



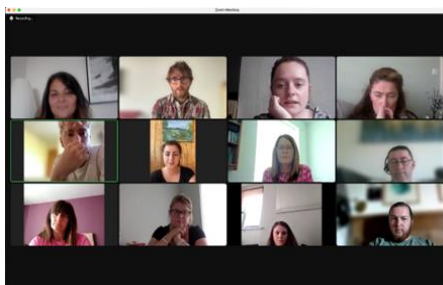
Innovation Ecosystems for Circular Economy Entrepreneurs

Businesses and professional trainers and educators play a crucial role for the transition towards a sustainable, low-carbon, resource-efficient, and circular European economy.

This is exactly why during the last few months we have been investing all our efforts into reaching some of the main outputs within the **ECO-CENT** project, which helps bridge the gaps between VET providers and enterprises and facilitates both parties' contribution to the **green transition** of Europe.

- We developed a **Circular Economy Business Modelling Curriculum**, which will help companies introduce circular practices in their processes and products. The resources cover five circular business strategies – *Product as a Service, Resource Recovery, Product Life Extension, Sharing Platform, Circular Supplies*. The resources will be further translated into all partner languages.
- We elaborated a **framework to facilitate skunkworks** and an **In-service Training Programme** to support the continuous professional development of VET tutors. The programme consists of three modules: Introduction to Circular Economy, addressing existing skills gaps, and presentation of Circular Business Models.
- We are also working on the development of an eLearning platform, comprising a **Community of Practice** and the ECO-CENT **Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)**, which includes all the ECO-CENT products and 60 additional open educational resources.
- We organised the second meeting of **multi-stakeholder forums** in all partner countries.

Where are we now?



Participants in the second meeting of the multi-stakeholder forum in Germany are discussing the options to facilitate innovation and circularity among local businesses.

Training event, multistakeholder forums and more!



In April the ECO-CENT partners organised a **Transnational Training Event** in Ljubljana (Slovenia) with iVET and cVET educators from seven countries, piloting the In-service Training Programme. The second **physical meeting** of the ECO-CENT Consortium took place on 19 January in the town of **Rafina**,

Greece. All partners were represented in the event, where the current progress in the implementation of the project was discussed, and the future tasks and initiatives were planned.

What to expect next?

- All training resources developed within the project will be **translated into Bulgarian, German, Greek, Portuguese, Slovenian**.
- The **In-service Training** will be completed in all partner countries with local cVET and iVET providers.
- The ECO-CENT **MOOC** and the **Community of Practice** will be further developed and expanded. They will provide access to various materials elaborated within the project, as well as other available open resources.
- A **Policy Paper** will be developed to present the ECO-CENT model as an example of best practice in support of innovation and cooperation between businesses and VET providers. A **Risk Analysis Report** and an **Impact Assessment Report** will also be elaborated.
- **Multiplier Events** and another series of **meetings of the multi-stakeholder forums** will be held in all partner countries. The **Final Conference** will be in Portugal in October.

Make sure you follow the ECO-CENT [website](#) and [Facebook page](#), where you could find all the important news and information regarding the project!

