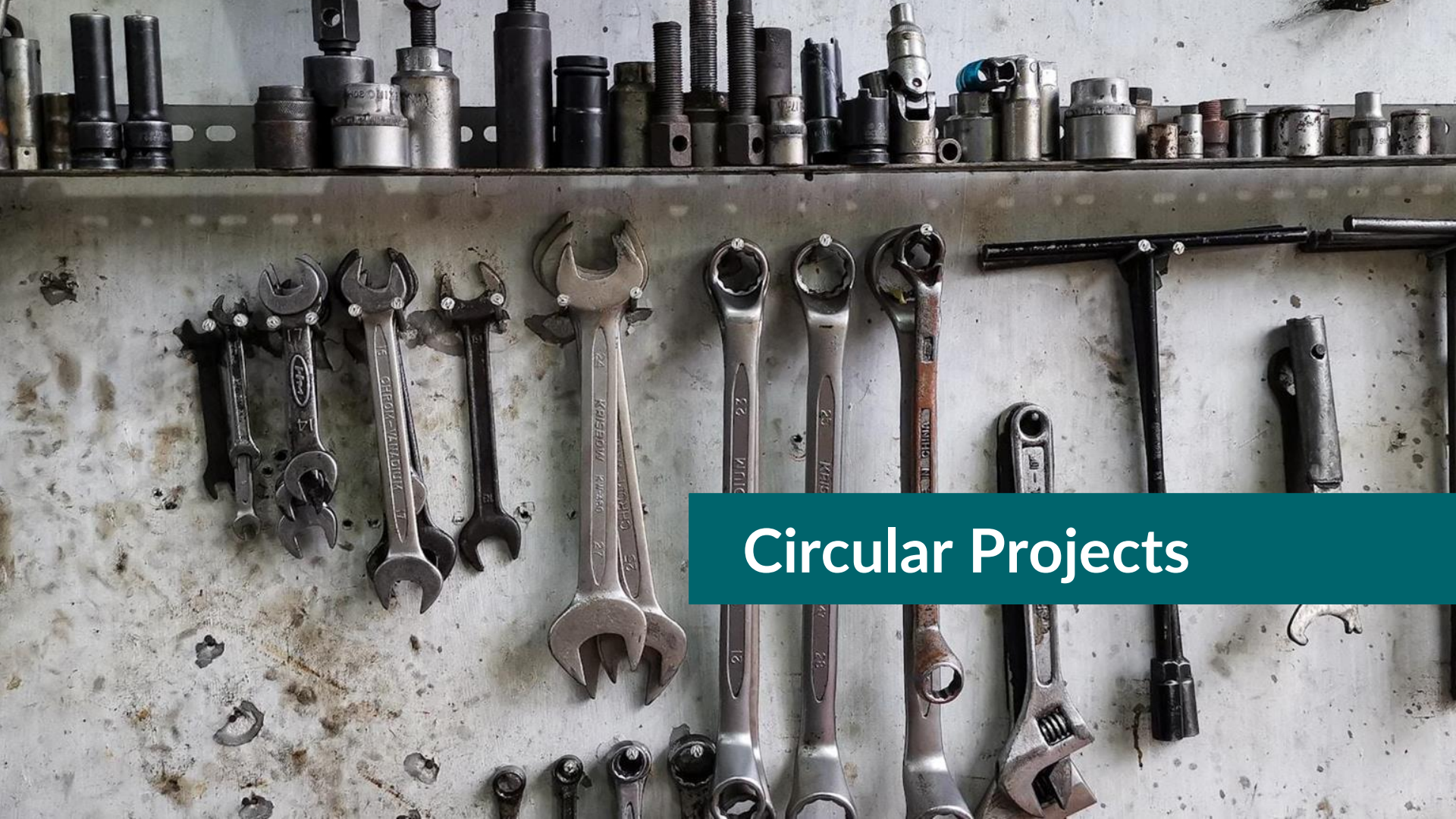
[Simon Gresset](#)

# Other Initiatives

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# Circular Projects

# BIOMODEL4REGIONS



The BIOMODEL4REGIONS project aims to support the establishment of innovative bioeconomy governance models at the local and regional level to achieve better-informed decision-making processes, social engagement and innovation.

