Launch of the ILO-Circle Economy-World Bank Initiative

Understanding the circular economy
measuring, modelling and monitoring circular jobs

9 MAY 2023 | 13:30 - 15:00 CEST | ONLINE

tiny.cc/GEN9May23
DECENT WORK IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

A report by Circle Economy, ILO, and Solutions for Youth Employment of the World Bank

www.circle-economy.com/resources/decent-work-in-the-circular-economy
Launch of the ILO-Circle Economy-World Bank Initiative

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SPEAKERS
By order of intervention.

Casper EDMONDS
Head of Unit, Extractives, Energy and Manufacturing, Sectoral Policies Department, ILO | Moderator

Esther GOODWIN-BROWN
Lead, Circular Jobs Initiative, Circle Economy

Nandini KUMAR
Consultant, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development

Kadiatu A. SHERIFF
YOUNGO Green Jobs Working Group | Founder and President, Golden Waste Solutions Enterprise Inc.

Namita DATTA
Program Manager at the Solutions for Youth Employment (S4YE) Program, World Bank Group

Diana JUNQUERA CURIEL
Director, Energy Industry and Just Transition, IndustriALL Global Union

Robert MARINKOVIC
Adviser, Climate Change, International Organisation of Employers

Kari HERLEVI
Head, Global Collaboration for Sustainability Solutions, Sitra
Technical Information

- Throughout the event, you may raise your questions in the Q&A box.
- Automatically translated subtitles in many languages are available through the captions button on the bottom left of your screen.
- The recording, summary and documents will be made available on the event's website.

Launch of the ILO-Circle Economy-World Bank Initiative

Understanding the Circular Economy: measuring, modelling and monitoring circular jobs.
ENGLISH CAPTIONS CAN BE ACTIVATED BY CLICKING ON THE BOTTOM ON THE LEFT-SIDE OF THE BOTTOM BAR ON THE SCREEN

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- Casper EDMONDS | Head of Unit, Extractives, Energy and Manufacturing, Sectoral Policies Department, ILO | Moderator

Overview of the New ILO-WB-CE Initiative
- Namita DATTA | Program Manager at the Solutions for Youth Employment (S4YE) Program, World Bank Group

Presentation of Findings from Literature Review
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Reflections
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Closing Remarks
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Understanding the Circular Economy: measuring, modelling and monitoring circular jobs
JOBS IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY
A JOINT CIRCLE ECONOMY, ILO & WORLD BANK INITIATIVE
WHO WE ARE

Specialised UN agency
- Sectoral policies dept in collab with Green Jobs and research departments
- Focus areas: decent work, green jobs, just transition

World Bank Group's Program
- Based in the Jobs group at the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice.
- Focus areas: youth employment, entrepreneurship and digitalization.

International impact organisation
- Circular Jobs Initiative and Research & Development teams
- Focus areas: skills, quality of work, inclusive economy
Reduce global greenhouse gases by 39%.

Reduce global resource extraction by 28%.

Limit climate change to 1.5 degrees.

Promote innovation, enterprise & create decent jobs for all.

Achieving Paris.
**WHY | THE PROBLEM**

- **Impact** of circular economy strategies on and their contribution to key agendas, sectors and countries (particularly global south) not well known

- Circular economy indicators, estimates and interventions developed in **isolation** and with limited connection to **social outcomes** or **just transition**

- Lack of tools for integrating circular economy strategies into **just & inclusive** interventions, roadmaps, financing and international corporations → potential trade-offs
WHAT | INITIATIVE PILLARS

Three year collaborative initiative, creating a global evidence base on decent jobs in the circular economy

**PILLAR ONE**
LANDSCAPING & MONITORING GLOBAL CIRCULAR JOBS
- Stakeholder mapping + outreach
- Systematic literature review
- Review of methodologies
- The first high-profile Review of Jobs in the Circular Economy

**PILLAR TWO**
SECTORAL & REGIONAL DEEP DIVES
- Sectoral (e.g. Textiles, e-waste, energy)
- Thematic (e.g. gender, youth, trade, skills)
- Regional (LMICs and MICs)

**PILLAR THREE**
KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND AWARENESS RAISING
- Seminars and learning exchanges
- Indicator guidance
- Capacity development
- Annual high-level events
**Overall objective:** To support an enabling environment for job creation, decent and sustainable work in the circular economy [in selected value chain/region/country].

**Pillar 1. Selected value chain(s)/region/country**

- **Circular economy practices:** Awareness and exchange on best practices, challenges, opportunities
- **Enabling environment:** Dialogues on challenges, opportunities, measurement, regulation, domestic & foreign policy

**Bi-annual thematic deep dive reports**

**Pillar 2. International review, validation & exchange**

- **Internationally relevant methods:** Consultation and validation with knowledge institutions, statistical bureaus
- **Capacity development & uptake:** Guidance documents, train the researcher & knowledge exchange
- **Global estimates:** Publish and share global and regional estimates of CE employment using consistent indicators

**Global review on jobs in the circular economy**

**Specific objective:** Increased awareness among governments agencies, employers and workers and other key institutions of the social impact of circular economy interventions in [selected value chain(s)/region/country] and tools for measurement.

