

The Impulsa Circular Meeting 2026 opens a new stage with the launch of re^N · Balear Circular Hub

The hub brings together leading European figures in systemic transformation, circular economy and territorial development in Palma to move from connection to learning and action

Palma, september 16th, 2026. **re^N · Balear Circular Hub** was officially launched today within the framework of the **Impulsa Circular Meeting 2026**, held at Palma Aquarium with the participation of businesses, public administrations, knowledge institutions and international leaders in circular economy and territorial transformation. The event focused on the challenge that emerged from last year's presentation of the first **Roadmap for the transition towards a circular tourism system in the Balearic Islands**: moving from a shared direction to a shared capacity for action,

During the event's first keynote session, **Antoni Riera**, Technical Director of **IMPULSA BALEARS**, presented how re^N will operate in this new stage and the role its participation platform will play in implementing the Roadmap. The proposal is based on a central idea: a roadmap can guide transformation, but it cannot by itself generate the connections, capabilities, trust or initiatives required to make that transformation happen.

In this regard, re^N is conceived as a transition infrastructure aimed at identifying the capabilities that already exist across the islands, linking them together, and enabling businesses, public administrations, knowledge, solutions and resources to discover new opportunities for collaboration.

Its participation platform will progressively allow stakeholders to navigate the Roadmap, identify where they can contribute, showcase initiatives and solutions, express needs, and connect with complementary capabilities.

The Roadmap gives us a direction. re^N must help us building the capacity to follow it.

From platform to community

One of the main conclusions of ICM 2026 was that connecting stakeholders is not enough to build a community capable of driving transformation. This topic was at the heart of Keynote 2 · Connect, featuring **Ladeja Godina Košir**, Founder and Executive Director of Circular Change, and **Bart Volkers**, Director and Co-founder of Circulair Groningen Drenthe. Their conversation explored the conditions required to move from a network of stakeholders to a community capable of recognizing a shared direction, participating, learning and acting together.

Among the key ideas discussed was the notion that trust should not necessarily be seen as a prerequisite for all collaboration. Rather, trust can also be built through working together. They also emphasized that sustained collaboration requires active ecosystem orchestration without turning into centralized control. This perspective positions the value of re^N not only in its ability to connect stakeholders, but also in its capacity to facilitate connections that generate distributed responsibility and collective action.

When an experience becomes a benchmark

Keynote 4 · Project took the discussion one step further by examining what enables a circular initiative to evolve from being merely a successful project into a demonstrative reference for the territory. The participants were **Pau Ruiz**, Research and Strategy Consultant at Circle Economy, and **Legarda Campos**, Regional Strategy Development Officer at Sodena.

The discussion highlighted three complementary conditions:

- First, the need to generate evidence that helps understand not only what an initiative has achieved, but also how it contributes to broader systemic transformation.
- Second, the importance of ensuring that this evidence reduces uncertainty and builds sufficient credibility for other companies, institutions and investors to commit resources.
- And, finally, the need to turn each experience into territorial learning by identifying what worked, under which conditions, and which elements can be adapted or replicated in other contexts.

The session reinforced a central idea: the value of a demonstrative experience does not lie simply in being showcased, but in its ability to help other stakeholders make better decisions and act with less uncertainty.

Mobilising to transform value chains

The final keynote of ICM 2026, Mobilise, featured **Andoni Hidalgo**, Value Chain Transformation Lead at Climate-KIC, and addressed how collective capacity can be translated into initiatives capable of transforming value chains.

His intervention highlighted the need to move beyond a collection of individual projects and instead build coalitions, portfolios of initiatives and implementation mechanisms capable of mobilising businesses, public administrations, knowledge institutions and investment around shared challenges.

In this context, the institutional dialogue between **Alejandro Dorado**, Commissioner for the Circular Economy at Spain's Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, and **Diego Viu**, Director General for Circular Economy, Energy Transition and Climate Change of the Government of the Balearic Islands, focused on the role of public policies in activating and scaling the circular transition from a regional perspective.

The President of the Balearic Government, **Margalida Prohens**, closed the event by highlighting the importance of ensuring that existing capabilities across the territory do not operate in isolation, and that cooperation among the public sector, businesses and knowledge institutions progressively translates into tangible results.

About re^N · Balear Circular Hub

re^N · Balear Circular Hub is designed to connect actors, knowledge and capabilities around the circular transition in the archipelago, using the circular Roadmap as its main instrument for guidance and deployment. Its proposal is articulated through spaces for action, resources, participation,