



ACR+

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ACR+ in 2021

The network of
cities and regions
accelerating the
circular economy
transition in their
territories and
beyond

PRIORITIES



Increase citizens' support for and participation in the economic transition

and ensure their support for the actions of local and regional authorities by strengthening education and raising awareness, in particular in terms of prevention and sustainable consumption.



Highlight the impact of the circular economy on greenhouse gas emissions and the contribution that decentralized authorities can make to the fight against climate change through the development of local circular economy strategies including in particular development indicators to measure this impact.



Advance in waste reduction, sustainable consumption, and production with focus on biowaste

and improve the performances of municipal waste management systems, in particular by targeting the organic fraction as it constitutes the most important part of household waste and since the selective collection of bio-waste as specified under the European waste directive is soon entering into force.

2021 OVERVIEW

JANUARY

We co-organise the EPR Club International Conference "EPR as an instrument to tackle microplastic pollution" [Part 1](#)

 LIFE TACKLE publishes "[The environmental management of professional football events: a survey of football managers](#)"

FEBRUARY

 We publish the Carbon Footprint of Waste of [Pays de la Loire](#) and of [Genoa](#) as part of the More Circularity Less Carbon campaign

We share the municipal perspective on targets for glass packaging and effect of COVID-19 on municipal waste management during [Episode 1 of Close the Glass Loop webseries](#)

We co-organise the EPR Club International Conference "EPR as an instrument to tackle microplastic pollution" [Part 2](#)

We speak at "EU waste management in Europe: implementation in Easter European Cities" organised by Sofia Municipality

MARCH

 We join a [coalition](#) calling the European Commission to deliver an ambitious EU Strategy for a Sustainable Built Environment

We co-organise with Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform a webinar "[Fostering the circular transformation of business](#)"

APRIL

 The CEYOU guidelines provide insights on "[Establishing permanent forums of dialogue between local authorities and youth organisations on circular economy](#)."

 Start of the [DECISIVE series of webinars](#) on decentralised management scheme for urban biowaste valorisation

We publish the report "[The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on municipal waste management systems](#)"

 We publish "[The governance of circular bioeconomy - Practices and lessons learnt from European regions](#)"

 The LIFE TACKLE project starts its [series of training](#) to support four football associations at improving their environmental management skills and knowledge





MAY

 We participate in the EU Green Week with a FoodRUs webinar on "Collaborative and circular food systems to reduce pollutions and improve health" and a ProCirc webinar on "Circular procurement as a way to address pollution: experience from ProCirc"

 Start of the HOOP Urban Circular Bioeconomy webinar series

We organise an EPR Club lunch debate on the role of EPR in improving the whole life cycle management of mattresses

ACR+ members meet online for the Annual ACR+ General Assembly



JUNE

 The EWWR rewards its best actions 2020 at its [Awards Ceremony](#).

 We join the second Innovation Exchange webinar "[Waste-to-value](#)" hosted by the Circular Bioeconomy Cluster

 We speak on sustainable tourism solutions to reduce pollution in the Mediterranean during a [Interreg_MED Sustainable Tourism horizontal project workshop](#)

 We co-organise with the EBCD Intergroup of the EU Parliament "[The urgency to step up climate adaptation action](#)"

JULY

 We organise the CEYOU-EWWR webinar "[Putting youth at the core of circular economy](#)"

We become a [Green City Accord supporter](#)

 We speak at a workshop on biowaste organised by Pays de la Loire

AUGUST

 We publish the Carbon Footprint of Waste of Brussels

We contribute to DG ENV public consultation on new waste prevention measures

 TOURISME publishes [100 Good Practices](#) in sustainable tourism

SEPTEMBER

 The EWWR shares 5 tips to build a circular community

 We contribute to a workshop on biowaste for Brussels Environment



OCTOBER

 We speak at the EEB annual conference "[Charting the Path to a Healthy Planet](#)" in the session on EU presidencies in the driving seat

 We celebrate the Erasmus+ Days with a [video](#) on our Erasmus+ adventure

We carry out a study, "[Opportunities for municipalities in glass packaging collection](#)", for Close the Glass Loop

 We publish the [cross-analysis of the results](#) of the Cohort 1 of More Circularity, Less Carbon

We join the European Week of Regions and Cities with two events "[Bringing the urban bioeconomy to the people](#)" and "[Delivering the EU Green Deal through Circular Procurement](#)"

