

DECEMBER, 2025

Volume 6 | Issue 1

Circular B - CA 21103

NEWSLETTER



ReSBE ReShaping the Built Environment
through Sustainability and Circularity

2026

20-23 of October, 2026
Thessaloniki, Greece

Editors : Philip Griffiths and
Adriana Salles | WG4

Welcome to the sixth newsletter

We are now preparing for the last year of our Action. At first, let's have an overlook on the third Grant Period.

This year, we discussed Circular Business Models, how to bridge theory and practice, we heard from the industry and we are now looking for the future of circularity.

We are also pleased to announce our **Final Conference - ReSBE 2026** - ReShaping the Built Environment through Sustainability and Circularity.

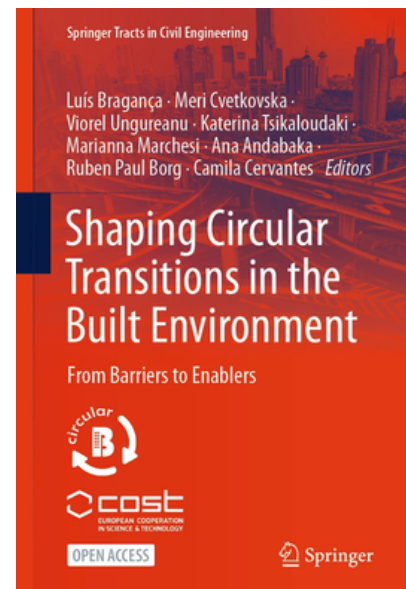
Next Newsletter

Our next newsletter is due to be circulated in May 2026. 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, and special focus journal editions, which have a focus upon the circular economy in the built environment.

New Book Released

Released in October, Circular B's new open-access book explores how to operationalise circular economy principles in the built environment by turning barriers into enablers of systemic change. It examines technical, regulatory, economic, and cultural barriers and how circularity is integrated into European and national policies. It also addresses the need for standardised terminology and frameworks to support the integration of circularity in design, assessment, and construction. Featuring a curated glossary of over 400 terms.

Are you interested? So download it: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-032-02834-1>



Written By: Adriana Salles

MC Meeting - Guimarães, Portugal

On a lovely summer day, we held our face-to-face MC Meeting in Guimarães. The MC was informed about the Action's developments, reports from the Working Groups, and the Final Conference next year. We discussed the offers to host our **Final Conference**, and the group expressed their preference for **Thessaloniki, Greece**. We also discussed interesting conferences for CircularB participation, such as WSBE 2026 and ISIE-SEM 2026. Finally, we exchanged ideas on the WBP, GP4 meetings, and the local Stakeholders Day.



CircularB 2nd Training School - Riga, Latvia



The **2nd CircularB Training School**, held in early September in **Riga**, brought together trainees and trainers for an inspiring week focused on circular business models. Through lectures, group work, and open discussions, participants explored what it means to develop truly **circular businesses** and how to apply these ideas in practice. Learning also happened beyond the classroom, with walks around Riga offering moments for reflection and informal discussion. The week concluded with the trainees presenting their circular business models and participating in the IMST 2025 Conference.

Many thanks to all trainees and trainers for the great exchange of knowledge, positive energy, and collaboration. A special thank you to our local organizers **Diāna Bajāre, Tatjana Tambovceva, and Ilona Kilupa** for making this Training School possible.

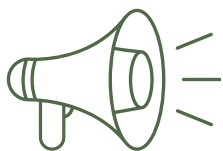
Written By: Rand Askar

WG3 Meeting – CIRLAB Workshop

The **CIRLAB Workshop**, organised by **WG3**, gathered **26 members** from across the Action for **three days** of **hands-on testing** and validation of the CIRLAB multi-criteria assessment model.

Hosted by ISISE – Institute for Sustainability and Innovation in Structural Engineering at the University of Minho, the workshop combined methodological presentations, live demonstrations, and collaborative exercises to explore the model's circularity and lifecycle indicators.

The sessions were led by Rand Askar and Helena Gervásio, leaders of WG3, who guided participants through the practical application of CIRLAB in early-stage building design. The event provided a valuable platform for feedback, knowledge exchange, and advancing the model towards wider applicability. The insights collected during the workshop will play a crucial role in refining the model and shaping the development of its second version.



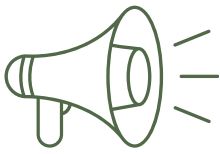
Testimonials

STSM at Burgas Free University

From August 11 to August 15, I conducted a successful STSM at Burgas Free University in Burgas, Bulgaria. The focus of the STSM was on developing the Quadruple Helix Approach to Circular Economy, specifically applied to 3D Printed Geopolymer Solutions for Sustainable Built Environments. This innovative conceptual model integrates four key spheres: academia, government, industry, and community, highlighting their interconnected roles in advancing circular economy solutions.