**Specific objective:** Governments, statistics offices and key research institutions have increased knowledge of and access to consistent and compelling evidence and indicators of decent work in the circular economy.
INITIATIVE GOALS AND STRATEGY

**Develop** compelling evidence on current work in the circular economy and **support** pathways towards more environmental and economic policies and interventions which can **enable** a fair transition for all.

Four approaches:

- Conduct **in-depth analyses** of the circular economy.
- Develop consistent and rigorous **methodologies, assessments and indicators**.
- Raise awareness and **share knowledge** about the circular economy and its potential for creating decent work.
- Foster **partnerships and collaboration** among stakeholders.
Example organisations to collaborate on methodology development and deep dive reports
Stronger political support for just & inclusive solutions

Enabling environment and policy-making for decent jobs in CE

Social and employment agenda is embedded in CE and climate

CE adopted as a mechanism for achieving key goals
NEXT STEPS

- Launch of systematic review, *Decent Work in the Circular Economy*
  - WCEF, Helsinki, June

- Establish strategic partnerships
- Begin in-depth review of methodologies
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Understanding the Circular Economy: measuring, modelling and monitoring circular jobs
DECENT WORK IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY:
AN OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING EVIDENCE BASE

Esther Goodwin Brown
Circular Jobs Initiative Lead, Circle Economy
esther@circle-economy.com
As CE gains momentum we need to know what it entails for workers around the world.

1. **What do we know about [decent] work in the circular economy?**
   - Systematic review of the evidence base

2. **What are the opportunities and challenges for promoting decent work in the circular economy?**
   - Analyse of key trends, opportunities and challenges

3. **How could better evidence bolster efforts towards a just and inclusive circular economy?**
   - Gap analysis and recommendations
Between 1995-2022, 30,543 academic papers were found on the topic of circular economy.

1.4% (425 papers) addressed decent work and the circular economy, peaking in 2021 (105 papers).

84% of the studies reviewed focused on the Global North.

Global South focused reports largely related to waste management.

80% macro-level analysis, compared to 11% for micro-level (industry) and 9% for meso-level (firm).

Figure 1. Publications that combine decent work and circular economy concepts between 1995 and 2022 from the perspective of countries in the Global North and the Global South.
KEY THEMES - CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- Labour market and sectoral transformation
- Informality
- Work reallocation and skills development
- Working conditions and social dialogue
- Gender and social equity
LABOUR MARKET TRANSFORMATION

- **Job creation is a key social contribution** of the CE - yet projections vary and few studies focus on improving job quality and conditions.

- **Enabling sectors for regional competitiveness** - Identifying enabling activities is key for regional competitiveness alongside maintenance, recycling, repair, and reuse.

- **Impact-analysis for North-South coordination** - Mapping and monitoring of CE strategies across existing value chains and trade arrangements to maximise benefits for all.
SOCIAL EQUITY

- **Circular jobs subject to similar barriers as green** - including skills mismatches, investment in female-led businesses, gender bias in law and care

- **Proactive women-centric approach to policy development** - to boost job opportunities for women, including reallocation of mid-skilled, male-dominated occupations

- **Potential to empower young people untapped** - particularly in regions with high levels of youth unemployment
WORKING CONDITIONS

- **Limited knowledge of CE impact on existing working conditions** - Strong focus on OSH in waste and recycling, overlooking other aspects of decent work

- **Informal and atypical work largely unquantified** - concerted efforts needed to understand the potential implications and devise effective interventions

- **CE creates opportunities for social inclusion along emerging value chains** - collective bargaining systems needed to effectively improve working conditions and rights at work
WAYS FORWARD

1. More granular inclusive evidence of work in the circular economy
   - Study impact of CE across regions, on marginalised groups and on local level
   - Identify and adopt globally relevant indicators

2. Global and social justice-led research and policy
   - Share best practices and conduct deep dives - countries and value chains
   - Examine policy measures and indicators need to support design/impact assessment

3. Joint advocacy and data partnerships
   - Data partnerships with local and international bodies to review industrial classifications and overcome omission of CE in current datasets
   - Ensure circular economy advocacy includes socioeconomic outcomes
Download the report here:
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WCEF 2023
30 May - 2 June
WWW.WCEF2023.COM
#WCEF2023
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INNOVATING AND UNLOCKING FINANCE FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

11 MAY 2023 | 16:00 - 17:30 CEST | PALAIS DES NATIONS & ONLINE
WHAT'S NEXT?

CONFERENCES

Innovating and Unlocking Finance for Nature-based Solutions
11 MAY 2023 16:00 – 17:30
Palais des Nations | Room XXIV & Online
EU, IUCN, GEN

GREEN ECONOMY | NATURE
SDG8 | SDG9

2023 Geneva Dialogues on Human Rights and Climate Change
17 MAY 2023 14:00 – 18:00
Palais des Nations, Room XXII & Online | WebEx
OHCHR, CIEL, Earthjustice, FES, Luxembourg

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENT
SDG1 | SDG12 | SDG13 | SDG14 | SDG15

World Environment Day Celebration | Multilateral Solutions to End Plastic Pollution
05 JUN 2023 11:00 – 13:30
International Environment House II (Chemin de Balexert 7-9, Châtelaine)

CHEMICALS AND POLLUTION | PLASTICS
SDG3 | SDG12 | SDG13 | SDG14 | SDG15

genevaenvironmentnetwork.org
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