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Dublin's Circular Economy

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29.1.24 | Circular Venice: policy, practice
and innovation compared



Imbolc

The Celtic Circular Festival

- Renewal & Rebirth
- Cycles of Nature
- Community & Sharing
- Resource Regeneration
- Harmony with Nature



Overview

The Challenge

- For Dublin
- For the EU

Dublin's Solutions

- Policy
- Funding
- Education
- Communities
- Showcases



The Challenge

Hugh Coughlan, Vice
President, ACR+

Dublin & Venice

Cities of Dualities

- Global Cities | Village Feel
- Island Economies | Heart of Europe
- Urban Core | Close to Nature



Dublin's Challenges

Growth

- Growing city: 6% population increase 2016-2022
- Housing pressure: Construction demands
- Growing economy: regional imbalance
- Growing waste volumes: since recession in 2008
- Stagnating recycling rates

Geography

- Global Supply Chain Reliance: Brexit & COVID19
- Dublin & Cork: Concentration of household waste
- Centralised Government: Prevents local adaptability



Dublin's Challenges

Impact of Waste

- 155k tonnes of household waste in 2022
 - 60.8% residual waste
 - 19% mixed recyclables
 - 20% food waste
- 588,233 tonnes of CO₂-eq per annum
- CO₂-eq impact of textiles is particularly high

Legacy Waste Considerations

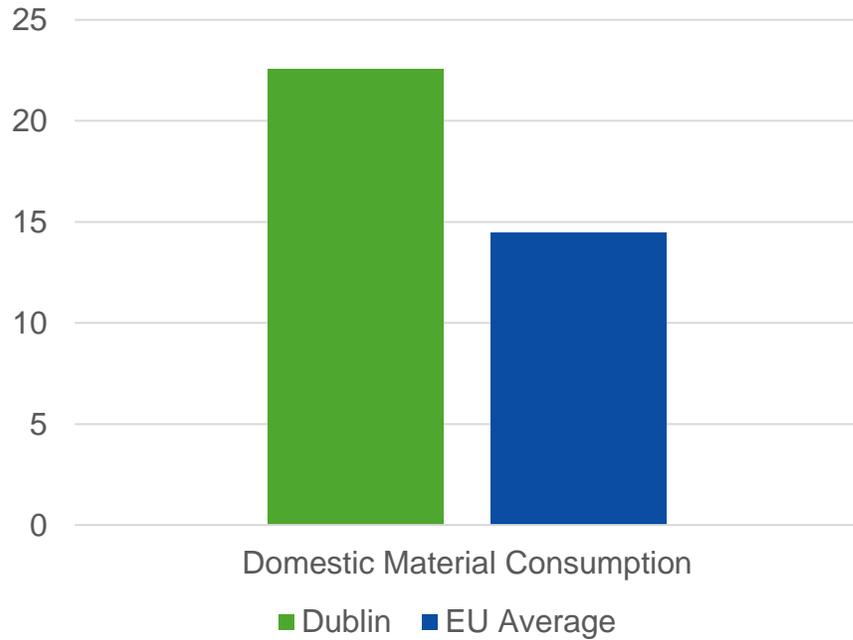
- Unique market structure for waste collection
- Capacity & Infrastructural Planning
- Historic policy focus on waste, recycling & recovery.
- Historic local authority focus on litter control and waste

Keeping up with EU

- Implementation of EU directives & policy



Domestic Material Consumption (tonnes per capita, 2022)

