



# 2019, a year in review

ACR+ Activity Report  
January 2020

# ACR+ at 25

2019 was a very special and eventful year for ACR+, as it marked our 25th anniversary and therefore was an occasion for celebration, but also for introspection and analysis.

Looking back in order to move forward, we are now more convinced than ever of the importance of our work promoting sustainable resource management at the decentralised level. Over the last two and a half decades, we achieved results that make us proud. If to choose one or two to highlight, we helped decentralized authorities understand where they stand in terms of waste management compared to their peers thanks to our reports and projects like Regions4Recycling, COLLECTORS or the Observatory on municipal waste performances, regions and municipalities. Our ongoing strive to enable technical and knowledge exchanges among local actors has also resulted in the dissemination of thousands of best practices and over fifty publications related to waste management and circular economy. Let's also mention the European Week for Waste Reduction, that we took over after the end of the European funding and is now more and more successful year after year.

Our biggest success, however, is to see an ever-growing number of ACR+ members working together to reach further sustainability and taking concrete actions to boost circular economy, waste prevention, and sustainable use of resources on their territories. National and European laws and strategies such as the upcoming European Green Deal or the ban on several single-use plastic items by 2021 are important; but ground actions led locally are the most visible, impactful and valued by citizens.

In this sense, we launched for our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary a new campaign: "More circularity, less carbon". The aim is to show the tremendous potential of the circular economy to mitigate carbon emissions but above all to call for local action. "More circularity, less carbon" represents a commitment taken with ACR+ members to reduce carbon emissions linked to local resource management by 25% by 2025. We hope that with this campaign and our different projects, we will inspire our members and more generally decentralized authorities in Europe and beyond to be even more innovative and active in the global fight against climate emergency.

*Françoise Bonnet*  
ACR+ Secretary General



# 2019 in numbers

## The network

**104**

Members

**10**

New members

**23**

Countries represented

**15**

Staff members  
at the Secretariat

**10**

Cooperation and  
partnerships

## Services and activities

**41**

Newslines

**4**

ACR+ Publications

**19**

Events and  
webinars  
organised

**26**

Projects

**25**

Speeches and  
presentations at  
international events

## Visibility

**2,559**

Followers  
on Twitter

**918**

Followers  
on LinkedIn

**1,364**

Subscribers to  
the Update and  
ACR+ mailings

# 2019 highlights

## January

We publish “**Deposit-refund systems for one-way beverage packaging: an overview of 10 systems in Europe**”.

## February

We take part in the **World Resource Forum 2019** showcasing FISSAC and URBANREC and joining a panel discussion on innovation in cities.

We co-organise “**Circular economy competences making the case for lifelong learning**” at the European Parliament.

## March

We moderate a session on circular public procurement during “**Delivering on the Circular Economy – What’s next?**”, the **European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform’s 2<sup>nd</sup>** conference.

## April

We are invited to join the European Commission, DG Grow “**Big Public Buyers and Networks Initiative**”.

## May

As Associate partner, we organise various events during the **EU Green Week 2019**, together with our members. It includes the annual **EWWR Awards Ceremony**.

We organise the final conference of the **H2020 URBAN-WASTE project**.

## June

All the network gather in Dublin for our **25<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**, kindly hosted by EWMRC. During a working groups session the first lines of the upcoming campaign on carbon reduction are drawn.

## July

We publish “**Circular economy and lifelong learning: scenarios - methodologies - in action**”.

## August

We are getting ready for **four new projects** starting after the summer: SMART WASTE, LCA4RegionsEURE, and LIFE RETHINK-WASTE.

## September

We sign the **declaration of the Circular Plastics Alliance** welcoming it as a first step but still calling for more concrete action.

# October

We publish “**Analysis of 135 paper and packaging waste collection systems**”.

We take an active part in the **European Week for Regions and Cities**, organising several events with our members.

# December

We publish “**Sustainable construction guidelines for public authorities – A circular economy perspective**”.

# November

The **EWWR 2019** breaks all records with over 16,500 actions registered.

We launch our new campaign “**More circularity, less carbon**” whose ambitious goal is to reduce the carbon emissions linked with local resource management by 25% by 2025.

We are appointed member of the **UN-Habitat Waste Wise Cities Campaign Advisory Group**.

