

The REPAIR project has passed a year, the concept evolves, the progress of work speeds up, challenges and questions arise and the waste issue become crucial as never before. The research team is motivated to face upcoming events that you could have a close look at in the news below. In a nutshell, you will find our ambitions for the next month as well as some reflections from the latest happening events.

In addition, we invite you to get a glimpse at our staff spotlight, which is dedicated to Sue Ellen – our specialist of Life Cycle Assessment and a member of the Executive Board, who represents Ghent University. The interview will give you an insight of the background for her research as well as passions and interests that keep her motivated to focus on the project's mission.



## Living Labs

Peri-urban Living Labs were invented to develop strategies for a more circular economy by first generating the input for the development of the six models that build the GDSE as well as test the environment of the GDSD itself. The PULLs are the main place and time of transdisciplinary integration within REPAIR. The project integrates activities of ongoing teaching activities at the participating universities and AMS with research conducted in the WPs by consortium partners.

### REPAIR Living Labs cases

Living Labs are situated in six locations throughout Europe. The choice of the cases is diverse enough to represent objectives of the project. Large 'living labs' are being set up in Amsterdam and in Naples. The other cities in the project will be provided with 'living labs light'. In Amsterdam, Ghent and Hamburg, where the recycling of materials such as glass, paper and plastics is already well-established, the emphasis is on circularity in construction and industry. Łódź (Poland) and Pécs (Hungary) will be focusing on the reorganisation of existing landfill sites and better urban planning. The approach in Naples is concentrated on tackling pollution and lost landscapes and building up infrastructure which is sometimes completely lacking, due to the mafia.

1<sup>st</sup> Consortium  
Amsterdam

2<sup>nd</sup> Consortium  
Naples

3<sup>rd</sup> Consortium  
Warsaw/Łódź

4<sup>th</sup> Consortium  
Pécs

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Consortium was simply a great occasion to exchange reflections based on different backgrounds of project researchers that represent 18 project partners, external key stakeholders and members of the REPAIR User Board. Almost 50 participants came over Warsaw for two days of fruitful working sessions followed by the Executive Board meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> October. The next Consortium meeting will be on April 2018 and will take place in Pécs (Hungary), where one of the follow-up case studies is carried out.

19

FEB  
2018

### PULL workshop Amsterdam Metropolitan Area (AMA)

19<sup>th</sup> February 2018 | 12.30-16.30 | AMS Institute Amsterdam

We would like to invite you for the next PULL workshop which will take place in Amsterdam. You are very welcome to join us there. The aim of the upcoming event will be developing eco-innovative solutions to boost the circular economy of the AMA.

This workshop has 3 different sessions, which will focus on developing eco-innovative solutions for a range of challenges in developing a circular economy in the AMA:

- wastescapes (Schiphol area, Amsterdam harbour area)
- food waste
- construction and demolition waste

PULL session will be organised by the TU Delft and the Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Metropolitan Solutions - AMS Institute. For more information please send an e-mail to [pull-repair-bk@tudelft.nl](mailto:pull-repair-bk@tudelft.nl)!

23

JAN  
2018

### The Circularity Gap Report

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 | World Economic Forum | Switzerland

Our world economy is only 9.1% circular, leaving a massive 'Circularity Gap'. This alarming statistic is the main output of the report, in which Circle Economy launches a metric for the circular state of the planet. The Circularity Gap Report aims at accelerating the implementation of the circular economy and provides a framework and fact-base to measure and monitor progress in bridging the gap and identify steps to take action in bridging the circularity gap through leadership and action.

The report was launched at the session organised by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, which was held in Davos-Klosters during the 48<sup>th</sup> edition of World Economic Forum.

Please download and circulate the report: [www.circularity-gap.world](http://www.circularity-gap.world)

28

NOV  
2017

### Waste or Resources? - Potential Roads of a City Towards Circular Economy

28<sup>th</sup> November 2017 | 12.30-16.30 | Pécs, Hungary

The Institute for Regional Studies and the Territorial Committee of Pécs of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences organized a conference and workshop with stakeholders in Pécs.

The aim of the conference and workshop is twofold:

1. To present the benefits and best practices of Circular Economy (mainly focusing on Pécs and its surrounding region's practices)
2. To identify and discuss the most crucial challenges of the region for a Circular Economy.

15-20

OCT  
2017

### "Space of Flows" and the 3rd Consortium meeting

15-20<sup>th</sup> October 2017 | IGSO PAS Warsaw/Łódź

We are glad to fulfilled three Consortium meetings so far while we have shared our results and clarified the common view of the project. An additional privilege of the last Consortium meeting was the conference "Space of Flows", which the principal topic was dedicated to flows of capital, information, technology, notions, sounds, and symbols.

