

CIRCULAR PATHWAYS- A POLICY BRIEF FOR KOSOVO'S TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

POLICY BRIEF



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Introduction and background

Humans have been reliant on fossil fuels and finite resources since the First Industrial Revolution in the 1700s.¹ Coal, water, and steam were used to power large-scale manufacturing, moving the world away from small-scale localised farming. The Second Industrial Revolution harnessed the power of electricity and petrol, ensuring the world's reliance on finite resources. The development of digital communications ushered in the Third Industrial Revolution in the 1950s. It has now been suggested that the world is entering its Fourth Industrial Revolution. The fourth age will “bring us smart cities that reduce poverty and enhance standards of living, **sustainable energy sources, environmental protection**, more inclusive government process, social cohesiveness, and collaboration, and make us healthier”.²

Sustainable energy sources and environmental protection should certainly be a priority in the new age following centuries of reliance on natural resources and the growth of a linear economy. By relying on the wasteful take–make–dispose of flow, the linear economy “is detrimental to the environment, cannot supply the growing populace of our planet with essential services and it naturally leads to strained profitability”.³

As sustainable development has become a matter of urgency, moving towards a circular economy is increasingly essential.

Some countries have begun to make progress in sustainable development by focusing on circular economy methods and enacting measures to challenge issues related to the linear economy such as resource depletion and pollution. The Republic of Kosovo and the Western Balkan region, however, have made little or no progress at all.

As other countries shift toward circular economies to address sustainability issues, alarm bells should be ringing for all responsible stakeholders in Kosovo. This paper aims to address this status quo, identify problems that are inhibiting circular economy development in the Republic of Kosovo, identify stakeholders and their responsibilities and recommend actions necessary to catch up.

Given the urgent need for sustainable development, embracing a circular economy is increasingly imperative. Many countries have already begun making progress by adopting circular economy practices and implementing measures to address resource depletion and pollution associated with the linear economy. However, the Republic of Kosovo and the Western Balkan region have lagged, showing minimal or no progress at all.

As the world shifts towards circular economies to tackle sustainability challenges, responsible stakeholders in Kosovo must recognize the pressing need for change. This policy brief aims to address the current status quo, identify the barriers hindering circular economy development in the Republic of Kosovo, analyze the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, and provide recommendations for necessary actions to catch up with global circular economy advancements.

¹ Nicolas Davis, “What is the fourth industrial revolution”, World Economic Forum, 19 January 2016, accessed 11 May 2022. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/what-is-the-fourth-industrial-revolution/>.

² Gulandam Khan and Dean Isreb, “101: 1,2,3... Here comes the 4th Industrial Revolution”, PWC, 7 August 2018, accessed 11 May 2022. <https://www.pwc.com.au/digitalpulse/fourth-industrial-revolution-guide.html>.

³ Furkan Sariati, “Linear Economy Versus Circular Economy: A Comparative and Analyzer Study for Optimization of Economy for Sustainability”, *Visgrad Journal on Bioeconomy and Sustainable Development*, January 2017, DOI:10.1515/vjbsd-2017-0005.

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I. Circular Economy in Kosovo

The effects of the global climate crisis are becoming clearer and as a result, discussions regarding the circular economy have increased in frequency. Unlike the linear model, a circular economy would ensure that waste is eliminated; everything consumed can be repurposed to create an economic model “designed to benefit businesses, society, and the environment”.⁴ The circular economy may prove to be able to deliver tangible benefits and the capability to address the economic, environmental, and social consequences of a linear economy.

Transitioning to a circular economy is widely believed to be a key initiative to reversing climate change. Elements of plausible solutions to climate change have “been around for decades, although they have only recently been compiled into the conceptual framework of [a] circular economy”.⁵ The ideological conception of the circular economy first emerged in the 1960s and 1970s when academics proposed ‘closed’ loops to facilitate an end to industrial and consumer waste.⁶ The ideas regarding circular production developed in the following decades. In 2010, the Ellen Macarthur Foundation was founded with the mission to achieve a global circular economy. Their 2013 publication ‘Toward the Circular Economy’ produced the celebrated ‘butterfly’ diagram, explaining how a circular economy could be achieved, helping to bring the circular economy into mainstream discussions.

