

Climate protection through circular economy in Tunisia (ProtecT)

Background

In a global context marked by major challenges in terms of economy, environment and climate, Tunisia aims to integrate a sustainable and resilient development model, providing a comprehensive and lasting solution to these issues. One of the pillars of this ecological transition is the implementation of a circular model called «Circular Economy (CE)». This model aims to optimize the use of natural resources by creating a closed-loop system in which waste is transformed into new resources and/or energy. It integrates the following principles: Eco-design ; Sustainable supply ; Recycling and reuse.

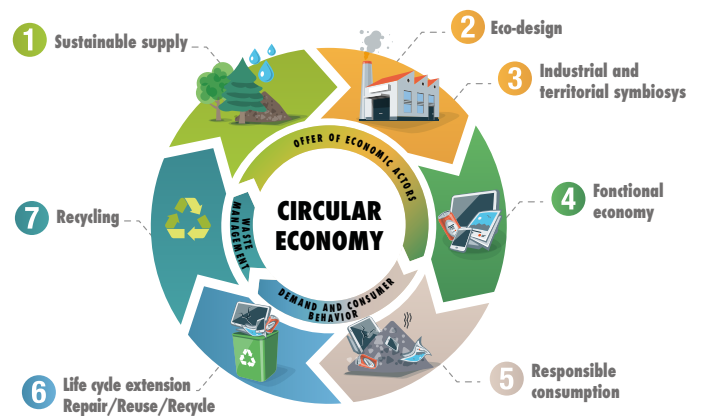
In this regard, Tunisia has initiated a process of integrating the concept of CE into its sectoral strategies, through the development of a national action plan on sustainable modes of production and consumption in Tunisia (2016-2025), an industrial and innovation strategy (2035) promising the development of a green and resilient industry, and a national strategy for integrated and sustainable management of municipal solid waste, based on the circular economy (2020-2035).

Since the ratification of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (CC) in 2016, Tunisia has committed to support international efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, through the update of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2021, by increasing its target regarding the carbon intensity reduction up to 45% by 2030, and the establishment of its Long-Term Strategy for Low Carbon and Climate Resilience aimed at carbon neutrality in 2050.

To do so, CE aims to reduce the impacts of CC resulting from the waste sector (which potentially contributes up to 8% of the national mitigation effort), through the implementation of a range of mitigation actions and policies, as a way of promoting circular and sustainable waste management, while encouraging material and energy recycling.



Project title	Climate protection through circular economy in Tunisia (ProtecT)
Commissioned by	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Country	Tunisia
In cooperation with	Ministry of Environment (MEnv) National Waste Management Agency (ANGed)
Duration	June 2020 - May 2024



Approaches

Following the Tunisian-German technical cooperation agreements, the BMZ has mandated the GIZ with the support of the MEnv and ANGed for the the implementation of the project «ProtecT», which has as a main objective the improvement of solid waste management by integrating the aspects of CE and CC, while promoting job creation and gender equality.



- 1- Recycling and valorization of used lead batteries
- 2- Pilot compost facility based in the commune of Kairouan
- 3- Raising awareness on upcycling during the environmental event
- 4- Decision-makers reunited for a common vision of circular economy



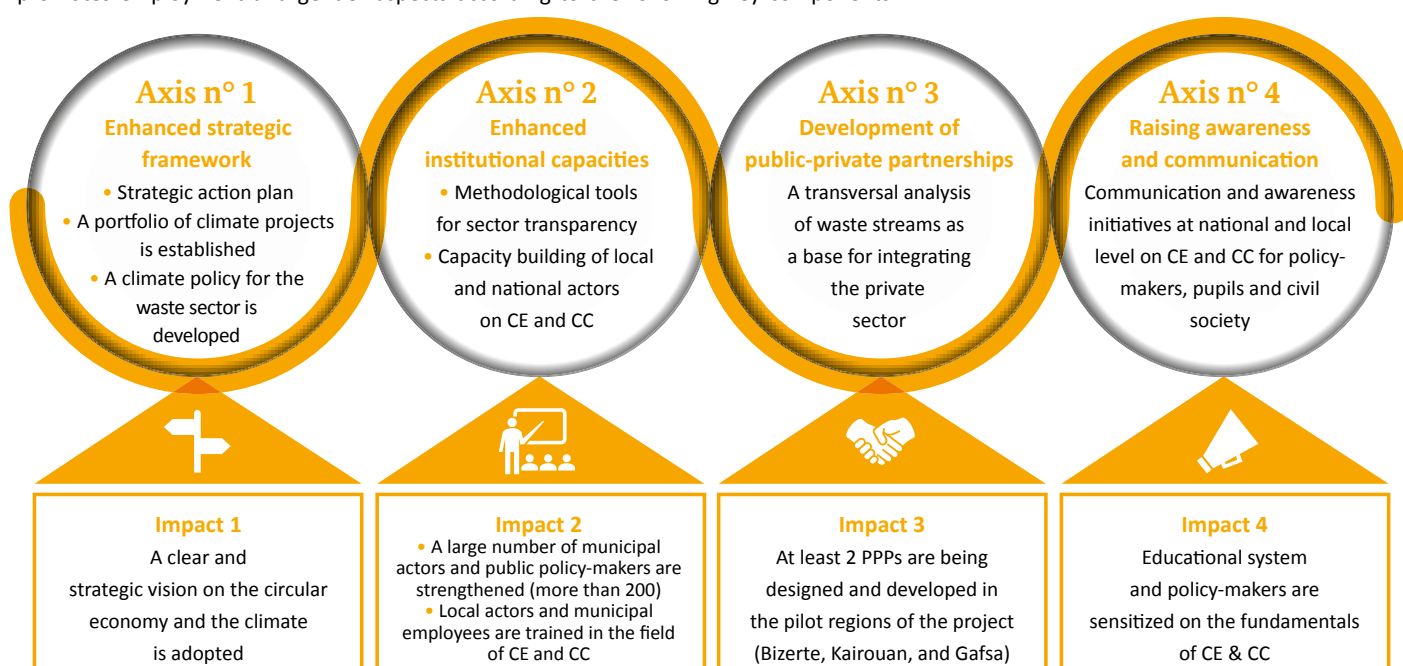
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The project adopts different approaches, including the improvement of the strategic framework, the strengthening of institutional capacities, the promotion of partnerships, and the sensitization of political policy-makers and the education system with the support of civil society actors, on issues related to CC and CE.

Outputs, activities and expected results

Project outputs are achieved through the implementation of several activities aiming to establish a climate-friendly circular economy that promotes employment and gender aspects according to the following key components:



Covid-19 response action

In the wake of the pandemic / health emergency, there has been an increased production of large quantities of waste from health care activities with infectious risks (DASRI). Appropriate responses and countermeasures have been taken to reduce the environmental risk and minimize the damage related to these wastes. In this regard, ProtecT has supported ANGEd and the National Agency of Environment Protection (ANPE) with:

- The supply of protective equipment and material for the control operation ;
- The implementation of a communication and awareness-raising campaign aimed at appropriate management of those waste ;
- The design of an IT platform for a better tracking of the DASRI.

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