K4I Forum Dinner Debate

Circular Economy: Innovation Spinning the Industrial Symbiosis

Hosted by Sirpa Pietikäinen, MEP

Tuesday, 29 September 2015 | 19:30 – 22:00
Members’ Salon, European Parliament, Brussels

Description

Process industry sectors such as cement, ceramics, chemicals, engineering, metals, minerals, steel and water represent the economic roots of the European economy (by transforming raw materials into intermediate and end-user products), sitting thus at the core of most industrial value chains. They have a high dependence on resources (energy, raw materials and water) in their production technologies and, at the same time, they have identified innovation as one of the major channels to improve their global competitiveness, individually and, especially, through cross-sectorial collaborations such as the SPIRE Public-Private Partnership. These recent activities have showed a clear benefit to the circular economy debate and policy development.

Objectives

An ambitious circular economy strategy capable to transform Europe into a more competitive resource-efficient economy could not happen without innovation. A series of initiatives related to aspects of a circular economy and to innovation have been put in
place at various levels (EU-national-regional; regulatory-business-society, etc.); furthermore, as noted throughout the recent stakeholder consultation event organised by the European Commission before summer, there could be thousands of potential views on what circular economy and innovation mean, cover and are most appropriate to deliver on expectations.

This debate has the objective to focus on:

- some of the most common gaps in the current discussions about circular economy such as sustainable production processes, alternative resources and the industrial symbiosis
- what areas are most worthwhile to explore within a sustainable circular economy in Europe based on its specificities
- practical examples of innovations that contribute to a circular economy and come up with concrete ideas / actions to be further explored and implemented by the various actors (e.g. public and private decision-makers) in the field.

### Event agenda

1) **Welcome: Sirpa Pietikäinen, MEP**

2) **What is the place of production in the circular economy?**

   **Introduction:**

   **Loredana Ghinea**, Executive Director of SPIRE Public-Private Partnership

   **Reactions:**

   - **Kestutis Sadauskas**, Director, Green Economy, DG ENV, European Commission
   - **Kurt Vandenberghe**, Director, Climate Action and Resource Efficiency, DG RTD, European Commission
   - **Fulvia Raffaelli**, Acting Head of Unit, Clean Technologies and Products, Industrial Transformation and Advanced Value Chains, DG GROW, European Commission

3) **How could close the circle in practice? (speaker: tbc)**

   - Views and stories from 8 industrial sectors
   - Making industrial symbiosis happen
Round table discussion

4) Closing remarks

Speakers

Host:
Sirpa Pietikäinen, MEP

Moderator:
Gernot Klotz, President, Knowledge4Innovation

Speakers:
Loredana Ghinea, Executive Director of SPIRE Public-Private Partnership
Kestutis Sadauskas, Director, Green Economy, DG ENV, European Commission
Kurt Vandenberghe, Director, Climate Action and Resource Efficiency, DG RTD, European Commission
Fulvia Raffaelli, Acting Head of Unit, Clean Technologies and Products, Industrial Transformation and Advanced Value Chains, DG GROW, European Commission
Koen Coppenholle, Chief Executive, CEMBUREAU
Stéphane Noël, Environment and Technical Affairs, Cerame-Unie
Pierre Barthélémé, Research & Innovation Executive Director, CEFIC
Annick Carpentier, Sustainability Director, EUROMETAUX
Didier Jans, Director General, IMA-Europe
Sabine Will, ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe