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# REFRAME

Newsletter

**REFRAME**  
CirculaR Economy strategy FRAMEwork for sustainable SMEs  
Project number – 2020-1-EL01-KA202-078870

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## REFRAME

Circular Economy Transition Support for your  
business

- Are you an SME active in the construction, manufacturing or crafts industry?
- Do you want to become more sustainable and successful in your business?
- Do you care for the environment?

If your answer is yes, you are at the right place,  
keep reading and welcome to the REFRAME  
project!

welcome!



## Newsletter



## REFRAME - WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

Over the last years, many European companies try to incorporate CE strategies and practices into their business to use the resources in a more sustainable way, especially large companies. In comparison to larger corporations, SMEs have smaller capacity and less availability of knowledge and financial resources. This makes it more difficult for them to change their operations, product design, or the sourcing of raw materials. Consequently, since SMEs & micro-enterprises represent the dominant form of business organization in Europe (around 99%), the transition to a green economy without their participation could hardly be achieved. Moreover, the speed at which Europe could successfully achieve a good transition rate will be limited.

Currently, there are various frameworks that aim to guide a company to adopt CE practices. However, these frameworks have a limited applicability for specific business types, especially for construction and manufacturing SMEs and micro-enterprises, to which there is an intense flow of materials (raw, products, debris and waste).

### **NEEDS addressed by the REFRAME consortium:**

- Lack of information about the benefits that CE can bring to SMEs, micro-enterprises and to its broader societal Environment
- Insufficient technical and technological knowledge and skills that impede construction and manufacturing SMEs and micro-enterprises from transforming their linear business model into a circular one
- Dependencies of SMEs and micro-enterprises on suppliers that are not able to support CE models
- Inadequate customers knowledge of the benefits of green products and services been produced through CE business models





## Newsletter

### HOW WILL WE SUPPORT YOU ACHIEVE BETTER RESULTS?



With the help of the Interactive **Self-Rate Tool**, you will be able to effectively assess the current status of your company in relation to Circular Economy (CE) principles and strategies



The **Implementation Framework** will provide you with a methodology to implement a successful and advantageous CE transition and improve the resources for CE



Our **Circular Economy Course** will be not just innovative, but completely adapted to your needs



An **Online tool** will be developed, which will host all the technical outputs of the project, and all the digital promotional material that will be created so that you can have access to it anytime and anywhere you want

*"A shift towards a circular approach is necessary, inevitable and a superior source of value creation."*

*Jamie Butterworth*

### HOW DO WE DO IT?

Experts from 6 European organisations from 5 EU countries will support you on your journey towards becoming more successful in your business and at the same time, becoming friendlier to the environment.

Your supporting team is coming from the following institutions:

- National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Greece
- PCX Computers & Information Systems Ltd (PCX), Cyprus
- Tournis Symvouleftiki EE (SIGMA), Greece
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry Vratsa Sdruzenie (CCI), Bulgaria
- Instituto de Soldadura e Qualidade (ISQ), Portugal
- Csongrad County Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CSMKIK), Hungary

You can meet us on the next pages of the Newsletter.





## Meet the Team - Greece

**NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS**

[www.ntua.gr](http://www.ntua.gr)



### Who we are?

The National Technical University of Athens participates in the REFRAME project through the Lab of Mining and Environmental Technology (LMET) of the School of Mining and Metallurgical Engineering.

The LMET has been involved in more than 70 research projects funded by both the private and public sector, an important part of which lies in the field of solid waste management in the context of circular economy. It offers a number of undergraduate and postgraduate courses and has four full-time academic staff members, two postdoc researchers, and several Ph.D. and M.Sc. students who act as research assistants.

### Why is the REFRAME project so important to us?

The REFRAME project is important to the LMET because it offers the opportunity to act directly with owners, managers, directors, employees and future employees of construction, manufacturing and crafts SMEs and to help them create a Circular Economy Transition Framework so as to become more eco-efficient and more profitable.



*Andreas*



*dimitris l.*



*thanasis*



*dimitris d.*



*dimitris k.*



*Maria*



## Newsletter

# Meet the Team - Greece

**SIGMA BUSINESS NETWORK**

[www.thesigmanet.com](http://www.thesigmanet.com)



### Who we are?

SIGMA BUSINESS NETWORK Team is providing high-level enterprise-wide Consulting Services, in the areas of Risk Management, Business Continuity, Security and Crisis Management. We assist our Clients to define their business & organization-specific requirements, shape strategies & roadmaps, and move forward safely to implementation and integration. We have many times proved our capability to safely respond to all industries and business sectors, to any organization size, whether Local or Multinational, Private, Public or Government.

