Horizon 2020 Programme

CICER○NE
Circular economy platform for European priorities strategic agenda

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Intermediate Advisory Board recommendations for the future platform

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Authors : Mrs. Claudia BRUNORI (ENEA), Roberta De Carolis, Priscilla Reale

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Project officer: Eleni Magklara

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Author(s)	Mrs. Claudia BRUNORI, Roberta De Carolis, Priscilla Reale
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Summary

'Intermediate Advisory Board recommendations for the future platform' deliverable includes the main recommendations received from AB members until now and action already ongoing and planned to match these recommendations. Furthermore, a process to include members of SCREEN project in the Advisory Board is detailed, as requested by the EC

Approval

Date	By
2020-04-21 08:47:59	Dr. Gabor SZENDRO (LGI)
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Abbreviation	Definition
CE	Circular Economy
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
AB	Advisory Board
SN	Stakeholder Network
SRIA	Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda
PO(s)	Programme Owner(s)
RMs	Raw materials
S3	Smart Specialization Strategy
R&I	Research&Innovation
ESIF	European Structural and Investment Funds
TRL	Technical Readiness Level
C&D	Construction & Demolition
PP	Public Procurement
BM(s)	Business model(s)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Funding for CE initiatives in the EU is currently fragmented, leading to suboptimal resource allocation and untapped potential for synergies. CICERONE was born to answer to this issue, bringing together programme owners, research organizations and other stakeholders to create a platform for efficient Circular Economy programming. The priority setting and the organization of the future platform will be driven by POs, involved either as project partners, or via a SN and AB members. More specifically the AB consists of representatives from non-partners that can guide the partnership with reference to the needs and viewpoints of key stakeholders. It is intended to be representative of various stakeholder communities interested in CE. Their feedbacks and ongoing and planned strategies to receive them in this report were reported. Furthermore, a process to **include member of 'Synergic CirculaR Economy across European regioNs' (SCREEN) project in the Advisory Board** is detailed, as requested by EC.

Overall, feedbacks received from AB members until now are related to mechanism of joint platform in order to ensure the implementation. Furthermore invitation to deliver dedicated communications strategy for target audience was received, together with specific recommendation on SRIA. **Part of that feedbacks are already ongoing or planned to be implemented and some of them will be considered for implementation in next steps.**

KEYWORDS

Circular economy, SRIA, Programme owners, Advisory Board feedbacks.

1. INTRODUCTION

H2020 project is dealing with the definition of a replicable systemic approach towards a transition to CE in EU regions within the context of the S3, overcoming the actual situation where funding for CE initiatives in the EU is currently fragmented, leading to suboptimal resource allocation and untapped potential for synergies.

CICERONE was born to answer to this issue, bringing together programme owners, research organizations and other stakeholders to create a platform for efficient Circular Economy programming. The priority setting and the organization of the future platform will be driven by POs, involved either as project partners, or via a SN and AB members.

The project will define the SRIA for CE implementation in Europe, including an ex-ante impact assessment, and pilot joint programmes related on 4 challenges:

- Urban Areas
- Industrial Systems
- Value Chain
- Territory and Sea

In order to ensure the real implementation of the joint program CICERONE includes European POs both as partners and AB members, as well as representatives in the Stakeholder networks. In operative way, CICERONE will build a joint platform for POs with specify governance and possible legal frameworks.

The specific mandate of the AB is to review selected project outputs and provide feedback to increase their quality, appeal, and ultimately to ensure that the needs of key stakeholders are met and they support the solutions proposed by the consortium. For this reason AB members are invited not only to project meetings but also to workshops, together with SN, in order to increase their opportunities to give their concrete inputs on SRIA, pilot programmes and POs joint platform.

2. CICERONE Advisory Board Composition

The AB consists of representatives from non-partners that can guide the partnership with reference to the needs and viewpoints of key stakeholders. It is intended to be representative of various stakeholder communities interested in CE. In the Table 1 AB members are listed including specific added value for CICERONE project.

