

Database of Good Practice Policies and Initiatives	
Country	Ireland
Level of Outreach	National
Supported by	National Agency
Field of Interest(s)	Circular Economy
Organisation	
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Policy/Initiative Data	
Title of Initiative	<u>Resource Management and Materials Circularity Protocol</u> for the Irish construction sector
Partnership details	Collaborating with a local SME-contractor, Carey Building Contractors
Project Duration	14.01.2019 to 28.01.2021
Total Budget	€99,950.00
Description	The aim of this proposal is to develop a Resource Management and Materials Circularity Protocol for the construction sector based on evidence-based practice focusing on the waste hierarchy of prevention, preparing for reuse, recycling, energy recovery and disposal.
Phases	N/A

Project Details	
Aim	This project aims to prepare a best practice protocol, which will provide a holistic focus on resource management and material circularity (removing waste from the vocabulary) using an evidence-based practice approach. This will design, test and evaluate a series of resource management and material circularity strategies including: recovery and recycling potential of demolition and deconstruction materials; waste efficient procurement and materials optimisation initiatives in the pre-construction and construction phases; material logistics planning (including reverse logistics); source segregation based on lifecycle impact and existing market conditions; tracking of materials off-site to their final-end use to measure impact i.e. transport, processing, downcycling/upcycling etc.
Target groups	All stakeholder groups in industry and higher education programmes related to the built environment. Main contractors, sub-contractors, suppliers, educators.
Exchange of Experiences	Collaboration between GMIT and Carey Building Contractors. Wider dissemination of findings to all industry stakeholders and conferences.
Outcomes 1	Design, test and evaluate a series of resource management and material circularity strategies.
Outcomes 2	Explore opportunities to embed circularity strategies into organisational business models.
Outcomes 3	Harness the human and intellectual capital of the participating organisations and supply chain to develop an innovative training and behavioural change programme.
Policy/Initiative	
Skill gaps	Explore pro-circular knowledge, attitudes and self-reported behaviours of construction site personnel and built environment students in higher education
Mis-matching of skills	Embed resource management and material circularity into existing business model frameworks and higher education curriculum.
Skills-Shortages	Significant gap in pro-circular knowledge and skills that provides an opportunity to develop a research-informed and evidence-based approach to providing learning opportunities across the higher education sector and the construction sector.
Training	Develop circular economy learning resources that will be applicable in a real-world context i.e. on site and in the classroom.
Career moves	Improved employability of higher education students and addressing the need to address competency shortages related to circular economy practice in the construction sector.
Mobility	Opportunities to collaborate nationally and internationally with industry and the higher education sector.
Other EQF-Level	Preparation of resource management and material circularity protocol for industry that will be transferable into the higher education curriculum
Transfer in Europe	Opportunities to do so.
Entrepreneurship Opportunities	N/A
Other	General improvement of the construction sector image with increased attractiveness and competitiveness