

SedNet Workgroup Circular Economy

Wrap up Lisbon workshop and CE session: 5/9/2023 – 7/9/2023

Workshop wrap-up

Beyond the initial mass balance: We investigated how to create (or express) value based on the use of sediments in a circular economy. One way is to investigate the impact on GDP, considering secondary impacts on the economy (other than direct cost).

The topic of value creation is also related to the **definitions of BU concepts**. PIANC published a paper on the topic of enablers and disablers we did discuss (PIANC EnviCom Working Group Report N° 214 – 2023).

An upcoming topic is the **emission or storage of green house gasses** from sediment and sediment related activities. An example was given how to reduce the methane emission by the oxidation to carbon dioxide, limiting the GHG impact.

The strength of the CE workgroup is in doing **pilot and upscaling projects** with sediments. We discussed different pilots (also during the session) and their potential for other sites.

There are also **new topics** which impact the use of sediments in a Circular Economy, like the new EU Soil Monitoring and Resilience directive, the TBT EQS for sediment and the presence of PFAS.

Session: Enablers & disablers of sediment application

Enablers

- Testing protocols adapted to the application
- Convincing field pilots and upscaling projects
- Monitoring to prove no risk for HHE
- Accepted tools that also involve **stakeholders** (USAR, EASETECH)
- Green remediation more accepted (phyto-/bio-remediation)
- Match making framework (data base), e.g. CLAIRE (UK)
- Evolving awareness of need for circularity
- Environmental economic benefit of sediment application
- Concentrate the contamination (fine fraction) and use the uncontaminated bulk
- Net zero! More realistic pricing of raw materials
- Regulation stability

Disablers

- Fear /negative connotation/perception
- (Transportation) cost (transport cost can be overcome, pipeline transport)
- Missing (local) demand at the moment of project
- Regulatory framework: Implementation of WFD and Waste FD too different in EU member states
- Primary resources too cheap
- Perception of 'value'
- Lack of knowledge on sediments and soils (sediment literacy)



Thanks Bruno!