

CECI Newsletter 12/2021, vol. 5

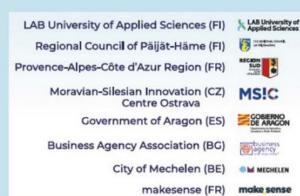
CECI = Citizen Involvement in Circular Economy Implementation

Raise awareness of **circular economy** and highlight the importance of **citizen engagement**

Inspire citizens to adopt **sustainable consumption habits** and behavior patterns

Promote **sustainable services**, e.g., sharing economy, lengthening product life cycles through reuse, repair, remanufacturing, and refurbishment

Encourage waste reduction, energy savings, and circular thinking





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Continuation of the 3rd CECI Interregional Meeting in Mechelen

The city of Mechelen, Belgium hosted the first part of the 3rd Interregional Meeting already on the **2-3.6.2021** online, focusing on the action planning process. Read more here.

On **24.11.2021**, the city of Mechelen was the host for the second real life partner meeting. The first since the beginning of Covid. What a joy to finally be able to meet up again in person.

This second part focused on local good practices and site visits related to citizen involvement in circular economy.

The day started with a round of introductions, were we all got to know each other in 3D.















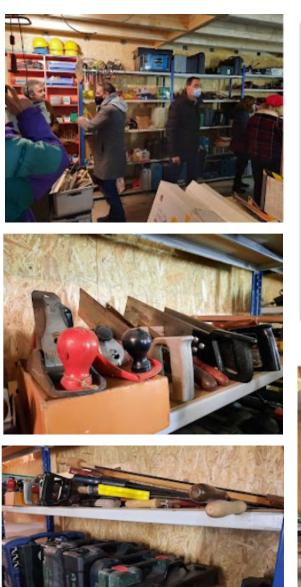


CECI Good Practices and Site Visits in Mechelen

The meeting was held in the Impact Factory and brought together around 50 participants from 6 countries. After the introduction we continued to inspirational presentations and discussions.

First up was Stijn Anthoons, introducing us to the project **'The Impact Factory'.** A Public-Private partnership with the goal of creating a vibrant hub within the inner city to host circular entrepreneurs. Two existing buildings, among which an old industrial laundry called the Potterij, will be renovated for this project. The start of renovation is planned in 2023. Hoping to open the first part in 2024 and the second part in 2025.





In the meanwhile, the Potterij is used as a temporary location for circular experimentation. One example is **Labo Leegstand**, our second subject of the day. Labo Leegstand or the Vancancy lab is an urban living lab on modular, reusable and deconstructible construction methods, executed by Miss Miyagi.

We visited the lab, that now gives room to the 'de Klusbib'. The Klusbib is library run by a citizen organisation called Deelbaar Mechelen (**Shareable Mechelen**), where citizens of Mechelen can lend small and big tools to use for everything from small shores to renovations around the house or garden. Besides the box in the box construction houses, **Deel-IT**, another project of Deelbaar Mechelen, refurbishes laptops in order to close the digital gap or to be used by youth living in vulnerable situations.



"Ciralar Economy BLCOV5 through Citizen Indvenen









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CECI Good Practices and Site Visits in Mechelen



The third speaker, Sara Verhoeven from **Ko-LAB**, explained the importance of hacker/makerspaces within the city. Giving space, equipment, education, inspiration and possibilities to citizens to experiment with science, techniques, arts, and artisans, such as 3D printing or programming.

An interesting discussion about different approaches to this concept – top-down or bottom-up - was the result. A good way of broadening our perspective on citizen-involvement within the deployment of circular economy.





After lunch, we gave the floor to Klimaan. A citizen cooperative, investing in green energy and other climate actions. They presented the collaboration between Klimaan and the City of Mechelen within the project Citizens of Mechelen Circular and Cooperative (MechCiCo). Thanks to the help of the volunteers of Klimaan, the city could make an inventory of the construction materials present in the former library for urban mining purposes. The former library has been sold to a real estate developer to be renovated into a housing district. During the process of sale, the city gave space to creative entrepreneurs and Klimaan to use the for experimentation and research/creative work. Read more here.

Read the whole story of the Good Practices and site visits in Mechelen **here**.

