



1st International Conference on the role of social enterprise in a Circular Economy: A story of Community, Resilience and Innovation

23 - 24 November 2017
Charleroi, Belgium

Interpretation available: French – English / English - French

Extending product lifetimes through re-use and repair has tremendous social and environmental impact and is at the heart of a circular economy vision. These activities can be a powerful vehicle to help develop human capital, strengthen social cohesion and help restore and regenerate cities and regions. Such aspects are seldom put into the spotlight during discussions on Europe’s move towards circular economy.

The main aim of the public conference on 23 November is to show-case examples of cooperation between social enterprise, public bodies and private industry and to discuss what could be done to further include community and social enterprise initiatives in Europe’s vision of a circular economy. High profile speakers ranging from the European institutions, public authorities, private industry and social enterprises will present their views in order to stimulate this important and timely debate.

The event will take place in Charleroi, Belgium, a city with a rich industrial heritage undergoing a dynamic regeneration and transformation. Support for social enterprise is very strong in Charleroi, and the event will provide the opportunity for participants on the second day to visit social enterprise and community initiatives in the region.

DAY 1 (23 November) - Open to all

Venue: Cinema Quai10 - Salle 1, Quai Arthur Rimbaud 10, 6000 Charleroi, Belgium

Facilitation: Peter Woodward

09:30 – 10:00 **Registration**

Welcome and Introduction

10:00 – 10:20 **Welcome and introduction**

Antigone Dalamaga – President, RREUSE

Cyprien Devillers – Environmental Councillor for the City of Charleroi

10:20 – 10:25 **Video message**

Karmenu Vella – Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries,
European Commission

10:25 – 10:35 **Sharing knowledge to promote a Circular Economy in Europe**

Cillian Lohan - Member of the European Economic and Social Committee

10:35 – 10:40 **Comments on changes on EU waste legislation**

Michal Len – Director, RREUSE

10:40 – 10:50 **Building social enterprise in Europe and beyond**

William Wauters – President, Groupe Terre, Belgium

10:50 – 11:30 **Questions and answers**

11:30 – 12:00 **Coffee Break**

Session 1: The value of re-use and repair in a circular economy

12:00 – 12:10 **Measuring the environmental and social impact of re-use**

Laura Rubio – Director, AERESS, Spain

12:10 – 12:20 **Job creation through innovation in the re-use sector**

Matthias Neitsch – Managing Director, RepaNet, Austria

12:20 – 12:30 **How the social and solidarity economy stands alongside refugees**

Gabriela Martin – Coordinator of network development and advocacy, Emmaüs
Europe

12:30 – 13:00 **Questions and answers**

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

Session 2: Social enterprise and industry working together in a circular economy

14:00 – 14:10 **How producers support a circular economy in France**
Guillaume Duparay – Operations Director, Ecosystèmes, France

14:10 – 14:20 **Innovation in re-use and remanufacturing of paint**
Jeroen Brink – Director Business Transformation, AkzoNobel

14:20 – 14:30 **The importance of working with local partners in a circular economy**
Per Stoltz – Sustainability Developer, Project Leader Circular Economy, IKEA Group

14:30 – 14:40 **Making the transition from work integration to the traditional labour market**
Peggy Liekens – Director Employment, WEB Turnhout, De Kringwinkel, Belgium

14:40 – 15:15 **Questions and answers**

15:15 – 15:45 **Coffee break**

Session 3: Public policy support for a circular economy and social inclusion

15:45 – 15:55 **EU policy to support inclusion, green growth and jobs**
Olga Martinez de Briones – Policy officer, DG EMPL, European Commission

15:55 – 16:05 **Scotland's commitment to build a circular economy**
Samantha Moir – Revolve Manager, Zero Waste Scotland

16:05 – 16:15 **Regional support for re-use**
Martine Gillet – Senior Policy Advisor, Public Services of Wallonia, Belgium

16:15 – 16:45 **Questions and answers**

16:45 – 17:00 **Conclusions**

*****Networking Cocktail *****

DAY 2 (24 November)

Open to RREUSE members and wider membership only

Day dedicated exclusively to the wider network of RREUSE to facilitate networking, collaboration and exchanges of best practice.

8:30 – 9:20 **Optional: Site visit at [Terre](#) textile sorting centre**
Terre, Rue de la Gare 10, 6010 Charleroi

There is a coach organised for those who want to participate the site visit and need transport

Meet at 8:00 Charleroi-Sud, Square des Martyrs, 6000 Charleroi (tbc)

9:20 **Departure from Terre to the conference venue**
There is a coach organised for those who need transport

Conference

Venue: ICDI, Rue du Déversoir 1, 6010 Charleroi, Belgium
Parking space available on site

8:50 **Departure from Charleroi-Sud train station to the conference venue**
There is a coach organised for those who don't participate in the site visit and need transport to the conference
Meet at 8:50 Charleroi-Sud, Square des Martyrs, 6000 Charleroi (tbc)

9:15 – 10:00 **Registration and welcome coffee at ICDI**

10:00 – 10:15 **Welcome by the ICDI and CPAS Charleroi: Creating a recycling village in Charleroi**

Development of future social enterprise partnerships

10:15 – 11:15 **Stories of collaboration with social enterprise**
Bruno Vermoesen – Senior Expert EU Technical Governmental Affairs and Associations, BSH Belgium

Tracking and traceability systems in the field of re-use
Jan-Willem Hoornstra – Head of Operations, IDEA-X, Netherlands

11:15 – 11:45 **Coffee Break**

Innovation, partnerships and developments among social enterprises

11:45 – 13:00 This session will provide key input from social enterprises working across a wide range of sectors, contributing to innovation and development of the re-use and repair sector.

International Social Enterprise Collaboration

- **ICT refurbishment**

Antoine Drouet – Director, Les Ateliers du Bocage, France

- **TESS GEIE: Getting involved**

Daniel Grancho – Director, TESS GEIE

Quality labels in re-use

- *Maureen O'Donnell* – Re-Mark Project Manager, Community Re-use Network Ireland

Questions and answers

13:00 – 13:45 **Lunch**

Notes on legal developments

13:45 – 14:45 **Feedback from social enterprise involvement with Extended Producer Responsibility in textiles, furniture and WEEE**
Stephanie Mabileau – Environmental Operations Manager, Emmaus France

Innovation in re-use and remanufacturing in Wallonia

Renaud Heymans – Project Manager, RESSOURCES, Belgium

Questions and answers

14:45 – 15:00 **Conclusions and end of conference**

15:00 – 16:00 **Optional: Site visit at a re-use centre of [Ressourcerie du Val de Sambre](#)**
Ressourcerie du Val de Sambre is located just next to the conference site (Rue du Déversoir 1, 6010 Charleroi)

15:00 & 16:00 **Departure to the train station Charleroi-Sud**
There is a coach organised for those who need transport

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We look forward to meeting you in Charleroi!

Contact

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