



2025 BASQUE CIRCULAR SUMMIT

2nd, 3rd and 4th April 2025
Euskalduna Conference
Centre - Bilbao



INDUSTRIA, TRANTSIZIO
ENERGETIKO ETA
JASANGARRITASUN SAILA

DEPARTAMENTO DE INDUSTRIA,
TRANSICIÓN ENERGÉTICA Y
SOSTENIBILIDAD



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
SUMMIT

Table of contents

01 Basque Circular Summit 2025: Time for Action

02 Basque Circular FORUM: congress

03 Basque Circular EXPO: exhibition of circular solutions

04 Basque Circular VILLAGE: key-agent stands



Herri-baltza
Sociedad Pública del

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GOBIERNO VASCO

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BASQUE
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Table of contents

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01 Basque Circular Summit 2025: Time for action

Time for Action:

It has been 5 years since the approval of the **"European Green Deal"**, the strategy for economic growth and development that was established in 2020 and which sets out a strategic commitment to the transformation of the European economic model into a circular model.

This commitment is ratified by the new **"Clean Industrial Deal"**, which has just been published by the European Commission.

Europe has laid the necessary foundations to change the economic model, through new policy initiatives (directives, regulations, standards, market instruments, etc.). These range from the transformation of the main sectors of activity to empowering consumers to become the key players in a new market of sustainable products.



01 Basque Circular Summit 2025: Time for action

Time for Action:

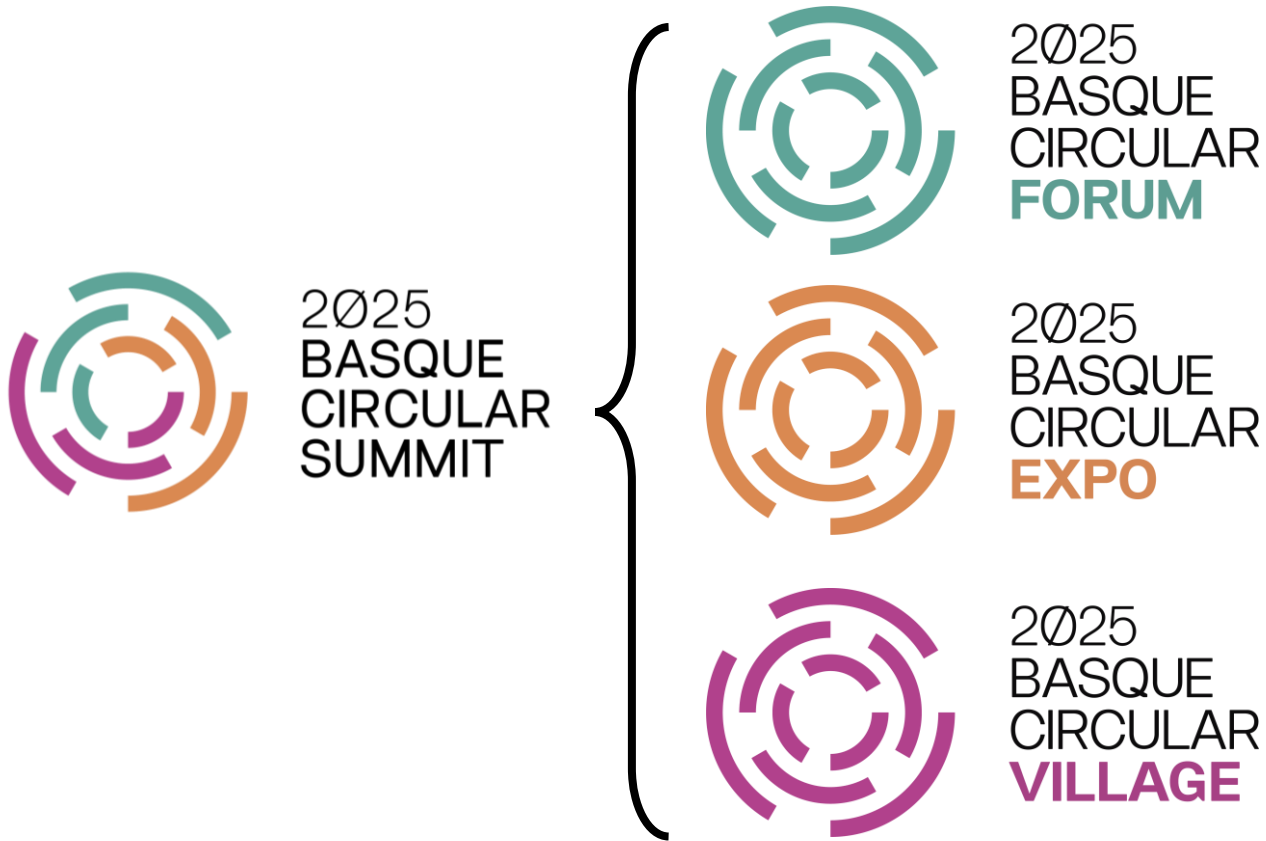
This transformation will also be accompanied by a new approach in the **financial sector**, which will discriminate positively in favour of **investments in sustainable assets**, opening up a new stage of transparency in the corporate sphere in terms of sustainability reporting.

