

Circular Economy

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From a Linear Economy...







... to a Circular Economy





What is the Circular Economy?

- Maintaining the value of products, materials and resources in the economy for as long as possible while minimising waste generation
- To boost our economy and competitiveness with new business opportunities and innovative products and services.
- For economic, social and environmental gains





Links with Juncker Priorities

Protecting the environment and maintaining our competitiveness have to go hand-in-hand: both are about a sustainable future





The Circular Economy Package

• Adopted by the Commission on 2nd December 2015





Objectives of the new Package

- Synergies between environment and business agendas
 - Preserve resources while creating business opportunities
 - Closer links to other key EU priorities: climate and energy, jobs and growth, investment, innovation, social, industrial competitiveness
- Propose concrete and ambitious action where EU intervention has high added value
 - e.g. long-term vision and targets on waste management; internal market rules for products; environment and consumers protection; regulatory obstacles or enforcement issues; innovation and investments





Action Plan

5 Main Areas of Action





Areas of Action



Production

Objectives

- Incentives to the circular design of products
- Innovative and resource efficient production processes.

- Foster reparability, durability, and recyclability in Ecodesign (e.g. TV screens)
- Promotion of best practices for waste management and resource efficiency in industrial sectors.
- Facilitate industrial symbiosis





Consumption

Objectives

- Reuse and repair of products to avoid waste.
- Empower consumers with reliable information on environmental impact of products.

- Develop rules to encourage reuse activities (e.g. waste proposal)
- Work to ensure availability of spare parts (Ecodesign?)
- Better enforce guarantees and action on false green claims
- Emphasize CE criteria in Green Public Procurement.
- Independent testing programme to assess possible planned obsolescence.
- Better labelling: EU Eco-label, Environmental Footprint.



Waste management

Objectives

- Waste management systems, addressing the existing implementation gap.
- Long-term vision and drive investments.

- Revised legislative package on waste Work with Member States to improve waste management, incl. to avoid overcapacities in residual waste treatment (e.g. incineration and Mechanical-biological treatment)
- Ensure that Cohesion Policy contributions are guided by the EU waste hierarchy.





Market for secondary raw materials

Objectives

- Increase the use of secondary raw materials.
- Increase the use of recycled nutrients and the reuse of treated wastewater.
- Safely manage the risks of chemicals of concern.
- Improve knowledge of material stocks and flows.

- Develop quality standards for secondary raw materials.
- Revised EU regulation on fertilizers.
- Legislative proposal on minimum requirements for reused water
- Analysis on the interface between chemicals, product, and waste legislation.
- EU-wide electronic system for cross-border transfers of waste.



Innovation & Investment

Objectives

• Right environment for innovation and investments.

- €650 million Horizon 2020 initiative on 'Industry 2020 in the CE.
- Pilot "innovation deals" to address potential regulatory obstacles for innovators.
- Targeted outreach of EU funding
- New platform for financing CE with EIB and national promotional banks.





Priority Sectors



Plastics

Objectives

- Provide a strategy to improve sustainability of plastics throughout its lifecycle
- Increase efficiency in recycling - less than 25% of plastic waste collected is recycled, and about 50% goes to landfill.

- Adopt a specific strategy on plastics including marine litter.
- A more ambitious target for the recycling of plastic packaging in the legislative proposal on waste.





Food waste

Objectives

 Reach Sustainable Development Goal to halve food waste by 2030 – today around 100 million tonnes of food are wasted annually in the EU.

- Develop an EU methodology to measure food waste.
- Create a platform for the SDG on food waste and to share best practice and results achieved.
- Clarify EU legislation relating to waste, food and feed, and facilitate food donation.
- Improve the use and understanding of date marking along the food chain (e.g."best before" label).



Critical Raw Materials

Objectives

• Increasing efficient use and recovery of CRMs.

- Encourage recovery of CRMs, and prepare a report on best practices and options for further action at the EU level.
- Encourage action by Member States.





Construction & Demolition

Objectives

 Identify and increase recovery of valuable materials

- Ensure recovery of valuable resources and adequate waste management in the construction and demolition sector, as well as facilitate assessing the environmental performance of buildings
- Develop pre-demolition guidelines to boost high-value recycling as well as voluntary recycling protocols aimed to improve quality of and build confidence.





Biomass & bio-based products

Objectives

- Support an efficient use of wood and bio-based products
- Increase recycling of bio-waste

- Promote an efficient use of bio-based resources through a series of measures, such as the promotion of the cascading use of woody biomass and support to innovation in the bio-economy
- New target for recycling wood packaging and a provision to ensure the separate collection of bio-waste
- Report and possible revision of the Bioeconomy Strategy



Hass

Paper

Main elements of the legislative



New targets municipal- waste recycling



% Prep. For reuse and recycling

- Separate collection extended to biowaste
- One calculation method by 2025
- Time extension for 7 MS recycling less than 20% in 2013
- Review clause (2025) to consider more stringent targets



New targets municipal- waste landfilling



[%] Municipal waste in landfill

- By 2030 : max 10% landfilling of MSW
- 5 years derogation for the same 7 MS as for the recycling rate
- Review clause (2025) to consider more stringent targets



New targets – packaging waste recycling



- → Clarification on measuring (same as for municipal waste)
- \rightarrow Repeal of the recovery and max recycling targets
- \rightarrow New target for aluminium



Targets: Definition and Calculation Rules

Definitions:

- Municipal waste (OECD/Eurostat-based)
- Backfilling, construction and demolition waste, (building on COM Decision 2011/753/EU)
- Food waste
- Preparation for reuse

Calculation rules:

- A single method
- Main rule: input to the final recycling
- Derogation: output of sorting operation if losses are < 10% and tracking system is in place

New calculation rules to cover :

- Output of recognised re-use centres and products prepared for reuse by deposit-refund schemes;
- Metal recycling from energy recovery





Prevention

- Focus on food waste, textile, WEEE, furniture
- Measures to promote the use of recyclable, durable, resource efficient products
- Target to be set at national level on disposed/incinerated waste (max kg/inhab)





Extended producer responsibility

Minimum requirements to be respected by MS when developing and applying EPR, including:

- Definition of the roles and responsibilities of the actors
- Defining measurable targets and a reporting procedure
- Information, transparency, dialogue
- Full cost coverage
- Focus on monitoring by MS
- Link between the product's true end-of-life cost and fees to be paid by producers





Conclusions

• Ambitious and comprehensive package

• Waste legislation proposal now to be considered by EU co-legislators

• Action Plan with EU actions for 2016-19

