EREK INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
MAKE IT HAPPEN WITH RESOURCE EFFICIENCY!
25-26/09/19 - BRUSSELS

SOCIAL ECONOMY
INDUSTRY 4.0
CIRCULAR ECONOMY

BEL-EVENT
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EREK European Resource Efficiency Knowledge Centre

#ResourceEfficiency
SOCIAL BUSINESSES & RESOURCE EFFICIENCY
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SOCIAL BUSINESSES & RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

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EREK - Parallel session 3: Social business and resource efficiency

RREUSE: the network of social enterprises that puts second-hand first!

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ABOUT US

RREUSE is an independent non-profit organisation representing social enterprises active in the field of re-use, repair and recycling. In 2017 RREUSE federated 29 members across 24 European countries and the USA.

Our main vision

is for Europe to support the role of social enterprise in a circular economy, providing meaningful work opportunities to thousands of vulnerable members of our community through innovative economic, social and environmentally beneficial activities.

RREUSE’s primary mission

is to help tackle poverty, social exclusion and a throwaway culture by promoting policies, best practices and partnerships that support the professionalism and development of social enterprises working in environmental services with high potential for local and inclusive job creation, notably re-use and repair.
Austria
RepNet

Belgium
KOMOSIE
RESOURCES

Bosnia and Herzegovina
Association Citizens “Hands”

Croatia
Humana Nova

Estonia
Uusasutuskeskus

Finland
Tramel Oy
Kierrätyskeskus Oy

France
Emmaüs France
Envie

Greece
Ecological Recycling Society
Klimax Plus

Hungary
Humusz Szövetség

Italy
Associazione Orius
Cooperativa Sociale Insieme

Netherlands
Branchevereniging Kringloopbedrijven Nederland

Poland
EKON

Romania
Ateliere Frat Frontiere

Slovenia
Dobrote z.b.o

Spain
AERESS

Sweden
Macken

United Kingdom
Reuseful UK
Community Resources Network Scotland

United States of America
donateNYC

pan-European networks
The main activities of our members include

collection, sorting and redistribution of used textiles and clothing
The main activities of our members include

collection, repair and reuse of electrical and electronic waste (WEEE),
furniture and other bulky waste
The main activities of our members include charity and second hand shops.
The main activities of our members include

collection and recycling of paper, cardboard, wood, plastics, paints, metals, books and toys
The main activities of our members include awareness raising campaigns, international projects, exchange of best practice and business support.
The main activities of our members include integration of disadvantaged groups on the job market.
The main activities of our members include

Providing housing and food for people in need
RREUSE NETWORK IMPACT 2017

RREUSE IS AN INDEPENDENT NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION REPRESENTING SOCIAL ENTERPRISES ACTIVE IN THE FIELD OF RE-USE, REPAIR AND RECYCLING

29 MEMBERS ACROSS 24 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND THE USA

160,000 EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS AND TRAINEES ENGAGED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF RREUSE’S MEMBERS

1,000 SOCIAL ENTERPRISES ARE PART OF RREUSE’S WIDER NETWORK

7,000 SHOPS WELcomed 40,000,000 CUSTOMERS CONTRIBUTING TO AN OVERALL RREUSE MEMBER ACTIVITY TURNOVER OF € 1,400,000,000

www.rreuse.org

RREUSE is grateful for the support of the EU Commission’s Programme for Employment and Social Innovation “EaSI”. The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Commission.

1,000,000 TONNES OF MATERIAL DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL THROUGH RE-USE, REPAIR AND RECYCLING, WHICH INCLUDED:

- FURNITURE: 270,000 TONNES collected
- TEXTILES: 280,000 TONNES collected
- ELECTRICALS: 300,000 TONNES collected
- BOOKS & RECORDS: 30,000 TONNES collected
- BRIC-A-BRAC: 25,000 TONNES collected

- 140,000 TONNES re-used
- 100,000 TONNES re-used
- 35,000 TONNES re-used
- 6,500 TONNES re-used
- 11,000 TONNES re-used

OTHER STREAMS INCLUDED BICYCLES, CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, BIOWASTE, GLASS, PAPER, PLASTICS AND WOOD
Environmental and social benefits of re-use

1/3 of goods collected at waste recycling centres are still re-usable and could be sold second-hand instead of being recycled or landfilled\(^1\)