All of this is designed to face today's environmental challenges: **climate change, resource depletion and biodiversity loss**, and to make way for a new economic model in which competitiveness and sustainability go hand in hand.

The foundations for this change have been defined and the challenges, timelines and actions needed in our economies are known. The start of a new phase. It is time for action. **It's time for action!**



Three congresses in one:



A **meeting forum** for international and local experts in the circular economy to **expose and debate the main trends** in the integration of sustainability into business activity.

Exhibition of circular solutions developed in the Basque Country, where the main innovations (**products, services and technologies**) by Basque companies in the application of the circular economy principles will be on display.

Stand area with the main **initiatives and agents** working in the circular economy.

01 Basque Circular Summit 2025: Time for action

Objectives:

The Basque Circular Summit 2025, like in previous editions, aims to **analyse the different challenges and opportunities that the circular economy offers to companies** and to the Basque Country's socio-economic sector as a whole. It also seeks to showcase the work done so far in order to inspire further action.

The objectives of the Congress are to:



Share progress in legislative and regulatory development

as well as the new developments that have taken place in recent years in the field of the circular economy within the framework of the European Green Deal.



Show the Basque Government's commitment

to support companies and the Basque Country's socio-economic sector as a whole in this necessary transition towards a new circular economy model.



Raise the visibility of the Basque Country and position it internationally

as a pioneer in the application of circular economy principles.



Raise the visibility of the work carried out and the results obtained in the circular economy

by Basque companies, both individually and in public-private collaboration initiatives set up in the Basque Country.



Provide criteria and impetus for action

Basque companies, public and local entities, academia and citizens to intensify their commitment to the circular economy.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
SUMMIT

Table of contents

01 Basque Circular Summit 2025: Time for Action

02 Basque Circular FORUM: congress

03 Basque Circular EXPO: exhibition of circular solutions

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2025 BASQUE CIRCULAR FORUM



Layout of rooms and contents:

DAY 1 - 2nd APRIL			
9am - 10am	PACKAGING (PS1-1)	TEXTILE (PS1-2)	SIDE EVENT 1-1
10.30am - 11.30am	OPENING: FROM THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL TO THE NEW CLEAN INDUSTRIAL DEAL (PL1-1)		
11.30am - 12pm	COFFEE BREAK		
12.15pm - 1.15pm	CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS (PS1-3)	BUILDING MATERIALS (PS1-4)	SIDE EVENT 1-2
1.45pm - 3pm	LUNCH		
3.30pm - 4.30pm	ECODESIGN REGULATION (PL1-2)		
5pm - 6pm	DIGITAL PRODUCT PASSPORT (PS1-5)	RIGHT TO REPAIR (PS1-6)	SIDE EVENT 1-3
6pm	END OF SESSIONS		
6pm - 7pm	NETWORKING		

DAY 2 - 3rd APRIL			
9am - 10am	CIRCULAR MUNICIPALITIES (PS2-1)	CSRD DIRECTIVE (PS2-2)	SIDE EVENT 2-1
10.30am - 11.30am	SUSTAINABLE FINANCE (PL2-1)		
11.30am - 12pm	COFFEE BREAK		
12.15pm - 1.15pm	WASTE MANAGEMENT (PS2-3)	SME SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT (PS2-4)	SIDE EVENT 2-2
1.45pm - 3pm	LUNCH		
3.30pm - 4.30pm	THE ROLE OF THE CONSUMER IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY (PL2-2)		
5pm - 6pm	GREENWASHING (PS2-5)	EUROPEAN TAXONOMY (PS2-6)	SIDE EVENT 2-3
6pm	END OF SESSIONS		
6pm - 7pm	NETWORKING		

DAY 3 - 4th APRIL			
9am - 10am	CLIMATE & CIRCULARITY CALCULATOR (PS3-1)	CIRCULAR BUSINESS MODELS (PS3-2)	SIDE EVENT 3-1
10.30am - 11.30am	BOOSTING CLEAN TECHNOLOGIES (PL3-1)		
11.30am - 12pm	COFFEE BREAK		
12.15pm - 1.15pm	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AND CIRCULARITY (PS3-3)	ECO-INNOVATION IN MATERIALS EFFICIENCY (PS3-4)	SIDE EVENT 3-2
1.45pm	END OF SESSIONS		
1.15pm - 2.15pm	NETWORKING		





2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

Day 1: Wednesday, 2nd April 2025

PLENARY SESSIONS





2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PL1-1  2nd April 2025
10.30am – 11.30am  Room 0B
(600 pax)

OPENING: FROM THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL TO THE NEW CLEAN INDUSTRIAL DEAL

In 2020, the European Commission launched the "**European Green Deal**", under which more than **130 new legal texts** have been developed, which aim to make Europe a more circular continent.

With the new European Parliament that emerged from the last elections, a period is opening that will be marked by the full implementation of the measures in these legal texts, as well as the development of a new "**Clean Industrial Deal**" and the future "**European Circular Economy Act**". This session will analyse this global framework and the role that companies and institutions must play to bring together **competitiveness and circularity**.

PL1-2  2nd April 2025
3.30pm - 4.30pm  Room 0B
(600 pax)

ECODESIGN REGULATION

In June 2024, Regulation 2024/1781 establishing a framework for setting **Ecodesign requirements for sustainable products** was finally published, establishing a framework to establish ecodesign requirements for specific product groups in order to improve their **circularity, energy performance** and other aspects of **environmental sustainability**.

It targets **all categories of physical goods placed** on the EU market, except food, feed and medicines. The European Commission has until **19th April 2025** to establish a roadmap including deadlines for establishing eco-design requirements for those products on the **priority group list**.

Day 1: Wednesday, 2nd April 2025

PARALLEL SESSIONS



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PS1-1



2nd April 2025
09am – 10am



Room 0D
(300 pax)

PACKAGING

Each EU resident generated **189 kg of packaging waste in 2021**. In ten years, the amount has **increased by more than 20%**. In order to reverse this situation, the legal framework on packaging is constantly evolving. Following the approval of the **Royal Decree on Packaging and Packaging Waste** in 2023, the new **European Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation** is expected to be brought in at the end of 2024. Its main objective is to **reduce** packaging waste, encourage **reuse** and **refill**, and ensure that all packaging is **recyclable** by 2030.

This session will analyse the new legal requirements and showcase success stories of leading companies that have improved their packaging.

PS1-2



2nd April 2025
09am – 10am



Room 0A
(150 pax)

TEXTILE

Europeans consume an average of almost 26 kg of textiles each year and discard around 11 kg. Used clothes can be exported outside the EU, but the majority (87%) **are incinerated or landfilled**.

The rise of **fast-fashion** has been key in the increase in consumption. To reverse this situation, in March 2022, the European Commission presented a new strategy to make textiles more durable, repairable, reusable and recyclable, to address fast fashion and to stimulate innovation in the sector.

The new strategy includes new **green design requirements**, **clearer** consumer information and calls on companies to take **responsibility** and act to minimise their impact.

Day 1: Wednesday, 2nd April 2025

PARALLEL SESSIONS



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PS1-3  2nd April 2025
12.15pm – 1.15pm


 Room 0D
(300 pax)

CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS

Economic relevance and supply risk drive the definition of the European list of **34 critical raw materials** referred to in **Regulation 2024/1252** establishing a framework to **ensure a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials**, officially published in April 2024.

Of these, half are strategic (including **aluminium** and **copper**), as they are key for the energy and digital transition. The new European regulation aims to **reduce dependence** on these metals and minerals and, in turn **minimise the environmental footprint** through **ecodesign, R&D&I and recycling**, a challenge that advanced companies are already addressing.

PS1-4  2nd April 2025
12.15pm – 1.15pm

 Room 0A
(150 pax)

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

The European construction sector plays a key role in the economy. It is made up of 3.4 million companies, which generate around **9% of the EU's gross domestic product** and provide **18 million direct jobs**. At the same time, the industry also produces **construction and demolition waste (CDW)**, which accounts for 25-30% of all waste generated in the EU, making it one of the most significant waste streams.

To improve the sustainability of buildings and construction materials, new tools such as the **Construction Products Regulation (CPR)**, or the **Levels System** are emerging. This session will analyse the current situation and new trends in the sector.

Day 1: Wednesday, 2nd April 2025

PARALLEL SESSIONS



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PS1-5  2nd April 2025
5pm – 6pm


 Room 0D
(300 pax)

DIGITAL PRODUCT PASSPORT

A digital product passport is an information system that serves to electronically **record, process and share information** related to the sustainability of products among companies in the **supply chain, authorities and consumers**. It is one of the measures foreseen in different legal texts and will have a mandatory impact on a large number of products, including **components** and **intermediate products**.

In this session, we will analyse the state of implementation of the digital product passport in different sectors, its obligations and limitations, as well as **success stories** related to implementation and reporting in different value chains.

PS1-6  2nd April 2025
5pm – 6pm

 Room 0A
(150 pax)

RIGHT TO REPAIR

Right to repair is a policy that obliges manufacturers to provide **citizens and repair companies** with all the tools, parts and manuals necessary to repair a product. Its implementation takes place in the framework of the new **Directive 2024/1799 of 13th June 2024**, establishing common rules to **foster the repair of goods**.


This new directive, along with **new product labelling schemes**, will make it easier for consumers to choose to repair a product rather than replace it, increase the **accessibility, transparency and attractiveness of repair services** and develop **new business activities** in relation to repairs.

Day 2: Thursday, 3rd April 2025

PLENARY SESSIONS




2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PL2-1  3rd April 2025
10.30am – 11.30am  Room 0B
(600 pax)

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

The move towards a circular society and economy is not alien to the world of finance. Sustainable finance means that environmental, social and governance factors are taken into account in the **investment decision-making process**. All these criteria are known as **ESG criteria**.

Sustainable finance enables the design of **different financial products that promote sustainable development** and seeks to balance **profitability and sustainability**. In this session we will analyse the role of financial institutions as drivers of a more circular economy in Europe.

PL2-2  3rd April 2025
3.30pm - 4.30pm  Room 0B
(600 pax)

THE ROLE OF THE CONSUMER IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Consumers have a great deal of power when it comes to driving more sustainable consumption patterns. Only with **better informed, better protected and better equipped consumers** will we be able to experience a real ecological transition.

For this reason, new instruments have been put in place, such as Directive 2024/825 of 28th February 2024 on **consumer empowerment**, which will be reinforced by the future directive on **green claims**. This session will look at how to strengthen the role of consumers in order to bring about a change in consumption patterns.