Academic interest in the circular economy has therefore increased in recent years and is an important concept for science, business, governments, and above all, institutions such as the United Nations and the European Union. In 2015, the UN adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Growth which aimed to improve lives across the globe “all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.”⁷ Although the concept of a ‘circular economy’ is not directly named in the agenda, it is relevant to the majority of the Sustainable

⁴ Ellen Macarthur Foundation, “The Circular Economy in Detail”, Ellen Macarthur Foundation Archive, accessed 11 May 2022. <https://archive.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/explore/the-circular-economy-in-detail>.

⁵ Sariatli, “Linear Economy”, 31.

⁶ P Ekins., Domenech, T., Drummond, P., Bleischwitz, R., Hughes, N. and Lotti, L. (2019), “The Circular Economy: What, Why, How and Where”, Background paper for an OECD/EC Workshop on 5 July 2019 within the workshop series “Managing environmental and energy transitions for regions and cities”, Paris, 4.

⁷ United Nations, “The 17 Goals”, United Nations, accessed 11 May 2022. <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.

Development Goals, particularly, SDG 12: ‘Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns’.⁸

Whilst the 2030 Agenda also focuses on health and well-being, the European Union approved the European Green Deal in 2020 which focuses on policy initiatives that aim to make the EU climate neutral by 2050.⁹ The goals are clear: reduce of pollution, shift from a linear to a circular economy, and ensure inclusivity. To achieve the aims of the European Green Deal, the EU plan to mobilize at least €1 trillion in sustainable development investments over the next decade.¹⁰

All countries in the Western Balkan Six are candidates to join the EU. Following the European Green Deal, the Sofia Declaration was signed on 10th November 2020. The Declaration ensured the WB6’s commitment to adopting a new climate strategy, including a commitment to “the process of transition from linear to a circular economy”.¹¹ The following year, the WB6 agreed to implement the Green Agenda Action Plan which set the framework for the coordination and implementation of the Sofia Declaration.¹² The Action Plan consists of five pillars: decarbonization, **circular economy**, depollution, sustainable agriculture, and protection of nature and biodiversity. As a result of this regional cooperation, the European Commission initiated the ‘Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans’. The plan aims to encourage economic recovery ‘backed by a green and digital transition’. Up to €9 billion in grants and €20 billion in investments could be made available for the region.¹³

The Republic of Kosovo has therefore committed to the Sofia Declaration and Green Agenda Action Plan, which suggests there is a genuine commitment to moving toward sustainable development and adapting a circular economy. Despite promised funding and support, there are, however, some slow steps being taken as the Republic of Kosovo assumes an active role in working toward the Green Agenda Action Plan, or the circular economy more specifically. However, it should be mentioned that the Ministry of Environment, Infrastructure and Spatial Planning has launched the Circular Economy Roadmap in 2023¹⁴. The guide will serve as a starting point for all actors, to be tougher later with deeper reforms for all sectors. The circular economy, as a notion, in terminology, method, or as a practice, is not included in current Kosovo legislation.¹⁵ In their 2020 country-specific report, the Advocacy Training and Resource Centre wrote that “circular economy initiatives are scattered in some private sector companies’ initiatives, in superficial discussions by non-governmental organizations, and with a deficient vision from the

⁸ United Nations, “The 17 Goals”, United Nations, accessed 11 May 2022. <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.

⁹ European Commission, “A European Green Deal”, accessed 11 May 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en.

¹⁰ European Commission, “The European Green Deal Investment Plan and Just Transition Mechanism Explained” accessed 11 May 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_20_24.

¹¹ Regional Cooperation Council, “Sofia Declaration on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans”, <file:///C:/Users/Fujitsu/Downloads/Leaders%20Declaration%20on%20the%20Green%20Agenda%20for%20the%20WB.pdf>.

¹² Regional Cooperation Council, “Action Plan for the Implementation of the Sofia Declaration on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans 2021 – 2030”, accessed 11 May 2022, <https://balkangreenenergynews.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/GAWB-ACTION-PLAN-Final-04.10.2021.pdf>.

¹³ European Commission, “An Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans”, Brussels, 6 October 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/system/files/2020-10/communication_on_wb_economic_and_investment_plan_october_2020_en.pdf.

