



Polytechnic of Coimbra,
from linear to circular economy

JULY
2021



Title

1. Author Contact Information

Name Ana Ferreira, António Loureiro e Sílvia Seco

Email saudeocupacional@ipc.pt

Telephone +351 239 791 250

2. Organization Information

Country Portugal

Region Coimbra

City Coimbra

Organisation Name Polytechnic of Coimbra (IPC)

3. Organisation in charge of the good practice

Is your organisation the main institution in charge of this good practice? yes

If no, please tell us who is the main institution in charge

Name Organisation

Country

Region

City

4. General Information

Practice Image



**Politécnico
de Coimbra**



Title of the practice Polytechnic of Coimbra, from linear to Circular Economy

Geographical scope of the good practice* Regional

5. Good Practice Detailed Information

Short summary of the practice *IPC, from linear to circular economy is based on the reduction, reuse, recovery and recycling of materials and energy, enhancing the value and useful life of products, materials and resources in the economy.*

Detailed information on the practice *In Europe, each citizen consumes, on average, 14 tons of raw materials per year, which, according to the European Parliament, generate approximately 5 tons of waste in the same period.*

The current linear economy of extracting resources from the biosphere without restoring the same value for future generations availability, transforming, using and discarding it, started in the 70s and has brought us to this point, surpassing the regeneration capacity of ecosystems.

The current trends of population and its needs increased and the consequent pressure on natural resources have underlined the need for modern societies to move towards a more sustainable paradigm, a greener economy that ensures economic development and improved living and employment conditions, as well as the regeneration of natural capital.

Resources needed *€ 317.766,62*

Timescale (start/end date) *December 2018 – ongoing*

Evidence of success (results achieved) *Reduction of plastic, paper and other raw materials; elimination of the use of plastic water bottles in IPC events and meetings; reduction of waste production and pollutant emissions associated with the production and transport of purchased goods; use of more environmentally friendly materials and raw materials, namely paper with FSC certification and inks (the inks used in printing of some materials take into account the fulfillment of the certification of the European standard EN 71 /3 of the EEC); increased purchase of ecological or more environmentally friendly products.*

Challenges encountered (optional) *Weak market adaptation to the intended circular criteria and adoption of the practice of including circular criteria in the various acquisitions of the IPC. However, it's a contribution to adaptation of the market to these needs, to the reduction of costs in the acquisition of reusable and recyclable goods compared to disposable*

goods, with the consequent promotion of sustainable and efficient management of resources.

Potential for learning or transfer *So far, a couple of crucial success factors have been identified, which can be applied to other circular projects:*

Before defining the circular criteria, it is important to know and contact the market in order to understand its available solutions and the capacity to adapt to what is required;

In terms of award criteria, it is important to balance the circularity criteria - price relationship;

Working with suppliers and involving them in this process of change, from planning to result evaluation with the implementation of the good/ service.

Further information <https://www.ipc.pt/ipc/sustentavel/projetos/green-deal-economia-circular/>

Keywords related to your practice Circular economy, public procurement, reduction, reuse, recovery, recycling, Polytechnic of Coimbra + Sustainable.