We mark the **end of the H2020 URBANREC project** by organising its final conference.

# We were also there

HARMONI Summit (17 January, Brussels)

5th Conference on Communal services and infrastructure (29 January, Brussels)

Digitalised circular economy: the role of public procurement (07 February, Brussels)

Workshop on Circular Economy for Cities (04 – 06 March, Brussels)

Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference: Success Stories and New Challenges (06 – 07 March, Brussels)

Workshop Circular Economy for The Hague and Rotterdam (08 March, Brussels)

Workshop BLUEMED Pilot: Towards a plastic-free Mediterranean Sea (12 March, Brussels)

Conférence Métropole CITEO (12 – 13 March, Montpellier)

Urban Agenda Partnership on Circular Economy meeting (28-29 March, Oslo)

UrbanWINS final conference (4 April, Brussels)

Workshop with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung on deposit refund systems with experts from Europe, Morocco and Tunisia (25-26 April, Rabat)

Matinée Technique ORDIF : Quelles stratégies pour les déchets du tourisme ? (16 May, Paris)

Gestion des déchets ménagers : et si on pensait autrement ? Colloque AMORCE (16 May, Paris)

4<sup>th</sup> Circular Change Conference (16 May, Maribor)

TRiFOCAL conference (14 June, Dublin)

URBELAC (18 June, Maribor)

BECI : Comment bien gérer les déchets en entreprise ? (19 June, Brussels)

Journée technique : Tarification incitative en milieu urbain (25-26 June, Besançon)

Paris International stewardship conference (2-4 July, Paris)

Marmara Urban Forum (1 - 3 October, Istanbul)

Ecomondo (5 - 8 November, Rimini)

Développement de la consigne des emballages : enjeux, incidences et inspiration avant la loi (8 November, online)

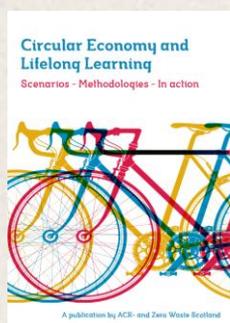
Brussels Zerowaste Fair - Le Zéro Déchet, quel impact sur le climat ? (16 November, Brussels)

Conference on Best in Class Deposit Return Systems for Single-Use Beverage Packaging (22 November, Brussels)



## [Deposit-refund systems for one-way beverage packaging: an overview of 10 systems in Europe](#)

This report examines the application of deposit-refund systems for beverage packaging. It presents an informative overview of examples and approaches in Europe, focusing on ten European countries (Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden).



## [Circular Economy and Lifelong Learning: Scenarios - Methodologies - In action](#)

This publication aims to make those experiences a shared treasure by sharing them with educators, policymakers and managers of NGOs and training organisations that intend to promote the development of local loops of the circular economy through educational tools.



## [Analysis of 135 paper and packaging waste collection systems](#)

This report provides an overview of the different organisations and an analysis of the local performances of 135 waste collection systems across Europe. It highlights the **great diversity of collection systems**, with many different sorting systems and combination of collection modes (door-to-door, bring bank, combined, etc.).



## [Sustainable construction guidelines for public authorities – A circular economy perspective](#)

This report aims to **help public authorities navigate through sustainable construction**, understand what it means and determine how to encourage it. Unlike most of the literature on the topic, these guidelines are focusing on **circularity and material resources efficiency**, instead of covering only energy efficiency extensively.

# Projects & activities

## Awareness raising and communication

### The European Week for Waste Reduction



The [European Week for Waste Reduction](#) (EWWR) aims to raise awareness about waste prevention through the implementation of actions about sustainable resource and waste management across numerous countries in Europe and beyond during one single week.

For its 11<sup>th</sup> edition, which took place between 16 and 24 November, the EWWR broke participation records. Thousands of participants took part in over 16,500 actions, under the slogan “Change your ways, reduce your waste!”. The thematic focus was waste education and communication. The number of registered activities increasing by 15.5% year-on-year and by a factor of six compared to the first edition in 2009. 40 coordinators (8 new for 2019) supported volunteers and promoted the EWWR at the local level in 30 countries.

Before that, the EWWR Awards Ceremony, hosted by the European Committee of the Regions, took place on 15 May in Brussels, Belgium. The event gathered over 150 waste reduction enthusiasts from across Europe representing schools, business, public authorities, associations and NGOs, EU institutions and citizens. Of the 16 finalists that carried out actions during the EWWR 2018, six received awards in different categories.

