

ACR+ Built Environment

Activity Report 2024



INTRODUCTION

2024 has been dense of activities at ACR+ and the Thematic Area on Built Environment did not stay behind, slowing building a strong foundation for this relatively new field for ACR+.

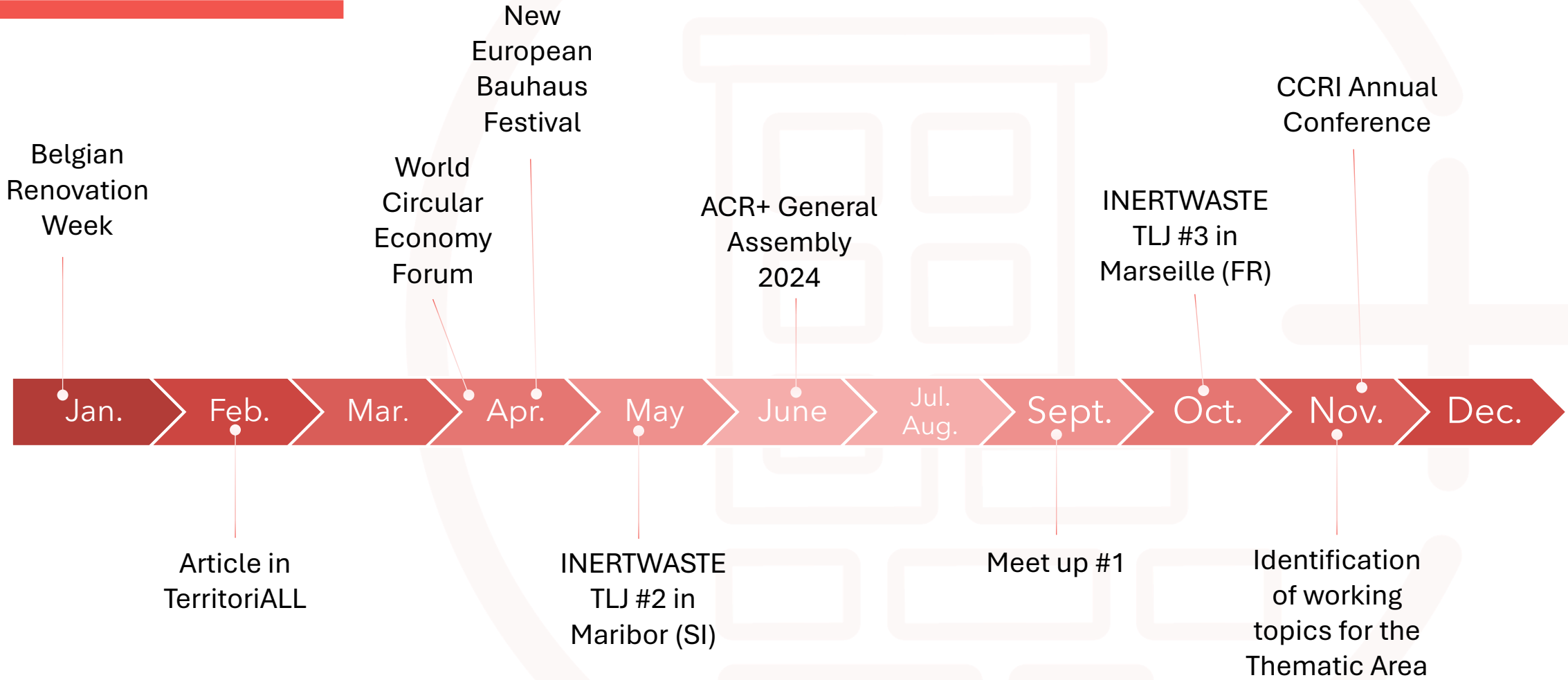
The first exchanges among members took place, triggering fruitful and inspiring discussions. Fulfilling its mission of gathering knowledge, contacts and experience, ACR+ participated in various events and discussions on how to integrate circularity into the construction sector and urban planning development. Furthermore, project activities and support to members focused on the update and improvement of regional policies in terms of valorisation of construction and demolition waste.

This activity report not only summarises the main achievements of the past year but also presents the first activity of 2025 for the Thematic Area, having always a look at good practices implemented within and beyond the network.

OVERVIEW

- 1** Meet-up of the ACR+ Built Environment Thematic Area
- 5** bilateral meetings with ACR+ members
- 19** articles published on the newslines
- 1** article published in a thematic magazine
- 4** workshops (participation)

OVERVIEW



HIGHLIGHT OF ACTIVITIES

+ Moving towards a sustainable management of inertwaste

Two more transnational learning journeys of the [Interreg Europe project INERTWASTE](#) took place in 2024, in Maribor (Slovenia) and Marseille (France). The first focused on societal, technological and market challenges for the sustainable management of inert waste from industrial and construction processes. In France, stakeholders discussed good practices implemented by private construction project owners and how these initiatives can bring synergies in the territory.



+ A full day on Built Environment during the World Circular Economy Forum

ACR+ participated in a full day event organised by Circular Buildings Coalition, Arup, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and Metabolic in the framework of the World Circular Economy Forum. Supported by several good practice examples, the Circular Buildings Coalition presented a [toolkit](#) describing Four circular building pathways towards 2050: build efficiently, build with the right materials, build for long-term use, and build nothing. This toolkit presents 9 interventions related to the four pathways that could support, together with the implementation of the decarbonisation efforts, the reduction of 84% of the environmental impact of the construction sector.



HIGHLIGHT OF ACTIVITIES

+ Exploring circular approaches in the built environment in Territoriall magazine

“Take no land no more: soil matters” was the focus of the Territoriall issue, in which ACR+ included an [article](#) on the critical connection between circularity and the built environment. Besides merely managing CDW, the building sector requires a more comprehensive approach. It should support sustainable land use that reduces urban soil sealing, promoting a cultural change aimed at extending the life of existing buildings and integrating energy efficiency with circular material resource management.



HIGHLIGHT OF ACTIVITIES

+ ACR+ Built Environment Meet-up #1

ACR+ launched a series of online meetings, which will focus on gathering good practices based on the specific needs and challenges of the members. Experts and key stakeholders will be invited to join the meetings and to engage with the participants presenting innovative solutions and inspiring initiatives. The first meet-up was the occasion to express interest in the thematic area and a willingness to be involved in future activities and opportunities.

Participants were asked to outline the main challenges they were facing in terms of resource management in the built environment, and the solutions or topics they wanted ACR+ to investigate and support them in developing. This first meeting resulted in the identification of a list of key topics that have been voted on to select 2 first key topics to investigate further in the coming meet-ups.

UPCOMING: MEET-UP #2

The second Meet-up of the Built Environment will be held on **22 January at 15:00 CET**.

The meeting aims at gathering good practices on two main topics selected by the working group: **public procurement for construction projects** and **circular construction materials**.

For this purpose, external experts have been invited to join and present good practices, tools and strategies applied at regional and local level. A discussion will follow on the key elements needed to implement the presented examples.

Some inspiring cases that could feed the discussion:

- **Kamp C: Provincial Centre for Sustainability and Innovation (Westerlo, Belgium)**
- **Guiding local authorities to implement circularity in the construction contracts (Region SUD, France)**
- **Redevelopment of an industrial site into a material bank (Nokia, Finland)**
- **Circular bioeconomy initiative for the construction sector (Friesland, The Netherlands)**



To join
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