

The policy context



**In 2050, we live well,
within the planet's
ecological limits**



**Green Deal
8EAP**



European Green Deal



A new policy context: The European Green Deal



- Key supply chains
- Waste prevention
- Empowering consumers
- Secondary materials internal market
- Hazardous substances as a barrier to CE
- Science-based approach
- Interlinkages with energy transition, industrial transformation, etc.

A new Circular Economy Action Plan



Make sustainable products the norm in the EU
Empower consumers and public buyers
Sustainable production processes

Electronics and ICT
Batteries and vehicles
Packaging
Plastics
Textiles
Construction and buildings
Food, water and nutrients

Reduce Waste
Reduce Waste Exports
Boost market for high quality and safe secondary raw materials

Making circular economy work for people, regions and cities

Circular economy as a requisite for climate neutrality

Getting the Economics Right

Financial Markets

Investments and R&I

Global Level Playing Field

Monitoring



What to expect 2020/2021?

2020

- New regulatory framework for Batteries
- Renovation Wave

2021

I. Rolling out of the Sustainable Product Policy Framework:

- Sustainable product policy legislative initiative
- Legislative initiative to empower consumers in the green transition
- Legislative initiative to fight green claims

II. Key value chains:

- Circular Electronics Initiative
- Review PPWD
- Framework for Biobased plastics and actions on microplastics
- Textile Strategy

III. Less waste, more value

- Review waste shipment regulation
- Methodologies to track and minimise the presence of substances of concern

Access to environmental information in the context of CE

- Circular Economy is a supply chain concept – from raw material supply, through productions and use by consumers – therefore a strong link to citizens' right to access environmental information
- Fostering innovation and collaboration
 - Opportunities from digitalisation e.g. sharing economy big data, digital product passports
 - Public-private partnerships
- Need to establish transparent tools to facilitate access to citizens
- Covering material flows, footprints, socio-economic aspects and policy implementation

Access to environmental information - examples

- Raw material information system - <https://rmis.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>
- Europe's Circular Economy Monitoring Framework <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/circular-economy/indicators/monitoring-framework>
- EEA's body of knowledge on CE - https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications#c7=en&c11=5&c14=&c12=&b_start=0&c5=waste

Recent EEA publications on CE with a focus on products

Europe's consumption in a circular economy: the benefits of longer-lasting electronics

Resource efficiency and waste 

Waste management 

Reducing loss of resources from waste management is key to strengthening the circular economy in Europe

Europe relies heavily on material resources for almost all of society's activities. Its extraction and production of material resources have significant impacts on the environment and human health, as well as on the economy. It is essential to reuse such resources in European economies, keeping their value high, delivering value for longer periods and reducing the need to use virgin materials. While progress is being made in Europe, by implementing an ambitious waste policy and the Circular Economy Framework, significant amounts of valuable resources are still lost through inefficient waste management practices. This briefing describes material losses in Europe for some key waste streams, namely waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), end-of-life batteries, plastic waste and textile waste.

Key messages

- Large fractions of valuable resources are lost during waste management because of inefficient waste collection, consumer behaviour and a lack of awareness, market-related aspects, technological barriers, design complexities and the hazardous nature of embedded materials.
- Increasing resource extraction poses considerable risks to the environment and human health, e.g. resource depletion, pollution of air, water and soil, climate change and loss of biodiversity.
- Loss of resources is also associated with loss of critical raw materials that are fundamental to the functioning of key industrial sectors and applications.
- Reducing resource losses is essential to ensure our well-being and strengthen the circular economy in Europe.
- Existing frameworks that assess material circularity are inexact, which makes it difficult to monitor progress on the circular economy.

Reducing loss of resources from waste management is key to strengthening the circular economy in Europe

Resource efficiency and waste 

Resource efficiency 

Europe's consumption in a circular economy: the benefits of longer-lasting electronics

The electrical and electronics industry has been contributing to Europe socially and economically for almost 100 years. However, the production, use and disposal of electronics are resource intensive activities that result in significant environmental and climate impacts. The magnitude of these impacts depends very much on consumption patterns and how long products are used for. This briefing describes how increasing product lifetime and improving 'circularity' are essential steps towards reducing impacts from electronics.

Resource efficiency and waste > Resource efficiency > Europe's consumption in a circular economy: the benefits of longer-lasting electronics

Resource efficiency and waste 

Resource efficiency 

Textiles in Europe's circular economy

Textiles are fundamental to our society, providing us with clothing, shoes, carpets, curtains, furniture, etc. for homes, offices and public buildings. The textiles industry employs millions of people worldwide, making it among the largest in the world and an important part of Europe's manufacturing industry. However, textile production and consumption cause significant environmental, climate and social impacts by using resources, water, land and chemicals and emitting greenhouse gases and pollutants. This briefing provides an EU perspective of the environmental and climate pressures from textile production and consumption, and discusses how circular business models and regulation can help move us towards a circular textiles economy.