## Operational instruments and monitoring

### COLLECTORS



The [COLLECTORS](#) project aims to highlight and document good practices for the collection and sorting of three waste categories: packaging and paper waste, WEEE and construction and demolition waste.

In 2019 the project published two important tools:

- a web platform containing data about 242 waste collection systems (organisation, performances, associated costs, etc.) in 24 countries;
- an online waste library comprised of more than 250 sources of data about waste management.

Two international conferences took place:

- “[Municipal waste management in the circular economy: how to reach high quality recycling?](#)” on 11 December in Thessaloniki, Greece;
- “[Societal acceptance of new waste management systems: citizen awareness and participation](#)” on 26 June in Warsaw, Poland.

Both events were prefaced by [Regional Working Group meetings](#), which brought together nine representatives of various European cities and regions, as well as external stakeholders.

# European Observatory of Waste Management Performances



The Observatory aims at creating a more transparent and effective collection of waste and recycling data focusing on the analysis of selective collection performances across different regional/local authorities in Europe.

The Observatory published a new report: "[Analysis of 135 paper and packaging waste collection systems](#)". It provides an overview of the different organisations and an analysis of the local performances of 135 waste collection systems across Europe. One of the conclusions of the report is that it is the association and combination of different instruments that result in a successful waste strategy.

## DECISIVE



[DECISIVE](#) – a DECentralised management Scheme for Innovative Valorisation of urban biowaste – looks to alter the current urban metabolism for organic matter, energy and biowaste, to a more circular economic model and to assess the impacts of these changes on the whole waste management cycle.

The project's first focus group met in Brussels on 1 April with the task of assessing the policy and economic barriers and opportunities for the development of decentralised bio-waste systems. It was followed by the 5th DECISIVE General Assembly, on 2-3 April, hosted by ACR+.

On 14 November one of the two DECISIVE local demonstration sites displaying the concept of decentralised biowaste management has been launched in Lyon, France.

## FISSAC



The [FISSAC](#) project – Fostering Industrial Symbiosis for a Sustainable Resource Intensive Industry across the extended Construction Value Chain – aims to develop and demonstrate a new paradigm for the construction value chain built on an innovative industrial symbiosis model.

The project entered its final stage. It saw the development of a number of products at an industrial scale, which then were tested through real scale demonstrations. Industrial partners have manufactured at industrial scale innovative eco-cement and concrete, ceramic tiles, and rubber wood polymer composites, all of them using different types of secondary raw materials and techniques. Through five different case studies, the new solutions developed have been showcased to demonstrate their employment along the whole Industrial Symbiosis value chain.

The consortium has carried out an assessment of the replicability of the FISSAC Industrial Symbiosis model at different levels, aiming eventually at replicating it in EU countries not involved in the project, and within different areas for different products.

Throughout the year, living labs, general assembly and webinars took place.

# URBANREC



[URBANREC](#) – New approaches for the valorisation of URBAN bulky waste into high added value RECycled products – aims to develop and implement eco-innovative and integral bulky waste management systems, as well as demonstrate their effectiveness in different regions.

After three and a half years of activities the URBANREC project came to an end in November. The highlight was the final conference, entitled Circular Economy in Cities, organised by ACR+ and hosted at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium. It presented the URBANREC [policy recommendations](#) and showcased the partners' technical and technological solutions for enhancing reuse, effective collection, separation and disassembly, and innovative products made from bulky waste.

The project's outcomes include a [comprehensive guide](#) on bulky waste management (prepared by ACR+), an online [interactive tool](#) presenting key deliverables and their summaries, a calculator instrument helping to visualise the quantitative impact of implementing URBANREC solutions, and an e-learning module informing consumers and waste managers about the possible steps of waste management process enabled by URBANREC.

# RE4



[RE4](#) – REuse and REcycling of materials and structures in energy efficient pREfabricated elements for building REfurbishment and construction – aims at the development of a fully prefabricated energy-efficient building made of components with up to 65% by weight of construction and demolition waste-derived materials and structures.

