



URGE Circular Building Cities

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The City of Riga – an ambitious newcomer in the circular economy

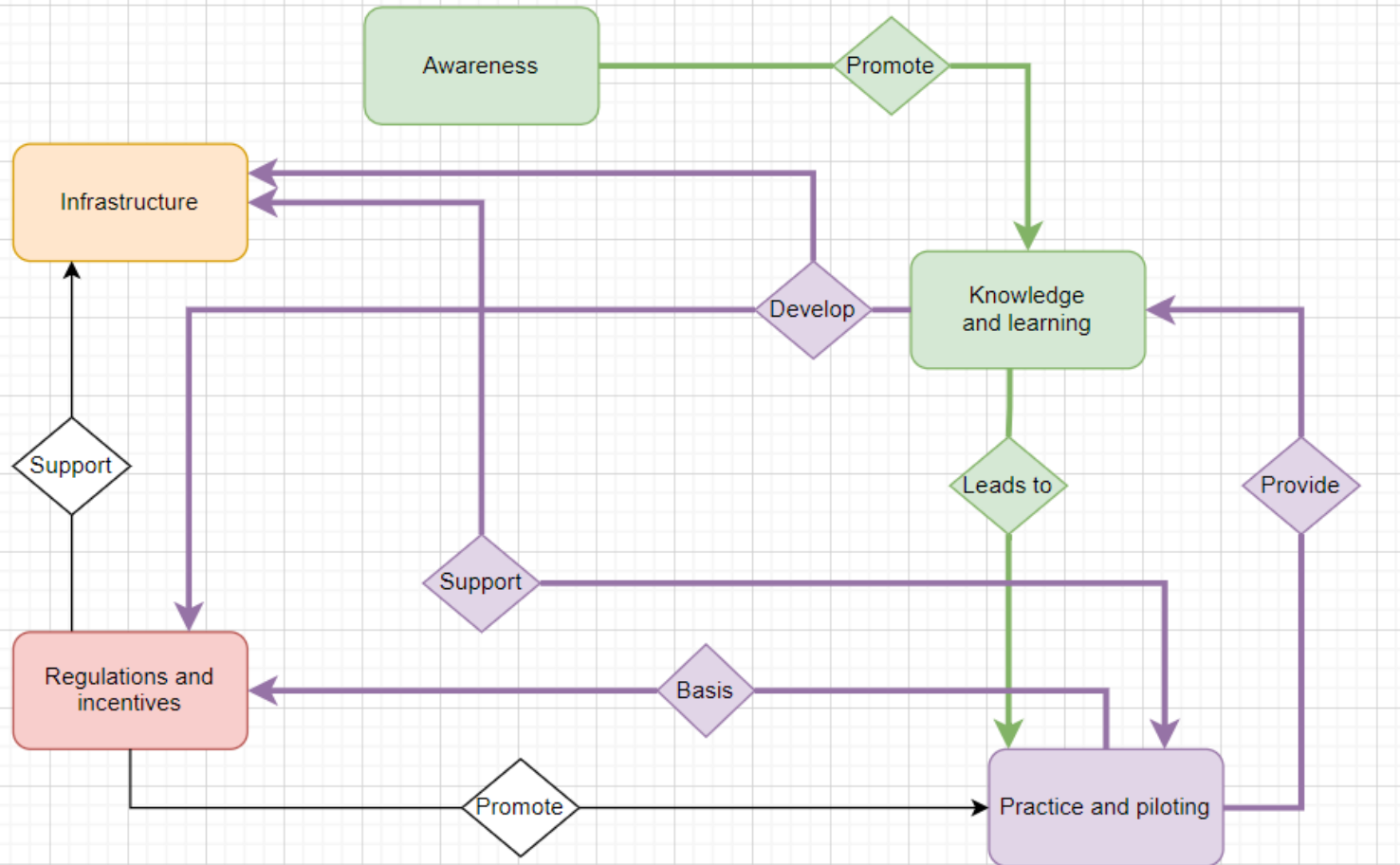


Photo: Uldis Vilks



URGE is an Action Planning network on circular economy in the construction sector. As there is a gap in circular economy principles' implementation in this sector, URGE brings together nine cities and their stakeholders to **inspire** and **learn** from each other in **developing** their **integrated urban policy**.

