

Session Agenda

Advancing and monitoring circular economy lifestyles and policies in cities and regions.

14:00 Introduction

Jan Gimkiewicz, German Environment Agency

14:05 Expert presentations

Marian Szabo, assistant professor and 'Deputy Head of Department' at the Department of Environmental Economics and Sustainability of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME). Her research focuses on the interrelationships between regional development and sustainability. For the EU Interreg project 'NiCE-from niche to centre' she leads the work package for 'Assessing, showing and framing the challenges and potentials of circular lifestyles in city centres'.
Iris Kriikkula, Circular Economy Project Manager at the City of Turku in Finland. Turku is developing a circular economy with an ambitious roadmap.

14:30 Expert comments

Agnes Schönfelder, senior expert in climate and sustainability policy. She was former CEO of the Climate Action Agency Mannheim, and she is local spokesperson for the EU Green Deal and coordinator of the EU mission '100 climate-neutral and smart cities by 2030' as well as lead of the NetZeroCities pilot project 'CoLAB – Committed to Local Climate Action Building'.

Luc Alaerts, Policy Research Centre Circular Economy (CE Center) funded by the Flemish government since the beginning of 2017 and he has led the development of the Flemish CE Monitor published in 2021. He is connected to KU Leuven as a senior researcher leading research on the challenges in monitoring sustainability transitions with an emphasis on circular economy and data. He is team member of the operational team of Circular Flanders, a public-private cooperation between the Flemish government and diverse actors involved in the circular economy transition.

14:45 Workshop in Groups, to two different topics:

- Challenges and needs to promote circular lifestyles in cities
- Indicators for monitoring circular economy in cities

15:25 Conclusion,

Michiel Pauwels, Vito