After developing and testing (on three demo sites in Europe and one in Taiwan), energy-efficient prefabricated elements for building refurbishment and construction, including an innovative mobile robotic sorting system, the RE4 project focused on sharing its outputs. Thus, it organized four webinars, was featured in several news articles and participated in a wide number of events. The project also published a [video](#) on the manufacturing process of creating the RE4 insulating panel from construction and demolition waste wood scraps.

## Legal and economic instruments

# EPR Club



The [EPR Club](#) is a unique multi-stakeholder platform for discussion and exchange of information and best practices on issues related to Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in Europe.

The EPR Club hosted a lunch debate on 17 January on deposit-refund systems in Europe, presenting the ACR+ report "[Deposit-refund systems for one-way beverage packaging in Europe](#)". A new and upgraded EPR Club [website](#) has been launched featuring new functionalities which make the navigation much easier, and allow to organise better the rich library of events, presentations and other materials gathered since the launch of the EPR Club.

# LIFE SMART Waste



The project Smarter Regulation of Waste in Europe ([LIFE SMART Waste](#)) aims to demonstrate innovative ways of understanding, tackling and reducing waste-related crime.

Strong of an extension until May 2020 allowing further research, the project published a report sharing its '[Progress on technical actions](#)'. A summary of the project's progress is also shared in a video.

Over 200 delegates, representing 52 countries and a range of international bodies, attended the project's [final conference](#) on 12-13 November, organised jointly with the INTERPOL Environmental Security Programme and the INTERPOL Pollution Crime Working Group. Videos and supporting slides of presentations made during the conference are available online.

# ProCirc



The project "[Circular Procurement: Accelerate circular economy through procurement power, alliance- and capacity building](#)" aims at leveraging procurement to invest in circular partnerships.

After a year, the project gathered several tools for circular procurement and elaborated the various criteria to define what a circular procurement tool is. The foundations for the implementation of circular procurement pilots on furniture, ICT, and construction have been set.

## Strategy and planning

# Circular Europe Network



[The Circular Europe Network](#) (CEN) is a specific initiative on circular economy launched by ACR+ in order to support local and regional authorities in being ambitious on circular economy and will therefore support and help them to adopt aspiring circular economy strategies.

Four factsheets were added to the CEN database : an overview of a series of sustainable dairy farm projects which have been implemented in the Province of Drenthe in the Netherlands; a factsheet on circular economy strategies in Paris; and good practices in the management of food value chains in Edinburgh, UK, and Gothenburg, Sweden.

In the framework of its participation in the Urban Agenda Partnership on Circular Economy, ACR+ participated in workshops on several actions of the Partnership, including on circular economy indicators, a circular city funding guide and urban collaborative circular economy initiatives, including during the European Week of Cities and Regions.

# CIRCTER



The main objective of this [service on circular economy](#) is to provide evidence on the territorial dimension of the transition towards a circular economy and on local and regional patterns and flows of materials, including resources and waste.

The project came to an end summarizing its outcomes in a [final report](#), available online, presenting extensive information about: a territorial definition of the circular economy; the monitoring of circular economy at sub-national levels; evidence from six CIRCTER case studies; and adapted policy recommendations. A series of maps illustrating the territorial dimension of circular economy is also enclosed.

# URBAN-WASTE



[URBAN-WASTE](#) – Urban strategies for Waste Management in Tourist Cities – endeavoured to support policy makers in answering to the challenges of booming tourism in European cities, including high levels of unsustainable resource consumption and waste production.

After three years, the project ended with a memorable [final conference](#) presenting the findings and outcomes of the long work of the 27 project partners, including 11 pilot cities and regions. It also included a signing ceremony of the [Charter of Commitments](#) launched in 2018 and totalizing 27 signatories.

The end of the project also saw several crucial deliverables being published, with the Guidelines for City Managers targeting local and regional authorities and a unique paper on gender mainstreaming and gender equality in waste management being the most significant. All these documents and much more can be found in the project's [Library](#).

## Cooperation and capacity building

# BLUEISLANDS



[BLUEISLANDS](#)' goal is to identify, address and mitigate the effects of the seasonal variation of waste generation on Mediterranean islands as an effect of tourism, and establish the necessary conditions to fuel local loops of circular economy.

At the end of the year the project released its Waste Management Handbook which gathers examples of good practices and innovations that are implemented in Mediterranean islands coastal areas to answer the problems highlighted during the study phase of the project.

