Please describe the vision of your partnership (max. 1,000 letters): What is the change the partnership wants/ wanted to bring about? (Optional: In case you have a visualization/ image of your vision, you can upload it later in the process. Please make sure to describe it here first.)

Supporting Circularity4All by empowering an international multi-stakeholder Community of Practice to collaborate through equitable access to shared tools and resources as a Shared Intelligence offering solutions for the broader Community of Interest in the Global North & South, as a Mission-specific Innovation System.

#### We aim to:

- Strengthen multilateral relations and knowledge sharing between the Global North and South by bridging bottom-up and top-down circularity;
- Support a Shared Intelligence through data-driven knowledge for the mapping of best practice circular initiatives compatible with internationally recognized frameworks;
- Support the development of better policies and economic incentives through research and dissemination;
- Collaborate on projects with stakeholders at all levels;
- Experience sharing and joint development of circular economy projects

The Coalition contributes to increased value creation at all levels by providing stakeholders with knowledge and expertise on circular economy - and assistance in implementing new solutions on both a pilot scale and an industrial scale. The Coalition's activities will help to strengthen the interactions between the environments.

Supporting a Shared Vision of Circularity4All where living, biological, technical and financial resources are maintained and kept in use at their highest societal value at all times.

# How does your partnership create added value for all, and how do you measure progress and success? (max. 2,000 letters)

Our partnership generates added value by leveraging the collective intelligence of our members through the Coalition Innovation Portal. This dynamic platform enables members to post proposals, engage in discussions, and participate in the evaluation process that propels innovative ideas forward. The portal's design ensures that each month's agenda reflects the collective input, fostering a bottom-up approach to innovation.

We measure progress and success through a multifaceted set of metrics, including the vitality of the Innovation Portal. Here's how it adds value and informs our evaluation:

Innovation and Engagement: The portal's usage rates, number of proposals posted, and the vibrancy of discussions provide insights into member engagement and the generation of new ideas.

Strategic Alignment: Proposals are assessed for their alignment with our mission, potential impact, and the effort required for implementation. This strategic evaluation guides which ideas advance, shaping

our evolving Theory of Change.

Resource Assessment: Discussions within the portal allow members to upvote and debate proposals, considering the availability of human, financial, and technical resources necessary for execution.

Consensus and Decision-Making: The portal supports a 'lazy consensus' model, ensuring all members can contribute insights, enabling strategic action without being hindered by a lack of stakeholder input.

Project Development: Proposals that meet our criteria either advance to the next stage or are refined until the necessary resources are secured, ensuring a clear and democratic process.

Commitment and Collaboration: Members can commit to collaborate on projects, with the portal providing the necessary tools and resources for action, facilitating strategic execution within our network.

Evaluation Metrics: We employ metrics to prioritize projects and resource allocation, informed by weekly updates from the portal. These updates feed into our 30/30 review process, shaping the focus of our monthly meetings.

Scalability and Adaptability: The portal's success in member engagement and project development opens avenues to scale and adapt the platform for additional projects or to customize it for new stakeholder collaborations.

By integrating the Innovation Portal's insights into our evaluation framework, we ensure that our partnership remains agile, member-driven, and impactful, consistently adding value to all stakeholders and advancing our mission towards a sustainable and equitable circular economy.

How did you set up your partnership? Please describe how you engaged stakeholders, and with whom you work/worked closely to implement the partnership (max. 2,000 letters):

Our partnership was crafted through a methodology that emphasizes a reciprocal "We give, we get" philosophy, ensuring that all members are both contributors and beneficiaries within our ecosystem.

- 1. Partnership Methodology: We initiated our partnership by clearly defining what each member brings to the table and what they aim to gain from the coalition. This approach has cultivated a rich repository of resources, enabling us to tackle ambitious goals collectively.
- 2. Stakeholder Engagement: We engaged stakeholders by mapping out their contributions and expected benefits, ranging from legal and policy expertise to operational and technical know-how. This helped in aligning our collective assets towards common objectives.
- 3. Partnership Assessment Process: Our assessment process evaluates the contributions and benefits for each member, ensuring a balanced exchange of value. This includes legal and policy expertise,

access to funding, technical knowledge, and more.

- 4. Resource Exchange: Members contribute a variety of resources, such as:
- Expertise in legal, policy, data analysis, and circular economy domain.
- Access to funding, business opportunities, and digital tools.
- Networks and reputation to enhance social capital and community awareness.
- Research and operational capabilities for project-specific endeavors.
- 5. Anticipated Benefits: In return, members expect to gain:
- Enhanced visibility and exposure through our platforms.
- Educational materials and opportunities for competency building.
- Support for a shared mission and new business ventures.
- A platform for mapping and analyzing circular economy case studies.
- 6. Collaborative Implementation: Working closely with stakeholders who provide these resources, we've implemented the partnership through a structured governance model, integrating our methodology and assessment process to ensure transparency and mutual benefit.
- 7. Continuous Evolution: Our partnership is dynamic, with the Coalition Innovation Portal serving as a key tool for ongoing stakeholder engagement, allowing for the constant exchange of resources and benefits, and fostering a culture of strategic collaboration.

By intertwining our partnership methodology with a comprehensive assessment process, we've established a symbiotic environment where each member's contribution is valued and their desired benefits are realized, driving forward our collective mission towards a circular economy.

We credit Founding Members for their insight and alignment. A special note of appreciation goes to Ken Webster as Strategic Advisor, he has been instrumental in highlighting the need to establish proper governance of this Commons by utilising Elinor Ostrom's principles for Governing the Commons. We have also relied on insight from a breadth of books and methodologies such as Ed Morrisons - Strategic Doing helping us create a strategic balance of participationa in guidance; and the Pentagrowth methodology by Javi Creus - Ideas for Change, as well as Kate Raworth's 5 design traits where we look at potential members purpose, governance, networks, ownership and finance to establish value-alignment.

Which collaboration structures have you established, and how do these contribute to deliver results in your partnership? How/what do your stakeholders contribute? (max. 3,000 letters)

Our partnership is structured around a series of functions that guide our collaborative efforts and ensure we deliver impactful results towards our mission of fostering a circular economy.

1. Innovation System Functions: We've established a network of agents and institutions that drive the development and diffusion of innovative solutions. This network is pivotal in transforming production

and consumption systems to fulfill our societal mission.

### 2. Programming Functions:

- Problem Directionality: We create consensus on the urgency of transitioning to a circular economy, prioritizing this mission above other societal challenges.
- Solution Directionality: Our actions provide clarity on viable solutions, aligning expectations and converging on strategic solution pathways.
- Transition Coordination: We monitor solution potential and progress, structuring solution directions through learned lessons and the rise of coordinating actors or groups.

## 3. Performance Functions:

- Knowledge Development: Through a global database and research, we develop and understand new knowledge on innovative solutions, incorporating Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) and Social Readiness Levels (SRLs).
- Knowledge Diffusion: Technical and social knowledge is disseminated via Coalition roundtables, events, publications, and policy recommendations.
- Entrepreneurial Experimentation: We foster market entry for novel solutions and business model innovation through international best practice scaling, replication, and networking.
- Market Creation: We pilot nodes in a global network that supports digital infrastructure for emerging markets, including Platforms as a Service (PaaS), secondary materials, and alternative distribution systems.
- Resource Mobilisation: Our coalition mutualizes resources, increases operational efficiency, and builds collaborative networks to support the diffusion of solutions.
- Creating Legitimacy: We're building a global network of value-aligned individuals and organizations, connecting sectors to support the circular economy through equitable access to shared tools and resources.

#### 4. Destabilisation Functions:

- Knowledge Network Break-Down: We actively work to deconstruct knowledge-sharing networks that perpetuate linear, unsustainable practices.
- Market Destabilisation: Our efforts aim to diminish the regulatory and financial advantages that linear practices currently enjoy.
- Challenging the Status Quo: We raise awareness of the societal problems caused by linear practices, questioning their desirability and promoting circular alternatives.

Stakeholders contribute to these functions through their expertise, resources, and commitment to our shared mission. Their involvement is critical in every step, from knowledge development to market creation and from resource mobilization to creating legitimacy for our circular economy initiatives. Through this structured yet dynamic collaboration, we ensure that our partnership not only envisions change but actively drives it.

Our governance and steering structures are crafted to embody the principles of collective decision-making and resource sharing, as outlined by Elinor Ostrom's guidelines for managing common-pool resources (CPRs). Here's how we've structured our decision-making processes:

Roles and Coordination: Our members, drawn from diverse sectors such as research, academia, the private and third sectors, as well as public and financial sectors, play a pivotal role in advancing the mission. They contribute to decision-making and the evolution of our Network Governance and Theory of Change.

Network Governance: At this nascent stage, our governance is dynamic, focusing on the development and implementation of rules and policies that guide our collective action. Members contribute to this process by:

- Defining and refining our evolving governance structure.
- Resolving potential conflicts within the Coalition.
- Establishing graduated sanctions for rule violators, in line with Ostrom's principles.
- Working Groups: These groups are integral to our governance, with specific roles including:

Communication: Crafting a dissemination strategy to engage stakeholders internationally. Research & Innovation: Identifying opportunities for consortia development and scientific dissemination.

Global South: Sharing best practices and identifying synergies for cooperation.

Strategies, Policies, Action Plans, and Roadmaps (SPAR): Developing shared tools and methodologies for SPAR analysis and development.

Decision-Making Process: Our process is inclusive and participatory, ensuring that all members can contribute to modifying the rules. We employ a system that allows for:

- Transparent monitoring of members' behavior.
- Graduated sanctions for rule violators.
- Mechanisms for dispute resolution.
- Respect for the Coalition's self-governance by external authorities.
- Nested Enterprises: Recognizing that the Coalition is part of a larger system, we establish nested enterprises for collaboration with other networks and organizations.

Internships and Roles: We integrate interns and define clear roles for conveners, advisors, and ambassadors to support our working groups and core coordination.

Our governance is a living process, not a static entity. It evolves based on stakeholder input and resources, with engagement levels tailored to the priorities and capacities of each member. This flexible yet structured approach ensures that our governance framework is equipped to steer the Coalition effectively towards its mission. Our long term vision for scaling includes transitioning to become a Platform Cooperative; Supporting a new Value Network utilising shared tools and resources

to offer services to external stakeholders in the Global North & South while creating and exchanging value in the process.

How do you communicate and exchange with each other in your partnership? Do you have an approach to ensure joint learning? (max. 3,000 letters)

Communication and exchange within the Coalition are vital components that ensure transparency, inclusivity, and joint learning. Our approach is multifaceted and continuously evolving to meet the dynamic needs of our members.

Innovation Portal: The Coalition Innovation Portal is central to our communication strategy. It serves as a collaborative space where members can post proposals, engage in discussions, and collectively push forward innovative ideas. The portal is instrumental for joint learning, as it allows members to share insights, provide feedback, and track the evolution of projects.

Monthly Member Meetings: We hold monthly meetings on the first Tuesday, alternating between the EARLY Edition for members to the East and the LATE Edition for members to the West. These sessions are structured to maximize engagement and learning:

Part 1: Focuses on housekeeping, welcoming new members, and a "30-30" segment where we review the past 30 days and plan for the next 30. This segment leverages data from our Innovation Portal to inform the discussion.

Part 2: A deep dive into a specific project, proposal, working group tool, or member initiative, based on input from members.

Al Integration: Al bots are integrated into our meetings to record, summarize, and create action points. This not only aids in maintaining transparency but also supports inclusion by allowing members to access archived discussions and catch up on any missed content.

Agenda Management: Members have access to a rolling agenda and can table new items under Any Other Business (AOB), ensuring that all members have the opportunity to bring up topics for discussion.

Communication Tools: Beyond the Innovation Portal and monthly meetings, we utilize various communication tools to keep members connected and informed. These include a private member space on LinkedIn, email updates, and collaborative platforms that facilitate ongoing dialogue and resource sharing.

Joint Learning: Our approach to joint learning is embedded in all our communication practices. We encourage the sharing of experiences, best practices, and lessons learned across all our platforms. This is complemented by focused sessions during meetings and interactive discussions on the Innovation Portal.

By maintaining these structured yet flexible communication channels, we foster an environment where continuous learning and collaborative progress are at the forefront of our partnership's ethos.

## How does your partnership contribute to larger sustainability transformation efforts? (max. 1,000 letters)

Our partnership fosters a transformative shift towards a circular economy by strengthening global collaboration and knowledge exchange, promoting inclusive and socially just practices, and driving policy and economic reforms. We bridge the divide between the Global North and South, ensuring shared intelligence through data-driven mapping of circular initiatives. Our focus on innovation, experience sharing, and project collaboration accelerates the adoption of circular principles, contributing to ecological balance and social equity. By advocating for a Circularity4All vision, we support the creation of value that respects planetary boundaries and prioritizes well-being over GDP, leading to a sustainable and equitable future for all.

This award will help support equitable access to circular practitioners in the Global South who until now have had limited access to state of the art resources and technology to accelerate the circular transition where their feet touch the ground, helping bridge the divide and breakdown cultural and linguistic barriers. Collectively, we move beyond the current economy transition, to support economic transformation.