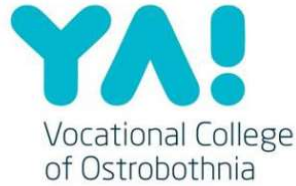




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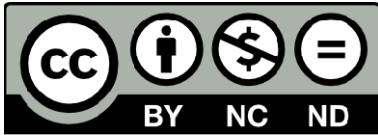


Mapping the integration of Social Circular Attitudes in Society



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Introduction

Social Circular Economy has a virtually silent social dimension, concentrating on the redesign of manufacturing and service systems to benefit the environment. While ecological renewal and survival, and reduction of limited resource use clearly benefits people, there is no explicit recognition of the social aspects' characteristic in other conceptualizations of sustainable development.

In the implementation of the Erasmus+ project “Anchoring Social Circular Economy attitudes in VET” the partnership had a look on how the circular economy mindset and practices can help the society and create distributed social value. The main objective of this inquiry is by investigating the integration of SCE in society, it is identified the integration levels of Social Circular Economy and recognized all the indicators of Social and Cultural Aspects of Circular Economy.

The profile of the responders



A number of **81 organizations** from 8 European countries ((Italy, Greece, Romania, Finland, Belgium, Netherlands, Poland, Spain) have been involved from **15 sectors** of economy. We can mention *education, social & health care, restaurants & catering, tourism, energy, textile and clothing manufacturing, packaging trade, ICT, logistics, pharmacy, chemistry, environment, culture and art, natural resources.*

Some of these companies are very old (one from Netherland exists since **1899**), but some are very young – one or two years of experience. When we are talking about the number of the employees, there have been involved companies with less than 10 employees (more than half of the companies inquired), but also big corporation with thousands of employees under their umbrella (the biggest one is a companies from Belgium with more than **22k employees**).



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Social Enterprises

Through our inquiry, the SCE VET partnership wanted to discover the knowledge of the responders about social economy, **social enterprise**, if their organisations have implemented social attitudes and activities in their daily work-life.

When they had to define what a social enterprise represents from their point of view, plenty of **social solidarity** answers were given. The topic was defined like:



From a total of 81 companies, more than a half (46 of them) have integrated social attitudes in their organisation routines and are supporting local development and have included voluntary work activity in their personnel monthly achievements. The social impact on the local sustainable development represents a very important asset for a European company.

In the same time, there is a big confusion when we are talking about a social enterprise and a company that has integrated different social attitudes in their employees' daily tasks. For instance, if we are talking about RO organisations, there are balanced answers between "yes" / "no" / "do not know exactly" when we asked them if their organisation is a social enterprise. In fact, only 2 are in real social enterprises. This indicates that they are not very familiar with the aspects of setting up and running a social enterprise.

When the responders have to select the appropriate definition of what represents a social enterprise, 23 of them chosen "a business that wants to make a social impact as well as money" (mostly in organisations from Greece, Romania, Poland) and, in the same time, other 20 responders chosen "It has a core social or environmental aim" (mostly organizations from Netherlands, Spain, Greece, Belgium and Finland). These numbers



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show that there is a general confusion between what is social, what it is related to the environment and the relations with business.

Circular Enterprises

In the same manner, the SCE VET partnership wanted to discover the knowledge of the responders about **circular economy**, what kind of circular attitudes are integrated in their organisational routines and what represents the main characteristic of a circular enterprise.

About their definition of the circular enterprise, we received various responses related either to waste use or to post-use management, optimising resource use.

Social enterprise and the circular economy empower people, planet, profit and purpose. Aligning these creates self-sustaining change. The beauty of social enterprise and the circular economy is that you can create an incredible impact on so many fronts, but most critically: people, planet, profit and purpose. (Polish responder)

A circular economy practice manages the production, consumption and recycling of resources in a way that ensures environmental conservation, enhances social justice and promotes economic independence and community well-being. In practice, such a business can implement innovative practices such as recycling, reuse and waste reduction, promoting sustainability and social well-being. (Greek responder)

When the responders have been asked to express their confirmation if their organisations are circular enterprises, almost half of the answers (40) were affirmative, “yes”. From that, all the Polish responders (10) considered that their companies are circular enterprises. We have to take in consideration the hesitation of some responders (9) who mentioned that they “Do not know exactly”. This indicates that for some of them there is confusion related to their organisational operations.

When the responders have to select the appropriate definition of what represents a circular enterprise, the common answer was “circular product design and production processes can help save resources such as water, metals and other raw materials, avoid inefficient waste management, and create new business opportunities and jobs” (38). For instance, from Italy and Romania, 8 responders from 12 have chosen this definition. The rest of the characteristics have been selected in the same proportion: “a regenerative and



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restorative industrial economy that keeps resources in use at their highest value for as long as possible” and “replaces a linear take-make-waste economic model”.