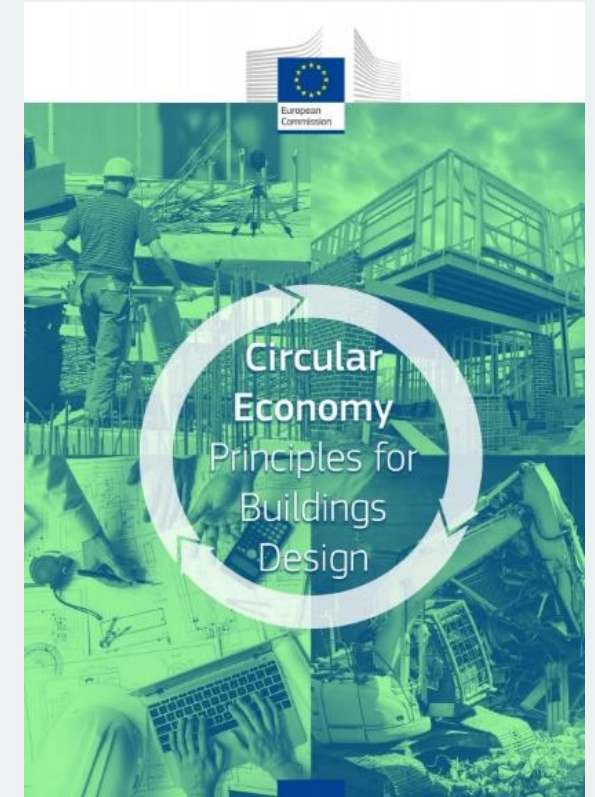
The development process



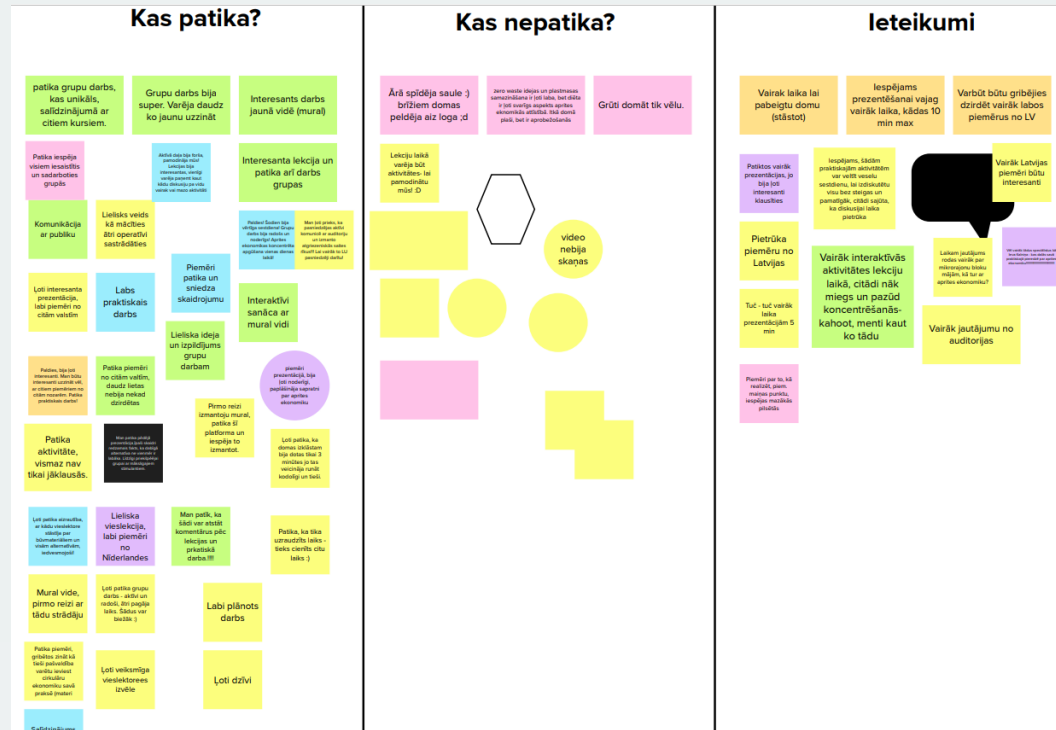
1. Awareness
2. Knowledge
3. Piloting
4. Infrastructure
5. Regulatory framework, and incentives

Integrated Action Plan – ongoing implementation (I)

- An attempt to introduce a new standard
- Guidelines for 7 target groups
- Pilot activity: construction material exchange point



Integrated Action Plan – ongoing implementation (II)



- Guest lectures / study programmes in the University of Latvia and Riga Technical University
- Circular economy topics in professional development courses for specialists of the industry
- Capacity building activities and experience exchange
- Political recommendations for implementing changes in the municipality

Integrated Action Plan – next steps

1. Development of circular green procurement documentation
2. 3 circular construction projects (demolition, renovation, construction)
3. Agreement with stakeholders on the necessary improvements at the local level based on the experience in pilot projects
 - Indicators
 - Incentives
 - Regulatory framework
4. Establishment of CE competence centre/ cooperation platform:
 - Further developments (policies, infrastructure, etc.)
 - Network of ambassadors
 - Strengthening the knowledge of municipal employees
 - Awareness-raising, experience exchange
 - Citizens' involvement
 - Development of new projects



First and foremost

Sustainability is not about certification, it's not about products, it's not about solutions, **it's about the attitude towards everything** what makes our life possible on the planet.

It's very simple.

Thomas Rau



<http://thomasrau.eu/en/>



Thank you!

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