

# Circular Amsterdam: A vision and action agenda for the city and metropolitan area

**Published On:** 15 June 2017

**Organisation:** City of Amsterdam

**Country:** Netherlands

**Level of government:** Local government

**Sector:** General public services

**Type:** Methods

**Launched in:** 2016

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# Description

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As a pillar of Amsterdam's sustainability policy, creating a circular economy is high on the municipality's agenda. Results from the study 'Circular Amsterdam: A vision and roadmap for the city and region' provide guidance to the municipality regarding potential steps towards increased circularity. The roadmap explicitly connects with and builds on the many initiatives that are already being implemented.

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## Why the innovation was developed

- Cities are the hotbed of innovation and circularity is now on the agenda; politically, socially and commercially. The ability to identify and implement circular solutions at the city level will lead to job creation, a cleaner environment, new or rejuvenated industries, and competitiveness in global markets.
  - The circular economy provides solutions for many environmental, economic and geopolitical challenges that cities worldwide are facing. The first Circle City Scan was completed with the city of Amsterdam, which is a pioneer in the field of circular economy.
  - This report identifies areas in which circular business models can be applied and highlights strategies to accomplish practical implementation of these sustainable solutions. The Circle City Scan addresses where and how to start with tangible projects, and what the impact is in terms of jobs, environment and added (economic) value.
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## Objectives

Improve service quality, Support economic growth

- Results of the study show that Amsterdam has the potential to greatly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and material consumption while, at the same time, realising economic growth and stimulating employment opportunities.
  - Four indicators were used in determining impact: (1) net added value in millions of euro, (2) net job growth in FTE, (3) material savings calculated by value retention in domestic material consumption and (4) reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
  - The effects of the circular strategies on the environment and the economy are calculated for the construction of 70 thousand homes in Amsterdam. Here, the impact will be realised over a period of five to seven years. added value €235 million job growth 1900 fte co<sub>2</sub> reduction 1100 kton
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## Main beneficiaries

Civil Society

# Results

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## Service quality

### Accessibility:

- more jobs reducing Co<sub>2</sub>
- circular economy accessible to all

# Development

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## Design

The city scan is performed on the basis of political agreements. Circular economy is one of the political priorities.

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## Testing

- The City Circle Scan approach consists of four phases. In phase 1, the main material and energy flows as well as the employment levels in the economic sectors in the region were analysed, creating a solid base for phase 2.
  - In phase 2, a comprehensive analysis of the value chains that connect multiple sectors within Amsterdam was conducted.
  - Phase 3 explored the two chains in an ideal circular future. This future vision provides a view of how the chains (and their interactions with other chains) can be set up to be more effective.
  - In phase 4, an action agenda and roadmap were drawn to kickstart relevant circular projects, and potential barriers were identified.
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## Implementation

### Tools used:

- The roadmap and action agenda in the study present a large number of short and long term actions that can contribute to transforming the construction chain and, thus, to the realisation of the impacts.

### Resources used:

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## Partnerships

### Circle economy Fabric / TNO

Private sector

Contractors

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# Lessons Learned

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## Lessons Learned

- The use of the circle scan method : making clear opportunities of a circular economy in terms of jobs, value, material savings and CO2 reduction. a method / roadmaps making it possible to work together with industry, institutes and government
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## Conditions for success

- It is certain that the government can not provide that 'the' economy must be circular, but they have a facilitating and stimulating role.
- Companies and institutions should be able to address their role in an economy in transition.

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