The most challenging definition for our respondents has been **the definition of social circular economy**. The following definitions have caught our attention:

A circular social enterprise strives for sustainability by reusing or recycling products, while also pursuing social goals, such as creating employment opportunities for vulnerable groups. (Polish responder)

It focuses on sustainability, waste reduction, and resource efficiency while also emphasizing social inclusion and community well-being. In essence, it strives to create a positive societal impact through eco-friendly, circular business operations while also fostering social equity and engagement. (Belgian responder)

A social circular economy enterprise is an enterprise that incorporates the principles of the circular economy in its way of operation, with an emphasis on solving social problems. This enterprise seeks to achieve sustainable management of resources and reduce negative impacts on the environment, while creating social value and enhancing social development. (Greek responder)

All the responders (81) have been agreeing with the definition identified during the implementation of “Anchoring Social Circular Economy Attitudes in VET”. Based on this definition, we identified some specific characteristics of social circular enterprises, like:

- social enterprises have a clear social mission;
- they generate the majority of their income through trading goods or services;
- they reinvest the majority of their profits into their mission or organization;
- they are independent and autonomous from state;
- they are transparent and accountable
- it is clear which stakeholders they support
- all mentioned above

When our responders had to choose the most appropriate characteristics of Social Circular Enterprise, 24 of them selected “social enterprises have clear social missions”, more than 20 selected “they are transparent and accountable”. We consider that our



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responders understand what are the most important characteristics of a Social Circular Enterprise due to the fact that 30 of the responders (mostly organizations from GR, RO, ES) selected “all the above”.

Circular activities

After the theoretical aspects of different social circular economy attitudes, the SCE VET partnership move forward to discover what kind of **circular activities** can be found or intend to be implement in the near future in the inquired companies. Circular activities refer to practices, processes, and initiatives that prioritize the principles of the circular economy, which aims to minimize waste, maximize resource efficiency, and promote sustainable consumption and production patterns.

There were considered like circular activities the followings:

- ✓ Reduction of waste and/or emissions within the organization.
- ✓ Production or purchase of readily recyclable products.
- ✓ Production or purchase of products with a high proportion of recycled material.
- ✓ Optimization of the product returns processes.
- ✓ Encourage the reuse of product and/or packaging by the end consumer.
- ✓ Recycling of goods and packaging within the organization.
- ✓ Adapting the organization’s business model (e.g. by using rental/loan agreements; second-hand products; production on demand, reducing inventory and other overheads).
- ✓ Providing training sessions for up-skilling company workers on circular economy topics and approaches.
- ✓ Cooperation and collaboration with partners in the transition to a circular economy.
- ✓ Other

From the below chart we can identified that all of them are identified in more than a half of the inquired companies, with an accent on activities like reduction of waste and recycling of goods. In the same time, there are a number of 19 answers that mentioned “other” circular practices that haven’t been included in our list, without mentioned any type of activity.

Also, we must consider that all the circular activities mentioned in our inquiry have been selected by all the organisations from a certain country, Poland more specific. We must take in consideration that in this country it is a regular circular activity implemented in the companies organisational routine. Also, a certain habit of circular attitude can be considered on a high level on organisations from Italy, Netherlands, Romania, and Spain.

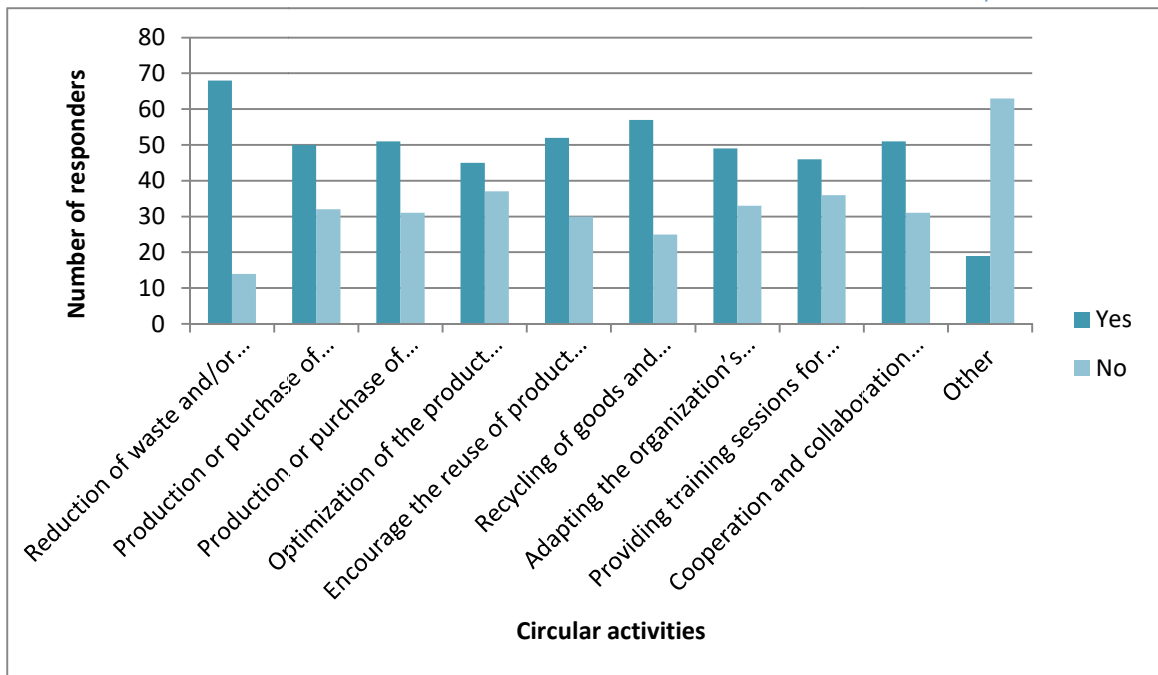


Table 1: Activities related to the circular economy carried out in EU organisations

These circular activities are important for organizations because they drive resource efficiency, foster innovation and competitiveness, reduce environmental impact, create value, and enhance stakeholder engagement and reputation. By embracing circular activities, organizations can position themselves for long-term success in a resource-constrained and environmentally conscious world.

