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Synergic Circular Economy across European Regions

SCREEN

Deliverable D3.2

POLICY LAB

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Executive Summary

The SCREEN project has a specific task for the establishment and operation of a "Laboratory on Policies" (Policy Lab in the following), to ensure regular exchange of information among the participants and towards the EC officers concerned about the circular economy package, as well as to foster internal discussions on circular economy issues targeted to the regional authorities. The Policy lab is coordinated by Lazio region and participated by project partners, Advisory Board members and representatives of DG REGIO, DG RTD, DG ENV, DG GROW and EASME as observer.

Four physical meetings have been held in Brussels, integrated by online discussions in a specific LinkedIn Group restricted to the Policy Lab members only; two further meetings are planned before the end of the project. All the participating regions showed an enthusiasm and a determination to cooperate; several discussion raised in the Policy Lab led to the development of:

- A common methodology for identifying current and potential value chains in each region (described in deliverable 2.1).
- A common methodology to identify synergies between the various value chains in each region (described in deliverable 3.1).
- A new cooperation tool to finance inter-regional circular economy projects with a synergistic use of ESIF (through article70) and of Horizon 2020 that can also be used in the next programming period. This item was not contained in the SCREEN DoA but was defined and implemented during the Policy Lab meetings and led to a Memorandum of Understanding already signed by several regions.
- A set of criteria for assessing the "circularity" of a project, to be used initially as additional criteria to those that each region normally uses for the rankings of the projects that apply to the structural funds. Such criteria were developed in a fully independent way, however, they well comply with the indicators defined in the Monitoring Framework Document[COM (2018) 29 Final" and were validated by 164 European stakeholders through very positive answers to a specific questionnaire.

During the whole project, and particularly in the Policy Lab discussions, several specific research gaps related to value chain's synergies and other practical implementations of circular economy have been identified and will be proposed to the European Commission as topics to be launched in future research calls.

The cooperation between the SCREEN regions established through the Policy Lab has also generated consortia that have applied and are applying to Horizon 2020, INTERREG and ERASMUS + calls on issues related to the circular economy. A specific master course will start in Italy in Tuscia University, involving other project partners and some EU officers as lecturers.

The results of the SCREEN project and particularly of the Policy Lab went well beyond what is foreseen by the DoA and led to further developments that will continue after the end of project. The Consortium decided to keep the Policy Lab active and various options for its continuation are under analysis and a decision will be taken during the final conference in Rome.

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1) Introduction

SCREEN is an H2020 coordinating and supporting action participated by 17 European regions, aiming at the definition of a replicable systemic approach towards a transition to Circular Economy in EU regions within the context of the Smart Specialization Strategy. The project also deals with the identification and implementation of operational synergies between investments in research and innovation under Horizon 2020, the Structural Funds and the European Investment Funds.

SCREEN has a specific task for the establishment and operation of a "Laboratory on Policies" (Policy Lab) to ensure regular exchange of information among the participants and towards the EC officers concerned about the circular economy package, as well as to foster internal discussions on circular economy issues targeted to the regional authorities

The Policy Lab is coordinated by Lazio region (coordinator of the SCREEN project) and will consist of:

- one representative of each project partner
- members of the SCREEN Advisory Board: ACR+, EURADA and ERRIN
- representative(s) of DG REGIO, DG RTD, DG ENV, DG GROW and European Institute of Innovation and Technology
- EASME, with the role of observer

2) Working methodology

The SCREEN Policy Lab is intended as a collaborative tool to connect issues raised by the project activities, explore scenarios and co-design solutions for better policies, by providing a space for open interactions between the participating regions and the concerned EC services.

Policy Lab will have periodic physical meetings and a continuous discussion space in a specific LinkedIn Group that will be established the same day of its first meeting.

Each meeting will last for one day in Brussels (typically from 9,00 to 15,00), with the outcomes of one feeding the next, through the online discussions, as shown in the following figure.



Participants will be briefed in advance through a specific “*Briefing Document*” that will be sent at least one week before the date of the meeting”

There will be a general common introductory session; depending on both the number of items to be discussed and the number of effective participants at the meeting, there could be separate tables with no more than 10 persons per table.

A final common session will resume the conclusions of the day; minutes will be circulated within one week and posted on the LinkedIn Group.

2.1 Members of the Policy Lab

There is one representative for each SCREEN project partner, that will receive specific communications and access to the dedicated LinkedIn Group: his role is mainly as “reference person” in charge to forward the communication received to the concerned persons/offices, collect the feedbacks and report them to the Policy Lab.

Each representative is allowed to come to the Policy Lab meetings together with the person(s) he deems more adequate to discuss the specific items, if needed.

The same approach is applicable to the Commission Services and Advisory Board Members.

The eventual insertion of further members will be discussed during the meetings

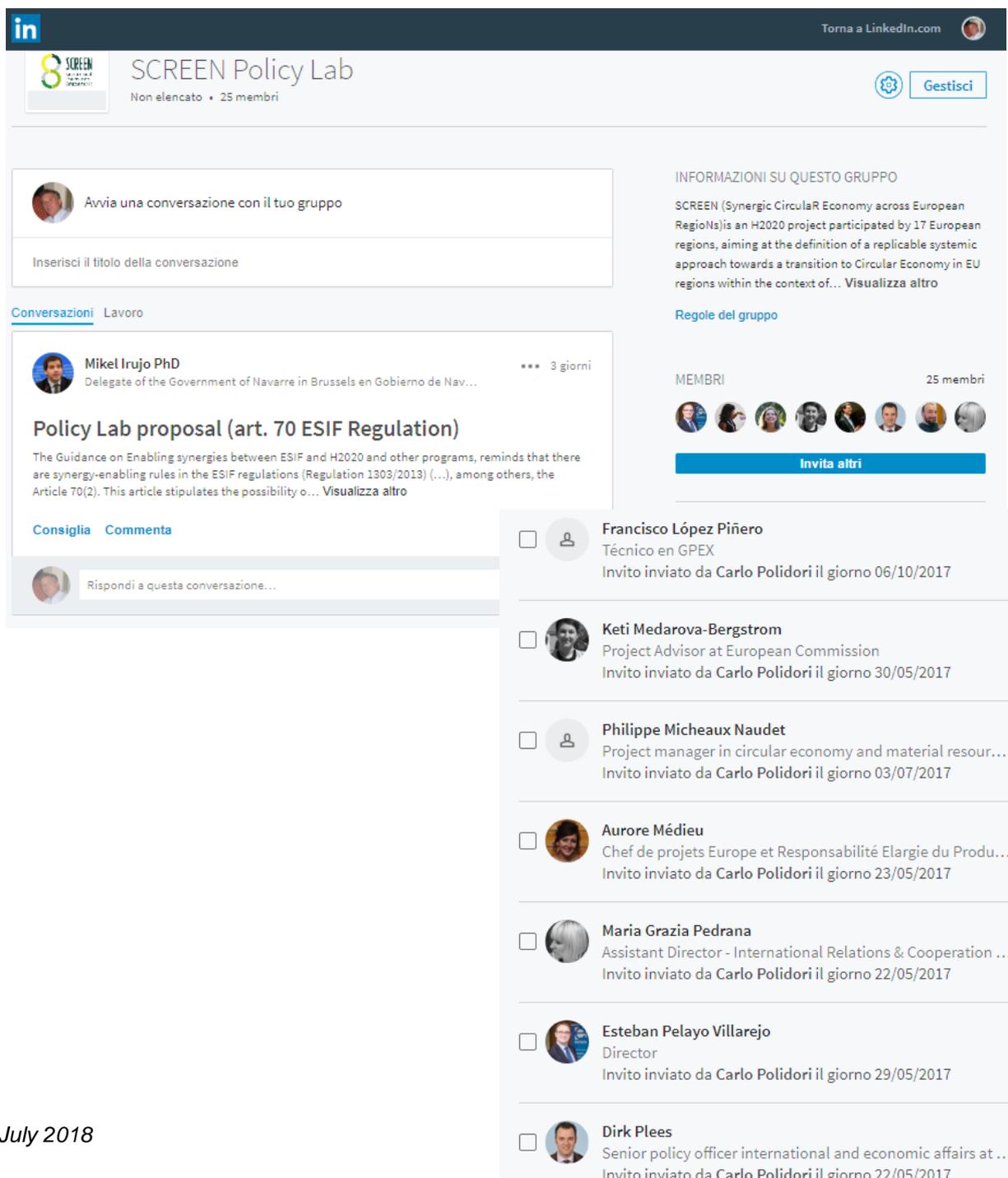
List of SCREEN partners involved in the Policy Lab

- Regione Lazio (Italy)
- Regione Lombardia (Italy)
- Comunidad Foral De Navarra – Gobierno de Navarra (Spain)
- Comissao de Coordenacao e Desenvolvimento Regional do Centro (Portugal)
- Wojewodztwo Lodzkie - Lodzkie Region (Poland)
- Kriti (Periferia), (Greece)
- Agence Regionale de Developpement d'investissement et d'innovation –NEXA (France)
- Knowledge Transfer Network Limited -The KTN (United Kingdom)
- Limburg Province (The Netherlands)
- Provincie Fryslan (The Netherlands)
- Pirkanmaan Liitto – Tampere (Finland)
- Extremadura (Spain)
- Ile de France (through its agency IAU) ,
- Flanders (Belgium),
- Nord Est Romania,
- Azores (Portugal),
- Primorje-Gorski (Croatia)
- Tuscia University together with its linked third party VELTHA

3) The LinkedIn group

A dedicated LinkedIn Group <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13531065> has been activated the same day of the first meeting: it is restricted to the sole members of the Policy Lab that will be allowed to post comments and proposals, while the discussions will be periodically published on the project web site and therefore available to the public.

The role of the members is crucial, being them by charged to “disseminate” the Policy lab findings within their institutions, stimulate and facilitate internal discussion, collect feedbacks and post them in the group. The on line discussion will lead to the agenda of the next meeting in Brussels.



SCREEN Policy Lab
Non elencato • 25 membri

Avvia una conversazione con il tuo gruppo
Inserisci il titolo della conversazione

INFORMAZIONI SU QUESTO GRUPPO
SCREEN (Synergic Circular Economy across European Regions) is an H2020 project participated by 17 European regions, aiming at the definition of a replicable systemic approach towards a transition to Circular Economy in EU regions within the context of... [Visualizza altro](#)

Regole del gruppo

MEMBRI 25 membri

Invita altri

Conversazioni Lavoro

Mikel Irujo PhD
Delegate of the Government of Navarre in Brussels en Gobierno de Nav... 3 giorni

Policy Lab proposal (art. 70 ESIF Regulation)
The Guidance on Enabling synergies between ESIF and H2020 and other programs, reminds that there are synergy-enabling rules in the ESIF regulations (Regulation 1303/2013) (...), among others, the Article 70(2). This article stipulates the possibility o... [Visualizza altro](#)

Consiglia **Commenta**

Rispondi a questa conversazione...

- Francisco López Piñero**
Técnico en GPEX
Invito inviato da Carlo Polidori il giorno 06/10/2017
- Keti Medarova-Bergstrom**
Project Advisor at European Commission
Invito inviato da Carlo Polidori il giorno 30/05/2017
- Philippe Micheaux Naudet**
Project manager in circular economy and material resour...
Invito inviato da Carlo Polidori il giorno 03/07/2017
- Aurore Médieu**
Chef de projets Europe et Responsabilité Elargie du Produ...
Invito inviato da Carlo Polidori il giorno 23/05/2017
- Maria Grazia Pedrana**
Assistant Director - International Relations & Cooperation ...
Invito inviato da Carlo Polidori il giorno 22/05/2017
- Esteban Pelayo Villarejo**
Director
Invito inviato da Carlo Polidori il giorno 29/05/2017
- Dirk Plees**
Senior policy officer international and economic affairs at ...
Invito inviato da Carlo Polidori il giorno 22/05/2017

4) Meetings in Brussels

Meetings in Brussels are scheduled on May and October 2017, and February, May and September 2018. These dates are indicative and the number of meetings may change according to the project's needs. The two 2017 meetings have been already held and their proceedings (Agenda, Briefing Document and Minutes) are reported hereinafter, as well as in the specific project web page <http://www.screen-lab.eu/Policy-Lab.html>.

4.1 First Meeting 04.05.2017

4.1.1 Agenda



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First Policy Lab Meeting

*4th of May 2017 - Brussels office of Lazio region
(Rond point Shuman 14, 8th floor) h 09,00*

AGENDA

- 09,00 Welcome Coffee
- Introduction and explanation of the working method
- Self-introduction of participants (just few words, no slides)
- Item A- "How to promote an effective synergy between Horizon 2020 and regional funds, particularly for projects dealing with circular economy? (*)" – Discussion
- Item B -"How to enhance the effective application of the Seal of Excellence and extend it beyond the SMEs instrument? (*) - Discussion
- 13,00 Snack lunch
- Preliminary conclusions and definition of the next meeting date - overview of further items to be discussed
- Feedback of the participants on the format of the Policy Lab and its follow up on LinkedIn
- 15,00 End of the first meeting

() A specific briefing document with the details of the items A) and B) to be discussed will be circulated within Tuesday 25th of April.*

4.1.2 Briefing Document



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Briefing document for the first Policy Lab meeting

Introduction

The first meeting of the Policy Lab is scheduled on 4th of May 2017 in the Brussels office of Lazio region (*Rond point Shuman 14, 8th floor*) and will be mainly devoted to:

- Short self-presentation of the participants, preliminary indicated in section 1 and annex 1
- Agreement on the working methodology, as described in the previous section 2.
- Resume of the Items A) e B) to be discussed, as detailed in the following.
- Table of discussion
- Preliminary conclusions and setting the date of the next meeting

Introduction of the Items A) and B)

On December 2016 questionnaire was circulated among the regions participating at the SCREEN project: At the date of 28/02/2017 10 regions answered through their offices dealing with Structural Funds, one region sent also answers from its office dealing with Research.

The full report is available in the project web page at the link www.screen-lab.eu/SCREEN-Quest1-Results.pdf; the main results are summarized hereinafter:

1. There is a good knowledge of the EC “seal of excellence” initiative, that is generally well appreciated. However, there were only few practical results; an action is needed to ensure that such initiative is better connected to the possibility of having advantages for SMEs, that at the present seems jeopardized. A more pro-active dialogue between regions and Commission (R&I, EASME) should be initiated.
2. The majority of the target is available “*in principle*” to use their structural funds to finance their own partners in well ranked, but not financed H2020 projects. Such availability is also extended to the 30% of Innovation Actions non financed by H2020 (just “*in principle*”, because it is not currently allowed). Such opening, even if “*in principle*” could lead to an effective synergy between different funds, if properly supported by a continuous dialogue among the concerned actors
3. There are no tools available for looking at the results of H2020 that can be used for innovation purposes by SMEs and other applicants for regional funds: this means that the

majority of innovation results provided by the European Research Programme do not find a proper exploitation way by industries and SMEs. There is a clear need of a proper tool allowing entrepreneurs to easily surf among the H2020 results, that should be co-designed by the Commission (R&I) and the regions.

4. The large majority of the region's structural funds do not foresee any "shortcuts" for funding proposals that are a follow-up of H2020 projects. Different comments about advantages/disadvantages of such a shortcut were provided, almost equally divided in negative and positive ones (the latter with a little plus). This results appears to be contradictory respect to the stated appreciation of the "Seal of Excellence" initiative and need to be better investigated.

Results 3 and 4 need to be further investigated and a more detailed questionnaire will be circulated to better define the characteristics of the tool indicated under the above point 3 and analyse the actual expectations on the "shortcuts" described under the point 4.

Results 1 and 2 are strongly connected and lead to the first questions the Policy Lab should analyse:

A) How to promote an effective synergy between Horizon 2020 and regional funds?

The use of part of regional funds to finance well ranked, but not financed H2020 (or future FP9) projects, may lead to several advantages: opportunities and barriers should be analysed in view of a possible pilot action to be experimented on a voluntary basis within the SCREEN lifetime.

There are two already existing instruments of public-public partnerships: ERA-NET and Article 185, as summarized in the following slide:

Public-public partnerships in Horizon 2020 (Art.26 Horizon 2020 regulation)

1. Horizon 2020 shall contribute to the strengthening of public-public partnerships, as and when appropriate, where actions at regional, national or international level are jointly implemented within the Union.
Particular attention shall be paid to Joint Programming Initiatives between Member States. Joint Programming Initiatives receiving support from Horizon 2020 shall remain open to the participation of any Member State or associated country.
2. Public-public partnerships may be supported either within, or across, the priorities set out in Article 5(2), in particular through:
 - (a) an **ERA-NET instrument**
 - (b) Union participation in programmes undertaken by several Member States in accordance with **Article 185 TFEU** ...

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/pdf/cofund-2014-infoday/1_p2p_horizon_2020.pdf

Article 185 was basically thought for Member States:

Art.185 under Horizon 2020 - criteria

- (a) a **clear definition of the objective** to be pursued and its **relevance to the objectives of Horizon 2020** and broader Union policy objectives;
- (b) **indicative financial commitments of the participating countries**, in cash or in kind, including prior commitments to align national and/or regional investments for transnational research and innovation and, where appropriate, to pool resources;
- (c) the **added value of the action at Union level**;
- (d) the **critical mass**, with regard to the size and the number of programmes involved, the similarity or complementarity of activities and the share of relevant research they cover;
- (e) the **appropriateness of Article 185 TFEU** for achieving the objectives.

Source:

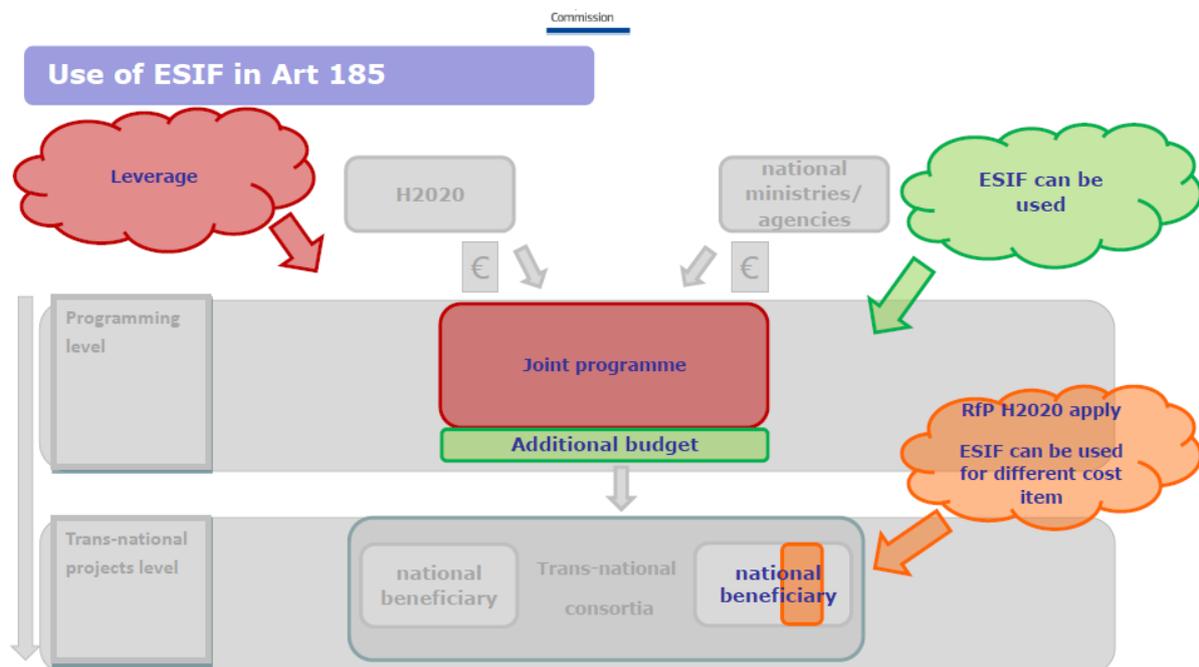
http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/pdf/cofund-2014-infoday/1_p2p_horizon_2020.pdf

PRO: criteria a), b) and c) complies with the purposes of promoting synergies and regional investment for transnational research are specifically mentioned

CONTRA: The envisaged

critical mass in criterion d) is of several hundreds of million €, too large for experimental purposes and with a specific managing board.

SYNERGY ISSUES: regional funds (ESIF) can be used for additional budget at programming level or for different cost items in transnational projects, as shown in the following figure



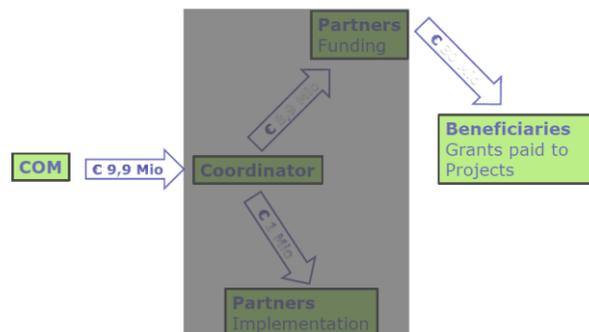
Source: http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/pdf/cofund-2014-infoday/7_synergies_p2p.pdf

The ERA-NET instrument uses grant to support public-public partnerships

The proposals/projects must

- be **transnational projects** (at least two independent entities from two different EU Member States or associated countries)
- be selected following a joint transnational **call for proposals, two-step procedure**
- be evaluated in step 2, with the assistance of at least **three independent experts**, on the basis of excellence, impact, quality and efficiency of the implementation
- be ranked according to the evaluation results, and **selected in the order of the ranking list(s)**

Example: cash-flow

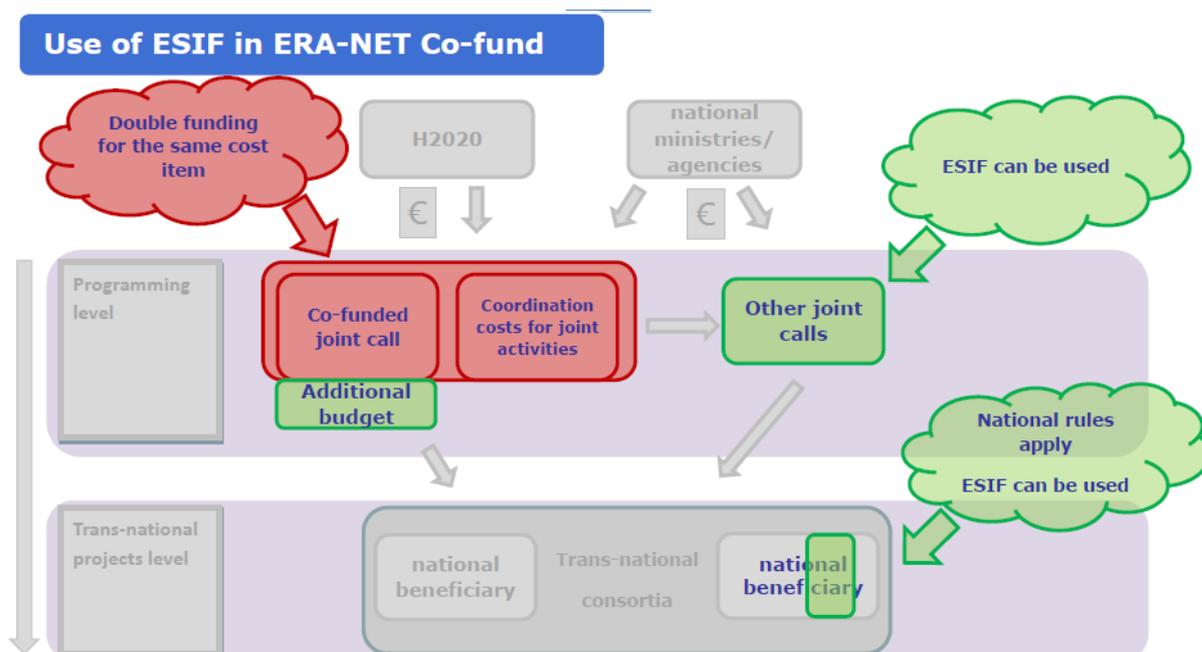


Source http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/pdf/cofund-2014-infoday/3_era-net_cofund.pdf

PRO: already existing and functioning scheme; topping up by the European Commission

CONTRA: need of a specific Coordinator and management unit that could be difficult to be agreed among the regions

SYNERGY ISSUES: H2020 and ESIF rules allow for the funding of the same action by two different Union funding sources, providing that there is no double funding for the same cost item.



Source: http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/pdf/cofund-2014-infoday/7_synergies_p2p.pdf

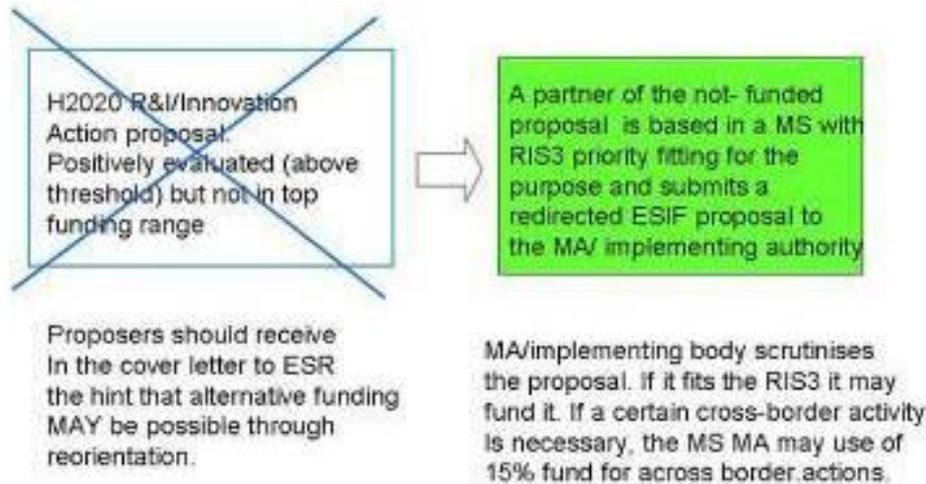
A full description of the current possible synergies is in the document “*Establishing Synergies between European Structural and Investment Funds, Horizon 2020 and other research, innovation and competitiveness-related Union programmes*”¹ and particularly in its Annex 2 “*Guidance for generating synergies*”. However, even if the proposed solutions are a good step ahead towards synergies, their practical application is still far to being actually achieved, as shown in the following example (page 20 of the above mentioned document) where the complexity of the operation is quite high and depends on a strong “ex-ante” cooperation among regions and concerned stakeholders.



