



Circular Deal on Secondary Construction Materials Province of Noord-Holland

WHAT

We, province of Noord-Holland, initiated the [Circular Deal on Secondary Construction Materials](#) together with Circulair Westfriesland in 2024. In this deal, agreements have been made about the standard application of circular demolition or “circular harvesting” principles.

The Circular Deal Secondary Construction Materials is a groundbreaking initiative that significantly promotes circularity in the construction sector through binding agreements on:

- circular demolition criteria (or circular “harvesting” criteria)
- cooperation within the chain
- and knowledge sharing

It is not only a new working method but also a new way of thinking. Because the construction sector in the Netherlands is responsible for

no less than 50% of the consumption of raw materials. The potential of reusing raw materials is huge but unfortunately still insufficiently utilized. This is mainly because demolition takes place without taking into account the possibilities for reusing materials and their application in (new) construction and renovation projects.

HOW

That is why the province of Noord-Holland and Circulair Westfriesland have started a process to bring the construction chain together to change this. The Circular Deal is therefore essentially “owned” by the parties themselves who have gotten to know each other and trust each other in a cross-sector cooperation with, among others, municipalities, housing associations, project developers, architects, specialists, demolition companies and contractors.

AIM

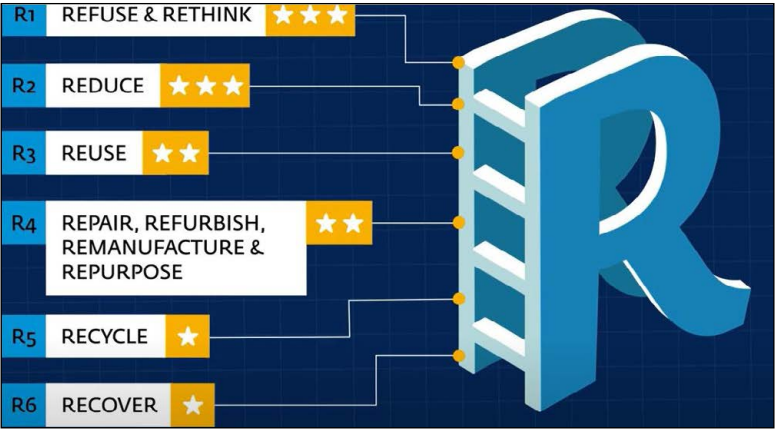
The aim of this Circular Deal on Secondary Building Materials is to stimulate circular construction in Noord-Holland, use fewer raw materials and thus contribute to the circular objectives. By signing the Deal, the parties commit to making “circular demolition”, or “circular harvesting”, the norm. They also promise to provide insight into how much and in what way harvested materials have been processed in a circular manner. And they work together to form circular chains. And with success! May 2025 50 parties have signed the Circular Deal.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

Our Dutch national government has also shown interest in a national rollout of this approach. Even international interest was shown which is why the Circular Deal has been translated into English and German. It has been an intensive, unique pioneering process to reach binding agreements with all these different parties en legal entities. It was discussed as a successful example with the European Commission on January 16th 2025 after which regional minister Esther Rommel was invited to present it during [a DG GROW event \(ICC\)](#) on March 6th 2025. Furthermore we were invited to present it during the EU Green Week on June 5th 2025 during the Stakeholder conference of the CCRI network.

PILOTS

In 2024, 10 projects have started and 14 more are planned in the short term. In these projects, demolition contractors are encouraged to harvest the buildings in such a way that materials are reused as “high-quality” as possible.



DESIGN CRITERIA

The circular harvesting regulations are designed in such a way that parties receive more points for high-quality processing (with a preference for direct reuse). Extending the lifespan of materials deserves the most points. This increases awareness and limits the loss of value of raw materials.

PROCUREMENT CRUCIAL

This is where municipalities and housing associations play a crucial role; they have an important role in stimulating and encouraging circular harvesting according to the circular regulations (instead of price/time based). That’s why it was crucial to have an independent coordinator of the entire process who help cities to actually implement the harvesting criteria in their policies. We therefore employ a “keten-aanjager” a “chain accelerator” who has extensive knowledge of circular construction and actually helps implementing it.

IMPACT

The direct impact is within the network itself in which more than 60 circular building material chains have already been mapped out with 61,000 tons of building material (January 2025 which can be found in our online dashboard). Three quarters of the material (at the time of writing) is concrete and almost 5% steel and metal. The production of this material is estimated to cost around 12,500 tons of CO₂, which is saved if it's reused. This is a calculated estimate based on average values from our sources for production that we can explain in more detail.

These circular chains have been mapped out so that every participant in the Circular Deal knows where the harvested materials and products can go. By agreeing within this network that as many harvested materials as possible end up in these identified circular chains, we stimulate the reuse of these materials and jointly contribute to the further development of these (often new) circular chains.

LEARNING JOURNEY

It has proven to be a learning process and has a direct impact within the parties involved and their sectors. It's therefore been:

- A learning path for quality assurance and standardisation.
- A learning path on making harvested materials available, accessible and affordable for application in projects.
- A learning path for a new standard for demolition, circular harvesting.

MUTUAL TRUST

In the process of working with this circular deal, parties have found each other for future cooperation, parties have also convinced each other about the feasibility and added value of circular demolition. It started with a few pioneers in our region and has grown into a regional partnership. The region has developed a joint and standardized approach for circular harvesting that contributes to the transformation to a circular construction economy.



