



# CIRCULAR SOCIETY FORUM

22. & 23. September 2022

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

## Concepts and Practices for a „Circular Society“

### Forum

We cordially invite you to the “Circular Society Forum”, which will take place from February 22nd to September 23rd, 2022 in Berlin as a hybrid conference. As in the past year, the forum is aimed at practitioners, decision-makers, researchers and/or citizens interested in the “Circular Society” concept and a socio-ecological transformation of society according to the principle of circularity. The Circular Society Forum wants to offer a platform to discuss the Circular Society as a concept and practice and to share research results, practical experiences, creative contributions and project examples. The forum sees itself as a transdisciplinary gathering that aims to bring actors into an interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral exchange.

Part of the interaction will take place digitally via the Circular Society Platform ([www.circularsociety.de](http://www.circularsociety.de)), part on site in Berlin. This way, we want to make the forum accessible to everyone, but also enable a direct exchange at the location.

### Co-Designing a Circular Society

The critical discourse on the circular economy has pointed to blind spots and one-sided orientations of the debates and strategies in the past few years. Circular economy is often defined more as an ecological modernization project that lacks essential components of social-ecological changes and ultimately reproduces problematic capitalist and growth-oriented models and narratives. The concept of the “Circular Society”, introduced by various actors from research and practice, tries to stimulate approaches that go beyond technological and market-oriented perspectives. It is understood as a framework concept that highlights the need of fundamental social-ecological transformations. In order to further develop the idea of the “Circular Society” from an initial notion to a fruitful concept and a transformation strategy, an open process is required that brings research and practice together.

The term and the underlying concept of the “Circular Society” have evolved since our last Forum in February 2021 through the work of various actors at national and international level. The further development is now supported by an own project “Roadmapping to a Circular Society” ([www.socialdesign.de/portfolio/roadmapping-to-a-cs](http://www.socialdesign.de/portfolio/roadmapping-to-a-cs)). This year’s forum will take place within this framework. The project is being carried out by the Hans Sauer Foundation together with the Chair of Sociology of Technology and Environment at the BTU Cottbus and is funded by the Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt.

### Forms of Contribution

The forum will collect inputs and contributions from as many topics and fields of practice as possible and make them accessible. Research results, conceptual contributions and practical examples from initiatives can be submitted as proposals. Experimental and creative contributions are possible and appreciated. Formats in English are possible and welcome.

Your contributions can be in the following formats:

// *Individual contributions (15 min lecture + 15 min discussion)*

Scientific, conceptual presentations

// *Sessions (60 to 90 min)*

3 to 5 coordinated individual contributions, whose presenters have already been determined

// *Workshops (60 to 90 min)*

Interactive work and exchange of experiences

// *Open accompanying formats*

e.g., artistic formats and stagings



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## Topics

This year's topics are derived from the previous Circular Society Forum, which revealed a particular need or high potential for further efforts on these topics:

### › *Circular Society Citizens & Communities*

What forms of community and what everyday practices promote the dissemination of the Circular Society?

### › *Open Source & Open Design*

What do open design, production and use approaches encompass and entail, and how might they be implemented in a Circular Society?

### › *Kollaborative Wertschöpfung*

How can collaborative value creation networks be designed and established for a Circular Society?

### › *Circular Literacy*

What is circular literacy and how can different actors be empowered to think and act in a circular way?

In this respect, the call is addressed to all – whether in research, administration, business or civil society – who are interested in the transformative potential of the „Circular Society“ and/or who deal with it practically, theoretically or strategically in their work.

## Process

Abstracts are to be submitted as of now until August 08th, 2022 via the following [form](#) and should contain the following information:

// *Title*

// *Author name (s), email address (es), institution (s) or organisation(s); contact person*

// *Abstract*

- Scope: Individual contributions, workshops and accompanying formats: up to 200 words / Sessions: up to 200 words in general, plus up to 100 words per individual contribution
- Presentation language: English or German
- Location: should / can take place analogue in Berlin and / or digital
- Contribution format
- Classification and relation of the contribution to one of the four main topics
- Goals and addressees of the contribution
- If applicable, mention any special requirements for space and equipment (e.g. flipcharts)
- If applicable, further links and attachments

// *File naming:*

Please name the files as follows: Name\_FirstName\_Title

**Submitters will receive feedback until August 29th**

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***Deadline for submission is August 08th 2022***

Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions, suggestions or comments:

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