



Join the CCRI community of practice on Urban planning for the circular economy

The structure and layout of our urban environments strongly influence how citizens and businesses behave and interact – and consequently play a pivotal role in shaping resource demand and consumption patterns.

How can we adjust our approaches to **land use planning and developments**, the **design of urban spaces**, and the **functioning of urban systems** such as transportation, energy, water, sewage and waste management to **encourage the circular economy**?

How can we balance the twin pressures of demographic growth and budgetary constraints in urban planning with our circularity goals and climate targets?

Urban planning for the circular economy

Our community of practice will bring together planners and circular economy practitioners from European cities or regions to exchange experiences, identify barriers and build solutions to integrate circularity in urban planning.

We will explore topics such as:

- **Using regulatory mechanisms**, such as building permits and land use planning to promote circularity in new developments (brownfield development, renovation, circular materials, modularity and future use, etc.).
- **Developing circular infrastructure**, such as material banks, waste processing and other circular facilities, including the allocation of land, in the context of urban public space scarcity.
- Understanding how the **urban form and urban systems** can encourage circular behaviour and circular business.
- Exploring **how the concept of circularity can be applied to urban land** itself to make cities more sustainable and resilient.

The “Urban planning for the circular economy” community of practice brings together experienced cities and regions in a dynamic working group. By joining, you’ll get the opportunity to connect with other practitioners, share insights and co-develop solutions to the common challenges you face in urban planning.

What to expect?

As a member, you’ll have the opportunity to tailor the community of practice to your needs and interests, co-designing the structure and activities alongside other participants. The following outlines some key aspects:

- **Size:** Each group will consist of 5 to 10 cities and regions (with one representative each), supported by experts.
- **Duration:** Each community of practice will run for a minimum of 12 months, with the option to extend until December 2026 or beyond, depending on interest.
- **Time Commitment:** Around one day per month, to attend at least five online meetings per year, exchange with peers, and take part in consultations on new materials to support cities and regions.

- **Activities:** The groups will organize online working meetings focused on the ongoing actions and projects of the participants.
- **Outputs:** You will work together to produce concrete, publishable deliverables.
- **Funding:** Participation is voluntary, and no funding is available to cover participation costs. There will be no travel required, as all activities will take place online.

Why join?

- **Learn from your peers:** Gain valuable insights from other cities and regions tackling the same challenges
- **Find better solutions faster:** Collaborate with others to address your needs more effectively
- **Expand your network:** Connect with an international community of like-minded partners
- **Gain fresh perspectives:** Discover best practices firsthand and bring proven strategies back to your own community.

Who can apply?

We invite all European local and regional authorities, along with their agencies and publicly owned companies, to apply. This is a unique opportunity to be part of a collaborative network driving impactful change in the circular economy.

Participation will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- **Commitment:** Active engagement is key. As a member, you are expected to actively contribute to discussions, attend meetings, and help shape or review group outputs.
- **Relevant Experience:** We are looking for participants who are already working on circular economy initiatives on urban planning and can bring valuable insights and experiences to the table.
- **Geographical Diversity:** To foster a well-rounded exchange, communities of practice aim to include members from a variety of European regions, ensuring a broad perspective on the challenges and solutions in circular economy practices.

How to express your interest

Simply complete the short application form online and we'll review your application. If needed, we'll reach out to you for clarifications. If you have any issues accessing or completing the form, please contact info@ccri-communities-of-practice.eu.

Apply now

Deadline for submission: 28/03/2025, 6:00 PM CET.

Any questions or doubts whether this is right for you?

Reach out to info@ccri-communities-of-practice.eu for more information or join our [online Q&A](#) on 20/03/2025 – 12.30 CET.

There are 3 more communities of practice now open for applications. Discover them all [here](#)

Background

Funded by the EU as part of the Circular Economy Action Plan, the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI) aims to bring the circular economy to life in cities and regions across Europe. The initiative supports the development of circular solutions that address different sectors and value chains, engage diverse stakeholders, and tackle a range of challenges, such as creating new business models and navigating regulatory impacts. It also seeks to drive positive change across social, economic, and environmental fields.

About CCRI Communities of Practice

The CCRI Communities of Practice's activities complement those already offered by the CCRI Coordination and Support office, the [CCRI Knowledge Hub](#) and other [CCRI partners](#). They are all about bringing cities and regions together to share experiences, learn from each other, and exchange best practices. By fostering peer learning and networking, they aim to broaden the CCRI's impact to more European cities and regions.

Contacts

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