



Re-use of resources

Towards a circular economy



WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH



"Looking at earth from a distance, it becomes clear that man is a temporary guest in a circular system"

Thomas Rau, architect

The extraction and use of raw materials has a big impact on natural resources and the earth's climate. Last years, the need to develop a circular economy has become manifest. A transition is needed from a linear economy, where resources are used until they are disposed, to a circular economy where the focus is on value retention and the re-use of resources. Stakeholders experience an increasing demand for knowledge on this topic.

Our approach: knowledge partner for circular economy

We are an experienced knowledge partner for stakeholders with circular economy ambitions. We can be part of your solutions by providing data, technologies and new innovative approaches for implementation in local settings. Our science based knowledge guides decisions and set targets. Business development, policies and actions must be based on robust evidence to stimulate acceleration. Developments are going fast. Well monitored solutions must be scaled up rapidly.

In our research we explore how the circular economy concept can offer solutions to environmental problems to help various parties, like businesses, civil society, financial partners and various levels of government.

Some examples

In the Bloom project (Boosting European citizens knowledge and awareness of bio economy), we support the learning process of the partners by guiding them through all the phases of the innovation process: from ideation, exploration, testing and demonstration to the delivery of new sustainable solutions for businesses, products and services.

The EU project SYSTEMIC identifies innovative approaches to recover valuable mineral components from organic waste streams, to recycle those into new products and to integrate these approaches optimally into a local or regional circular economy.

Green Street aims to develop circular cities and new sanitation. It investigates how raw material flows can be optimally managed within the city, in both existing and new neighbourhoods and streets. In living labs we help cities and their immediate environment to deal with waste and residual flows, energy flows, raw materials and open space in a sustainable way.

Deliveries & Results

- Evidence based business development
- Governance propositions, policy development
- Learning processes and facilitation of workshops
- Design of circular systems

Research Programme

Metropolitan Solutions

Contact

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