

Volume 1 | Issue 1
May 2023

Circular B

Implementation of the Circular Economy to the Built Environment

First things first

Welcome to the first newsletter from *CircularB*. It is our expectation to publish this bi-annually.

Launch Meeting, October 2022

The launch meeting of the Action took place at the COST Office in Brussels at the end of October 2022. More than 50 persons attended representing 33 countries who formed the Management Committee. Prof. Luís Bragança, University of Minho, Portugal, was elected to the Chair of the Management Committee, while Prof. Meri Cvetkovska of Cyril and Methodius University, North Macedonia was elected vice chair.



Participants in the first meeting in Brussels.

The working group leaders appointed were:

WG1

Prof. Daniel-Viorel Ungureanu, leader
Dr Katerina Tsikaloudaki, co-leader

WG2

Prof. Diana Bajara, leader
Dr Gabriel Zsembinszki, co-leader

WG3

Prof. Helena Gervásio, leader
Ms Rand Askar, co-leader

WG4

Prof. Philip Griffiths, leader
Ms Adriana Salles, co-leader





Highlights from the first Workshop: papers presentations, Working Group Meetings, and the Group Photo

*What have been done
so far?*

Workshop 1 – Skopje, April 2023

Our first workshop was held in Skopje, North Macedonia at the end of April. The event was an enormous success, and we are proud to have brought together such a wonderful group!

Over the course of the workshop, 32 papers were presented. The topics ranged from circular materials and building products to digitalization and tools to enhance circularity.

We welcomed more than 40 participants in person, who joined us to engage in lively discussions and exchange ideas. The atmosphere was very positive, and we were delighted to see such a strong interest in the topics presented. In addition to our on-site attendees, we were pleased to have an online audience tuning in from several countries, expanding the reach of our workshop beyond the walls of our venue.

We also want to mention that the workshop was not just about academic discussions and presentations. It was also an opportunity for our participants to connect and network with one another. We had a great time during the lunches and dinners, where everyone could enjoy delicious local cuisine and get to know each other in a more relaxed and informal setting.

Overall, our first workshop was a huge success, and we are already looking forward to the next one. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to all our presenters, attendees, and supporters for making this event possible. We hope to see you in Seville for our Workshop 1 – Part 2!

Grants

We have been awarded a total of five grants to provide support for research and collaboration within our community. Out of the five grants awarded, four were given to Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs), enabling our members to undertake important research trips and collaborations with colleagues in different countries. We are excited to see the results of these missions and the valuable contributions they will make to our field. In addition, we have also been awarded one grant for an Inclusiveness Target Countries Conference (ITC) grant.

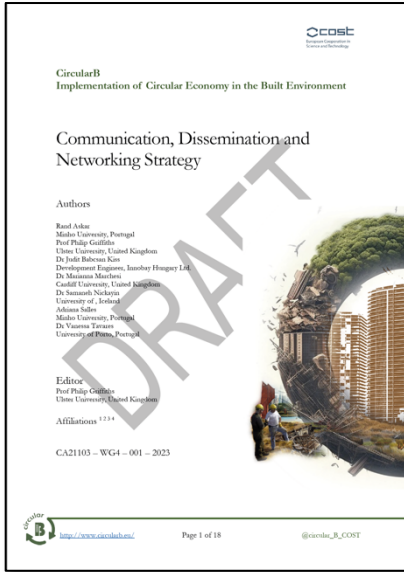
We would like to extend our warmest congratulations to all the grant recipients and wish them every success in their research and collaborations. We are proud to support the work of our members in this way and look forward to seeing the results of their efforts.

Deliverables

The Communication and Dissemination Strategy (Deliverable 1) for the COST Action was presented to the Management Committee at the Skopje meeting. After the workshop, the document was sent to the MC approval, which was approved and launched in the e-COST Platform. The members are now working on Deliverable 2, the Start of the Art, which is due for publication in October 2023.

Glossary of Terms

We are working on a Glossary of terms for the Action. The first version is published on our website, and now we would like to translate it into different languages, taking advantage of having 38 different countries participating in our Action.



What comes next?

Working Group Meeting in Guimarães

On the 19th of June, we will have a hybrid meeting in Guimarães, Portugal. This meeting is dedicated to the Working Groups coming together, sharing ideas, and discussing Deliverable 2.

Workshop 1 – Part 2

From the 12th to the 14th of September, we will meet again, this time in Seville, Spain for our Workshop 1 – Part 2.

Next Newsletter

Our next newsletter is due to be circulated in October/November 2023. If you have an item for the newsletter, please get in contact with us, via the website, www.circularB.eu. We welcome notices of conferences, seminars, special focus journal editions, which have a focus upon the circular economy in the built environment.

Editors:

Adriana Salles and Philip Griffiths