

WHAT IS AN URBAN RESOURCE CENTRE?

Urban Resource Centres are physical centres that promote the circular economy at local level. These centres can be designated multi-functional places where the waste hierarchy is correctly implemented, emphasizing the social, economic and environmental functions of the circular economy. Urban Resource Centres brings together a wide community of stakeholders, promoting circular consumption, waste prevention, re-use and circular resource management in cities today.

URBAN AGENDA FOR THE EU

WORKING TOGETHER
FOR BETTER CITIES

DEVELOPING A LOCAL CIRCULAR ECONOMY



URBAN RESOURCE CENTRES

ENVIRONMENTAL FUNCTIONS

- WASTE PREVENTION
- WASTE MANAGEMENT
- 2ND RAW MATERIALS

ECONOMICAL FUNCTIONS

- INCUBATOR
- CO-CREATION
- TRANSFORMING INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

- JOB CREATION
- ENGAGING COMMUNITY
- QUALITY OF LIFE

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SETTING UP A URBAN RESOURCE CENTER

HOW CAN CITIES DEVELOP THE CONCEPT? WHAT ARE THE BARRIERS & SUCCESS FACTORS?



BARRIERS

- Access to space
- Finding a suitable business model
- Communication of the services
- Legislative obstacles
- Tackling the low quality of waste
- Finding effective indicators and reporting systems



SUCCESS FACTORS

- Wide variety of Stakeholder
- Co-location
- Use of new Technology
- Promote testing and experimentation
- Political support
- Strong link to the social economy



5 STEPS FORWARD

Space

A possible solution to the challenges with access to space is for centres to develop more temporary set-ups.

Knowledge

Providing more knowledge on approaches to Urban Resource Centres through training and exchanges.

Funding

Identifying better financing models for public, private, and public-private centres is important. Looking into how to make it easier for local waste management authorities to have the waste fee also cover waste reduction measures could solve some financial limitations.

Communication

Sharing of knowledge and examples of effective and illustrative ways to communicate the benefits of waste prevention, re-use and repair to citizens, which in turn reaches a broader segment of citizens.

Waste quality

An increased focus on eco-design of goods (easier to repair, remanufacture, re-use) is crucial in maintaining a stable re-use market with a steady supply of re-useable quality goods.

Social focus

Urban Resource Centres can help stimulate employment and entrepreneurship, promote training for youth and unemployed adult but also represents a source of income and value creation.



Read the full report at:

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/circular-economy/urban-resource-centre>