The conference invited submission of papers concerning different understanding of the concept of space of flows based on a foundation of different sciences across multiple disciplines and on the basis of political documents of varied level. Happily, 6 papers directly connected with the REPAIR project were presented, including project coordinator Arjan van Timmeren who presented a paper: "Towards resource-efficient city regions. Integrating resource flows and mobilities" as a keynote speech.



**Sue Ellen**  
WP4 leader , PULL Ghent

**What's your main role within the REPAiR project?**

I believe I have several interesting and challenging roles within the project, including WP4 leader, PULL leader of Ghent, data-captain of Ghent, and I am involved in many other work packages as well, especially WP3 and WP5. In principle, this means that I am heavily involved in the development of the sustainability framework and the application of the framework to the case studies in addition to data collection for the city of Ghent and its surroundings.

**What were you doing before you joined the project?**

In 2012, I finished my master in Bioscience Engineering at Ghent University and in the same year I started my PhD about the sustainability of microalgae and seaweeds for several applications. I worked on an interreg North West European project ENALGAE and joined a Flemish FISCH-ICON project omega-extract. I was also accepted for a BOF scholarship to be able to finish my PhD. During the years of my PhD, I gained much expertise in environmental sustainability, more specifically life cycle assessment (LCA) and ecosystem service assessment, their application and methodology as well as in resource usage and efficiency of production systems, exergy analysis and Exergetic LCA (ELCA).

**Why are you interested in the REPAiR project?**

For me, personally, the challenging goals and sustainability aims within the REPAiR project and the collaboration with people having very different backgrounds triggered me to say yes to the offer of being a REPAiR team member. This project creates so many opportunities for different stakeholders and it is now up to us to realize the potential.

**What are you working on at the moment?**

Currently and content-wise, I am working on the data collection of residual waste and biowaste in Ghent in close collaboration with IVAGO and OVAM, and the development of a preliminary sustainability framework, where a first list of impacts and indicators will be proposed, with JRC as the main contributor. In the meantime, I try to support the other work packages by giving feedback and input, and make sure that reporting and planning is done accurately, especially for WP4.

**Tell us something else about yourself!**

I really love to travel, to visit different places and getting to know new people. I also love to cook for friends and family and enjoy reading books (especially thrillers). And yes, once in a while, I do some sport activities such as walking my dog, cycling, and active group lessons, and renovating our house seems to be exhausting as well!

**NO MORE FOOD TO WASTE - Message by Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis on Food Waste**

"Around 88 million tonnes of food are wasted annually in the EU, with associated costs estimated at 143 billion euros (FUSIONS, 2016).

Wasting food is not only an ethical and economic issue but it also depletes the environment of limited natural resources. All actors in the food chain have a role to play in preventing and reducing food waste, from those who produce and process foods (farmers, food manufacturers and processors) to those who make foods available for consumption (hospitality sector, retailers) and ultimately consumers themselves.

**The central goal of EU food safety policy is to protect both human and animal health. We cannot compromise on these standards but, in co-operation with Member States and stakeholders, are looking for every opportunity to prevent food waste and strengthen sustainability of the food system."**

One of the objectives of the REPAiR project is to tackle food waste - prevention and recommending proper storage for food items as well as sharing good practices and raising awareness.

2-6  
OCT  
2017

**Sardinia Symposium 2017**

2-6<sup>th</sup> October 2017 | 12.30-16.30 | Forte Village, Italy

**Two REPAiR researchers presented the project at the largest event of the year in the field of Waste Management and Landfilling. The 16<sup>th</sup> International Symposium was held in Italy and was attended by 676 participants. The event included oral sessions, specialized workshops, discussion forums, roundtables and definitely gave a perfect condition to get the audience interested in the way of thinking about waste as a resource.**

Moreover, during the conference the photographic exhibition was set up to illustrate the differences, the contradictions, the difficulties and progresses encountered by this complicated issue in a series of contexts throughout the world, ranging from the developing countries to the more industrialized nations. The first prize went to Timothy Bouldry and his work tackle the unregulated dumpsites in Nicaragua.

**WASTE TO PHOTO CONTEST 2017**

**First prize**

**RECYCLING IN LEON, NICARAGUA**  
**Timothy Bouldry, US**

*"In Nicaragua, most dumpsites are unregulated and open for entry. They usually have a community attached to the dump where parents and children wait for the trucks so that they can have first pick of the recyclables. This photograph was taken in Leon, Nicaragua where there was a recent fire that set all the trash ablaze including the little sorting plant they attempted to create in an effort to formalize jobs for the "waste pickers" or informal recyclers. Sites like these occur from lack of funding, incorrect budgeting, corruption and/or neglect. This dumpsite is called El Relleno or "The Fill" and it is one of hundreds of unregulated sites in Latin America."*



For further information visit the website: [h2020repair.eu](http://h2020repair.eu)  
Check out our new syllabus and videos for TUD students!

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