

Building materials – Progress towards a circular economy

Circular Impacts Workshop

7 December 2017

14:00 – 16:30

Venue: Energy Climate House, CEPS

Place du Congrès 1, 1000 Brussels

The European Commission identifies construction and demolition waste (CDW) as one of the “heaviest and most voluminous waste streams generated” since it is responsible for 25% - 30% of all waste generated in the EU. Recovery rates differ widely among Member States; the Netherlands has achieved a recovery rate of around 95%, while in France only approximately 55% of CDW is recovered. Concrete makes up a large portion of this waste and despite what many people often think, is recyclable.

This workshop will discuss the opportunities of increased concrete recycling along with the expected economic, social and environmental impacts. The workshop aims for participants to exchange views and their knowledge of best practices in this sector. Preliminary results from a case study on possible future developments for concrete recycling in France will also be shared, as part of the Circular Impacts project.

The Circular Impacts project (<http://circular-impacts.eu/>) has the objective to develop an assessment based on existing data and indicators of the macro-economic, societal, environmental and labour market impacts of a successful transition to a circular economy. The assessment should support the European Commission in its discussions with the Member States on progress in the circular economy transition.

Agenda¹

13:00 – 14:00 Registration & light lunch

14:00 – 15:00 Session 1: Introduction to the challenge and the impacts of the transition

14:00 – 14:05 Welcome by **Aaron Best**, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute

14:05 – 14:20 Keynote speech provided by **Vincent Basuyau**, Policy Officer, DG GROW, European Commission

14:20 – 14:30 A case study on concrete recycling in France: Preliminary results from Circular Impacts research work by **Laurens Duin**, Ecologic Institute

14:30 – 15:00 Q&A

15:00 – 16:30 Session 2: The transition to sustainable building materials for a circular economy: Industry and research perspectives

15:00 – 15:05 Introduction to the session by chair **Aaron Best**, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute

15:05 – 15:15 **Brian James**, MPA Director Region, Mineral Products Association

15:15 – 15:25 **Marie Pairon**, Head of Unit, ICEDD

15:25 – 15:35 **Ola Wik**, Environmental Chemist, AF, Infrastructure Division (tbc)

15:35 – 15:45 **Ann-Cathrin Rönsch**, Policy Officer – Energy & Environment, EBC-Construction

15:45 – 15:55 **Jacques Roudier**, President, IREX (tbc)

15:45 – 16:25 Panel discussion followed by open discussion with Q&A

16:25 – 16:30 Concluding comments by **Aaron Best**

16:30 End of meeting

¹ As of 13th November 2017.