¹⁴ “Circular Economy Roadmap of Kosovo” Ministry of Environment, Infrastructure and Spatial Planning accessed 25 July 2023, <https://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/en/strategies/circular-economy-roadmap-kosovo>

¹⁵ Sejdi Kryeziu, “Circular Economy Country Specific Report”, ATRC Kosovo, November 2020, 5.

government to develop this system in the country”.¹⁶ Another factor inhibiting the development of a circular economy is that it is not a widely known concept; a 2019 survey found that more than 60% of those surveyed either had no knowledge of the circular economy or they did not remember.¹⁷ To successfully implement a circular economy in Kosovo, the topic must be brought to the forefront of public discussions.

Non-Governmental Organizations operating in Kosovo have made attempts to address issues related to sustainability and the circular economy. Perhaps the most noted event is the Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW), which brings together in discussion tables, NGOs, relevant Ministries, other public institutions, private sector, academia, international experts and citizens, as mentioned in the CE Roadmap in Kosovo, plays vital role in driving the transition to a circular economy. In 2021, the events of KSDW were attended by 1000 participants. The 2021 edition produced a list of recommendations to encourage sustainable development in the region. To develop the circular economy, KSDW recommended: “drafting a well-detailed national healthcare waste management plan and an action plan in order to minimize the environmental and public health impacts from the healthcare waste, increasing the number of inspectors, enhancing stakeholder coordination in central and local level, establishing the Deposit Refund System and Extended Producer Responsibility, etc.”¹⁸

However, these recommendations focus more on improving recycling and waste management rather than on developing a circular economy. The two are often confused but are not interchangeable.¹⁹ The Ellen MacArthur Foundation explains: “Recycling begins at the end - the ‘get rid’ stage of a product’s lifecycle. The circular economy, however, goes right back to the beginning to prevent waste and pollution from being created in the first place”.²⁰ To further develop both waste management and the circular economy in Kosovo, a clearer distinction should be made between the two as well as better implemented legislation and public awareness.

In March 2023, the circular economy roadmap was officially launched in Kosovo, with a comprehensive plan that identifies six priority areas for transitioning towards a circular economy. This plan demonstrates that Kosovo has the potential to progress in this direction, especially in the sustainable management of natural resources, utilizing the creativity of its relatively young population, and improving industrial efficiency.

The objective of this paper is to raise awareness about the importance of the circular economy as one of the building blocks in all initiatives related to sustainability. Increased public support for circular economy developments may place pressure on the Government of the Republic of Kosovo to take legislative action. Moreover, the paper should be aimed at the civil society within Kosovo. The successful transition to a sustainable circular economy cannot be achieved solely by the contributions of these stakeholders. It heavily relies on the active involvement of the private sector in adopting circular business models, citizens embracing sustainable consumption patterns,

¹⁶ Sejdi Kryeziu, “Circular Economy Country Specific Report”, ATRC Kosovo, November 2020, 5.

¹⁷ Annea Hapçiu, *Circular Economy in Kosovo: Perceptions and Knowledge of Circular Economy Among Kosovars*, News Agency, KosovaLive, 2019, 4.

¹⁸ “KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2021: Recommendations & Conclusions”, KSDW, accessed 11 May 2022, <https://ksdw.rks-gov.net/recommendations#kosovo-sustainable-development-week-ksdw-2021-recommendations-amp-conclusions>.

¹⁹ Irina Torres, “The difference between circular economy and recycling”, Okocentrisk, accessed 11 May 2022, <https://www.okocentrisk.dk/blog/the-difference-between-circular-economy-and-recycling>.

²⁰ EMF, “Recycling and the circular economy: what’s the difference?”, accessed 11 May 2022, <https://ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/articles/recycling-and-the-circular-economy-whats-the-difference#:~:text=Recycling%20is%20the%20action%20or,created%20in%20the%20first%20place>.

and benefiting from EU funds to foster innovation within their entities, while demanding accountability from both central and local institutions. By encouraging these groups to place the circular economy on their agendas, action may be taken more quickly and public awareness can be boosted.

Finally, this paper aims to encourage local academic interest in the application of the circular economy in the region. If there is an incentive to study and introduce research on the circular economy amongst the above-mentioned stakeholders in the Republic of Kosovo, international institutions may mobilize their resources to further develop sustainable development in Kosovo.

