How to design a Circular Economy Course: detecting local knowledge gaps and capacities needed

GUIDE TO THE EXERCICE (discussion in multidisciplinary groups)

Each team elaborate a pitch during 10-15 minutes, presenting their main conclusions regarding:

a. Knowledge gaps. Current university grades in your institutions, knowledge gaps found about circular economy and the potential of circular economy-related issues that can be added.

b. Capacities needed to address policy and societal demands in the field of circular economy (in your local context).

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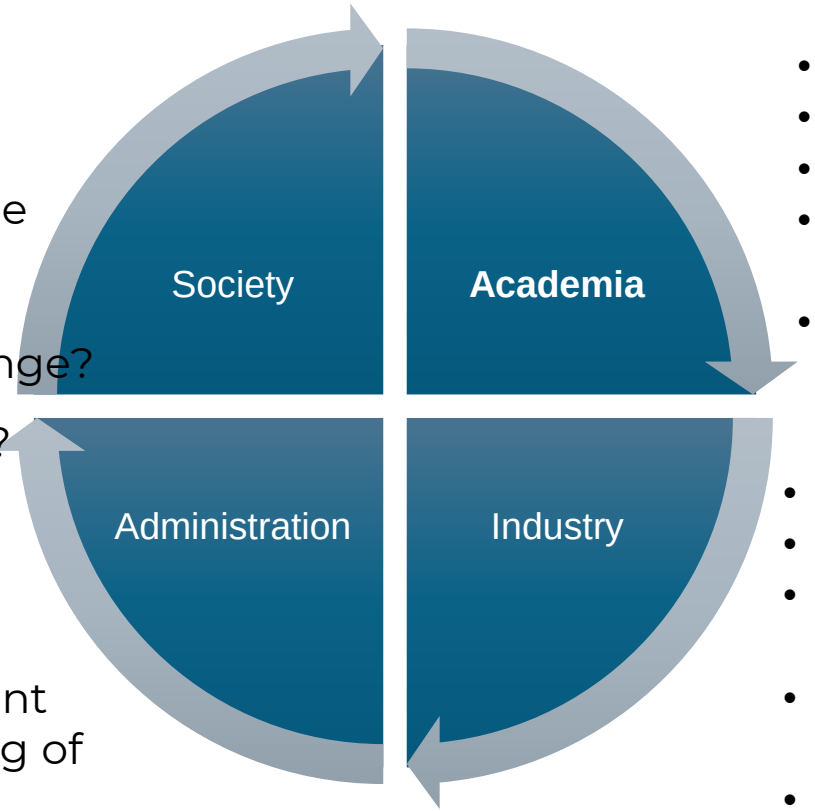
STEPS TO FOLLOW

Step 1. Discuss about the following questions to the Quadruple Helix actors:

- Social Concern?
- Access to knowledge?
- Awareness on the need to the transition?
- Attitudes to change?



- Knowledge Gaps?
- Capacity building demanded?
- Trans, inter and multi-disciplinarity?
- Open to collaborate with other stakeholders?
- Connection between knowledge areas?

- Policy priorities?
- National or regional strategies?
- Funding programmes?
- Environment, climate-change concern?
- Promoting decarbonisation?
- Awareness about how important is the nature in the wealthbeing of general population?

- Companies demand?
- Potential for employment?
- Attitude to the transition of business models?
- Awareness about the value of externalities?
- Awareness about natural resources dependency?
- LCA (Life Cicle Assessment) of processes?

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Step 2. Consider and discuss about the following aspects:

1. Value-chain perspective: Circular Economy is not limited to 3 or 4 R but applies to the whole value chains (design, manufacture, logistic…). Take this into account.

1. Reflect on existing or new policies: Is there national, regional or local strategies concerning Circular Economy or Rural Development?

1. Economy: What driver sectors do you consider most relevant in your economy (agrifood, forestry, blue economy…)?

1. Addressing challenges and threats: Natural resources dependency, energy sources, human resources…

1. Environment: Natural resources, overexploitation, availability of raw materials, fosil dependency…

1. Social: Human resources, gender, equity of opportunities, awareness…

1. Technology maturity and availability.

1. Infrastructures, including scientific ones.

1. Funding sources.

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