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Two workshops held on public engagement for the circular economy



The CCRI Knowledge Hub, supporting the European Commission's Circular Cities and Regions Initiative, had held its first two workshops. These events mark the start of capacity-building activities aimed at equipping European cities and regions with the tools to effectively implement the circular economy.

The **CCRI Knowledge Hub**, an EU-funded project supporting the European Commission's Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI), has held its **first two workshops on 19 and 20 September in Valencia** (Spain). Organised by the University of Valencia with the support of various partners, the workshops engaged local stakeholders, particularly public authorities and organisations, demonstrating a strong commitment to fostering sustainable practices at the regional level.

The first workshop focused on **public engagement** and emphasised the vital role of community involvement in the successful implementation of circular economy actions. This cross-sectorial event



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showcased best practices and case studies, providing participants with actionable insights into how public engagement can drive circular initiatives within cities and regions.

The second workshop was dedicated to the **agri-food sector**. Participants explored innovative circular business models and cutting-edge technological tools, which integrates advanced technologies to enhance traceability, optimise resource use, and support sustainable practices in agriculture and food production.

These two workshops represent the initial phase of the Knowledge Hub's comprehensive **capacity-building activities**, including both in-person and online sessions, designed to empower European cities and regions with the tools and methodologies necessary to implement the circular economy effectively. The workshops further highlighted the importance of cross-sector collaboration and citizen participation, with Valencia emerging as a leader in implementing innovative solutions in the field of circular economy. Inclusivity, co-creation, and tailored citizen engagement proved to be key drivers for successful circular economy transitions.

As part of the project, other workshops will be organised about four pillars: public engagement, innovation and technology, impact evaluation, and business models and financial support. Additionally, sector-specific workshops will address the diverse needs of different industries impacted by the circular economy.

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