



Good practice: A step-by-step approach of the transition towards circular economy, case Romania

Research aimed to develop a Romanian model of closing the loop of product lifecycles through recycling and reuse, for the benefit of the environment and economy

SPOS 2018: The transition towards a circular economy. From waste management to a green economy in Romania

The main objective of this study is to reduce the existing knowledge gap regarding the use of waste in a circular model and to set the framework for transitioning to a circular economy model in Romania.

Romania has a low resource productivity, so it has to catch up with other EU countries by increasing resource efficiency and improving recycling rates of waste streams.

The study was focused on:

- analysing the European and national framework regarding the transition towards a circular economy;
- assessing the main implications at national level of the measures proposed by the EC in the circular economy package;
- identifying the stakeholders' role in the process of transition;
- displaying good practices at European and national level in circular economy;
- identifying the characteristics of the industrial symbiosis processes in the context of the circular economy;
- drafting a SWOT analysis of waste management in Romania;
- proposing tools and measures to increase the resource efficiency in Romania;
- proposing policy recommendations regarding the transition towards a circular economy in Romania.

The study was published on the website of the European Institute of Romania and is promoted through round tables and social media.

Main stakeholders: government and public authorities, research institutes, universities, NGOs, large companies, SMEs, etc.

Resources needed

This research is part of the Strategy and Policy Studies 2018 (SPOS) series, coordinated by the European Institute of Romania.

Budget (public funding) ~ 5000 euro

Working group ~ 20 representatives from ministries, national parliament and other local and national authorities.

Evidence of success

The collaborative component of the research was carried out through an interactive lab (Living Lab) to discuss the questionnaire about circular economy in Romania. The form was addressed both to the public and private sector, with the aim of starting a dialogue to identify solutions to common problems.

The information gathered through SWOT and questionnaire analysis, and from the discussions held within the Living Lab formed the core for elaborating the public policy recommendations.

Difficulties encountered

Limited time and resources.

Potential for learning or transfer

The study brings forward a step-by-step approach concerning the transition towards circular economy. It's a model according to EU Circular Economy Package. It includes 10 sections, 10 steps, that can be followed and adapted at national or regional level.

Moreover, the study is the first of its kind in Romania, and it represents a good starting point for other research initiatives and/or policy recommendations.

The study can be found at the following links:

http://ier.gov.ro/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Final_Studiul-3_Spos-2018_Economie-circular%C4%83-1.pdf or

<https://bit.ly/2TObmft> In Romanian with Executive Summary in English pp.15-21

http://ier.gov.ro/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/FINAL_VOLUM-SINTEZE-SPOS-2018_pt-site.pdf or <http://bit.ly/2UITOqf>

Bilingual short version in English (pp. 77-83) and Romanian.

Tags: Resource efficiency , circular economy , Policy , waste management , bio-based circular economy ,

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Project

BIOREGIO

Main institution

European Institute of Romania, EIR / Institutul European din Romania, IER

Location

București - Ilfov, Romania (România)

Start Date

May 2018

End Date

October 2018

Further information

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