

## Module 5. Implementing and Learning through Experimentation in Circular Economy

### MODULE SYLLABUS

#### Module Purpose

Circular economy missions create impact when they are implemented in real territories. This requires more than delivering individual projects: it involves coordinating policies, funding, regulation, actors and governance structures over time.

This module helps regional teams move from mission portfolios to coordinated action, using experimentation and structured learning as core implementation practices for circular economy transitions.

Participants explore what mission implementation means in practice, how experimentation can test circular solutions in real contexts, and how learning and feedback mechanisms can support adaptation, scaling and mainstreaming over time.

The module also introduces practical entry points for regions to begin strengthening implementation, including coordination mechanisms, concrete areas for action, small experiments, insight capture and reflection cycles.

The goal is to support regions in creating the conditions to activate and steer circular economy missions through coordinated implementation, safe-to-fail experimentation and continuous learning

#### Estimated Workload

Total: 6 hours (self-paced)

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

#### Learning Outcomes

Overarching Module 5 Learning Outcome (OLO5): Implement, experiment and adapt missions through structured learning and feedback processes.

By the end of Module 5, learners will be able to:

- 5A. Explain what mission implementation entails in the context of circular economy transitions, distinguishing it from traditional policy or project delivery

- 5B. Design and use experimentation as a core implementation tool for circular economy mission portfolio, developing safe-to-fail initiatives that generate insights and inform decision-making.
- 5C. Embed continuous learning and feedback mechanisms to track how circular economy actions are contributing to systemic change, adaptation and long-term mission evolution.

## Module Structure

1. **Conceptual Framing and Guided Reflection: From Mission Ambition to Implementation, Experimentation and Learning.**  
Introduction to key concepts for implementing circular economy missions in practice. The module examines how mission portfolios move into coordinated action, how experimentation helps regions test and adapt circular solutions, and how learning mechanisms support better decisions over time.
2. **Implementing and Learning through Experimentation: Guided Practice.** A self-guided exercise A self-guided practical activity where learners explore how their mission can be implemented in their territorial context. Participants identify coordination mechanisms, choose a concrete focus for action, define what to test, capture insights, and reflect on how learning can inform adaptation and next steps.
3. **Simulation: Practical Tools for Implementing Innovation Portfolios:** A simulation exercise that helps regional authorities experience how implementation unfolds in practice, including portfolio review, stakeholder mapping, governance co-creation, accountability and learning. Learners can use their own portfolio from Module 4 or work with the disposable plastics example provided in the module.
4. **Seeds of Change from Regions: Implementation, Experimentation and Learning in Practice:** Short case examples showing how regions implement missions through experimentation, learning, scaling and mainstreaming, offering practical inspiration and peer learning for other territories