Day 2: Thursday, 3rd April 2025

PARALLEL SESSIONS



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PS2-1  3rd April 2025
09am – 10am


 Room 0D
(300 pax)

CIRCULAR MUNICIPALITIES

The shift from a linear economy to a circular economy is currently positioned as a strong ally in reducing environmental impacts and external dependence on resources. The role of municipalities in making this paradigm shift a reality is key, on the one hand, because of their **proximity to citizens**, which is of great importance when it comes to raising awareness of the importance of the circular economy and applying sustainable habits and, on the other hand, due to the **competences of local or supra-municipal authorities in areas such as waste, energy, mobility, urban planning, etc.**

This forum will analyse European initiatives such as the **CCRI - Circular Cities and Regions Initiative** and the **Circular City Centre - C3** and their applicability in our municipalities.

PS2-2  3rd April 2025
09am – 10am

 Room 0A
(150 pax)

CSRD DIRECTIVE

The European Union is boosting **corporate transparency** with the implementation of the new **Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)**, which will be mandatory from 2025. This directive significantly broadens the scope of sustainability reporting obligations to a greater number of companies, including both large and medium-sized companies, and sets new standards for the disclosure of various **environmental, social and governance (ESG) indicators**.

In this session, and with the help of affected companies and experts in the field, we will analyse the **challenges of this directive** and the importance of working on **corporate transparency as a factor to increase competitiveness and investor relations**.

Day 2: Thursday, 3rd April 2025

PARALLEL SESSIONS



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PS2-3



3rd April 2025
12.15pm – 1.15pm



Room 0D
(300 pax)

WASTE MANAGEMENT

The EU generates more than **2.1 billion tonnes of waste per year**. The data show that the amount of waste and how it is managed varies greatly between EU countries, but recycling has increased, while landfilling is decreasing.

To reduce waste and its impact on the environment, the EU has adopted **ambitious targets on recycling and landfill and is working to improve different waste streams**. The aim is to promote the shift towards a more sustainable model: **the circular economy**.

Furthermore, Europe is currently revising the **Waste Framework Directive**, which focuses particularly on **food and textile waste**. All of this will be analysed in this session.

PS2-4



3rd April 2025
12.15pm – 1.15pm



Room 0A
(150 pax)

SME SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

The growing importance of sustainability in companies' corporate strategies reflects a profound evolution in the way in which organisations are addressing their responsibility in the face of global challenges. Sustainability assessment therefore does not only affect large companies, but more and more SMEs have to respond to the sustainability demands of **investors, financial institutions, customers and supplier companies**.

Adapting this information to the structure of a SME and developing **accompanying programmes** that favour not only compliance but also **positive evolution in sustainability** will be the focus of this session.

Day 2: Thursday, 3rd April 2025

PARALLEL SESSIONS



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PS2-5  3rd April 2025
5pm – 6pm


 Room 0D
(300 pax)

GREENWASHING

The increase in **legal and regulatory controls** on sustainability claims, as well as the existence of a **consumer who is increasingly demanding truthful and verified information** on the sustainability of the products he/she purchases, can now result in **real damage to the reputation and finances of organisations that engage in "greenwashing"** practices.

The question we will address in this session is how can companies communicate their **sustainability initiatives without risking being accused of greenwashing, with the consequent economic and reputational damage?**

PS2-6  3rd April 2025
5pm – 6pm

 Room 0A
(150 pax)

EUROPEAN TAXONOMY

In the market for financial services and investment funds, investors and financiers are increasingly looking for **investments and financing of companies and projects that can be classified as sustainable.**

European taxonomy is a key part of the European Commission's regulatory development that aims to link the financial sector to the fulfilment of the decarbonisation and circular economy objectives of the European economy. This system is intended to **redirect capital flows towards sustainable investments.** To do so, a system of classification of economic activities is created for the purpose of determining the degree of environmental sustainability of these activities.

Day 3: Friday, 4th April 2025

PLENARY SESSION



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PL1-1



4th April 2025
10.30am – 11.30am



Room 0B
(600 pax)

BOOSTING CLEAN TECHNOLOGIES

Technology is essential in order to accelerate the circular and climate transition in industry. Prioritising technologies that contribute to material efficiency, beyond the **Best Available Techniques** already defined by the European Union, is the first step towards their inclusion in the **Clean Technology List**, a tax instrument promoted by **Ihobe, EVE and SPRI** that offers a tax deduction of 30% of the investment cost of the equipment on the Corporate Tax quota.

The Basque List of Clean Technologies is aimed at both the business world and companies subject to corporate tax payable in the Basque Country. Their knowledge and application can bring about **significant competitive and environmental advantages**.

Day 3: Friday, 4th April 2025

PARALLEL SESSIONS



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PS3-1



4th April 2025
09am – 10am



Room 0D
(300 pax)

CLIMATE & CIRCULARITY CALCULATOR

To work on environmental improvement, **the first step is to measure**. Environmental assessment with **an organisational approach** provides an overall diagnosis, identifies possible improvements and follows up towards environmental objectives. By applying the assessment to a **product or service approach**, it is possible to make design decisions aimed at reducing the environmental impact of the product or service from its conception: in other words, eco-design.