## Resources:

- [Project leaflet](#)
- [Stakeholder Factsheet](#)



Ongoing



Ends in 2026



[Visit the website](#)



[Nikolai Jacobi](#)

Coordinator: [Ciaotech](#)

# BUS-GoCircular



BUS-GoCircular aims to tackle the challenges of stimulating demand for a skilled green energy workforce, while providing hands-on capacity building to boost the number of skilled professionals across the value chain.

## Resources:

- [Stimulating demand for circular construction skills](#)  
[A guide for public authorities](#)
- [Other results](#)



Completed



Ended in 2023



[Visit the website](#)



[Leslie Petitjean](#)

Coordinator: [ISSO](#)

# CCRI-CSA

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Ongoing



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[Simon Gresset](#)

Its goal is to strengthen and complement the CCRI, fostering the implementation of Circular Systemic Solutions in European cities and regions. The CSA will support Thematic Working Groups and provide additional technical assistance to CCRI cities and regions.

Get involved!

[Contact us](#) to learn how to be part of the CCRI Community.

Coordinator: [ICLEI Europe](#)



CHORIZO aims to enhance understanding of how social norms influence behaviours that lead to food loss and waste, using this knowledge to improve decision-making towards zero food waste.

## Resources:

- [Project goals and expected results](#)
- [Data Hub](#)
- [Sector-specific guidance](#)
- [Actor-specific guidance](#) (including guidance for cities)



Ongoing



Ends in 2025



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[Leah Lazer](#)

Coordinator: [ILVO](#)



Ongoing



Ends in 2027



To come in June



25

[Leslie Petitjean](#)

The project will support the development of Circular Construction Hubs (CCH), ideally encompassing a Physical Material Bank (PMB) and a Digital Marketplace (DM). It will deliver a portfolio of sustainable innovative financial, technical and business development solutions, that will be applied in four EU cities and regions.

## Resources:

- To come: Toolbox and Cookbook (tools for cities)

Coordinator: [Munich municipality](#)

# CIRCULAR BIOCARBON



## CIRCULAR BIOCARBON



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[Helen Franzen](#)

CIRCULAR BIOCARBON will develop a unique biorefinery that will convert urban organic solid waste and sewage sludge into useful items for industries and consumers, such as coatings, compostable waste bags, biodegradable soil mulch films, green graphene devices, and bio-based fertilisers.

### Get involved!

The City Interest Group brings together local authorities with an interest in valorising bio-waste and in setting up a biorefinery.

[Contact us](#) to become a member!

Coordinator: [URBASER](#)

# Circular Cities and Regions in Georgia



The project focuses on advancing waste prevention and promoting circular economy in Kakheti and Adjara regions of Georgia, by addressing three key waste streams: packaging, biodegradable and construction and demolition waste. It facilitates dialogue and learning and develops and pilots practical solutions, supported by industrial networks, financial aid, and technical guidance.

Coordinator: Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (CENN)



Ongoing



Ends in 2026



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[Nikolai Jacobi](#)



# Circular City Labs

Circular City Labs  
Testing Reusable Packaging Systems in Cities



Implemented by

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

The project provides training and accelerator programmes for local businesses in Tirana (Albania) and Tbilisi (Georgia) to promote the adoption of reusable packaging systems in cities while strengthening women's participation in local circular economies. Additionally, cities will receive ad-hoc support for the implementation of reusable packaging at city events.

## Resources:

- [Circular economy in Albania](#)



Ongoing



Ends in 2025



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[Nikolai Jacobi](#)

Coordinator: [Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit \(GIZ\)](#)



CityLoops piloted a series of demonstration actions in seven European cities to close the loop of two of the most important waste streams in Europe: construction and demolition waste, and bio-waste.

