

Circularity for Educators

01. Scope

The Circular Built Environment (CBE) Hub

Prof. Dr.-Ing. T. Klein

Professor of Building Product Innovation

Department of Architectural Engineering + Technology (AE+T)

I would like to introduce you to the Circular Built Environment Hub, a communication and exchange platform for research staff and teachers of the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment at TU Delft.

Over the next decades, the world will face extreme challenges, associated with the way in which resources are distributed and managed. Traditional wasteful approaches must be replaced by more regenerative ones, emphasizing the need for integrated, effective, and inclusive tools and methods.

Here, the framework of circularity offers solutions by minimizing resource input, waste, emission, water and energy leakage; by slowing, closing, and narrowing energy and material loops; and by avoiding disposal and loss of economic and ecological value.

In that sense, circularity has an interesting proposition: decoupling our growth-based economy from the constant need for more resources. This is the reason why circularity has gained a lot of traction politically.

We urgently need to translate theory into practical working methods to support the transition to a circular built environment. Academia can offer the safe space needed for developing out-of-the-box approaches and can help provide conceptual coherence about definitions and modes of

evaluation.

The Circular Built Environment Hub

The Circular Built Environment Hub was established in 2017 as a communication and exchange platform for researchers and teachers. It promotes the development and exchange of knowledge that enables the circular design and performance of future materials, components, buildings, neighbourhoods, cities, and regions. We aim to tackle the global challenge of resource depletion by:

- Aligning and strengthening activities around circularity within the faculty and at TU Delft
- Strengthening the faculty's national and international research position and network
- Providing lifelong learning opportunities

The Hub embraces a living lab approach to translate and test new findings through live scale projects and experiments in a cooperative effort between scholars, public institutions, industry, and by involving students and users.

Our success depends on the interaction with our academic and practice networks. We seek exchange and debate with our peers. So please reach out to us.