

Closing the Loop of the Circular Economy Action Plan 2015-2019



Paola Migliorini
Deputy Head of Unit

European Commission
DG Environment
Sustainable Production, Products and Consumption

1 action plan 4 + 1 key areas 5 priority sectors 54 actions

Actions	Timetable
Production	
Emphasis on circular economy aspects in future product requirements under the Eco-design directive	2016 onwards
Eco-design work plan 2015-2017 and request to European standardisation organisations to develop standards on material efficiency for setting future Eco-design requirements on durability, reparability and recyclability of products	December 2015
Proposal for an implementing regulation on televisions and displays	End 2015 or beginning 2016
Examine options and actions for a more coherent policy framework of the different strands of work of EU product policy in their contribution to the circular economy	2016
Include guidance on circular economy into Best Available Techniques reference documents (BREFs) for several industrial sectors	2016 onwards
Guidance and promotion of best practices in the mining waste management plans	2016
Establishing an open, pan-European network of technological infrastructures for SMEs to integrate advanced manufacturing technologies into their production processes	2015/now
Examine how to improve the efficiency and uptake of the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and the pilot programme on environmental technology verification (ETV)	2017
Develop an improved knowledge base and support to SMEs for the substitution of hazardous substances of very high concern	2016

Consumption	Timetable
Better enforcement of existing guarantees on tangible products, accompanied by a reflection on improvements (upcoming Commission proposal for online sales of goods, and Fitness Check of consumer legislation)	2015-2017
Action on false green claims, including updated guidance on unfair commercial practices	2016
Analysis of the possibility to propose horizontal requirements on repair information provision in the context of Eco-design	2016
REFIT of Ecolabel, to be followed by actions to enhance its effectiveness	2016
Assessment of the possibility of an independent testing programme on planned obsolescence	2016
Subject to evaluation of the current ongoing pilots, explore the possible uses of the Product Environmental Footprint to measure and communicate environmental information	2016 onwards
Action on Green Public Procurement: enhanced integration of circular economy requirements, support to higher uptake including through training schemes, reinforcing its use in Commission procurement and EU funds	2016 onwards

Waste management	Timetable
Revised legislative proposal on waste	
Improved cooperation with Member States for better implementation of EU waste legislation, and combat illicit shipment of end of life vehicles	2015 onwards
Stepping up enforcement of revised Waste Shipment regulation	2016 onwards
Promotion of industry-led voluntary certification of treatment facilities for key waste recycle streams	2018 onwards
Initiative on waste to energy in the framework of the Energy Union	2016
Identification and dissemination of good practices in waste collection systems	2016 onwards

Market for secondary raw materials	Timetable
Development of quality standards for secondary raw materials (in particular for plastics)	2016 onwards
Proposal for a revised recyclers regulation	Early 2016
Proposed legislation setting minimum requirements for reused water for irrigation and groundwater recharge	2017
Promotion of safe and cost-effective water reuse, including guidance on the integration of water reuse in water planning and management, inclusion of best practices in relevant BREFs, and support to innovation (through the European Innovation Partnership and Horizon 2020) and investments	2016-2017

Analysis and policy options to address the interface between chemicals, products and waste legislation, including how to reduce the presence and improve the tracking of chemicals of concern in products	2017
Measures to facilitate waste shipment across the EU, including electronic data exchange (and possibly other measures)	2016 onwards
Further development of the EU raw materials information system	2016 onwards

Sectorial action	
Plastics	
Strategy on plastics in the circular economy	2017
Specific action to reduce marine litter implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals	2015 onwards

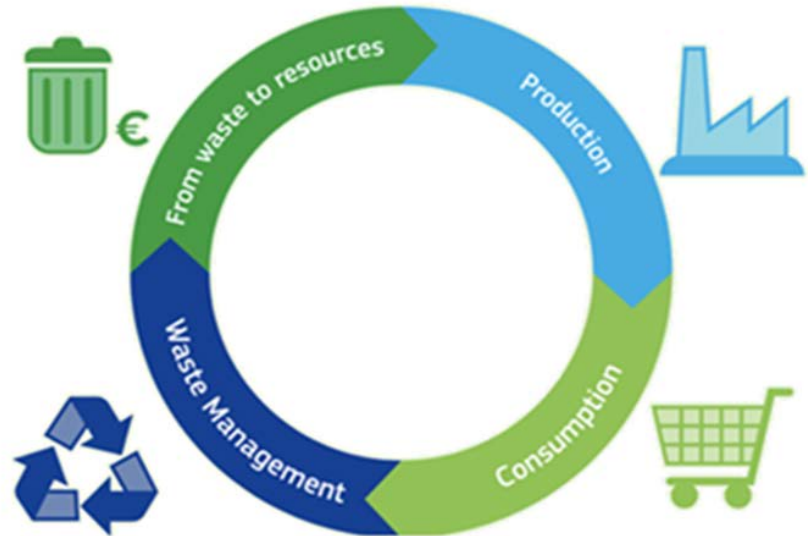
Food waste	
Development of a common methodology and indicators to measure food waste	2016
Stakeholders platform to examine how to achieve SDGs goals on food waste, share best practice and evaluate progress	2016
Clarify relevant EU legislation related to waste, food and feed in order to facilitate food donation and utilisation of former foodstuffs for animal feed	2016
Explore options for more effective use and understanding of date marking on food	2017