200 000 local jobs could be created if 1% of municipal waste in Europe was prepared for re-use\(^2\)

12 000 € net return to government and society for the reintegration of one unemployed person through working at a social enterprise\(^3\)

\(^1\) rx3 (2013) All Island Bulky Waste Reuse Best Practice Management Feasability Study
\(^2\) RREUSE (2015) briefing on job creation potential in the re-use sector
\(^3\) SST (2015) Sociale tewerkstelling insynergie met de reguliere economie
Difficulties experienced with repair

Consumer goods are now less durable and repairable than in the past:

• Lack of access to and high costs of spare parts
• Lack of appropriate repair information
• Product design and components without re-use potential
Difficulties experienced with repair

The logistic on the preparing for re-use chain can be improved to safeguard the value of the products:

• Early identification of re-usable goods
• Weatherproof covering
• Smooth transportation

Waste electrical goods need to be protected from rain or they can't be re-used
Access to the waste stream must be granted to preparing for re-use operators to significantly raise their collection capacity.
Non-waste products (mainly donations) are a steady source of easily repairable products
Targets set at national or regional level do have positive impacts on re-use and preparing for re-use

3% of large household appliances and 4% of IT equipment to be prepared for re-use from 2018

7 kg of material re-used per capita by 2022
Already created 5000 jobs, with the majority of those being for persons distanced from the labour market
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Please, don’t hesitate to get in touch!

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https://www.rreuse.org/
SOCIAL BUSINESSES & RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

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EREK CONFERENCE – BRUSSELS

SUZANNE WISSE-HUISKES, CEO EUCLID NETWORK
INTRODUCTION

- Suzanne Wisse-Huiskes, CEO Euclid Network
SOCIAL BUSINESSES – ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

CHANGEMAKERS   SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS   INNOVATIVE LEADERS

AND ALSO: SOCIAL PURPOSE ORGANISATIONS, IMPACT DRIVEN ENTERPRISES
EUCLID NETWORK.
WE ARE

- A European network for social enterprises and impact driven leaders for over 10 years
- A membership including all frontrunners; social enterprise support organisations, national alliances, universities and social funds
- A fast growing network with members in over 20 countries,
- A strategic partner to cities, regions, the European Commission and the United Nations
- A supporter of the Global Alliance Pact for Impact
- Expanding through capacity building programmes for social entrepreneurs in Russia, the Middle East and North Africa
EUCLID NETWORK

PEER LEARNING ACROSS BORDERS ACCESS TO FUNDING AND SKILLS
SOCIAL BUSINESS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY – THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES

- PERCEPTION OF SUSTAINABILITY
- SUITABLE FINANCE
- LACK OF REGULATORY COORDINATION
SOCIAL BUSINESS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY – THE LARGEST BENEFITS

It brings different stakeholders together to reach a common goal

- Europe is the only continent that needs to import majority of natural resources
- Policy makers focus on integrating more sustainable production and consumption patterns into national and international action plans
- New policies and laws will simplify and support the creation of new green and social businesses
- Transfer of knowledge and high technology results to be easier for more people, from different backgrounds
- Alternative financial resources, more SMEs oriented, will start spreading up.
- A strong awareness makes consumers more eager to buy sustainable products
EXAMPLE 1. INSTOCK

- Worldwide waste: 1.3 billion tons of food a year
- Join forces with all involved parties, combined with a creative entrepreneurial mindset
- Restaurant chain turning food surplus into delicious meals
EXAMPLE 2. PAPER ON THE ROCKS

- The paper industry is one of the biggest polluters in the world
- An activistic stationery company that smashes a wasteful industry to pulp and then makes great things out of it
- Books are primarily made from construction rubble and other stone waste.
- No unnecessary use of water, to produce stone paper exactly zero drops of water are used
SOCIAL BUSINESS AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY - HOW TO MOVE FORWARD?

- Create connections and networks with leaders across Europe
- Share and produce knowhow with peers from other countries tackling similar challenges
- Gain insider knowledge, advice and support on EU policy and funding
- Collaborate locally in regions, clusters
- Build partnerships with traditional business
OUR VISION. AND YOURS?
EUCLID NETWORK

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CEO EUCLID NETWORK
WHAT'S YOUR STORY?
QUESTION TIME
Discussion corner 3 - Digital transformation: how to combine it with resource efficiency and circular economy?