



CIBIECO PROGRAM



Between the months of May and June 2023, an **interdisciplinary group of Finnish and Argentine researchers** gathered in the cities of **Rovaniemi and Kokkola** as part of an exchange experience focused on **sharing knowledge** and practices **related to Circular Economy**



Territorial Perspectives and Circular Economy: Challenges and Opportunities



DAFNE MIZDRAJE



PERSPECTIVES

The **territory** is one of the **constitutive elements of the environment**, as its characteristics (sociocultural, political-institutional, economic-productive) and the dynamics that unfold at the local level end up **influencing the effectiveness of the implementation and sustainability of environmental policies**



TWO HEARTS AND TWO ENDINGS/BEGINNINGS OF THE WORLD

Parallels were drawn between Argentine and Finnish cities and regions, with Córdoba as the heart of Argentina and Kokkola as the Finnish heart. Meanwhile, Ushuaia and Rovaniemi, the cities closest to Antarctica and the Arctic Circle, respectively, situated at the end/beginning of the world. **Cultural perspectives influence how we understand the configuration of the world**



CIRCULARITY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Although the Circular Economy (CE) emerges as a concept aiming to integrate sustainability principles into production and consumption models, it still lacks a well-established theoretical foundation. **Interpretations of the scope of Circular Economy (CE) are shaped by cultural and territorial elements**



THE ARCTIC IN CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE (CC)



The Arctic region is a unique area whose nature provides an ecological balance, sensitive to climate changes, making it a **system of early warning for research in the context of climate change**. Therefore, it is necessary to consider the **impact of geopolitical dynamics on production matrices and consumption patterns**



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CHALLENGES OF CIRCULARITY



The **aspirations for standardization** (as a path towards policy homogenization) do not take into account the heterogeneity of the local actors involved in environmental matters. Its feasibility, **regardless of territorial specificities**, could hinder the **entrepreneurial spirit of the emerging actors in the CE**



Daphne mezereum



LOCAL-SCALE OPPORTUNITIES

CE generates **numerous possibilities at the local scale of the territory**, whose capitalization depends on a thorough understanding of the region and encourages local consumption. **It fosters innovation and entrepreneurial spirit, involving multiple local actors** (strengthening community ties) while reducing dependence on external resources and **increasing governmental capacities over the territory**



TIME FOR A PUZZLE



Although the CE is often symbolized in the form of circular spheres, **in socio-environmental terms, we must consider its like a puzzle**, with its pieces scattered based on the interests of the actors involved in its approach. **The challenge is communal**; assembling it demands the participation of diverse territorial (and cultural) perspectives committed to the development of more sustainable production systems