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World Green Building Week 2024 09 - 15 September



## World Green Building Week 2024 National Conference

9 September 2024, Belgrade, Serbia

Organized by the Serbia Green Building Council in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia

### Day 1: Advancing the circular economy within the construction sector: challenges and opportunities

A forum powered by Circ-Boost, RECONSTRUCT, and Woodcircles

Venue: the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Resavska 13-15, 11000 Belgrade

Participation - Remote & in-person

Translation Serbian-English

#### Description of the forum: *Advancing the Circular Economy within the Construction Sector: Challenges and Opportunities*

A forum powered by Circ-Boost, RECONSTRUCT, and Woodcircles will take place in the framework of World Green Building Week 2024 on 9 September 2024 in Belgrade, Serbia. This will be a hybrid event where participants can attend physically or online.

Construction and demolition waste, such as cement and wood products, currently comprise the most significant waste stream in the European Union. With ambitious EU targets set, the construction sector's shift towards circular models is key to reducing carbon emissions and resource depletion. However, this also presents complexities and challenges, given the industry's fragmented and conservative nature.

This forum will explore how innovators across Europe are applying circular economy principles to the construction sector to significantly reduce its environmental and climate impact. The forum will highlight the activities of three Horizon Europe projects that are addressing complex areas: CIRC-BOOST, RECONSTRUCT, and Woodcircles. Together, these projects address three main challenges:

**Circular Design and Materials:** Circ-Boost, and RECONSTRUCT lead the way in exploring innovative circular design processes and the use of eco-friendly materials. They focus on alternatives to traditional concrete and the valorization of demolition waste, making the construction sector more sustainable. Woodcircles complements this effort by providing circular solutions for wood in construction, ensuring sustainable value chains for recycled materials.

**Waste Management and Material Recovery:** These projects work on efficient recovery and recycling of construction materials to reduce waste and promote reuse.

**Digital Technologies for Circular Construction:** These initiatives leverage digital technologies to enhance circular construction practices.

## AGENDA

08:30 – 09:00	<b>Arrival &amp; registration</b>
9:00 – 9:20	<p><b>Conference Opening, Introductory statements</b></p> <p>The 2-Day conference is opened with opening statements from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bojana Zeković, President of Serbia GBC</li> <li>• Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia representative (TBC)</li> <li>• Ministry representative (TBD)</li> <li>• Embassy representatives (TBD)</li> </ul>
9:20 – 09:30	<p><b>Introduction, forum objectives and setting the scene</b></p> <p>Technical and non-technical challenges around the implementation of the Green deal and a snapshot view of our host projects Circ-Boost, RECONSTRUCT and Woodcircles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master of Forum: Katarina Đokić, Communication and Dissemination manager, Balkan Eco Innovations</li> </ul>
9:30 – 10:20	<p><b>Panel 1: Policy priorities for Circular Construction in Europe and beyond</b></p> <p>A shift towards circular models in the construction sector can reduce carbon emissions and resource depletion and contribute to achieving EU policy objectives defined in the Green Deal and the revised Circular Economy Monitoring Framework. This session will explore different national, EU and global perspectives on progress to achieving these objectives and the challenges that need to be overcome.</p> <p>Chair – Zorana Petojević, Faculty of Civil Engineering, UoB;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julie Emmrich, WorldGBC’s Sustainable Finance Lead</li> <li>• Siniša Mitrović, Head of the Center for Circular Economy, CCIS</li> <li>• Lucie Blondel, Policy Officer, Circular Cities and Regions Initiatives, European Commission (online)</li> <li>• Philippe Moseley, Team Leader sustainable construction, European Commission (Online)</li> <li>• Representative from Serbian Ministry (TBD)</li> <li>• Embassy representatives (TBD)</li> </ul>
10:20 – 11:10	<p><b>Lightning talks from other EU, local, national and other activities and initiatives</b></p> <p>In this session we invite innovators from across Europe and Serbia to present their innovations in this area. Speakers will also be able to showcase and interact with participants at the exhibition area during the networking lunch.</p>

	<p>Compilation of prospective European initiatives for potential engagement (all projects to confirm):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 EU-funded project: DRASTIC (TBC)</li> <li>• ReTex: Reuse of Construction Textiles – Aleksandar Vučur &amp; Jelena Janković</li> <li>• Fragment Incorporated – Pavle Milošević</li> <li>• Kristian Augustgate 13 Reconstruction, Morten Slungård - Norwegian GBC</li> </ul>
<p>11:10-11:30</p>	<p><b>Networking Break</b></p>
<p>11:30-12:30</p>	<p><b>Panel 2: New technologies and European Innovations for digitalised and environmentally-friendly construction</b></p> <p>This session will focus on how European innovators are transforming the European construction sector through the design and delivery of new platforms and tools based on circular economy principles. We'll explore how three EC-funded projects are designing innovative circular design processes using eco-friendly materials, efficiently recovering and recycling construction materials, and harnessing the power of new and emerging digital technologies to enable circular solutions which can increase the market potential for circular construction solutions.</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Kathleen Blanco, coordinator of Reconstruct</p> <p><b>Overview of each project's platforms and solutions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circ-Boost - Albert De La Fuente Antequera, Coordinator</li> <li>• RECONSTRUCT - Jose Lucas, Coordinator</li> <li>• Woodcircles - Anders Kjellow, coordinator</li> <li>• Panel 15' minutes</li> </ul> <p><b>Format:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highlight eventual project outputs including technologies and platforms</li> <li>• Highlight impacts and benefits to stakeholders</li> <li>• Q&amp;A</li> </ul>
<p>12:30-13:15</p>	<p><b>Panel 3: European solutions impacting on local realities across Europe</b></p> <p>In this session we examine the impact and benefit of scalable and replicable circular economy solutions in construction. With perspectives from potential end-users and key stakeholders we explore barriers and impact of the adoption of new platforms which foster the adoption of circular economy principles and discuss what this all means for all actors along the construction value-chain.</p> <p>The session could consider topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local and common needs</li> <li>• Impact on citizens</li> <li>• Environmental impact</li> <li>• Aspects of circular economy</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenges to adoption – e.g. local or national regulations, procurement</li> <li>Barriers to market impact – e.g. proof of impact, lack of common standards</li> <li>Sustainability</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair</b> - Katarina Đokić, Balkan Eco Innovations</p> <p><b>Round table panellists:</b> Pilot managers from each project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Circ-Boost – Zorana Petojević, Ivan Ignjatović (Pilot 3), Albert De La Fuente Antequera (Pilot 4), Ane Høyem (Pilot 5 - online)</li> <li>RECONSTRUCT - Gerardo Wadel, Sociedad Organica (online)</li> <li>Woodcircles - Laura Ribotta, Municipality of Turin, Turin use case (online)</li> </ul>
13:15-13:30	<p><b>Future funding opportunities and future investments EC - 10'</b> <b>Q&amp;A 5'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Philippe Moseley , Team Leader sustainable construction, European Commission (Online)</li> </ul> <p><b>Round up and closing remarks - 10'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Master of ceremony: Katarina Đokić, Communication and Dissemination manager, Balkan Eco Innovations</li> </ul>
13:30 15:00	<b>Networking drinks, buffet</b>