Social Activities

Going forward, when we asked the responders to help us with **different social activities** carried out in their own organisations, a multitude of models were given. Social activities include a wide range of actions and programs undertaken by organizations to contribute positively to society and the environment. These activities go beyond the organization's core business operations and demonstrate a commitment to ethical and sustainable business practices.

It worth to mention answers some like:

- “Participation of people distant from the labor market, programs to hire refugees with relevant work experience (e.g. Electrical Engineers from Syria).” (an energy sector company, Netherland)
- “To employ person with fewer opportunities” (a company activating in natural resources sector, Poland)
- “Currently, we focus on local employment and training, community engagement, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion. In the near future, we plan to expand training programs, collaborate with local non-profits, and enhance our eco-



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friendly initiatives to further benefit our community.” (a company from metal and machinery sector – industry, Belgium)

- “We intend to provide ICT service to the most remote rural areas to combat the depopulation of the rural world and its inclusion in the world of work with teleworking, bringing broadband internet to the most remote areas and less economically interesting for large operators.” (a company from ICT sector, Spain)
- “Social inclusion of people who find it difficult to integrate into society” (a company in ICT and education sector, Greece)
- “As far as restaurants are concerned, it is to buy as much as possible from local producers, create and change the menu based on the seasonality of the product, and use waste to compose other products. Avoid waste in buffets. Have installed water dispensers both available to customers and employees. Completely removed the single doses for the courtesy set. Hire an equal percentage of men/women, with high percentages of people of different nationalities. Promote local activities and sustainable mobility through the use of bicycles, electric scooters and e-bikes.” (a company from tourism sector, Italy)
- “Provides food for children at risk.” (a catering company, Romania)
- “We are working on broad markets in approximately 40 countries. In forestry business, world is pretty small and everybody in cut-to length forest industry knows each others. Global network works as social ring for the whole industry. Help is usually given throughout this network mouth-to-mouth. Usually when we have something extra (for example overestimated food batches, clothing etc), we give it away to local communities such as Ukrainian refugees etc. This kind of things happens once in a while.” (a company activating in natural resources area, Finland)

Social activities are important for organizations because they help build trust and credibility, enhance employee engagement and gain competitive advantage, and also, create long-term value for society and the business. By integrating social responsibility into their business strategies and operations, organizations can contribute to positive social change while achieving sustainable growth and profitability.

Circular Business Strategy

In the next steps, our inquiry focused on what’s the most important **Circular Business Strategy** that already exists or should be implemented in the near future in all the companies questionnaire. Knowing circular business strategies is essential for businesses to adapt to changing market dynamics, meet evolving customer demands, comply with regulatory requirements, and contribute to a more sustainable and prosperous society. By embracing circularity, businesses can create value, drive innovation, and unlock

opportunities for long-term success. And for that we considered the following 10 circular business strategies:

- ✓ **Regenerate** - Restore natural or modified ecosystems and maintain/increase the delivery of biological ecosystem services to society, for instance through urban agriculture or green roofs.
- ✓ **Reduce** - Increase efficiency of product design or manufacturing by preventing or minimizing use of specific hazardous materials or any virgin materials, or make product use more intensive via practices such as product sharing.
- ✓ **Reuse** - Bring products back into the economy after initial use, or extend the lifespan of products and their parts (through repair, maintenance, second-hand markets, etc.)
- ✓ **Recycle** - Process materials via processes such as shredding or melting to obtain materials of the same quality (up-cycling) or lower quality (down-cycling)
- ✓ **Recover** - Produce energy from residual flows, e.g. through combustion or fermentation.
- ✓ **Repair** - Repair and maintenance of defective products it can be used with its original function;
- ✓ **Refuse** - Make the product redundant by abandoning its function or by offering the same function with a radically different product.
- ✓ **Rethink** - Make product use more intensive (e.g. by sharing product).
- ✓ **Refurbish** - Restore an old product and bring it up to date.
- ✓ **Repurpose** - Use discarded product or its part in a new product with a different function.