During the STSM, collaborative activities included intensive discussions on model elements, stakeholder engagement, and the application of scientific and heuristic methods to analyze barriers and opportunities in implementing 3D-printed geopolymer technologies.





Testimonials

STSM at Burgas Free University (cont.)

Special attention was given to how government regulations, industry innovation support, and community acceptance influence the commercialization and sustainability of these materials.

The developed Quadruple Helix model reflects the complex interactions among stakeholders and offers a framework aligned with COST Action CA21103 goals, particularly within Working Groups WG1 and WG2. It supports circular building design strategies, economic assessments of novel business models, and circular management practices for construction and rehabilitation projects.

This fruitful collaboration resulted in drafting a joint publication with Burgas Free University, expected to be submitted for publication. The model and findings promise to significantly contribute to sustainable construction practices and stakeholder awareness within the circular economy framework.”



Written By: Kinga Korniejenko

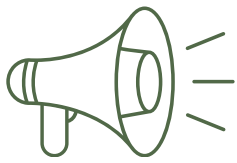


STSM at University of Zagreb

Prof. Dr. Miloš Knežević completed his STSM in September 2025 within the CircularB Action, making a key contribution to the analysis of the new EU Construction Products Regulation (CPR 2024) and its role in strengthening circular economy principles in the construction sector.

During his stay in Zagreb, he developed findings and recommendations that will support the CircularB network in the areas of Digital Product Passports, LCA methodologies, and EU sustainable construction policies. The outcomes of this STSM will be integrated into upcoming activities and strategic documents of the CircularB Action.

Written By: Miloš Knežević



Testimonials

STSM at Coimbra University

I have carried out a STSM at the Institute for Sustainability and Innovation in Structural Engineering (ISISE), Department of Civil Engineering, University of Coimbra, Portugal between 21-27 September 2025 on application of circularity indicators for coastal structures. The STSM was a great opportunity for me to initiate working on my research idea and develop it in collaboration with Assoc. Prof. Helena Gervásio in a series of face-to-face meetings with fruitful discussions on the topic. During the visit, I started to prepare a literature review on the state-of-the-art and we worked on developing ideas and planning a research paper on the topic. The STSM provided valuable time for us to deepen our collaboration and to establish the next steps in our joint work and plan future research directions.

I also had the exciting opportunity to attend the European Researchers' Night in Coimbra. It was truly inspiring to see researchers from so many different fields interact, collaborate, and engage with the public in such creative ways.

I would like to thank to Assoc. Prof. Helena Gervásio, who accompanied me through the week with her endless hospitality and the COST for providing this opportunity.



Written By: Bilge Bas

STSM at Norwegian University of Life Sciences

From October 12 to October 17, 2025, I had the opportunity to undertake an STSM in Norway. This experience provided valuable insights and assessments that enhanced my understanding of sustainability concepts and business models.

At the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU) in Ås, I could attend a course titled "Environmental Management, Circular Economy, and Sustainability Reporting." This course deepened my understanding of environmental management, CSR principles, and the implementation of circular business models. Additionally, it equipped me with practical skills in preparing and analyzing sustainability reports.

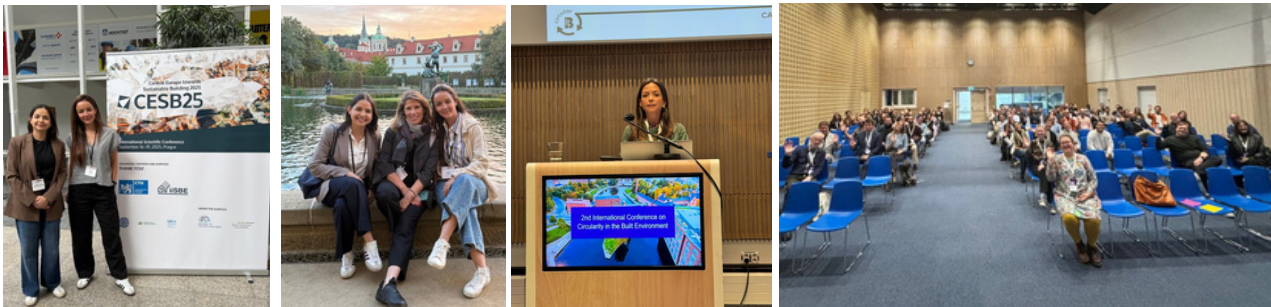
I also participated in a seminar organized by the Bergen municipality, introducing Føniks—the first pilot project of Future Built. This project aims to refurbish an old building using up to 100% reused materials. Since the Future Built initiative aligns with the UN SDGs and the Paris Agreement, and pushes the boundaries of circularity in the construction sector, it represents a unique case study for research and publication.

