
Making the most of the social economy's contribution to the circular economy

 19 January 2022  14.00 – 15.30 CET (Paris Time)  Zoom

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The shift towards a green economy is an opportunity to expand sustainable economic activity and job creation, and the circular economy offers great potential in this transition. Given the social economy's demonstrated experience in developing circular activities, national and local policy makers, as well as practitioners, increasingly recognise the important role it can play in stimulating the circular shift and reinforcing the circular economy's social impacts.

Social economy organisations have played pioneering roles for decades in shaping and expanding circular economy practices through activities such as electronics and textile recycling, reusable consumer goods, and repair and remanufacturing activities. Through their engagement in circular value chains, social economy organisations also reinforce social inclusion by providing job and training opportunities for vulnerable groups, help drive uptake of the circular economy through improving the affordability of circular goods and services, and contribute to circular business models based on proximity and collaboration.

As we seek to build back better, how can the potential of the social economy to reinforce the circular economy be more effectively leveraged? This webinar will launch the policy brief on [Making the most of the social economy's contribution to the circular economy](#) released by the OECD and the European Commission. Policy makers and social economy representatives will explore the potential of the social economy in supporting circular activities and related business models and how to better capitalise on the social economy's potential in delivering on those goals.

Moderator: [Antonella Noya](#), Head of Social Economy and Innovation Unit, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

Setting the scene: *The social economy and its contribution to the circular economy*

[Julie Rijpens](#), Policy Analyst, Social Economy and Innovation Unit, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

[Julien De Beys](#), Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion, European Commission

Panel discussion: *Leveraging the potential of the social economy to help the circular transition*

- × [Claire Downey](#), Rediscovery Centre, Ireland
- × [Stephan Kampelmann](#), Sonian Wood Coop, Belgium
- × [Florentin Letissier](#), Deputy Mayor in charge of the social and solidarity economy, the circular economy and the contribution to the zero-waste strategy, Paris, France
- × [William Neale](#), Circular Economy & Green Growth, Directorate-General for the Environment, European Commission
- × [Vanessa Schummer](#), Social and Solidarity Economy Department, Ministry of Labour, Employment and the Social and Solidarity Economy, Luxembourg

Wrap up of the panel discussion

- × [Ander Eizaguirre](#), Water Governance and Circular Economy Unit, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

Q & A

Registration information

Please register [here](#). The link with log-in details is sent to all registered participants. Please save this link carefully, and check to ensure that it has not been sent to your junk mail folder. The webinar will be recorded.

About CFE

The **OECD's Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE)** provides comparative statistics, analysis and capacity building for local and national actors to work together to unleash the potential of entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises, promote inclusive and sustainable regions and cities, boost local job creation, and support sound tourism policies.

The mission of the **Local Employment and Economic Development programme (LEED)** is to build vibrant communities with more and better quality jobs for all. Since 1982, the Programme has been supporting national and local governments through tailored reviews and capacity building activities, as well as research and good practice reports on innovative approaches to local development.

This event is part of the **OECD Local Development Forum**, a network of thousands of individuals worldwide, united by their shared commitment to making their communities more resilient, inclusive and sustainable. It counts members from over 70 countries, representing city, regional and national governments, employment and training agencies, chambers of commerce, social innovators, start-ups, businesses and NGOs. The Local Development Forum is a place for peer learning and dissemination of local innovations and best practices at the global level.

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