To facilitate this environmental assessment and address both motivating factors, Ihobe provides companies with a **free computer tool that simplifies the process of assessing the environmental performance of organisations, products and services with a life cycle approach**.

PS3-2



4th April 2025
09am – 10am



Room 0A
(150 pax)

CIRCULAR BUSINESS MODELS

Sustainable servitisation, represented by the transition from the traditional business model based on the manufacture and sale of the product to one based on **pay for access to use, pay for access to outcome and retention of product value**, implies a greater durability of the products but first of all requires the transformation of the existing business model.



This trend, which is not without its **financial, operational, technological and commercial difficulties** is now an opportunity more than ever thanks to advances in digitalisation, among others. This session will explore this strategy in depth, with the help of **companies in our environment** that are already applying this new business model.

Day 3: Friday, 4th April 2025

PARALLEL SESSIONS



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM

PS3-3  4th April 2025
12.15pm – 1.15pm  Room 0D
(300 pax)

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AND CIRCULARITY

Artificial intelligence (AI) is at the heart of the technologies that have led to the so-called "**fourth industrial revolution**". AI can **complement people's skills and expand their capabilities**. Combining AI with the other necessary major revolution, the circular economy, can accelerate the necessary change.

Improving knowledge on how to use AI to stimulate a circular economy will be essential to identify applications in areas such as **circular design, operation of circular business models and optimisation of circular infrastructure**. Ultimately, AI can be used in the complex task of redesigning entire networks and systems, such as new supply chains or optimising the global reverse logistics infrastructure.

PS3-4  4th April 2025
12.15pm – 1.15pm  Room 0A
(150 pax)

ECO-INNOVATION IN MATERIAL EFFICIENCY

Metals, minerals, polymers and wood are among the most consumed materials in the Basque Country.

By analysing material flows and their degree of circularity, **opportunities** and **possible risks** can be detected. The former contrasts with the business and technology sector, showing potential synergies and opportunities in value chains aimed at increasing material productivity, taking into account the measures adopted by the European Union in the circular economy.

This session will analyse the different **business opportunities detected** by people with expert knowledge in the field.

Final list of Side Events:

DEFINITION IN JANUARY 2025:

In the official programme of the congress section of **BCS2025**, the **Basque Circular FORUM**, a total of 8 sessions have been reserved for the development of **side events** or events running parallel to the official programme.

The entities that form part of the Basque Circular VILLAGE will have **the possibility of organising one of these parallel events**, through the application form, indicating the objective of the session, potential participants and target audience.

Once the requests have been evaluated, Ihobe will notify the parallel sessions that have finally been approved and they will be integrated and published in the official congress programme in due course.

The development of side events is restricted to entities present in the Basque Circular VILLAGE.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
FORUM





2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
SUMMIT

Table of contents

01 Basque Circular Summit 2025: Time for Action

02 Basque Circular FORUM: congress

03 Basque Circular EXPO: exhibition of circular solutions

04 Basque Circular VILLAGE: key-agent stands



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SOSTENIBILIDAD



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
EXPO



Basque Circular EXPO Objectives:



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
EXPO

In order to raise awareness of the progress made by Basque companies in terms of the circular economy in recent years and to serve as an **instrument of recognition by the Basque Government** for the work carried out, a **great exhibition of circular solutions** will be held within the framework of the Basque Circular Summit 2025, like in previous editions, under the name of **Basque Circular EXPO 2025**.

All Basque companies that have developed **new circular solutions (products and/or services)** may participate in the exhibition, no matter whether they have been developed with the support of the Ihobe company, with their own resources or with the support of third parties.



Participation Terms and Conditions:

REGARDING THE PRODUCT / SERVICE:

- That the proposed solution **is fully developed** and is in the **production or marketing phase**, whereby the presence of non-functional prototypes or past developments that are not currently being marketed are not valid.
- That the organisation can demonstrate the **environmental improvement achieved** in the proposed solution compared to the previous alternative or similar alternatives within its competence (quantification of the reduction of environmental impact, either through its own assessment or (preferably) through an official environmental impact measurement report, such as the **Environmental Product Declaration (EPD), verified carbon footprint, LCA with an external critical review,...** *).

***NOTE:** In those cases in which quantified environmental information is not available, but the proposed solution can demonstrate that significant design measures that contribute to improved environmental performance have been applied, Ihobe **can provide a free service to assess its environmental impact**, in order to meet this requirement. Therefore, companies interested in using this service must collaborate with this public company, providing the necessary information to carry out the environmental assessment of the proposed solution.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
EXPO



Participation Terms and Conditions:

REGARDING THE COMPANY:

- Its **registered office or at least one centre of activity** must be located in the Basque Country.
- Its situation must be **regularised in terms of its tax obligations** and Social Security contributions, in accordance with the limits set out in the prevailing legislation.

A single company may submit **several proposals**, although, for reasons of space and to ensure the highest possible representativeness, this may be limited to a **maximum of three solutions per organisation**. It is the responsibility of the participating companies to deliver and ensure that Ihobe receives the products that will form part of the exhibition in due time and form, and that they are collected at the end of the congress.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
EXPO



Application Form:

The application form will have **two different sections**, one of a general nature with company and contact details, and another that is specific to the product to be displayed at the exhibition. Other supporting documents (certificates, figures, diagrams, links to videos, photographs, etc.) may also be attached, up to a maximum of three annexes per application.

