

AGENDA

Circular by Design: Closing Cycles to Open New Business Opportunities Circular Design Workshop for Companies

20-21 October 2026 Manila, Philippines
Design Museum Gallery 1, Likhang Filipino Exhibition Halls

Time	Session
Tuesday 20 October 2026	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration and networking
09:00 – 09:30	Introduction and stage setting - Design Centre Philippines - EU SWITCH Asia Policy Support Component - ASEAN Circular Economy Business Alliance - Participants introductions – Tour de Table
09:30 – 10:15	Circular Economy and Design: an introduction and overview - CE concepts and practices - CE design: products/services, business activities and business models
10:15 – 10:30	Morning break
10:30 – 11:30	Circular Means Business - Doing business in a circularising world - Business value creation – circular solution canvas - Group exercise on analysis of circular business cases
11:30 – 12:00	Circular Economy in the Design Practice - Introduction to design thinking, including design and ideation challenges - Stakeholder and target users - Applications for sustainable design
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch break
13:00 – 13:30	Design for Circularity - Product and business model strategies - Initiate – Ideate – Implement: a structured design process
13:30 – 14:50	Deep Dive: Initiate - Getting started with business strengths and circular design ambitions - Participants' work on participant's company's circularity challenge Participants' sharing of initiation insights
14:50 – 15:10	Afternoon break
15:10 – 16:00	Deep Dive: Ideate (part 1) - Introduction: understanding requirements - Participants' work on participant's company's circularity challenge/continued - Participants' sharing of ideation insights
16:00 – 16:20	Deep Dive: ideation tools

	• Introduction to SCAMPER and its application for circular design
16:20 - 16:30	Wrap up • Synthesis and reflections on day 1 • Outlook on day 2
Wednesday 21st October	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration and networking
09:00 – 09:10	Recap and overview of the day
09:10 – 10:45	Deep Dive: Ideate (part 2) • Ideation with circularity templates • From ideas to circularity concepts • Participants’ work on participant’s company’s circularity challenge/continued • Participants’ sharing of ideation insights/continued
10:45 – 11:00	Morning break
11:00 – 12:00	Deep Dive: Implement (part 1) • Using solution canvas to develop business value • Participants’ work on participant’s company’s circularity challenge/continued • Participants’ sharing of implementation insights/continued
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch break
13:00 – 14:00	Deep Dive: Implement (part 2) • Rethinking business model • Participants’ work on participant’s company’s circularity challenge/continued • Participants’ sharing of implementation insights/continued
14:00 – 15:00	From Circular Design to Circular Business • Introduction • Participants’ work on action plan for company’s circularity challenge • Participants’ sharing on action plans • Reflections
15:00 – 15:15	Afternoon break
15:15 – 16:15	External reflection session (with participation of EU and country institutions) • Moderators’ introduction • Company reflections • Moderators’ reflections • Discussion with EU and country institutions
16:15 – 16:30	Workshop closure • Remarks on behalf of EU SWITCH Asia • Remarks on behalf of Design Centre Philippines • Next steps
16:30	Networking and bilateral discussions

About the Moderators



Jett Pisate Virangakapura. Jett is a design educator and social innovation consultant. He currently serves as a faculty member at the School of Global Studies, Thammasat University, where he has established the Circular Design Lab, and teaches design thinking for sustainability. He has also taught at Mahidol University, King Mongkut University of Technology, and co-taught the Design Across Borders course offered by Stanford University. In addition to his academic career, Jett has wide practical experience in working on design projects. He has worked across the apparel, electronic, furniture, media, toy, and tourism sectors. He has played the role of a Design Thinking Facilitator and Circular Design Coach for both private and public sector organisations. His private sector clients include DTAC, MQDC, Siam Motors, and PepsiCo. His public sector clients include NESDC, OPDC, OCSC, DES, and UNDP.



Dr. Rene Van Berkel. Rene is an international thought leader in circular economy, resource efficiency, climate innovation, and responsible business. Throughout his career he balanced roles as senior academic and international development practitioner, and advised businesses, mostly MSMEs, to improve productivity, drive environmental performance and achieve innovation. He is one of the co-convenors of ACEBA, and a senior circularity expert for the EU SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component. He is also a member of the International Resource Panel, the leading global science to policy platform on sustainable use of material resources. Dr. Van Berkel has held leadership roles with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in India, Indonesia, and at UNIDO Headquarters in Austria. Previously, he held a professorial position at Curtin University of Technology, Australia, and several academic positions at the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands, where he also obtained his doctorate in Environmental Science.