II. Policy solutions and instruments for a successful circular economy in Kosovo

The circular economy is in a development stage in Kosovo, due to the lack of public policy and public awareness. The opportunities that the Sofia Declaration and Green Agenda Action Plan may bring to Kosovo make adapting to a circular economy model vital for a sustainable and prosperous future. To achieve this, Kosovo can take the following actions:

1. **Effective Implementation of Kosovo's Circular Economy Roadmap** – to effectively implement the CE Roadmap launched recently, it is crucial to enact supportive legislation and policies, including action plans for line Ministries, that can foster innovation and guide institutions away from the linear economy and towards a circular economy.
2. **Raising awareness and shaping the behavior of the public towards a circular economy**- should be a task shared between Civil Society and Academia. Civil Society should host events and campaigns focused on promoting the importance of circular economies. Academia should urgently introduce circular economy lessons within all educational institutions and produce comprehensive literature accordingly. Educational watchdogs should require universities in the process of course certifications to include the circular economy in their curricula.
3. **Introduce financial and non-financial incentives for businesses** that are working to introduce a circular economy model into their production process. This could include green bonds, investment funds for circular startups and incentives for circular projects. These incentives can motivate the private sector to transition towards circular products, services, and solutions.
4. **Develop Circular Design Guidelines and Standards:** Collaborate with private sector experts, designers, and manufacturers to establish comprehensive guidelines and standards for circular product design. These guidelines should encourage the use of recyclable and eco-friendly materials, and modular and repairable designs, and promote strategies such as remanufacturing and product life extension. Kosovo Agency for Standardization should take the lead in coordinating this effort, working hand in hand with private sector entities and relevant organizations.
5. **Foster Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing:** Facilitate partnerships between businesses, academia, research institutions, and government agencies to encourage knowledge exchange and collaborative projects focused on circular economy principles. Establish platforms for sharing best practices, case studies, and success stories to inspire and educate stakeholders on the benefits and opportunities of circular business models.

6. **Support Circular Supply Chains:** Develop initiatives to enhance the collaboration and integration of supply chains in Kosovo, promoting circular practices such as reverse logistics, waste reduction, and resource optimization. Encourage the adoption of circular procurement practices by public and private sector organizations to create a demand for circular products and stimulate the development of circular supply networks.
7. **Strengthen Waste Management Infrastructure:** Invest in modern waste management infrastructure, including recycling facilities, composting sites, and waste-to-energy plants. Implement effective waste collection systems and promote separate waste streams for recyclables, organics, and hazardous materials. This infrastructure should be complemented by awareness campaigns to educate the public on proper waste sorting and disposal practices.
8. **Develop Circular Economy Incubators and Hubs:** Establish dedicated incubators and innovation hubs focused on circular economy principles. These centers can provide resources, mentorship, and networking opportunities for entrepreneurs and startups aiming to develop circular business models. They can also serve as platforms for collaboration and testing of circular innovations.
9. **Implement Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programs:** Introduce legislation and regulations that mandate producers to take responsibility for the entire lifecycle of their products, including collection, recycling, or safe disposal. EPR programs can incentivize producers to design products with circularity in mind and reduce the environmental impact of their goods.
10. **Encourage Sharing and Collaborative Consumption:** Promote sharing economy platforms and initiatives that enable the sharing, renting, and leasing of products and services instead of individual ownership. Encourage the establishment of sharing schemes for high-value assets such as tools, appliances, and vehicles, reducing resource consumption and promoting a culture of access over ownership.

Effective Implementation of Kosovo's Circular Economy Roadmap - To successfully implement Kosovo's Circular Economy Roadmap, it is essential to develop and set comprehensive policies, laws, and support mechanisms, while aligning with the EU Green Deal guidelines. The legislative development should follow the roadmap launched in March 2023, ensuring the inclusion of circular economy concepts and terminology to facilitate and incentivize both for-profit and non-profit entities contributing to the circular economy. Relevant ministries can undertake this legislative work, utilizing existing expertise in writing and/or transposing legislation, without significant financial implications. Additionally, updating the existing procurement law (Law No. 04/L-042) can be an effective approach, offering advantages to goods and services providers that adhere to circular economy principles, motivating producers, businesses, and stakeholders to embrace circular practices.

One pivotal aspect of the implementation strategy is the introduction of a Deposit Refund Scheme, encouraging consumers to return used products or packaging for recycling or proper disposal in exchange for a refund. This measure will foster a circular mindset among citizens and drive increased recycling rates. Furthermore, fostering collaboration among various stakeholders, including government agencies, businesses, academia, civil society, and international partners, is crucial to create a thriving circular ecosystem. Such collaboration will facilitate knowledge sharing, resource pooling, and the co-creation of innovative circular solutions.