Ci-Lab was the last project we talked about before lunch. Ci-Lab is a circular textile lab. A collective of 3 circular entrepreneurs focusing on the reuse of textiles. Within a year and a half, they grew from mere ideas to a collective with one FTE employee, collaborating with several mayor brands in Belgium and the Netherlands, while using dead stock, residual textiles or recalled fashion items. The interested participants could visit the lab before lunch, to feel the vibes of the lab.











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Continuation of the 3rd CECI **Interregional Meeting in Mechelen - CECI Stakeholders' and Partners' Testimonies**

"When your focus is on local engagement and developing local economic activities, it is not your" priority to spend a day with a European group. So, it was a surprise to have a quite diverse group listening with full attention to the story of the volunteers from Deelbaar Mechelen or the social oriented textile lab from CiLAB. Even more, a lively discussion was started with an exchange of lots of ideas and initiatives on how to ensure good citizen's participation in the transition to a circular city. This could be the foundation to long lasting relationships and a collaborative approach between areas from different parts of Europe. And if the morning brings you coffee and an exchange on re-usable packaging between Ostrava and Mechelen, I can only look back a perfect use of time."

- Jan Merckx, Deelbaar Mechelen/ CiLAB (BE)

Thank you for the opportunity to see good practices from Mechelen, they were very inspiring. I think the meeting could have been a day and a half full of schedule. Because we didn't see each other for a long time because of Covid, everyone wanted to talk to each other and there wasn't much room for that. Absorb all the information about good practices, talk to everyone for a while and, most importantly, have more room auestions about individual aood for practices. Great organization, very nice city pleasant relaxed and а atmosphere throughout the day.

> - Klára Golabová, Moravian-Silesian Innovation Centre Ostrava (CZ)

I love the work you are doing in Mechelen. All the projects were very interesting. However, as our activity is related with second-hand textiles, we found CiLAB particularly inspiring. Unfortunately, we only had one day to share all those experiences. I would have liked to get deeper into them and to have more time to share with other visitors.

> - Antonio Costa, Empresa de Inserción de la Fundación por la Inclusión Social de Cáritas de Zaragoza (ES)

The event was an excellent learning experience for me. It was really interesting to hear and see the examples in Mechelen. Really inspiring is that there are so many active volunteers in the circular economy field and that the municipality is supporting them with the facilities. I was especially happy to learn about the Circular Textile Lab and the amazing work that the people are doing there.

> - Jenni Rahkonen, Environmental Coordinator at the City of Lahti (FI)















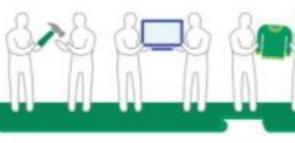




CECI NEWS

in a circular economy implementat wants to facilitate and increase kno ub ble







CECI project presented in the **Circular Cities Solution Booklet**

CECI project listed the is in Circular Cities Solution Booklet published by the Smart Cities Marketplace platform of the European Commission on 15 November 2021. The platform is a major marketchanging undertaking that aims to bring cities, industries, SMEs, investors, banks, researchers and many other smart city actors together.

The Smart Cities Marketplace has many followers from all over Europe and beyond with a common aim to improve citizens' quality of life, increase the competitiveness of European cities and industry as well as to reach European energy and climate targets.

Read more here.















CECI Publications



These four CECI articles discuss the importance of citizen involvement in reducing textile waste. The series of articles refer to the Interreg Europe funded CECI – Citizen involvement in circular economy implementation project and the **CECI Circular Textiles survey**, that was carried out in summer 2021.

Authors:

CECI project partner Makesense: *Barbora Pichlova, Antoine Delaunay-Belleville* CECI project partner Regional Council of Päijät-Häme: *Johanna Snell and Maarit Virtanen* CECI lead partner LAB: *Marjut Villanen & Katerina Medkova*

Click here to read the 1st article: Involving citizen in textile recycling

Click here to read the 2nd article: Sustainability all the way from design and public procurement into recycling

Click here to read the 3rd article: Focusing on steps towards sustainable textiles

Click here to read the 4th article: Circular textiles require circular businesses CECI article discusses the importance of #citizeninvolvement in reducing #textilewaste. The article refers to the CECI #circulartextiles survey, that was carried out in summer 2021. @interregeurope @makesense @LABfinland #circulareconomy



labopen.fi Involving citizen in textile recycling | LAB Open This article discusses the importance of citizen involvement in reducing textile waste. The article refers to the Interreg Europe funded CECI – ...