Section 1.1.5 of the above mentioned Annex 2 (page 60) deals with the same case the Policy Lab is asked to analyze: an H2020 proposal well ranked but not financed. The simple suggestion is that a partner may redirect the application to ESIF, without taking into consideration the practical difficulties related to a multi partner RIA/IA (several European partner belonging to different Member States and regions; the proposal may fit with RIS3 in some regions and not in others; synchronization of ESIF calls etc) that makes “de facto” impossible such a solution.

(note: the above instruments are mainly based on a “top down approach”: a bottom-up one could be more effective)

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/research/regions/pdf/publications/h2020_synergies_201406.pdf



The discussion about point A will be focused on:

- A.1) Opportunities and barriers of the existing instruments
- A.2) Possible modification of the existing instruments to comply with the synergy needs and Circular Economy
- A.3) New instruments (*bottom-up approach*) putting together the main advantages of the existing instruments without the current barriers.

With reference to the point A.3) above, a preliminary idea called “Pilot Pot” raises from a past experience of Lazio Region:

Pilot Pot scheme:

Each participating region puts, on a voluntary basis, a certain amount of money², coming from structural funds, in a specific “pot”.

European Commission “tops up” the pot (% to be defined, feasibility to be checked)

The “pot” will be used in H2020 (societal challenges, SME instrument and LEIT) and/or the future FP9 for those proposals complying with the following conditions:

- 1) *Proposals with an evaluation score at least = 12/15*
- 2) *Proposals’ partners should belong to those regions that filled-in the pot*
- 3) *The amount put by each region should be enough to finance its own proposal partner(s)*

² Each region is free to decide its own amount

- 4) *Proposals should comply with circular economy principle: such a compliance will be ranked against the indicators provided by SCREEN³*

Common advantages:

- *Each region finances only its own participants and encourages them to have an international approach*
- *H2020 and/or the new FP9 will have more funds*
- *Regional stakeholders will have more opportunities in H2020/future FP9*
- *Money put in the pot by each region will result automatically and correctly spent within its structural funds*
- *No efforts spent for selection and evaluation: the four above criteria will be simply applied to the ranking list issued by the Commission after the normal evaluation of the proposals.*
- *No double funding*

B) How to enhance the effective application of the “Seal of Excellence” and extend it beyond the SMEs instrument?

B1.) It is clear that the “Seal of Excellence” is related to a project proposal and not to the proposer; however, a proposal well ranked by the Commission should be taken into the due consideration by the regional funds administrators if submitted exactly in the same terms it was submitted under H2020.

B.2) Given the interest raised by the seal of excellence, the same approach should be investigated for multi-partner projects.

³ SCREEN task 3.2 also deals with the definition of " A simple set of at least 10 indicators for an objective common ranking of Circular Economy activities ,in order to develop a “circularity” scoring and assessment framework.... A discussion about the indicators is scheduled for the second Policy Lab meeting (November 2017)

4.1.3 Minutes

SCREEN Project

Minutes of First Policy Lab in Brussels

04/05/2017 - Lazio Region office in Brussels – Rond Point Shuman 14

(List of attendees in Annex 1)

Executive Summary

The first Policy Lab Meeting started discussing three first issues raised from the SCREEN activities and described in the specific Briefing document (Annex 3): the need for a common agreement on how to assess the “circularity” of a certain value chain in comparison with another one; a more effective use of the Seal of Excellence launched by the European Commission and currently adopted for the SMEs instrument with few practical results; and, how to finance cross-regional value chains with funds coming from different European regions.

SCREEN is still working on the indicators and in the first meeting only general comments have been provided, however all the participants are concerned about the need of simple and easy-to-handle indicators. European Commission is delivering a monitoring framework document including a set of indicators. In order to avoid any possible confusion and overlapping, SCREEN will work on “assessment criteria for specific projects”, which is the specific goal of the project. These criteria will be linked to the indicators presented by the Commission.

After a brief presentation of the existing "Public Public Partnership" instruments and their limits, the discussion focused on a “bottom-up” approach proposed by Lazio region, consisting of a “common pot” established by the regions on a voluntary basis and topped up by the Commission. It could be used to reopen the ranking lists of H2020 (or future FP9) with a procedure that will guarantee that each region will fund only subjects belonging to its territory.

The extensive discussion focuses on the timing and scale of the proposed approach, as well as on the political opportunity of asking to the regions to delegate part of their funds to European scopes. However, an instrument able to foster and finance cross-regional projects dealing with circular economy is welcome by all the participants, even if the practical difficulties should not be underestimated. The leverage effect of the international approach and the EC topping up, together with the guarantee that the funds of each Region will be used to finance only partners coming from their own territory may facilitate a solution that the Policy Lab should elaborate and present to the decision makers before the end of the SCREEN project. Regional officers dealing with the management of structural funds should be involved in the discussion.

The possible extension of the scope of the “Seal of Excellence” has been postponed to a further meeting, due to the missing counterpart from the Commission’s side.

Feedbacks from participants outlined the need for a more structured organization of the Policy Lab, which should be able to discuss and comments the project findings and tools in order to ensure their application and replicability. It should also be a forum enabling a wider discussion about the role of the regions in stimulating circular economy. Further feedbacks are expected from the LinkedIn Group. An action plan for the next steps has been set up on the basis of the first meeting.

Background

According to the Task 3.2. of the SCREEN Grant Agreement 730313, 6 further European Regions have been involved in the project and a Policy Lab has been established.

In fact the above mentioned Task says:

“...the project will establish a Policy Lab composed by the participating regions, further involved regions and representatives of the European Commission, in order to establish a permanent link between the project and the officers in charge of the implementation of the Circular Economy Package adopted by the EC in December 2015... Policy Lab members will have physical meetings and will continuously discuss through the LinkedIn group specifically established by the project.

....A simple set of at least 10 indicators for an objective common ranking of Circular Economy activities will be discussed and defined, the identified indicators and the procedure for their practical application by the structural funds managing authorities will be further discussed ..the Policy Lab will also discuss the possibility of addressing legislative obstacles to innovation...the task Leader will establish contacts with DG ENV and other concerned Directorates or Agencies for their participation at the Policy Lab.

The Screen exploitation plan will analyze the possibility of making the Policy Lab a permanent table of discussion after the end of the project.

09:30 Start of the Policy Lab Meeting

Key Issues or Discussion

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN project manager)

He briefly resumes the working methodology thought for the Policy Lab, as described in the Reference document (Annex 2) and recommends to each Policy Lab member to discuss it internally and to give feedbacks through the LinkedIn Group that will be activated in the next days. Then, he sums up the first items to be discussed in the first Policy Lab, as detailed in the Briefing (Annex 3): the SCREEN goal is to agree on a common methodology for the identification of local and cross-regional circular economy value chains, as well as on criteria and means to support the development of such synergies into practical cross-regional initiatives and projects. It is therefore clear that SCREEN needs a common agreement on how to assess the “circularity” of a certain value chain in comparison with another one, as well as on how to finance cross-regional value chains with funds coming from different European regions. The project is expected to develop a set of 10 indicators, able to be easily handled by proposers and verified by the funders, in order to provide common coherent and transparent ranking criteria to those regional authorities managing specific funds for circular economy projects. The study of these indicators has just started, so there have not been proposals to be discussed in this first Policy Lab yet, but preliminary comments are welcome. With reference to the possibility of integrating H2020 and ESIF funds to support cross regional circular economy projects (Item A in the agenda), Carlo points out the issues related to the already existing tools, namely, Article 185 and ERA-NET, which present a lot of practical barriers. The Policy Lab is expected to define a common agreed proposal based on a “bottom-up” approach to be forwarded to the decision makers. A first proposal to be discussed comes from Lazio region and deals with a “common pot” established by the regions on a voluntary basis, topped up by the Commission and used to reopen the ranking lists of H2020 (or future FP9) with a procedure that will guarantee that each region will only fund participants belonging to its territory.

Slides available at: www.screen-lab.eu/documents/First_Policy-Lab_4May2017.pdf

Richard Tuffs, director of ERRIN (European Regions Research and Innovation Network)-member of the SCREEN Advisory Board

He welcomes the idea of the Policy Lab as well as the suggestion of the “*common pot*”. He underlines that each region can invest up to 15% of its regional funds outside of the region, even if option is not commonly used. The proposal will foster collaboration between countries/regions and contributing to Europe’s added value. One issue is how to use the “*common pot*” in the best appropriate way: the suggested solution in fact may improve not only H2020, but also other programmes, such as INTERREG Europe, and the future FP9. He underlines that increasing international collaboration will also have a positive impact on the cohesion policy.

Esteban Pelayo, director of EURADA (European Association of Economic Development Agencies)-member of the SCREEN Advisory Board

He starts his speech reflecting on how H2020 can be combined with structural funds and presents “EUREKA” initiative (www.eurekanetwork.org/) as an example of “*common pot*” leveraging funds from regional and national stakeholders. He considers the different focuses present in the evaluation of H2020 projects, namely, impact and excellence, as not adequate enough to lead to practical applications, which are largely missing in H2020. He suggests to make national authorities less relevant for the efficiency of the future FP9.

Philippe Micheaux Naudet, ACR+. - member of the SCREEN Advisory Board

Mr. Naudet underlines the value of the proposed bottom-up approach, which will be welcomed by local and regional members of his association. In his opinion, the management of regional funds should be revised because of the presence of strong and well-funded areas along with scarcely funded ones in the regions. He outlines the fact that regions have difficulties in matching local needs with the complexity of the EU topics, also because of the different time deadlines. The two main needs are consistency and simplification, allowing the proper and efficient use of funding. He suggests to set simple indicators in order to have a simple framework and he offers to provide some documents that could be used as a baseline.

Irene Palomino, representative of Extremadura region)

Ms. Palomino underlines complexity and administrative barriers in the combination of funds. Being not the person in charge with these issues within Extremadura region, she commits to report details internally and to provide feedback through the LinkedIn Group.

Dirk Plees, representative of Limburg province

Mr. Plees reports that Limburg province has already agreed upon a combined use of funds for common projects with two border regions. He acknowledges the pot as a good idea, underlining that the most difficult steps will be the internal discussion with stakeholders and the reorganization of the budget for circular economy.

Maria Grazia Pedrana, representative of Lombardia region

Ms. Pedrana underlines the complexity of the combination of funds and its management, adding that the creation of regional strategies about circular economy could decrease the level of complexity. Given the cross-cutting dimension of the issues related to the Circular Economy, she recommends that the suggested “Pilot pot” is not linked to a specific axis, integrating focus on research, innovation, environment and society. She states the importance of indicators assessing both “circularity” and resource efficiency. In the end, she underlines the need for more skilled people fostering Circular Economy strategy.

Aurore Médièu, representative of ORDIF Agency

Ms. Médièu explains that in Ile-de-France waste management is run at regional level and welcomes the idea of coming up with indicators for circular economy related to waste management in order to shape a concrete waste management strategy.

Mathieu Simon, representative of Ile-de-France

Mr. Simon points out the difficulty in integrating funds given the general political opposition based on the idea that regional funds must be used to finance territorial projects. The proposal of the “common pot” could be counterproductive, since it aims to use funds originally thought to be used for the regional territory development.

Mieke Houwen, representative of Flanders

Ms. Houwen recalls the intervention of Ile-de-France’s representative by stressing the difficulty to find a political environment ready to make regional funds available to finance projects of European scope. She also stresses the general reluctance in accepting evaluation criteria coming from the European Commission. Moreover, she highlights the complexity of measuring different impacts at regional/local level.

Carlo Polidori briefly replies to Mr. Simon and Mrs. Houwen explaining that the envisaged scheme of the “common pot” guarantees that:

- *the money put by each region will be used to finance only subjects belonging to that region: such money is also expected to be increased by the Commission’s topping up;*
- *if the targeted regional funds are the Research ones (and particularly on circular economy) there should be few difficulties in matching regional and European aims.*

Tiina Harala, representative of Tampere region

Ms. Harala likes in principle the idea of common pot, but she also highlights her concern about how it will concretely be managed; management procedures should be as easy as possible.

Tampere Region is participating in an ongoing Interreg Europe project which is at the moment working on a common call to be opened next spring among some of its participant regions. The idea is to “test” Article 70 (in common provisions regulation for ESI funds) and in that way try to get practical experience of international trans-regional projects using structural funds. Progresses of such project will be reported in the Policy Lab, together with lessons learned and replicable actions.

Lorenzo Lo Cascio, representative of Lazio region

Mr. Lo Cascio suggests to focus on the scope of application of the technology and on projects that will have real and concrete impacts: he explains that the money put in the “*common pot*” will be only used by regions for their regional stakeholders. Moreover, he specifies that the European Commission will evaluate projects as usual, while the further evaluation of the projects after the re-opening of the ranking lists will be done according to additional criteria that will be defined by SCREEN.

Mikel Irujo Amezaga, representative of the Comunidad Foral de Navarra

Mr. Amezaga asks what would happen if there is no proposal involving partners coming from a region participating in the “*pot*”.

Carlo Polidori briefly replies to Mr. Amezaga saying that according on the above mentioned scheme of the “common pot”, the money provided by each region will remain in the “pot” until it is used to finance a subject belonging to that region. In the meanwhile such amount of money will result correctly spent under the regional fund it has been moved from.

Margarida Franca and Ana Quintais, representatives of CCDR CENTRO

Gadriela Bobeanu, representative of ADR Nord Est Romania

Natália Susana de Almeida eSilva and Mónica De La Cerda, representatives of FRCT and DRCT Azores

They all mention that the problem of their Countries is that structural funds are managed by national authorities, so regions are not entitled to take decision about the “*common pot*”. Therefore, they are suggested to report this discussion to their national bodies, achieve feedbacks and invite the concerned officers to the next Policy Lab.

At the Azores structural Funds are managed at a Regional Level and DRCT manages the Funds related to Science and Technology (axe 1 of the Açores 2020 Operational Program) that meet the Region RIS3 strategy. FRCT representatives also suggest to combine assessment criteria with S3 criteria.

Tjeerd Hazenberg and Eric Vos, representatives of Fryslan province

They point out that the Seal of Excellence (Item B in the Agenda) is a good initiative, but projects must fulfil the regulation of the regional funds. They welcome the idea of assessment criteria, given the need for suitable indicators in Fryslan province. Moreover, he stresses the necessity to come to a political agreement to allocate more money for Circular Economy.

Lana Zutelija – DG ENVIRONMENT

Ms. Zutelija says that the Commission is delivering a monitoring framework document including a set of indicators. Therefore, she suggests to wait for the above mentioned document in order to avoid confusion resulting from merging different indicators.

Carlo Polidori briefly replies by underlining that, to avoid any possible confusion, SCREEN will not use the word “indicators”, that will be substituted by “assessment criteria for specific projects”, which is anyway the aim of the project. After the delivery of the monitoring framework document, such “assessment criteria” will be linked to the indicators presented by the Commission.

Wojciech Klimek – DG RTD

Mr Klimek briefly illustrates different types of funding to clarify the framework in which the “common pot” should be considered, also taking into account the difference between “parallel funding” and “sequential funding”. In his opinion the suggested initiative cannot be adopted for an early stage but only for future programmes.

Katerina Sereti – European Institution of Technology

Ms Sereti states that it is vital to agree and share the evaluation criteria, considering the fact that some regions do not manage structural funds directly.

Keti Medarova – EASME

Ms Medarova suggests to focus on FP9 maintaining a large overview on both regional and national scales. Several regions do not have a policy base nor assessing criteria to foster Circular Economy, thus she recommends to follow the EC monitoring system in defining SCREEN criteria. Unfortunately, colleagues from DG REGIO dealing with this specific issue and from DG RTD dealing with the Seal of Excellence are not present at the first meeting: their point of view could be beneficial for the discussion.

(During the lunch break two flipcharts were placed in the room and the participants were invited to write their suggestions both in general and related to topics they would like to discuss within the Policy Lab)

Preliminary conclusions

Richard Tuffs lists the overall preliminary conclusions noticing the shared agreement upon the “common pot” of all SCREEN regions, while recognizing the regional government acknowledgements as a practical issue. He states the double necessities of defining clear rules and promoting the value of the “common pot” as a chance to gain benefits. He endorses the strategic importance of the synergies for the future FP9, since the national budgetary allocations on Research and Innovation are insufficient because Member States and Regions spend too few money into Research and delegate such important issue to the EC. He remarks the vital need for a major legitimacy of the Policy Lab.

Carlo Polidori recalls the need for the definition of the assessment criteria, clarifying the significant importance of both local workshops and international meetings to gather inputs to foster international cooperation. He reaffirms the priority of identifying barriers and consequent solutions. He recalls the incoming opening of the LinkedIn group.

Keti Medarova states that the identified synergies should be easy and replicable. She stresses the necessity to enlarge the visibility of the Policy Lab discussions by engaging both DG RTD and DG REGIO to obtain relevant feedbacks. She asks for a bigger and evident correlation between the Policy Lab discussions and the results of the Work Packages, i.e., the analysis of the value chains.

Feedback from the participants

Keti Medarova suggests a different organization of the Policy Lab with two groups: the first one joined by a limited number of regions and the policy advisors, the second one aimed at enlarging the discussions and including the sole participating regions. The suggestions of the regional representatives regard the importance of analyzing the work done in the Work Packages and the need for considering the relations with the policy environment, since the final deliverable should represent a guidance for policy makers. The support of the identified value chains is a topic that the participants are willing to discuss.

Regarding the LinkedIn Group **Aurore Médièu** suggests to add more members, in order to enlarge the knowledge base. Several partners agree on sharing the problematic histories, while **Maria Grazia Pedrana** exhorts to post also positive experiences. **Mieke Houwen** asks about alternative ways to update her about the discussions on the Group.

15:00 End of the Policy Lab Meeting

Suggestions written on the flipcharts

(In the LinkedIn group I would like to discuss about:....)

- **Role of the region in stimulating Circular Economy.**
- **Involvement of regional clusters in activating stakeholders.**
- **Results of Work packages/(Value chains)**
- **Uptake of EC in regional policy documents and operational programmes/RIS3**

(In the LinkedIn group I would like to discuss about:....)

- **Policy recommendations to all levels: EU, Member States and Region themselves**
- **Build a complete and exhaustive list of participants: each region to propose stakeholders**
- **Format of Policy Lab: first questions, then discussion about present and past meetings**
- **Result-oriented discussions**

Action Plan

Next Meetings	Location	Date
Brussels	To be defined	Probably October 2017

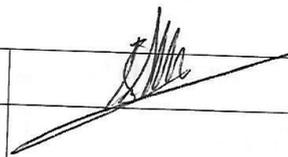
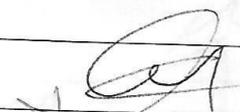
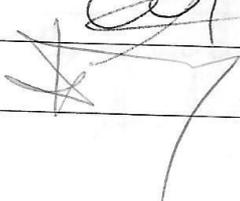
Actions to be taken	Responsibility	Deadline	Status
Start an internal discussion in your institution about the first Policy Lab findings	All Policy Lab Members	As soon as possible	To be done
Activation of the LinkedIn Group and invitation of the members	Veltha	16/05/2017	In progress
Alternative source of info for those not having a LinkedIn	Veltha	16/05/2017	In progress

account			
Collect feedbacks from the internal discussion and post them on the LinkedIn Group	All Policy Lab Members	As soon as possible	To be done
Involve colleagues managing Structural Funds and invite them to join the Policy Lab and its LinkedIn Group	Policy Lab Members coming from Regions and Provinces	As soon as possible	To be done
Involve officers of national Authorities managing Structural Funds and invite them to join the Policy Lab and its LinkedIn Group	Those Policy Lab Members coming from Regions where Structural Funds are managed at national level.	As soon as possible	To be done
Moderate the LinkedIn Group and organize the second meeting, taking also into account the suggestions written on the flipcharts	Regione Lazio, Veltha	As soon as possible	To be done

List of Participants



8 SCREEN
Synergic Circular Economy across European regions
www.screen-lab.eu
Briefing document for the Policy Lab

EURADA Esteban Pelayo	
Commission Services	
DG ENV - Lana.Zutelija-	
DG RTD - Wojciech.Klimek	
and Pavel Misiga	
DG RTD - Annamaria.ZONNO	
DG GROW - Magnus.GISLEV	
DG REGIO - Sander.Happaerts	
European Institute of Technology - Katerina.Sereti	
EASME (as Observer) Keti Medarova	

Ile de France (through its agency ORDIF) ,Aurore Médiéu	<i>AM</i>
Ile-de-France Europe (Brussels office) Fabrice SIRON	<i>Fabrice SIRON</i>
Flanders (Belgium), "Mieke Houwen"	<i>Mieke Houwen</i>
Nord Est Romania, - GABRIELA BOBEANU	<i>Gabriela Bobeanu</i> <i>GBob</i>
Azores (Portugal), Natália Susana de Almeida	<i>Natália Susana de Almeida</i>
Silva <u>Mónica De La Cerda</u>	<i>Mónica De La Cerda</i>
Primorje-Gorski (Croatia) - Luka Dragojević	<i>Luka Dragojević</i>
Tuscia University through its linked third party VELTHA -Carlo Polidori, Silvia Giannisi, Chiara Lorenzetto CLAUDIA Sara Bergamin Reihaneh Eshraghi	<i>Carlo Polidori</i> <i>Claudia Lorenzetto</i> <i>Sara Bergamin</i> <i>Reihaneh Eshraghi</i>
Advisory Board	
ERRIN Richard Tuff's	<i>Richard Tuff's</i>
ACR Plus Philippe Micheaux Naudet or Françoise Bonnet	<i>Philippe Micheaux Naudet</i>

4.2 Second Meeting 11.10.2017

4.2.1 Agenda



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No730313

Second Policy Lab Meeting

*11th of October 2017 - Brussels office of Lazio region
(Rond point Shuman 14, 8th floor) h 09,00*

AGENDA

- h. 09,00* Welcome Coffee
- h. 09,30* Introduction and brief resume of the last Policy Lab and its progresses up to now – *Carlo Polidori – Veltha*
- h. 09,35* Self-introduction of participants (just few words, no slides)
- h. 09,45* Speech of MEP Simona Bonafè (Committee on the Environment) (*)
- h. 10.00* Item 1) "Memorandum of Understanding (**)" – discussion
- h 10.45* Item 2) "Synergy Grids- How to identify cross regional potential synergies" (**) - Short presentation and discussion
- h 11.30* Item 3) "Assessment criteria for circular economy projects (**)" – discussion
- h 12.15* Conclusions and next steps *Carlo Polidori – Veltha*
- h. 12,30* End of the second Policy Lab Meeting

() Due to her engagements, the MEP's speech has been cancelled.*

() A specific briefing document with the details of the items 1) and 3) to be discussed have been already circulated. Details on Item 2 are in attachment.*

Attached

Synthesis of the guideline to identify cross regional potential synergies (SCREEN Deliverable 2.3)
(the full document is available at <http://www.screen-lab.eu/deliverables/D2.3.pdf>)

The guideline to identify cross regional potential synergies (*SCREEN Deliverable 2.3*) is focused on the identification of local and cross-regional value chains, and therefore progressing on the Deliverable 2.2 (*describing the local value chains*) towards a guideline to the potential synergies in cross regional value chains.

The interaction occurred during the development of this guideline & grids was as follows:

- 1) T2.3 leader evaluated, provided feedback on the received data and made recommendations for follow-up actions during the project meeting (Rome, March 16th – 17th 2017). The recommendation are described in this guideline.
- 2) During the same project meeting (Rome, March 16th – 17th 2017), T2.3 leader organized an interactive workshop with support of T2.1 and T2.2 leaders.
- 3) As the data in the Mapping Tool was often subject to personal interpretation, T2.3 leader delivered specific data check sheets (see paragraph 2.3.1) to each partner explaining their interpretation and asking questions about any uncertainties. An example grid was already presented to visualize the way information was to be used and what it was needed for.
- 4) Based on the results of the project meeting and the partner feedback received, T2.3 leader suggested six potential cross-regional synergies between regions. Based on the partners feedback some partner switches were processed and one other potential cross-regional synergy was suggested.
- 5) Together with the draft guideline, the potential cross-regional synergies were presented during the workshop and project meeting in Milan (27th – 28th June 2017). Based on the feedback the potential cross-regional synergies were finalized. The interactive workshop in Milan showed that the preparatory work in WP2 was useful as a starting point for further discussion and investigation in WP3.

The data used for creating the synergy grids is mainly based on existing data from databases, existing policy documents and reports, and knowledge by the participants in the SCREEN consortium. In some cases partners organized internal meetings to collect the information. Towards a further investigation and analysis of the potential synergies towards synergies & complementarities in regions it is also important to start interaction with local stakeholders. Therefore for workpackage 3.1 a guideline has been developed to support partners in the follow-up steps.

The common requirements and criteria are defined as following;

Requirement 1	Potential synergies should be aligned and potentially supported by Regions Smart Specialisation Strategies
Requirement 2	Potential synergies should be connected to existing or emerging sectors
Criteria 1	The potential of a synergy is higher if this could be supported by regions capabilities
Criteria 2	The potential of a synergy is higher if this could be supported by regions companies/available technologies
Criteria 3	The potential of a synergy is higher if linked emerging ideas are already available.

Table 1. Requirements and applied criteria for the potential synergy grids

Within the Mapping Tool, consortium partners were asked to provide information on their companies and capabilities, with a specification on R&D and Human Capital Capabilities. These elements were used to classify and connect the regions.

The emerging ideas were considered voluntary, but strongly recommended in the Mapping Tool. Due to the described difficulties in data-analysis, the emerging ideas were included as a guiding principle in the creation of synergies. Emerging Ideas can be seen as (possible) promising regional business cases, yet are unable to (inter)nationally valorize towards the market. This can be due to a lack of business opportunities, absence of R&D/innovation potential or lack of knowledge. Or, these cases are in a pre-mature stage and lack the ability to develop successfully. The importance of emerging ideas as a guiding principle was stressed out in the Rome project meeting as well.