Raising awareness and shaping the behaviour of the public towards circular economy-can be delivered by Non-Governmental Organisations and Educational Institutions. Educating the public on the circular economy is incredibly important. Introducing the circular economy in educational institutions is highlighted by the EU's Green Education: "The European Union is encouraging the education and training sector to take action to contribute to the green transition and to strengthen the sustainability competences of all learners."²¹ Moreover, it has been noted that universities "play a primary role in propelling circular economy approaches into reality", which can encourage sustainable thinking and development.²² Educational watchdogs should require universities in the process of course certifications to include the circular economy into their curricula.

With a direct link to society, NGOs, think tanks and the media are vital to the promotion of new ideas, innovations and technologies. They can promote circular economy strategies both in private and public sectors and raise awareness about environmental issues and the solutions.²³ Non-Governmental Organizations can obtain funds from various international institutions operating in the Republic of Kosovo. Funds are also available under the EU Green Deal for the purpose of raising awareness.²⁴

These options are not difficult to adapt. They should not have substantial financial implications and whilst certain funds are necessary for success, opportunities are available to obtain generous funds.

Introduce financial and non-financial incentives for businesses-

Providing incentives whether financial or non-financial is a must, and an integral part of developing a circular economy. Incentives will certainly motivate businesses to embark onto circular economy, and build upon more robust employment in the Republic of Kosovo. The World Business Council for Sustainable Development argues that "different incentives can encourage stakeholders to adjust their current ways of thinking and acting, moving to a more circular approach. Such incentives should not only focus on financial support but also on non-financial measures that unleash market opportunities for circular products, services and business models (such as green public procurement)."²⁵

Additionally, leveraging the country's start-up scene in the sustainability and creativity fields can enable companies from the creative sector to access international support through funding and projects. By providing such incentives and support, businesses will be encouraged to embrace circular choices, leading to long-term sustainability, economic benefits, and enhanced resilience. Additionally, fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration and leveraging the growth of IT and

²¹ European Commission, "Green education initiatives", accessed 11 May 2022, <https://education.ec.europa.eu/es/node/1745>.

²² Ben Nunes et al, "University Contributions to the Circular Economy: Professing the Hidden Curriculum", *Sustainability* 10 (8), August 2018, 1.

²³ "The circular future of GCC Petrochemicals", Kearney, accessed 11 May 2022, <https://www.kearney.com/chemicals/article/?/a/the-circular-future-of-gcc-petrochemicals>.

²⁴ "Raising awareness of circular and sustainable bio-economy", Funds for NGOs, accessed 11 May 2022, <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/raising-awareness-of-circular-and-sustainable-bio-economy/>.

²⁵ World Business Council For Sustainable Development, "Policy Enablers to accelerate the circular economy", 6, https://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/sites/default/files/wbcsd_policy_enablers_to_accelerate_the_circular_economy.pdf.

digitalization as enablers of circularity and innovation will further drive the circular economy transition.

Recommendation

To successfully advance circular economy practices in Kosovo, a set of targeted recommendations and actions are necessary. This section presents a concise summary of the key recommendations, accompanied by a table outlining specific deadlines for their implementation. These recommendations are designed to address the unique challenges faced by Kosovo in transitioning to a circular economy, while also capitalizing on the opportunities presented by the Sofia Declaration and Green Agenda Action Plan. Each recommendation is justified by its potential to drive sustainable development, enhance resource efficiency, and foster a prosperous future for Kosovo. By implementing these recommendations within the specified timelines, Kosovo can make significant strides towards realizing the benefits of a circular economy and position itself as a leader in sustainable practices.

It is of crucial importance that the Republic of Kosovo undertakes solid steps towards developing a circular economy. The Government of the Republic of Kosovo should mobilise expertise from relevant institutions, build adequate cross-sectional teams, and provide or gain necessary funds to achieve this. It's paramount that the Republic of Kosovo, despite its small budget and other priorities, demonstrates its commitment to the circular economy as a matter of political, economic, and social well-being, but also as a true believer in sustainable development.

Developing policies, laws, and other support mechanisms, could follow up the circular roadmap. This can circumvent any duplicate work in relation to the study and classification of EU legislation already introduced and implemented by member countries, for the purposes of transposing them to relevant Kosovo legislation.

