

Urban Circular Economy: how can we enable the transition towards circular and regenerative cities?



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Introduction: Circular Economy



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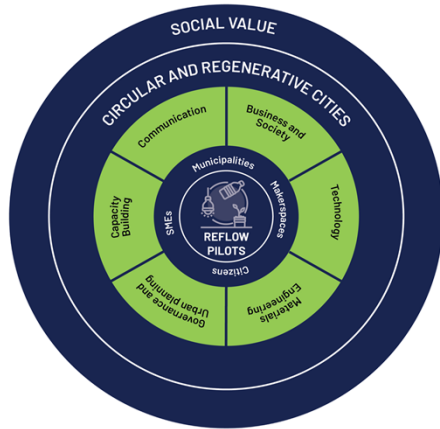
Circular Economy has been subject to numerous definitions and conceptualisation over the last decade.

Despite the Circular Economy growing as a business construct, there is yet little formal academic debate on it within the business and sustainability literature.

Moreover, when it comes to its components and ways to implement it, numerous hypothesis have been proposed. (Ellen Macarthur Foundation, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2019).

In December 2014, the European Parliament adopted the communication from the European Commission, 'Towards a Circular Economy: a zero waste programme for Europe'. The intention is that such an approach would, inter alia: 'boost recycling and preventing the loss of valuable materials; create jobs and economic growth; show how new business models, eco-design and industrial symbiosis can move us towards zero-waste; reduce greenhouse emissions and environmental impacts.'(European Commission, 2014, p. 4). Similar approach in subsequent intervention (e.g. Circular Economy Action Plan, European Commission, 2020).

REFLOW's Approach to Circular Economy



Based on the REFLOW mission:
"To understand and demonstrate how the reconfiguration of the urban metabolism can enable the transition to circular and regenerative cities"

Source: "Cities' Circular Action Plan" (Parisi, Beye, Bekier, Keremis, 2020)

The REFLOW Pilots



AMSTERDAM: Textile life cycling
BERLIN: Water heat waste
CLUJ-NAPOCA: Energy
MILAN: Food Markets 4.0
PARIS: Fairs' material recycling
VEJLE: Circular Plastic

REFLOW Deliverables Already Available



Deliverables (available here: <https://blog.cbs.dk/reflow/>)

D1.1 Co-production Practices in Cities

D1.2 Cities' Circular Action Plans

D2.1 Case Analysis and Requirements

D3.1 Circular Principles

D4.1 REFLOW Handbook

D4.2 Productive Cities Toolkit (beta)

D5.1 Detailed Pilot Planning & Evaluation Framework

Thank you!



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