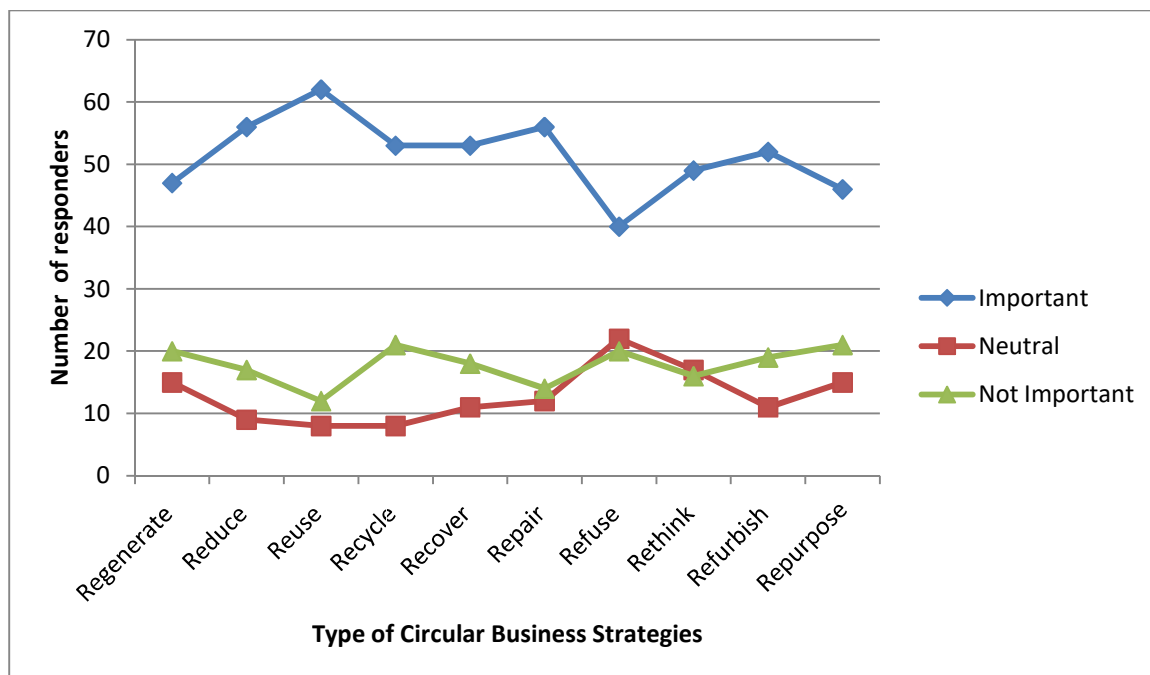


Table 2: The Importance of Circular Business Strategies



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From this analyse, we can understand that all the circular strategies are important, with a less important impact the act of “refuse”, but the most important is considered the act of “reuse” (62 answered were for important / more or less important / extremely important) or “reduce” and “repair” (with 56 important / more or less important / extremely important answers). In the same category, not important circular business strategy, according to our inquiry, can be considered “repurpose” and “recycle” with 21 “not important” answers, or “refuse” and “regenerate” with 20 “not important” answers. On the general view, all the circular business strategies are considered with a certain importance, very few being just “neutral” (“refuse” got 20 neutral answers) which can be taken like a non-interested measure related to circular economy.

If we will have a general look on the answers of organisations from the same country, in some like Netherlands, Belgium, Poland and Spain, the most important circular business strategies are like “reuse” and “reduce”, in Greece can be considered “rethink” or “refurbish” or in Romania and Italy circular business strategies like “regenerate” or “reuse”.

Challenges in Social Circular Economy

We continue our analysis about Social Circular Economy with **the challenges** that are facing nowadays this domain and how important represents each of it for our responders. Addressing these challenges requires a concerted effort from governments, civil society organizations, businesses, and communities to foster an inclusive, equitable, and sustainable transition to a Social Circular Economy. Collaboration, innovation, and a commitment to social and environmental justice are essential to overcome these challenges and realize the full potential of social circular economy initiatives.

When we are talking about Social Circular Economy challenges, we consider the followings:

1. Incorporate sustainability objectives in the strategies and operations of firms.
2. Identify circular economic activities locally.
3. Increase collaborations along value chains.
4. The shift towards a circular economy requires building appropriate skills and improving work conditions.
5. Increasing consumer engagement and empowering them to make informed and responsible choices is another avenue to accelerate the transition towards a more circular economy.
6. Policy makers need to play a critical role in advancing the circular economy agenda through policy orientations.
7. Providing investment and financial support for transforming existing infrastructures and helping circular entrepreneurs.
8. Use of tax policies.

9. Implementation of an extended producer responsibility scheme.
10. Increase social inclusion and social cohesion.
11. Further stakeholder engagement and improve social acceptance of circular products and green technologies.
12. Promote more circular and sustainable behaviors.

