

Launch of Communities of Practice in Coimbatore on Moving Towards Circular Economy

05 September 2023

Coimbatore



- 1. What is a Community of Practice?*
- 2. What should be its purpose (Vision, Mission etc.)?*
- 3. What should be its activities?*
- 4. Who should be involved?*
- 5. How is it different from a multi-stakeholder group in a city?*
- 6. How can it be Institutionalized?*
- 7. Benefits of a CoP*

1. What is a Community of Practice?

A Community of Practice is a group of experts who collaborate to share knowledge and solve problems within a specific domain, emphasizing practice-based learning and trust.



Source : Denis Salnikov

2. What should be its purpose (Vision, Mission etc.)?



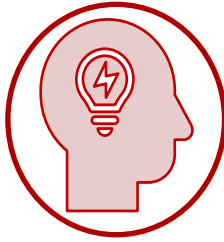
Learn



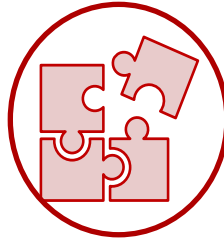
Skill



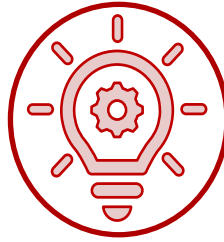
Network



Solve



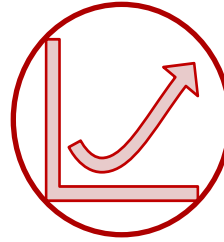
Innovate



Knowledge



Improve



Change

“Overall, a CoP provides structured and supportive environment to engage in collaborative learning, share experiences, and collectively advance capabilities within a specific theme”

3. What should be its activities?

- Sharing Knowledge
- Training and Workshops
- Organizing Events
- Mentoring and Coaching
- Undertaking Surveys and Research
- Advocacy and Outreach
- Visitor Centre
- Providing Consultancy Services
- Collaborative Projects

“Diverse and tailored to specific needs. They facilitate collaborative learning, knowledge sharing, and the development of expertise within the chosen domain”



“Growth and development of the CoP and its individual members, foster a vibrant learning community centered around a shared interest or expertise”

4. Who should be involved?



Group of experts
and practitioners

Researchers and
Academics



Industry
Professionals

Policy Makers



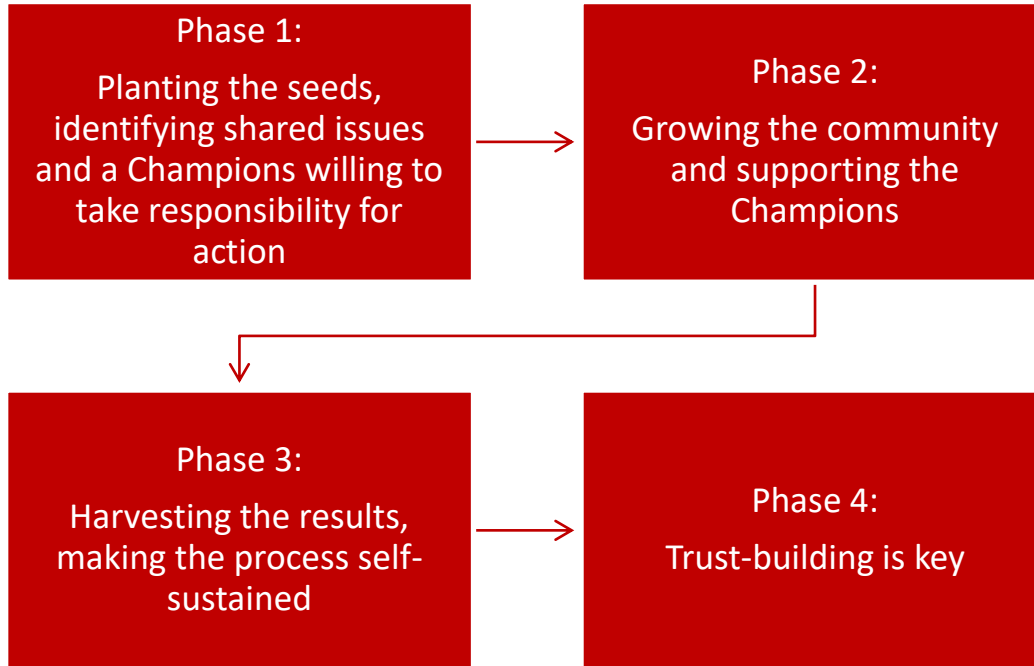
Consumers or
End Users

“Diversity in a CoP sparks vitality and innovation”. The group's makeup should align with its goals, united by common interests and passion