In order to check if received data is complete and even applicable, a Data Check for the potential synergy grid was executed in four steps.

- ✓ *Step 1 Data Overview*
- ✓ *Step 2 RIS3 Filter*
- ✓ *Step 3 Focus sectors*
- ✓ *Step 4 Remarks/questions Region*

Additional to data collection and processing, regions pleaded for personal interaction between representatives of the regions. In a workshop on 16th of March 2017 as part of a two-day project meeting this interaction facilitated by an interactive workshop. The Rome workshop also provided a starting point for the creation of thematic groups (regions collaborating on a specific theme for further detailing and investigation in the next steps of the project).

The data acquired with the mapping tool (T2.1), the further local analysis (T2.2) and the first cross regional analysis combined with the interactive work (T2.3) resulted in the identification of seven cross regional potential synergies between the SCREEN partners, and an initial partnership for further collaboration and investigation.

The seven cross regional potential synergies and the initial associated regions are:

Theme	Regions
Agriculture & food	Navarra, Limburg, Crete, Scotland, Centro Portugal, Fryslân, Lazio Łódzkie
(Smart) Packaging	Tampere , Limburg, Crete, Centro Portugal, Fryslân, Navarra, Ile de France
(Resources from) water and wastewater	Fryslân , Navarra, Tampere, Lombardy, Crete, Limburg, Łódzkie, Scotland, Centro Portugal
Biobased materials & biotechnology	Limburg , Crete, Lombardy, Fryslân, Scotland, Centro Portugal, Tampere, Navarra, Flanders, Lazio, Łódzkie
Manufacturing and re-manufacturing	Lombardy , Navarra, Fryslân, Tampere, Centro Portugal
(Bio)Waste management	Navarra, Tampere, Lombardy, Crete, Łódzkie,
Construction	Tampere

N.B. Bold marked regions are lead theme partners for follow-up work in collaboration within more detailed value chains. For themes (bio)wastemanagement and agriculture & food thematic leaders have not yet “volunteered”.

These initial partnerships need to be considered as a starting point for further collaboration on themes that align with RIS-strategies and focus sectors. Next step is to perform a further detailed local analysis with stakeholders, map the local value chains and identify any gaps or emerging ideas to be supported and offered to other regions. This next step is part of Task 3.1 of the project

One is aware that the identified cross regional collaboration on value chains obviously could target more than one theme (materials, sectors, knowledge, etc.). Therefore these initial partnerships are characterised as open partnerships and upcoming workshops should provide the opportunity to exchange the progress and ideas between themes and come up with cross regional collaboration ideas. The initial partnerships may be adjusted based on this.

Furthermore, the methodology described in the deliverables T2.1, T2.2 and T2.3 supports other partnerships to identify other potential synergies. The interactive work organised within the SCREEN-project as well as other informal initiatives could lead to new partnerships for cross regional collaboration.

An example of a synergy grid is presented in the figure: further grids are contained in the full document. During the project also other grids will come available depending on the thematic progress.



Potential synergies in Agriculture & food

Description

Organic waste in agrifood production, processing and consumption needs to be prevented/reduced and what remains needs to be collected for other use (resource for energy, packaging, animal feed, etc.)

Biotechnology can play an important role for increasing yield and preservation. And for recovering resources, applying biorefinery on agrifood products and producing biobased chemicals.

Limited water resources make it necessary to invest in water efficiency/recovery measures, and rainwater harvesting technologies.

Water technology is enabling technology for closed loop systems and environmental emission reduction.

Emerging Ideas

Reuse of waste materials from agriculture and food transformation industry

Application of biotechnology to improve yield and preservation

Biodegradable / circular packaging for Agrifood distribution

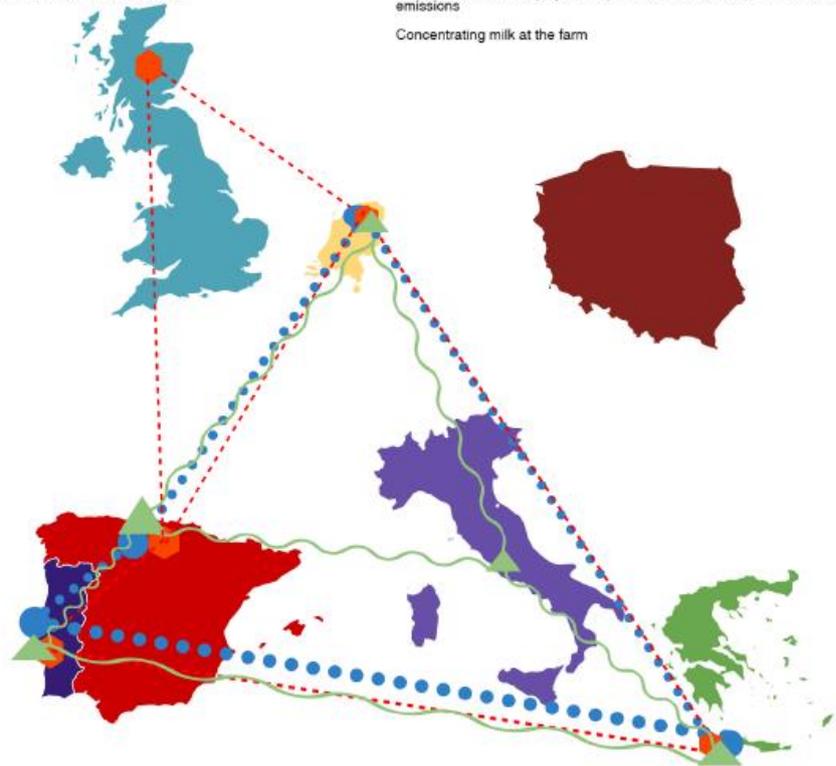
From organic foodwaste to feed for animal breeding

Use of organic waste for energy production

Water efficiency and water harvesting solutions

Creation of closed-loop systems (resources, chemicals) & treatment of emissions

Concentrating milk at the farm



R&D Synergy

Business Synergy

Human Capital Synergy

4.2.2 Briefing Document



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No730313

Briefing document for the second Policy Lab meeting

The second Policy Lab meeting focuses on three main items based on the results of the previous meeting [1] and the International workshop in Milano, held on June 2017

- 1) A preliminary scheme of the **Memorandum of Understanding** discussed during the "Co-creation" round table in the workshop in Milano has been circulated among the partners(Annex 1); as explained in the specific introduction and more detailed in the workshop minutes available on the SCREEN web site[2], the aim is to achieve a preliminary general agreement about a possible pilot initiative, in order to ask the European Commission to finance it. Partners regions have been requested to forward the scheme to their internal offices managing structural funds, in order to receive feedback to be discussed in the next Policy Lab scheduled on 11th of October 2027. Annex 1 also contains some comments that should be analysed before starting the meeting.
- 2) SCREEN issued the deliverable⁴ **D2.3 "SYNERGY GRIDS - A guideline to identify cross regional potential synergies"**[3]; even if technical specifications has been discussed in several webinars and email exchanges, the Policy Lab is requested to discuss and validate the general approach.
- 3) A first set of **"Assessment criteria for circular economy projects" (Annex 2)** has been issued; regional partners are requested to comment them and to try their application by comparing two already financed projects in their regions. Feedbacks about te comparison are expected within 10th of November, in order to be discussed in the international Wokshop in London, but the general approach will be discussed in the second Policy Lab. Annex 2 also contains some comments received by one partner.

The agenda will be based on the discussion of the 3 above items (≈50 min. each one): it will be distributed one week before o the meeting.

REFERENCES

- [1] Minutes of the 1st Policy Lab http://www.screen-lab.eu/documents/1st_POLICYLAB_minutes.pdf
- [2] Minutes of the International Workshop held in Milano <http://www.screen-lab.eu/deliverables/D4.1.pdf>
- [3] *SYNERGY GRIDS - A guideline to identify cross regional potential synergies"* <http://www.screen-lab.eu/deliverables/D2.3.pdf>

⁴ This deliverable, as well as all the other ones, has to be intended as "preliminary" until its official acceptance by EASME
July 2018

4.2.3 Minutes

SCREEN Project

Minutes of the 2nd Policy Lab in Brussels

11/10/2017 – h 09.30- 12,30 - Lazio Region office in Brussels – Rond Point Shuman 14

(List of attendees in Annex 1)

Executive Summary

The second Policy Lab meeting of the SCREEN project started with a discussion on the draft of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that should be signed by the regions in order to show their willingness to going ahead with a reinforced cooperation on Circular Economy projects.

There is a general agreement about the need of a new approach and the idea of the “Common Pot” (POT) described in the MoU, but also several difficulties in its application such as the definition of the money each region should put in the pot, its application in the near future and its extension to other programmes.

Each regions should analyse how many project proposals have failed receiving Horizon 2020 funding because of shortage of funds in order to understand if and how many funds should be put in the POT; such analysis should be inserted in the mapping tool already developed by the project

The MoU is considered as an important commitment but also as a political statement that appears to be too short in the present version: it should therefore be better defined.

With reference to FP9, currently being drafted by the Commission services, there is a short “window” (the end of this year or in the spring next year) for having a discussion with them to understand possible interactions; this is a unique opportunity, so a speed up of the MoU and its signatures should be taken into the due consideration.

However, the MoU should also foresee the possibility of short term solutions, for examples some selection criteria that could be added in the current programme(s); a bilateral meeting should be requested to DG REGIO, that did not attend the Policy Lab up to now, in order to check their position towards the MoU’s concept.

Four (additional) assessment criteria have been proposed and discussed for their common adoption. There is a general concern about the adoption of quantitative indicators, due to the objective difficulty to manage them; however, if adopted as additional criteria for projects having the same score, they make sense and could also stimulate applicants to perform quantitative analyses in their projects.

The criterion dealing with the use of renewable energy does not address circular economy and should not be adopted: the remaining criteria need some more specifications that will be addressed after the results of some internal tests the regions are currently performing.

The Policy Lab Discussions will continue on the LinkedIn Group up to the next physical meeting

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Key Issues or Discussion- Item 1- Memorandum of Understanding

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN project manager) introduces and briefly resumes the last Policy Lab. He reminds also to use the LinkedIn group for any suggestion and question. The discussion of the Second Policy Lab starts talking about the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), still in a very preliminary draft, and the importance of having as much signatures as possible, in order to show to the European Commission the agreement reached by several EU Regions and obtain the right consideration about the SCREEN approach.

Richard Tuffs, director of ERRIN (European Regions Research and Innovation Network)-member of the SCREEN Advisory Board points out the importance of a strong cooperation agreement between regions to spread excellence and improve the European added value; this is a unique opportunity because the new FP9 is being drafted in this period and may include some concepts already expressed in the MoU. However, the time is very short and he suggests to approach as soon as possible the Commission's Services that are currently drafting the FP9.

Tiina Harala (Tampere region). Ms. Harala says that in principle they are ready to put money in the POT but they don't know how many potential projects there are could be benefiting of the pot (just to clarify: at this moment we don't have the knowledge of how many project proposals from our region have failed receiving Horizon funding because of shortage of funds but yet succeeding in getting relatively high scores). It seems an interesting opportunity, but only for the next programme and not for now, since the projects funded during this programming period have to follow certain evaluation criteria, have to be managed in the existing IT-system etc. It would, however, be important in one way or another to try to test the idea of pilot pot even before the next programming period in order to get experience of what is working and what is not (More comments received in writing from Tampere Region in annex 4).

Tjeerd Hazenberg (Fryslan province) starts saying that the POT could be a good solution only if H2020-projects from their region are rejected because of a shortage in the available funds; otherwise, there is no problem that should be solved. (More details received in writing from Fryslan Province in annex 5)

Mieke Houwen (Flanders) explains that when they wrote their operational program they had problems with the requirement regarding climate and other environmental issue rather than materials objectives, so the priority was given to these urgent matters, in order to meet the international standards. According to her colleague that manages the structural funds, there is a lot of competition in topics to be selected for the operational programme, especially because the total budget in Flanders is small, compared to other regions. It is important to convince people who have to manage these funds to reserve a considerable share of the budget for CE issues by showing the importance. Regarding the Memorandum of Understanding she considers that it is important trying to talk first about a minimum percentage to put in the common POT for everybody in order to know what they are talking about. (More comments received in writing from Flanders are as side comments in the draft MoU attached to the briefing document)

Lorenzo Lo Cascio (Lazio Region) underlines that obviously every Region has to do a sort of feasibility study to know if the mechanism of POT described in the MoU could be useful. He says that Lazio Region has allocated already a part of the budget for Circular Economy and this common POT would be one of the instruments that can support this field. He also explains that the Policy Lab members should discuss first about the concept of the mechanism itself (still to be defined in details) and not about how the mechanism could be applied in our Regions.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) underlines that the POT is a pilot exercise so they should establish in principle the criteria of this mechanism. The Memorandum of Understanding has to show at least a common agreement on such criteria .

Ana Abrunhosa (President of CENTRO region) says that in principle they agreed with this pilot mechanism. Financing projects about Circular Economy in Portugal and in the Centro Region is a priority dimension. They have already a regional agenda, so for them it is really important to align that with the national one. She explains that they still have one problem with H2020 concerning some national projects in the field of science and technology, regarding the part that their Country has to finance. The Centro Region is working on specific calls for finance only project regarding circular economy. It is not difficult to align the criteria of H2020 and their calls. In Portugal they have four criteria A,B,C,D: since A and B concern science and technology, they are in fact very close to

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H2020, having the same type of projects. This is an easy and quick way to work because many projects have been already evaluated and then they have only to analyse them regarding the other two minor criteria.

In Portugal they work as a network that is coordinated by a public agency, there is a certain type of autonomy, so CENTRO is very committed to this because it is very important to have a common pot to finance project that were already considered good by the European Commission. Of course they have to convince the others authorities and she thinks that it is not so difficult because they are already going towards this path.

Centro Region are now working on a specific call regarding Circular Economy and she says that the Memorandum of Understanding is an important commitment but before they have to meet and discuss with the other authorities.

Wojciech Klimek (DG RTD) considers that the synergies are not only about some not selected H2020 projects to be funded from ESIF, but the synergies (as you can see from the Guide prepared by DG RTD and DG REGIO) have much more options and mechanisms. Looking at these document everybody can see the all picture. The issue of not selected proposal perhaps is a problem for one region but not for others. There could be a mismatch then between the number of money put in the common pot and the numbers of interested applicants from the regions.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) reminds that the Briefing document of the previous Policy Lab contains an analysis of the current available instruments and the results of the questionnaire among the involved regions. The Memorandum of Understanding is just the first step in the SCREEN path and without such a first step we cannot make the second one. The problem concerning the use of the common POT is about the fact that the money put by each Region can be used to finance only stakeholders coming from that Regions. If someone applies during a program, if the money will be used, the region can decide to put it again, if the money is not used at the end of the program it will result in any case correctly spent under the structural funds. This means that if this money put by one or more region is not totally spent at the end of the program, it remains for the next program, but the region can declare that the money has been correctly spent under the structural funds.

Keti Medarova (EASME) remarks that she really appreciates the discussion started from the first policy lab. It's important that all regions participating in the project contribute to these discussions. For her the common POT is a good idea, a good start, but she thinks that more discussion is needed on how this idea came about and what exactly it entails with more details. She thinks that what is missing an underlying analysis to point the problem that the common POT is trying to solve. She understands the idea of the POT but she considers it a long term option and it is very difficult to see how it is related to the other activities under the WP 2 and 3 in the project.

In parallel there is a lot of local analyses going on, that she finds really interesting to read, identifying the potential/capabilities based in smart specialization strategies. That part of local analyses should include also an analysis about if H2020 proposal are lacking money or not and how much money are we talking about, or if for some Region is a problem and for others not. This can address the concern raised by Fryslan.

Ms Medarova thinks that the options/ideas that the consortium develops for the funds' synergies needs to be linked with the technical deliverables developed in WP 2 and 3, because every Region has to provide evidence on CE capabilities/barriers in order to be convincing in front of regional authorities and the Commission. To convince the EC, the Regions has to come with a very good and solid problem analysis, . The POT could be one of the potential solutions/options.

SCREEN was originally conceived to deliver a really holistic framework of how, in the field of circular economy, the synergies between the funding programmes can be achieved and she says that it's not a good idea to put all the resources in developing only the MoU regarding the POT. Instead, based on the outcomes of the analysis and mapping done in WP 2 and 3, it is better the consortium to work on a range of short-, medium and long-term options, for examples. One example of a short-term option could be CE project selection criteria that could be added in the current programmes as mentioned by the representative of Tampere region.

The policy lab was set up as an intention to bring together Regional stakeholders and relevant Commission services in order to provide a "reality check" of the options/proposal developed under the SCREEN project. She remarks that in this moment there is an ongoing process of developing FP9. SCREEN should follow this in order to understand what is feasible to propose under the project. This means that it could be useful to talk with the European Commission services that could not come to the Policy Lab through bilateral meetings.

This is something to think about because as Mr. Tuffs pointed out that there is a window of opportunity by the end of this year in terms of "out of the box" thinking and ideas about the FP9. This will require a concrete proposal well justified, supported by all regions, and backed with evidence from the local analyses.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) highlights that the analysis of the project financed by each region is very important, but SCREEN is a coordinating and supporting action and not a research project, it has limited budget and limited time, so even if the regions have for sure to do their analyses the results will probably arrive after the ends of the project. A first preliminary analysis is therefore necessary.

Annamaria Zonno (DG RTD) says that the analysis performed by each SCREEN participants at regional level is a good starting point to know what is already happening in the field of circular economy. The project should elaborate different options of possible synergies and funding, because at this stage FP9 is under preparation. The project may however consider to develop new project which are going to be submitted under the current Horizon 2020 or the next FP9. She was also skeptical about the envisaged top up, because in the current program it doesn't exist, in the future program probably it will not exist as well, therefore is useless to ask to the Commission to commit to something which does not exist as implementation modality. She agrees with the need of make a Memorandum of Understanding or a letter of intentions about this option which fits with the regional analysis and the possible synergies between regions and stakeholders. She suggests that the project could also bring to the Commission some new ideas of combining the funds, making a list of desiderata based on the partner's experience.

Gabriela Macoveiu (North-East RDA Romania) points out an experience about coordinating smart specialization strategy: they realized that the entrepreneurial discovery process brought up in certain projects which need multipoint intervention, so an integrated approach cannot occur with their current operational program. Now they are modifying the operational program in order to create a special call to reinforce the possibilities to finance this multipoint intervention in the innovation value chain projects.

She knows the struggle of this group (screen/policy lab) trying to find a solution to implement interregional projects, due to the fact that is impossible to cut off part of the project, make them to fit with the existing instruments. She says that they are members also in the smart specialization platform where huge efforts are made to align their portfolio projects and partners. Recover pieces it

is not a solution, it is a solution to promote in the future projects, she is thinking as an alternative to dedicate funding instruments for smart specialization projects related to this interregional cooperation, so this intervention must happen once and produce also effects in the Region. Otherwise the common POT with different calls of proposal not aligned and with different regulation will only put burden to the partners in their countries, is very difficult for them to understand that the project involve many regions, every region is trying to push the projects in its country and then come back and say we are done this together.

The right way to do this is to put that in a specific common room because none knows if INTERREG and FP9 will change. The power is in the hands of the Regions so we have to decide. Her proposal is that this interregional partnership should be aligned also under smart specialization on a common agenda. There is a need of a common budget so that is for her the focus of the proposal: we need that money to come separately with a single set of rules, we need to put it together because in reality this coordination and synergies stop at the operational program which is about all the concerns that needs to be solved at the bottom level so the projects are happening one in 2014, one in 2017 etc. and the value chain has changed in the meanwhile.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager)

summarizes that North- East RDA Romania is saying that the common POT is not enough without common rules, so his question is if it should be applied only to specific call of H2020 dealing with circular economy and smart specialization strategy? Gabriela Macoveiu (North- East RDA Romania) confirms that in their opinion the calls have to be aligned not only in the criteria but also in time.

Annamaria Zonno (DG RTD) says that the willingness of the regions to work on the European dimension of the Smart specialisation strategies is an interesting point that the project could raise with DG REGIO. Currently besides the pilots that DG REGIO is launching, the only program which was allowing a cooperation among all the regions in Europe is for example INTERREG EUROPE which unfortunately funds only policy exchanges. In this moment when the new programmes are being designed, this partnership could raise this need with DG REGIO or with DG RTD. and ask to have a programme dedicated to smart specialization projects.

Keti Medarova (EASME) clarified that SCREEN should work on a range of different options for synergies among funds. These could also include recommendations on the future of INTERREG programme. DG REGIO is currently starting to think about the future Cohesion Policy and how it will look post-2020. SCREEN could provide some evidence on the importance of the future INTERREG programme and what investment needs are there for interregional synergies.

Ana Abrunhosa (President of CENTRO region) added that with the way they finance the projects they have many burdens the problem is that there are too many roles: from the European initiatives, national rules, etc. She asked : what is a research and innovation? What is fundamental and applied to research? It is not easy to discern: moreover circular Economy is a topic really much interdisciplinary, so this Memorandum of Understanding, she agrees, is a political statement, but is a too short political statement. It is necessary a specific way to finance Circular Economy projects because they are completely different, for implementing project in a region in this topic it is necessary to have Regional companies, companies associations, Technological Centres, Region Authorities and Universities. In summary the problems for her is that there are too many rules. She says finally that this idea of having multidisciplinary projects is the only and right way to work in the field of Circular Economy.

Maria Grazia Pedrana (Lombardia region) agrees to find different kinds of solution to receive new resources for Circular Economy, but she says that to have a sort of lobby to improve this process, that is a political one not a management one, the project needs to provide clear data and information, to demonstrate that for example potentially last year a Region could have funded ten projects on Circular Economy and it didn't occur because of a lack of funds. This is a demonstration that there is potential not exploited in each Region. She points out that the method in this kind of negotiation should start with collecting this kind of data. Lombardia Region collects some data concerns the management of this kind of process.

They agree on the principle but she thinks that they are a little bit scared about the kind of management, if we think about the last programming period, at the beginning one of the options was to integrate the territorial investments. It should be a normal process of management where only structural funds can be used for this kind of instruments but in Lombardia Region they don't activate the tool because it is not so easy to manage it. In that specific case the Region has only ESIF and ERDF funds to be used, so that is quite similar in terms of regulation and management.

The Region would like to sum up different kind of resources that can be really an advantage but it needs a big work on the concrete possibility to implement and provide support to the managing authorities and the people working on it to address in a new way the calls with different criteria. She thinks that is really a process that needs also a cross cutting work in each region with a sort of sustain, maybe some programs for example INTERREG in future could help in the definition of a process to support them.

Mikel Irujo Amezaga (Navarra) supports the idea of common pot that should also be enlarged to other European Instruments

Philippe Micheaux Naudet, ACR+ - member of the SCREEN Advisory Board points out that the issue of the minimum % of funding to be put in the common pot is a bit question mark from their perspective.

Esteban Pelayo EURADA,- member of the SCREEN Advisory Board, states that the MoU can be seen as a good document, establishing a framework for collaboration. It is however very ambitious. In order to be realistic, it may need more flexibility. For example, where the funds are coming from? ESIF funds from 2014-2020 are already allocated. Very difficult to impossible to shift to elsewhere. Why would not regions decide to allocate their own funds? Another idea is to do a pilot project financing scheme under SCREEN and to show how this scheme can work – maybe some partners may decide they do not wish to proceed; maybe no money are available; maybe issues can appear. Another idea is to look into the option if/how the Innovation Action financed centrally by DG REGIO can be continued for interregional CE value chains projects.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) concludes by saying that another version of the MoU will be circulated, having also political statement as introduction, according to all the suggestions raised by this fruitful discussion, so then the partners can discuss online on the LinkedIn Group before the next Policy Lab meeting.

Item 2 "Synergy Grids- How to identify cross regional potential synergies"

3 presentations by Lombardia, Tuscia University and Fryslan to show the deliverables produced up to now. *(Slides in annex 6)*

Wojciech Klimek (DG RTD) points out that the presented methodology for "cross regional potential synergies" is not applicable to the identification of the local value chains in WP2, according to the description of task 2.1, and that the value chains analysis is missing in the deliverable already presented.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) underlines that local value chains have been identified: if their description in is not clear, a specific section in the deliverable 3.1 (still to be issued) will have an integration dealing with this issue.

Item 3 "Assessment criteria for circular economy projects"

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) explains that at the beginning the project was supposed to indicate some indicators for Circular Economy, but during the past Policy Lab we were asked by the representative of DG ENV to take into the due consideration the document under preparation by the European Commission about the monitoring framework, that is expected to deal with the same issue. It was therefore agreed to concentrate the SCREEN efforts in the identification of some additional criteria to evaluate Circular Economy projects. This approach fully complies with the SCREEN methodology because, in case of cross regional projects financed by different European regions, there is the need of an agreement about how to evaluate the "circularity" of one project with respect to another one

This means that the following suggested criteria have to be considered as additional ones respect to usual criteria adopted by each region in evaluating their own:

- Criterion 1. "Mass of waste re-introduced in the production cycle" (Kg/year)*
- Criterion 2. "Net Energy balance respect to the previous system" (KWh/year)*
- Criterion 3. "Percentage of renewable energy used in the process"(from 0 to 100%)*
- Criterion 4. (Socio economic criterion): "Net balance of jobs, given by the number of new jobs created by the circular economy project, minus the number of jobs lost in the previous linear process"*

Polidori adds that he already got some comments about them: the first one was the need to a clear distinction for mass of waste reused respect to the avoided one because the avoided one could be also achieved by incineration, while the real indicator is mass of waste avoided to be put in landfills.

Further comments received before the meeting pointed out that is quite tough to have some quantitative indicators from the projects. This is true, but being such criteria only additional ones, their common adoption should have a sort of leverage effect, because the applicants will know that indicating them in a reasonable way will lead to an higher score of their projects with respect to the others.

Tiina Harala (Tampere region) summarizes the comment already sent to Polidori: "these criteria are quite difficult for the kind of projects that we are funding because we are trying to boost (business) eco-systems and we are not funding projects for single companies –And these criteria are challenging

even for the cases where funding goes directly to single companies. She also says that they read a comment from Croatia⁵ where was presented more subjective criteria and that kind of criteria seem more applicable also to the projects that Tampere region is funding.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) reminds that he asked to each region to find two projects already financed and try to apply these criteria to them, in order to check for their actual or potential applicability. Results are expected before the London workshop.

