

Join the CCRI Mentoring Programme Call for expression of interest

Background

Launched and funded by the EU as part of the Circular Economy Action Plan, the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI) focuses on implementing the circular economy across Europe's cities and regions. One of the key objectives is to support the implementation of circular systemic solutions, addressing different sectors and value chains, involving various actors, and tackling a variety of circularity issues (e.g. business models, regulatory impacts), as well as exerting influence in multiple fields (social, economic, and environmental).

About the CCRI Knowledge Hub

In January 2024 the CCRI Knowledge Hub was launched to support the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative. As its name suggests, it mostly acts as a knowledge hub, consolidating and expanding the knowledge base already available to the CCRI community and providing additional advisory support. The CCRI Knowledge Hub offers a wide range of instruments, including **easily accessible resources**, a **customised mentoring program**, and **effective awareness-raising** initiatives to help cities and regions transition to more sustainable and circular practices. It targets any European cities and regions – including those only starting their circularity transition.

Call for cities and regions

The CCRI is currently growing and as such, working towards deepening the support made available to its community. In this context, the CCRI Knowledge Hub is now launching its **Mentoring Programme** for cities and regions willing to advance their circular transition. As part of this new programme, selected cities and regions will benefit from tailored resources and expert guidance to help them navigate the complexities of transitioning to a circular economy.

The programme will start with a comprehensive diagnostic assessment of their current circular transition readiness. This assessment will be conducted using **CCRI Knowledge Hub's** own methodology, in line with the [CCRI methodology](#) as well as including some elements of the CCRI Self-Assessment Tool (developed by the CCRI Coordination and



Support Office) where applicable. This preliminary assessment is therefore key for identifying specific needs, challenges, and opportunities unique to each city or region. Based on this assessment, the appointed “mentor” of the CCRI team will co-design – together with stakeholders from each city or region – highly-tailored support pathways so that the assistance provided well meets beneficiaries’ needs and takes into consideration the specificities of their local context.

Beneficiary cities and regions will have the opportunity to seek expert mentoring and support across four key thematic areas: (i) **public engagement**, (ii) **innovation and technology**, (iii) **business models and financial support**, and (iv) **impact evaluation**.

In addition, they will be invited to a variety of **workshops, seminars, and events on circular economy**.

Who can participate in the CCRI Mentoring Programme?

The **CCRI Knowledge Hub** welcomes a diverse range of cities and regions, encouraging participation from all locations and backgrounds to foster a vibrant, inclusive community. Cities and regions already receiving support from the CCRI Coordination and Support Office as [Pilots](#) are not eligible to participate in this CCRI Mentoring Programme. The objective is to enlarge the CCRI community and welcome newcomers.

Why participate in the CCRI Knowledge Hub support pathways?

Becoming part of the CCRI mentoring programme offers a unique opportunity to enhance your understanding of the circular economy and gain the support necessary for a successful transition. You should consider applying if:

- € You seek to deepen your knowledge and accelerate the implementation of circular economy practices and strategies.
- € You are committed to advancing circularity but require further guidance on planning and implementing this transition.
- € You are in the early stages of your circular economy journey and need structured support.
- € You are more specifically looking for expert assistance across the four key dimensions of the CCRI Knowledge Hub: public engagement, innovation and technology, business models and financial support, and impact evaluation.

How to express your interest?



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To express your interest in receiving tailored support and mentorship, please send us your **Expression of Interest** through this [online form](#). We will need the contact information of your organisation, and a Letter of Interest signed.

The CCRI Knowledge Hub team will reach out to inform you about the outcome of your application.

Deadline for submission: 15th of December 2024

Contacts:

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