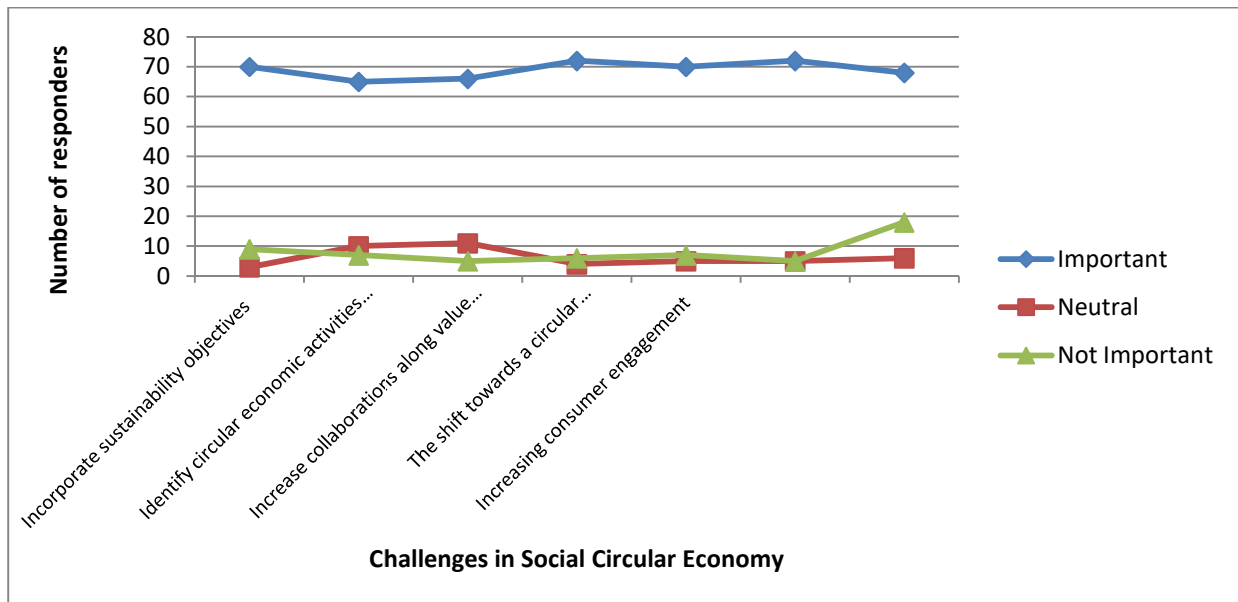


Table 3: the most important challenges related to Social Circular Economy

For the above chart we can understand that all the challenges identified by our project partnership are considered “important” by all the respondents to our inquiry. Some of the challenges are specific to some organisations from Mediterranean & Balkan countries (Spain, Italy, Greece, Romania), like “Identify circular economic activities locally” (2), “Increasing consumer engagement and empowering them to make informed and responsible choices is another avenue to accelerate the transition towards a more circular economy” (5), “Policy makers need to play a critical role in advancing the circular economy agenda through policy orientations” (6), “Providing investment and financial support for transforming existing infrastructures and helping circular entrepreneurs” (7) and others more common to organizations from northern countries (Netherlands, Finland, Belgium Poland) “Implementation of an extended producer responsibility scheme” (9) and “Incorporate sustainability objectives in the strategies and operations of firms” (1). The responders’ selections depended on the specific of each country and their local specific related to the implementation of social circular attitudes in their society and its relations with the stakeholders on local level.

Understanding all the challenges facing the Social Circular Economy and taking in consideration their relevance for all the SC activities, we can conclude that it is very



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important for stakeholders to unlock the full potential of the Social Circular Economy to create a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable future for all.

European Strategic Documents in Social Circular Economy



Several strategically documents put both circular economy and social issues at the core. The **European Green Deal** aims to reach the goal of 0 emissions by 2050. In order to do this, it wants to detach economic growth from resource use. Importantly, it posits to have a *fair and inclusive* transition aiming to *improve wellbeing and health* of citizens. Another key policy document is the **Circular Economy Action Plan**. The Circular Economy Action Plan views the circular economy as key for reaching the aims of the European Green Deal and wants to **make the circular economy work for people, regions and cities**.

Being informed about EU strategic documents is important for policy alignment, regulatory compliance, accessing market opportunities and funding, stakeholder engagement, risk management, innovation and R&D, and enhancing corporate social responsibility. These documents provide a roadmap for organizations to navigate the transition to a more sustainable and circular economy in line with EU priorities and objectives.

From a total of 81 responders, only 44 of them have heard about these 2 European documents and there are countries where the numbers of positive answers are very low, like in Finland where only 2 responders selected “yes”. But, on the opposite corner, there is Poland, where all the responders (10) have heard about these strategically documents.

In the same time, all the responders with knowledge about these 2 European Strategic Documents for Social Circular Economy consider that the implementation of their principles in their companies would have an impact on the community social level.

Level of interest to create Circular Economy Partnerships in EU organisations

Understanding the level of interest in creating Circular Economy partnerships among EU organizations is crucial for identifying potential collaborators, allocating resources effectively, fostering synergy and collaboration, enhancing impact, promoting innovation and creativity, facilitating shared learning and best practices, building stakeholder engagement and buy-in, and ensuring sustainability and longevity of initiatives.

Since everything in a company is related to employees and their strategic development, we wanted to find out through our inquiry the level of interest of respondent organisations in creating **circular economy (CE) partnerships** to adopt social solutions in the coming years, noted from 1 - very low interest to 10 - the highest interest.

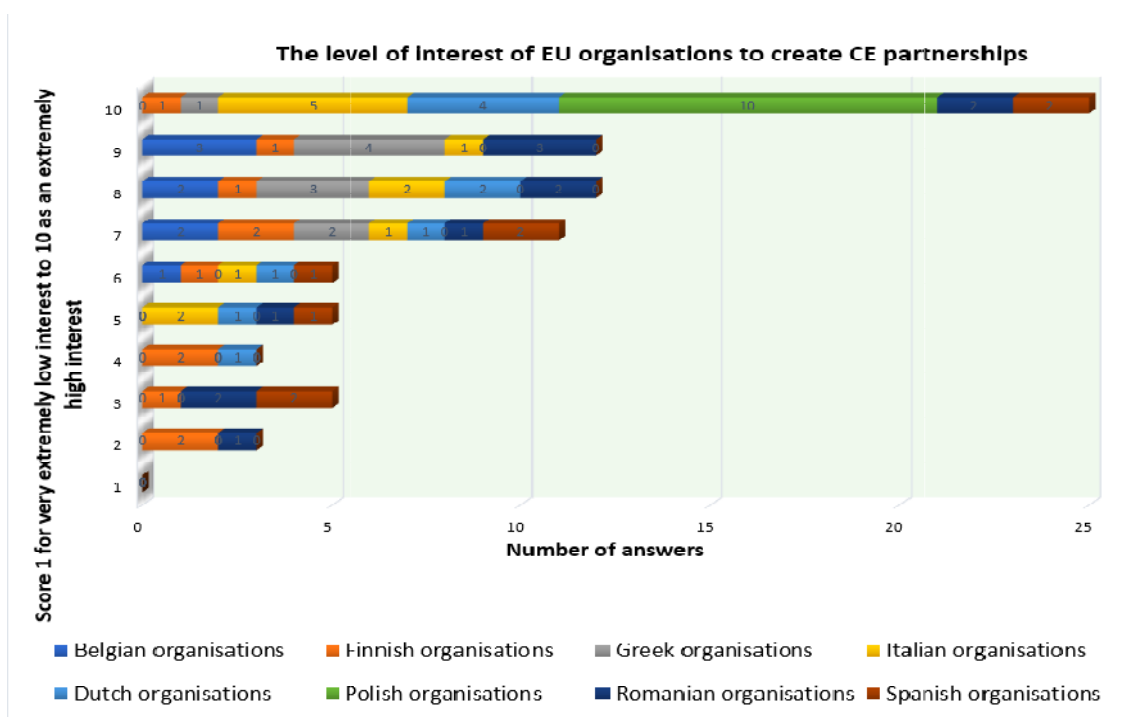


Table 4: The level of interest of EU organisations to create CE partnerships

From this table, we can find out that there is a different perception of this level of interest in EU organisations. There are organisations from certain countries like Poland where all the respondents noted a very high level of interest (all 10 answers with 10) or like Italy (with 4 answers with 10) demonstrating that the level of interest on circular economy partnerships is higher, but also there are 5 organisations from Finland noted under 5. Some low level of interest was noted also in organisations from Romania (2 answers under 5). The rest of responders appreciated a high level of interest in their organisation related to the CE partnership.