COMPANY DETAILS:

- Company Name.
- Address (street, number, postcode, town and province).
- Tax Code.
- Website.
- Economic sector to which it belongs
- Does the company have an Environmental Management System? Please specify.
- Contact person(s) regarding the handling of the application. Name, surname and position / E-mail / Telephone.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
EXPO



Application Form:

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED SOLUTION (1/2):

(to be completed for each solution submitted)

- Solution presented (product, service, type, model,...).
- Description (functionality, technical characteristics...).
- Detail of the stage of development (working prototype, pilot, on the market).
- Approximate dimensions of the item to be exhibited (length x height x depth) and approximate weight.
- Any special display requirements (strength of the floor, connection to the grid,...).
- Description (qualitative) of the environmental benefits of the product submitted.
- Specify the aspects of circularity that the proposed solution incorporates (select as many as necessary):

Scope	Strategy
1. Reducing the impact on the company.	Materials with low environmental impact (recycled, renewable,...) Reduced weight and/or volume Use of efficient production techniques
2. Environmental optimisation in distribution.	Optimised packaging Efficient distribution logistics mode
3. Environmental optimisation in the use phase.	Low energy consumption Reduction or optimisation of consumables
4. Longer product life.	Design aimed at customer loyalty Increased technical durability Easy maintenance and repairability
5. Product designed to promote a second life.	Design aimed at reuse Refurbishment / reconditioning / remanufacturing capacity Remanufactured product
6. Design aimed at partial product recovery.	Ease of disassembly Standardisation of key parts and components Design for reusability of parts and components
7. Design for end-of-life.	Easily recyclable product Safe disposal
8. Product in the framework of new business models.	Integration of functions in a single product Product aimed at servitisation Product in business model based on access to use Product in business model based on access to result

Application Form:



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
EXPO

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED SOLUTION (2/2):

(to be completed for each solution submitted)

- Provide a **quantification of the environmental benefits** of the product submitted based on a life cycle analysis or other relevant enhanced environmental aspects, such as: energy, water and material consumption; waste; emissions into the atmosphere, water and soil; CO₂ emissions; and reduction of land use.
- Does the product **have an environmental label**, either for the whole product (Eco-labels, such as the European Ecolabel, the Nordic Swan, or the Blue Angel to name just a few) or for any specific aspect of its life cycle (certification of any of the materials used, Energy Efficiency seals in the use phase, Sustainable Forest Management, recyclability or compostability,...)? If so, please specify.
- If the company has an **EMS based on UNE-EN ISO 14006:2020**, does this product fall within the scope of the certificate? (yes/no).
- Does the product have a **verified environmental reporting mechanism** (LCA, EPD, Environmental or Carbon Footprint,...)? If so, please specify.
- Do you wish to enter the **"Basque Circular BEST 2025" Awards?** (yes/no). If so, please indicate the category you wish to enter.

The deadline for the submission of applications is Friday, 28th February 2025.

“Basque Circular BEST 2025” Awards:

PURPOSE OF THE AWARDS:

Within the framework of the Basque Circular Summit 2025, the Basque Government's Public Company for Environmental Management, Ihobe, is organising the first edition of the **“Basque Circular BEST” Awards** in recognition of the **best business solutions in circular economy, both in terms of products and services and business models.**

Through these awards, Ihobe aims, on the one hand, to publicly recognise the contribution of these initiatives to increasing sustainability and, on the other hand, to act as a catalyst to foster the implementation of this type of projects in the Basque industrial sector.

To be eligible for these awards, the **products, services or solutions proposed must be physically displayed at the “Basque Circular EXPO”** which will be held at the Euskalduna Conference Centre in Bilbao from 2nd to 4th April 2025 as part of the “Basque Circular Summit 2025”.

The awards **do not receive any monetary payment.**



2025
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“Basque Circular BEST 2025” Awards:

CATEGORIES FORESEEN:

There will be four awards:

1. Award for the most circular **product**.
2. Award for the most circular **service**.
3. Award for the **most circular business model**.
4. Award for the **start-up** with the most circular solution.

Winning an award implies a balanced integration of all the aspects mentioned in the **“evaluation criteria”** section.

Furthermore, the Jury may award special mentions for any of the aspects considered.



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CIRCULAR
EXPO



“Basque Circular BEST 2025” Awards:

JURY:

Ihobe will set up a Jury of at least 5 and at most 12 members, in which **experts in sustainability and circular economy will participate**, which will be announced in advance. Its functions are to:

- Decide on the **quality of the entries submitted** and, where appropriate, select them.
- Decide on the **ranking of the entries in each of the sections** of the award.

Following its deliberations, the Jury shall draw up minutes justifying the award of the prizes.

Decisions shall always be taken with the **absolute majority** of the Jury members.

The Jury's decision will be final, and will be taken during the **“Basque Circular Summit 2025”** from 2nd to 4th April 2025. The awards will be presented at a public ceremony during the congress.



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CIRCULAR
EXPO



“Basque Circular BEST 2025” Awards:

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

The Jury will evaluate the following criteria in each category:

- **Circularity criteria (50% of the score)**

Aspects related to circularity and sustainability as a whole will be considered. Contributions to reducing the environmental footprint throughout the life cycle will be assessed.