We participate in LIPOR's MIRC working group

 We present the first results of More Circularity, Less Carbon during the workshop "Debating the Pros and Cons: Is the waste sector ready to go beyond weight-based targets" at the ISWA Congress 2021

NOVEMBER

 We [recommend](#) quantifying food waste at each stage of the food value chain

 We co-organise a EU side event at the COP26 "[Circular economy and local governments: sustainable resource management to mitigate climate change](#)"

We speak at the conference on African cities by 2030 organised by Le Monde-Afrique and Veolia foundation

 The EWWR 2021 on "Circular communities" counts with 12,400 actions including a [podcast](#) prepared by ACR+

 We co-organise the [first #EUCircularTalk](#) on monitoring circular economy actions at local and regional level to decrease EU carbon footprint and reduce the risks linked to climate change

 HOOP signs a [position paper](#) to promote EU regulatory measures that support urban bioeconomy

 We speak on the contribution of the circular economy to climate mitigation during the [International Seminar on Sustainable Development and Climate Change](#) from the region of Coquimbo

 We contribute to Climate Chance's [Global Synthesis Report on Climate Action by Sector 2021](#) with a case study on the development of a bioeconomy strategy in Flanders

DECEMBER

We co-organise the second [#EUCircularTalk](#) on cities and regions fostering the circular economy transition

 We join the [EU Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform](#)

We speak at the final conference of the IP Smart Waste and at the conference "How is Europe supporting the development of waste prevention and the circular economy in Region Sud?" both organised by Région Sud

 We publish the Carbon Footprint of Waste of Ireland

We speak at the conference "Intervention measure for reduction of disposal of municipal waste generated in the city of Zagreb" organised by Zagreb