Critical raw materials	
Report on critical raw materials and the circular economy	2017
Improve exchange of information between manufacturers and recyclers on electronic products	2016 onwards
European standards for material-efficient recycling of electronic waste, waste batteries and other relevant complex end-of-life products	2016 onwards
Sharing of best practice for the recovery of critical raw materials from mining waste and landfills	2017

Construction and demolition	
Pre-demolition assessment guidelines for the construction sector	2017
Voluntary industry-wide recycling protocol for construction and demolition waste	2016
Core indicators for the assessment of the lifecycle environmental performance of a building, and incentives for their use	2017 onwards

Biomass and bio-based materials	
Guidance and dissemination of best practice on the cascading use of biomass and support to innovation in this domain through Horizon 2020	2016-2019
Ensuring coherence and synergies with the circular economy when examining the sustainability of bioeconomy under the Energy Union	2016
Assessment of the contribution of the 2012 Bio-economy Strategy to the circular economy and possible review	2016

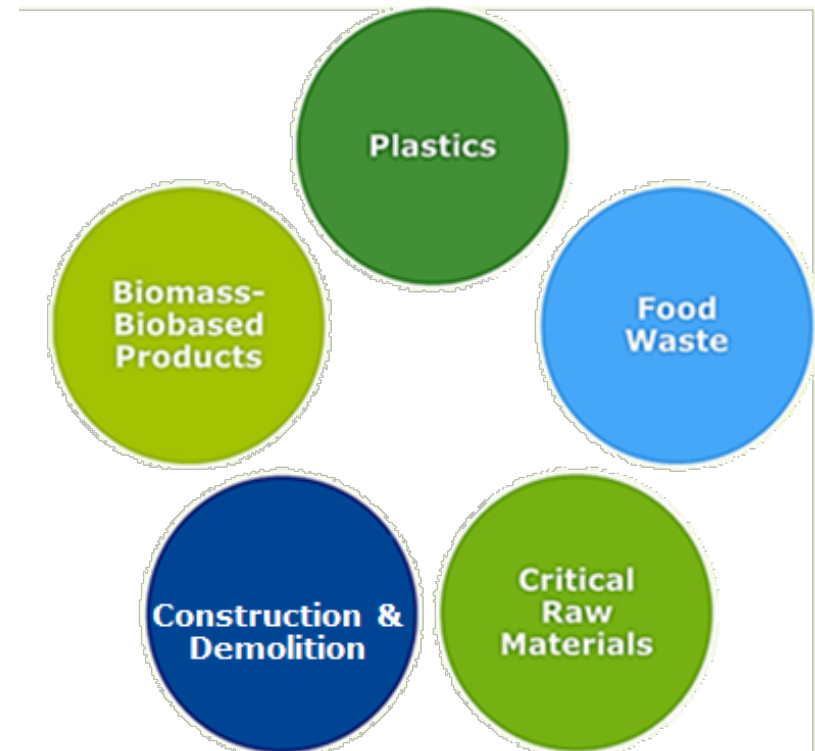
Innovation and investments	
Initiative "Industry 2020 and the circular economy" under Horizon 2020	October 2015
Pilot project for "innovation deals" to address possible regulatory obstacles for innovators	2016
Targeted outreach to encourage applications for funding under EFSI, and support the development of projects and investment platforms relevant to the circular economy	2016 onwards
Targeted outreach and communication activities to assist Member States and regions for the uptake of Cohesion Policy funds for the circular economy	2016 onwards
Support to Member States and regions to strengthen innovation for the circular economy through smart specialisation	2016 onwards
Assessment of the possibility of launching a platform together with the EIB and national banks to support the financing of the circular economy	2016
Engagement with stakeholders in the implementation of this action plan through existing fora in key sectors	2016 onwards
Support to a range of stakeholders through actions on public-private partnerships, cooperation platforms, support to voluntary business approaches, and exchanges of best practices	2015 onwards
Monitoring	
Development of a monitoring framework for the circular economy	2017



4 Key areas of action



5 Priority sectors





Final package on Circular Economy

adopted 4 March 2019

- Report on the implementation of the Circular Economy Action Plan
- Staff working document with details and references for the 54 actions that were listed in the action plan
- SWD on Sustainable Products in a Circular Economy
- SWD on the Assessment of the voluntary pledges under Annex III of the Strategy on Plastics
- Summary Report of the Public Consultation on the main issues identified in the Commission's Communication on the interface between chemical, product and waste legislation
- Report on Horizon 2020 R&I projects supporting the transition to a Circular Economy
- Publication with Insights from research and innovation to inform policy and funding decisions
- Report on Improving access to finance for circular economy project
- Guidance and promotion of best practices in the mining waste management plans