- **Technological and innovation criteria (30% of the score)**

These aspects are related to innovation in the product/service or business model as well as in the technology used, both in its production and the technology it integrates, analysing its contribution to increasing the company's competitiveness and differentiation in the market.

- **Communication criteria (20% of the score)**

The way in which the proposed solution is communicated, the way in which it conveys the added value to the customer and the tools and channels used to do so will be assessed.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
EXPO



“Basque Circular BEST 2025” Awards:

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:

The documentation required will be the same as that submitted when applying to take part in the “**Basque Circular Expo**”. Therefore, those companies wishing to enter the awards will simply have to indicate this on the application form to participate in the exhibition, indicating the **category of the award they wish to enter**.

As it is possible for the same company to submit **several proposals**, it will be able to choose which one(s) it wishes to enter for the awards and the desired category in each case.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
EXPO





2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
SUMMIT

Table of contents

01 Basque Circular Summit 2025: Time for action

02 Basque Circular FORUM: congress

03 Basque Circular EXPO: exhibition of circular solutions

04 Basque Circular VILLAGE: key-agent stands



Herri-baltza
Sociedad Pública del

EUSKO JAURLARITZA
GOBIERNO VASCO

INDUSTRIA, TRANSIZIO
ENERGETIKO ETA
JASANGARRITASUN SAILA

DEPARTAMENTO DE INDUSTRIA,
TRANSICIÓN ENERGÉTICA Y
SOSTENIBILIDAD

04 Basque Circular VILLAGE: key-agent stands



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
VILLAGE



What is the Basque Circular VILLAGE?:

As a new feature of this year's edition, the Basque Circular Summit 2025, is launching the **Basque Circular VILLAGE** for the first time ever, as a space where all **agents and entities working in favour of the circular economy** have a space to share and publicise their activities.

The Basque Circular VILLAGE is structured around **20 modular stands** (all with the same characteristics), which will be assigned on the basis of the proposals received.

In the **selection process** the value proposal of the entities will be taken into account, in so far as their activity promotes significant achievements in a **more efficient use of resources**, in synergy with **other priority environmental action strategies** (fight against climate change, loss of biodiversity,...).

Solutions and approaches will be assessed from different perspectives of the circular economy: **governance, finance, business, multi-agent collaboration, etc.**



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
VILLAGE



What is the Basque Circular VILLAGE?:

ABOUT THE STANDS:

All stands will have the same characteristics. In general they will be:

- Size: **3 m² (approx).**
- **Wall for signage** (the design of this panel is the responsibility of the exhibitor) and **logo** (labelable, printing included).
- Lighting with LED bulbs.
- Counter.
- **Storage cupboard** with lock.
- 2 high stools.
- Electricity sockets for 3 devices.
- **Television screen.**
- The materials used in the production of the stand must respect the principles of the circular economy in terms of their **sustainability and reusability**.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
VILLAGE



What is the Basque Circular VILLAGE?:

DEVELOPMENT OF SIDE EVENTS:

In the official programme of the congress section of **BCS2025**, the **Basque Circular FORUM**, a total of 8 sessions have been reserved for the development of "**side events**" or events running parallel to the official programme.

The entities that are part of the Basque Circular VILLAGE will have **the possibility of organising one of these parallel events**, through the application form, indicating the purpose of the session, potential participants and target audience.

Once the applications have been evaluated, Ihobe will notify the parallel sessions that are finally approved. Ihobe will provide the selected entity with the **assigned room** and the **technical means necessary** to carry out the session free of charge, whereby the organiser shall be in charge of the full management of the session.

The development of side events is restricted to entities present in the Basque Circular VILLAGE.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
VILLAGE



Application Form:

The application form to join the **Basque Circular Village 2025** will include two different sections, one of a general nature with the details of the organisation and contact person, and another specific section with the portfolio of circular services and solutions offered.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
VILLAGE

COMPANY DETAILS:

- Company Name.
- Address (street, number, postcode, town and province).
- Tax Code.
- Website.
- Contact person(s) regarding the handling of the application. Name, surname and position / E-mail / Telephone.

SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS PROVIDED:

- Description of the **circular economy solution provided by the entity**. How does your organisation support the shift towards a circular economy? Is it scalable and transferable? What makes the solution particularly inspiring for the BCS2025 audience?
- Is the development of a **"side event"** proposed? What content is included? Who is the target audience?

Note: You may attach **documents** to this application. If your organisation is selected to host a stand at the Basque Circular Village 2025, it shall undertake to be actively present in the BCS2025 exhibition area throughout the event on 2nd, 3rd and 4th April 2025 at the Euskalduna Conference Centre in Bilbao.

I have read and accept the "Terms and Conditions" for organising the Exhibition Area of the Basque Circular Summit 2025.

The deadline for the submission of applications is Friday, 28th February 2025.

