

**Title of Session:****Enabling The Transition Towards The Circular Economy****Name, Title and Affiliation of Chair:**

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**Details of Session (including aim and scope):**

The Circular Economy (CE) is gaining increased attention in industry, governments and academia alike; however, efforts are usually conducted in isolation or from one viewpoint. The transformation towards a CE needs to be understood from different angles in order to achieve a systemic change. An often-neglected aspects of the enabling systems in CE research are social aspects like job creation, training, skills gaps, soft skills, the role of local authorities, consumer behaviour and acceptance of CE solutions, to name a few.

The role of employees, local authorities, social enterprises and consumers is an essential part of the change. To be a success, the Circular Economy needs to be attractive not only to companies and policymakers but all players in the ecosystem alike. Changes in society need to take place in several spheres in a coordinated fashion to enable the transition towards the CE.

Furthermore, the research in the CE needs to increase attention on aspects of practical implementation. In this special session, we aim to explore different angles of the CE from the workforce, consumer and policymaking points of view.

The session will cover (but not be limited to) the following topics:

- Design approaches and innovative processes to enable CE transitions
- Technological development to support the transition to CE Social value creation in CE
- CE strategies for social enterprises, local authorities and policies
- Skills gap identification and overcoming approaches for CE
- Skills and training implications of different CE solutions
- Supply and demand management for CE jobs
- Acceptance and attractiveness for consumers and/or workforce of new CE solutions
- Modelling and simulation for CE initiatives diffusion
- Challenges and barriers hindering transformation to CE
- Geo-political factors influencing the CE

Contributions of any type are welcome, including empirical research, literature reviews, conceptual, case studies and surveys.

Authors' guidelines, and deadline for submissions can be found on the conference website <http://sdm-22.kesinternational.org/>

**Main Contributing Researchers / Research Centres (tentative, if known at this stage):**

**Website URL of Call for Papers (if any):** N/A

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