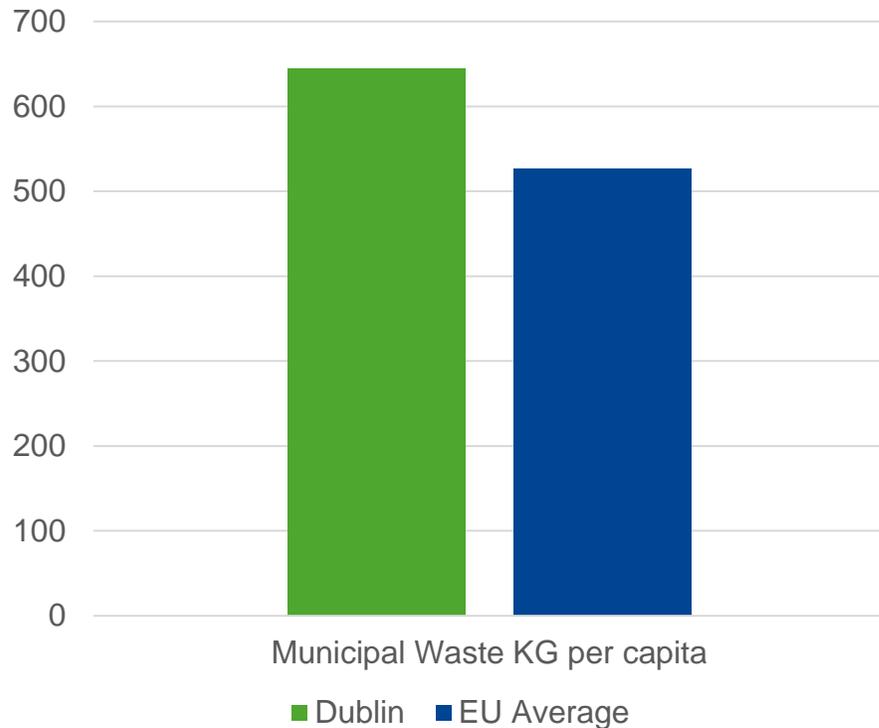


Dublin & Waste

- We consume more than the European average.

Dublin & Waste

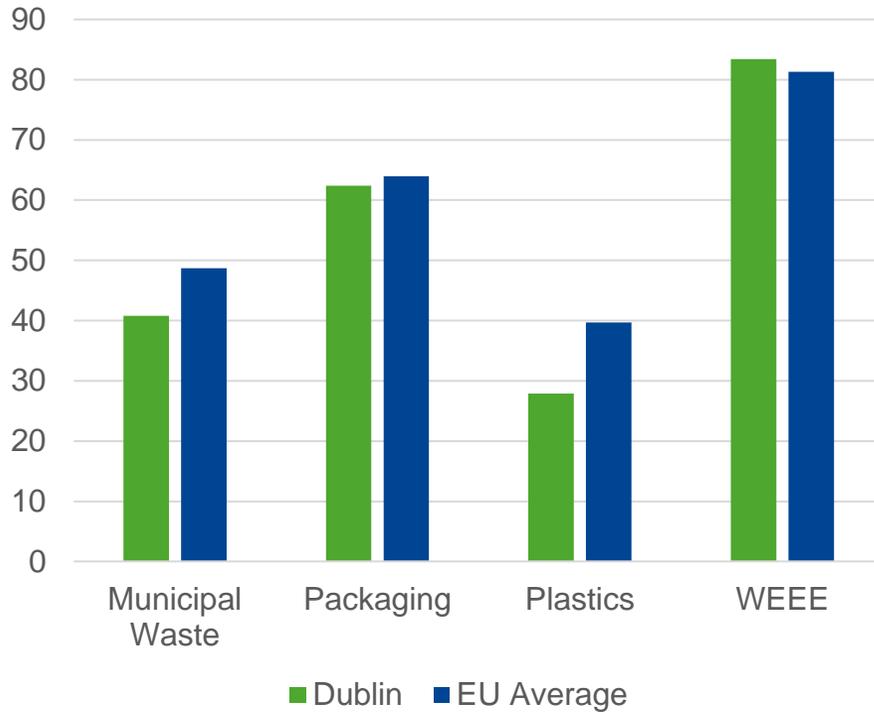
Generation of municipal waste (kg per capita, 2019-2020)



- We consume more than the European average.
- **We generate more municipal waste than the European average.**