During the summer, project partners implemented an information campaign to raise tourists' awareness about the impact of waste and undertook pilot actions aimed at developing policy recommendations to mitigate the impact of tourism on islands.

Two new communication tools are available: a [factsheet](#) and a [video](#) explaining the methodology of the project and describing its three phases: studying, testing and transferring.

# CYCLE



**CYCLE** – Circular Economy Competences, making the Case for Lifelong Learning – aims to create a set of tools that support the introduction of circular economy competences in adult training, contributing to the creation of an attractive learning pathway for trainers and making up for the existing gap in this area.

The project reached its conclusion in September and finalised its main result: the [CYCLE Competence Centre](#). The platform gathers different kinds of open educational resources on the circular economy, from MOOCs, videos, and infographics on case studies to practical activities. The six project partners from Austria, Belgium, Italy, Poland, Spain, and the UK enriched the platform with customised content according to their country and language.

CYCLE’s project partners have been promoting the achievements of this project through local events involving potential users of the competence center.

# INTHERWASTE



**INTHERWASTE** – Interregional Environmental Integration of Waste Management in European Heritage Cities – aims to foster the exchange of experience and polices for efficient and sustainable waste management in European heritage cities.

The project unveiled the five action plans, carefully developed during the year and tailored to the specific needs and circumstances of its five pilot cities – Tallinn, Krakow, Cordoba, Ibiza, and Porto. Most improvements attempt to make waste disposal and collection less visible through buildings and facilities turned into “waste rooms” and to enhance circular economy principles locally via new pathways for bulky waste.

The first three years of the projects are summarised in a [second brochure](#) prepared by ACR+. It includes a section detailing the activities implemented by each of the six partners since 2016 and another part featuring five of the more than 50 good practices in waste management in heritage areas that were discussed during the project.

Some of these good practices have also been uploaded on the website and are featured in the Interreg Policy Learning Platform.

# SWIM and HORIZON 2020



The [SWIM-H2020](#) project – Depollution of the Mediterranean – aims to contribute to the reduction of marine pollution and to a more sustainable use of scarce water resources by providing tailored and targeted support to stakeholders of the Beneficiary Countries within six results areas.

The project held its final conference on 8 April in Brussels, Belgium, presenting the project’s results, achievements, and lessons learned to reduce marine pollution and promote a sustainable use of scarce water resources in the Mediterranean region. After 39 months of hard work, the project closed on quite impressive numbers: 14 regional and 51 national trainings, 6 study tours, 20 national consultations workshops, 16 national meetings, 10 peer-to-peer activities, and 4 webinars.

A [booklet](#) provides a snapshot of the project detailing its approach, strengths, opportunities and the challenges it met.

# LIFE TACKLE



The [LIFE TACKLE project](#) – Teaming-up for A Conscious Kick for the Legacy of Environment – aims to increase the awareness and to improve the practices of sports events key actors in order to improve waste management during football events.

Project partners continued stadium visits across Europe to assess a baseline scenario and to define measures to apply to the 10 pilot stadiums of the project.

A set of **guidelines** guaranteeing a high level of information diffusion and awareness-raising in the field of the environmental management of a sporting event has been published. They are based on existing good practices from across Europe and beyond and are enriched by results of tests carried out by the ten stadiums. The first section of the guidelines covers the field of governance, including the well-defined roles of the different stakeholders to assure an effective environmental management structure, while a second section is dedicated to operational best practices:

An infographic has been published looking at the carbon footprint of football.

# WINPOL



[WINPOL](#) – Waste Management Intelligent Systems and Policies – aims to improve regional and local waste management processes by promoting intelligent equipment and innovative planning derived from it in order to minimise waste generation and increase the efficiency of waste management processes.

The project identified so far 24 good practices of innovation in the field of waste, all available on the [WINPOL website](#) and on the Interreg Policy Learning Platform.

These practices were presented during two thematic seminars. The first one, in Maribor, Slovenia, in May, focused on [collection and use of information to optimise waste management](#) while the second, in Antwerp, Belgium, in November, dealt with [innovative models for collection, prevention, and reuse and recycling](#). Both seminars were coupled with study visits. An additional one took place in October, taking partners to Imola, Italy.

