

Module 4. Designing Mission Portfolios in Circularity

MODULE SYLLABUS

Module Purpose

Circular economy transitions cannot be achieved through isolated projects. They require coordinated sets of actions that collectively shift how systems function.

This module helps regional teams move from defining a mission direction to designing a coherent portfolio of initiatives that can drive systemic change in their circular economy system.

Participants explore how different types of actions – policy instruments, innovation projects, regulatory measures, infrastructure investments and collaborative initiatives – can be combined into a mission portfolio that reinforces progress towards a shared circular transition.

The module also introduces key governance and coordination arrangements needed to manage mission portfolios across departments, sectors and actors.

The goal is to support regions in structuring portfolios of actions and governance mechanisms that align stakeholders, resources and initiatives around their circular mission.

Estimated Workload

Total: 6 hours (self-paced)

- 2 hours: new knowledge
- 4 hours: practical reflection and application

Learning Outcomes

Overarching Module 4 Learning Outcome (OLO4): Design coherent mission portfolios and governance arrangements aligned with systemic change.

By the end of Module 4, learners will be able to:

- 4A. Understand the role of mission portfolios in supporting systemic circular economy transitions.
- 4B. Identify different types of initiatives and policy instruments that can contribute to a place-based circular mission.
- 4C. Structure a portfolio of complementary actions aligned with a mission direction.
- 4D. Reflect on governance and coordination arrangements needed to manage mission portfolios across actors and institutions.

Module Structure

1. **Conceptual Framing and Guided Reflection: From Single Projects to Mission Portfolios.** Introduction to mission portfolios as a way to organise multiple initiatives that collectively support systemic circular economy transitions, with short reflection moments connecting the concept to the learner's regional context.
2. **Designing a Mission Portfolio: Guided Practice.** A self-guided exercise where learners translate their mission direction into a portfolio of complementary actions and reflect on existing initiatives, gaps and opportunities in their region.
3. **Mission Portfolios in Practice:** A case example illustrating how a region aligned policies, projects and investments into a coherent portfolio to advance its circular economy transition. opportunities, and outline a preliminary portfolio aligned with their circular mission.