Background

The circular economy is gaining increasing attention in Europe and around the world as a potential way for our society to increase prosperity, while reducing dependence on primary materials and energy. The last 150 years of industrial revolution have been dominated by a one-way or linear model of production and consumption in which goods are manufactured from raw materials, sold, used and discarded as waste. This model has been exceptionally successful in providing affordable products to consumers and material prosperity to billions. Where there is still room for the linear model to expand geographically and realize even higher efficiencies, a global middle class of nearly 5 billion by 2030 will present unprecedented challenges: increasing strain on the environment, increasing stress to access new resources, increasing costs and commodity price volatility.

New York City is a global hub for innovation, and our anchor industries such as finance, fashion, and real estate will play a key role in advancing a circular economy. As emerging technologies disrupt traditional business models, anchor and emerging companies alike will benefit from tapping a new vision for value creation, in which economic growth is decoupled from resource depletion. Whether through sharing economy models, leasing models that treat a product as service, or reuse models that keep valuable resources in use and out of the linear waste stream, businesses in New York City have the opportunity to lead the world in creating new markets by transitioning industries to more sustainable long-term growth. How can we use our power as influencers, consumers, and practitioners to drive and support circular innovation in the buildings and communities we inhabit and the clothes we wear?

Join RZCCI, SPN and NYCEDC as our panel of leaders in the built environment, fashion, real estate construction, and sustainable community development discuss emerging circular models already in use in New York City, and best practices from around the world that will shape the circular city of the future.

About the Panel

In a circular economy, value creation relies on existing or renewable products and materials. Forming viable circular businesses can be achieved by building on existing trends in new business models, technology and partnerships. A circular economy allows tackling sustainability challenges and stimulating economic growth, driving performance, competitiveness and innovation. No wonder governments and businesses alike are drawn to the concept. But how do we mainstream circular business and turn our linear economic engine into a circular one?

Join RZCCI and SPN as our panel presents inspiring business best practices and elaborate on opportunities and barriers encountered when making the transition to a circular economy.

Brief Introductions by
MICHAEL BLOCK, Executive Director, Sustainability Practice Network;  
KATE DALY, Senior Vice President, NYC Economic Development Corporation

Panelists

MARK CHAMBERS, Director, NYC Mayor’s Office of Sustainability  
Dr. MALO HUTSON, Associate Professor, Urban Planning, Columbia University;  
AMANDA KAMINSKY, Founder, Building Product Ecosystems LLC;  
TOM KENNEDY, Partner, Arup;  
CYNTHIA POWER, Facilitating Manager, Eileen Fisher Renew

In Partnership with

The Sustainability Practice Network (SPN) is a New-York-based forum for professionals working with corporate responsibility and sustainability issues to build community based on learning, discussion, information and idea exchange. There are over two thousand members on our list-serve, representing practitioners from industry, academia, government and NGO's. For more information please visit: www.sustainabilitypractice.net.

New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) is dedicated to the creation of a dynamic, equitable, and sustainable urban economy. As the City's primary vehicle for promoting economic development in each of the five boroughs, NYCEDC's mission is to stimulate growth through programs that create quality jobs for New Yorkers, encourage investment, generate prosperity and strengthen the City's competitive position. Visit https://www.nycedc.com to learn more about NYCEDC projects and initiatives.

Schedule

6:00 pm - Registration  
6:15 pm - Panel  
7:30 pm - Q&A  
8:00 pm - Networking

Registration

Complimentary pre-registration is required to attend this program. Register online, by phone or e-mail:

1. Complete the online registration form  
2. Call us at 646-312-3231  
3. E-mail us at ruzdo.srdanovic@baruch.cuny.edu

Registration / More information about this event...