CIRCONOMY kicks off its work to make circularity measurable for businesses, municipalities and households

Rome, 28/10/2026 - How can businesses, municipalities and households measure their progress towards a circular economy? **CIRCONOMY**, a 36-month project funded under Horizon Europe and coordinated by UnitelmaSapienza University of Rome, is addressing this challenge by **developing practical, harmonised micro-level circularity indicators**. Bringing together **17 partner organisations**, the project will integrate these indicators into a monitoring framework and an accessible digital tool, tested and refined through pilots and replication activities across Europe.

"Europe has set ambitious circular economy targets, but the businesses, cities and households expected to deliver them still lack a simple way to know whether they are actually making progress. CIRCONOMY will change that. Over the next three years, we will give them practical, comparable indicators and an easy-to-use digital tool to measure their circularity. What gets measured gets improved: our ambition is to turn circularity from a shared aspiration into everyday, measurable practice across Europe", says Prof. Piergiuseppe Morone, CIRCONOMY Project Coordinator.

The foundations for this work were laid at the **project's kick-off meeting in Rome on 11-12 June 2026**, where partners established a shared roadmap with contributions from Hans-Christian Eberl, Policy Officer at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD), and Vessela Stoyanova-Monteleone, Project Officer at the European Research Executive Agency (REA).

Building on this shared roadmap, **CIRCONOMY has begun connecting with complementary projects and European initiatives**. On 9 July, it launched cooperation with sister project CIRCULARIS on stakeholder engagement, knowledge exchange and policy recommendations, with input from REA Project Officers Vessela Stoyanova-Monteleone and Cara Maeztu. This dialogue continued on 18 September, when both projects explored collaboration opportunities with the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI), joined by Lucie Blondel, DG RTD Policy Officer representing the initiative.

Alongside these collaborations, **CIRCONOMY is engaging directly with the stakeholders and organisations that will use its results**. **Interviews** are underway to identify stakeholder needs regarding micro-level circularity indicators and the barriers they face when assessing circularity. Perspectives from policymakers, companies, municipal authorities and civil society will inform a monitoring framework applicable across sectors and regions. A subsequent **survey** and **focus groups** will broaden this input, and **stakeholders interested in contributing are invited to get involved**.

To further connect these efforts with the wider European research community and maximise its impacts, **CIRCONOMY**, in collaboration with the European Bioeconomy Network (EuBioNet), **will host its first online Mobilisation and Mutual Learning (MML) workshop on 26 November 2026, from 10:00 to 12:00** CET. Entitled **"Connecting the Loops across European Circular Economy Projects"**, the workshop will **bring together EU-funded projects working on circular economy** indicators, data and tools, to exchange knowledge, connect complementary approaches and identify concrete opportunities for collaboration. If you represent an EU-funded project dealing with this topic, get more information about the workshop and register here.

Interested in our activities? Visit CIRCONOMY's website and follow social media channels (LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube) for updates, results and upcoming collaboration opportunities. To participate in stakeholder consultations and future activities, get in touch through the contacts on the project website.

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