



Towards a circular, low carbon economy: regional perspectives from Flanders

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CONTENT

OVAM as Regional competent authority for CE

Instruments
for the
transition to
low carbon
and circular
economy

**Bottom up
demonstration
with frontrunners**

**Mainstreaming
and systemic
scaling up**

Regional measures
already
undertaken

Regional
measures to be
undertaken

Measures not in
our competence





The Government of Flanders selected **7 transition priorities:**

- Circular Economy**
- Smart living**
- Industry 4.0**
- Lifelong learning**
- Healthcare & welfare**
- Transport & mobility**
- Energy**



FROM A SINGLE MINISTER TO **SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY**



6 core activities

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>01 NETWORK We connect and cocreate.</p> | <p>04 LAB We make it happen.</p> |
| <p>02 KNOWLEDGE We build and share our knowledge.</p> | <p>05 POLICY We support.</p> |
| <p>03 INNOVATION We enable.</p> | <p>06 EMBEDDING We make it grow.</p> |

Circular Flanders

Partnership



Operations team supports
embedded in OVAM

‘Transition space’
project partners or independent

OPEN CALL FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS

135 PROJECTS
FUNDED
for € 11M

 CIRCULAR
FLANDERS



GREEN DEAL CIRCULAR PROCUREMENT

150 PARTICIPANTS
160 PROJECTS



GREEN DEAL CIRCULAR CONSTRUCTION



300 PARTICIPANTS



The policy toolkit to boost the circular economy

Regulate
and
sanction

eg. prohi-
bition of
landfilling

Fiscal and
trade
policy

eg. lower
VAT for
recycled
content

Provide
services

eg. provide
calculation
tools for
circularity

Provide
infra-
structure

eg. build
recycling
parks

Support
Subsidize
Invest

eg.
subsidize
repair
cafés

Sensitize

eg. promo-
te buying
second
hand


Cocreate
Match-
make

eg.
public-
private
projects

...

Our tools

Upscaling - systemic measures: within our competence and implemented

- 
- * Tax and ban on incineration
 - * Tax and ban and landfill
 - * End of Waste criteria
 - * EPR schemes
 - * Pay as You Throw schemes
 - * Mandatory separate collection
 - * Investment in reuse sector
 - * Investment in recycling parcs

- * Platform for Industrial symbiosis
- * Closing the bio-cycle: legislation on soil quality

- * Waste bins 100% recycled material
- * Ban on single use cups on events

Upscaling – systemic measures: within our competence and not (yet) implemented

- **Structural cooperation** between different policy levels in Belgium
- **Resource efficiency target:** 30% reduction of the material footprint of Flemish consumption in kg by 2030 in 4 sectors (mobility, housing, food, consumption goods)
- **CE Indicators:** materials and carbon footprint in 4 sectors both for consumption and production perspective.
- Adopting **circular procurement criteria**
- **Strengthening EPR schemes:** more streams (furniture, textile), also for non separated wastes and litter (cfr SUP for plastics), fee modulation for recyclability
- **Material Performance of Buildings** integration with EPB (construction and use): EU push needed
- **Fiscal shift** from labour to environmental taxes, VAT (EU push – majority voting)

Obstacles for upscaling

- **Federalised state**, complex mix of competences (fiscal, productpolicy is federal competence)
- **Lack of regulatory framework**, with common targets and indicators to guide political decisionmaking
- **Lack of an (EU) market** for secondary raw materials (lack of trust, demand)
- **Lack of level playing field** for circular, low carbon businessmodels (environmental/social externalities not internalised)
- **Lack of financing criteria** that cope with complexity of innovation along the value chain

Upscaling - systemic measures: what we need from the EU Level:

- **a European market for secondary raw materials:**
 - Harmonised EoW criteria for specific streams
 - Large investment in EU recycling infrastructure
 - Quality guarantees, product standardisation
 - A clean circular economy
- **Strengthening EPR:** apply outside EU, 'EU market', design phase,...
- **Extend scope of eco-design** to non-energy related products
- **Binding framework for CE,** with RE targets, indicators, monitoring, reporting, actionplans
- **Fiscal incentives:** bordertax, VAT differentiation (majority vote)
- **Protecting soil quality:** regulatory framework
- **Professionalise and upgrade CE Stakeholderplatform**

Thank you

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WE MAKE
TOMORROW
BEAUTIFUL
OVAM

