

The Circular City Centre - C3

Supporting the circular transition in EU Cities

EuroDelta Circular Transition Dialogue

5 November 2025



Circular
Cities & Regions
Initiative

INVESTEU
ADVISORY HUB



European
Commission



European
Investment Bank



The challenges



Circular economy is a relevant and pertinent topic for **cities** that offers a clear pathway to **reduce material and carbon footprint** while enhancing resilience and liveability



Cities have reached **different levels of circular progress** – some of them are starting, while others have already progressed and accumulated experience in this area



Capacities at local level are often limited, and circularity is a **transversal topic** dealt with across departments, with limited coordination and collaboration



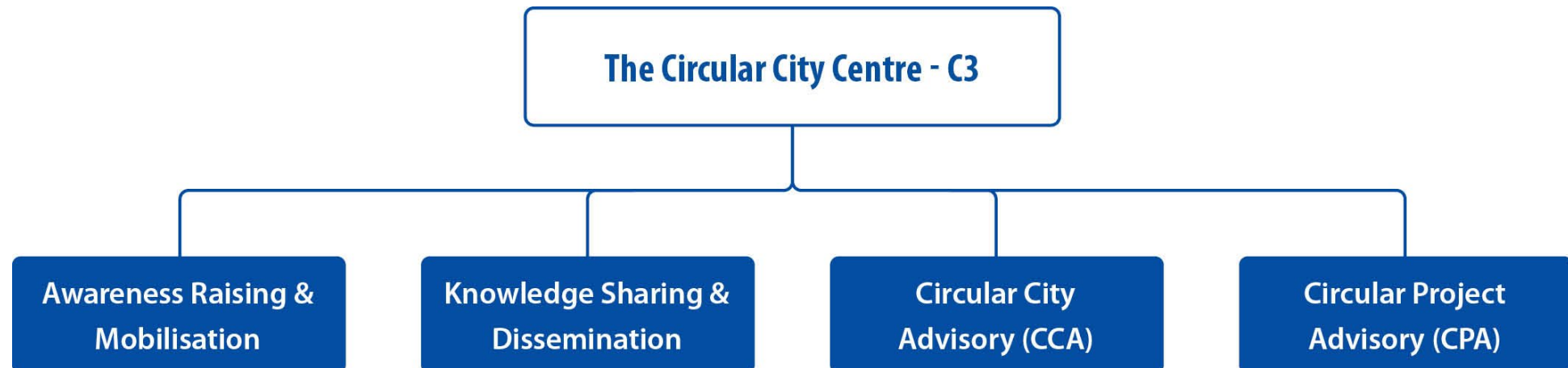
Cities can **face difficulties in accessing financing** for their circular projects

The solution



To support EU cities in their transition to a circular economy, **the European Investment Bank** created **the Circular City Centre - C3**

C3 is a **competence and resource centre** that supports cities in **4 ways**:



The solution



C3 was developed and tested in 2022-2023 during a **pilot phase** with support from the **European Investment Advisory Hub**

For the period 2024-27, **C3 continues** in cooperation with the **European Commission**, in the framework of the **Circular Cities and Regions Initiative**, and **under co-funding from the EU**

C3 is **led by the EIB** and delivered with **external support** from:



What does C3 offer?



Learn about circularity

Guidance documents, e-learning tools, case studies and more!



Join our events and learn what others do

Webinars

Roundtables

Networking and cooperation



Receive free advice and support

Circular City Advisory (CCA)

Circular Project Advisory (CPA)



The Circular City Advisory (CCA) Programme



- Bilateral advisory support organised in **3 CCA programmes** adapted to cities' varying levels of circular progress focusing on preparing:
 - **CCA 1**: a circular city **strategy**
 - **CCA 2**: a circular project **pipeline**
 - **CCA 3**: a circular **project**
- A CCA programme comprises **4 workshops**, with various tasks to be completed by cities between / in preparation for workshops
- A CCA programme takes **4-6 months** to complete
- Participation in a CCA programme requires **active city involvement**
- A city can follow **more than 1 CCA programme**
- The CCA programmes are **free of charge** for cities

CCA programme examples



We have **completed CCA programmes** for **~20 cities** to date, with **~15 cities** in CCA programmes **under delivery** and **~10 cities** that have **submitted Eols**

