

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN BUILDING INDUSTRY IS THE FUTURE!



<b>WP5</b>	<b>Transfer of EcoKnowledge</b>
<b>ACTIVITY 5.2</b>	Matchmaking among SMEs and R&D institutions
<b>DELIVERABLE 5.2.2</b>	Local workshop and matchmaking

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## 1. Introduction of the event

BIC Brno organized a Local workshop and matchmaking on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018 in Circular Hub in Prague at Campus Hybernska.

The aim was to prepare a Local workshop and matchmaking as a follow up activity to Stakeholder meeting organized in 2017 where BIC Brno gathered suggestions and comments from stakeholders about barriers in the field of circular economy in the building industry. 56 participants attended the Local workshop and matchmaking in Prague to discuss the most important issues in this field.

European research projects from the area of construction and demolition waste and its reusing that include circular economy concept are one of the most actual trends. Because the time of inefficient using of primary sources ends it is necessary to find industry symbiosis between companies and symbiosis on the regional level.

What is considered by one as waste can be considered by the other as a resource. How to effectively network particular players on the market for a functional symbiosis in the framework of legislative requirements? Key aspect is to interconnect research organizations and private companies. Their cooperation will enable better, faster and more realistic results of eco-innovative projects.

## 2. Barriers in implementation principles of circular economy

The barriers in the field of circular economy in the building industry consist of primarily general mistrust in the construction products from secondary materials and cheap landfill. Czech Republic is up to 80% dependent on import of raw materials and the rate of recycling is in some areas unsatisfactory. Building industry is becoming a sector that consumes 50% of all the world's resources of raw materials where it faces alarming challenges such as the loss of sand inventory.

It is obvious that due to rapid growth of quantity of inhabitants in the cities the trend is to use waste materials in building industry. Hundreds of thousands tons of waste slag and ash that are secondary product of energy processes or waste building material that ends nowadays mainly on dumps. With the end of the landfilling of recyclable materials in 2024 we are in front of the challenge to look at all this waste as resources for further activity.

The aim of the workshop organized was to enable discussion and sharing good practice leading to the creation of functional cooperation between the participants. This cooperation is necessary for development of the eco-innovations and circular principles in the cities in the real conditions.

## 3. Catalogue of building products and materials containing secondary materials

The Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade decided to elaborate a Catalogue of building products and materials containing secondary materials. Thanks to that will be possible a discussion between professional and wide public for a purpose of elimination of prejudices and barriers in implementation of principles of circular economy.

## 4. Morning part

Morning part of our Local workshop and matchmaking was introduction to the main topics that were Recycling of building materials; Circular economy in practice; Concept Waste used as source; EU trends including the ambitious targets of western states, Activities of the Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade for support of using of secondary raw materials in the building industry; Use of waste from an architect and developer's perspective; Introduction of Ecolnn Danube project and Virtual lab; Supporting projects of program H2020.



## 5. Afternoon part

Afternoon part was divided into 3 parts: 1) Workshop about Czech circular cities 2) Workshop about raw industrial symbiosis between circular economy and European conditions and finally 3) Matchmaking event with company presentations. Some of topics were:

- Introduction of the FISSAC model and platform; practical examples and role of innovation in it; introduction of opportunities for the Czech market; benefits for users.
- Discussion over options of implementation (discussions between participants from industry, public sector, R&D and innovation agencies)
  - What kinds of raw materials are for this platform most suitable?
  - What are the most significant secondary raw materials?
  - What are the barriers of implementation of a similar platform in the Czech Republic and how to overcome them?
  - Who is interested in participation of testing?
- Creation of an action plan for the raw materials platform for building and demolition waste for all Czech Republic as an integral part of EU.

## 5.1. Workshop Czech circular cities

On the workshop about Czech circular cities focused on solving following topics: New technologies and innovations in waste management; Barriers in implementation; Searching of ways for cooperation; Common vision of circular cities of the future; How to divert construction waste from landfills and create resources from them.



## 5.2 Workshop Raw industrial symbiosis between circular economy and European conditions

Workshop about raw industrial symbiosis between circular economy and European conditions was focused on: Cooperation between science and research organizations and SME and specification of current barriers; National and regional topics – trends in building industry; Opportunities for innovations; Benefits of virtual labs; Sharing of personal experiences.



## 5.3 Matchmaking event

During matchmaking event companies presented their circular economy needs and demands. A networking and thematic discussion between all participants then followed.