CECI Good Practices









*	Citizens participate in circular economy by With Reiot monitoring service, citizens can measure living co quality, water and energy consumption of their household. Location: Etelä-Suomi, Finland (Suomi)		11/11/2021 ir
	Sustainable bicycle transportation in Lahti Lahti introduced 250 e-citybikes for citizens use to increase v and sustainability. The pilot period vas 1.931.10.2021. Location: Etelä-Suomi, Finland (Suomi)	vell-being, health, Project: CECI	09/11/2021
	Bioneer - improving the collection of biow. Bioneer is a new concept in collecting biowaste from detach concept utilizes a van and a garbage truck to make it enviror Location: Etelä-Suomi, Finland (Suomi)	ed houses. The	09/11/2021
	Co-developing lending services together w Peer-to-peer digital lending platform makes it easier to borro knowledge and skills within a community. Location: Etelä-Suomi, Finland (Suomi)		08/11/2021 re
Establecimientos doi prestar	Alargascencia - Achieving a sustainable soo Alargascencia is a directory of organizations where you can re barter and find or sell second-hand products. Location: Aragón, Spain (España)		03/11/2021 t,
	Sustainable fashion gives a second life to p The French company Awahi is raising public awareness, and waste collecting and recycling, through new sustainable text Location: Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, France	contributes to pla	22/10/2021 stic
	Local rubbish to raw material campaign The municipal rental housing company Lahden Talot are invi- which aims to reduce waste and increase recycling. Location: Etelä-Suomi, Finland (Suomi)	olved in a campaig Project: <mark>CECI</mark>	20/10/2021 gn,
	Our village for zero waste Determining the most appropriate model for the formation of tax, taking into account the generated waste in 200 househo Location: Югозападен, Bulgaria (България)		12/10/2021 2
* 5 • 12 70 41	Environmental awareness in Finnish ice ho The hockey team Pelicans plays for the Planet as the Pelican showcasing important environmental facts from Lahti. Location: Etelä-Suomi, Finland (Suomi)		06/10/2021 are
	How sports clubs and citizen can participa Phenix sport is a sportswear company that provides sports of tee shirts from sea waste and plastic equipment made from Location: Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, France	lubs with recycled	
1 2 3 4 5	6 Next		
CECI collects and shares good practices to inspire other regions in their adaptation and implementation			

Link to the good practices is found here.

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CECI News From Finland

... CECI Interreg Europe project @EuropeCECI · 9. syysk. Upcoming event! CECI lead partner @LABfinland is organizing a volunteering day, workers at LAB are encouraged to spend an hour or half a day volunteering in #Lahti, #Finland. Thus supporting a sense of community and doing good together. @@interregeurope

🗸 CECI XMAS party 🆄

Tarjolla on tutustumista Creation HQ tiloihin ja t sekä kahvittelua ja pientä jouluteemaista purtav

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- en keskustelun l seuraavista kiertotaloushankkeista
- Askel Kestävän asumisen palvelut yhdessä kehitt
- Maallemuuttajat 2030 Tekstiilit kiertoon Päijät-Hämeessä HIUKKA – Hius- ja karvakuitu hiilinieluna
- HIUKKA 2.0 Hius- ja muu orgaaninen kuitu muovin
- CECI Citizen involvement in circular economy ntation



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More than 100 employees participate in @LABfinland volunteering day. CECI lead partner picked up litter around the LAB campus in #Lahti 👉 🦾 💲 interregeurope.eu/ceci/news/news... #yhteistähyvää #commongood #vapaaehtoistoiminta #volunteering #voluntaryactivity @interregeurope

Lämpimästi tervetuloa!



FILLARIVERSTAS

CECI XMAS hybrid dissemination event in #lahti #paijathame #Finland ... sharing our experience & good practices on #citizens involvement in #circulareconomy over the cup of hot #glögi & traditional #joulutorttu & #piparit



At the same time, we are learning about other related regional projects.

























MECHELEN

CECI Partners Policy Overview



The @EuropeCECI Action Plan development in full speed. 14 experts & regional stakeholders from #paijathame are discussing the 3 focus areas: sustainable #textiles, housing & services, and #transportation. @interregeurope @LABfinland @PHIiitto @GreenLahti2021 @LahdenKaupunki



The development of the Circular Economy Solutions for Citizens of Päijät-Häme – Action Plan continues in Päijät-Häme region, Finland. A workshop to develop one of the themes, sustainable living, will be organized in the beginning of the year 2022. The workshop aims to advance the business models developed in Hackathon, sharing facility / optimizing the use of empty space, into a new project idea.