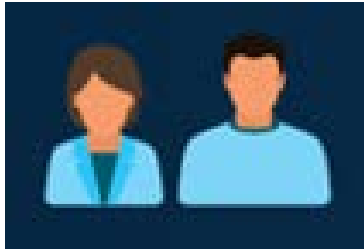


Report on the implementation of the Circular Economy Action Plan

COM(2019) 190 on 4 March 2019

- Illustrates the **results** of the implementation
- Includes **latest data** from the Monitoring Framework
- Presents key **milestones actions** delivered
- Sketches out **open challenges**

Impacts



Employment in CE related activities:

- 4 million workers
- 2012-2016: +6%

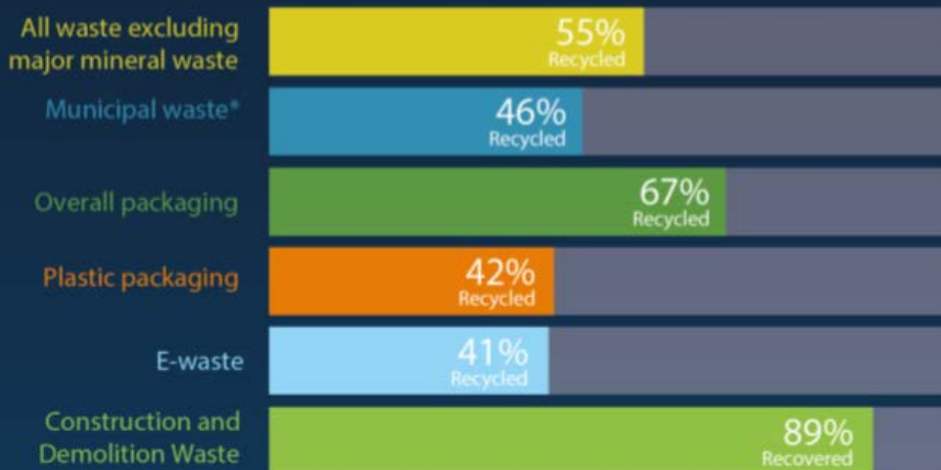


Repair, reuse, recycling:

- €147 billion value added
- €17,5 billion investments
- 2013-2016: +10%



Overview of recycling rates of different waste streams (EU, 2016)



*2017

Recycling and use of recycled materials = steadily growing

Recycled materials = 12% of raw material demand

[More info](#)

Milestones actions

Circular Design and Production Processes:

Eco-Design Working Plan & Sustainable Products in a Circular Economy

Empowering Consumers

Product Environmental Footprint and Consumers REFIT

Turning Waste into Resources

Revised Waste Legislation

Closing Loops of Recovered Materials

Interface WPC and Fertilising Products Regulation

The Plastics Strategy

Material-specific and systemic approach along entire value chains



**Improve
the economics
and quality
of plastics
recycling**

**Curb plastic
waste and
littering**

**Drive
investments
and innovation
towards circular
solutions**

**Harness
global
action**

10 most common plastic objects found on European beaches



Single-use plastic items represent **50%** of marine litter



Source: Based on JRC report



#CEstakeholderEU

European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform

A joint initiative by the European Commission and the European Economic and Social Committee



Home Good Practices Strategies Knowledge Policy & Commitments Dialogue Contribute! News & Events About



representatives of networks of businesses, civil society and local, regional and national public authorities



Submit your own good practices, knowledge, strategies and voluntary commitments!

Link to website: <http://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/>

Open challenges

Follow up to the CEAP actions

- **Circular products** and services
- Empowering circular consumers
- Implementation of legislation
- Develop markets for secondary raw materials

Pursuing together other systemic transformations

- Using **biological resources** in a circular way, respecting the ecological boundaries and contributing to halting biodiversity loss
- Exploiting the synergies with **a climate neutral economy**
- Integrating digital transformations (while recognizing other impacts)
- Reinforcing social and territorial cohesion and balanced distribution of jobs
- Fostering circular and sustainable finances

Circularity in other sectors

- IT, electronics, mobility, built environment, furniture, **textile**, food and drinks

Investing in the transition

More than €10 billion since 2016

€1.4 billion from Horizon 2020 until 2018

€7.1 billion from Cohesion Policy

€2.1 billion European Fund for Strategic Investments and Innovfin

€100 million at least invested through LIFE

[Report on Improving access to finance for circular economy project](#)

Circular Economy - a core priority in next MFF

European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund

Horizon Europe programme

LIFE

Digital Europe

Invest EU





Learn more about the circular economy

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm