

ircuEc

Development of innovative curricula and modules in Circular Economy and Sustainable Development

International Workshop Series to Foster Circular Economy
Education Across Europe and Central Asia



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Meeting Minutes

PROJECT: CirculEC

Date: 25 June 2024

Event Report

Summary of the event

Monthly meeting of the working group on the results of recent events. Report on the project implementation plan, exchange of views, comments on updates and current results.

Discussion of the workshops on the process of the circular economy implementation in higher education institutions and the private sector was held.

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ATTENDANTS

No.	Partner No.	Organisation	Full name	Role
1	P9	KarUK	Galiya Gimranova	Manager
2	P9	KarUK	Oxana Bezler	Manager
3	P9	KarUK	Karina Nevmatullina	Teacher/Researcher
4	P9	KarUK	Yevgeniya Puntus	Teacher/Researcher
5	P9	KarUK	Svetlana Glazunova	Administrative
6	P9	KarUK	Zariya Aitova	Administrative

Learning outcomes: International experience

Venue: **Fachhochschule des Mittelstands (FHM), Bielefeld, Germany**

On April 22-23, 2024 events consisted of various sections, covering the topics of sustainable development and circular economy in education and research. The speakers spoke in detail about how to effectively organize the coordination of scientific research and projects together with partners. The speakers talked about the importance of choosing real projects based on the needs of the region. Specific advice was given on how to develop an action plan in target areas and how to conduct a dialogue with the expert community.

The speakers also talked about the competency model: how it is built, what competencies are relevant today. A chain of consistent actions was also built from identifying problems of sustainable development and circular economy in education to solving them and implementing specific products in practice.

The question of how to organize applied research and how to attract specialists from business and production as lecturers was addressed. The seminar became a platform for each partner to present their vision of solving the issue of introducing a circular economy and education.

Venue: **University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain**

During the trainings on April 25-26, 2024 participants have gained the experience in the circular economy, specifically tailored to the characteristics of agriculture, construction, water supply and business models within the circular economy. Participants gained a detailed understanding of how to integrate the circular economy component into business disciplines to develop effective sustainable business models. In addition, a comprehensive framework has emerged for wider integration of circular economy principles into various curricula, highlighting the multifaceted benefits of sustainability in professional practice.

The main emphasis was on analyzing the historical aspect of the development of circular economy ideas, as well as a detailed description of the current situation today. 6 planetary pathways for sustainable development have been described, such as decarbonization, environmental sustainability, social sustainability, economic sustainability, sustainable production and consumption, and sustainability management. Reformist and transformist approaches to the circular economy were also discussed. The focus was on the importance of sustainability management and the role that international organizations play in the widespread adoption of circular economy principles.

Venue: **University of Naples Federico II, Italy**

During this meeting, the partners demonstrated significant experience in introducing circular economy (CE) concepts in the field of urbanism and sustainable construction.

Urbanism through TEMALab, that's based on the integration of CE principles into urban planning, including the reuse and optimal use of urban spaces, applying sustainable

resource management practices and creating urban environments that support sustainable public life.

Sustainable construction emphasizes sustainable construction practices, with an emphasis on innovative construction methods that reduce environmental impact. This includes the use of recycled materials, energy-efficient building designs and methodologies that support life cycle assessment of construction projects to ensure sustainability from construction to operation.

These initiatives, presented by the University of Naples Federico II, demonstrate the practical application of CE principles to make urban and architectural projects more sustainable.

Internal communication

The Working Group discussed the outcomes of the capacitation through the trainings. The trainings demonstrate the practical application of CE principles to make all processes more sustainable. This experience serves as a model for educational purposes, as well as for wider application in professional practice in the fields of sustainable development and circular economy.

Also, dissemination team reported according to plan; press releases and news on trainings were published during the trip and following the results on the official website of the university in three languages (English, Russian and Kazakh).

The Working Group began planning disciplines to cover all levels of education to implement a circular economy course. Based on the results of the stakeholder survey, the responses and further steps to disseminate the CE principles were analyzed.

Conclusions

The Working Group discussed the outcomes of the capacitation through the trainings. The trainings demonstrate the practical application of CE principles to make all processes more sustainable. This experience serves as a model for educational purposes, as well as for wider application in professional practice in the fields of sustainable development and circular economy.