

Workshop Details

Title: Sustainable chemicals production as an example of the circular economy (a contribution to the reindustrialisation of EU regions and municipalities)

Code: 14URB01

Chair: Buescher, Reinhard

Organisers: DG GROW - EC

Themes: Theme 3 - Places and spaces

Speakers: Barath, Jan
Hes, Michal
Monge, Cristina
Piovesan, Laura
Scriba, Michael

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/opendays/od2005/fo/ViewWorkshop.do?doAction=viewWorkshop&previousDoAction=openFOSearchWorkshopsDialog&workshopId=1e2753d94d8ea16f014e1b8c4bbb0dfd&conferenceId=1e2753d949e3bc99014d7be5450a0001

Capacity: 125

Location: Tour and Taxis (Brussels canal zone), room Syntra

Date: 14/10/2015 [09:00-10:45]

Refreshments: No

Lunch: No

Dinner: No

Brief: The circular economy is about environmental protection and sustainability, while also creating opportunities and reindustrialising the EU. Sustainable chemicals production is the best example of how to make the use of alternatives to fossil-based chemicals possible by promoting efficient resource-use and by facilitating business in the circular economy. However, it must be understood that the transition towards a circular economy calls for systemic changes.

Local authorities play a key role by providing a favourable business environment and the necessary political acceptance for sustainable chemicals production. Building chemicals production on domestically available resources, such as municipal waste or biomass, offers new opportunities in particular for rural regions and for municipalities and regions in industrial decline.

Investors and entrepreneurs are eager to create new business using domestic resources and experiences are flourishing in Europe in the field of sustainable chemicals. Financial support for private investment in water-management facilities to recover phosphorous, to produce biogas and fertilisers from manure and food waste, to produce goods from plastic waste and many other examples of the circular economy may be expected under the European Fund for Strategic Investment as established in the Commission Communication "An investment Plan for Europe".

Two local authorities, two investors and a representative of the European Investment Bank will participate to discuss how public strategies can attract investment related to sustainable chemicals production. Experiences will be shared with other interested European regions, with the aim of providing practical guidance on how to identify bankable proposals to be financed and to facilitate investment in this field.

Target audience:

- EU, national, regional and local policy/decision makers
- Authorities managing and evaluating cohesion policy programmes and projects

- Other stakeholders: private companies, financial institutions, European and national associations
- Academics, students and researchers