Activities towards ***raising awareness and shaping public behaviour towards the circular economy***, an option to be spearheaded by NGO's and Educational Institutions, can be developed alongside and at the same pace as the circular economy roadmap.

The ***Institute for Circular Economy in Kosovo*** could be quite challenging to establish due specialist knowledge required. Nevertheless, this should not be a reason to discard this option as knowledge can be obtained from within the region and the wider world. To successfully establish the Institute for Circular Economy, the following steps can be taken: conducting a thorough needs assessment, investing in capacity building and training programs for local experts, forging partnerships with renowned international institutions, conducting research and knowledge-sharing activities with other countries, developing educational programs to raise awareness, advocating for supportive policies, engaging with businesses to encourage adoption, and considering the institute as a circular innovation hub. By embracing a collaborative and knowledge-sharing approach, the Institute for Circular Economy can overcome challenges and play a pivotal role in driving the circular economy transition in Kosovo, fostering sustainable development, and enhancing the nation's resilience to environmental challenges.

The most difficult option to implement is ***the introduction and provision of financial and non-financial incentives for businesses*** that engage in circular economy methods. This may be

expensive to fund directly from the government budget. This should not stop the relevant authorities from brainstorming and formulating incentives that may be used at later stages. The green procurement legislation could be introduced as the first non-financial measure of incentivising.

Additionally, the government, could introduce financial incentives such as involve offering grants, low-interest loans, or tax benefits to companies that incorporate circular design principles, prioritize eco-friendly materials, and implement extended producer responsibility initiatives. Moreover, creating a supportive regulatory framework and offering tailored assistance to circular start-ups and projects will foster a thriving circular business ecosystem.

Public-private partnerships could be instrumental in driving the circular economy transition. Collaboration between the government, businesses, and non-governmental organizations can facilitate the development of circular value chains, circular procurement practices, and joint circular projects. Moreover, raising public awareness about the benefits of the circular economy and sustainable consumption can lead to increased demand for circular products and services, further driving the circular market.

The successful implementation of a circular economy in Kosovo requires a range of strategic actions and initiatives. This section presents a comprehensive table outlining the key recommendations for advancing circular economy practices in the country. Each recommendation is accompanied by its linkage to the Green Agenda, which serves as a regional framework for sustainable development in the Western Balkans, and its alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The recommendations cover various aspects, including policy development, awareness-raising, incentives, collaboration, waste management, and innovation. By integrating these recommendations into Kosovo's sustainability agenda, the country can make significant progress in transitioning towards a circular economy, fostering resource efficiency, reducing waste, and achieving sustainable development goals.

Summary of recommendations and their relevance to the green agenda and SDG framework

| Recommendation | Link to Green Agenda | Link to SDG Framework |
|--|--|---|
| <p>1. Relevant Institutions, Central Government, and Local Authorities should develop and set policies, laws, and other support mechanisms, including a green public procurement law in alignment with the Circular Economy Roadmap in Kosovo</p> | <p>Objective: Establish a supportive legal framework and mechanisms for circular practices</p> | <p>Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, Goal 13: Climate Action Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions</p> |
| <p>2. Raising awareness and shaping the behaviour of the public towards circular economy</p> | <p>Objective: Raise public awareness and promote behavioural change towards circular economy practices</p> | <p>Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, Goal 13: Climate Action</p> |
| <p>3. Introduce financial and non-financial incentives for businesses that are working to introduce a circular economy model</p> | <p>Objective: Motivate businesses to adopt circular practices through incentives</p> | <p>Goal 9, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production</p> |
| <p>4. Develop Circular Design Guidelines and Standards</p> | <p>Objective: Promote circular product design and manufacturing practices</p> | <p>Goal 9, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production</p> |
| <p>5. Foster Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing</p> | <p>Objective: Facilitate collaboration and knowledge exchange among stakeholders</p> | <p>Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals</p> |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 6. Support Circular Supply Chains | Objective: Enhance collaboration and integration of circular supply chains | Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production |
| 7. Strengthen Waste Management Infrastructure | Objective: Improve waste management systems and infrastructure | Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities |
| 8. Develop Circular Economy Incubators and Hubs | Objective: Establish centres to support circular economy start-ups and innovation | Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals |
| 9. Implement Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programs | Objective: Mandate producers to take responsibility for the entire lifecycle of their products | Goal 9, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production |
| 10. Encourage Sharing and Collaborative Consumption | Objective: Promote sharing economy platforms and collaborative consumption models | Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure |

