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Challenges in implementing circular economy at the local level and environmental impact

Increasing pressure on resources and concerns about environmental impact and climate change are prompting companies and governments to seek strategies to achieve sustainable development. In the context of prevailing unsustainable models of production and consumption and environmental crises, the topic of the circular economy is attracting increasing attention as a framework to guide businesses and policy makers. Recent research has shown that cities and local governments can play an important role in creating closed systems of production and consumption. However, the scientific literature on the circular economy does not pay enough attention to the active role that local governments can play in implementing the principles of the circular economy in urban contexts. The aim of this paper is to contribute to the existing literature by analyzing several forms of governance in which municipalities can support and facilitate the transition on the way to a circular economy. We have identified challenges for the implementation of the circular economy at the local level, with an emphasis on the management of municipal waste, textile waste and food waste. This article also aims to raise awareness among legislators about the circular economy, which is not only about waste management, but also includes active cooperation with local communities and businesses to achieve sustainable development.

Keywords: Circular economy, local communities, resources, waste management, sustainable development