Key messages

- Textile consumption and production is highly globalised, involving millions of producers and billions of consumers across the world. In Europe, the sector employs 1.7 million people and Europeans consume on average 26 kg of textiles per person per year.
- In the past decade, the price of clothes has fallen relative to inflation, and each item is used less than in the past.
- The environmental and climate pressures and impacts related to the textiles system include resource use, land use, climate change and releases of pollutants.
- Considering supply chain pressures from an EU consumption perspective, clothing, footwear and household textiles is the fourth highest — or fourth worst ranked — pressure category for use of primary raw materials and water (after food, housing and transport). It is the second highest for land use and the fifth highest for greenhouse gas emissions.

Resource efficiency and waste > Resource efficiency > Textiles in Europe's circular economy

Textiles in Europe's Circular Economy



Monitoring progress

Measuring progress at EU and national level in the transition to a circular economy



Monitoring progress



Monitoring
Framework for the
Circular Economy

“ revision of the monitoring framework for a circular economy to add new indicators (interlinkages between circularity, climate neutrality and the zero pollution ambition)”



Indicators on
resource use

“ development of indicators on resource use, including consumption and material footprints to account for material consumption and environmental impacts associated to our production and consumption”

Circular economy monitoring contributing to the 8EAP monitoring framework



Better monitoring circular economy

Improving the EU monitoring framework by 2021

- Apply RACER criteria and reflect opinions from other EU institutions and stakeholders
- Include already available indicators to better address production side and new waste prevention targets
- Identify knowledge gaps and start work to fill them (EKC), including links with climate and biodiversity objectives and industrial symbiosis.

Supporting other initiatives on circular economy metrics

- For cities (Urban partnership on circular economy)
- For regions (SCREEN)
- For business
- For SDGs (global and EU indicators)
- PACE initiative on CE metrics



Bellagio process – towards a transparent CE monitoring



European
Environment
Agency



EPA
Network



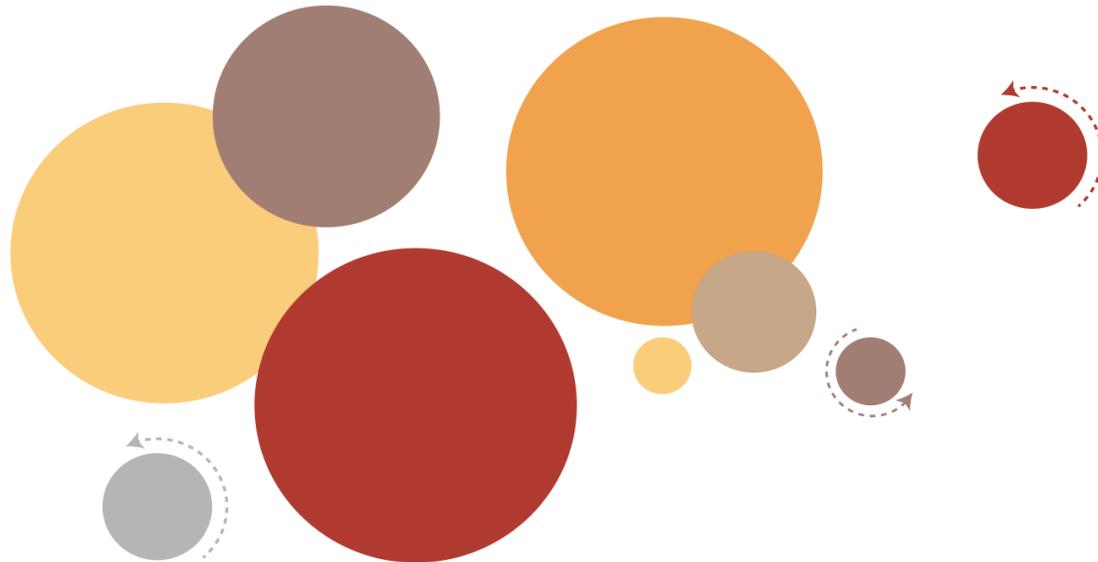
ISPRA
Istituto Superiore per la Protezione
e la Ricerca Ambientale



Ministero Nazionale
per la Protezione
dell'Ambiente

MONITORING PROGRESS IN EUROPE'S CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The Bellagio Process



- Expert dialogue involving private and public stakeholders across Europe
- Seven principles for the monitoring of Circular Economy
- Fostering innovation and collaboration
- Across the economy and jurisdictions
- Material flows, footprints, socio-economic aspects and policy
- Open data principles



Bellagio declaration



MONITORING PROGRESS IN EUROPE'S CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The Bellagio Process



- Provide suggestions for improving the EU circular economy monitoring framework.
- Set principles to align other monitoring initiatives, at the level of cities, regions, nations and business.
- Facilitate a bottom up approach to develop CE indicators and share best practices in monitoring CE
 - ⇒ EPA network and Ministries of Environment
 - ⇒ Exchange of practices in business
 - ⇒ European cities developing circular metrics

Thank you !