Some examples:

- **Vienna:** CCA1 programme focused on helping the city **advance their work on a circular strategy** for the **built environment** and **revitalise the internal cooperation**. The city has indicated **interest in further C3 support** in their development of **a full circular city strategy**
- **Leuven:** CCA2 programme focusing on **developing a project pipeline in the built environment**. Discussions continued after the C3 workshops, and **an EIB loan was signed in December 2024**
- **Riga:** CCA3 programme focusing on **redeveloping and repurposing abandoned buildings** into **social housing and daycare centres** in a circular manner

The Circular Project Advisory (CPA) Programme



- Tailored **project-focused advisory support** to circular projects to facilitate access to financing and progress to implementation
- The support is **flexible** and is designed in line with projects' individual needs
- The format of support is **bilateral advisory assignments** with a **contract** signed between EIB and the cities. This advisory support is **free of charge** for cities
- Preference is given to relatively **mature and sizeable projects** (> EUR 20m in project cost)
- The services are delivered by **mixed teams** including EIB sector experts and C3 consultants
- The CPA can be a **logical follow-up** to the CCA 2 and 3 programmes, but standalone projects are also welcome

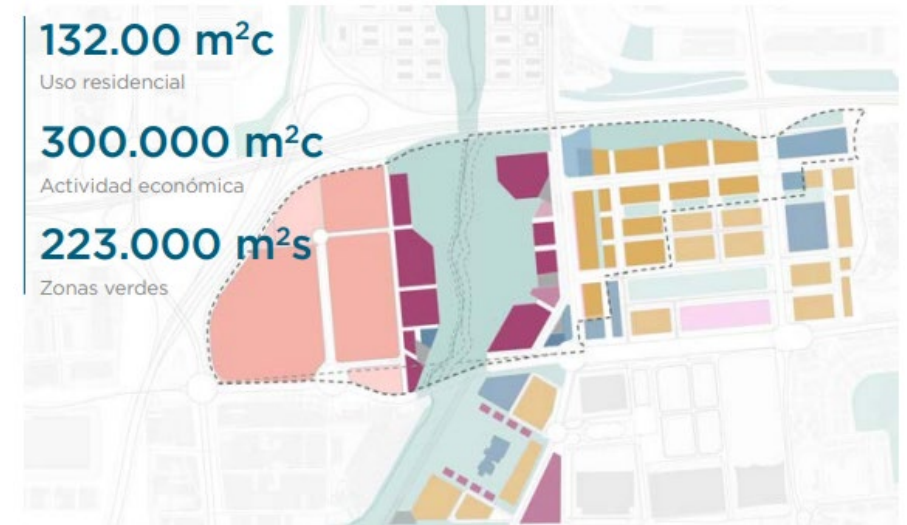
CPA assignments under delivery

1) Greenfield urban development in Malaga, Spain

- **Large mixed-use urban development** (greenfield)
- Very high **sustainability** ambitions for construction, green and common spaces, soft and public mobility, etc.
- Goal of CPA support: explore how to **maximise the circularity** of the entire project (i.e. at component level and global level)

2) Brownfield urban development in Turku, Finland

- The city participated in **a C3 CCA2 programme** with focus on **construction**
- **Mixed-use redevelopment of waterfront area** (brownfield, old port), with cultural character (Museum etc.)
- High overall circular **efforts** (and visibility)
- Goal of CPA support: increase circularity especially re. **integrated circular management of waste- and floodwater**



How to apply

To apply for the C3's advisory support, fill in the **expression of interest form** for the programme that best aligns with level of progress and needs

- Fill in **[this form](#)** to apply for the **Circular City Advisory (CCA)** programme
- Or use **[this form](#)** for the **Circular Project Advisory (CPA)** programme

Send the form to **C3@eib.org**



More C3 information



- Application for the **current C3 advisory support call** is open until **7 November 2025**, but **applications for CCA and CPA support** can be submitted **any time**
- For **more information**, cities can:
 - consult the [C3 web page](#)
 - consult our [FAQs](#)
 - watch the C3 advisory programme [introductory video](#)
 - follow C3 on [LinkedIn](#)
 - contact the C3 team: C3@eib.org

Thank you!



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