BUILDINGS AS MATERIAL BANKS

It is therefore not only a new working method but also a new way of thinking, in which buildings are now considered as material banks. Within the transition of the construction sector, this is the first regional step to ensure that the reuse of building materials is increased and accelerated.

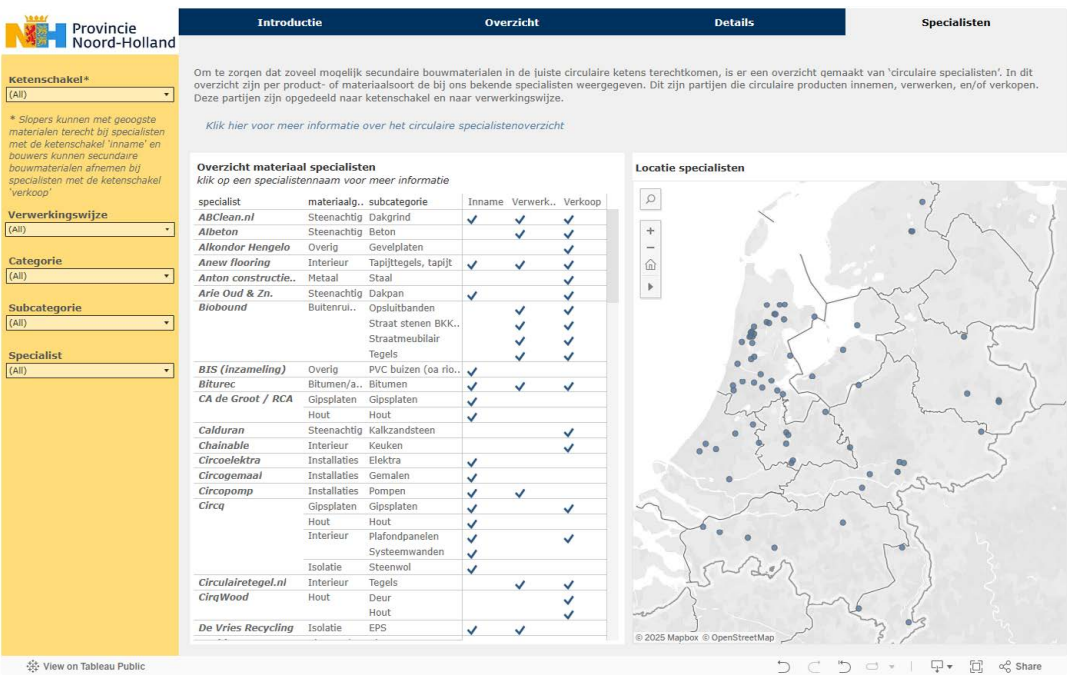
FUTURE

Of course, it does not stop here. The transition in our region continues. After increasing and accelerating the reuse of building materials, the demand for circular building materials also has to be increased in order to ultimately ensure a complete transformation towards a circular construction sector. Demolition is a small part of the circular construction puzzle but it's an important part.

DASHBOARD

In support of the Circular Deal, an overview in the form of a “dashboard” has been developed. This dashboard can be found [here](#) (in Dutch) and contains the following 2 components:

- An overview of parties that collect, process and/or sell secondary materials.
- The demolition projects known to the province up to 2030 of the municipalities, housing corporations and healthcare institutions that have signed the deal.



The dashboard is accessible to everyone and supports parties in finding the right circular chains.



SIGNATORIES

SIGNED ON JANUARY 12, 2024.

- Beens Dredging B.V.
- Boy Limmen Sloopwerken B.V.
- C.A. de Groot Groep B.V.
- Circq
- Circulair Westfriesland
- EBS European Building Supply B.V.
- Foekens Groep
- Gemeente Bergen
- Gemeente Dijk en Waard
- Gemeente Enkhuizen
- Gemeente Heiloo
- Gemeente Hollands Kroon
- Gemeente Hoorn
- Gemeente Medemblik
- Gemeente Opmeer
- Gemeente Stede Broec
- Gemeente Uitgeest
- Gemeentelijk Woningbedrijf Opmeer
- GGZ Noord-Holland-Noord
- GP Groot B.V.
- Hogeschool Inholland
- Kennemer Wonen
- Kesselaar & Zn
- KUUK
- Luijtgarden
- Meijs Ingenieurs & Uitvoering
- N.V. Afvalzorg Holding
- Natural Plastics International
- Ooms Bouw en Ontwikkeling B.V.
- Provincie Noord-Holland
- Schadenberg Bouw
- Toekomstgroep Holding B.V.
- Van der Bel B.V.
- VERAS
- Vic Obdam Staalbouw B.V.
- Welwonen
- Woonwaard

SIGNED ON JUNE 30, 2024

- Van Wijnen Heerhugowaard
- Omring

SIGNED ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

- Arie Hollenberg sloop & milieuwerken BV
- Bouwcenter RAB
- Gemeente Alkmaar
- Rebrick
- Verwol
- Vlasman

SIGNED ON MARCH 5, 2025

- Gemeente Schagen
- Gemeente Texel
- IDDS Groep bv

In the process of signing:

- Gemeente Den Helder
- Gemeente Purmerend



And the Metropolitan Area of Amsterdam has started the procedure to join as well.