Philippe Micheaux Naudet, ACR+ - member of the SCREEN Advisory Board agrees with the complexity of providing the data, so it would be interested to see how it is implemented to the two projects. He also comments about the criterion three, in his opinion renewable energy is not part of circular economy, that could be related to it, but for instance in taking energy from winds there is nothing related to Circular Economy.

Aurore Médièu (ORDIF Agency- Ile de France) says it is quite difficult to assess them in quantitative way according to the suggested the criteria. All the H2020 projects regard research for the moment and sometimes the Commission asks to fund a specific approach or a strategy and it is hard to assess quantitative results, and the ones that we have here are very technical.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) outlines that H2020 projects are also Innovation Actions very close to the market and the impact section asks for verifiable indicators. However these criteria should be applied in the specific case that you have different projects dealing with Circular Economy and you have not enough funds to finance all of them. A project proposal able to quantify some of these numbers should be better ranked respect to another one.

Wojciech Klimek (DG RTD) points out that the criterion one looks very simple but it is not; sometimes people can have difficulty because is it not clear what is the value of the recovered material. For criterion one and two sometimes in reality there can be a trade off between them.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) explains that there are sometimes cases where we can recover same materials of waste but with higher energy cost, this is up to any region. He says that he didn't put the scores or the scoring criteria because this is a further step, now he is just introducing the need of quantitative indicators to clearly speak about real Circular Economy projects. He explain another important comment he received, "We should better define what is a mass avoided because mass avoiding could not be something related to Circular Economy; the Circular Economy means to collect something from waste and reintroduce it in the process".

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) remarks that this is just a first step and once agreed to these criteria they will talk about sub criteria; for example about a table of ranking different materials in different projects, but if we agree about the quantitative criterion of mass avoided it is clear that e.g. phosphorus recovered from wastewater cannot have the same weight of material

⁵ Comments from Croatia are in the briefing document (annex 2)
July 2018

recovered from the construction sector. The goal is to arrive at the end of the project with a clear grid, but we have to act step by step.

Aurore Médièu (ORDIF Agency- Ile de France) asks what happens when there is not something regard the production, but a project with a general concept, would be possible for the region to have a list of subjects that would regard Circular Economy? And if the project that is asking for funds respond to that list of e.g. 10-20 items, then it would be a way for the Region to assess if this project is more circular than others?

If for instance a region tries to do prevention in helping municipalities to have better management of waste, this operation regards Circular Economy but they are not able to quantify the real impact of that, regarding the avoided waste. She says that for her H2020 is the program who dealing more with Circular Economy.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) outlines that the project that she has mentioned as example is more similar to a Coordinating and Supporting action, that also in H2020 is not request to provide quantitative indicators. He remarks that they are just at the this first step, maybe they also need this distinction or each region is able to make the distinction to projects approaching some industrial cycle, but again the basis of circular economy is a way to take something previously considered as a waste to put in landfill and to reintroduce it in the industrial cycle and in case of several high ranked projects if one have this well justified quantitative criteria would be better than another project that just define something.

Ana Abrunhosa (President of CENTRO region) asks if they need to put economic criteria as increase economic value in life cycle.

Carlo Polidori (SCREEN Project Manager) answers that usually the economic value is one of the normal criteria adopted by each region in evaluating projects. so he doesn't think that the economic value should be an additional criteria because it is expected to be one of the usual ones.

Preliminary conclusions and Action Plan

It is important to put the comments of the day, as well as further ones, on the LinkedIn Group, because this instrument allows to continue the discussion before the next physical meeting.

The concept of POT is interesting, but there is the need of showing its actual usefulness, meaning to analyse how many project proposals from each region have failed receiving Horizon 2020 funding because of shortage of funds but yet succeeding in getting relatively high scores.

Such local analyses should be included in the mapping tool already developed by SCREEN under task 2.1, in order to allow each region to understand if H2020 proposal are lacking money or not and therefore to decide if and how many funds should be put in the POT. Since time and efforts for these analyses go beyond the SCREEN ones, it is important to define a minimum amount for a first pilot action. The SCREEN consortium should however focus not only on the POT, which is very ambitious, but also on a range of short, medium and long-term options, such as CE project selection criteria that could be added in the current programmes or developing new projects to be submitted under the current Horizon 2020 or the next FP9

There are several doubts about the envisaged top-up, as well as about the use of the current ESIF funds, while the allocation of regional (Non EU) funds could be an option.

Further options should be discussed through bilateral meetings are recommended with DG Regio (that did not attend at any Policy Lab up to now) and the Commission Services that are currently drafting the FP9.

The MoU should have an introduction with a clear statement about the need of a common approach; it should deal with both future instruments like FP9 and current ones for a more immediate pilot approach, in order to bring to the Commission some new ideas of combining the funds, making a list of desiderata based on the partner's experience.

Four (additional) assessment criteria has been proposed and discussed. There is a general concern about the adoption of quantitative indicators, due to the objective difficulty to manage them; however, if adopted as additional criteria for projects having the same score, they make sense and could have also a sort of leverage effect. In more details:

- Criterion 1 needs some sub-criteria in order to balance the “weight” of different materials coming from waste and re-introduced in the production cycle.
- Criterion 2 needs to be linked with the previous one
- Criterion 3 should be rejected, because it does not directly address circular economy

The 3 remaining criteria will be revised after the results of the tests with 2 already financed projects

The overall methodology under development by SCREEN can be summarized in 4 steps:

Step 1 Identify local capabilities and potential value chains

Step 2 Defining a “grid” of cross regional potential synergies

Step 3 Defining a synergic use of funds to support cross regional projects raising from the above mentioned synergies

Step 4 The above projects should be assessed about their actual “circularity” by using common agreed criteria, to be discussed and defined within the Policy Lab.

Discussions will continue on the LinkedIn Group

Action Plan

Next Meetings place	Venue	Date
Brussels	To be defined	Around Mid-February 2018

Actions to be taken	Responsibility	Deadline	Status
Request for a meeting with the Commission Services drafting the FP9	SCREEN Project Manager	ASAP	In progress
Request for a meeting with DG REGIO	SCREEN Project Manager	ASAP	To be done
Add an adequate introduction in the MoU	SCREEN Project Manager	Before circulating the 2 nd version	To be done
Re-arrange the MoU, also by including more options and already existing instruments like art. 70, Interreg, , etc	SCREEN Project manager with a second draft, then all	Before circulating the 2 nd version	
Providing results about the application of the suggested criteria on two already financed projects	All partners	Before the project meeting in London (20 th November)	In progress
2 nd draft version of MoU circulated		20.12.2017	To be done

Annexes

Annex 1: List of participants with signatures and consensus signatures for video recording plus photo of the meeting

Annex 2: Briefing document of the second Policy Lab – *link-only* (www.screen-lab.eu/documents/PLBriefing2.pdf)

Annex 3: Agenda of the 2nd Policy Lab, together with an integration of the briefing document – *link only* (www.screen-lab.eu/documents/PLAgenda2.pdf)

Annex 4: written Comments received by Tampere Region about the first draft of the MoU

Annex 5 : written Comments received by Fryslan Province about the first draft of the MoU

Annex 6: presentation of the tools delivered by the project

Annex 7: photo of the event

Annex 1: List of participants with signatures and consensus signatures for video recording

8 SCREEN
Synergic Circular Economy across European regions

Second Policy Lab Meeting
11th of October 2017 - Brussels office of Lazio region
(Rond point Shuman 14, 8th floor) h 09,00

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No730313

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Synergic Circular Economy across European regioNs

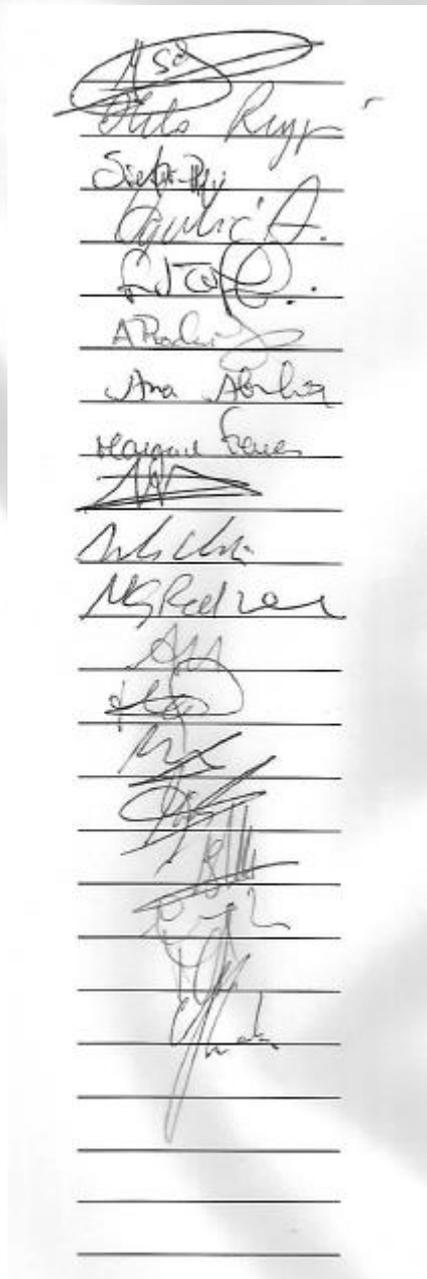
11/10/2017 Office of Lazio Region Representation in Brussel, Rond Point Schuman, 14

I Hereby authorize Veltha wzw to video record me for the purpose of dissemination of the SCREEN project. I hereby assign all rights to the release and retention of Video Records of the event. I understand that Video Records will be used for dissemination purposes only. Any other use will require specific written permission.

Brussels, 11/10/2017

Signature:





Annex 4: written Comments received by Tampere Region about the first draft of the MoU

Date 29.9.2017. Translated 3.10.2017

Comments for the MoU from the Managing authority (Ministry of economic affairs and employment) and the Council of Tampere Region

Comments from the Managing Authority (MA) for ERDF:

- In principle, we at the Managing Authority have a positive stand towards this kind of actions, although at this state there are many unclear details. The management system of the programme should not however be changed.
- The IT-management system of the programme should not be changed. The funded projects have to fit and be manageable in the current EURA-management system.
- From MA's perspective the relevant questions are:
 - o Assessment and selection methods
 - o The funding for the pilot pot will not be detached from the structural funds programme and all the partners will in the end use their own money?
- Creating this kind of model during the ongoing structural funds programme can be challenging and changes to the programme are not very welcomed (i.e. for example changes in the evaluation criteria)
- However, in addition to the evaluation criteria accepted by the monitoring committee there can be regional evaluation criteria (for example: "application has succeeded in a Horizon2020-call reaching a status/ score of..."; maybe this procedure could be applied to the pilot during the ongoing programming period? The additional criteria cannot be in contradiction to the criteria set by the monitoring committee or to the specific objectives defined in the programme (i.e. activities funded have to fit the programme objectives)
- in principle the idea of testing something new in relation to the following programming period is supportable
- The pilot should be done, in align with the ongoing structural funds programme and lessons learned should be taken into consideration when preparing the next programming period.

Comments from Council of Tampere Region (intermediate body for ERDF):

- Council of Tampere Region stands positive for the common co-creative approach and understands the purpose of MoU as an act of will.
- In the question of source for funding, the added funding for research and innovation funds (ie. Horizon2020/ its follow-up) should not be done in the expense of cohesion funding.
- There remain several open items to more detailed technical discussion. These are not blocking the acceptance of MoU, but to be considered, when the policy lab steps are continued.
 - o How to ensure that "money moved into specific measure by each region will result automatically and correctly spent within its structural funds"
 - o Additional assessment criteria and selection of applications to be funded (i.e. criteria to be applied and who is making the final selection)

- If the actions of the Policy lab are to be considered to take place during the current programme, we hardly see that the intentions of MoU, in relation to making the procedures of assessment and selection of applications smooth, are achieved
- There might be cases where H2020 applications do not fit into the current ERDF-programme without modifying the applications. This potential obstacle could possibly be taken into consideration when preparing the programmes for the next programming period by defining the activities to be funded in a way that makes it possible to fund these kind of projects?-
- Who would be the competent/ legitimate funding authority in pilot-pot –type projects? If there is an intention to make a single decision concerning every pilot pot project (i.e. centralized decision making), the decision making should be delegated from the regional authorities and this would mean major changes to the current national/ regional management systems of structural funds. There remain several open items in this area.

Annex 5 : written Comments received by Fryslan Province about the first draft of the MoU

From: "Tjeerd Hazenberg" <t.hazenberg@fryslan.frl>

To: "polidori carlo" <polidori.carlo@telenet.be>

Sent: Monday, October 9, 2017 9:17:08 PM

Subject: RE: SCREEN Policy Lab: last updates- comments from Tampere Region to the MoU

Dear Carlo,

We'll meet Wednesday in the meeting of the policy lab. In this mail I adress some comments or questions. Hopefully it benefits the discussion during the policy lab on Wednesday.

I attended the round table-session in the end of June in Milano. In this session we also dicussed the MoU. Not all of the participants of the policy lab were invited to be in Milano. I joined Eric and Bart to learn more where SCREEN is all about. I think this was very usefull also in regard to my participation in the policy lab. Also the round table was useful in understanding the plan about the MoU. My question is: how do the rest of the participants of the policy lab catch up to the same level of understanding of the MoU?

In the report of the roundtable session not all of the remarks from the participant were mentioned. For examples the remarks I made didn't came back in the report. Maybe it was not the aim of the report to mention all the remarks. I will shortly write down my remarks:

In order to convince the board of my province, I need to have an regional analysis that support the need of an MoU. Is there a problem in our region that needs to be solved. Only if H2020-projects from our region are rejected because of a shortage in the available funds, a common pot could be a solution. Otherwise, there is no problem that should be solved. This analysis is not ready on this moment. Does other regions made an analysis like this and can we learn from each other. For the time being we can support the idea of a common pot though. Wednesday I expect to bring in the comments of our management authority (MA).

What's the time schedule towards the signing of the MoU?

This is a short comment I would like to join with you before our policy lab on Wednesday. I hope to see you then!

Kind regards,

Tjeerd Hazenberg

Annex 6: presentation of the tools delivered by the project

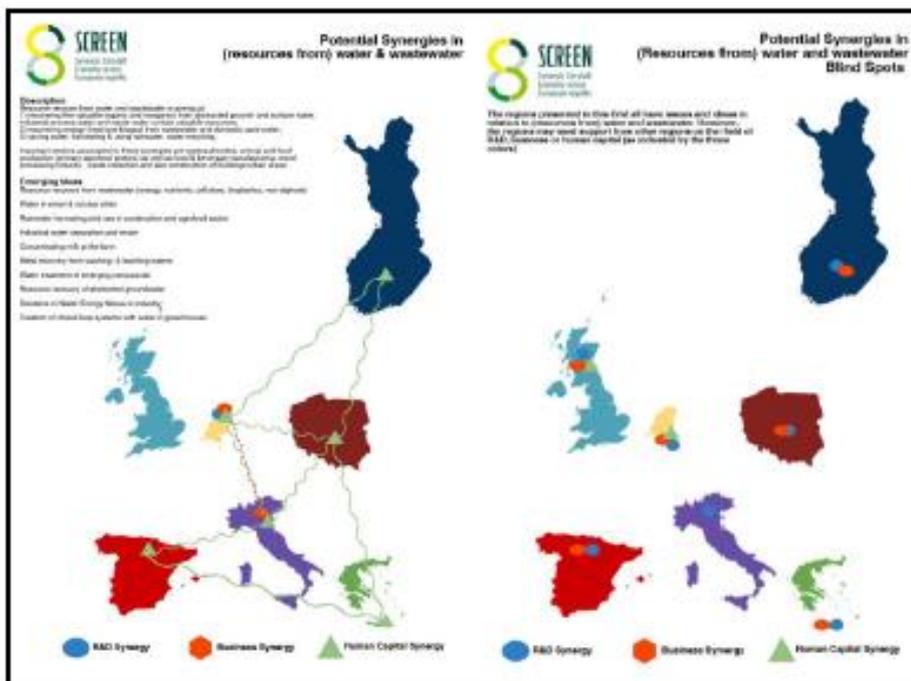
SCREEN
Synergic Circular Economy across European regions

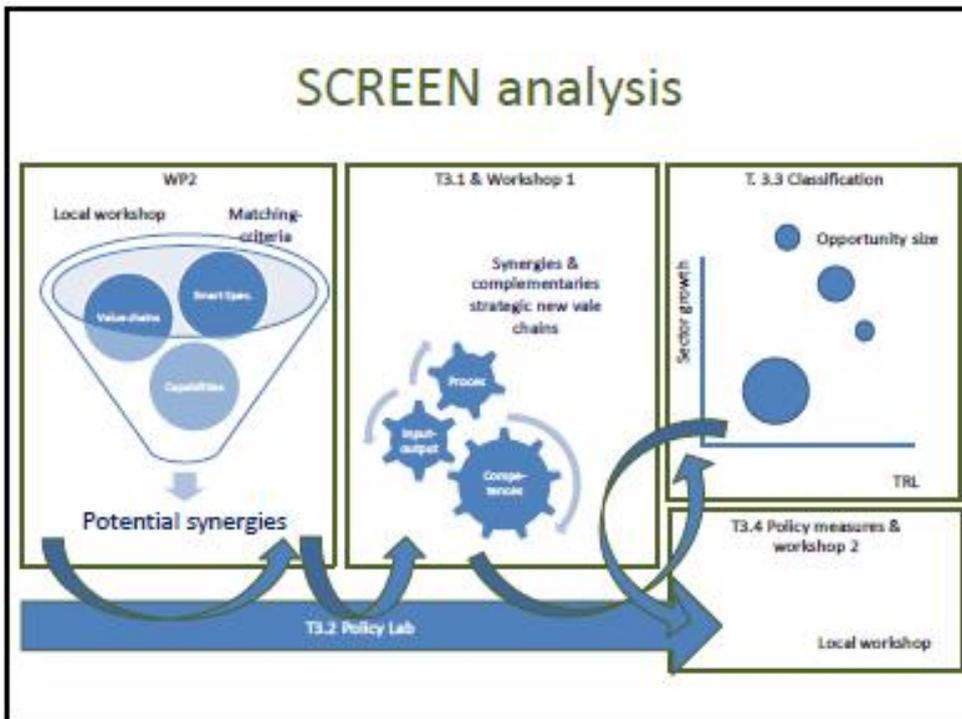
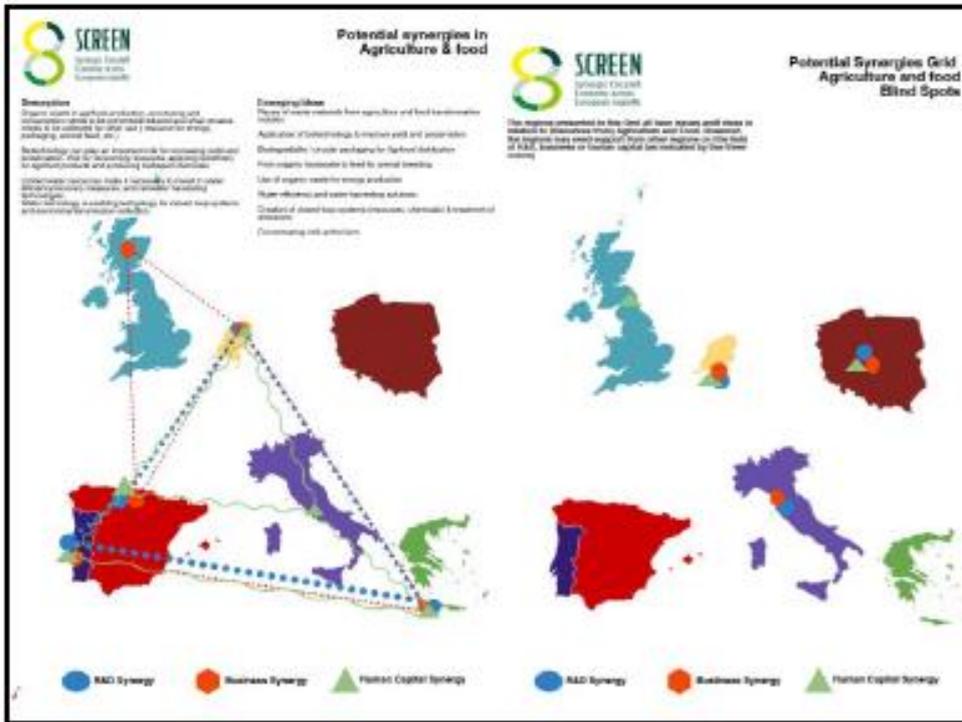
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101019718

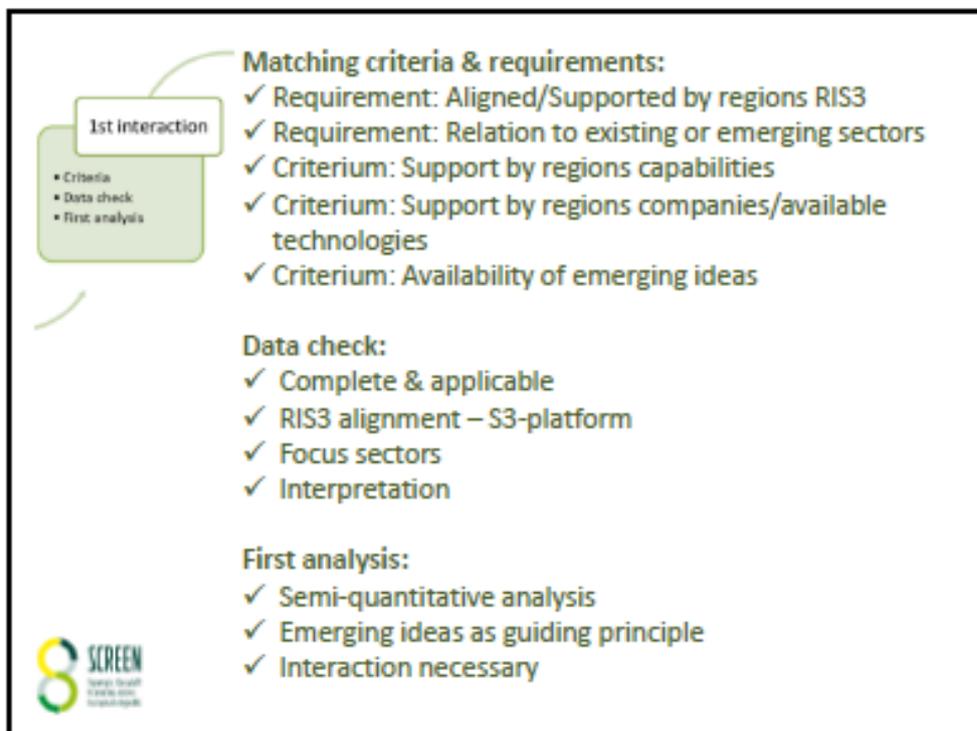
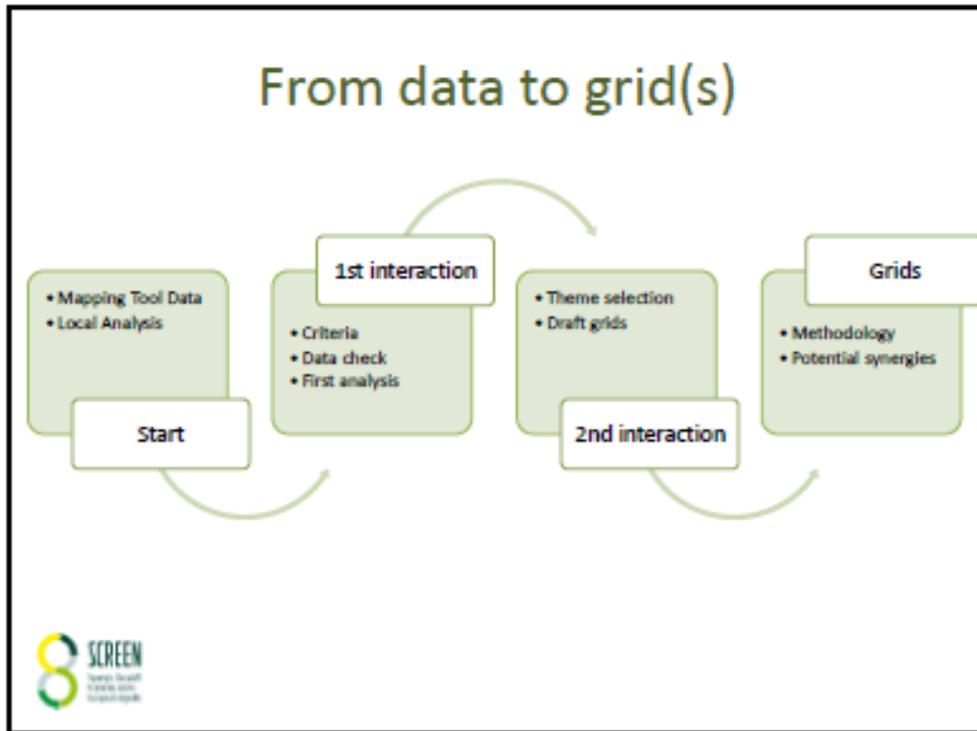
Identifying (potential) cross-regional synergies in Circular Economy

