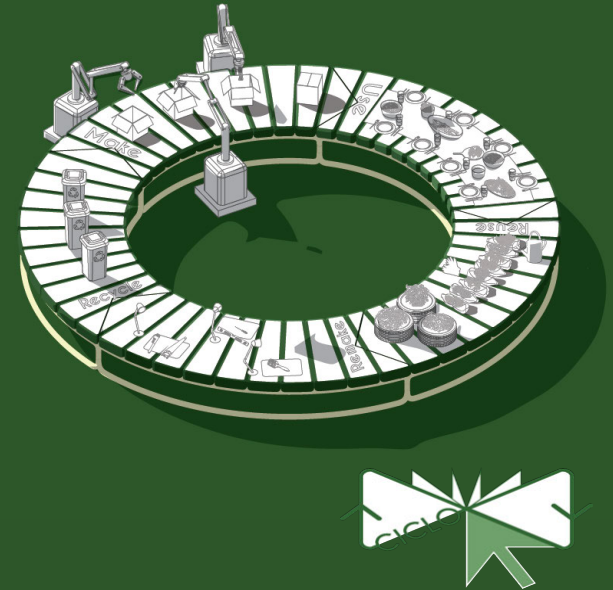


# CICLO project “Strengthening the circular economy skills of the EU Labour Services” - Circular economy in Portugal



9th – 10th november, 2020

# About the Project

**Project Title:**

CICLO - boosting the Circular eConomy skills of the EU services Labor fOrce

**Project Acronym:**

CICLO

**Project Start Date:**

01-10-2019

**Project End Date:**

30-09-2021

**Project Total Duration:**

24 months

**Web page:**

<https://ciclo-project.eu>

**Facebook:**

[https://www.facebook.com/CICLO-Boosting-the-Circular-Economy-skills-of-the-EU-services-Labor-Force-113734340339170/?modal=admin\\_todo\\_tour](https://www.facebook.com/CICLO-Boosting-the-Circular-Economy-skills-of-the-EU-services-Labor-Force-113734340339170/?modal=admin_todo_tour)



# Partners



Center for Social  
Innovation

CSI CENTER FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION  
LTD

Cyprus



Magenta Consultoria Projects SL

Spain



Stimmuli for Social Change

Greece



Fondo Provinciale Milanese  
per la Cooperazione Internazionale

Fondo Provinciale Milanese  
per la Cooperazione  
Internazionale

Italy



Instituto Politécnico de  
Santarém

Portugal



Promozione Internazionale Sicilia-Mondo

PRISM – Promozione  
Internazionale Sicilia-Mondo

Italy



Meath Community Rural  
and Social Development  
Partnership Limited

Ireland

# Project objectives

Develop a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation among EU citizens;

Support inclusive training initiatives and digital inclusion for all;

Open and innovative education, training and youth work, embedded in the digital era;

Provide an innovative ICT-based educational practice that will motivate the adults to commit in active learning;

Transparency and recognition of skills and qualifications to facilitate learning, employability and labor mobility;

Sustainable investment, performance and efficiency in education and training;

Combine higher levels of excellence and attractiveness of training and education with increased opportunities for all, including those at disadvantage;

Strengthening key competences in C-VET curricula and providing more effective opportunities to acquire or develop those skills through I-VET and C-VET;

Enhancing access to training and qualifications through C-VET, by increasing the quality, supply and accessibility of C-VET, validation of non-formal and informal learning, and promoting work-place learning;

# Intellectual Output 1

## IO1

The O1 refers to the Circular Economy Ecosystem and Methodological Framework Mapping which will be developed through the compilation of the 7 National Reports and the 1 EU Report developed by the partners.

The O1 will be finalized in the form of an eBook with an ISBN number and will be extensively distributed in eLibraries, VET actors and Policy Makers.

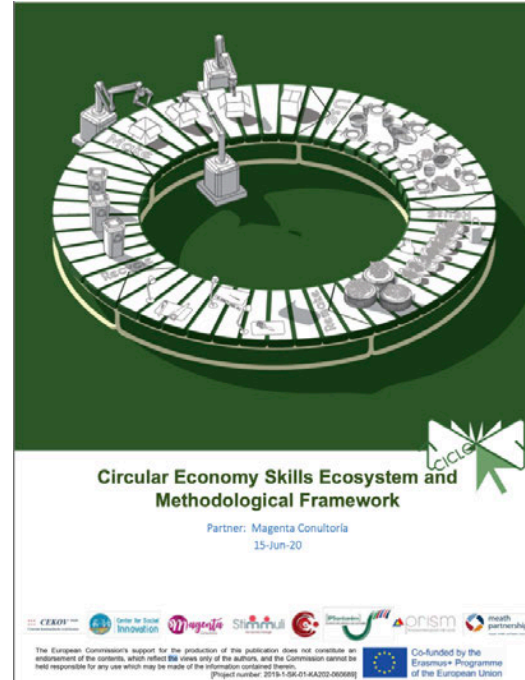
The purpose of the O1 is to collectively present the current and prospect shapes of circular economy ecosystem and skills upgrade through ICT tools to potential and current professionals in the market and to discuss the gaps in these fields and the needs of the target groups in the partner countries and the EU. The transnational report will conclude providing specific suggestions, recommendations, and guidelines for the development of a user-friendly, adaptable and widely accessible, accredited training package on circular economy skills upgrade for the EU labor force.