Table 1. CICERONE AB composition (update November 29th 2019)

Organization		Member/Participant	Added value for CICERONE project
PROMETIA	Mineral processing & extractive metallurgy for mining and recycling Innovation Association	Stéphane Bourg	EU multiplier towards research & industry
			Link with SCRREEN project

ADEME	The French Environment and Energy Management Agency	Jean-Charles Caudron	Link with French national CE roadmap
ICLEI	Leading global network of more than 1,500 cities	Simon Clement	Link with a vast network of cities
			Direct feedbacks on 'Urban areas' challenge/pilot program
DGMI, Dutch Ministry	Ministry of Infrastructure	Robbert Droop	National policy-maker
SINTEF Industry	Norwegian national RTO focused on industry	Casper van der Eijk	Link with Norwegian national CE roadmap and POs
Circular Economy Research GmbH	Company provides a collaboration platform for experts from various segments for contributing and sharing ideas around circular economy	Klaus Hieronymi	Expert consultancy for circularity in industry
			Direct feedbacks on 'Industrial Systems' and 'Value Chain' challenge/pilot program
London Waste and Recycling Board	UK regional PO	Andrea Crump	Regional policy maker
Helmholtz Inst. Freiberg for Resource Efficiency	Institute developing innovative technologies for Circular Economy and in particular on RMs efficient use	Markus A. Reuter	Leading academic
Agenzia per la Coesione Territoriale	Italian national PO	Osvaldo La Rosa	Link with Italian national CE funding roadmap
Regione Lombardia	Italian regional PO	Maria Grazia Pedrana	Link with SCREEN project
			Link with Italian Regional funding Roadmap

3. Regional funding schemes for Circular Economy: SCREEN project connections with CICERONE

3.1 Background

CICERONE aims to develop a replicable systemic approach towards the transition to CE EU regions within the context of their S3, through the identification and implementation of operational synergies between R&I investments from H2020 ESIF, thus contributing to novel future eco-innovative and horizontal business models across different value chains.

To this aim, the CICERONE project will further give value to the main outcomes of the 'Synergic CirculaR Economy across European regioNs' (SCREEN) project, which closed in 2018 and developed some policy support advisory services to enable regions to invest EU funds in trans-national value chain identified and ranked by adopting common criteria.

On December 5th 2018 SCREEN consortium presented the final results to EU and CICERONE members were invited to join the audience. Following to this initiative, CICERONE consortium, and in particular ENEA as scientific coordinator and Advisory Board task leader, proceeded with SCREEN deliverable analysis.

3.2 SCREEN results analysis

A preliminary analysis of SCREEN deliverables was crucial to identify the major connection with CICERONE thus increasing CICERONE impact. The public SCREEN deliverables are uploaded on project website, available at link: http://www.SCREEN.eu/Deliverables.html (in the Table 2 the preliminary assessment).

Table 2. Preliminary analysis of SCREEN deliverables

SCREEN deliverable	CICERONE task related to
D2.1 Guidelines and glossary	1.1 State of the art & common understanding of the Circular Economy
D2.2 Local analysis	1.1 State of the art & common understanding of the Circular Economy
D2.3 Sinergies' Grid	1.4 Assessing performances and identifying synergies, gaps and duplications
D3.1 Report on Synergies	1.4 Assessing performances and identifying synergies, gaps and duplications
D3.3 Classification Methodology	1.3 Methods of a circular economy strategic planning
D3.4 Regional Portfolio	1.4 Assessing performances and identifying synergies, gaps and duplications
D5.1 Methodology for regional cooperation	1.3 Methods of a circular economy strategic planning

Furthermore, deeper analysis was carried out in order to find the best way for leveraging on. The main results are listed here below:

SCREEN purpose is to promote synergies within European regions thus accelerating the European transition to CE.

An important step was the definition of an approach methodology, resulting in 4 phases:

1- Data collection on the regional potential and S3

2- Analysis of emerging synergies and possible not exploited opportunities

3- Definition of trans-regional value chains, actions and projects potentially supporting the creation of these value chains. Actions for prioritization was also required.

4- Evaluation of existing funds to support the synergies within European regions. Possible new one was also encouraged

SCREEN has "unlocked" 13 value chains:

Business-trained chains: electrical and electronic equipment; energy and forest industries; textile; transport and mobility; food and beverages.