Dublin & Waste

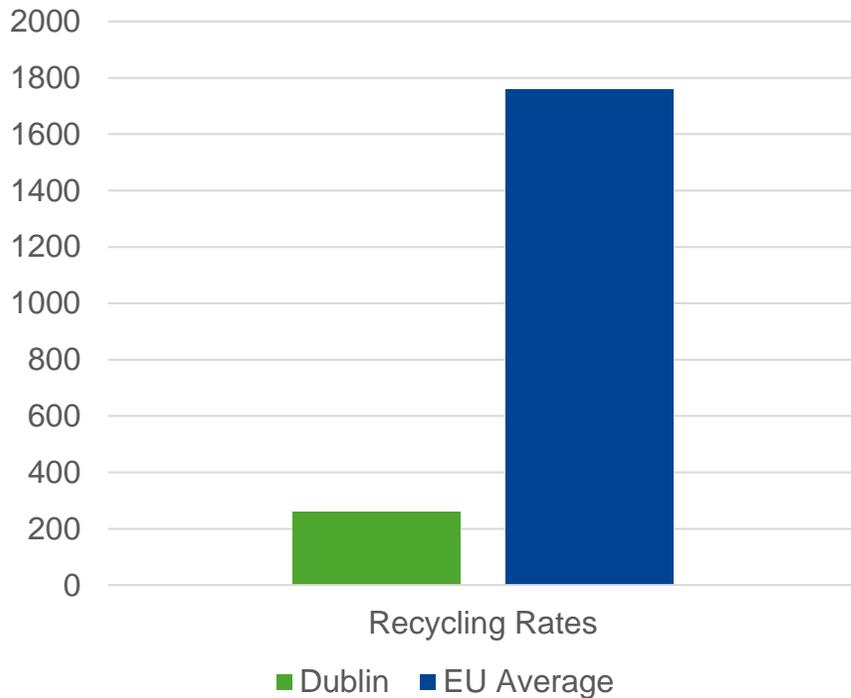
Recycling rates of municipal Waste (% , 2019-2020)



- We consume more than the European average.
- We generate more municipal waste than the European average.
- **We have comparable municipal recycling rates.**

Dublin & Waste

Whole of Economy Recycling Rates (kg per capita, 2020)



- We consume more than the European average
- We generate more municipal waste than the European average
- We have comparable municipal recycling rates.
- **Our recycling beyond municipal waste is far below European average**

EU's Challenges

- Current **high-level consumption** and waste generation
- Interconnection of **economic growth** and waste generation
- EU Target to **double recycling** between 2020 & 2030
- Difficulty **measuring circularity** in a comparable way and in a way that truly measures circular progress
- **Driving reuse** and preparing for reuse through for example mandatory targets
- Ensuring **producer responsibility** schemes support and finance prevention of **reuse and repair**
- Supply **chain realignment** and requirements including critical raw materials
- **Implementing** circular product & Ecodesign Directives



Dublin's Solutions

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President, ACR+

Policy Priority

Ministerial responsibility for Circular Economy

- Waste Action Plan for a CE (2020)
- Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy (2020)
- Whole of Government CE Strategy (2021)
- National Development Plan (2021)
- **CE Act (2022)**
- EPA CE Programme
- Green Public Procurement
- Climate Action Plan (2023)
- National Food Waste Prevention Roadmap (2023)
- **National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy (2024)**
- Dublin Development Plan (2022-2028)
- Dublin City Council Corporate Plan (2020-2024)
- Local Economic & Community Plan (2023)
- Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor (exp. 2024)



Investment imperative

Funding Opportunities

- Circular Economy Fund
- **Circular Economy Innovation Grant Scheme**
- Green Enterprise Funding
- Climate Action Fund
- Creative Ireland Fund
- Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund
- Community Climate Action Fund

Circular Economy Innovation Grant Scheme (CEIGS)

gov.ie/decc



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Education Opportunities

Third Level & Research

- Trinity College Dublin
- NCAD
- IADT
- Creative Futures Academy (UCD)
- AMBER

Business

- Modos
- Circular Economy Academy

Primary & Secondary

- Green Flag Programme
- ReLove Fashion
- National Rediscovery Centre Education Programme
- Eco UNESCO



relove
fashion

**REUSE
RETHINK
RELOVE**



Community & Business Innovation

- **MyWaste.ie**
- **SoCircular**
- **Food Cloud**
- BiOrbic
- Airfield Estate
- Circuleire
- CAROs
- CRNI
- Green Schools
- iCRAG
- Irish Green Building Council
- Paint Reuse Network
- REPAK
- Repair My Stuff
- Science Foundation Ireland
Stop Food Waste



