



Local Renewables Conference 2018

Urban transformation to a Circular Economy

24-26 October 2018, Freiburg (DE) and Basel (CH)

Freiburg
IM BREISGAU

Kanton Basel-Stadt

ICLEI
Local Governments
for Sustainability

Preliminary Conference Programme as of 02.05.2017

Background Summary:

Rising global material- and energy needs remain a major challenge, with cities and regions being central players in making energy more secure, clean and sustainable. To transform from a linear to a circular economy there is a growing need to take advantage of renewable resources, including energy. The conference will address the following key issues:

- How can we ensure that global energy goals, including the 2015 Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals will be reached?
- What is the potential of the circularity of local renewables?
- What transformation is needed in cities for shifting to a circular economy? And how will circular economy shape transformation?
- How can we manage the transformation from a linear to a circular economy?
- What investments are needed and what are the financing options?
- How can relevant stakeholders, such as citizens, public authorities and the private sector be engaged in the urban transformation?
- What social implications does the transformation to a circular economy have?

Programme Overview

Wednesday, 24.10 2018		Thursday, 25.10 2018		Friday, 26.10 2018	
12.00 - 13.00	Registration	9.00 - 9.30	Welcome Coffee	8.45 - 9.15	Welcome Coffee
13.00 - 13.20	Welcome	9.30 - 11.00	Plenary 2	9.15 - 9.30	Keynote / Input
13.20 - 14.30	Plenary 1	11.00 - 11.30	Break	9.30 - 11.00	Plenary 3
15.30 - 18.00	Study Tours in Basel	11.30 - 13.00	Workshops Round 1	11.00 - 11.30	Break
18.30 - 21.00	Welcome Reception in the City of Basel	13.00 - 14.30	Lunch	11.30 - 12.30	Plenary 4
		14.30 - 16.00	Workshops Round 2	12.30 - 13.00	Plenary 5
		16.00 - 18.00	Study Visits in Freiburg	13.00 - 14.30	Farewell Lunch
		19.00	Welcome Reception in the City of Freiburg		



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Wednesday, 24.10.2018

12.00 - 13.00 *Registration and Lunch*

13:00 - 13.20 **Welcome**

13.20 - 14.30 **Plenary 1 - Renewable Energy: a driver for circular economy**

While renewable energy has been a major topic on the global environmental agenda for decades, circular economy, although in principle not new, is an emerging concept that aims at keeping products and materials at their maximum utility for as long as possible. This not only means reducing input of virgin materials and decreasing associated environmental pressures, but also maintaining if not broadening nature-based services. Local energy use and circular economy are intertwined in the sense that the energy use of materials will sustain the highly complex and increased up- and recycling processes. For the circular economy to keep its key promises of carrying environmental and societal benefits, a decarbonisation of the energy system through local renewables is crucial.

The plenary will reflect on questions such as:

- What role does renewable energy play in a circular economy?
- What are major practical challenges of implementing circular strategies in cities and regions?
- What are the lessons learnt from pilot activities and relevant EU funded projects that work towards a circular economy?
- How do these insights potentially affect the EU circular economy package?

15.30 - 18.00 **Study Visit Basel**

18.00 - 20.30 *Welcome Reception in the City of Basel*



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Thursday, 25.10.2018

9.00 - 9.30 *Welcome Coffee and Registration for latecomers*

9.30 - 11.00 **Plenary 2 - Sector integration as a requirement for a circular economy - how does it work?**

Advancing the circular economy without considering the energy mix and its consumption levels, will not bring about the expected environmental net benefits and vice versa. In an urban context, this entails challenges and opportunities for sectors such as mobility, housing, nutrition, digital infrastructure, but also more generally, for related technology development, urban land use management, environmental justice and social cohesion.

Integrating different sectors with high energy consumption carries a lot of advantages. For instance, excess electricity production from wind turbines or solar panels can be used to produce H₂ fuel cells powering mobility in cities; thermal storages from excess heat production can feed into open heating systems and power other applications. In order to fully capitalize on these developments, providers and consumers need to be spatially integrated to form synergies rather than being organized based on municipal jurisdictions.

The plenary will reflect on questions such as:

- What are the challenges faced with increased sector integration?
- What is the technological state-of-the-art (and beyond)?
- What are the institutional and administrative framework conditions? And how would these need to be shaped to favor such integration?

11.00 - 11.30 *Break*

11.30 - 13.00 **Workshops Round 1**

13.00 - 14.30 *Lunch*

14.30 - 16.00 **Workshops Round 2**

16.00 - 18.00 **Study Visit Freiburg**

19.00 *Welcome Reception in the City of Freiburg*



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Friday, 26.10.2018

8.45 - 9.15 *Welcome Coffee*

9.15 - 9.30 **Keynote / Input**

9.30 - 11.00 **Plenary 3 - Transforming to circular cities – how to finance it?**

Besides the use of new, more participatory tools such as crowd financing and energy performance contracting with multiple shareholders, an equally important question is how to use established European and national financing instruments to create local and regional circular economy loops in different and across sectors. This plenary discusses challenges and opportunities of societal and urban transformation and related financing models and identifies good practices.

The plenary will reflect on questions such as:

- How can established financing instruments be used to foster a circular economy?
- Which new financing models seem promising and under which framework conditions?
- How can civil society be involved?

11.00 - 11.30 *Break*

11.30 - 12.30 **Plenary 4 - Local contributions to national, European and global circular economy goals – what strategies to apply?**

Cities and other sub-national governments are key in executing nationally set targets and contributing to internationally determined goals. This plenary discusses how local actors may contribute more effectively to national and international climate, energy and circular economy targets, identifying new channels of engagement. Moreover, the plenary highlights and discusses challenges related to existing framework conditions such as funding mechanisms, institutional- and regulatory issues and competences, as well as barriers related to research and development.

The plenary will reflect on questions such as:

- How can local governments contribute more effectively to achieving national and international circular economy targets and what role do local renewables play?
- What are current national barriers to capitalizing more effectively on the innovation outcomes generated by local and regional climate action?
- What are the barriers in policy making on both the national and local level that hinder increased integration of local targets into national strategies?
- How can integration be monitored and evaluated in order to attract and justify investments?

12.30 - 13.00 **Plenary 5 - Summary and outlook**

13.00 - 14.30 *Farewell Lunch*



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Contact us!

ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability
European Secretariat
E-mail: lr2018@iclei.org
Tel.: +49 (0)761-368920

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