Circular Economy in the Western Balkans

If climate goals and a cleaner, safer environment for humans are to be achieved, there is no way around the circular economy. The Western Balkan economies too recognise the transformative potential of designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use for longer, and regenerating natural systems.

The four-year project “Supporting Green Transition through Circular Economy Roadmaps” supports the six Western Balkan economies in their transition to more sustainable economies and in implementing the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans by:

- Supporting the design of Circular Economy Roadmaps for Albania and North Macedonia, the two economies without a circular economy strategy. The OECD will provide targeted policy advice based on a diagnostic of the state-of-play and identification of priority areas and actions for a circular economy transition in the two economies. The participatory process involves a wide range of stakeholders to ensure broad societal consensus.

- Strengthening institutional capacities to implement circular economy roadmaps in all six Western Balkan economies. Economy-specific circular economy working groups will be supported through expertise and good practice transfers from EU and OECD members.

- Fostering knowledge exchange and regional co-ordination through the creation of a Regional Circular Economy Peer Dialogue. Regional knowledge sharing will be encouraged through an inclusive platform and regional meetings, dedicated workshops, capacity building sessions, and other peer-learning exercises.

Project timeline: 1 October 2022 – 30 September 2026

Sector category: Whole-of-economy approach

Relevant sector examples: Waste Management, Food and Biomass, Construction, Manufacturing, Circular business models for SMEs, Textiles, etc.