

# 4<sup>th</sup> OECD Roundtable on the Circular Economy in Cities and Regions

12 April 2022



## 4<sup>th</sup> OECD Roundtable on the Circular Economy in Cities and Regions

### Agenda

**Tuesday, 12 April 2022**  
**12:00-15:00 (CEST)**

The 4<sup>th</sup> OECD Roundtable on the Circular Economy in Cities and Regions will bring together key stakeholders from cities, regions, national governments, the private sector, civil society, academia, philanthropy and international organisations to:

- **Launch** a new OECD report on “*The Circular Economy in Ireland*”.
- **Discuss** findings from the application of the OECD’s Scoreboard on the Governance of the Circular Economy in Montreal (Canada) and the progress made on the measurement of the circular economy in Australia.
- **Take stock** of circular economy initiatives and latest developments in Tallinn (Estonia), Brussels Capital Region (Belgium) and Valladolid (Spain).
- **Learn** from pioneer cities, regions, countries, business leaders and renowned academics on moving from theory to action towards the circular economy transition.



# Agenda

## 12.00-13.00 Session I: Towards a circular economy in Ireland

Ireland is at a turning point for the transition to a circular economy. With a circularity material use rate of 2% in 2020 (relative to an EU average of 12.8%), Ireland shows significant scope for progress. The 2022 Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy provides the policy framework for the circular economy in Ireland, and the forthcoming Circular Economy Bill is expected to strengthen the legislation. The OECD report on The Circular Economy in Ireland analyses the state of play and challenges of the circular transition in Ireland, and provides policy recommendations for circular economy policy across levels of government.

**Moderator: Soo-Jin Kim**, Acting Head of the Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development Division, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), OECD

### 12.00-12.20 Launch of the OECD Report: The Circular Economy in Ireland

- **Yoshiki Takeuchi**, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD.
- **Ossian Smyth TD**, Minister of State with responsibility for Communications and Circular Economy, Ireland.

### 12.20-12.50 Panel discussion:

- **Laura Burke**, Director General, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ireland.
- **Sarah Miller**, Chief Executive, The Rediscovery Centre.
- **Jim Conway**, Director, Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly, Ireland.
- **Anna Davies**, Professor, Trinity College Dublin.

#### Key questions for discussion:

- What are the key priorities to implement the strategic vision for the circular economy?
- What are the lessons learnt on the circular economy that Ireland would like to share and hear from other countries and cities?

### 12.50-13.00 Q&A and next steps

## 13.00-14.00 Session II: Measuring circular economy progress in cities and regions

Measuring progress is a key priority to allow cities, regions and countries to identify the main challenges and opportunities to advance in the circular transition. As “one cannot improve what cannot be measured”, policymakers, practitioners and scholars urgently require measurement frameworks for the circular economy. In order to advance the measurement agenda, the *OECD Scoreboard on the Governance of the Circular Economy in Cities and Regions* helps governments self-assess the existing enabling conditions for a circular economy, to identify challenges and to set priorities towards a more effective, efficient and just circular economy transition.

**Moderator: Oriana Romano**, Head of Unit, Water Governance and Circular Economy, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), OECD.

### 13.00-13.20 Main findings of the 1<sup>st</sup> self-assessment of the OECD Scoreboard: The Case of Montreal, Canada

- **Juliette Lassman**, Policy Analyst, CFE, OECD.
- **Josée Chiasson**, Director of Economic Development, City of Montreal, Canada.

### 13.20-13.40 Panel discussion:

- **Heinz Schandl**, Chair of Metrics Working Group of the Australian Circular Economy Hub, Australia and Expert member, United Nations International Resource Panel.
- **Sarah O'Carroll**, Cities Lead, Ellen MacArthur Foundation.

### 13.40-13.50 Discussant: Building the path for the future of measurement

- **Tima Bansal**, Professor of Strategy at the Ivey Business School, Chair the Canadian Council of Academies Expert Panel on the Circular Economy.

#### Key questions for discussion:

- Which data would help decision-making at local level on the circular economy?
- How can the OECD scoreboard be used to support decision-making while complementing existing measurement frameworks?

### 13.50-14.00 Q&A and next steps

# Agenda

## 14.00-15.00 Session III: Lessons learned from circular cities in action

Cities and regions are at the centre of the transition towards the circular economy. By 2050, the global population will reach 9 billion people, 70% of which will be living in cities. The pressure on natural resources will increase, while new infrastructure, services and housing will be needed. Already, cities represent almost two-thirds of global energy demand and produce up to 80% of greenhouse gas emissions, and they also produce 50% of global waste. However, cities are also part of the solution, given their core responsibilities for local public services such as transport, solid waste, water and energy. The session will foster city-to-city learning by showcasing the experience of the cities of Tallinn (Estonia), Brussels Capital Region (Belgium) and Valladolid (Spain) in their path towards a circular economy.

**Moderator: Oriana Romano**, Head of Unit, Water Governance and Circular Economy, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), OECD.

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 14.00-14.10 | <b>Spotlight on the Circular Economy in Tallinn, Estonia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Joosep Vimm</b>, Vice Mayor on Innovation and Enterprise.</li></ul>   |
| 14.10-14.20 | <b>Preliminary findings of the Case of Tallinn, Estonia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ander Eizaguirre</b>, Policy Analyst, CFE, OECD.</li></ul>   |
| 14.20-14.40 | <b>From theory to implementation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Rosa Huertas</b>, Director of the Innovation, Economic Development, Employment and Commerce Department, Valladolid City Council, Spain.</li><li>• <b>Anthony Naralingom</b>, Head of Economic Transition and Entrepreneurship Awareness Unit, Brussels Agency for Business Support, Belgium.</li></ul>                                    |
| 14.40-14.50 | <b>Discussant:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Professor Saskia Sassen</b>, Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology, Columbia University.</li></ul> <b>Key questions for discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How can cities scale up their circular economy initiatives towards a systemic change?</li><li>• What are the opportunities for innovative partnerships in cities?</li></ul> |
| 14.50-15.00 | <b>Q&amp;A and conclusion</b>   |

## About the OECD Programme on the Circular Economy in Cities and Regions

The OECD Programme on the Circular Economy in Cities and Regions supports national, regional and local governments through evidence-based analysis, multi-stakeholder dialogues, policy recommendations and customised action plans. The programme relies on a consortium of cities and countries engaged in peer-to-peer dialogues and knowledge-sharing activities, including Glasgow (United Kingdom), Granada (Spain), Groningen (Netherlands), Montreal (Canada), Tallinn (Estonia), Umeå (Sweden), Valladolid (Spain) and Ireland.

For more information, visit our website: [oe.cd/circ-eco](https://oe.cd/circ-eco)

### CONTACT

If you are interested in learning more about the programme or getting involved, please contact Oriana Romano, Head of the Water Governance and Circular Economy Unit | [Oriana.Romano@oecd.org](mailto:Oriana.Romano@oecd.org)