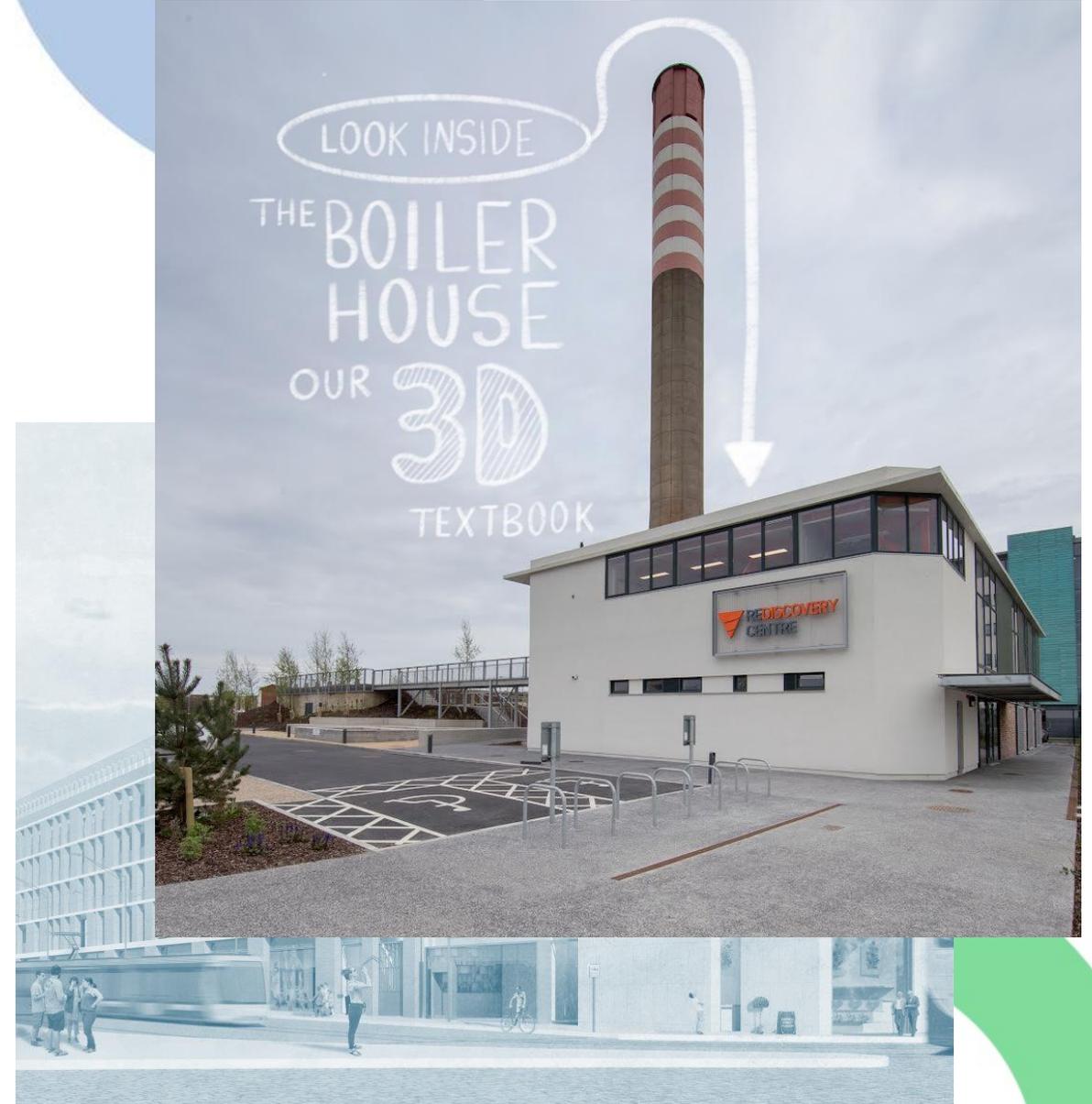
Built Environment Showcase

Dominick Street Redevelopment

- Climate Resilient Placemaking
- Maximizing retention of existing buildings

Rediscovery Centre

- The National Centre for the Circular Economy



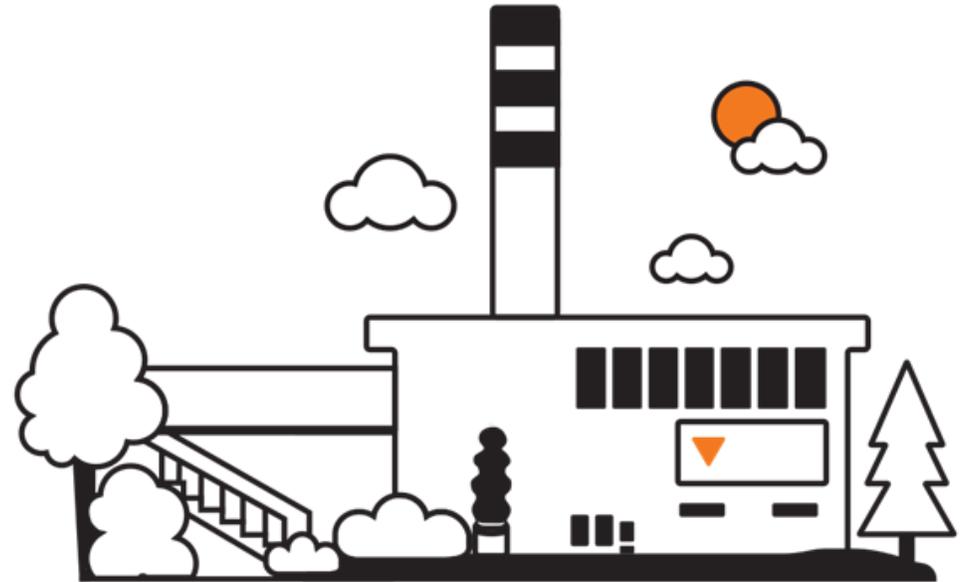
Local Action through Demonstration

Boiler House

- One of the last remaining features of the old Ballymun
- Europe's first demonstration centre for the circular economy
- Huge number of architectural and engineering interventions to explore and discover.

Social Enterprise

- Four Social Enterprises, Ecostore + Cafe
- Paint Reuse Network
- ReLove Fashion
- Bike CSP Project
- Working with TUS + CE Schemes



(Inter) National Engagement

Advocacy

- Research to support evidence based impact
- National and EU advisory groups + policy platforms
 - ECESP
 - Right to Repair
 - RREUSE

Education

- Nationwide primary, secondary and third level programmes
- Informal & vocational training
- Public workshops
- Teacher CPD
- Curriculum Development
- Multichannel communications

Collaboration

- Circular Economy Hotspot Dublin 2023
- Collaboration across sectors to deliver innovative solutions
- Leverage networks
 - PRN
 - CE Academy
 - ECCO