Start: 01-10-2019

End: 30-04-2020



## Circular Economy Skills Ecosystem and Methodological Framework



<https://ciclo-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/IO1-CIRCULAR-ECONOMY-SKILLS-ECOSYSTEM.pdf>

# Definition of Circular Economy

The **European Parliament** (Parliament, 2018) describes Circular Economy as: “*a model of production and consumption, which involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products as long as possible*”.

In **all the partner** countries the definition of Circular Economy is, if not common, very similar, sharing common elements and ideas, including all spheres related to extending the life of products or its parts and improving sustainability: ***Circular Economy is a strategic concept based on the reduction, reuse, remanufacturing, recovery and recycling of materials as well as sharing, leasing, repairing, and refurbishing existing products, components and materials, creating a close-loop system while at the same time promoting renewable energy sources, re-thinking systems and production processes, and reducing waste, pollution and carbon emissions.***

# European and National Contexts

The **official position of the European Commission** on Circular Economy was presented on 17 December 2012 with the publication of a Manifesto for a Resource-Efficient Europe. This document highlights the need to change to a circular economy and society in order to stop the harm made by the crisis. It also focus on the need to reindustrialize Europe to achieve efficient growth and sustainability. **“A circular economy preserves the value added to the products for as long as possible and virtually eliminates waste. The resources are retained within the economy when a product has reached the end of its life, so that they remain in productive use and create further value.”**

In the **case of Portugal**, in line with the European Commission's ambitions - **Circular Economy represents a key option for Portugal's resilience, prosperity and sustainable development, enhancing the efficient use of resources, productivity and competitiveness, generating growth, employment and reducing environmental impacts** (e.g., reduction in gas emissions greenhouse gas (GHG)). Now, the vision for Portugal should focus on significant advances in the continuous reuse of the strategically most important materials for the country, in their maximum productive potential (greater financial value and usefulness, for as long as possible), in cycles energized by sources renewable resources, preserving ecosystems and generating jobs and quality of life.

# Overview of national legislations

In **Portugal**, several policies and strategies have been implemented in recent years at the national level that enhance the transition to the circular economy.

In 2017, the Government launched the Action Plan for the Circular Economy (PAEC, 2017), which came to establish the priorities, actions and goals that have to be implemented to ensure that Portugal is on the path of Circular Economy. This plan presents 7 actions in line with the European pillars of Action for the circular economy, and 3 operational levels: national, sectorial and regional level.

- **National level:** with dedicated political instruments (e.g. green taxation, voluntary agreements, Portugal 2020 environmental network);
- **Sectorial level:** which focuses on sectors that are particularly resource intensive (e.g. construction, distribution and logistics, public procurement) or particularly important in the Portuguese business fabric (e.g. tourism, textiles and footwear);
- **Regional level:** (e.g. networks of industrial symbiosis, circular cities, circular companies), which should be implemented through specific support for the development of solutions (e.g. planning, technological, etc.), through mechanisms designed for this purpose (e.g. Fund Environment, Fund for Innovation, Technology and Circular Economy, Portugal 2020).



## In line with EU standards

The **current national political framework in Portugal** for the circular economy is the "Action Plan for the Circular Economy in Portugal", approved through the Resolution of the Council of Ministers no. 190-A / 2017, of 23 November. Its objective is **to define a national strategy for the circular economy based on the production and disposal of waste and the concepts of reuse, repair and renovation of materials and energy.**

The «Plan of Action for the Circular Economy in Portugal» is entitled «LEADING THE TRANSITION» and embodies the national strategy aimed at changing the economic paradigm from «linear» to «circular», encompassing a set of seven concrete actions to be fulfilled by 2020, which aim to accelerate this change, while simultaneously promoting job creation, economic growth, investment and social justice.