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Analysing all these data, we can conclude there is high level of interest among the organisations we inquired related to the implementation of Circular Economy partnership, this behaviour helping the organizations to accelerate the progress toward a more sustainable and circular economy.

Foreseen Engagement to the implementation of Social Circular Solutions

Foreseen engagement in the implementation of social circular solutions by EU organizations promotes inclusive development, stakeholder ownership, co-creation and collaboration, local relevance and contextualization, capacity building and empowerment, trust and transparency, risk mitigation and conflict resolution, and policy support and advocacy. By actively involving stakeholders in the implementation process, organizations can enhance the effectiveness, sustainability, and impact of social circular initiatives in addressing societal challenges and advancing the circular economy agenda within the EU.

Through our inquiry, we investigate the level of this engagement of EU organizations. And among our 81 EU organizations inquired, we discovered the followings data:

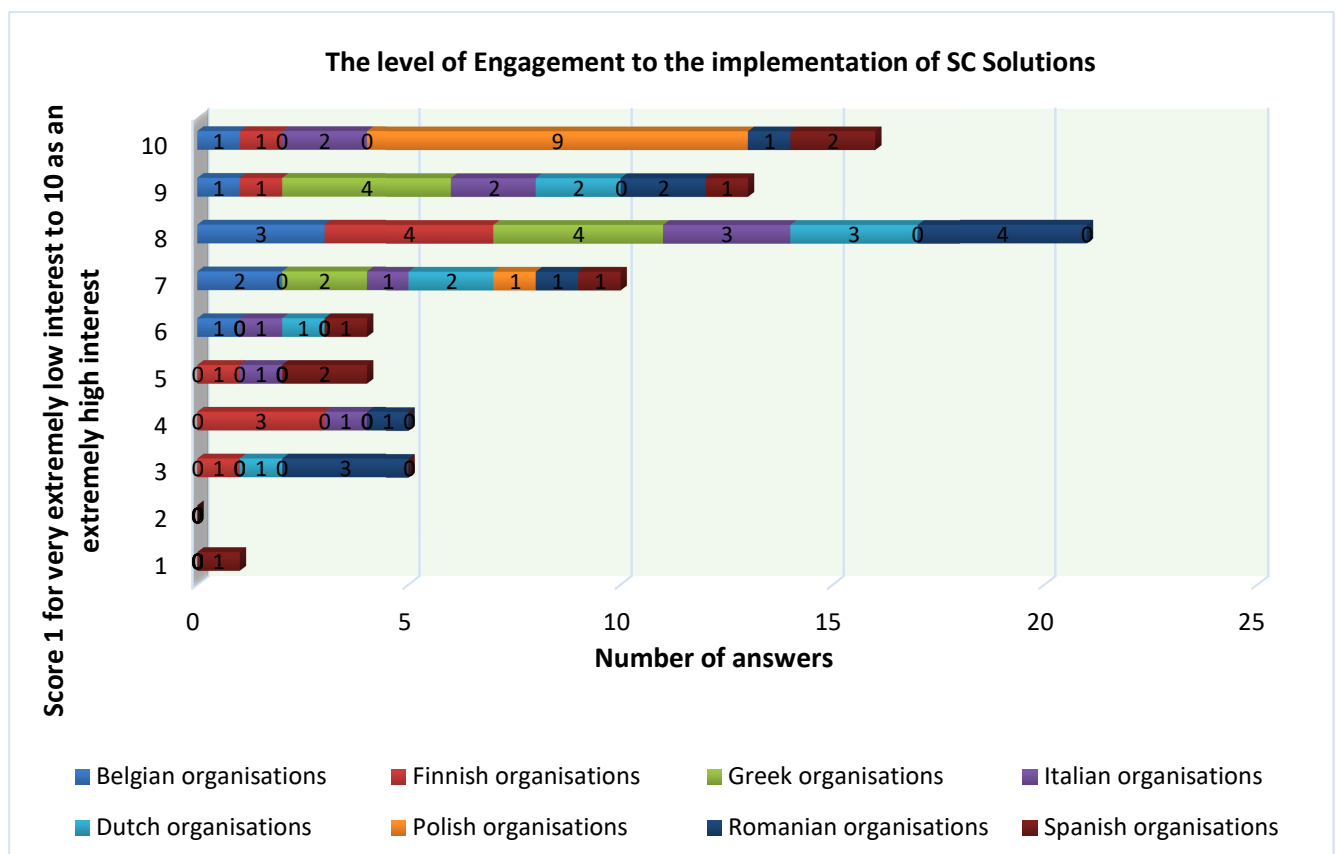


Table 5: Foreseen Engagement to the implementation of SC Solutions



From this table, we can find out that there is 12% of the organisations noted fewer than 5, which represent a low level of engagement of SC solutions. There are organisations from Poland where almost all the respondents noted a very high level of interest (9 answers with 10 and only 1 with 7) demonstrating that the level of engagement allocated by the respondents is very high (this should be confirmed by the national and local policies), but also there are organisations from Spain with 1 answers noted with 1. Some low level of interest was noted also by the organisations from Romania (3 answers under 5), from Italy (2 notes under 5) and from Finland (with 4 notes under 5). Even if there are signals for a low level of engagement of SC solutions, we must remark that the general overview is that there is a high level of commitment related to Social Circular activities.