Value chains based on materials: agriculture; (smart) packaging; water and wastewater; biobased materials and biotechnologies; manufacturing and de-manufacturing; (bio) waste management; construction/deconstruction environment

These value chains were examined and virtual roadmaps for their implementation were drawn up, evaluating possible actions to be taken. On this regards, synergy between the regions is exploited/proposed. These actions required prioritization, in strict connection with funding evaluation.

In this framework, SCREEN proposed to Horizon program additional funding criteria to existing ones (excellence, impact and implementation), specifically for CE-related projects, in the context of S3. These criteria should take into account the environmental and socio-economic dimension and the need to guarantee synergies and replicability at European level.

More specifically:

a. TRL, briefly classified into 3 bands: basic research objectives, application of proved technologies objectives, production objectives.

b. parameters, weighted and evaluated as a whole, usable as indicator of projects circularity (e.g. resource saving during the entire life cycle in terms of material and energy, emissions saving also considering possible impacts in terms of job opportunities). However with regard to this proposal, DG ENV had asked to apply some changes in the proposed scheme, but the changes were not completed due to time restrictions.

3.3 SCREEN vs CICERONE link: the Lombardia Region role

After deeper analysis, within CICERONE consortium it was decided **to build on SCREEN results, in particular with regards to the definition of the prioritization methodology**, even if some changes are required in order to match CICERONE main scope.

The connection between SCREEN and CICERONE projects will be in any case assured by the participation of Lombardia Region, one of the most relevant partners in SCREEN project, in the CICERONE Advisory Board.

Agreed with project officer, Lombardia Region was invited to join CICERONE AB. The Region formally accepted the invitation on 13th August 2019, specifying their role in SCREEN project. **The Region will assure the coherence of CICERONE activities with the SCREEN project outcomes, including suggestions for corrective actions if needed**.

4. AB feedbacks: CICERONE advice and implementation on SRIA

4.1 Methodology

Overall AB members feedbacks on CICERONE and in particular on joint platform, including SRIA and pilot plant development during project meetings (March 4-5th – November 21st 2019) and workshops (Antwerp, February 20th – Berlin, November 20th) were collected. Additional feedbacks received after project meetings were also included in this report. ENEA, as task leader and WP2 leader, ensures the implementation of feedbacks in SRIA. Some of these has already found application/solution in the project development. In the following section 4.2 (Table 3), feedbacks vs implementation have been listed.

4.2 AB feedbacks and actions related

Table 3 AB feedbacks vs implementation (ongoing vs planning)

RECEIVED FEEDBACKS	IMPLEMENTATION (ONGOING - O/PLANNING -P)
It would be important to get buy-in commitment from key stakeholder groups on key areas. Also, workshops like this tend to include frontrunners (those that are already interested). Local authorities are one of the most important mediators of pushing the transformation.	Local authorities are in AB (ICLEI) and stakeholders are classified on the basis of key areas and distributed per different challenges during workshops (O). However planned distribution on final workshop could be implemented (P).
RMs may have been interpreted as primary raw materials only it should be clear if it includes secondary raw materials as well.	Specific feedbacks on secondary RMs from SN during consultation were received (O). Further analysis on that will be carried out compiling final SRIA (P).
CICERONE has no possibility to influence now Horizon Europe.	CICERONE was born answering to EC issue identified in funding for CE initiatives in the EU currently fragmented, leading to suboptimal resource allocation and untapped potential for synergies. Structural funds are actually the main focus: funding contents as well as funding methodology will be addressed with joint programs (O). However coherence with future Horizon program will be suggested (P).
Necessity to run local workshop.	One local workshop is already carried out (O). Others will be planned before SRIA final delivering (P).
Policy innovation is a driver for Research&Development.	Policy Innovation Fields will be received during SN consultation and they will be included in policy toolkit, also in connection with T2.1.