# National support structures

In **Portugal**, the **national level** deals with dedicated political instruments (e.g. green taxation, voluntary agreements, Portugal 2020 environmental network)

**While the sectoral and regional level** deal with things such as networks of industrial symbiosis, circular cities, circular companies. The latter should be implemented through specific support for the development of solutions, and through mechanisms designed for this purpose (e.g. Environmental Fund, Fund for Innovation, Technology and Circular Economy, Portugal 2020).



# National financial support

In Portugal, the promotion of innovation and investment was also presented as essential, through the following measures:

The creation of the **European Centre of Excellence for the Efficient Use of Resources** to help SMEs (small and medium business) to benefit from business opportunities arising from greater resource efficiency;

**Horizon 2020 program for 2016-2017** that includes the item "Industry 2020 in the circular economy";

The **creation of a platform**, in association with the **European Investment Bank and national banks**, to support the financing of the circular economy.

# Difficulties and challenges

In Portugal, the **Ministry of the Environment** assumes its role of **shaping a context that supports the agents in this transition to the circular economy providing:**

Political instruments that promote the efficient use of resources;

Disseminating information on best practices, case studies or financing opportunities.

This Ministry also acts through specific interventions in existing financial instruments in order to value initiatives that contribute effectively to EC, namely through sectoral and inter-sectoral projects in this area.

# Example of good practice

## VINTAGE FOR A CAUSE

Porto, Portugal

Website: <https://vintageforacause.pt/pages/circular-economy>



**Vintage's mission is to manufacture affordable ethical and sustainability clothing inspired by vintage styles. It seeks to create quality clothes, in order to please people and have a reduced ecological footprint.**

In order to reduce the negative impact of fashion industry on the environment, Vintage for a cause is redesigning fashion towards closing the loop by using resources that would probably end in the land fields.

The also promote a full **Circular Economy** by promoting a sustainable solution for disposing of their clothes: after using a Vintage for a Cause piece, instead of throwing it away, customers can resend it to them and they will offer a 10% discount in a new piece of clothing.

The **goal** of this initiative is **to use sustainable fashion as a mean of personal expression and a powerful tool of social changing while at the same time reducing environmental footprint and minimizing our environmental damage.** They are also committed to bring more fair labour to the fashion industry.

# Conclusions

Circular Economy is a concept that is gaining support and awareness, there is still a lot to do

The European Union is leading the world's action in this area, and it is pushing forward regulations and setting up goals but European Member States need to update their regulations and practices in order to reach these goals. Economic benefits must be highlighted to boost the transition to a more sustainable system.

Governments, both local and regional, must put more effort and invest in the development of proper legislation that allows companies to make the change towards this type of economy, as well as disseminate the results and all the resources available to reach as many people as possible.

There is a huge need for training both for the general population and companies.

The general population need to be aware of what they can do to promote a greener economy and how their actions can have a dire effect in the economy and the planet, and training can help increase people's awareness and produce a change in consumer's habits.

At business level, companies need to have trained professionals who can identify the opportunities and needs of the companies and help their transition into a Circular Economy.

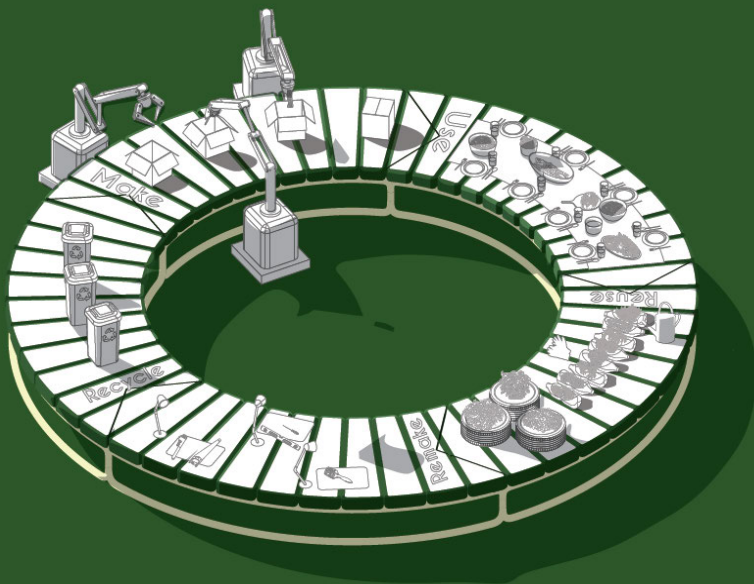
Everyone, from the employees, employers, managers, and the population, as well as public institutions and governments need to align their actions and work together, bringing together processes and priorities, in order to boost Circular Economy. This is required if the circular economy is to become an extended reality in our society.

# Future scenarios

## Development of the CE Skills Ecosystem and Methodological Framework (eBook)



Will be translated into the official languages of the project partners and later disseminated in the national and international company



# THANK YOU!