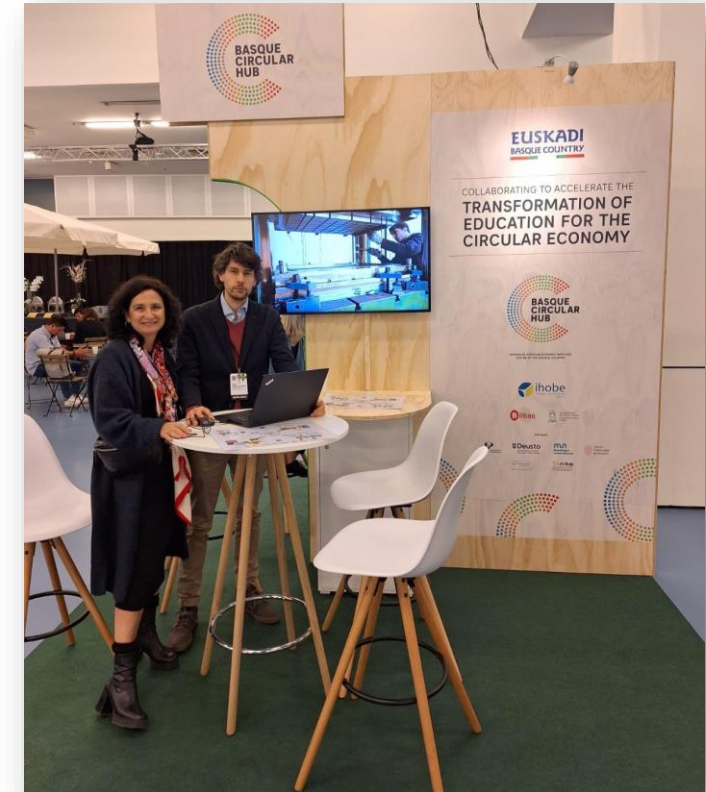
Terms and Conditions:

TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE PARTICIPATING ENTITIES (1/2):

1. The participating entities undertake to **be actively present** in the exhibition area of the Basque Circular Summit 2025 at the Euskaduna Conference Centre (Bilbao), throughout the entire event, which will be held on 2nd, 3rd and 4th April 2025. They may not leave their stand unattended during rest periods.
2. **Any sales activity is forbidden** in the exhibition area and on the premises.
3. Each participant **shall pay the sum of €750** to cover the costs of manufacturing and customising the stand, which will be **invoiced once the exhibitors have been selected**. The deadline for payment is 20 days after notification of acceptance of the proposal.
4. Use of the Ihobe name or logo, or the **"Basque Circular Summit 2025"** trademark or its abbreviation **"BCS2025"** or its logo is forbidden without the prior written consent of Ihobe.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
VILLAGE



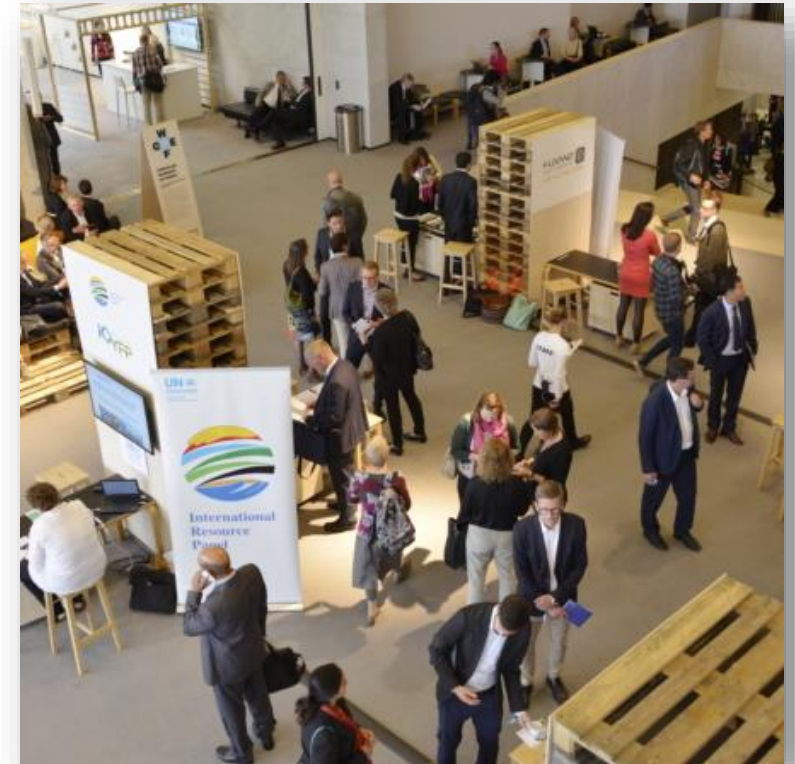
Terms and Conditions:

TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE PARTICIPATING ENTITIES (2/2):

5. The exhibitor undertakes to **comply with the instructions issued by Ihobe** regarding the location and furniture made available to it. Likewise, the exhibitor is responsible for the immediate removal of its own belongings from the stand area and from the event venue at the end of the congress.
6. The exhibitor is **responsible for all damage caused** to the venue's movable and immovable property.
7. The exhibitor undertakes **to comply with the instructions** issued by the authorities or staff of the event venue regarding **fire safety and other safety measures**.
8. All disputes, disagreements and claims shall be resolved primarily through **negotiations between the parties**. In the event of discrepancy, the criterion established by Ihobe shall prevail.



2025
BASQUE
CIRCULAR
VILLAGE





2025 BASQUE CIRCULAR SUMMIT

2nd, 3rd and 4th April 2025
Euskalduna Conference
Centre - Bilbao



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