Delivering Impact

Bringing people in

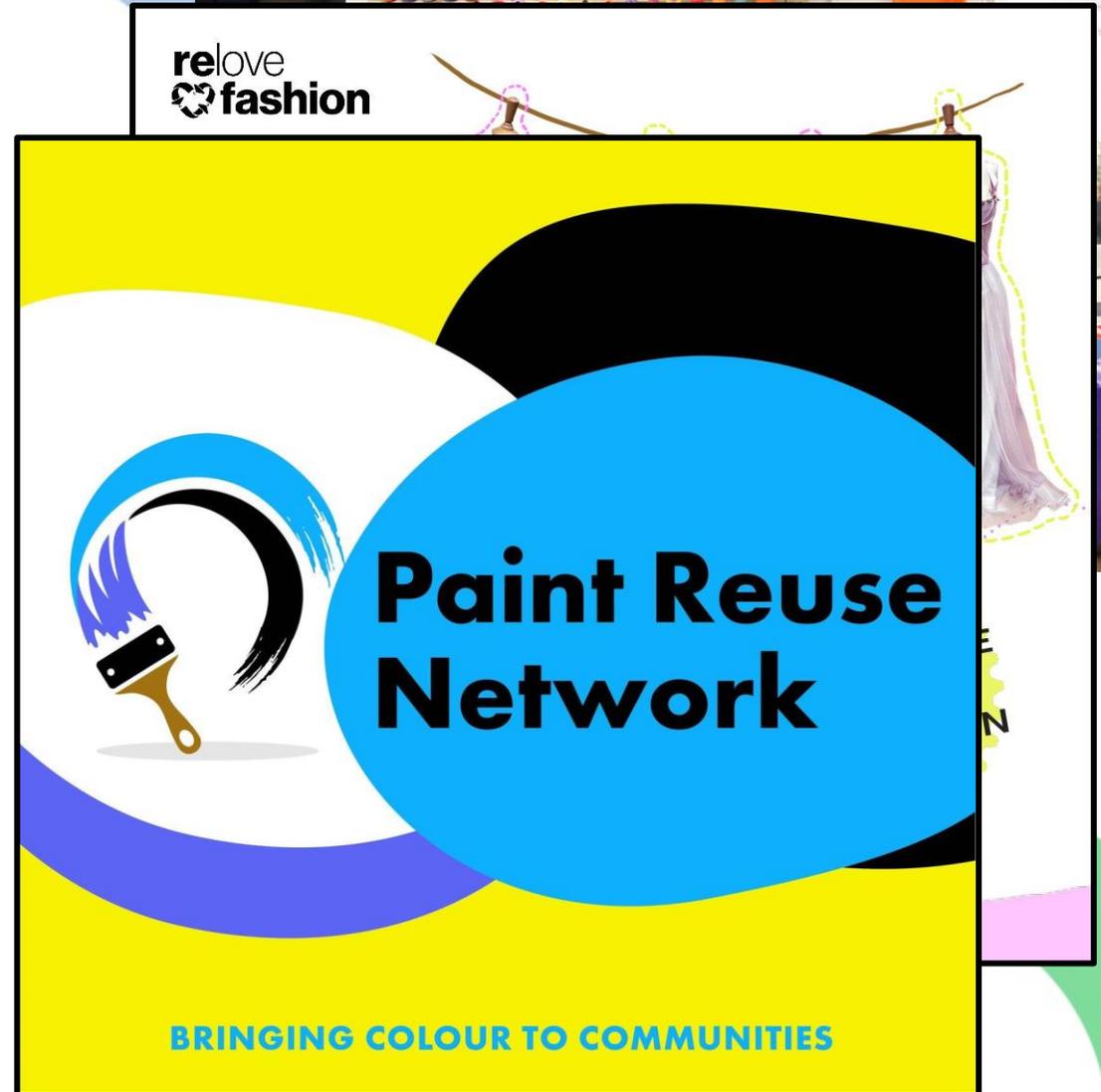
- Free Community Events on broad interest topics
- Café, ecostore & biodiversity garden
- Event space
- Donations (Bikes + Paint to community projects)
- Collaborate with DCC to provide community space

Building circular economy skills

- Vocational training (CSP / TUS)
- ReLove Fashion (Secondary Students)
- Direct support to community members + SE's (ECCO + CE Academy)
- Workshops

Replicability

- Demonstrating for replicability (esp. Paint Reuse Network)
- Using examples to inspire others to replicate
- Enabling action & best practice



relove
fashion

Paint Reuse Network

BRINGING COLOUR TO COMMUNITIES

Paint Reuse Network

- Supported Membership network
- knowledge exchange
- Practical guidance
- Communications & Marketing
- Supporting CE transition



Circular Economy Hotspot Dublin 2023

- 4 Days
- 5 Partners
- 17 Locations
- 92 Speakers
- 1,700 Attendees
- 3 Host Cities in 2023



Ní neart go cur le chéile

“The beauty of travel lies in its ability to break down barriers and foster understanding.”

Marco Polo



Thank You

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