The new ERDF program period 2021-2027 will start soon, probably in November 2021, and the first call should take place in January 2022. ERDF promoting supports the transition to a circular economy, promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and disaster resilience, and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the advanced uptake of technologies. Objectives and priorities fit nicely with CECI theme. SO we are looking forward for new projects inspired by CECI.





Tweet!

@EuropeCECI

European Union European Regional Development Fund



CECI Partner Policy Overview





The Regional Council of Région Sud-Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur is working on its new SRDEII (Economic Development, Innovation and Internationalization Regional Roadmap) and Circular Economy Roadmap 2022-2024 that should be adopted in June 2022.

At the same time, the TRAJEC program, financed by the Region, will help 90 companies in the next two years to develop circular economy projects. These companies are working, for example, on textile and furniture reuse or recycling, local food, repair, biowaste, behaviour changes.

A new call for projects (My enterprise project) has also just been published to finance intermediate bodies for companies 'creation advisory. Questions on circular economy will be part of the services proposed.

New Good Practices from Région Sud



Sustainable fashion gives a second life to plastics

22/10/2021

The French company Awahi is raising public awareness, and contributes to plastic waste collecting and recycling, through new sustainable textiles.
Location: Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, France Project: CECI



How sports clubs and citizen can participate in...

30/09/2021

Phenix sport is a sportswear company that provides sports clubs with recycled tee shirts from sea waste and plastic equipment made from citizens' used textile. Location: Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, France Project: CECI













MSIC (Moravian-Silesian Innovation Centre), the CECI Partner from Ostrava, Czech Republic, became a member of IP LIFE for Coal Mining Landscape Adaptation-named **COALA** project this year. Our region's interest in the circular economy and related topics is rising. Thanks to this project and also the Just Transition Fund (JTF), we can create many projects and prepare such a region for change.

Another big step was the establishment of an nationwide action group focusing on textiles. It is the first initiative to bring together interested ministries, companies, start-ups and citizens to start working on the topic of textiles and what to do with it.

EnviRoadshow for Municipalities

One of the activities in the Action Plan for the Moravian-Silesian Region is **EnviRoadshow**. We have decided to pilot this activity since this year. EnviRoadshow is for cities and municipalities who want to share and/or gain new experiences with environmentally oriented projects/interventions.

The travelling events are for all representatives, enthusiasts, representatives of cities and municipalities who want to know what works reliably on environmentally oriented projects elsewhere. They will learn specific information that needs to be overcome, what steps the municipality or city had to take in order for projects to emerge.

This year, events took place in the village named Baška - they presented a project that aims to partition large blocks of arable land, which not only increases the diversity of the landscape but also supports biodiversity and water retention. Learn more and watch the new CECI video - **Inspirational Environmental Project click here.**

Other events await us in the village - Dobroslavice, where a group of active people from the Dobrovize Association, with the maximum involvement of local citizens, local associations, communities, advocated the establishment of an alley of fruit trees.

The town of Frýdek Místek created an online map of the town, as a way to keep track of places that can become better at managing the city's water or improving the urban landscape.

In the city of Krnov, a new Re-use centre will be opened, including an extraordinary car park "parking in the park", thus involving citizens in sharing economy activities.



















CECI Dissemination Event





One of the CECI project partners, **MSIC** (Moravian-Silesian Innovation Centre) in Ostrava, Czech Republic organized a regional dissemination event on 9.12.2021.

The theme of the event was the Christmas edition of SWAP & SEW: Upcycle textile waste into Christmas decorations.

The workshop was co-organized by the **Ostrava Expat Centre** and **Centre of Circular Fashion** (CCF) in Ostrava. CCF prepared the swap of clothes – altogether 4 racks of clothes hangers were available to choose from and even some men's goods.

Sewing machines were available on the spot, so participants could sew simple decorations and ornaments made out of textile waste, such as Christmas trees and flakes. Also, a lecture on textiles for the group of students was carried out. Altogether 15 people attended the event.

Upcycling is the transformation of no longer serving but still usable objects into new objects of either the same or different value.

Swapping is exchanging valued but no longer used clothing with others. It is considered as a an act of environmentalism.

Read more here.