The skills and knowledge gained from these experiences will enable me to produce a research article for Deliverable 7 of the COST Action CA21103 project. I am very grateful to COST, NMBU, Bergen Municipality, and my supervisor for making this research journey possible.

Written By: Alina Mitache

CircularB Participation in Conferences

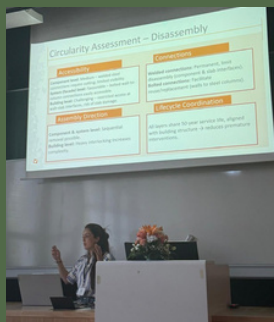
CircularB members attended two important conferences in September: **CESB 2025** in Prague and **CiBen 2025** in Tampere. Let's hear about their experience!



CESB 2025

Written By: Rand Askar

“Attending the CESB 2025 Conference in Prague, Czechia was a great experience and a valuable opportunity to share the collaborative work developed with other members of the CircularB COST Action. Our presentation on “Implementing the Circularity Principles in the Design of a Prefabricated Building Element” generated strong interest, especially because it brought together the Material Circularity Indicator and ISO 20887 Design for Disassembly criteria. The conference sparked many engaging conversations with researchers and industry professionals working on LCA, BIM tools, and prefabrication, opening opportunities for new ideas and potential future collaborations. Overall, it was an inspiring event that helped highlight our joint efforts within CircularB and connect with a wider community working toward more circular and sustainable construction practices.”



CiBen 2025

Written By: Adriana Salles

“Participating in the CiBen 2025 Conference was a very enriching experience. Presenting my work on “City Information Modeling and material stock and flow analysis” to an international audience helped increase the visibility of CircularB’s research themes beyond the network. The discussions during and after my presentation were thoughtful and constructive, and the feedback will directly support the next steps of my PhD work while also feeding back into the Action’s ongoing research activities. The conference provided valuable opportunities to connect with researchers and to exchange ideas with fellow CircularB members. Promoting CircularB within a high-level scientific forum, strengthening its outreach and impact.”





Mark on your calendars: ReSBE 2026 Conference

ReSBE 2026 is your opportunity to shape the future of the built environment through sustainability with an emphasis on circularity.

The Laboratory of Building Construction and building Physics of the School of Civil Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Minho, along with the COST Action CA21103, join forces to host a conference dedicated to sustainability and circular economy in the built environment. The conference is proudly supported by the International Initiative for a Sustainable Built Environment ([iiSBE](#)).

Our conference theme “ReShaping the Built Environment through Sustainability and Circularity” highlights the urgent need to move beyond incremental improvements and embrace transformative approaches that drive systemic change in design, construction, operation, and renewal of the built environment.

We invite researchers, practitioners, innovators, policymakers, and experts from across disciplines, geographies, and sectors to contribute to our shared vision of a regenerative and resource-efficient built environment.

Stay tuned for updates: <https://resbe2026.web.auth.gr/>.



THANK YOU!

The call for contributions is now closed! We are pleased to share that we have received **500** abstracts and **40** Special Sessions proposals. Thank you very much for your exceptional response to our conference!

COMING SOON!

The **4th Grant Period** has just begun, but we are planning many activities and opportunities for our community in the last year of our Action.

- **January 2026:** WGs and MC Meetings - Zaragoza, Spain
- **April 2026:** 3rd Training School
- **October 2026:** ReSBE 2026 Conference | CircularB Final Conference

Stay tuned on our Social Media Channels and our website for more information:

<https://circularb.eu/category/news/>



Grants Opportunities

- Virtual Mobility (VM) Grant
- Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) Conference Grant
- Young Researcher and Innovator (YRI) Conference Grants

Further information:

<https://circularb.eu/activity/>

A Final Year to Make Our Impact Last

As CircularB enters its **final year**, we would like to take a moment to **thank every member** of our community for the knowledge, energy, and collaboration that have shaped this Action. Together, we have built a strong and diverse network, developed tools and ideas, and advanced the conversation on circular economy in the built environment.

This final year is a crucial one. It is our opportunity to consolidate, share, and carry forward the knowledge we have created—so that it does not remain on reports and presentations alone. We warmly encourage all members to **stay actively involved** in developing scientific papers, organising local information days, and disseminating CircularB's outcomes to researchers, industry, and policymakers at national and local levels.

Your engagement now matters more than ever. By continuing to collaborate, publish, communicate, and connect, we can ensure that CircularB's work lives on beyond the Action itself and continues to support the circular transition of the built environment.

Let us make this final year a **collective effort**—one that turns shared knowledge into lasting impact.

Thank you for being part of CircularB