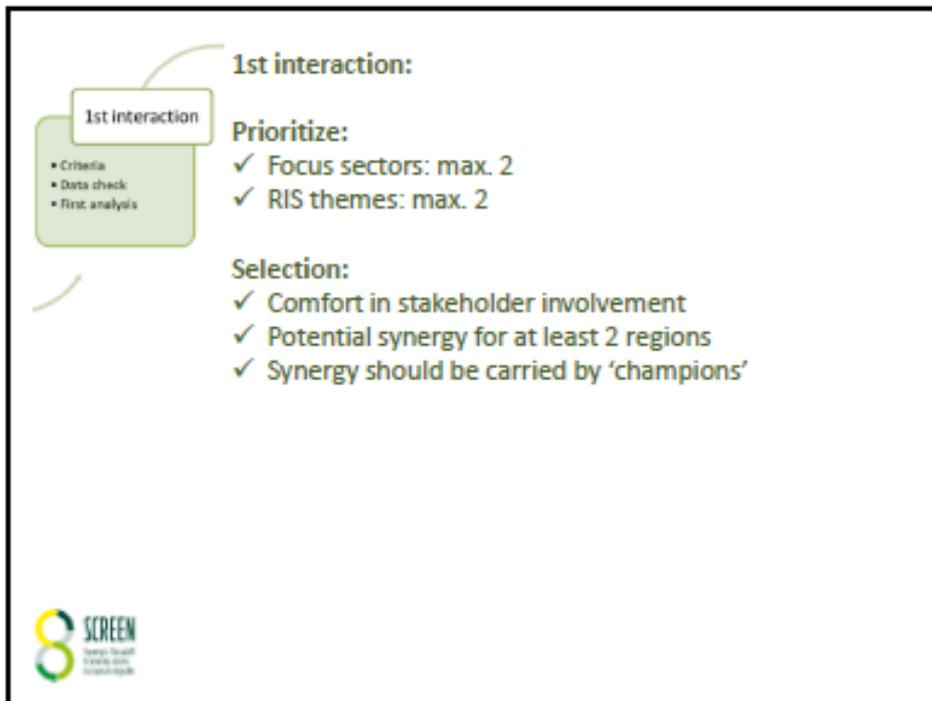
Applied approach and results so far

Ir. B.C. (Bart) Volkers, on behalf of SCREEN-partner Province of Fryslân









2nd interaction

- Theme selection
- Draft grids

Theme selection results

Theme	Regions	
Agriculture & food	Navarra Limburg Crete	Scotland Centro Portugal Fryslân Lazio Łódzkie
(Smart) Packaging	Limburg Crete Centro Portugal	Fryslân Navarra Île de France
(Resources from) water and wastewater	Fryslân Navarra Tampere Lombardy	Crete Limburg Łódzkie Scotland
Biobased materials & biotechnology	Crete Lombardy Fryslân Scotland	Tampere Navarra Flanders Lazio Łódzkie
Manufacturing and re-manufacturing	Navarra Lombardy	Tampere
(Bio)Waste management	Navarra Tampere Lombardy	Crete Łódzkie
Construction	Tampere	



- Theme selection
- Draft grids

Draft grids

Description: Scope / framework

Regions: Interested regions

Emerging ideas: Concrete ideas for development cooperation. Both functional and collaborative

Synergies:

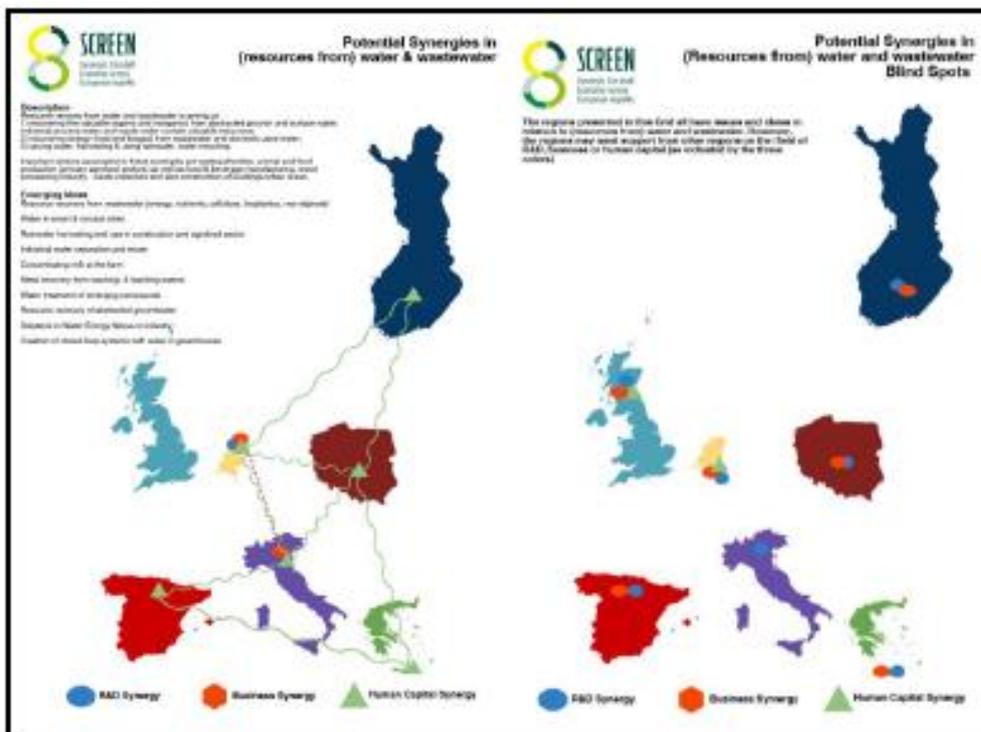
- ✓ R&D
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Business

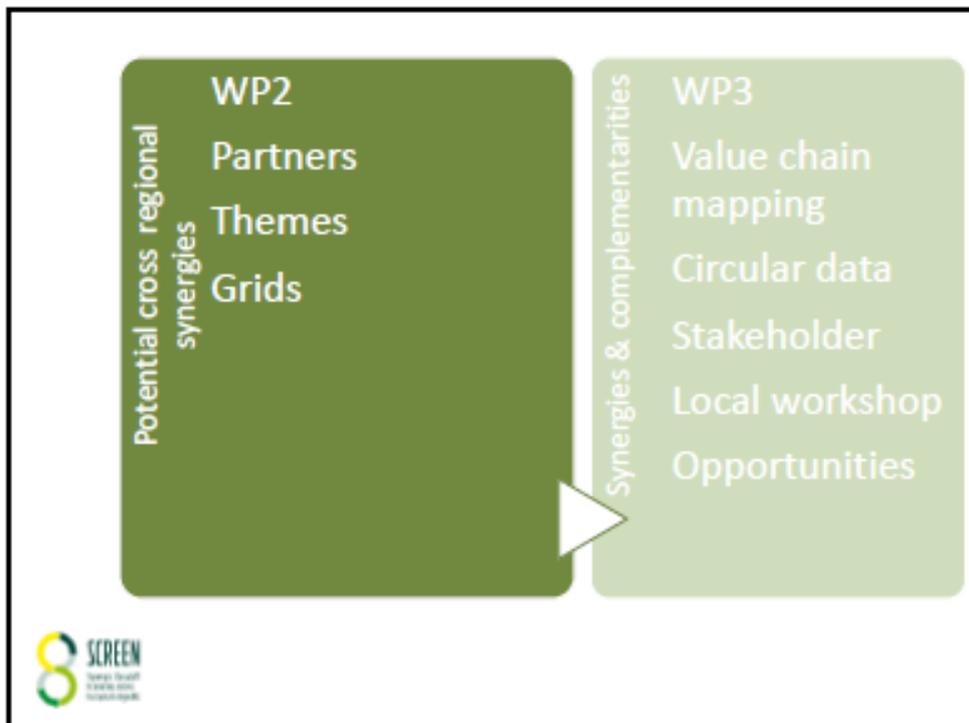
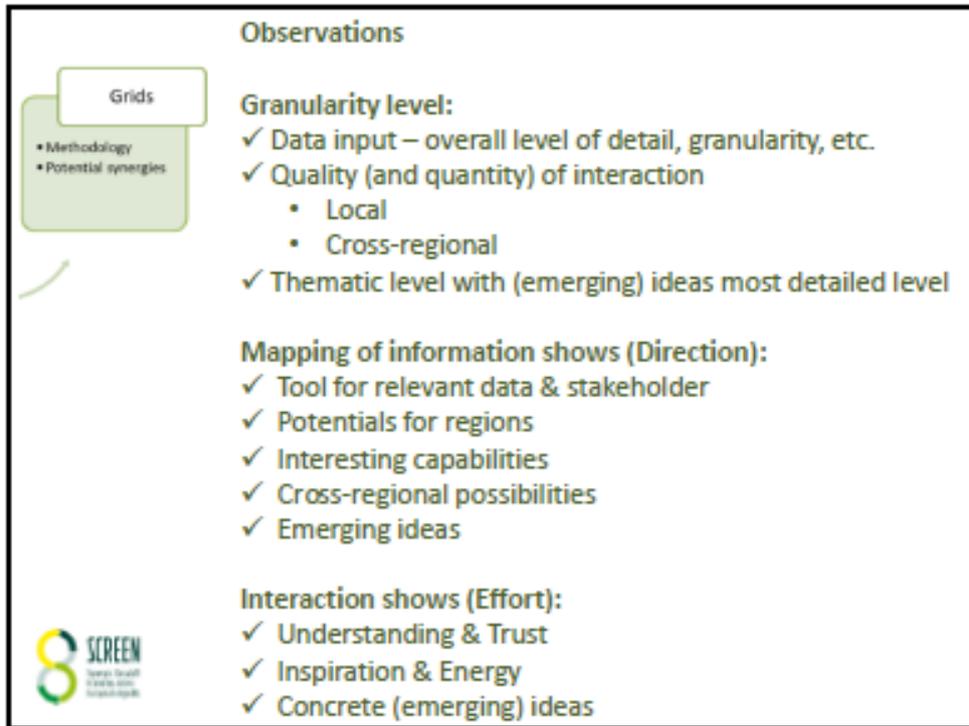
Types of potential synergies:

- Synergies: cooperation on strengths
- Blind spots: cooperation on needs



SCREEN
Synergic Circular Economy across European regions





Fruit for discussion in policy lab

- Theoretical methodologies are available:
 - > light version to be applied by majority of SCREEN-users
 - > advanced version not feasible (due to budget & knowledge limitations)

Recommendations:

- > use thematic partnership to test advanced methodology
- > organise knowledge exchange / workshops

- Data collection (quality, granularity level, etc.) remains an issue:

Recommendations:

- > stimulate interaction besides the analytical approach
- > use intermediary organisations (e.g. clusters) to connect stakeholders
- > facilitate stakeholders for matchmaking in value chains approaches

Annex 7: photo of the event



4.3 Third Meeting 22.02.2018

4.3.1 Agenda

The third meeting was held the same day of the International workshop and, for the first time, was opened to the public, in order to enlarge the audience and gather more feedbacks. The related agenda is in the following.



International Workshop

Barriers and shortcuts to Circular Economy

Agenda

Date: 22 February 2018

Venue: Portuguese Permanent Representation to the European Union, Avenue de Cortenbergh N 12 – 1040 Brussels

The event will be in english only.

14h40 – 15h15 SCREEN Policy Lab Meeting I (open to external audience)

Development of regional policies for Circular Economy

Tjeerd Hazenberg (Policy officer; Province of Fryslan, NL)

Research gaps and other issues raised during the SCREEN project: open discussion

Moderator: Carlo Polidori

15h15 – 16.00 SCREEN Policy Lab Meeting II (open to external audience)

Circular economy projects: additional assessment criteria proposed by SCREEN and availability of regional statistics

State of the art of the Memorandum of Understanding

Preliminary information about the next Policy Lab meeting

Moderator: Carlo Polidori

16h00 End of the meeting



4.3.2 Briefing Document



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No730313

Briefing document for the third Policy Lab meeting

The third Policy Lab meeting will be held in the Portuguese Representation Office in Brussels and will be open to an external audience.

It will be opened by Tjeerd Hazenberg (Policy officer; Province of Fryslan, NL), with a speech on “Development of regional policies for Circular Economy”

Followed by an open discussion on regional policies, with a focus on the research gaps and other issues raised during the SCREEN project. One of such issues is the need of a figure in regional offices (as well as in other institutions) able to manage the horizontal aspects of circular economy, collect requests and organize information to be spread to all involved internal offices.

The other arguments of the Policy Lab are:

- 1) Following the speech given by DG REGIO on the Article 70 of ESIF, there will be a check on the state of the art of the Memorandum of Understanding, its signature and the project to be used for the Pilot Action. Each region will report about the signatures process and eventual issues. *As an example the Council of Lazio Region (Giunta Regionale) has approved the MoU and now it is ready for the signature: the practical question is: electronic signature on a pdf file, or physical signature and stamp? In the second option the same document should be circulated among all the signatories and this implies several time; the second option should be preferable. However, given the close date of regional elections and the need to sign the document in advance, a decision will be taken before the date of the Policy Lab*

The other regions will report their situation.

- 2) In the second Policy Lab meeting a first set of assessment criteria for Circular Economy Projects has been discussed, and the discussion continued with several comments and suggestions provided by the participant regions. The result is the draft table of assessment criteria and explanatory notes reported in annex 1. The further step is now a public consultation open to all the CE stakeholders:



a questionnaire online has

been prepared and also advertised on the web site of the European Circular Economy Stakeholder platform (ECESP) <http://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/en/news-and-events/how-do-we-assess-projects-circularity-questionnaire-assessment-criteria-screen-policy-lab>. SCREEN will have a stand at the European Economic and Social Committee during

the second day of the annual ECESP conference (21 February 2018) to publicize the questionnaire that will remain open until 11th of May and the results will be presented during the fourth Policy Lab. Given the short time available, the assessment criteria will be presented, but not discussed: the discussion will continue on line through the dedicated LinkedIn group and after the presentation of the questionnaires results.

- 3) In the second Policy Lab a question raised about the need of knowing in each region how many H2020 project have been ranked above the threshold but not financed due to a lack of funds. With respect to circular economy projects, this information is crucial for the definition of the amount a region may put in the envisaged “Common Pot” defined by the MoU. Following a meeting with DG RTD, Unit B5, where SCREEN explained such a need, we received the information reported in **annex 2**, that are a valuable indication for circular economy projects.

- 4) During the second Policy Lab, CENTRO Region announced a specific call applying some synergies between EU and national/regional funds and several partners have requested more information about it. In the following what has been provided by CENTRO:

The Portuguese call for proposals to support the European-scale Industrial R&D projects was launched by the Managing Authorities of several Operational Programs (national and regional level).

With the main purpose of promoting companies’ investment in R&I and therefore stimulate the development of more knowledge and innovation-based economic activities, the call aims at the national co-funding of Portuguese participants in R&D European projects, within the EUREKA Network, Eurostars, Horizon 2020 / ERA-NETS and Horizon 2020 / Joint Undertakings.

Proposals sent should be formulated with reference to the international consortium, with evidence of approval through the European R&D Programmes (signed contract should be uploaded). Within this call it is the participation of the national partners that will be funded; nevertheless this is dependent on the execution of the international partners’ investments, being that the verification of compliance with this rule will be assured through the monitoring and closure procedures of the project. Therefore, the European co-funding will not apply (as the national support will be granted through ESIF).

The evaluation of the proposals rely on four criteria (A - “Quality of the project”, B - “Project’s impact on the company’s competitiveness”, C – “Project’s contribution to the economy” and “D - Project’s contribution to regional convergence”, the latter being evaluated through the alignment with Smart Specialisation Strategies). For the first two it was established a direct equivalence with criteria of Eurostars, Horizon 2020 / ERA-NETS and Horizon 2020 / Joint Undertakings (excellence, quality and efficiency of implementation and impact), avoiding re-evaluation.

The results of the first round of this call will be reported and discussed in the next Policy Lab

- 5) **Various** The Policy Lab aims at becoming a self-standing discussion table also after the end of the project, as endorsed by Arnoud Passenier from the Dutch Ministry for Infrastructure and Environment (see his speech at minute 2:39 of the SCREEN Workshop in London - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gx7F8p3ZtxE&feature=youtu.be>). The first step will be to make the LinkedIn Group open to the public, while at the present it is reserved (and visible) only to the members. You are requested to express your eventual opposition by mail or during the Policy Lab Session.

Next Policy Lab meeting will be in Brussels on next 30 May 2018

Annexes:

Annex 1 - Draft table of assessment criteria and explanatory notes

Annex 2 – List of projects dealing with circular economy, also containing those well ranked but not financed, divided by region.

Annex 1

The Draft table of assessment criteria for circular economy projects in Fig. 1 has been prepared after several discussions between the 17 SCREEN regions and other stakeholders: it is intended as a tool for helping the evaluators of circular economy projects asking for regional funds, to be used in addition to the usual evaluation criteria. The table is a draft version and it is not yet completed, because the final step on how to practically proceed with the comparison of projects is still missing. After having processed the questionnaire's results, the table will be fine-tuned and completed.

Projects are firstly divided into two separate categories:

- A. Projects directly addressing waste recycling or avoidance through a change or upgrading of the production process
- B. Projects dealing with the promotion of circular economy: training, dissemination of best practices, education of relevant stakeholders, etc.

A) Projects dealing with a production process change or upgrading

The first category of projects is divided in four sub-categories having different “circularity impact” (weight), depending of the destination and the use of the waste recovered; applicant must compulsory select only one of the following cases:

- 1) Waste recovered is re-used in the same location as a secondary raw material: this is the best ranked case, because there is no need of transport from one place to another place
- 2) Waste recovered is re-used in another location as a secondary raw material: in this case there is a need of transport, but the recovered waste already has its final destination certified
- 3) Waste recovered is put on the market as a secondary raw material: there is a need of transport and the recovered waste does not have its final destination yet
- 4) The new process generates less waste, that is not recovered

After having chosen one of the above criteria, applicants are requested to indicate the energy efficiency of the new process respect to the old one (Criterion 5); these two criteria (the one selected among four and the fifth one) are converted in € per year through the parameters indicated in the table, in order to have a uniform parameter.

Applicant are then requested to provide data for a further environmental criterion and for the socio-economic criteria:

Criterion 6) Reduction of emission (Kg of CO₂ per year); reduction of other GHG/pollutants should be reduced to Kg of CO₂ equivalent through commonly accepted conversion tables such as the one at <https://climatechangeconnection.org/emissions/co2-equivalents/>. In the present draft version this criterion is not converted in € per year

Criterion 7) Net balance of jobs (created by the new circular process and lost in the old linear one); In the present draft version this criterion is not converted in € per year

Criterion 8) Increased economic value of the new process respect to the old one (%). This criterion is not transformed in € per year, in order to not penalize small businesses respect to greater ones: therefore only the increasing ratio is considered.

DRAFT TABLE OF ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS

Projects dealing with waste recycling or reduction should select one of the cases indicated in the rows from 1 to 4 and provide the requested data . Then data can be provided fo criteria 5, 6 nd 7.

Indirect projects (such as supporting actions) should only provide data for criteria 8, 9 and 10

Select only one among the four

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	N.	Description	Explanation	Metrics	Additional parameters	Assessment indicator	Weight	Data that should be provided by the applicants
Environmental Criteria <small>(choose only one criterion among 1, 2,3 and 4)</small>	1	Mass of waste resources recovered and re-introduced in the own production cycle, or	Waste recovered is re-used in the same location as a secondary raw material	Kg/year		Metrics x additional parameter (€/year)	10	Description of the new process with a clear demonstration of quantity, quality and economic value of the waste re-used in the same location
	2	Industrial symbiosys: Mass of waste resources recovered and re-introduced in another production cycle , or	Waste recovered is re-used in another location as a secondary raw material	Kg/year			9	Description of the new process with a clear demonstration of quantity and quality of the waste recovered, AND statement of the owner of the other process that buys the secondary raw material at the described cost
	3	Increase in the recyclability of waste generated, or	Waste recovered is put on the market as a secondary raw material	Kg/year			8	Description of the new process with a clear demonstration of quantity, quality and economic value of the waste recovered
	4	Avoidance of waste generated	The new process generates less waste	Kg/year			7	Description of the new process with a clear demonstration of quantity, quality and economic value of the waste re-used in the same location
	5	“Net Energy balance respect to the previous system” or “Amount of energy recovered”	The new process consumes less energy or same energy of th new process is recovered	Kwh/year	Cost of Energy (€/KWh)	6	Description of the new process with a clear demonstration of the quantity of energy saved or recovered	
	6	Reduction of emissions	The new process has less emissions respect to the old one	CO2 Kg/year (*)		6	Comparative description of the old and new processes, with a clear justification of CO2 remission reduction(*)	
Social Criterion	7	Net balance of jobs	Number of new jobs created by the circular economy project, minus the number of jobs lost in the previous linear process	Number of full time working units		Metrics (number of full time working units: in case of part time units decimals should be used)	6	Comparative description of the old and new processes, with a clear justification for new jobs created and old job lost. In case of no jobs lost a description of the new tasks for workers previously working at the old process should be provided
Economic Criterion	8	Increase of economic value (lyfe cycle)	Ratio of economic value of the new process respect to the previous one	%		Metrics (%)	6	Comparative description of the old and new processes, with a clear justification of the increased economic value, if any
Criteria for indirect projects	9	Project promoting waste recycling					From 1 to 5	Score assigned by the evaluators on the basis of the information contained in the project proposal : 0 = not complying with the criterion; 1 = poor; 2 = fair; 3 = good; 4 = very good; 5 =excellent
	10	Implementation of "green procurement" in the project					From 1 to 5	
	11	Inclusion of relevant stakeholders education on circular economy					From 1 to 5	

(*) In case of other pollutants, a table of equivalence should be used to convert them into CO2 equivalent emissions - <https://climatechangeconnection.org/emissions/co2-equivalents/>

B) Projects dealing with the promotion of circular economy

This category of projects includes promotion, training, education and any other activity dealing with circular economy, but not directly foreseeing a change of a production process from linear to circular.

Due to the wide range of possible projects, this draft version considers 3 generic sub-categories. It is to be underlined that these criteria have been defined as additional ones to be used by the regions, together with the usual ones, in case of projects dealing with circular economy and 3 criteria (respect to the 5 above defined for direct projects) should be enough. An excessive number of additional criteria could have a counterproductive effect.

The questionnaire available at <http://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/en/news-and-events/how-do-we-assess-projects-circularity-questionnaire-assessment-criteria-screen-policy-lab> remains open until the 11th of May 2018; results will be discussed during the next SCREEN Policy lab in Brussels on 30th of May 2018. Depending on the results of the discussion, the final list of assessment criteria will be used in the "SCREEN operational plan" of the participating regions (open also to external regions) and will be proposed to the European Commission for its adoption in the evaluation of the H2020 Circular Economy projects.

The European Commission issued on 16th of January 2018 a Communication "on a monitoring framework for the circular economy" (<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/pdf/monitoring-framework.pdf>), containing 10 indicators selected to capture the main elements of a circular economy. Although SCREEN has worked in a completely independent and separate way from the Commission's product, there is a noticeable correspondence between the indicators of the document mentioned and the evaluation criteria proposed for the projects, as shown in the following figure.



DRAFT TABLE OF ASSESS

Projects dealing with waste recycling or reduction should select one of the case

Indirect projects (such as supporting actions) should only provide data for criteria

1	2	3	4	
N.	Description	Explanation		
Environmental Criteria (ready project can indicate only one case, criteria among 1, 2, 3 and 4)	1	Mass of waste resources recovered and re-introduced in the own production cycle, or	Waste recovered is re-used in the same location as a secondary raw material	
	2	Industrial symbiosis: Mass of waste resources recovered and re-introduced in another production cycle, or	Waste recovered is re-used in another location as a secondary raw material	
	3	Increase in the recyclability of waste generated, or	Waste recovered is put on the market as a secondary raw material	
	4	Avoidance of waste generated	The new process generates less waste	
	5	"Net Energy balance respect to the previous system" or "Amount of energy recovered"	The new process consumes less energy or same energy of th new process is recovered	
	6	Reduction of emissions	The new process has less emissions respect to the old one	
Social Criterion	7	Net balance of jobs	Number of new jobs created by the circular economy project, minus the number of jobs lost in the previous linear process	
Economic Criterion	8	Increase of economic value (life cycle)	Ratio of economic value of the new process respect to the previous one	
Criteria for indirect projects	9	Project promoting waste recycling		
	10	Implementation of "green procurement" in the project		
	11	Inclusion of relevant stakeholders education on circular economy		

(*) In case of other pollutants, a table of equivalence should be used to convert

Monitoring Framework -COM(2018) 29 final

No	Name	Relevance	EU levers (examples)
Production and consumption			
1	EU self-sufficiency for raw materials	The circular economy should help to address the supply risks for raw materials, in particular critical raw materials.	Raw Materials Initiative; Resource Efficiency Roadmap
2	Green public procurement*	Public procurement accounts for a large share of consumption and can drive the circular economy.	Public Procurement Strategy; EU support schemes and voluntary criteria for green public procurement
3a-c	Waste generation	In a circular economy waste generation is minimised.	Waste Framework Directive; directives on specific waste streams; Strategy for Plastics
4	Food waste*	Discarding food has negative environmental, climate and economic impacts.	General Food Law Regulation; Waste Framework Directive; various initiatives (e.g. Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste)
Waste management			
5a-b	Overall recycling rates	Increasing recycling is part of the transition to a circular economy.	Waste Framework Directive
6a-f	Recycling rates for specific waste streams	This reflects the progress in recycling key waste streams.	Waste Framework Directive; Landfill Directive; directives on specific waste streams
Secondary raw materials			
7a-b	Contribution of recycled materials to raw materials demand	In a circular economy, secondary raw materials are commonly used to make new products.	Waste Framework Directive; Eco-design Directive; EU Ecolabel; REACH; initiative on the interface between chemicals, products and waste policies; Strategy for Plastics; quality standards for secondary raw materials
8	Trade in recyclable raw materials	Trade in recyclables reflects the importance of the internal market and global participation in the circular economy.	Internal Market policy; Waste Shipment Regulation; Trade policy
Competitiveness and innovation			
9a-c	Private investments, jobs and gross value added	This reflects the contribution of the circular economy to the creation of jobs and growth.	Investment Plan for Europe; Structural and Investment Funds; InnovFin; Circular Economy Finance Support Platform; Sustainable Finance Strategy; Green Employment Initiative; New Skills Agenda for Europe; Internal Market policy
10	Patents	Innovative technologies related to the circular economy boost the EU's global competitiveness.	Horizon 2020

Annex 2

List of projects dealing with circular economy, also containing those well ranked but not financed, divided by region

From : Magda DE-CARLI <Magda,DE-CARLI@ec.europa.eu>

Fri, Feb 09, 2018 03:08 PM

Subject : FW: SCREEN project updates

3 attachments

To : polidori carlo <polidori.carlo@telenet.be>

Cc : Dusan SANDOR <Dusan,SANDOR@ec.europa.eu>, Wojciech KLIMEK <Wojciech,KLIMEK@ec.europa.eu>, Pia LAURILA <Pia,LAURILA@ec.europa.eu>, Ciaran Dearle <Ciaran,Dearle@ec.europa.eu>, Mersia PANAGIOTAKOU <Mersia,PANAGIOTAKOU@ec.europa.eu>

Dear Mr Polidori,

As requested, please find below the table that provides the information you were looking for (and that the project partners were supposed to ask us through the template – which therefore is not needed anymore !)