2021 IN NUMBERS



44

Newslines



3

EU Digests



2,991

Twitter followers



1,828

LinkedIn subscribers



49,059

Website users



4

New ACR+ members



12

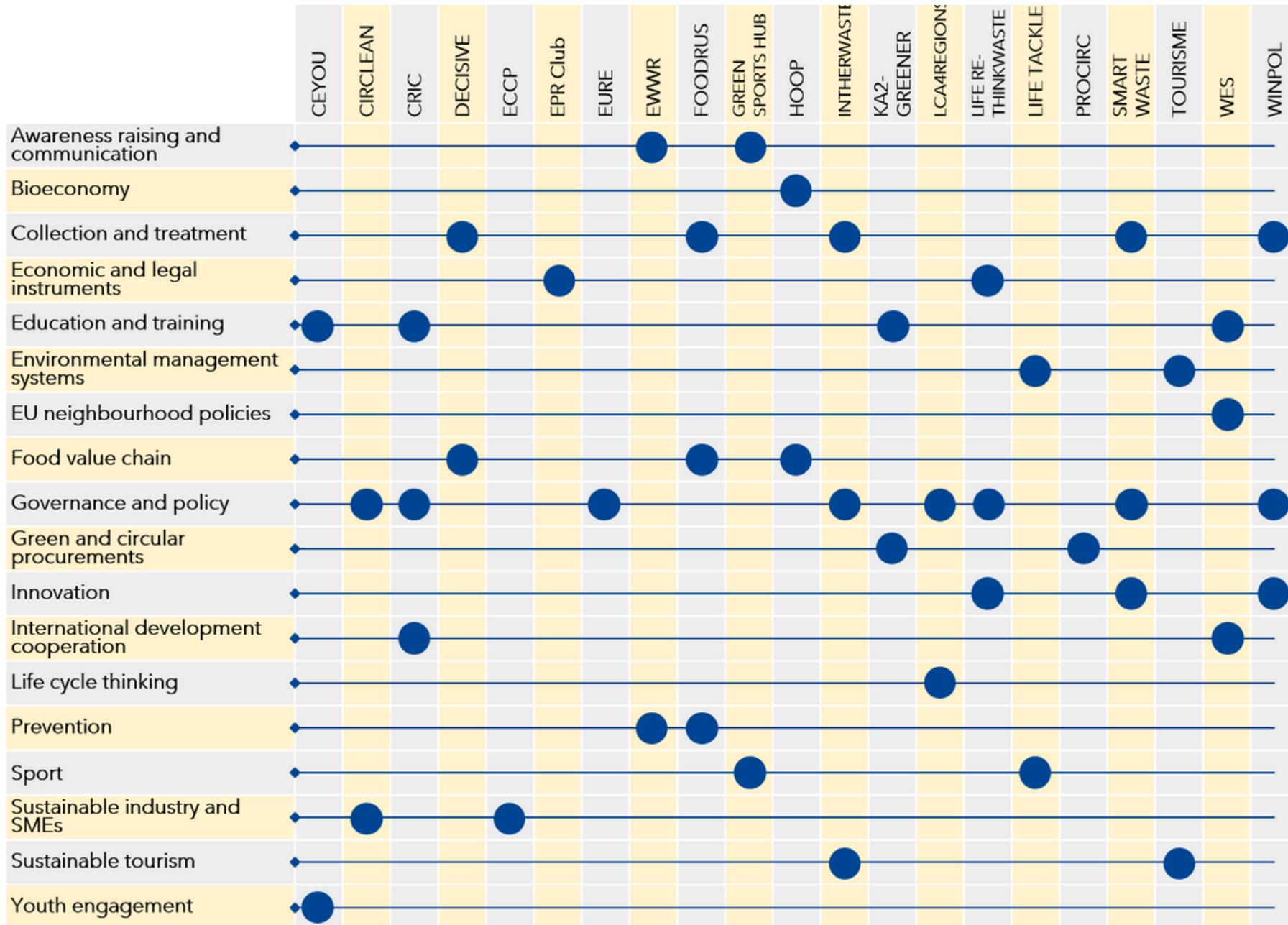
project proposals



13

staff members of ACR+ team

OUR ONGOING PROJECTS IN 2021



Discover in details our projects on www.acrplus.org/en/activities/acr-projects

COOPERATION

ACR+ is involved in different partnerships and cooperation initiatives to represent the voice of decentralized authorities, share the experience gathered within the network, and contribute to advance towards circular economy at global and European level.

European level



International level



ACR+, THE NETWORK



In 2021, ACR+ represented 106 members gathered in 22 countries. Although a network dedicated primarily to local and regional authorities, ACR+ welcomes all stakeholders having a role to play in the transition to circular economy. From decentralised authorities and city networks to NGOs, academics, private partners and consultancies.

Different membership types – effective, partner, invited, or supportive member – are available depending on the local context and specific needs. New members can join throughout the year.

Services to members – including a weekly newsletter, a virtual library, support to events or projects, increased visibility, exchange of experiences, etc. – are part of the recurring and nonetheless essential daily activities of the network.

Underline the necessity to go beyond mere weight or volume-based waste collection metrics and promote use of integrative indicators such as a CO2 emissions calculation, a quantified target for prevention

Priority 1

Reinforce citizens and economic actors' support for the idea of waste prevention and sustainable consumption in general to help public authorities effectively implement solutions complying with the new EU directives

Priority 2

Increase the exchange of experience in the network at a time where it is crucial for members to gain insight on what is being done in other places and have access to innovative and successful practices.

Priority 3

PRIORITIES

MILESTONES

HIGHLIGHTS

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In 2022, you can already look forward to...

World Expo in Dubai

EPR Club lunch debates and international conference (e.g. on Data Collection on Costs of Littering and (Anti)littering Strategies as a Part of EPR Schemes)

Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference 2022

Climate Chance Europe Summit - 2022

EWWR Awards Ceremony 2021

ACR+ General Assembly 2022

Final conference of the WINPOL project on Waste Management Intelligent Systems and Policies

EWWR 2022 (18-27 November)

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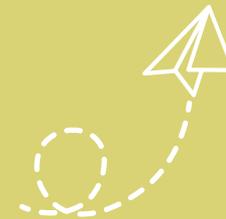
Publication of the results of the second cohort of the More Circularity, Less Carbon campaign, involving Ireland (represented by the ACR+ members Eastern Midlands Waste Region and Southern Waste Region), the region of Navarra (ES), and the city of Odense (DK)

Launch of the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative with the possibility of being involved as Pilot or Fellow to benefit from increased support, collaboration and knowledge sharing regarding circular economy solutions at local and regional levels



Report on quantified actions to prevent household food waste with practices and strategies for which food waste reduction was monitored and documented as well as recommendations on how local and regional authorities can promote household food waste reduction practices

A focus on sustainable food systems to help local authorities get prepared to comply with upcoming legislation thanks to the start of five projects (Biocircularcities, Folou, Prepsoil, Life Biobest and FER-play) in complement to two already running ones (Foodrus and Hoop), all tackling different steps of the value chain



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