Are EU Policies suitable to help doing business on islands

—

The Case of Circular Economy

INSULEUR Public Hearing
05/04/2019
EUROCHAMBRES

• Association of European Chambers of Commerce & Industry
• 45 member organisations including INSULEUR
• > 1.700 regional Chambers
• > 20,000,000 companies from all sectors (of which > 93% SMEs)
• both advocacy and EU projects
EUROCHAMBRES work on the Circular Economy (so far)

- July-December 2018: **Circular Economy Report**
  - Quantitative analysis of 9 sectors
  - Sided with 9 case studies

- Mid January-Now: **CE Policy Recommendations**
  - A comprehensive approach
EUROCHAMBRES Circular Economy Report
Hospitality & Food Services

• Green Procurement
  a. Corporate & Supplier Code of Conduct (e.g: impact reduction targets)
  b. Seasonal & local & certified products

• Reduce-Reuse principles in most products
  a. Smaller food portions (to reduce waste)
  b. Reusable packaging for hygiene products
Waste Management (an overarching topic)

Plastics

a. Eco design → rethinking the shape, glues, inks, and need of certain products
b. Recycling → harmonised packaging, collection, and sorting
c. REUSE → reusable and biodegradable packaging

Construction

a. Landfill ban
b. Network of waste recovery plants
c. Modularity
d. Renewable and recyclable materials
Specific challenges for islands

• Even larger share of micro- and small businesses
• Seasonal fluctuation of activities
• Attractiveness for skilled workforce
• Dependence on fuel imports → especially off-grid islands
• Waste management
Specific challenges for islands

• Single-Use Plastics
  • Aim to tackle issue of marine littering
  • Our position: ban of an product only measure of last resort
  • large-scale alternatives often not available on island markets
  • Strong focus on consumer awareness especially important
Specific challenges for islands

• Waste management
  • Mentioned in CE Action Plan Implementation Report
  • Expensive infrastructure for separate waste collection
  • Shipment of waste vs. waste-to-energy
  • Issue for off-grid islands
  • Energy recovery could be suitable solution for off-grid islands
EUROCHAMBRES Circular Economy working group

• To create synergies between Chambers
  • Stages of awareness & activities vary greatly
• Both project & policy focussed
  • Identify project opportunities
  • Identify projects that are easily replicable
  • Derive to policy conclusions as well
Clemens Rosenmayr
Policy Advisor Energy & Environment
rosenmayr@eurochambres.eu
+32 2 282 08 90

EUROCHAMBRES Circular Economy Report
available at
www.eurochambres.eu

Valerio Burlizzi
Junior Policy Advisor Environment
burlizzi@eurochambres.eu
+32 2 282 08 72