CICERONE should support cohesion policy and implementation of operational programme.	CICERONE was born answering to EC issue identified in funding for CE initiatives in the EU currently fragmented, leading to suboptimal resource allocation and untapped potential for synergies. Structural funds are actually the main focus: funding contents as well as funding methodology will be addressed with joint programs (O).
CICERONE should strongly interact with DGO Regio.	Regional POs are among project partners, AB members and SN (O). However dedicated communication strategy will be assessed in WP4 before final workshop (P).
CICERONE should select criteria for policy toolkit.	Policy Innovation Fields will be received during SN consultation and they will be included in policy toolkit, also in connection with T2.1. Specific feedback were received on that (available upon request): it will be considered for implementation (P).
Needs to reinforce capacity building in Public Administration.	Joint POs platform is intended to support this issue (O). However further planning on that will be ensured (P).
Specific input for cities: ➢ they work with innovation more than research ➢ they are mostly end users of programs, rarely program owner ➢ on the other hand Circular Economy definition is critical for cities ➢ C&D and mobility are CE crucial sectors to guarantee transition ➢ PP implementation is needed	Cities are one of main target of CICERONE: Urban Areas is a key challenge and local authorities are represented in the projects as partners, AB and SN. Furthermore specific inputs on PP from SN are received and C&D is listed among priority themes (O). However dedicated communication strategy will be assessed in WP4 before final workshop (P).
CICERONE should not exclude the population outside real urban areas (e.g. rural areas).	CICERONE has envisaged Territory&Sea as key challenge and dedicated pilot will be defined on that (O)
Needs to have big companies to change business, but, if big companies address market, SMEs address services.	Big companies as well as SMEs are included in AB and SN. However dedicated communication strategy will be assessed in WP4 before final workshop (P).
Needs to run more research to convince sceptical.	Dedicated communication strategy will be assessed in WP4 before final workshop (P).
To match needs expectation needs to define rights keywords.	Dedicated communication strategy will be assessed in WP4 before final workshop (P).
Access to funding is crucial, in particular for small and medium organizations (SMEs, local administration).	Joint POs platform is intended to support this issue (O). However further planning on that will be ensured, including recommendation for direct link to small and medium organizations (P).
CICERONE should link industry	Dedicated interviews on existing funding mechanism were carried out in T1.4, including

needs/expectations and CE framework.	beneficiaries of these funds (O). SRIA is planning to overcome needs and gaps of existing programs (P).
Not hazardous ecodesign is an industry challenging.	This topic is part of Chemicals priority theme (O).
Assessing social impact not only in terms of job creation but also including social acceptance.	This issue will be included in T2.2 (P).
Regions don't need analysis and studies but concrete suggestions for implement CE programs.	Joint POs platform is intended to support this issue and regional POs, in and outside consortium are invited to join it (O). However dedicated communication strategy will be assessed in WP4 before final workshop (P).
SRIA should be connected to other existing platform and climate agenda.	First set of objectives and innovation fields have been selected among existing platforms and strategic documents (O).
To emphasize joint programs, not joint funding.	This feedback also during interviews carried out in T1.4 was received. Joint POs platform is intended to support this issue (O).
SRIA should focus more BM innovation.	SRIA is considering BM as innovation, and many feedbacks from SN were received. These will be included (O).
Governments should be committed for joint programmes.	Joint POs platform is intended to support this issue (O).
The extension of product life as an main driver of CE is very welcome. Also, although start-up are very important, there is no changing the status quo without big industry, this should also be reflected in the AB of the project.	The extension of product life as an main driver of CE is listed among SRIA Innovation Fields (O). Start-up pushing on SN joining will be ensuring and dedicated communication strategy will be assessed in WP4 before final workshop (P).

Conclusion

Funding for CE initiatives in the EU is currently fragmented, leading to suboptimal resource allocation and untapped potential for synergies. CICERONE was born to answer to this issue, bringing together programme owners, research organizations and other stakeholders to create a platform for efficient Circular Economy programming. The priority setting and the organization of the future platform will be driven by POs, involved either as project partners, or via a SN and AB members. More specifically the AB consists of representatives from non-partners that can guide the partnership with reference to the needs and viewpoints of key stakeholders. It is intended to be representative of various stakeholder communities interested in CE, as specified in Table 1.

The CICERONE project will build on already concluded projects that dealt with similar objectives. In particular, the connection with the SCREEN project will be assured by the participation in the CICERONE AB of the Lombardia Region, one of its most relevant partners.

Overall, feedbacks received from AB members until now are related to mechanism of joint platform in order to ensure the implementation. Furthermore invitation to deliver dedicated communications strategy for target audience was received, together with specific recommendation on SRIA. **Part of**

that feedbacks are already ongoing or planned to be implemented and some of them will be considered for implementation in next steps, as detailed in Table 3.