In addition to this, partners prepared their action plans, organising local events on their territory to present and discuss the policy instruments to be improved thanks to the project.

ACR+ organised a capacity-building event for all the project partners on 19 February in Brussels. The aim of the gathering was to train the attendees in the use of knowledge and tools developed in the framework of other EU-funded projects, focusing on three core themes: operational instruments and monitoring, strategy and planning, and awareness raising.

# They started this year...

## CEYOU



In the wake of the concerns about the environment and climate change that students have been showing worldwide via their strikes and demonstrations, CEYOU aims to promote, engage, connect, and empower young people around the circular economy. This will happen through dialogue with decision-makers, activity-based learning, open educational resources and a web application to connect change-makers on this topic.

During the first months of the project, CEYOU's partners exchanged views on existing practices for youth participation in policy-making and the state-of-the-art of circular economy in their respective territories – Brussels, France, Greece, Italy, North Macedonia and Wales. As a first step towards one of the main outputs of the project, the guidelines for the establishment of permanent forums for dialogue on circular economy practices between youth organisations and local authorities, ACR+ drafted a preliminary methodology that partners will use to set up and test this kind of forums locally.

Follow the next steps of the project on the [CEYOU website](#) and [Facebook](#) page.

## Cir©Lean



Cir©Lean – an European network of businesses and SMEs for industrial symbiosis – is to provide services to support the setup of a network of businesses and SMEs to seize industrial symbiosis business opportunities and in particular: to elaborate and endorse a voluntary common approach for the reporting of industrial symbiosis exchanges, to monitor the uptake of this approach by businesses.

The project kicked off in November, with a first meeting hosted by the European Commission in Brussels. Technopolis, Trinomics, International Synergies, Arctik, EIT Rawmaterials, SPIRE and ACR+ will join forces during the next three years to reach the two main objectives of this project: the development and formal adoption of a voluntary common approach on the reporting of industrial symbiosis transactions together with promoting the uptake of this approach by actors that get involved in industrial symbiosis across the EU, and the creation of a European network Cir©Lean of relevant players that are either directly involved or interested in promoting industrial symbiosis practices and who endorse the voluntary approach to IS reporting developed under this project.

While the first year of the project will be dedicated to preparatory work, the reporting and the label. The network will be launched in the second year, when efforts will be focused on its promotion and expansion. By end of 2020, Cir©Lean will be operational.

# EURE



[EURE](#) – Effectiveness of Environmental Urban policies to improve Resources Efficiency – proposes the exchange of experience among local authorities as methodology to evaluate the different ways to articulate the 5% of their European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to support integrated sustainable urban development.

The EURE partners already met twice, with a second meeting in November taking place in Brest. Project partners and a pool of selected experts gathered to define a common structure for the regional reports describing the state of play of the urban environmental policy instruments in each territory covered by EURE. They also identified the urban issues to be tackled by the project, namely waste and water management, sustainable mobility, cooperation between local authorities within the same regions and social issues.

Subscribe to [EUREka!](#) to follow all the steps of the project and to get inspired by the activities of the partners in improving the policy instruments regarding the sustainable development of low populated urban areas.

# LCA4Regions



[LCA4Regions](#) – Improved Environment and Resource Efficiency through use of Life Cycle Instruments for implementation of regional policies of the European Union – endeavours to improve the effectiveness of environmental policies through the adoption of Life Cycle Assessment methodologies.

Soon after the launch of the project, partners started working on seven regional analysis. For this, they are identifying the current situation about LCA strategies thinking in the policy implementation on the seven territories in the focus: Navarre (ES), Kaunas (LT), Satakunta (FI), Western Slovenia (SI), Baixo Alentejo (PT), Lodskie (PL), and Lombardy (IT). This activity has been combined with regional events organised in each project region to involve relevant local stakeholders.

To discover more on this project and to make sure you do not miss the next developments, follow LCA4Regions on [Twitter](#) and subscribe to the [mailing list](#).

# LIFE RETHINK WASTE



LIFE RETHINK WASTE (Rethinking municipal tariff systems to improve urban waste governance) will combine and compare the use of Pay As You Throw (PAYT) with the Know As You Throw (KAYT) approach.

