



**1st day of study (webinar) on the circular economy and its contribution to green entrepreneurship to achieve the sustainable development goals by 2030.  
ON 21/11/2021**

## Meeting Report

### Organizers

- The Chair "Circular Economy and Sustainable Development / University of Boumerdes
  - The National Association for Eco-design, Life Cycle Analysis and Sustainable Development (ANEADD) "UNESCO Association and ALECSO Chair"
  - The National Conservatory of Environmental Training (CNFE), Research Laboratory in Food Technology / University of Boumerdes (LRTA)
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- **Supervisor:** Professor LOUHAB Krim Director of the ALECSO Chair / University of Boumerdes) (Circular Economy and Sustainable Development and President of the National Association of Eco-design, Life Cycle Analysis and Sustainable Development (A.N.E.A.D.D)
  - **Moderators:** Mrs Sabrina Halli, Expert in entrepreneurship
  - **Reporting:** Mrs Louisa Samar, former executive of CRD SONATRACH and Mrs Dounia Laggoun, former executive of CRD SONATRACH

(The list of participants is attached)

## SPEAKERS

- **MOHAMMED BEDROUNI:** Vice President Membership Algerian American association for science, technology, and entrepreneurship
- **DR DAVID NESS:** University of South Australia
- **HALICH JAMILA:** University USTHB/CNES
- **KAMAL MOHAMMEDI:** Professor MESO/URMPE, University of Boumerdes
- **MILENE PACHECO:** Industrial development expert at UNIDO
- **JEAN-CLAUDE BOLDRINI:** Senior Lecturer IAE Nantes Institute of Economics and Management
- **KHADEM MOHAMED:** IANOR S/ Director IANOR Consultant PREMA NET / National OSR Expert according to NA/ISO26000
- **AMINA YEKHLEF:** Expert in Education and Training
- **SADOUNI TEWFIK:** University Abderrahmane Mira of Bejaia

## OBJECTIVES

The objective is to discuss the topic of "The circular economy and its contribution to green entrepreneurship in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030", several national and international experts, academics, researchers, business executives, representatives of various institutions have enriched the webinar with their contributions.

During this webinar of 21 November 2021 dedicated to the circular economy, the international and national experts issued recommendations according to the Algerian context and concerns formalised by key questions.

### **Five questions were raised for consideration by the participants**

- Is the circular economy a necessity for society and business, and what are the risks of ignoring it as an alternative to the conventional economy?
- What is the contribution of the circular economy to the crucial concerns of Algeria, in particular in the management of waste and the reduction of greenhouse gases (GHG)?
- Is it imperative to integrate the concept of the circular economy in schools and in which way?
- Is the creation of a national network necessary to boost the circular economy in our country?

- **Necessity and the concern**

The circular economy (CE) is an economic model that aims to produce sustainable goods and services while reducing the loss of resources and waste. As such, the circular economy concept promotes innovation and adaptability for businesses wishing to develop and/or improve their services or products. It is seen by many as a solution to many types of environmental and societal challenges, including dramatically reducing GHG emissions and optimizing waste management.

But to be effective, it needs to be integrated with other policies, programs and actions, particularly those aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

CE seeks to extract more value from materials, land, energy, water and other natural resources by extending their life through reuse and recovery, or through conversion to other uses. The ultimate goal is to provide more services while reducing resource extraction, consumption and waste, for example through new business models involving product service systems.

The application of CE principles can support many of the SDGs, such as: clean and affordable energy (7); decent work and economic growth (8); industrial innovation (9); reduced inequality (10); sustainable cities and communities (11); responsible consumption and production (12); and climate action (13).

- **Caution is needed**

On the other hand, the increased introduction of EC policies and practices in the country may lead to self-sufficiency and reduced demand for imported raw materials. This in turn can lead to serious consequences for society, such as job losses in the extractive industries.

Algeria, like other countries in the world, is faced with major challenges, which are compounded by the effects of climate change and the degradation of natural resources.

Therefore, it needs to transform its current economic model.

This transformation requires stronger support, investment and capacity building provided by the state to companies. Entrepreneurs should be supported to apply the principles of CE by finding innovative solutions at a community, practical and inclusive level with multiple societal benefits.

Also, there is a need to promulgate a framework law on the circular economy that is part of a national program for energy, economic and ecological transition by 2030.

- **Integration of circular economy in education**

The concept of the circular economy is a new and emerging perspective on sustainable development. For the successful transition, it is imperative to strengthen the vision of a sustainable world for future generations. This requires the integration of circular economy education in schools. School is a privileged place for demonstration by example; it inculcates the values and principles of sustainable development. To this end, the expert speakers recommend the implementation of eco-school programs based on seven (07) points. This involves taking several schools at national level as "pioneer schools".

By promoting demonstration by example, students, teachers and staff will understand and be able to replicate good CE practices. The idea is to replicate natural processes with the aim of making resources instead of waste. Also, it is important to adopt to the Algerian context the experiences of leading countries in this field such as Finland.

- **Contribution of the circular economy to waste management and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction**

Algeria is not out of line with other countries in the world, and is committed to leading this battle by reducing its GHG emissions by 22% by 2030, the energy sector being the most concerned. The Algerian government's climate change strategies have focused on renewable energy, energy efficiency and the prevention of deforestation, but have overlooked the vast potential of the circular economy. It is important to restructure the supply chains back to the wells, fields, mines and quarries where our resources come from so that we consume fewer raw materials. This will not only reduce emissions, but also stimulate growth by making economies more efficient.

Waste production is constantly increasing. To turn it into a source of economic growth, the circular economy must be adopted as a model to accelerate the widespread recycling of waste, promoting the transformation of waste into resources. It is equally necessary to reform the Waste to Energy Act on recycled materials, include proposals to tackle food waste and set recycling targets for packaging materials and plastic waste by 2030. The implementation of regulatory and operational schemes on the different aspects of the circular economy including waste management, selective sorting and energy efficiency is more than urgent.

▪ **Necessity for the creation of a national network on the circular economy**

The CE requires the involvement of all sectors of activity, namely education, higher education, industry, research centers and state institutions (IANOR, bank, etc.), with the participation of companies. This requires the creation of a national circular economy and green entrepreneurship network. This entity will make it possible to convey a common vision, between the various institutions and organizations, and will coordinate the various actions and skills, whether scientific, technical, legal and/or financial, in order to give impulse to a real dynamic of the transition from the linear economy to the circular economy.

Professor Krim LOUHAB

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