PRATO CIRCULAR CITY
A Strategy for the Circular Economy at local level

Circular Cities EU Green Week
18/05/2021
Prato Circular City (PCC) is the strategy of the City of Prato to:

• Promote the **transition of the city towards the circular economy**

• Strengthen **the image of Prato** as «circular city» and promote shared, integrated and participatory actions.

• Establish a **permanent forum** with the stakeholders of the territory to promote shared circular economy actions and build a **governance** of circular city.
Introduction

Starting from the experience gained within the EU Urban Agenda Partnership on Circular Economy, we plan to:

• Use the same working methodology at city and district level.
• Encourage participation, discussion, sharing.
• Broaden the vision to think about a **circular and integrated urban system** where it is possible to accelerate the transition.
• The technical-scientific coordination of Prato Circular City is carried out by ARCO, a research group of PIN – University of Florence.
The EU Urban Agenda brings together the European Commission, national ministries, local governments and other stakeholders to promote:

- Better legislation
- Better funding (easier access to finance)
- Better Knowledge (broader knowledge sharing on issues relevant to cities).
The Urban Agenda tackles the challenges cities are facing by building partnerships between the European Commission, EU organizations, national governments, local authorities and stakeholders, such as NGOs to develop together action plans aimed at:

- Adopting more effective laws
- Improving funding programs
- Sharing knowledge (data, studies, good practices).
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Better legislation</th>
<th>Better funding</th>
<th>Better Knowledge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European laws are often implemented in cities, with</td>
<td>Urban authorities are among the main beneficiaries of public</td>
<td>The EU Urban Agenda helps to develop a knowledge base on urban</td>
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<td>direct and indirect implications for municipalities,</td>
<td>funding. However, obtaining the funds can be difficult due to</td>
<td>policies and promote the exchange of good practices.</td>
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<td>businesses and citizens.</td>
<td>the different EU institutions that provide them and the</td>
<td>• Success stories and other knowledge about how cities evolve</td>
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<td>different ways of funding.</td>
<td>need to be valued and shared in a more extensive way.</td>
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<td>The EU Urban Agenda aims to help stakeholders to</td>
<td>• The urban agenda aims to improve the quality of funding</td>
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<td>implement existing policies, laws and tools in a more</td>
<td>sources and facilitate access for municipal administrations.</td>
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<td>effective and coherent way as well as collaborating</td>
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<td>to overcome certain legislative constraints.</td>
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Prato in the Urban Agenda Partnership on Circular Economy

- Period: 2017-2020
- Participation in periodic meetings and continuous discussion with European partners
- Privileged observatory on the exchange of best practices, legislative modification procedures, funding calls.
- 3 actions coordinated and completed by Prato
Topic: Water reuse

Tipology of action: Better legislation

Main result: Position paper on the reuse of treated wastewater in agriculture

→ Proposals for modification and improvement of the new European regulation on the reuse of water in agriculture
Topic: **Reuse of spaces and buildings**

Tipology of action: **Better knowledge**


Topic: **Waste**

Tipology of action: **Better knowledge**

Main result: **Publication of a toolkit** on operating methods for the management of punctual waste pricing.

LINK: https://www.operate.it/payt/
The Circular City

Source: Borsacchi et al., 2020
TABLE 1
Textile & Clothing District and Industrial symbiosis

TABLE 2
Management of urban resources

TABLE 3
Circular consumption

TABLE 4
Sustainable urban agriculture systems
## TABLE 1 - Textile & Clothing District and Industrial symbiosis

### Topics to be discussed by the working groups:

- **End of waste legislation** and economic incentives to facilitate the transition to the circular economy (for example VAT);
- New business models and markets for textile waste;
- **European funding opportunities** (better funding / knowledge) and relations with the EU Liaison Office in Brussels of the Tuscany Region;
- **Promotion** of the circular T&A district of Prato (better knowledge).
- Observatory on **labour** market innovation and new forms of corporate welfare

### Strategies shared with other municipal administration projects that will be developed in Prato Circular City (working groups):

Strategy shared with the House of New Technologies, Regional Competence Center:
- Promotion of the digital transition, technological innovation, Industry 4.0 (5G, blockchain, AI) with the objective to promote the **traceability along the supply chain**

Strategy shared with the Structural Plan, SECAP and Urban Forestry:
- Promotion of product and district **LCA** analysis and decarbonization strategies (carbon neutral)
Table 2 - Management of Urban Resources

Topics to be discussed by the working groups:

- Innovative and integrated systems of waste management and reuse of wastewater: regulatory bottlenecks and environmental and industrial opportunities;
- Introduction of the “pay as you throw” tariff as an incentive for a more efficient collection system;
- Circular public procurement and application of public procurement legislation;
- Introduction in the Regulations of the Municipality of Prato of rewarding principles on the use of materials from reuse supply chains, sustainability criteria and Zero km supply chains
Topics to be discussed by the working groups:

- **Eco-design**: awareness, education;
- Preventing over use of resources for a **responsible consumption** of food and beverage, clothing, packaging and electronics;
- Increase and promote **models of reuse and repair**;
- Stimulating experiences of **collaborative economy**.
Table 4 - Sustainable urban agriculture systems

Topics to be discussed by the working groups:

- Creation of urban agricultural systems irrigated through an integrated water system;
- Short supply chain products and sustainable food in the private sector and public canteens;
- Promotion of urban farming for the self-consumption of citizens;
- Innovative vertical farming solutions and urban regeneration.
Thank you for your attention!

www.pratocircularcity.it