### Why is the REFRAME project so important to us?

We are very happy and proud to be part of the REFRAME Project, as it will give us the chance to raise awareness in one of the key priorities that requires attention and actions for all organizations. The way we see it, REFRAME Project will give to all of us (both project partners and target groups) a great motivation to switch from a linear economy to a circular economy. The circular economy aims to redefine growth, build environmental and social benefits by building economic and social capital. It also helps in solving environmental issues such as plastic and gas pollution.



*Stamatis*



*Antonis*



*Theodora*



## Newsletter

# Meet the Team - Hungary

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY CSONGRAD COUNTY

[www.csmkik.hu](http://www.csmkik.hu)

### Who we are?

We are a regional chamber of commerce and industry situated in Southern Hungary, with a history of more than 130 years. Our primary duty, as a business council operating as a public body, is the economic development and general business representation. We are proud to have direct access to more than 22000 enterprises in the region and that we are hosting the regional office of the Enterprise Europe Network of the European Commission, which is the world's largest support network for SMEs with international ambitions.

### Why is the REFRAME project so important to us?

The REFRAME project is important to us for many reasons, just to mention a few:

- we want to see construction & manufacturing SMEs grow and become more competitive
- we want to be their biggest support on their journey towards becoming more sustainable
- we want to make their CE transition as successful and as easy as possible
- we do care for the environment.
- because we strongly believe that teams coming from different EU countries can do amazing things together!



Eva



Petra



Enikő



János



## Newsletter

# Meet the Team - Cyprus

## PCX COMPUTERS & INFORMATION SYSTEMS LTD

[www.pcxmanagement.eu](http://www.pcxmanagement.eu)

### Who we are?

PCX Computers & Information Systems Ltd is a Cypriot SME, with high expertise in applying innovative technology solutions in education. It was established in 1998 in the beginning of educational reformation due to Technology and World Wide Web development.

As an ICT consulting company, PCX has the capacity and the knowledge to promote the benefits of the application of ICT solutions and the adoption of digital solutions at enterprise and educational level. Its core business is focused on 4 main lines of expertise:

- **Project Management:** Consulting & advising in project management methodologies, participation in international and European projects;
- **Competences development:** Participation in R&D for Innovative training methods and tools, training materials, contents' production on different areas of business development;
- **X-Risk management:** Highly specialized consulting services to support SMEs development, in Risk Management, Business Continuity Management and Organisational Resilience;
- **Digital Transformation and Specialised software development,** web designing and online platforms development.



### Why is the REFRAME project so important to us?

Our company gives a great importance to Circular Economy not only as an area of organizational development but also as part of the company's strategy of social responsibility.

The REFRAME project will equip the company with tools to promote and raise awareness for Circular Economy and to adopt by other businesses in Cyprus and present the business opportunities and challenges that can be faced while in transition.

Moreover, as a VET providers and ICT experts, we will have the opportunity to develop online interactive training material and tools that can help users to gain Circular Economy skills.



*yianos*



Newsletter

## Meet the Team - Portugal

**INSTITUTO DE SOLDADURA E QUALIDADE -ISQ**

[www.isq.pt](http://www.isq.pt)



### Who we are?

ISQ is a private, non-profit and independent technological institution founded in 1965, with sustained presence in the world thanks to its offices, delegations and associated companies in more than 15 countries, offering its experience in technical inspections, technical assistance for engineering projects, consultancy services and Human Capital development, including Lifelong Learning and VET activities, supported by a research and development of innovation activity and by 16 accredited laboratories.

ISQ is committed to support his customers performance improvement and risk reduction, offering high quality and innovative services and solutions, helping their infrastructures, equipment, processes and products to meet the standards and regulations for quality, safety, environment and social responsibility.



*Lara*

### Why is the REFRAME project so important to us?

REFRAME project brings an added value to ISQ activities, with the opportunity to exchange good practices, knowledge and expertise with the project consortium and, at the same time, involve local stakeholders, companies and associated partners in the field of construction and manufacturing sectors, supporting them in the transition to more sustainable business.



*Raquel*



## Meet the Team - Bulgaria



### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY VRATSA

[www.cci-vratsa.org](http://www.cci-vratsa.org)

#### Who we are?

Since our establishment in 1991, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Vratsa has been working towards the achievement of the most favorable economic environment for Bulgarian business and facilitation of its activity.

We work in close cooperation with local authorities, other NGOs, and business support structures from abroad. CCI Vratsa is a host structure of Enterprise Europe Network and Europe Direct centers and has three regional offices in Northwestern Bulgaria.

#### Why is the REFRAME project so important to us?

CCI Vratsa is happy to contribute with expertise and experience in the development of the REFRAME project and looking forward to enriching our knowledge in the field of circular economy through collaboration with the project consortium and stakeholders.

The results of the project REFRAME will be another means for support of our members and all companies in our region operating in the construction, manufacturing and crafts sectors in their path to sustainability and circularity.



*Mariya*



*Ventitslava*



*Iliana*



# Lets connect and make the journey towards your CE goals together!

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