We can indeed provide you (thanks Mersia!) with this aggregated data where you find answer to the questions you indicated:

- *How many proposals have been submitted in circular economy by consortia with at least one partner?*
- *How many proposals, submitted by consortia with a coordinator in circular economy, have been evaluated above the threshold, but not financed due to a lack of funds?*
- *How many proposals, submitted by consortia with at least one partner (not coordinator) in circular economy, have been evaluated above the threshold, but not financed due to a lack of funds?*
- *The total amount of grant requested by the above-mentioned proposals.*

However please note that **providing this info to you is just a to respond to your request, and it does not entail in any way the official green light or approval of any activity undertaken under the Screen project grant, which you will indeed need to obtain from the project coordinator and policy officer (who I include it in copy)**

Kind regards

Magda de Carli

Applicant Country Code	[PP] EN NUTS Lv2 Code	[PP] EN NUTS Lv2 Descr	Applicant Role	Evaluation	Nr of Proposals	Applicant Requested Grant
BE	BE10	Région de Bruxelles-Capitale / Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest	Coordinator	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	3,678,560.00
BE	BE10	Région de Bruxelles-Capitale / Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest	Coordinator	Below threshold	3	1,271,950.00
BE	BE10	Région de Bruxelles-Capitale / Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest	Coordinator	Funded	1	985,500.00
BE	BE10	Région de Bruxelles-Capitale / Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	5	2,247,019.00
BE	BE10	Région de Bruxelles-Capitale / Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	6	2,747,595.00
BE	BE10	Région de Bruxelles-Capitale / Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest	Partner	Below threshold	18	7,835,216.63
BE	BE10	Région de Bruxelles-Capitale / Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest	Partner	Funded	19	6,939,161.25

		Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest				
BE	BE24	Prov. Vlaams-Brabant	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	3	1,040,228.50
BE	BE24	Prov. Vlaams-Brabant	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	2	341,162.50
BE	BE24	Prov. Vlaams-Brabant	Partner	Below threshold	7	2,231,809.38
BE	BE24	Prov. Vlaams-Brabant	Partner	Funded	8	3,951,254.26
EL	EL43	Κρήτη (Kriti)	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	180,250.00
EL	EL43	Κρήτη (Kriti)	Partner	Below threshold	1	226,625.00
EL	EL43	Κρήτη (Kriti)	Partner	Funded	1	37,750.00
ES	ES22	Comunidad Foral de Navarra	Coordinator	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	433,650.00
ES	ES22	Comunidad Foral de Navarra	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	291,463.00
ES	ES22	Comunidad Foral de Navarra	Partner	Funded	5	1,303,331.25
FI	FI19	Länsi-Suomi	Partner	Below threshold	6	2,950,869.13
FI	FI19	Länsi-Suomi	Partner	Funded	4	938,900.00
FR	FR10	Île de France	Coordinator	Above threshold but not funded	2	3,263,313.00
FR	FR10	Île de France	Coordinator	Below threshold	2	2,858,452.50
FR	FR10	Île de France	Coordinator	Funded	1	1,525,744.00
FR	FR10	Île de France	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	3	773,339.00
FR	FR10	Île de France	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	4	2,089,340.00
FR	FR10	Île de France	Partner	Below threshold	11	7,471,702.88
FR	FR10	Île de France	Partner	Funded	14	5,960,694.00
HR	HR03	Jadranska Hrvatska	Partner	Below threshold	1	305,375.00
HR	HR03	Jadranska Hrvatska	Partner	Funded	4	956,837.50
IT	ITC4	Lombardia	Coordinator	Below threshold	1	332,281.25
IT	ITC4	Lombardia	Coordinator	Funded	1	934,000.00
IT	ITC4	Lombardia	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	4	3,056,894.38
IT	ITC4	Lombardia	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	3	1,049,476.00
IT	ITC4	Lombardia	Partner	Below threshold	11	4,932,974.13
IT	ITC4	Lombardia	Partner	Funded	12	7,310,505.00
IT	ITI4	Lazio	Coordinator	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	656,562.50
IT	ITI4	Lazio	Coordinator	Below threshold	2	5,130,562.50
IT	ITI4	Lazio	Coordinator	Funded	2	1,278,000.00
IT	ITI4	Lazio	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	3	698,075.00
IT	ITI4	Lazio	Partner	Below threshold	14	7,319,043.75
IT	ITI4	Lazio	Partner	Funded	8	2,862,725.50

NL	NL12	Friesland (NL)	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	587,909.00
NL	NL12	Friesland (NL)	Partner	Below threshold	2	2,073,106.25
NL	NL12	Friesland (NL)	Partner	Funded	2	753,312.50
NL	NL42	Limburg (NL)	Partner	Funded	3	1,041,713.00
PL	PL11	Łódzkie	Partner	Below threshold	1	363,062.50
PL	PL11	Łódzkie	Partner	Funded	1	101,000.00
PT	PT16	Centro (PT)	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	284,001.25
PT	PT16	Centro (PT)	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	193,390.00
PT	PT16	Centro (PT)	Partner	Below threshold	3	1,813,189.75
PT	PT16	Centro (PT)	Partner	Funded	3	1,185,098.00
UK	UKC1	Tees Valley and Durham	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	219,625.00
UK	UKC1	Tees Valley and Durham	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	2	917,828.00
UK	UKC2	Northumberland and Tyne and Wear	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	835,975.00
UK	UKC2	Northumberland and Tyne and Wear	Partner	Below threshold	1	351,965.00
UK	UKD3	Greater Manchester	Partner	Below threshold	1	1,206,895.00
UK	UKD3	Greater Manchester	Partner	Funded	2	968,001.75
UK	UKD6	Cheshire	Partner	Below threshold	1	153,187.50
UK	UKD7	Merseyside	Partner	Funded	1	138,451.25
UK	UKE1	East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	138,162.00
UK	UKE2	North Yorkshire	Coordinator	Below threshold	1	572,260.00
UK	UKE3	South Yorkshire	Coordinator	Below threshold	1	827,581.25
UK	UKE3	South Yorkshire	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	2	875,095.00
UK	UKE3	South Yorkshire	Partner	Funded	1	309,411.00
UK	UKE4	West Yorkshire	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	527,250.00
UK	UKE4	West Yorkshire	Partner	Below threshold	5	1,689,891.25
UK	UKF1	Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	Coordinator	Funded	1	1,000,951.25
UK	UKF1	Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	315,175.00
UK	UKF1	Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	Partner	Below threshold	1	230,125.00
UK	UKF1	Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	Partner	Funded	1	324,362.50
UK	UKF2	Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	426,000.00
UK	UKF2	Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	2	1,688,338.00
UK	UKF2	Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire	Partner	Below threshold	5	2,449,448.75
UK	UKF2	Leicestershire, Rutland and	Partner	Funded	2	812,400.00

		Northamptonshire				
UK	UKF3	Lincolnshire	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	147,975.00
UK	UKG1	Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire	Partner	Below threshold	1	81,536.00
UK	UKG2	Shropshire and Staffordshire	Partner	Funded	1	407,898.75
UK	UKG3	West Midlands	Coordinator	Above threshold but not funded	1	2,499,345.00
UK	UKG3	West Midlands	Coordinator	Below threshold	2	2,865,825.00
UK	UKG3	West Midlands	Coordinator	Funded	1	774,287.50
UK	UKG3	West Midlands	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	2	832,712.50
UK	UKG3	West Midlands	Partner	Below threshold	3	1,729,994.88
UK	UKG3	West Midlands	Partner	Funded	7	2,271,212.31
UK	UKH1	East Anglia	Coordinator	Below threshold	1	1,143,625.00
UK	UKH1	East Anglia	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	2	3,136,618.00
UK	UKH1	East Anglia	Partner	Below threshold	3	1,691,852.50
UK	UKH1	East Anglia	Partner	Funded	1	434,525.00
UK	UKH2	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	540,258.75
UK	UKH2	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	456,033.75
UK	UKH2	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Partner	Below threshold	3	1,346,405.00
UK	UKH2	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Partner	Funded	3	1,875,966.75
UK	UKI3	Inner London - West	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	401,008.75
UK	UKI3	Inner London - West	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	196,312.50
UK	UKI3	Inner London - West	Partner	Below threshold	8	2,605,742.75
UK	UKI3	Inner London - West	Partner	Funded	1	381,084.00
UK	UKI4	Inner London - East	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	702,219.00
UK	UKI4	Inner London - East	Partner	Below threshold	5	2,442,249.75
UK	UKI4	Inner London - East	Partner	Funded	2	373,322.50
UK	UKI5	Outer London - East and North East	Coordinator	Below threshold	1	926,146.00
UK	UKI5	Outer London - East and North East	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	238,718.75
UK	UKI5	Outer London - East and North East	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	335,344.00
UK	UKI5	Outer London - East and North East	Partner	Below threshold	6	2,433,142.50
UK	UKI7	Outer London - West and North West	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	632,449.13
UK	UKI7	Outer London - West and North West	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	470,492.50
UK	UKI7	Outer London - West and North West	Partner	Below threshold	4	2,589,826.25

UK	UKI7	Outer London - West and North West	Partner	Funded	3	1,267,144.00
UK	UKJ1	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire	Coordinator	Below threshold	1	1,252,115.00
UK	UKJ1	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	636,256.00
UK	UKJ1	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire	Partner	Below threshold	2	1,192,547.13
UK	UKJ1	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire	Partner	Funded	3	758,310.00
UK	UKJ2	Surrey, East and West Sussex	Coordinator	Above threshold but not funded	1	681,678.75
UK	UKJ2	Surrey, East and West Sussex	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	258,720.00
UK	UKJ2	Surrey, East and West Sussex	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	340,882.50
UK	UKJ2	Surrey, East and West Sussex	Partner	Below threshold	2	387,883.75
UK	UKJ2	Surrey, East and West Sussex	Partner	Funded	1	254,755.38
UK	UKJ3	Hampshire and Isle of Wight	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	844,275.00
UK	UKJ3	Hampshire and Isle of Wight	Partner	Funded	1	396,725.00
UK	UKJ4	Kent	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	131,950.00
UK	UKJ4	Kent	Partner	Below threshold	3	1,157,482.00
UK	UKK1	Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Bristol/Bath area	Coordinator	Below threshold	1	4,945,578.75
UK	UKK1	Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Bristol/Bath area	Partner	Below threshold	1	407,500.00
UK	UKK1	Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Bristol/Bath area	Partner	Funded	1	575,940.63
UK	UKK3	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	Partner	Funded	1	180,681.38
UK	UKK4	Devon	Coordinator	Below threshold	1	1,180,370.00
UK	UKK4	Devon	Partner	Below threshold	1	398,103.75
UK	UKK4	Devon	Partner	Funded	1	388,750.00
UK	UKL2	East Wales	Partner	Above threshold but in Reserve List	1	182,210.00
UK	UKL2	East Wales	Partner	Below threshold	1	81,536.00
UK	UKL2	East Wales	Partner	Funded	1	557,750.00
UK	UKM2	Eastern Scotland	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	2,370,104.00
UK	UKM2	Eastern Scotland	Partner	Below threshold	1	394,814.25
UK	UKM3	South Western Scotland	Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	223,922.00
UK	UKM3	South Western Scotland	Partner	Funded	1	732,375.00
UK	UKM5	North Eastern Scotland	Partner	Below threshold	1	83,650.00
UK	UKM5	North Eastern Scotland	Partner	Funded	1	85,705.00
UK	UKN0	Northern Ireland	Partner	Below threshold	2	873,540.75

UK		Partner	Above threshold but not funded	1	377,309.00
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4.3.3 Minutes

The Policy Lab meeting starts with Tjeerd Hazenberg (Province of Fryslan, senior policy advisor) presenting the Frisian Policy towards a circular economy.

provinsje fryslân
provincie fryslân 

Our ambition for 2025: number one development region in the Netherlands and top 3 in Europe

- Why?
- We want to make an ambitious contribution to the global goal of handling our natural resources and raw materials (SDG's)
- A great opportunity for the Frisian SME's to earn money with new circular business models;
- We want to stimulate the bottom-up movement. We want to include as much of our citizens.
- We think the linear economy will be a dead-end road in the long term.

Such a strategy is based on three pillars: doing, learning and communicating. Tjeerd concludes his speech by posing the following four questions to the project partners.

provinsje fryslân
provincie fryslân 

Questions for SCREEN-partners

- are there other regions who are working on a policy document?
- Can we develop a joint benchmark?
- How do other regions deal with circular procurement?
- How do other regions stimulate education to include the circular economy in the curricula – from primary to university level

Due to the interest generated by the presentation of Katja Reppel, the related Q&A took more time than the scheduled one and Carlo Polidori is forced to drastically shorten his Policy Lab speech: however, he points out that he already anticipated several items in his previous presentation and resumed hereinafter.

The meetings already taken place have addressed several important issues regarding the progress of SCREEN, namely the analysis of existing instruments and their practical applicability, discussions on

practices already in use in some regions (e.g. Centro), the need of a bottom-up approach and the need to simplify and harmonize the evaluation procedure.

The current discussion in the Policy Lab has been around the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) already signed by five Regions: Centro, Lazio, Extremadura, Crete and Navarra.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

for a synergic use of regional and European funds targeted to circular economy projects

THE SIGNATOIRES OF THIS DOCUMENT,

Having regard to the EU action plan for the Circular Economy¹

Whereas:

- (1) The transition to a more circular economy is an essential contribution to develop a sustainable and competitive economy, as well as an opportunity to generate new and sustainable competitive advantages for the European Regions.
- (2) Regional authorities have a key role to play in the transition towards Circular Economy and greater synergies; nevertheless, fragmentation of resources and implementation difficulties obstruct progress towards achieving common objectives.
- (3) The European Commission publication “*EU Funds working together for jobs & growth*”² shows how some funds synergies are possible and encourages their implementation
- (4) At the level of a comprehensive program, synergies between the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and H2020 is possible and visible, even if not yet completely tested in real cases.
- (5) Specific actions already initiated by some regions are good examples of best practices and could also be implemented at European level.
- (6) Article 70 of the ESIF regulation allow operations implemented outside the programme area, but within the EU, up to 15% of the allocated funds; however, there is no evidence of its actual application.

Carlo also presented the draft table of the assessment criteria for CE projects and its correlation with the CE criteria published in January by the European Commission. He also stressed out that SCREEN’s circular criteria are currently in public consultation until May, and the results from the questionnaire will be discussed in the next Policy Lab meeting, hosted by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) on the 30th of May in Brussels.

With reference to the list of H2020 projects dealing with circular economy well ranked but not financed provided by the specific Unit of DG RTD, it extremely useful for the MoU purposes, but could be much more useful with same additional details (such as the related H2020 topic) that could be added without particular difficulties.

The Policy lab was then closed, due to the need of leave the room of the Portuguese representation in Brussels no later than 16h30.



4.4 Fourth Meeting 30.05.2018

The fourth Policy Lab meeting was hosted by the European Economic and Social Committee, acting as technical secretariat of the Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform, and was mainly dedicated to the results of the online questionnaire launched to gather feedbacks and comments to the Assessment criteria for circular economy projects, open from March till 15 May 2018. .

Following the close contacts with the EESC, the SCREEN Questionnaire on the assessment criteria for circular economy projects promoted on the website of the Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform

The screenshot shows the website for the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform. The header includes the hashtag #CEstakeholderEU and the text "European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform" with a sub-header "A joint initiative by the European Commission and the European Economic and Social Committee". The navigation menu includes Home, Good Practices, Strategies, Knowledge, Commitments, Dialogue, Contribute, News & Events, and About. The main content area features a search bar on the left and a news article on the right. The article title is "How do we assess projects' circularity? Questionnaire for assessment criteria by SCREEN Policy Lab". The article body text states: "SCREEN Policy Lab has been working on criteria to be used for evaluating the 'circularity' of projects, in order to help the evaluators to make a clear and transparent ranking list. SCREEN needs to collect feedback from external stakeholders, particularly from those expected to apply for regional funding. Your opinion is therefore important and will have an influence on the definition of the final set of criteria that will be used by the SCREEN regions. You can fill in the online questionnaire until 11th of May." A link "Go to questionnaire website" is provided at the bottom of the article. The article metadata includes: Date: 2 Feb 2018, News type: Announcement, Sector: Sustainable development.

In the second part of the event, the SCREEN Work-package leaders presented an overview of the final deliverables of the project.

4.4.1 Agenda



European Economic and Social Committee



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No730313

How do we assess projects' circularity? SCREEN Policy Lab Meeting

30th May 2018 – European Economic and Social Committee-h 09,00-12,30 - Room jde-63

SCREEN (www.screen-lab.eu) is an H2020 coordinating and supporting action participated by 17 European regions, aiming at the definition of a replicable systemic approach towards a transition to Circular Economy in European regions. A specific task is dealing with a common agreement on a specific set of “evaluation criteria for circular economy projects”. Even if each regional authority managing structural funds already has its own assessment criteria for the evaluation and selection of projects, specific criteria for circular economy projects are still missing. The criteria to be defined are therefore the additional ones to be used for the sole purpose of evaluating the “circularity” of one project respect to another one and help the evaluators to make a clear and transparent ranking list. An online questionnaire (www.screen-lab.eu/Questionnaire.html), available up to 15th May 2018, has been launched to collect comments from the stakeholders and has collected more than 110 answers (*update 20th April*). The results of the questionnaire will be discussed during this event, together with the next steps of the project

Agenda

- h. 09,00** Registration
- h. 09,30** Welcome speech and a brief presentation on the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform. (Bernd Dittmann, EESC Member)
- h. 09,45** Introduction (C. di Giorgio, Lazio Region, Coordinator of the SCREEN project)
- h. 09,55** Assessment Criteria for Circular Economy projects (A. Ruggieri, Rector of Tuscia University, Carlo Polidori, project manager of the SCREEN project)
- h. 10,15** Questionnaire results (Martina Chiaraluce - Veltha)
- h. 10,30** Discussion (first round of comments by the member of the Policy Lab, then question from the public)
- h 11.00** Coffee Break
- h 11.30** New SCREEN deliverables and overview of the final ones (M. Colledani, AFIL; A. Braccini, Tuscia University; Nillo Halonen , Tampere, Bart Volkers Fryslan)
- h 12.10** Discussion
- h 12.25** Conclusions and next steps (*Carlo Polidori – Veltha*)
- h. 12,30** End of the Policy Lab Meeting

4.4.2 Briefing Document

One of the detailed comments on the questionnaire was sent by Joan Prummel, Cuno van Geet (Rijkswaterstaat, Netherlands) and Mervyn Jones (SGR LTD, UK), together with their proposal of a cooperation for the improvement of the table with the assessment criteria .

Given its relevance, the comment has been used as a briefing documents and sent to the Members

Feedback on the SCREEN assessment criteria for circular economy projects

by Joan Prummel, Cuno van Geet, Mervyn Jones / Rijkswaterstaat, (Netherlands) and SGR LTD (UK)

The SCREEN project has worked on a draft table of assessment criteria for circular economy projects. It is intended as a tool for helping the evaluators of circular economy projects asking for regional funds, to be used in addition to the usual evaluation criteria. The final set of criteria will be used by the SCREEN regions and, in its final version, will be also proposed to the European Commission for adoption as additional criteria on European funded projects. Next to that it will be offered to other European Regions and programme owners, in order to have a common uniform evaluation of circular economy projects in Europe.

The assessment table is a great and very important initiative, because of its potential impact and because this is an area of confusion for a lot of governments (and private sector companies) who want to set up circular projects and activities. A table like this can be a welcome tool to help them decide. Instead of filling in the questionnaire we provide our feedback in this short note, because we think it's quite fundamental. We outline our perception of the basic principles of circular economy first and translate that to consequences we think are important for the table of assessment criteria.

Circular economy principles There are more than 100 definitions of circular economy. Based on the experience we gathered from over 80 circular economy pilots over the last few years we believe that there is no best definition. There are a few basic aspects most of the definitions have in common though, and for the rest the definition you use depends on what you feel is most important and feasible for your topic, your product and/or your organisation.

The most common aspect in the definitions is smart use of (renewable) resources. This applies to several phases of the supply chain of a product: - Design- the use of reusable materials and/or reused materials; the use of the least material possible; design for repair/refurbishment/remanufacturing/disassembly/recycling - Production- no loss of materials in production; repair/refurbish/remanufacture facilities - Use and reuse-maintenance/reuse/repair/refurbishment/remanufacture arrangements; use and lifetime optimisation; product as a service if applicable; back to supplier arrangements for products and/or components (reverse logistics) - End of life- back to supplier arrangements for products and/or components; waste collection and separation; easy processing and recycling of materials (also a design issue!); the least possible residual waste (preferably none or bio degradable)

In our experience procurement is a lever to enable and facilitate both procurers and suppliers to set steps forward in one or more of these aspects. That is why we talk about circular procurement, it is a stimulating instrument for the demand side in the use/reuse phase. We often take waste as a starting point for circular thinking because it's there and we have direct issues with waste; because of the opportunities for reuse and recycling and because of the specific measures that can be taken to close material and product loops. In a fully circular concept however waste is not the starting point but the consequence.

To be specific, less volume of residual flows in a higher quality are the direct outcome of circular activities. In the end of life phase of a product waste becomes an issue and with the right design and process modelling during the life and use of the product it will be as little as possible and of the highest quality (for reuse) as possible.

Assessment criteria One description of a circular project that fits the above circular principles is: a project that is designed around a product or product group and its' specific processes and concepts of production and delivery in such a way that

1) its' lifetime is optimised (how long does it need to be, what is and economically viable) with the least additional input from energy and materials possible and

2) at its' end of life phase it causes the least amount of residual waste with the highest possible value. In short: use the right resources in the lowest volume and don't lose them but reuse them by closing material loops. Based on the above we believe that the table will improve with a few changes/additions: 1. Add design, production, use/reuse and end of life as phases or main categories to the table and categorise projects in these categories 2. Appreciate waste reduction / prevention focussed projects (design, production and use/reuse projects) as circular projects

3. Weigh waste avoidance as the most circular option (10 points) weighting as they avoid use of primary materials

4. Credit design, production and use/reuse focussed projects as waste avoidance projects

5. Add two types of metrics: A) the avoided kgs of virgin material as consequence of design, production and use/reuse concepts (hard to measure but a strong driver for CE) and B) the percentage of actual end of life recycling of the used materials

6. Whilst we appreciate that energy balance is important we believe that the current metric is a core requirement of a circular project, and that an alternative is considered e.g. embodied energy?

7. We also agree that indirect criteria are important indicators in some projects and welcome the inclusion and recognition of procurement as one of these drivers for circularity. However, the inclusion of GPP as the indicator does not, in itself act as an indirect of circularity. This requires a combination of GPP criteria (e.g. addressing the material flow themes above) and we would be happy to discuss this with you further.

How to proceed We understand that our comments mean some re-arranging of the table, but we strongly feel that it would also mean futureproofing the tool for use by regions and cities all over Europe and making it more inclusive for different approaches to circular projects. Our feedback is

emphatically intended as constructive, and we think this table can develop to the type of tool that will actually be used by the people it is meant for. So it is also in our best interest to make it as complete and coherent as possible, including and combining the current experiences and insights on circular economy at a practical level. **Therefore we offer to share and explain in more detail the backgrounds of our experience and insights that led to our remarks and actively help and support you finalising the table if you want.**

4.3.1 Minutes

Minutes of Fourth Policy Lab in Brussels

How do we assess projects' circularity? 30th May 2018 – European Economic and Social Committee – h 09,00-12,30 – Room JDE-63 (List of attendees in Annex)

Executive Summary

The Fourth Policy Lab Meeting started with a brief presentation of the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform, highlighting its role as a relevant contribution and a good example for the implementation of circular economy projects.

Then, the conference focused on the explanation of the project itself, starting from the basic elements as start/end dates and its most important actions. A great attention has been attributed to the explanation of the draft table of assessment criteria for circular economy projects developed by SCREEN partners, focusing on the criteria stabilized in order to facilitate their evaluation.

The criteria have been explained, going down into the detail of each of them. Description, metrics, parameters and indicators have been duly reported. Those participants interested in providing their own opinion about them had the possibility and the time to talk and explain their point of view: many of the emerged comments added great value to the event and will be considered for the next implementations of the project.

It follows an explanation of the questionnaire diffused for around five months to many interested stakeholders, aiming at collecting feedbacks about those same criteria from as many external parts as possible. Thanks to the many responses obtained (165 answers plus 43 optional comments), it will be possible to effectuate a significant review of the table, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, and discuss it during the next SCREEN events (held in Pamplona in September and in Rome in October 2018).

Both DG Environment and the Dutch Ministry of infrastructure confirmed their willingness to cooperate for a better definition of the assessment criteria for circular economy projects.

After the coffee break the attention of the participants moved to the new SCREEN deliverables and important hints for the next steps (particularly focusing on the final project deliverables).

Key issues or discussions – Item 1 – Assessment Criteria for Circular Economy Projects

Bernd Dittmann, EESC Member

Mr Bernd Dittmann welcomes and thanks for their presence every participant to the event and then introduces the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform: an initiative to provide stakeholders an instrument to exchange knowledge about this topic. He explains practical information such as how it works, who can access it, how to get involved; underling its importance as a good incentive for circular economy projects. It consists in a very relevant tool and source of inspiration for anyone interested on initiatives concerning circular economy and way to implement it. He also mentions the communication on monitoring framework for the circular economy issued by the European Commission.

Carmela di Giorgio, Lazio Region

As coordinator of SCREEN project, she starts the speech explaining briefly its main elements. Duration (November 2016-October 2018), number of partners (18; including regions, regional and national agencies, one university) and its objective: the definition of a common agreed and replicable systemic approach towards a transition to Circular Economy and the synergic application of different funds.