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CECI Partners Policy Overview

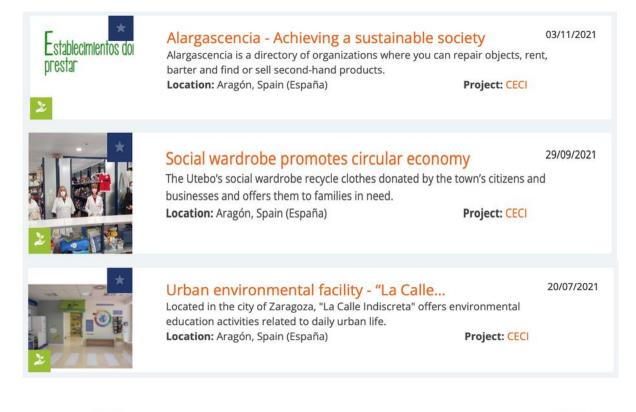
EWWR 2021 (European Week for Waste Reduction on 20-28.11.2021). Our CECI project partner in Spain, acted as an Coordinator of the project EWWR in Aragon. During the event, they have presented and promoted 5 short CECI videos related to circular economy and citizens with topics on: composting; electrical devices (café repair&waste collection points); textiles; paper and paperboard; and plastic, aluminium, bricks packaging. During this EWWR edition, the theme was Circular Communities.





Aragon's Action Plan (AP): the 5th regional stakeholder group meeting has focused on "action plan development". The first AP draft was presented, and stakeholders have actively participate in the process of building it up.

Aragon's New Good Practices













CECI Partners Policy Overview

On the 29.6.2021, the city of Mechelen, Belgium, had an inspiring local stakeholder meeting, bringing together some 50 participants to brainstorm around priority pilot actions, which are key to the development of the circular economy in Mechelen. Since then, ownership has been taken by specific stakeholders to further develop some of these actions, while the city is clustering and processing all of the input in order to have a clear-cut action plan with focus on citizen involvement ready by Spring 2022.

The intermediary draft has been presented to the Environmental and Climate Council in October, who added their input tot he formulation of the action plan. Mechelen's Circular Economy Action Plan will be adopted both as part of the local Climate Action Plan and the local Economic relaunch plan to realize integration within different policies. While the regional authority of Circular Flanders participates in this action planning process of the city, the city participates in the formulation of the work agenda's for the regional development of the circular economy.







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CECI Dissemination Event In Finland



CECI Christmas Party -**Promoting sharing and** circular economy through cooperation!

Happy reunions, making new acquaintances and a wintry morning full of talks about circular and sharing economy.

The CECI project's Finnish Christmas celebration brought together people interested in the circular and sharing economy and citizen involvement. The event was organized in the Creation HQ, the circular economy center for creative industries in Lahti.

Creation HQ is located in an old ski factory, that has former also served as a furniture factory. With Creation HQ, the premises have now received lots of new activities, e.g., a carpentry shop, a seamstress workshop, a program service company, and traditional paper maker who is using recycled material to create artistic paper products. The premises also include space for exhibitions and events.

The representatives of various circular and sharing economy projects were excited about the CECI Christmas meeting. Discussions with other actors and learning from others are good ways to develop existing activities and discover new ideas.

Read more here.







erjolla on tutustumista Creation HQ tilo ekä kahvittelua ja pientä jouluteemaista

- Askel Kestävän asumisen palvelut yhdessä kehittäen Maallemuuttaiat 2030
- Tekstillit kiertoon Päijät-Hämeessä HIUKKA Hius- ja karvakuitu hiilinieluna HIUKKA 2.0 Hius- ja muu orgaaninen kuitu muovin
- korvaajana CECI Citizen involvement in circular economy

Kuulumisten ja keskustelujen ohessa päivitetään samalla myös tietojamme mahdollisista uusista kiertotaloushankkeista ja ideoidaan yhdessä lisää.











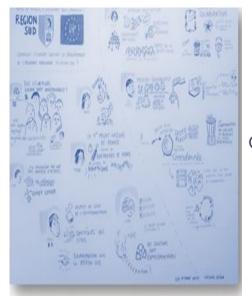






CECI Dissemination Event In Marseille











@europeCECI #circulareconomy

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www.interregeurope.eu/ceci/

@EuropeCECI

#circulareconomy

On 7.12.2021, the LIFE IP Smart Waste Project organised a whole day event dedicated to circular economy. This was the opportunity for the CECI Région Sud partner to present the CECI project to more than 100 persons and to share ideas and testimonies, at a round table, with 30 companies, public administrations, and associations about how a territory can develop more citizen involvement in circular economy projects.