It is important to investigate the foreseen engagement to social circular solutions for assessing effectiveness, understanding stakeholder perspectives, identifying collaboration opportunities, building capacity and so on. In this way, the organizations can enhance stakeholder participation and support, leading to more successful and impactful social circular solutions. Taking in consideration this aspect, we can conclude that the majority of EU organizations inquired are actively involved in this process of engaging social circular solutions in their development process.

Level of availability of resources in EU organization

The level of available resources in EU organizations refers to the financial resources, human capital, physical infrastructure, technology, knowledge, and networks, all that can significantly influence an organization's capacity to innovate, compete, and achieve its goals effectively. Investigating this level is essential for understanding the context in which social circular attitudes are adopted and implemented. That's why we asked our responders to assess the level of these resources in their organizations. And we gathered the following data:

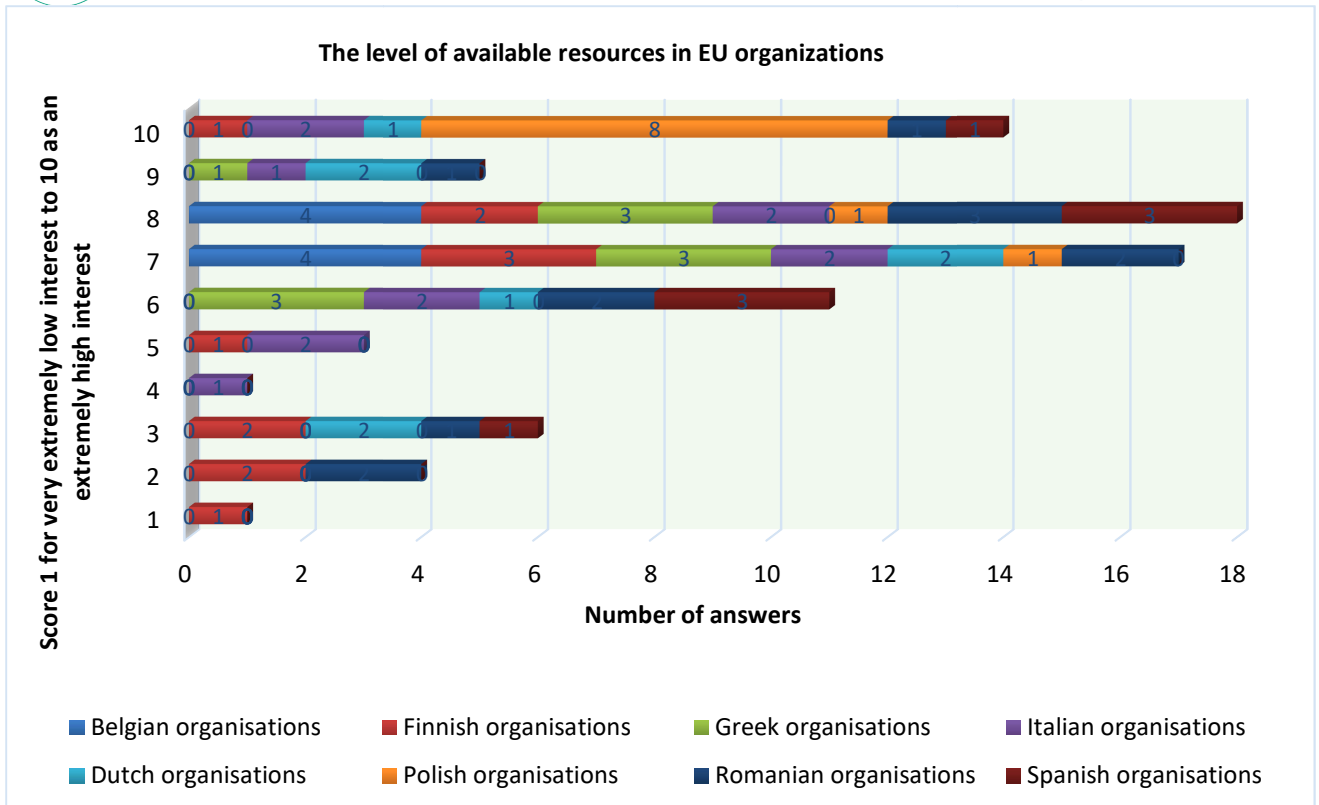


Table 6: The level of available resources in EU organizations

From this table, we can find out that there are 12 notes equal or fewer than 5 (from a total of 81), which represent a low level of available resources in EU organisations. Mostly of these negative notes were coming from Finnish organisations (5 answers under or equal with 5) and Romanian organisations (3 answers under 5), but we can mentioned other organisations from Italy (3), from Netherlands (2) or from Spain (1). On the opposite corner, we have to mention organisations from 2 countries – Belgium and Poland, where all the responders highlighted an increased level of resources (all the notes were equal of higher than 7). That indicates a high level of involvement and the capacity of these countries to implement innovative changes. Having a high level of resources available for social circular activities, organizations can enhance their ability to integrate social and circular principles into their operations and contribute to a more sustainable and inclusive economy.