On 29-30 October, the project coordinator ETRA welcomed the 11 partners of the consortium in its premises in Padova (IT) for the kick-off meeting at premises in Padova (IT). It was an exciting opportunity to start thinking about the inspiring challenges to come and share a common project methodology. The partners then started working to collect relevant (successful and less successful) cases about PAYT/KAYT.

# SMART WASTE



**SMART WASTE** – Innovation in Waste Management Policies – aims at improving public policy instruments supporting innovation within waste management procedures, both in terms of new approaches and new technologies.

The project kicked off on 5 September in Florence with first discussions on innovation in waste management as well as on citizens and stakeholders engagement. The [WINPOL](#) and [LIFE TACKLE](#) projects were invited to showcase their first outcomes.

While project partners started working on the technical aspects, the project was already presented during ECOMONDO and the second WINPOL Thematic Seminar.

The project is summarized in a short [presentation video](#) produced by the Lead Partner Resources Recovery Regional Agency.

To stay informed about the latest development of the project, [subscribe](#) to the mailing list.

# WES



The Water and Environment Support (WES) project in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood region aims at protecting the environment and improving the management of scarce water resources in the Mediterranean. It will tackle problems related to pollution prevention and water use efficiency through national and regional activities taking place in eight countries of the MENA region (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia).

This project started in September capitalizes on the successful SWIM H2020 project. Expanding on its role in the SWIM-H2020 project, ACR+ joined the WES consortium as a technical expert. The focus of the ACR+ activities is on legal and economic instruments (e.g. DRS, EPR schemes, etc.) and the management of key waste streams such as WEEE, organic waste, and medical waste. ACR+ is providing technical expertise in environmental topics such as plastic pollution and marine litter, circular economy and waste management schemes.

After the launch of the project, the consortium finalized the inception phase to tailor the topics to the priorities of each country.

# ACR+ members

## They joined us in 2019



## Effective members

### • Local and regional authorities

- Aalborg (DK)
- Arnhem-Nijmegen Region (NL)
- Barcelona (Ayuntamiento - ES)
- Barcelona (Area Metropolitana - ES)
- Belfast (UK)
- Brussels (ABP) (BE)
- Brussels (IBGE) (BE)
- Cascais (EMAC) (PT)
- Catalunya (ARC) (ES)
- Charente (FR)
- Cleantech Regio (NL)
- Contarina (IT)
- Diputación de Castellón (ES)
- Eastern Midlands Waste Regional (IE)
- Epirus Region (GR)
- Flanders (OVAM) (BE)
- Fryslan (NL)
- Genova AMIU (IT)
- Gijón (EMULSA) (ES)
- IBOGEM (BE)
- Lisbon (PT)
- Liège (BE)
- Greater Porto (Lipor) (PT)
- Guimarães (VITRUS Ambiente) (PT)
- City of Luxembourg (LU)
- Maastricht (NL)
- Madrid (ES)
- Malta (MT)
- Nantes Métropole (FR)
- Navarra (NILSA) (ES)
- North London (UK)
- Odense (DK)
- Pamplona (ES)
- Paris (FR)
- Prato (IT)
- Rennes Métropole (FR)
- Resíduos do Nordeste (PT)
- Córdoba (SADECO) (ES)
- SERIT (IT)
- Sofia Municipality (BG)
- Southern Waste Region (IE)
- Regione Autonoma della Sardegna (IT)
- Région Pays de la Loire (FR)
- Région SUD Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (FR)
- Region of Tuscany (IT)
- Sybert (FR)
- The Hague (NL)
- Torres Vedras (PT)
- Ufficio Comune per la Sostenibilità Ambientale - Comune di San Giuseppe Vesuviano (IT)
- Viana do Castelo (PT)
- Wallonia (OFWD) (BE)
- Warsaw (PL)
- Xylokastro and Evrostini Municipality (GR)
- Zagreb (HR)
- Zadar (HR)

## • National authorities or agencies

Rijkswaterstaat (NL)  
Zero Waste Scotland (UK)

## • Public authority networks

Cercle National du Recyclage (FR)  
COPIDEC (BE)  
UTILITALIA (IT)

# Partner members

## • NGOs

AICA (IT)  
ALDA (EU)  
ARGE (AT)  
Bugday (TR)  
Ecological Recycling Society (GR)  
Environnement Eco-Sain (MA)  
Foundation Projecta (BG)  
Fundación para la Economía Circular (ES)  
FADI (RO)  
Fundació Formació i Treball (ES)  
Green Planet Association (RO)  
Groupe One (BE)  
Humana – Fundación Pueblo para Pueblo(ES)  
Institut Eco-Conseil (BE)  
Institut de l'Économie Circulaire (FR)

