SA Keskkonnainvesteeringute Keskus Narva mnt 7A 10143, Tallinn

Letter of Support for the CircEST Project (LIFE SIP CircEST)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing on behalf of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications to express our strong support for the LIFE SIP CircEST project, focusing on circular economy and waste management data-driven innovations, submitted by the Ministry of Climate for funding under the LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life sub-programme.

Our Ref: 16.09.2024 No 6-2/2326-1

Our Ministry recognizes the critical importance of data-driven solutions in advancing the circular economy and supporting effective waste management in Estonia. We believe that the objectives of the CircEST project align with our national goals of enhancing resource efficiency, promoting sustainable economic practices, and reducing the environmental impact of industrial and urban waste streams. The focus on leveraging data for more accurate monitoring, analysis, and forecasting will not only improve the decision-making process for circular economy initiatives but also create opportunities for innovation in waste management practices. Overall, for business sector it has strong potential to reduce the administrative burden and create competitive advantage for leading their companies towards more sustainable business models.

Furthermore, we acknowledge the strong synergy between the CircEST project and the ongoing Technical Assistance (TA) project for the preparation of SIPs/SNAPs. This technical assistance effort plays a pivotal role in laying the groundwork for strategic integrated projects, and the CircEST project is a critical next step in turning those strategies into actionable, high-impact initiatives for Estonia's circular economy.

As an associated partner, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications is committed to supporting the project in the following ways:

- 1. **Sharing data infrastructure insights** to relevant datasets that will support the project's goals of real-time data integration for better waste management.
- 2. Supporting to facilitate the connections with data governance bodies and industry stakeholders to enhance collaboration for circular economy data-driven solutions.
- 3. **Participating in workshops and events** organized within the project to ensure alignment with national digital and circular economy policies.
- 4. **Disseminating project outcomes** through our communication channels to promote broader adoption of data-driven circular economy solutions across industries.

We are confident that the CircEST project will significantly contribute to Estonia's Waste

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Management Plan and enhance our data infrastructure for waste management, leading to better resource efficiency and more sustainable industrial practices. Our Ministry looks forward to collaborating with the project consortium and playing an active role in supporting the project's data-driven ambitions.

Should you require any further information about our commitment to this project, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best regards,

(signed digitally)

Sandra Särav

Deputy Secretay General for Economics and Innovation

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