## Resources:

- [Circular construction handbook](#)
- [Circular bio-waste management handbook](#)
- [Other publications](#)



Completed



Ended in 2023



[Visit the website](#)



[Simon Clement](#)

Coordinator: [ICLEI Europe](#)

# CircularInvest

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circular  
invest

CircularInvest helps circular economy projects become investment-ready and increase their chances to secure financial resources. Its services include advancing circular solutions, business planning, fundraising and legal and regulation support.

Check the [website](#) for updates!

Coordinator: [INOVA+](#)



Ongoing



Ends in 2026



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[Simon Gresset](#)

# DEFINITE-CCRI



The DEFINITE-CCRI project establishes a “deal engine mechanism” – an assistance programme to help make circular economy projects bankable – to provide cities, regions and project developers with technical and financial expertise.

## Resources:

- [DEFINITE-CCRI in brief](#)
- [Report on Investor Base and Financial Instruments](#)



Ongoing



Ends in 2025



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[Nikolai Jacobi](#)

Coordinator: [ICLEI Europe](#)



The Hubs4Circularity Community of Practice is a network of partners from industries, regions, and cities, set up under Horizon Europe to facilitate building, scaling up and replicating of ecosystems of industrial and industrial-urban symbiosis, and circular economy.

Get involved!

Become part of the European Community of Practice for Hubs4Circularity to build up your skills, learn from other members, and develop your local hub!



Ongoing



Ends in 2026



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[Chiara Coluccia](#)

Coordinator: [ISQ](#)



P2GreenN will explore and implement innovative nitrogen and phosphorous recovery solutions proceeding from human sanitary waste from urban settlements to produce safe bio-based fertilisers for agricultural production.

## Resources:

- [Project brochure](#)
- [Publications](#)

Coordinator: [Agrathaer](#)



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REDOL will promote industrial-urban symbiosis in Zaragoza, turning the city into a circular hub. It will redesign five value chains for solid urban waste (packaging, plastics, construction and demolition waste, textiles, and electronic waste) to create new circular products.

## Resources:

- [REDOL Publications](#)

Coordinator: [CIRCE](#)



Ongoing



Ends in 2026



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# SIRCULAR

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## SIRCULAR

SIRCULAR will create digital tools and services to decarbonise the built environment and develop a methodology to assess building circularity. It aims to make decarbonisation information accessible to non-experts and provide professionals with tools to evaluate and improve circularity in their projects.

Coordinator: [RINA-C](#)



Ongoing



Ends in 2027



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# SPADES

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SPADES (Spatial Planning And DEsign with Soil) focuses on securing soils in spatial developments under the Mission A Soil Deal for Europe. Researchers will work across seventeen European locations to develop, test, and implement soil-inclusive practices in spatial planning and design.

Coordinator: [DELTARES](#)



Ongoing



Ends in 2028



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# SYMBA

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SYMBA aims to develop an innovative Industrial Symbiosis method for bio-based industrial ecosystems. It will create an accessible AI database that recommends regional Industrial Symbiosis processes to build zero-waste value chains, enhance local supply chains and ensure a fairer distribution of economic and social benefits.

Coordinator: [ENCO](#)



Ongoing



Ends in 2026



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# SYMSITES



## SYMSITES



Ongoing



Ends in 2026



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[Nikolai Jacobi](#)

The SYMSITES project aims at developing new technologies and solutions based on the Industrial and Urban symbiosis concept to improve the sustainable use of industrial and societal resources starting from wastewater and waste materials.

### Get involved!

SYMSITES Network of Waste Associations will offer training materials for the implementation of I-US, comprehensive I-US replication guidance and virtual tours of the SYMSITES pilot I-US initiatives. [Contact us](#) to become a member.

Coordinator: [AITEX](#)