

PRESS RELEASE

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Austrian-led international project to create a Next-Generation Participatory Contest for Young People to integrate Circularity in School Curricula



Coordinated by Dr. Antonija Bogadi, SYNYO GmbH, CircularCityChallenge will be delivered together with 6 partners from Austria, Netherlands, Spain, and Romania over the course of three years.

The overall aim of CircularCityChallenge is to set up a pan-European competition for students through which the consortium will collect creative and novel ideas for circular city approaches.

CCC lead, Dr. Antonija Bogadi said: "Although young people are among the most important stakeholders of urban spaces and infrastructure, they are still not taken into account in making plans for the development of their cities. It is about time to provide our youth means to be heard and get involved in key decisions for the future of their communities.

CircularCityChallenge is such an opportunity for younger generations to be involved in society's transition to a circular way of living. The participants will identify the problems related to climate change and, through project-based learning, propose sustainable solutions to their local governments. The idea is to practice education as a public service for the public good, rather than focus on testing. If we succeed in this, the outcomes can help transform the way we teach and learn sustainability."

Planned Impacts: Social, economic, and financial benefits to the community and beyond

CircularCityChallenge will develop a competition-based approach to educating functional urban design in support of circular systems and the use of nature-based solutions. As a follow-up, it intends to design curricula for different school types and age groups, which will result in an improved education on circularity.

The project will raise the awareness of sustainability by offering young people the opportunity to submit innovative ideas on circularity in an international challenge. Here, all competition submissions will be required to address at least one of the Sustainable Development Goals. The challenge-based approach will also provide insights into the value systems and beliefs, and make sure the economic, ecological, and social perspectives are considered.

Besides other aspects, it is also necessary to engage with diverse stakeholders. The outcomes will therefore be useful and practical, relevant for all involved stakeholders, and act as connectors between complex science and technology to hands-on actions. CircularCityChallenge will therefore bridge the gap between young people, their visionary ideas, and stakeholders involved in urban planning such as city authorities, industry, construction, government, infrastructure, and finance.

Find CircularCityChallenge on [Twitter](#) to learn more.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CircularCityChallenge project partners include: SYNYO (AT), Troifach (AT), Ayuntamiento de Logroño (ES), Primaria Bistrita (RO), BISS Institute at Maastricht University (NL), University of Architecture and Urban Planning (RO).

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CircularCityChallenge



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