NABU (DE)  
Nicosia Development Agency (ANEL)  
ORDIF (Observatoire régional des déchets d'Ile-de-France) (FR)  
ORÉE (FR)  
Passerelles.info (FR)  
RAL Quality Association for Reverse Consumption e.V. (DE)  
Reloop (EU)  
Ressources ASBL (BE)  
Retorna (ES)  
Rezero (ES)  
Rudologia (FR)  
SviMed (IT)  
WORMS (BE)

## • Academic institutes

Agència d'Ecologia Urbana de Barcelona (ES)  
CIHEAM-IAMM (FR)  
Deusto University (ES)  
Eixoecologia (ES/PT)

Fundació ENT (ES)  
Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Inst. Of Management (IT)  
Venice International University (IT)  
Wcycle Institute Maribor (SI)

## • Consultancies

Ecores (BE)  
RDC Environnement (BE)  
SuperDrecksKëscht (LU)

## • Private partners

Citeo (FR)  
Suez (BE)  
Sistemi Formativi Confindustria (IT)

## Supportive members

 Generalitat de Catalunya  
Departament de Territori  
i Sostenibilitat

 Agència de  
Residus de  
Catalunya

 REGIONE AUTONOMA DE SARDIGNA  
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA



 SISTEMI  
FORMATIVI  
CONFINDUSTRIA

 bruxelles  
environnement  
leefmilieu  
brussel  
.brussels

# Cooperation

## European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform



Member of the [ECESP](#) since 2017, ACR+ represented local authorities during two meetings of the coordination group and co-organized and moderated a workshop on circular public procurement during the annual conference of the platform on 7 March.

## Urban Agenda Partnership on Circular Economy



Within the [UAPCE](#) (joined in 2016), ACR+ worked on actions related to indicators and governance for circular economy as well as on several publications: a guide for cities on financing circular economy, guideline on resource management in urban environment, and a report on collaborative economy.

## Circular Plastics Alliance



Upon invitation of DG GROW, ACR+ joined the [Circular Plastics Alliance](#) and participated to its meeting and working groups, contributing to the drafting of the declaration of the alliance (also signed by ACR+).

## European Bureau for Conservation and Development



Through its membership to the [EBCD](#), ACR+ contributes to the exchange of expertise within the European Parliament Intergroup on "[Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development](#)" as advisory member. The Intergroup was reconducted in December 2019 for the new mandate 2019-2014.

## UN-Habitat Waste Wise Cities Campaign



ACR+ has been appointed as a member of the [UN-Habitat Waste Wise Cities Campaign](#) Advisory Group which aims to guide and support the implementation and monitoring of Waste Wise Cities Campaign, framing in the wider UN context for coherent work on urban waste management.

## But also...





*ACR+ Secretariat team at the General Assembly 2019 in Dublin.*

## The team

ACR+ Secretariat team in Brussels is currently composed of: Jean-Benoît Bel, Françoise Bonnet, Marie Cardon, Gaëlle Colas, Hélène Konopski, Erneszt Kovács, Francesco Lembo, Serena Lisai, Paolo Marengo, Giulia Marrazzo, Philippe Micheaux Naudet, Debora Paolini, Clémence Pricken, Bilyana Spasova, Carmen Valache. Luigi Gioja, Simone Cavallo, and Beatrice White also contributed to the success of ACR+ in 2019.

## The board of directors

Zero Waste Scotland, represented by its Chief Executive Iain Gulland, is currently holding ACR+ Presidency (for 2018-2020).

ACR+ board of directors also includes the following members:

- Agència de Residus de Catalunya (ES) – Vice presidency
- LIPOR (PT) – Vice presidency
- North London Waste Authority (UK) – Treasury
- Eastern-Midlands Region (IE)
- City of Genoa (IT)
- City of Paris (FR)
- Brussels Environment (BE)
- City of Odense (DK)
- Waste Serv Malta (MT)

“Inspiring circular cities  
and regions since 1994”

[www.acrplus.org](http://www.acrplus.org)



ACRplus