

DEFINITE-CCRI

Deal Engine, with finance, investment and technical expertise
for the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative

Meeting demand and supply for circular city projects

23 November 2022, 9:00-12:30 CEST

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Session description

DEFINITE-CCRI is a Horizon CSA-funded project starting in November 2022.

The project will establish a deal engine to provide technical, financial and circular economy expertise through local project development assistance to cities, regions and project developers – to help de-risk projects, and make them bankable for investors and meaningful for the citizens.

The deal engine will be built with cities and finance partners, with a goal to launch investments in four circular economy projects of up to 20 million investment volume per project, amounting to a total portfolio volume of up to 80 million. Definite-CCRI will demonstrate the bankability of high-impact circularity projects and increase maturity and investor trust in circular economy innovation. It closes the gap between project developers in cities and regions on one side, and investors and finance partners on the other.

In the context of the kick-off of Definite-CCRI, the hybrid session “**Meeting demand and supply for circular city projects**” aims at explaining the Definite-CCRI Deal Engine mechanism and how it can support cities in advancing on their circular solutions. Project partners, the European Commission DG RTD and the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative will take part in the opening of the session to further elaborate on the wider economic and policy scenario of circular cities.

The session will bring together city practitioners from Gent, Lappeenranta and Bornholm, to present innovative circular economy project ideas, at different stages of development and to reflect on their needs, challenges and opportunities to further develop circular solutions. Representatives from international financial institutions, multilateral banks, commercial banks as well as funds and other investors are invited to present their funding opportunities and reflect upon their needs and requirements for supporting innovative circular projects in cities.

Time	Agenda item
9:00- 9:15 15'	Welcome and introduction- Carsten Rothballer, Coordinator, Sustainable Resources, Climate and Resilience Team, ICLEI Europe
9:15-9:30 15'	Fostering circular systemic solutions in cities and regions in Europe. Introduction to the EU Circular Economy Policy Framework & CCRI support scheme - Lucie Blondel, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG Research and Innovation
9:30-9:45 15'	Introduction to the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI- CSO) - Jan Wynarski, CCRI Coordination and Support Office
9:45-10:00 15'	Q&A and audience response
10:00 – 10:45 45'	Meeting demand and supply for circular city projects, part 1: Hybrid session Definite - CCRI Introduction to the Deal Engine mechanism, expected objectives, and impact of the project, synergies – 5 min, Asen Charliyski, Managing Director, Global Head Sustainable Cities Finance, Bankers Without Boundaries Q&A - 5 min CCRI in action – circular cities ideas and projects Moderated by Carsten Rothballer, Coordinator, Sustainable Resources, Climate and Resilience Team, ICLEI Europe - City of Ghent, Belgium, Dieter De Smedt, Manager Invest and Tech Innovation; Timo Wyffels, Expert Climate Policy - City of Lappeenranta, Finland, Ilkka Räsänen, Environmental Director - Island of Bornholm, Denmark, David Christensen, Project Manager at BOFA
10:45 - 11:00 15'	Coffee Break
11:00 - 11:45 45'	Meeting demand and supply for circular city projects, part 2: Hybrid session The investors' corners – financial solutions for localized, circular economy projects Moderated by Asen Charliyski, Managing Director, Global Head Sustainable Cities Finance, Bankers Without Boundaries - Maria Blanco Herbosa, Environmental Specialist, European Investment Bank (EIB)
11:45-12:00 15'	Q&A and audience response
12:00-12:30 30'	Wrap up & Closing remarks, Davide Delaiti, Project Manager, European Research Executive Agency
12:30- 13:30	Lunch