5. How is CoP different from a multi-stakeholder group in a city?

<i>Type of Group</i>	<i>What is the Purpose?</i>	<i>Who Belongs?</i>	<i>What Holds it Together</i>	<i>How Long Does it Last</i>
<i>Community of Practice</i>	To develop members' capacities; to build and exchange knowledge	Members who select themselves	Passion, commitment and identification with the group's expertise	As long as there is an interest in maintaining the group
<i>Formal Work Group</i>	To deliver a product or service	Everyone who reports to the group's manager	Job requirements and common goals	Until the next reorganization
<i>Project Team</i>	To accomplish a specific task	Employee assigned by senior management	The project's milestones and goals	Until the project has been completed
<i>Informal Network</i>	To collect and pass on business information	Friends and business acquaintances	Mutual needs	As long as people have a reason to connect

6. How can it be Institutionalized?



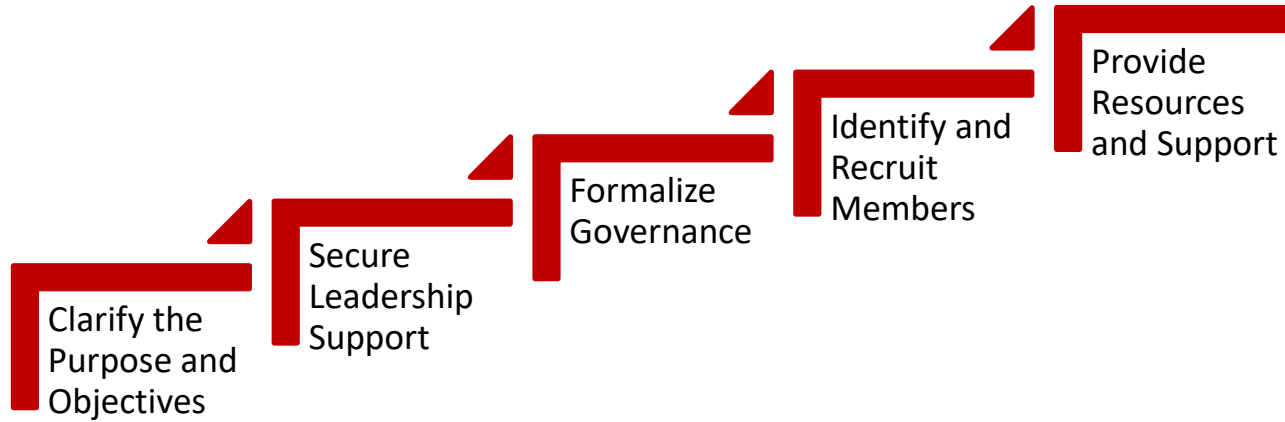
“People need to see the long-term benefits of this knowledge sharing space, if they do , they will engage and contribute”

“Try to keep things short and focused”

“Be aware of Time constraints”

“Size and wording of topics should be carefully chosen”

Steps



“Institutionalizing a Community of Practice (CoP) involves establishing a framework and support system within an organization or community to ensure the CoP's longevity, effectiveness, and integration into the organization's culture and operations”

7. Benefits of a CoP

Knowledge Sharing
and Learning

Problem Solving

Innovation

Efficient Knowledge
Transfer

Community Building

Employee
Engagement and
Retention

“Overall, Communities of Practice offer a powerful mechanism for knowledge management, professional development, and organizational improvement. They can contribute significantly to an organization's ability to adapt, innovate, and thrive in a rapidly changing environment”

Session on Group Work



1. What are the key challenges in moving from the current linear to circular economy in the city?
2. Specify the priority areas of interventions in establishing CoP for circular economy
3. Who are the key stakeholders that can contribute to setting up of the Communities of Practice (CoP) on circular economy on waste in the city of Coimbatore?
4. Structure/ Format for CoP

Example

Ellen Macarthur Foundation: Advancing the Circular Economy

Mission: To promote and advance the concept of a circular economy through evidence-based research and global collaboration.

[Learn more](#)

REFLOW EU Project: Building Circular and Regenerative Cities

Mission: To transition cities towards circular and regenerative models by reshaping urban material flows and fostering active citizen involvement.

[Learn more](#)

Dakofa: Danish Network for Waste and Resources

Mission: Preparing the Danish waste and resource sector for the challenges of a dynamic society and globalized world.

[Learn more](#)

Topinpuisto: Circular Economy Hub and Network

Mission: Creating a circular economy learning environment to help businesses discover new opportunities and promote circular economy activities.

[Learn more](#)

Example

Ellen Macarthur Foundation

- Courses on Circular Economy
- Resources for Higher Education
- Publications and Tools
- Multistakeholder network

REFLOW

- Pilot Projects
- Knowledge Hubs
- Community (Forum, Resources, Best Practices)
- Consultancy Services and Training

Dakofa

- Network
- Events
- Sector Knowledge
- Data base

Topinpuisto

- Sparing
- Surveys
- Visitor Centers and site visits