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REDISCOVERY CENTRE

Good morning,

As Ireland's National Centre for the Circular Economy, the Rediscovery Centre aims to be a resource to all who wish to engage in the circular economy. This Circular Economy Update provides insights into the latest development on the circular transition in Ireland, Europe, and around the world. If you have anything you would like us to include in future updates please give us a call or email us at cemovement@rediscoverycentre.ie.

LATEST NEWS:

- The Irish government has published '[A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy](#)'. This progressive action plan goes beyond waste to support prevention, reuse and repair objectives that will provide a more robust and resilient waste management system for the future. The Rediscovery Centre's reaction is covered in this month's [spotlight](#).
- For the first time, solar power projects at scale will be rolled out in Ireland. The [recent announcement](#) of successful auction bids under the State's new renewable energy support scheme ([RESS](#)), confirms this significant development in power generation.
- [Circular online](#) has announced that L'Oréal UK and some of Ireland's biggest brands have launched new campaigns to drive forward education for consumers on sustainability and recycling.
- In the UK, [Aldi](#) has also announced that from Sept 24th they will refill its own-brand cleaning liquid spray bottles up to four times saving an estimated 550 tonnes of single-use plastic a year, a first in the supermarket industry.
- Founded by environmental experts, hairdressers and eco campaigners, [GREEN SALON COLLECTIVE](#) has been launched in the

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target of retrofitting over 500,000 homes to an efficient building energy rating (BER) of B2 by 2030, An Post launched its [Green Hub](#). This one-stop site has been designed for people looking to improve their homes' energy efficiency and is offering green loans of between €10,000 and €75,000 at rates starting at 4.9 per cent APR.

- The WISER LIFE project has been nominated for a European Award celebrating innovation in LIFE projects across Europe. [WISER LIFE](#), a collaborative initiative of the Rediscovery Centre, Dublin City Council & the Government of Ireland is also nominated for the LIFE Citizens' Prize, a publicly awarded prize. We would appreciate your vote. Please click [here to vote for the WISERLIFE project](#).

FUNDING:

- To respond to the urgency and ambition of the European Green Deal objectives, [Horizon 2020 launched a call worth almost €1 billion](#). The call contains 20 areas and will close on 26th January 2021. A call info day and brokerage event will take place at the [virtual European Research and Innovation Days](#) on 22-24th September.
- The [EPA Research Programme](#) will consider applications for the financial support of small workshops, seminars, and other events which showcase current Irish research by the organisers and EPA funded-groups. Funding up to €3,000 is available per event. The next deadline is 30th September.
- [The upcycle challenge](#) is still open for entries until 30th October. This year a few more categories have been added.
- Applications for the [Sustainable Development Goals Action Awards](#) remain open until 9th October. The 2020 edition is seeking creative, scalable and transformative initiatives worldwide that mobilize, inspire or connect.
- The EPA is funding and administering the research call for [Climate Change Advisory Council Research Fellowships](#) on behalf of the Climate Change Advisory Council. The deadline for application is on 9th October 5pm. One award is expected under each of the following topics:
 - Carbon Budgeting Research Fellowship
 - Mitigation Research Fellowship
 - Adaptation Research Fellowship

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applications must be completed before the 20th October 4pm (BST). This scheme supports research actions, conference and workshop development, and creative approaches to the communication of scientific concepts and/or complex societal challenges.

- WeDesign launched [Future Fashion Now](#) in collaboration with the UN and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, in order to rethink how the fashion industry works. The competition is opened to all, with different categories and prizes and closes on 30th of September.

RESEARCH & REPORTS:

- [The European project “System Dynamics for Circular Economy”](#) is looking for stakeholders who work along the value chain or life-cycle of electric and electronic equipment; fashion textiles; and furniture. Participation is limited and is on a first-come-first-served basis.
- [A public consultation on the green claims initiative](#) has been launched by the European Commission and is open until 3rd December.
- The Ellen MacArthur Foundation launched a new report on [Financing the Circular Economy – Capturing the opportunity](#).
- The Circle Economy has investigated the link between resilience and the Circular Economy in its most recent [report](#).
- The EEA's latest publications provide:
 - an overview of plastics that often are somewhat confusingly labelled as compostable, biodegradable, oxo-degradable and/or bio-based in its briefing '[Biodegradable and compostable plastics — challenges and opportunities](#)'.
 - an insight into how the environment influences health and well-being in Europe in a new report '[Healthy environment, healthy lives](#)'.
- GreenBiz recently investigated [how digital identities could bring us closer to a circular economy](#) and [How AI and robotics are shaping the MRF of the future](#) and has also reviewed [emerging jobs in the Circular Economy](#).

Further interesting Circular Economy publications can be found in the Rediscovery Centre's [News and Resources](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- The [European Research and Innovation Days](#) will bring together policymakers, researchers, entrepreneurs and citizens to debate and

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- September.
- The 2nd International [Conference on Circularity in the Built Environment](#) will be hosted in Delft, the Netherlands from September 22nd to 24th.
 - The Ellen MacArthur will host for a second season a 30 minute weekly live show, [Explore the Circular Economy](#), every Tuesday at 12pm (GMT+1) until 24th of November.
 - On 22nd September, the following events will take place:
 - A webcast by GreenBiz on [Ensuring Performance and Safety in Recycled Plastics](#).
 - An online event [Impacts and Insights: Circular IT Management in Practice](#) by TCO.
 - The European Economic and Social Committee will host an online event on the potential of [Communities for Future](#) to revive local economies after the COVID-19 pandemic, on 29th September.
 - The European Environment Agency and the heads of EPAs launch [a series of online high-level panel debates focusing on the impacts of COVID-19 on the achievement of long-term climate and environment objectives](#). The debates will be organized from September to December and announced progressively.
 - The EPA and the Health Service Executive (HSE) are launching [the key findings from jointly funded Environment & Health Research Projects](#), online on Thursday October 8th at 2pm.
 - [Electrical Vehicle Summit 2020 'Our Drive To The Future'](#) has been postponed to 15th October and is going virtual.
 - Ireland's major environmental policy and management conference '[Environmental Ireland](#)' will take place as an online event on 15th & 16th October.
 - [The EPA will host a workshop on 28th October](#), as part of its ongoing consultation process for the to development of the EPA Research Strategy 2030..
 - The [Circular Economy](#) Hotspot event in Catalonia has been postponed to next year, but an online conference will be hosted on 19th November 2020.
 - The [Global Bioeconomy Summit](#) will take place online from November 16th to 20th.

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In this month's spotlight [The Rediscovery Centre welcomes the publication of the Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy](#) by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment noting that the adoption of the circular economy is key to Ireland's future sustainability.

This newsletter highlights the work of organisations and businesses driving the transition to the circular economy. If you know of or are involved in any projects you would like to see included, please email details to cemovement@rediscoverycentre.ie.

Stay safe and take care,
The Rediscovery Centre



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