Three other round tables were organised, about plastic waste management, cooperation between municipalities and the place of Europe for waste management.

Several drawings have been done to summarize this whole day (pictures on the left).

The whole video replay and presentations will soon be available **here**.





European Union European Regional Development Fund



CECI Project Reaching National News

Business Agency Association (BAA) in Varna organized on the 8th of May 2021, a live thematical dissemination event for citizens in Varna-The event reached national media attention. The Bulgarian bTV television attended on 11.10.2021, the CECI event: " From a polluted city to a green capital of Europe", in Varna. The interview was streamed at bTV televisions weekly TV show on their channel 17.10, in the programme: "The Green Future". The media coverage included a short interview with the Chairwoman of the Business Association, Silvia Agency Stumpf.

With over 540 views on youtube and streams on national television, the CECI project partner in Varna has made the CECI project known nationally. Furthermore, shared knowledge and inspire citizens to learn more about CECI interregional good practices and the circular economy. Read more here.



Click here and watch "The Green Future" news clip in Bulgarian on YouTube.













CECI Dissemination Event In Mechelen

M-fair circular and fair-trade event in Mechelen, Belgium, was filled with lots of circular economy presentations, a market with fair trade products from circular local designers. Including a swishing and swap shop, a second-hand market for kids clothes and gear. M-fair had around 800 to 1000 visitors throughout the day. Especially the market of local sustainable retailers and designers, the swishing and the second-hand market attracted a lot of people.

In a specific side event for retailers, Cosh! inspired the local retailers who are not yet choosing sustainable brands only yet with practical tips and tricks on how to screen brands on ethics, sustainability and circularity. They found it very interesting and now know what to do themselves in order to contribute to a cleaner and humane world. The Circular textile lab CiLab took spectators through an amazing journey of the first year of CiLab with the inspirational and entrepreneurial story of the people behind the lab (international story from Allepo to Mechelen) and all of the collaborations that the CiLab had throughout this year. Including collaborations with all kinds of educational training programmes throughout the region of Flanders to collaborations with international brands (Daily Paper) and promising designers (Mad Brussels) as well as one of the largest Belgian fashion labels JBC, for whom the circular textile lab has saved collections with defaults from ending up in the waste bin. Read more here.















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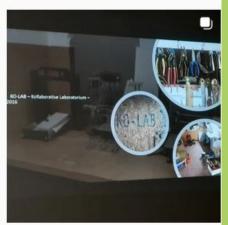






CECI project presented in the Circular Cities Solution









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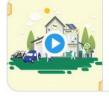
CECI Videos on YouTube



Interreg Europe @interregeurope · 11. elok.

Our project @EuropeCECI is urging citizens to help the bees by promoting the following good practices contributing to saving bees, circular economy and to a flourishing environment.

Watch their latest video:



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youtube.com

Saving bees with the help of CECI Good Practices CECI is urging citizens to help the bees by promoting the following good practices contributing to saving....

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15 videos 🕨

714 views -23.11.2021

1 CECI Interreg Europe project uudelleentwiittasi

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Moravskoslezské inovační centrum @MSIC_cz · 29. heinäk. Takto za nás vypadá inspirativní příklad dobré praxe cirkulární ekonomiky

Of the project of

#EuropeCECI #InterregCECI #citizeninvolvement in #circulareconomy



youtube.com

Škoda vyhodit. Vyřazené věci mohou dělat radost i… Použité, ale funkční. Taky jste někdy váhali, zdali vyhodit, darovat, nebo…? Často takové věci končí …



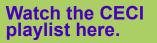
CECI Interreg Europe project @EuropeCECI · 11. elok. · · · CECI NEWS from CECI project partner @MSIC_cz Video presenting a CECI #goodpractice #reuse centre Ostrava II T & interregeurope.eu/ceci/news/news... @interregeurope #circulareconomy #sharingeconomy



interregeurope.eu

CECI Video Presenting Reuse Centre Ostrava

CECI project partner Moravskoslezské inovační centrum contributed a video presenting and introducing further a CECI good practice.







Inspirativní příklad environmentálního projektu v Novém Jičíně / Inspirational Environmental Project

















European Union European Regional Development Fund

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM CECI Interreg Europe





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