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In the next phase, the responders were asked to identify some **the challenges existing in their organisation to implements social circular activities / attitudes**, 52% from the responders mentioned the lack of financial and human resources, but also some lack of educational and information about the topic.

Economic challenges: Implementing social circular behaviours may require additional costs to develop sustainable practices, recycling or sustainable production of products. **Staff:** Training staff to understand and implement social circular practices may require additional resources and effort. **Technology upgrading:** Some companies need to upgrade their technological capabilities to implement circular practices, such as recycling or carbon footprint monitoring.

When we asked the respondents to identify **the opportunities in their organisation to implements social circular activities / attitudes**, 51% identified the competences and knowledge of the employees, but also some financial resources and training opportunities. But an important number of responders could not identify any kind of resources in their own organisations (11 answers from organisations from Greece, Italy and Finland).

Business opportunities: The circular economy can open up new markets and opportunities for products and services based on recycled materials, renewable energy, sustainable design and other sustainable practices. **Innovation:** Adopting circular practices can drive continuous innovation, improving products and services and increasing competitiveness. **Attractiveness for customers:** Consumers and



Final Conclusion

Mapping of SCE integration in society helps in understanding the current level of integration of social circular attitudes in society. It provides insights into the extent to which circular economy principles are being adopted and embraced by individuals, communities, businesses, and institutions. Through this process SCE VET partnership raised awareness and educated the public about the importance of social circular attitudes. By highlighting social circular attitudes, we inspired individuals and organizations to adopt circular practices in their daily lives and operations. Through this document we come with examples and best practices, inspiring individuals and organizations to adopt circular practices in their daily lives and operations.

Analyzing the answers of all the responders, there can be defined some similarities and some differences observed among companies or organizations from different countries and sectors based on their responses provided.

Some **Similarities** identified among the organizations are:

- **Interest in Circular Economy:** Organizations worldwide prioritize reducing waste, optimizing resources, and adopting sustainable practices.
- **Commitment to Social Responsibility:** Companies globally engage in social activities beyond business operations, reflecting a dedication to social responsibility.
- **Awareness of Challenges and Opportunities:** Respondents from diverse backgrounds recognize common challenges and opportunities in implementing social circular activities.
- **Desire for Collaboration:** There is a shared desire among organizations to collaborate and form partnerships to advance circular economy goals.

Also, there were identified some **Differences** among these organizations, that can influence the social circular attitudes implemented in certain areas:

- **Cultural Context:** Cultural differences influence specific social activities and circular strategies adopted by organizations.
- **Regulatory Environment:** Varying regulatory landscapes impact organizations' ability to implement circular practices.
- **Sectoral Focus:** Different sectors prioritize different aspects of social circular economy.
- **Resource Availability:** Availability of resources differs between countries, impacting organizations' capacity to implement social circular activities.



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- **Awareness of EU Strategic Documents:** There are differences in awareness levels regarding EU strategic documents related to social circular economy.
- **Level of Engagement:** Engagement in social circular solutions varies among organizations and countries.

By understanding these similarities and differences, stakeholders can tailor their approaches to effectively promote social circular economy practices across diverse contexts, fostering collaboration, innovation, and sustainable development on a global scale.

The inquiry conducted by the Erasmus+ project "Anchoring Social Circular Economy attitudes in VET" sheds light on the often-overlooked social dimension of the circular economy. While traditional approaches focus on environmental benefits, this project recognizes the importance of integrating social aspects into circular economy practices.

Final conclusions:

- ✓ **Organization Diversity:** The involvement of 81 organizations from 8 European countries across 15 sectors demonstrates a wide-ranging interest in social circular attitudes.
- ✓ **Social Enterprise Understanding:** Despite integrating social attitudes, many organizations struggle to identify themselves as social enterprises, indicating a need for clarity in this area.
- ✓ **Circular Activities Implementation:** The majority of organizations engage in circular activities, emphasizing waste reduction and recycling, indicating a growing awareness and adoption of circular principles.
- ✓ **Social Activities:** Organizations are actively involved in various social activities, ranging from employment initiatives to community engagement, showcasing a commitment to social responsibility.
- ✓ **Circular Business Strategies:** "Reuse" and "reduce" are identified as the most crucial circular business strategies, highlighting a focus on resource efficiency and waste reduction.
- ✓ **Challenges and Opportunities:** Organizations face challenges such as resource constraints but also recognize opportunities like employee competencies for implementing social circular activities.
- ✓ **EU Strategic Documents Awareness:** While awareness of EU strategic documents varies, those familiar with them acknowledge the potential impact on community social levels.
- ✓ **Interest in Circular Economy Partnerships:** There is a high level of interest among organizations in creating circular economy partnerships, indicating a willingness to collaborate for sustainability.



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- ✓ **Engagement in Social Circular Solutions:** The majority of organizations demonstrate a high level of engagement in implementing social circular solutions, essential for driving effective change.
- ✓ **Availability of Resources:** Organizations vary in the availability of resources, with some facing constraints, particularly in financial and human resources.

The mapping of Social Circular Economy integration in society offers valuable insights into current practices and challenges. By raising awareness and inspiring action, the project encourages individuals and organizations to embrace circular practices, contributing to a more sustainable and inclusive future. Through collaboration, innovation, and commitment, stakeholders can unlock the full potential of Social Circular Economy initiatives, fostering positive social and environmental impact. Understanding these distinctions enables stakeholders to tailor their approaches effectively, fostering collaboration, innovation, and commitment to drive sustainable development globally.