Then, she clarifies the development of the project on four steps and looks into each of them: the first one is related to the identification of local Circular Economy potential value chains in each region, and the second one deals with cross-regional synergies between different value chains. Since such synergies generally lead to cross-regional projects, the third step faces the issue of how to finance them. Finally, the agreement between regions about a synergic use of funds implies a common agreement on how to assess specific projects dealing with circular economy: the fourth step has identified some criteria to be used in addition of the ones usually adopted by each region: this approach is the main theme of this meeting and will be explained and discussed during this morning. These four steps are part of a unique methodology for regional cooperation and will be presented in a specific deliverable, together with a list of normative barriers encountered and recommendations for policy makers.

She also underlines the aim of these policy labs which is to ensure that the analyses and proposals developed within the SCREEN project are discussed with EU and regional policy-makers as well as key stakeholders. She notes that comparing to the previous Policy Labs that were mostly focused on the effective needs of the programme owners and their difficulties in a coordinated use of ESIF and other funds together with H2020 funds, innovation involving SMEs has been already addressed through a questionnaire circulated among the regional programmes owners, that pointed out the too low effective impact of the “Seal of Excellence” and the need of further instruments. A solution developed on the basis of the Policy Lab discussions is a pilot action for the synergic application of different EU and Regional Funds in the field of Circular Economy (“common pot”). *The pilot action is described in a Memorandum of Understanding currently being signed by the SCREEN regions. It is a practical and effective shortcut to define a sort of “multi-partner Seal of Excellence” and to pave the way to the future synergic application of funds for cross regional projects dealing with Circular Economy.* Up to now, 6 Regions (including Lazio) already signed the memorandum.

Alessandro Ruggieri, Rector of Tuscia University

He briefly explains the role of Tuscia University as promoter of good practices and circular economy implementation, mentioning a new Master course organized by the institution focusing properly on circular economy. He underlines the necessity of creating specific criteria for circular economy projects, specifying that the ones to be defined are additional with the sole purpose of helping evaluators in the task of assessing the circularity of one project respect to another. He mentions the

draft table containing the criteria of assessment for this kind of projects that will be fine-tuned on the basis of the questionnaires' results; then completed and represented during the next SCREEN events.

Carlo Polidori, project manager of the SCREEN project

He reports the main objective of the table, which is intended as a tool for helping the evaluators of circular economy projects asking for regional funds, to be used in addition to the usual evaluation criteria. He underlines more than once that the table is a draft version to be completed since the final step on how to *practically* proceed with the comparison of projects is still missing.

Then, Mr. Polidori analyses the structure of the table: firstly, it is divided into two different categories of projects, addressing waste recycling or avoidance through a change or upgrading of the production process and projects dealing with the promotion of circular economy. Metrics are in all cases the mass of waste per year, together with an additional parameter (economic value for the secondary raw material, cost of disposal for the avoided mass of waste). In this way the final assessment indicator will be in any case expressed in €/year. Next, there are two further environmental criteria: criterion 5 indicates the energy efficiency of the new process respect to the old one, including a statement of the quantity of energy saved or recovered through the new process. Criterion 6 deals with the reduction of CO2 emissions; in case of other Greenhouse gases and pollutants, they should be converted to CO2 equivalent through commonly accepted conversion tables. Criterion 7 faces the issue of net job balance, by asking to estimate the losses in the previous linear process with respect to the jobs created in the new circular one. In case of no jobs lost, a description of the old process should be provided together with an explanation on how the workers will be used in the new one. Criterion 8 is the economic one and deals with the increased economic value of the new process respect to the old one. Then, the second category of projects includes 3 generic sub categories: projects promoting waste recycling, implementation of green procurement in the project and inclusion of relevant stakeholders education on circular economy. The weight of these criteria are expressed in a scale from 1 to 5; where 1 corresponds to “poor” and 5 to “excellent”.

Mr. Polidori mentions as well the monitoring framework for the circular economy, containing 10 indicators, issued on January 2018 by the European Commission; underling its correspondence with the draft table created by SCREEN partners (although the two parties worked in a completely separated and independent way). The idea is to contact the Commission team as soon as the draft table will be completed, in order to better harmonize the final version.

Martina Chiaraluce, Veltha

Her role is to explain the results obtained with the questionnaire of the draft table, which has been opened until the 15 of May 2018. Thanks to the collaboration of all the partners, a total of 165 answers have been collected, plus 43 optional comments. The participants have been divided according to their organization (local or regional authority, academia, NGO, SME, national authority, industry, other) and statistics have been made about their provenance. Most of them turned out to come from local or regional authority or agency.

The questionnaire included 11 questions, structured as follow:

- Question 1: definition of two categories of projects;
- Question 2: definition of four sub-categories of projects;
- Question 3: clarity of the description of the four sub-categories;
- Question from 4 to 7: opinion about the specific criteria;
- Question 8: agreement about the metrics and assessment indicators adopted;
- Question 9-10: opinion about the weights adopted;
- Question 11: overall opinion about the table.

Stakeholders had to give their opinion in an ascending scale from 1 (fully disagree) up to 9 (fully agree). Considerations have been made bearing in mind the percentage of answers obtained on the latest three scores.

She quickly oversees the main outputs of the 43 comments, mainly reporting that:

- Most of the stakeholders considered the draft table as a relevant contribution to a more harmonized assessment of circular economy projects;
- Eco design, reuse and remanufacturing were not duly considered while filling out the table;
- “Avoidance of waste generated” should have higher weight;
- “Net balance of jobs” should have higher value;
- More consideration to waste reduction;
- Carbon savings should be considered in a different approach;
- Too generic use of the term “*economic value*”;
- The idea of differentiating the weights according to regional policies and programmes got criticisms and suggestions to put some limits.

Then a discussion with the public was opened, moderated by Carlo Polidori

Esteban Pelayo (EURADA, the European Association of Economic Development Agencies)

He underlines the importance of the table, but also the need of reducing its complexity, in order to make it easier to understand and to be actually applied.

Marvin Jones (Sustainable Global Resources LTD, also speaking on behalf of Rijkswaterstaat)

He agrees with Mr. Pelayo about the importance of simplifying the criteria, since they could be a very useful tool but their complexity could somehow intimidate the interested parts. He confirms, also on behalf of Rijkswaterstaat, the offer and the importance of cooperation to improve the table.

Paolo Ferraresi (RREUSE)

He points out the main barriers for a clear explanation of circular economy, since there are more than one hundred definitions. Moreover, he highlights the importance of promotion of sustainable consumption and hierarchy of waste, emphasizing his interest of getting involved in the project.

Maria RINCON-LIEVANA (DG Environment)

She welcomes the approach of the assessment criteria table and underlines that she is available for an operative meeting to enhance its compliance with the indicators contained in the Monitoring Framework document.

Key issues or discussions – Item 2 – New SCREEN deliverables and overview of the final ones

Marcello Colledani, AFIL

His presentation focuses on the role of Lombardy Region on WP 3, Task 3.4: *definition of the specific measures, including a multi-regional portfolio of investment instruments*. This include revising and mapping investment instruments both at European and regional level, mapping emerging ideas and cross-regional value chains and identifying gaps among circular economy initiatives. SCREEN methodology is based on the creation of value-chain on both local and cross-regional level. Existing financial Instruments have been collected and revised, including the instruments already available in the regions which are mapped to further develop emerging ideas and gather best practices and hints which can fuel the policy lab created within the process.

This same existing support instruments have been collected through a specific format: dedicated to circular economy activity or dedicated to other sectors.

Consequently, he mentions a couple of successful examples: Lombardy region and Alpine region. He also consider the example of Zero Waste Scotland, which administrates an £18 million Circular Economy Investment Fund and the Circular Economy Business Support Service.

Alessio Maria Braccini, Tuscia University

He focuses on deliverable 3.3, recognizing the classification methodology into three distinguished criteria: *technology readiness level, analysis of circularity and market potential, trend existing in the market*. Then, he oversees the existing synergies and their correspondent sectors (sources 3.1), underling their important environmental and economic consequences. Regarding criterion 1, he also elucidates the three level classification for the TRL (Technological Readiness Level): innovation targets, innovation needs, mature fields. Criterion 2 (market potentiality) is in turn based on other typology of criteria: environmental, social and economic. The first group involves:

- Mass of waste resources recovered and re-introduced in the own production cycle
- Industrial symbiosis: mass of waste resources recovered and reintroduced in another production cycle
- Increase in the recyclability of waste generated
- Avoidance of waste generated
- Net energy balance respect to the previous system or amount of energy recovered.

The second one net balance of jobs, the third one increase of economic value.

Last criterion foresee to identify economic trends, in relation to many terms such as GDP, turnover, level of waste and level of employment. A long list of indicators (around 20) have been identified by regions, creating a quite heterogeneous situation.

Nillo Halonen, Tampere

Mr Halonen introduces himself in behalf of the Council of Tampere Region, which is the task leader for the operational plan, deliverable 5.1. His presentation is based on the importance of applying operational synergies and funding synergies to achieve circular economy goals. This will happen after having generated an operational plan of 5 actions for SCREEN network, in order to apply the methodology for cooperation, this situation will lead to a more effective utilization of funds. In turn, to be executable, the operational plan has to follow 4 specific steps: inputs and planning for preparation, survey for local actions, description, common agreement for action.

Bart Volkers, Fryslan

Mr Volkers raises a very important issue, *“how to keep the wheel turning?”*.

He mentions the creation of a Policy Recommendation Manual, as foreseen by Milestone 3; and the aiming of providing a portfolio of tools from Task 1.1 until Task 5.2. He emphasises the importance of main roles policy to establish new European industrial businesses in circular economy.

Furthermore, he explains the contents of the manual: introduction, clarified barriers, difficulties and recommendations; conclusions.

The discussion was opened, moderated by Carlo Polidori

Marcin Podgòrski (Lodzkie Region)

He announces that his region is going to sign the SCREEN Memorandum of Understanding and also to revise the regional plans according to its principles or, in order to better face the issue of synergy funds and inter regional cooperation.

Keti Medarova-Bergstrom (EASME, SCREEN project officer)

Ms. Medarova points out that the good results achieved should be now made accessible to all the potential users and recommend the use of all the data in the right way (e.g. by underlining the more effective instruments among those detected by the project), in order to maximize the project impacts.

Wojciech Klimek (DG Research & Innovation)

He underlines that the approach and the first results presented by Mr. Colledani is exactly what the Commission is expecting from this project. He finishes his intervention by wishing good luck for the next steps forward for the finalization of the project, and specifying the availability of discuss it with the Commission and DG Research & Innovation, making possible to create a strong collaboration.

Mikel Irujo Amezaga (Navarra Region)

He announces that the Commission is launching a new interregional instrument funded with one billion euro: the details are not yet known, but there is a good potential for further cross regional cooperation based on the SCREEN results.

Conclusion and next steps

Carlo Polidori welcomes the offer for cooperation given by Rijkswaterstaat, as well as the availability of DG ENV for further discussion, underlining that the table is at a draft status and will be updated according to the feedbacks already received and the further involvement of the concerned DGs and the Stakeholder Platform. The next SCREEN event will be held in Pamplona (Spain) in September.

Then, Mr Polidori underlines the aim of extending SCREEN methodology beyond the project life, and the fact that the Policy Lab will be opened to everyone, in order to spread the initiative to as many interested parties as possible: it has to be considered as a discussion table, also connected to the Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform.

Besides, any interested stakeholder can ask to join the LinkedIn group to keep in touch and stay tuned about what's going on with SCREEN project.

In order to test the pilot action and show the multi partners Seal of Excellence, a project having partners coming from SCREEN regions (plus others) and ranked above the threshold was found. A meeting with Lombardy Region and the coordinator of the project has already been held and a letter have been sent to the partners asking them to contact their Regions. Some contacts have already been established and it's possible to count on the support of DG Regio

. It's going to start very soon: the final output will be that each partner of this project will ask for funds.

Moreover, since it is not yet known if the funding will be obtained before the end of the project, this is another good reason to leave the Policy Lab opened. More results will be defined during the next meeting in Pamplona at the beginning of September

Annex 1 Presentations

(full pdf version available on the SCREEN website www.screen-lab.eu/Policy-Lab4.html)



Shaping the transition towards a circular economy: The European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform

How do we assess projects' circularity?
Brussels, SCREEN Policy Lab Meeting, 30 May 2018



WHAT is it?

- A joint initiative of the European Commission and the European Economic and Social Committee
- Providing an European instrument for stakeholders to exchange across countries and across sectors
- A « network of networks »
- Support the transition and the EU Circular Economy Action Plan



WHEN did it start?

- Joint Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference organised by the European Commission and the European Economic and Social Committee in March 2017
- Participatory brainstorming gathering stakeholders' views on what such a Platform should do (or not do)



WHAT is it for?

- Advancing the circular economy concept on the ground in Member States, regional and local governments, civil society and businesses
- Strengthening cooperation among stakeholder networks to facilitate the exchange of expertise and good practices on the circular economy
- Identifying social, economic and cultural barriers to the transition towards a circular economy



WHO is it for?

- Stakeholders from all sectors already engaged in the transition towards circularity or interested in joining the movement

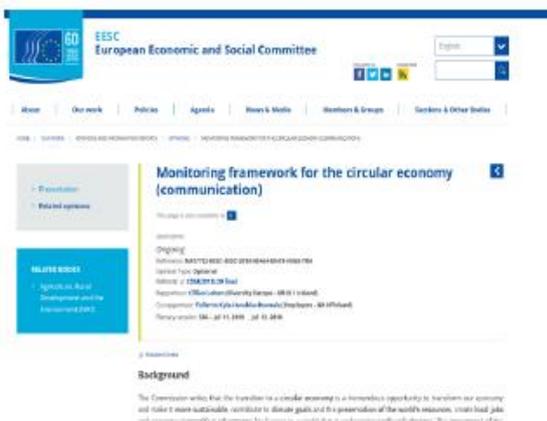
namely:

- businesses, civil society organisations, trade unions
- multi-stakeholder organisations focusing on the circular economy
- local governments
- the knowledge community



HOW does it work?

- A website: circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform where you can contribute your own good practices, studies and strategies and get in touch – virtual platform
- A discussion platform for stakeholders will be integrated to the website by September 2018
- A Coordination Group composed of representatives of civil society and local governments networks, operating in 13 countries, guides the Platform's activity
- An annual conference gathering the circular economy community



Thank you for your attention!

[CEStakeholderEU@eesc.europa.eu](https://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform)

Follow us on Twitter!
 #CEStakeholderEU
 @EESC_SDO @EESC_INT
 @EU_ENV @EU_Growth

SCREEN
Synergic Circular Economy across European Regions

The next big step: taking from an abstract concept to reality and achieving 2030

Introduction

Carmela di Giorgio, Project Coordinator, Lazio Region

Fourth Policy Lab – Brussels – 30/05/2018

Agenda

How do we assess project's circularity?

SCREEN Policy Lab Meeting

30th of May 2017 – European Economic and Social Committee

- H 09.00 Registration
- H 09.30 Welcome from EESC (Bernid Dittmann, EESC Member)
- H 09.45 Introduction (C. Di Giorgio, Lazio Region, Coordinator of the SCREEN Project)
- H 09.55 Assessment Criteria for Circular Economy projects (A. Ruggeri, Rector of Tuscia University; Carlo Polidori)
- H 10.15 Questionnaire results (Martina Chiaraluce, Velthe)
- H 10.30 Discussion (first round of comments by the member of the Policy Lab, then questions from the public)
- H 11.00 Coffee Break
- H 11.30 New SCREEN deliverables and overview of the final ones (M. Colledani, APIL, A. Braccini, Tuscia University, Niilo Halonen, Tampere, Bart Volkers Frysland)
- H 12.10 Discussion
- H 12.25 Conclusions and next steps (Carlo Polidori, Velthe)
- H 12.30 End of the Policy Lab Meeting

Horizon 2020 Coordinating/Supporting Action

Duration: 24 months, started on 01/11/2016

The project objective is the definition of a common agreed and replicable systemic approach towards a transition to Circular Economy and the synergic application of different funds

The four steps of the SCREEN project

- » SCREEN has a specific task for the establishment and operation of a "Laboratory operations on Policies": **POLICY LAB**
- » It includes both physical meetings plus continuous discussion via mail and on a specific LinkedIn Group
- » Reference documents, agenda and minutes of the Policy Lab meetings are available at www.screenlab.eu/policy-lab.html

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

for a strategic use of regional and European funds targeted to circular economy projects

THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between signed to the EU action plan for the Circular Economy

Whereas

- (1) The transition to a more circular economy is an essential contribution to develop a sustainable and competitive economy, as well as an opportunity to generate new and sustainable competitive advantages for the European Region;
- (2) Regional authorities have a key role to play in the transition towards Circular Economy and greater synergies, opportunities, synergies and implementation. Activities should progress towards achieving common objectives;
- (3) The European Commission publication "EU: Work together for jobs of growth" shows that cross-border synergies are possible and encourage their implementation;
- (4) In the field of a cooperation program, synergies between the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and ERDF in particular and results, even if not yet completely reached in real terms;
- (5) Specific actions already initiated by some regions are good examples of best practices and could also be implemented in European funds;
- (6) Article 19 of the ESF regulation allows cooperation implemented outside the programme area, but within the EU, up to 10% of the allocated funds, however, there is no evidence of its actual application.

Result of a series of discussions within the Policy Lab

Designed to be a "Multi-partner Seal of Excellence" allowing actual financing

First signatures already achieved in the first quarter of 2018, further ones are coming

Open to all EU regions

Text, explanatory notes and already signed documents available at: <http://www.screenlab.eu/step3.html>



SCREEN
Synergic Circular Economy across European Regions

THE EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORTS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCREEN PROJECT UNDER THE INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Assessment Criteria for Circular Economy Projects

Alessandro Ruggieri, Rector of Tuscia University
Carlo Polidori, Veltha izw
Fourth Policy Lab – Brussels – 30/05/2018



BACKGROUND

Increasing relevance of Circular Economy in Europe

Specific assessment criteria for circular economy projects are still missing.

There could be some difficulties in evaluating circular economy projects by adopting existing criteria for regional funds

Additional specific criteria will help in building a clear ranking list



Methodology

First discussion within the SCREEN Policy Lab.

Hypothesis with four criteria, further discussion and test with some already financed projects

Draft table of assessment criteria

Online questionnaire open to external stakeholders, collect and analyze feedbacks

Further discussion, check with Commission services, ECESP and major stakeholders

Presentation of the final version at one SCREEN event



DRAFT TABLE OF ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS

Project dealing with energy recovery in existing industrial plants (e.g. waste-to-energy plants)

Project dealing with energy recovery in existing industrial plants (e.g. waste-to-energy plants)

Criteria	Description	Scale	Weight	Measurement	Direction	Score
Energy recovery	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
Energy recovery	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
Energy recovery	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Use of waste to generate energy (waste-to-energy)	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed

Projects dealing with the promotion of circular economy

Physical flow of waste: choose among four options

Criteria	Description	Scale	Weight	Measurement	Direction	Score
Physical flow of waste	Waste-to-energy plants	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Waste-to-energy plants	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Waste-to-energy plants	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Waste-to-energy plants	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed



Physical flow of waste: two further environmental criteria

Criteria	Description	Scale	Weight	Measurement	Direction	Score
Physical flow of waste	Waste-to-energy plants	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed
	Waste-to-energy plants	Waste-to-energy plants	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed	Agreed

Gas	Formula	CO2 eq (kg/ton)
CO2	CO2	1
CH4	CH4	25
N2O	N2O	298
HFC-32	HFC-32	1170
HFC-125	HFC-125	2280
HFC-134a	HFC-134a	1430
HFC-152a	HFC-152a	1060
HFC-188	HFC-188	1520
HFC-227ea	HFC-227ea	2840
HFC-236fa	HFC-236fa	10600
HFC-245ca	HFC-245ca	1060
HFC-245cb	HFC-245cb	1060
HFC-245ca	HFC-245ca	1060
HFC-245cb	HFC-245cb	1060
HFC-245ca	HFC-245ca	1060
HFC-245cb	HFC-245cb	1060

(*) In case of other pollutants, a table of equivalence should be used to convert them into CO2 equivalent emissions

<https://dimstechangeconnection.org/emissions/co2-equivalents/>

Social criterion

N.	Description	Explanation	Metric	Additional parameters	Indicator	Weight
7	Net balance of jobs	Number of new jobs created by the circular economy project, minus the number of jobs lost in the previous linear process	Number of full working units		Metrics (number of full time working units; in case of part time units decimals should be used)	6



Economic criterion

N.	Description	Explanation	Metric	Additional parameters	Indicator	Weight
8	Increase of economic value (life cycle)	Ratio of economic value of the new process respect to the previous one	%		Metrics (%)	6



Criteria for indirect projects	N.	Description	Explanation	Metric	Additional parameters	Indicator	Weight
	9	Project promoting waste recycling					From 1 to 5
	10	Implementation of "green procurement" in the project					From 1 to 5
	11	Inclusion of relevant stakeholders education on circular economy					From 1 to 5



DRAFT TABLE OF ASSESS

Monitoring Framework - COM(2018) 29 final

Criteria	Indicator	Measurement	Weight
1. Environmental protection	1.1	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions	10
	1.2	Reduction of energy consumption	10
	1.3	Reduction of water consumption	10
	1.4	Reduction of waste generation	10
2. Resource efficiency	2.1	Reduction of material consumption	10
	2.2	Reduction of land use	10
	2.3	Reduction of water consumption	10
	2.4	Reduction of energy consumption	10
3. Social and economic	3.1	Creation of jobs	10
	3.2	Reduction of poverty	10
	3.3	Reduction of inequality	10
	3.4	Reduction of unemployment	10
4. Innovation and digitalisation	4.1	Reduction of R&D expenditure	10
	4.2	Reduction of digitalisation	10
	4.3	Reduction of innovation	10
	4.4	Reduction of digitalisation	10

Thank you for your Attention!

Alessandro Ruggieri
Rector of Tuscia University – Viterbo, Italy

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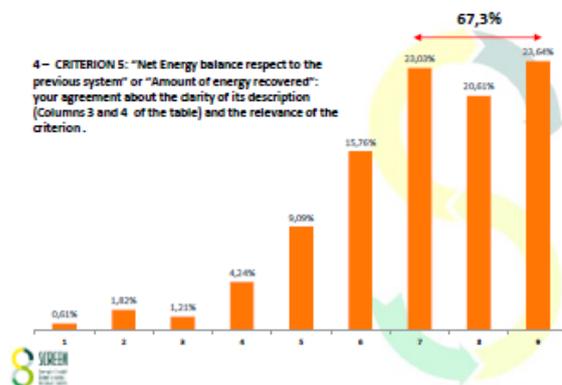
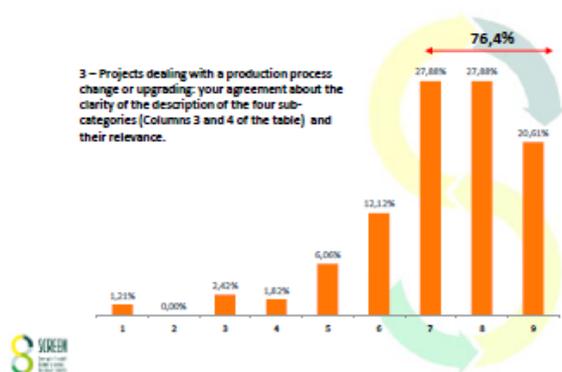
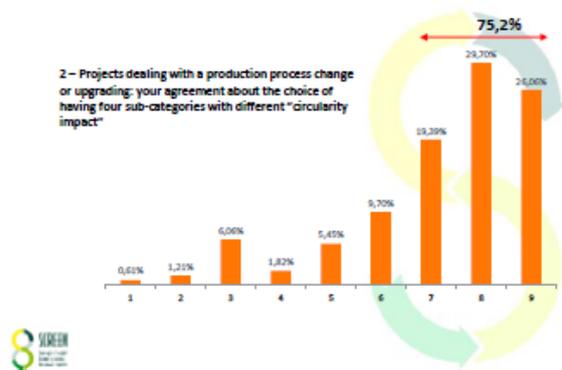
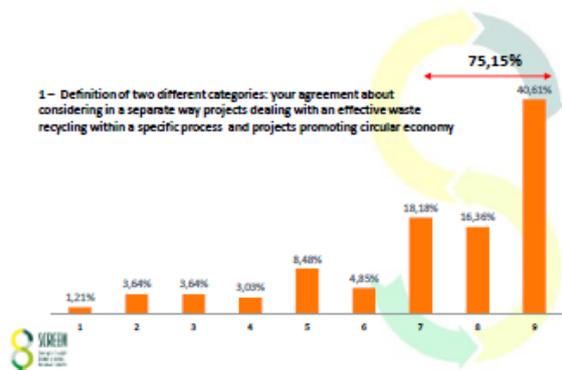
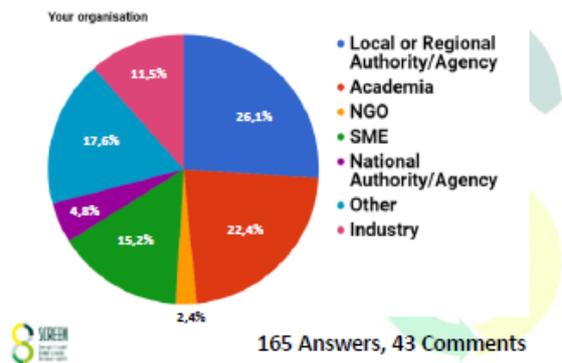


