

Corvallis Workshop on Inclusive and Circular Construction in Medellín

Advancing a More Inclusive Ecosystem to Transform Construction and Demolition Waste into Opportunities

The **Corvallis Workshop on Inclusive and Circular Construction in Medellín** is a joint initiative of **Oregon State University**, **Colorado School of Mines**, and the **Universidad Nacional de Colombia**, developed in partnership with **Empresas Públicas de Medellín (EPM)** and **Fundación Diversa** to foster collaboration among academia, industry, and community stakeholders around the inclusive recovery and valorization of construction and demolition waste.

Why This Workshop?

How can construction and demolition waste (CDW) become an opportunity to create environmental, economic, and social value for more people? The workshop will bring together companies, public institutions, universities, and key stakeholders across the construction and demolition waste ecosystem—including waste picker associations, cargo tricycle operators, dump truck operators, and waste management organizations—to build a shared vision for strengthening a more inclusive ecosystem for CDW recovery and reuse.

The starting point will be recognizing the role that each stakeholder plays, identifying strengths, needs, and opportunities for collaboration, and fostering dialogue in which every perspective contributes to building shared solutions.

Over three days, participants will strengthen connections, exchange experiences, and explore new ways to translate innovation, collaboration, and knowledge into actions that advance a more inclusive ecosystem for construction and demolition waste recovery.

General Agenda

Collaborative Workshop

Tuesday, August 11 | 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

A full day of dialogue and co-creation bringing together the diverse voices of the construction and demolition waste ecosystem. Throughout the day, participants will:

- Recognize the roles, capacities, and aspirations of the stakeholders who make CDW recovery possible in Medellín.
- Use three innovation case studies as conversation starters:
 - **3D Printing with Recycled Concrete**
 - **Recycled Glass Waste**
 - **High-Quality Recycled Aggregates for New Concrete**
- Explore how stronger connections between research, industry, and ecosystem stakeholders can foster a more inclusive approach to construction and demolition waste recovery.
- Identify opportunities, challenges, and collaborative actions to build a shared vision for the future of the sector.

Networking & Project Showcase

Wednesday, August 12 | 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

A space to connect people, ideas, and experiences around the inclusive circular economy.

During this session, participants will:

- Explore projects developed by students from **Colombia and the United States** that address challenges in the inclusive circular economy across a range of disciplines and contexts.
- Exchange ideas with researchers, industry representatives, and ecosystem stakeholders.
- Build new partnerships and identify opportunities for future collaboration.

Field Visit

Thursday, August 13 | 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

A firsthand opportunity to experience Medellín's leadership in construction and demolition waste recovery. The visit will begin at **RIC-EPM**, where participants will observe how construction and demolition waste is received, sorted, processed, and transformed into high-quality recycled aggregates that become raw materials for new products. The group will then visit **INDURAL**, where these recycled materials are transformed into blocks, curbs, precast elements, and other high-performance construction products.

The visit will provide a complete view of the circular economy in action—from waste to new products—and highlight Medellín's potential to lead a more inclusive and circular construction ecosystem.