CLIMATE CHANCE : The Circular Economy Coalition

"Circular economy as an opportunity to address climate change"

1. Context

Circular economy aims at closing the loop of resources and reducing the environmental impact of the product life cycle at all stages of the process (production, distribution, consumption), thus replacing the traditional model of economic growth (understood as a linear economy: resource extraction / product making / waste disposal). Circular economy will provide essential support to climate friendly strategies by minimising materials, water and energy consumption, GHG emissions and ensuring that these resources are continually cycling through the economy. In practice, circular economy will contribute to reduce the need of extracting virgin resources (e.g. via the extension of products lifetime and efficiency, as well as their shared use, reuse and recycling), to develop short cycles and cascading inside value chains (therefore minimising impacts related to transport), as well as to create a positive dynamic involving all participants of the value chain or/and of a territory, generating new business and job opportunities. Thus, the matter is how to act for the implementation of "climate-responsible" economic and social models, decoupling growth from the consumption of raw materials and the increase of GHG emissions

A successful implementation of circular economy implies contribution from all stakeholders active in the chain (e.g. product designers, resource extractors, producers, distributors, consumers, collectors of end-of-life products and used water, recyclers, etc). In addition, actors that can have a direct influence or be directly impacted by the circular economy strategy should also be involved (e.g. residents in the concerned area, local authorities in charge of proper implementation, academic establishments, financial institutions, etc.). Therefore, non-state actors must be largely involved in the process and share the governance of circular economy strategies development and implementation, in order to contribute to the co-creation of eco-innovative actions based on synergy and complementarity. These non-state actors must cooperate with governments so that front-running organisations can support decision makers/enforcers to engage all stakeholders in taking action on circular economy.

The Climate chance coalition on circular economy will gather several of those front-running non-state actors who are active in the field of circular economy with the view to define common priorities of

action in terms of co-working and governance, implementation and monitoring of concrete actions to boost circular economy, as well as supportive means and visibility of these actions.

2. Governance

Within the framework of the World Summit Climate and Territories in July 2015, international coalitions were formed to encourage non-state actors (including local authorities, businesses, and civil society organisations) to make climate commitments and facilitate the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Climate Chance Summit which will take place in September 2016 will maintain this tendency to forge partnerships between various stakeholders around 16 thematic coalitions.

In 2016 the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), the Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and sustainable Resource management (ACR+), both representing local governments decided to join forces with the French OREE association to work together to create a new international coalition on climate dedicated to circular economy.

These three organisations are the coalition's co-pilots, leading the coalition and liaising with various stakeholders representing a wide range of non-state actors involved in implementing a circular economy. All deliverables are a common product of work by the co-pilots and contributors.

List of contributors

Business and industry: confirmed: Veolia, Suez, Ecopreneur.eu / De Groene Zaak,
To be confirmed: European Centre of Employers and Enterprises (CEEP), CESER Atlantique

Environmental organisations: confirmed: European Environmental Bureau (EEB), Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC - UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan), C2C Community
 to be confirmed: ENDA Tiers Monde, Centre de Transfert et de Technologies en Ecologie Industrielle (CTTEI),

Academic sector: confirmed: University College of London (UCL)
to be confirmed: Fundació ENT

Trade unions: to be confirmed: European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)

Multi-stakeholders organisations : European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

3. Roadmap

The coalition identified four main priority fields, in which a wide range of actions will be implemented during the next three years.

1. **Awareness raising,** which aims to inform various stakeholders about issues linked to circular economy and mobilise greater support for development of circular economy strategy. For example, the [European Week for Waste Reduction](#) will be promoted outside Europe. Moreover, a calendar of the events dealing with circular economy will be made available by the coalition. In addition, evidence gathering will provide tools and evidence to foster new ideas on the link between circular economy and climate change.

2. **Exchanges of best practices and capacity building** will be gathered by the members of the coalition. The objective is to provide a collection of the best practices in Europe and

worldwide in order to identify the obstacles and conditions for success and foster replicability.

3. **Policy recommendations** on the implementation of a circular economy will be drafted and communicated to the different levels of governance: international in view of the upcoming COP22 and Habitat III summits, European for the preparation of legislation as well as tailored policy recommendations for the national and local level.

4. **Methodology and evaluation** will be made available by the different contributors to enable stakeholders to deepen their knowledge on the concept of circular economy and its latest developments.