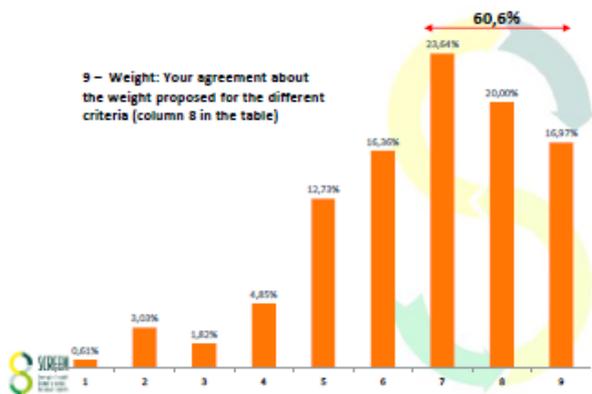
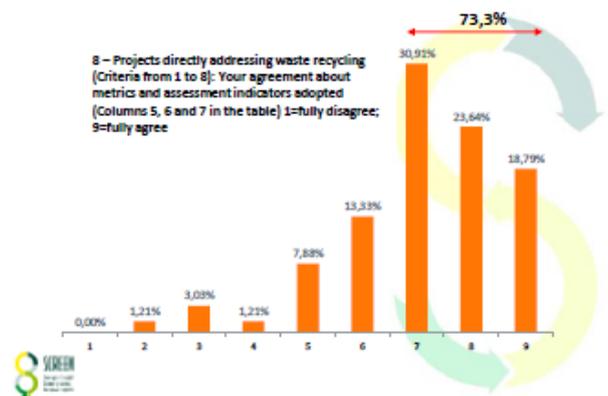
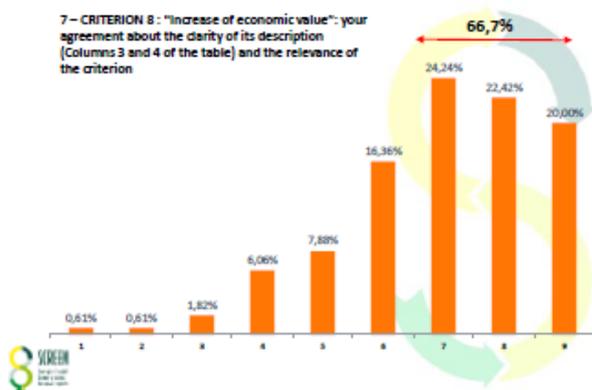
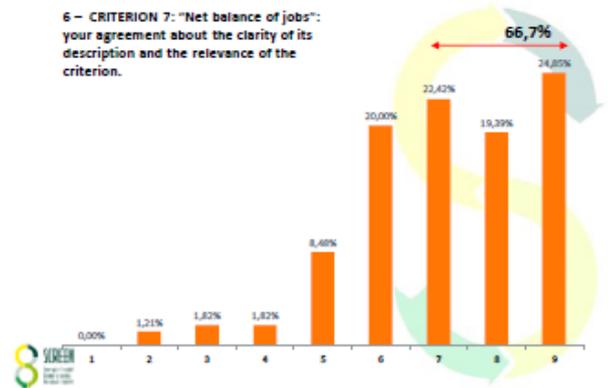
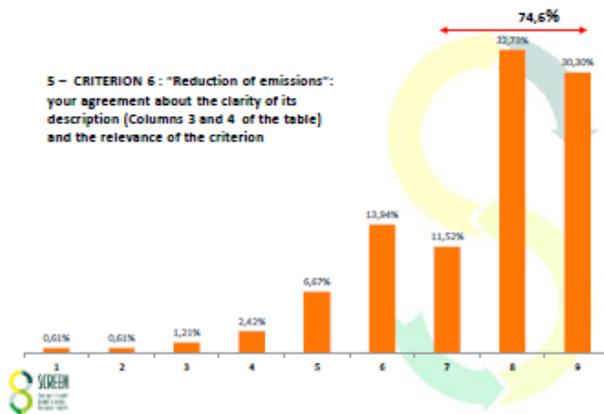
Carlo Polidori – Veltha ivzw
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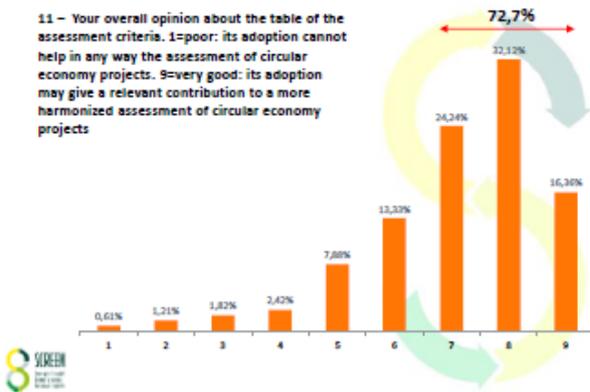
QUESTIONNAIRE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
Martina Chiaraluce, VELTHA ivzw

Fourth Policy Lab – Brussels – 30/05/2018





11 – Your overall opinion about the table of the assessment criteria. 1=poor: its adoption cannot help in any way the assessment of circular economy projects. 9=very good: its adoption may give a relevant contribution to a more harmonized assessment of circular economy projects



Synthesis of the 43 comments received (1)

"ECO design should have more relevance"

"Add design, production, use/reuse and end of life as phases or main categories to the table"

"Product re-use, refurbishing remanufacturing are missing"

Synthesis of the 43 comments received (2)

"Avoidance of the waste generated" should have weight 10.

"You should consider waste reduction/prevention focussed projects as circular projects"

"Net balance of jobs" should have an higher value

Synthesis of the 43 comments received (3)

"carbon savings could be calculated in relation to material savings using an approach such as Scotland's Carbon Metric"

"The term 'economic value' of process is very broad and can be easily manipulated."

"If you allow regions to assign different weights, you should also define lowest values (e.g. the regions cannot decrease the weight of single criterion by more than 50%) "

Thank you for your Attention!

Martina Chiaraluce
Veltha L.v.a.w.



Discussion is now open



Task 3.4: Definition of the specific measures, including a multi regional portfolio of investment instruments

Lombardy Region – APE
Brussels, 30th May 2018

Structure and objectives of the WP3 "Matching criteria and specific measures"



Objective of the Work Package

- To identify (3.1) and classify (3.3) synergies among the participating regions and connected strategic initiatives, in order to define a set of specific measures to be discussed (3.2)
- Understand if and how existing and new Regional Instruments can support the implementation of the identified Circular Economy Initiatives (3.4).



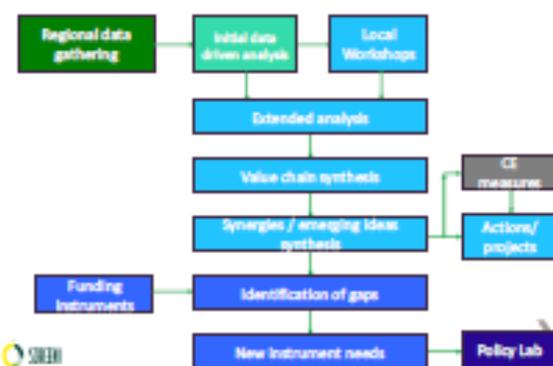
Task 3.4: Regional portfolio

Objective: definition of the specific measures, including a multi regional portfolio of investment instruments

- Existing Investment Instruments supporting Circular Economy initiatives are revised and mapped, both at regional and European levels.
- The emerging ideas and cross-regional value-chains are mapped towards potential existing support Instruments.
- Gaps among Circular Economy initiatives and investment Instruments are identified and recommendations for new Instruments properly boosting Circular Economy initiatives are provided.



SCREEN Methodology: From local to cross-regional value-chains



Existing financial instruments

"Existing financial instruments" have been revised including the instruments already available in the regions which are mapped to:

- Further develop the emerging ideas, stemming from the results of the previous steps within Screen.
- Gather best practices and hints which can fuel the policy lab, created within the project.



Task 3.4: Methodology – data gathering

Existing support instruments belonging to each regional portfolio of SCREEN Partners have been collected through a specific format.

- Dedicated to Circular Economy activities
- Dedicated to other sectors (e.g. transport, smart cities, energy) with potential to be transferred to Circular Economy.

Support Instrument Description Format	
Field	Possible values
Investment instrument name	Free
Brief description of the instrument	Free
Scope of the instrument	Free
Geographic area(s) of focus (Free)	Free
Category of beneficiaries	Large Enterprises, SME, STS, University, Other
Type of financing	Loan, subsidy requiring co-financing, subsidy without co-financing, other
Form of financing	Free
Eligible Costs	Personnel, Equipment (depreciation), R&D Infrastructure (investment), Concessions, Overheads, Travel, other
Source of funding (EU, EAF, etc.)	Regional, National, European, International, not specific, other
Supportal TRL level	[1-2] [3-4] [5-6] [7-8]



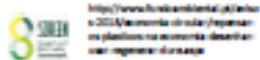
Existing funding instruments: Fundo Ambiental
Repensar os Plásticos na Economia: (DURe)



Destination Area: Promotion of circular economy in the value chain of plastics.

Fund for Environment - was created to support environmental policies for the pursuit of sustainable development objectives, contributing to the achievement of national and international objectives and commitments, in particular those related to climate change, water resources, waste and nature conservation and biodiversity.

National Fund
TRL 4-5
Subsidy Requiring co-financing
Rate of financing: 75% (max. 200.000€/per project)



Task 3.4: Methodology proposal – Matching local emerging ideas, and cross-regional value chains with instruments

- Match the Circular Economy emerging ideas identified in WP2, and the cross-regional value-chains identified in WP3, towards the existing instruments, at regional and European levels.
- Identify the gaps existing among investment instruments and promoting Circular Economy initiatives.

	Investment Instrument type 1	Investment Instrument type 2	
CI Initiative 1	X		GAP
CI Initiative 2		X	
CI Initiative 3	X	X	
CI Initiative 4		X	

- Identify recommendations for the definition of specific regional and multi-regional measures, to be applied in support of Circular Economy initiatives.



Task 3.4: Methodology proposal – Matching local emerging ideas, and cross-regional value chains with instruments



Task 3.4: Methodology proposal – Matching local emerging ideas, and cross-regional value chains with instruments



Laio - Circular Economy and Energy fund:
Instrument targeted to SMEs providing subsidies requiring co-financing, with a funding rate between 10%-80%, at TRL 6-7, on the ROP ERDF- 2014-2020 fund, with a funding mix 50% EU, 35% national, 15% regional.



Fryslân - Circular Economy Call Fryslân:
Instrument targeted to SMEs providing subsidies requiring co-financing, with a funding rate of maximum 40%, at TRL 6-7, on regional funds.



Preliminary Considerations

- Although "fixing financial instruments" at regional level are usually applied in isolation, even if they could be partially used to support cross-regional initiatives, there exist recently developed instruments favouring a cross-regional cooperation (e.g. Fund of funds).
- In general, cross-regional cooperation is not reflected in the evaluation of projects.
- The transfer of technologies and solutions from one region to another, among sectors, is usually not supported by specific instruments.
- The "Seal of Excellence" approach is currently only applied only to the SME instrument.
- Only few instruments support the development of innovation infrastructures through ERDF to de-risk by demonstration future industrial investments in circular economy.
- The establishment of a ERA-NET like fund for circular economy would support the development of focused projects originated by the identified SCREEN synergies.
- A cross-regional open innovation initiative may be useful to promote the systematic identification of inter-regional actions, extending the SCREEN methodology beyond the project life.



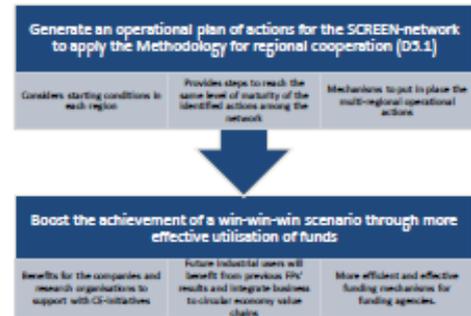
SCREEN
Synergic Circular Economy across European regions

PROJECT TO BOOST VALUE FROM THE BUSINESS SYSTEMS THROUGH COOP. RESULTS AND OPERATIVE MECHANISMS FOR REGIONAL COOP.

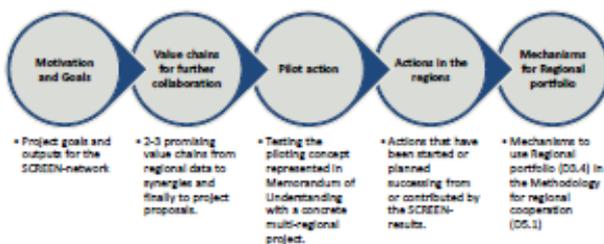
SCREEN D5.2 Operational plan
Policy Lab Meeting 30th of May 2018

Nillo Halonen, M.Sc (Tech)
Tampere University of Technology
On behalf of Council of Tampere Region

GOALS AND TARGET



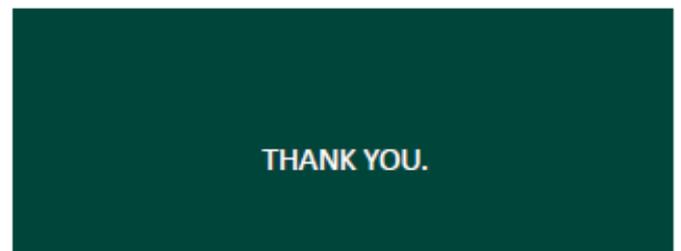
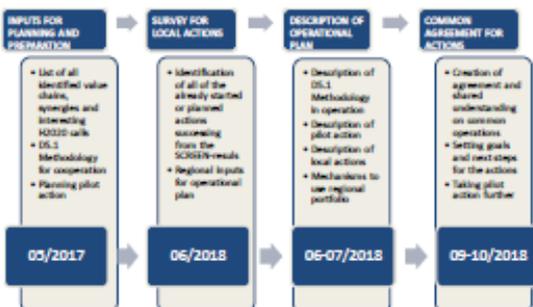
SCHEME FOR OPERATIONAL PLAN



FROM METHODOLOGY TO OPERATION



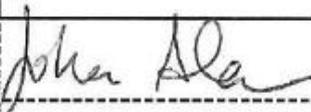
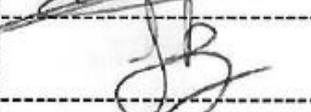
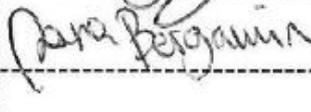
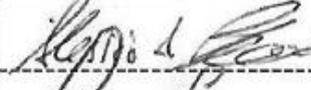
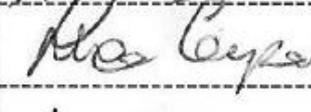
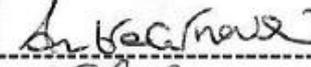
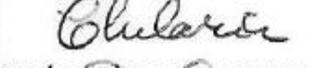
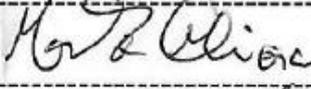
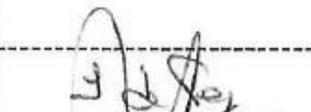
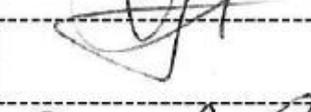
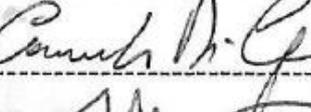
PROCESS TOWARDS AN EXECUTABLE OPERATIONAL PLAN

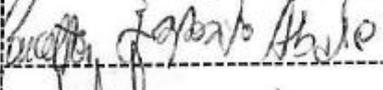
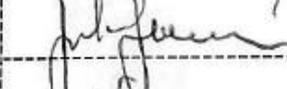
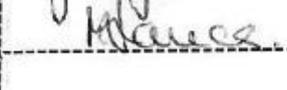
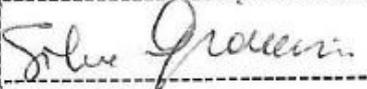
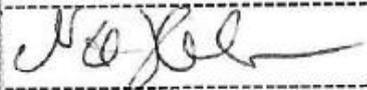
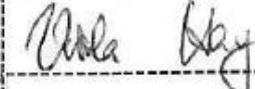
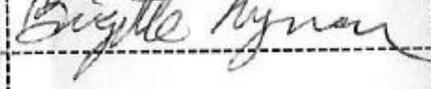


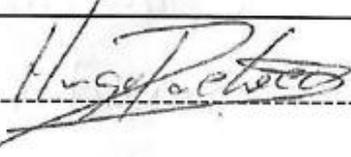
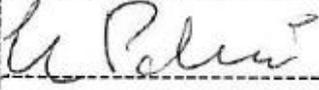
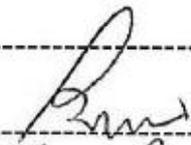
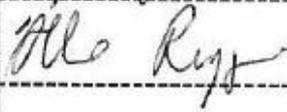
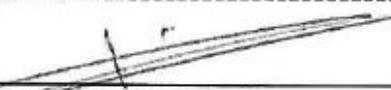
Nillo Halonen
Tampere University of Technology
tel. +358 30 447 8378
email nillo.halonen@tut.fi



Annex 2: List of participants with signatures

Name	Surname	Signature	Other event
Johanna	Alakerttula		I'll NOT attend
Johanna	Alakerttula		I'll attend the event
ELIAS	ARTIGAS		I'll attend the event
Federico	Bastarolo		I'll attend the event
Sara	Bergamin		I'll attend the event
Mykola	Bohoslavets		I'll attend the event
Lukas	Borunsky		I'll attend the event
Alessio Maria	Braccini		I'll attend the event
Luca	Campadello		I'll attend the event
Ambra	Carnevali		I'll attend the event
Bogdan Alexandru	Chelariu		I'll attend the event
Martina	Chiaraluce		I'll attend the event
Marcello	Colledani		I'll attend the event
Alessandro	Corrado		I'll attend the event
Isabel	de Vega Fernández		I'll attend the event
MICHAIL	DELIGIANNAKIS		I'll attend the event
Carmela	Di Giorgio		I'll NOT attend
Plees	Dirk		I'll attend the event
Maes	Dries		I'll attend the event

Name	Surname	Signature	Other event
Antonietta	Esposito		I'll NOT att
Concetta	Esposito Abate		I'll NOT att
Paolo	Ferraresi		I'll attend th
Maragrida	Franca		I'll attend th
Neli	Georgieva		I'll NOT att
Silvia	Giannisi		I'll attend th
Panagiotis	GREDIS		I'll attend th
Nillo	Halonen		I'll attend th
ALBERING	HARMA		I'll attend th
Viola	Hay		I'll attend th
Mikel	Irujo		I'll attend th
Martina	Jaňurová	ic	I'll attend th
Mervyn	Jones	m 	I'll NOT att
Bohdan	Kadlec		I'll attend th
Francisco	López Piňero		I'll attend th
Birgitte	Lyman Rasmussen		I'll NOT att
Keti	Medarova-Bergstrom		I'll attend th
Philippe	Micheaux Naudet		I'll NOT att
Irene	Miguelsanz Villanueva		I'll attend th

Name	Surname	Signature	Other event
Hugo	Pacheco		I'll attend th
Paraskevi	Palaiologou		I'll attend th
Irene	Palomino		I'll attend th
Esteban	Pelayo Villarejo		I'll attend th
Giustino	Piccolo		I'll NOT att
Marcin	Podgórski		I'll attend th
Carlo	Polidori		I'll attend th
Luca	Polidori		I'll attend th
Mathieu	Rama		I'll NOT att
Francesco	Romizi		I'll attend th
Ferdinando	Rossi		I'll NOT att
Alessandro	Ruggieri		I'll attend th
Ana	Sanabria		I'll NOT att
Claude	Scheiber		I'll attend th
atália Susana	Silva		I'll attend th
CARMEN	TORRICO POZUELO		I'll attend th
Valeria	Tudisco		I'll attend th
Koen	Van Keer		I'll attend th
Bart	Volkers		I'll attend th

Annex 3: Consensus signatures for video recording

The event has been video-recorded. According to the SCREEN ethics procedure, all the participants has signed a written consent: (the two persons that refused have been placed in a side chair and the cameraman has been advised to not film them). The full file with all the signatures is available at the VELTHA office (Mr. Carlo Polidori)

 <p>This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 7952383</p> <p>How do we assess projects' circularity? SCREEN Policy Lab Meeting 30th May 2018 – European Economic and Social Committee-h 09,00-12,30 - Room Jde-63</p> <p>Consent for Video Recording</p> <p>This event will be video recorded and your face may appear in some parts of the video, that will be used for dissemination purpose only. You are kindly requested to give your written consent.</p> <p>I hereby authorize the organizers to video record me for the purpose of dissemination of the SCREEN project. I hereby assign all rights to the release and retention of Video Records of the event. I understand that Video Records will be used for dissemination purposes only. Any other use will require specific written permission</p> <p>Brussels 30-05-2018 <u>Johanne Makertula</u> Name and surname</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Signature</p>	 <p>This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 7952383</p> <p>How do we assess projects' circularity? SCREEN Policy Lab Meeting 30th May 2018 – European Economic and Social Committee-h 09,00-12,30 - Room Jde-63</p> <p>Consent for Video Recording</p> <p>This event will be video recorded and your face may appear in some parts of the video, that will be used for dissemination purpose only. You are kindly requested to give your written consent.</p> <p>I hereby authorize the organizers to video record me for the purpose of dissemination of the SCREEN project. I hereby assign all rights to the release and retention of Video Records of the event. I understand that Video Records will be used for dissemination purposes only. Any other use will require specific written permission</p> <p>Brussels 30-05-2018 <u>Claudio Scattolon</u> Name and surname</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Signature</p>
 <p>This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 7952383</p> <p>How do we assess projects' circularity? SCREEN Policy Lab Meeting 30th May 2018 – European Economic and Social Committee-h 09,00-12,30 - Room Jde-63</p> <p>Consent for Video Recording</p> <p>This event will be video recorded and your face may appear in some parts of the video, that will be used for dissemination purpose only. You are kindly requested to give your written consent.</p> <p>I hereby authorize the organizers to video record me for the purpose of dissemination of the SCREEN project. I hereby assign all rights to the release and retention of Video Records of the event. I understand that Video Records will be used for dissemination purposes only. Any other use will require specific written permission</p> <p>Brussels 30-05-2018 <u>Margareta Franca</u> Name and surname</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Signature</p>	 <p>This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 7952383</p> <p>How do we assess projects' circularity? SCREEN Policy Lab Meeting 30th May 2018 – European Economic and Social Committee-h 09,00-12,30 - Room Jde-63</p> <p>Consent for Video Recording</p> <p>This event will be video recorded and your face may appear in some parts of the video, that will be used for dissemination purpose only. You are kindly requested to give your written consent.</p> <p>I hereby authorize the organizers to video record me for the purpose of dissemination of the SCREEN project. I hereby assign all rights to the release and retention of Video Records of the event. I understand that Video Records will be used for dissemination purposes only. Any other use will require specific written permission</p> <p>Brussels 30-05-2018 <u>Sander Bos</u> Name and surname</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Signature</p>

Conclusions and next steps

The “*Laboratory on Policies*” (Policy Lab) established by the SCREEN project achieved results that went beyond the expectations of both the DoA and the participants themselves. In fact some of these results are more typical of a cooperative research project rather than a CSA: this is due to the environment of constructive discussion, cooperation and exchange of experiences established between the participants.

Despite an initial difficulty due to the novelty of cooperation on these issues, all the participating regions showed an enthusiasm and a determination that led to the development of:

- A common methodology for identifying current and potential value chains in each region (described in deliverable 2.1).
- A common methodology to identify synergies between the various value chains in each region (described in deliverable 3.1).
- A new cooperation tool to finance circular economy projects with a synergistic use of the structural funds (through article 70) and of Horizon 2020 that can also be used in the next programming period. The discussions carried out during the Policy Lab allowed to define a Memorandum of Understanding for the use of this tool, already signed by 6 Regions on the date of issue of this document. Other regions that have encountered bureaucratic difficulties have signed a letter of intent with the same text of the MoU. All the signed documents are available on the project web site at the link www.screen-lab.eu/Step3.html. Further regions are still proceeding with the signature. Thanks to a continuous support obtained by DG REGIO, a pilot action was launched for an application of the Memorandum of Understanding which also involves regions that are not partners of the SCREEN project.
- A set of criteria for assessing the "circularity" of a project, to be used initially as additional criteria to those that each region normally uses for the rankings of the projects that apply to the structural funds. These criteria will also be proposed to the European Commission, for use as additional criteria in research projects related to the circular economy. It should be noted that the definition of these criteria was made entirely within the SCREEN project, through a continuous interaction between the 17 regions involved, in a fully independent way from the working group of the European Commission that produced the document in January 2018 “*Monitoring Framework [COM (2018) 29 Final]*”; however, the correspondence between the criteria identified by the SCREEN project and the 10 indicators of the monitoring framework can be considered more than satisfactory. An online consultation launched by SCREEN got more than 164 answers from several European stakeholders, showing a high grade of acceptance: a resume of the answer is available at www.screen-lab.eu/Questionnaire.html. At the date of issue of this document, the criteria for assessing the "circularity" of a project are being fine-tuned, also in cooperation with the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure.

During the whole project, and particularly in the Policy Lab discussions, several specific research gaps related to value chain's synergies and other practical implementations of circular economy have been identified. Such gaps are currently being elaborated by the Consortium and will be proposed to the European Commission as topics to be launched in future research calls .

The cooperation between the SCREEN regions established through the Policy Lab has also generated consortia that have applied and are applying to Horizon 2020, INTERREG and ERASMUS + calls on issues related to the circular economy.

The SCREEN partner Tuscia University has organized, also on the basis of the Policy Lab discussions, a Master Course in Circular Economy that will start on November 2018 in Italy. A cooperation with the University of Tampere for this specific topic has been initiated.

As previously underlined, the results of the SCREEN project and in particular of the Policy Lab went well beyond what is foreseen by the DoA and what can be expected from a CSA: some of these results lead to further developments that will continue also after the end of project with the following steps:

- Further cooperation between the participating Regions on the specific cross regional synergies identified by the project, as well as new ones
- The Pilot Action defined by the Memorandum of Understanding, already initiated and also supported by DG Regio, plus further similar initiatives for financing cross –regional projects
- Further implementation of the evaluation criteria for the project’s circularity, to be also discussed with the European Commission’s working group on the Monitoring Framework.
- Definition of shared procedures for the application of Circular Procurement by the regional authorities: in fact the evaluation criteria for projects circularity are also a good basis for the definition of the Term of References (ToR) in Circular Procurement

Due to the above reasons, SCREEN partners decided to keep the Policy Lab active even after the end of the project (October 2018): in the next project meeting in Pamplona (September 2018) the various options for the continuation of the Policy Lab will be analysed and a decision will be taken during the final conference in Rome.