

Annex B — Final Report:

“Circular material management in the public domain”

This report summarises the preparatory phase for an innovative procurement project by the City of Mechelen to enable circular management of construction materials in the public domain. The project aims to support Mechelen’s ambition to reduce its material footprint by 30% by 2030.

The study analysed stakeholder needs, available technologies and market feasibility. It showed that the main challenges are not technological, but relate to processes, governance and collaboration. Key requirements include a materials framework to assess criticality, quality and reuse potential; clear agreements with contractors on responsibilities and material availability; and local storage and logistics capacity to facilitate reuse.

The report recommends developing these foundations through pilot projects and support from a circular materials advisor. Digital tools, such as a material tracking system, can then be further developed to scale circular practices across the city’s public domain.