

# **EU Action on Circular Economy Latest developments and next steps**



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"I will propose a European Green Deal in my first 100 days in office"

**Ms. Ursula von der Leyen**President European Commission

# Priorities of the new European Commission 2019-2024

A European Green Deal

An economy that works for people

A Europe fit for the digital age

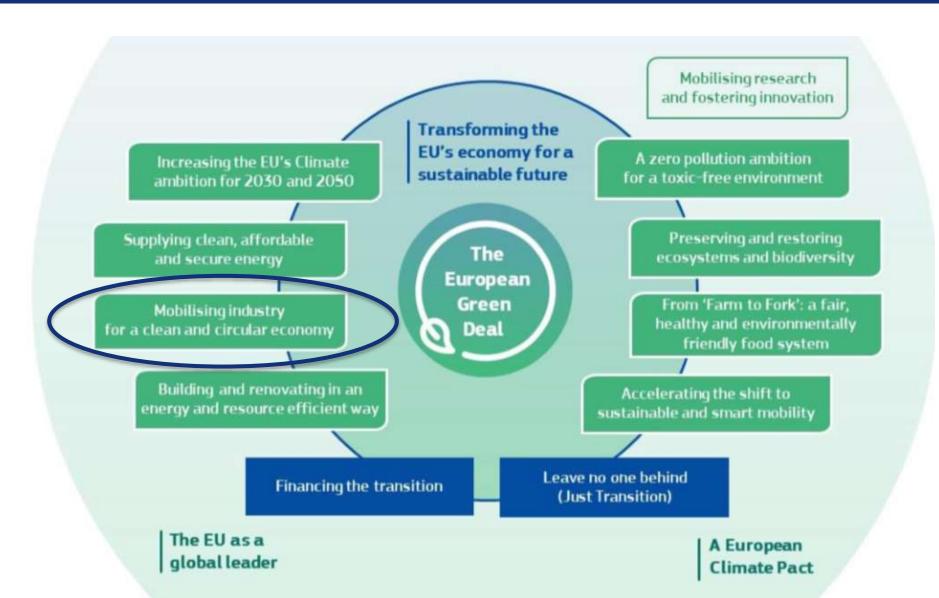
Protecting our European way of life

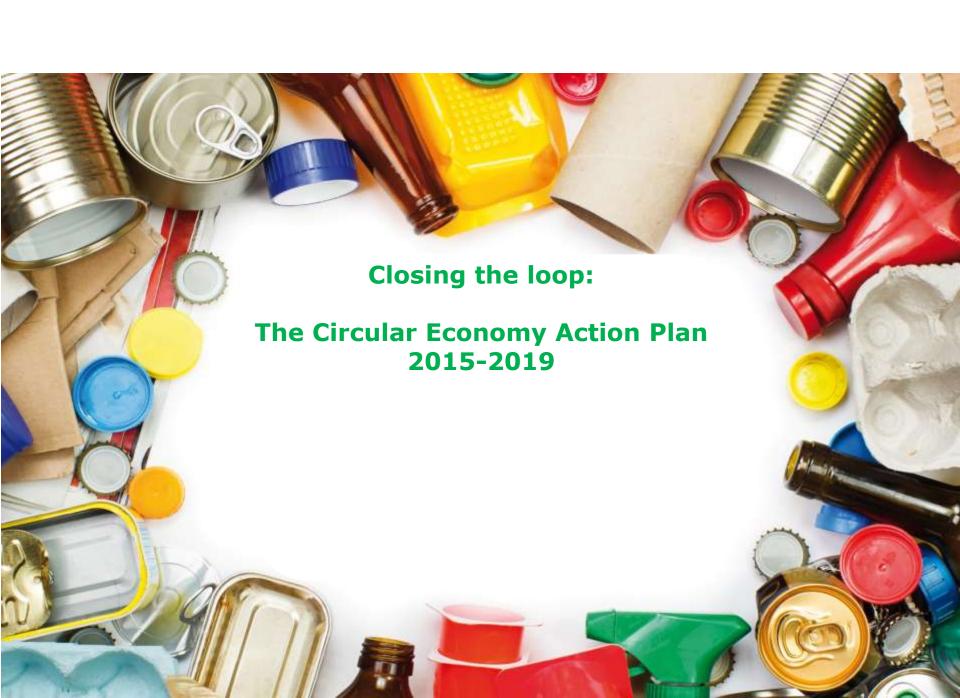
A stronger Europe in the world

A new push for European democracy

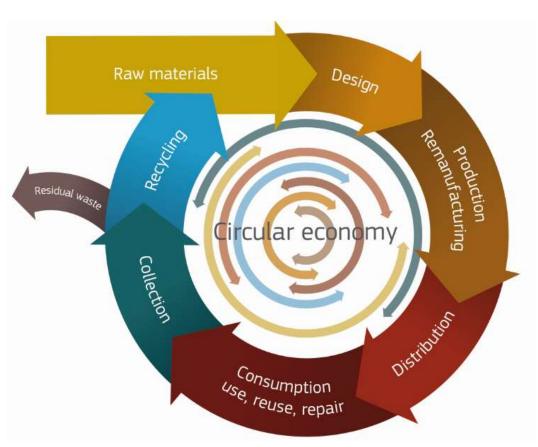


#### The European Green Deal





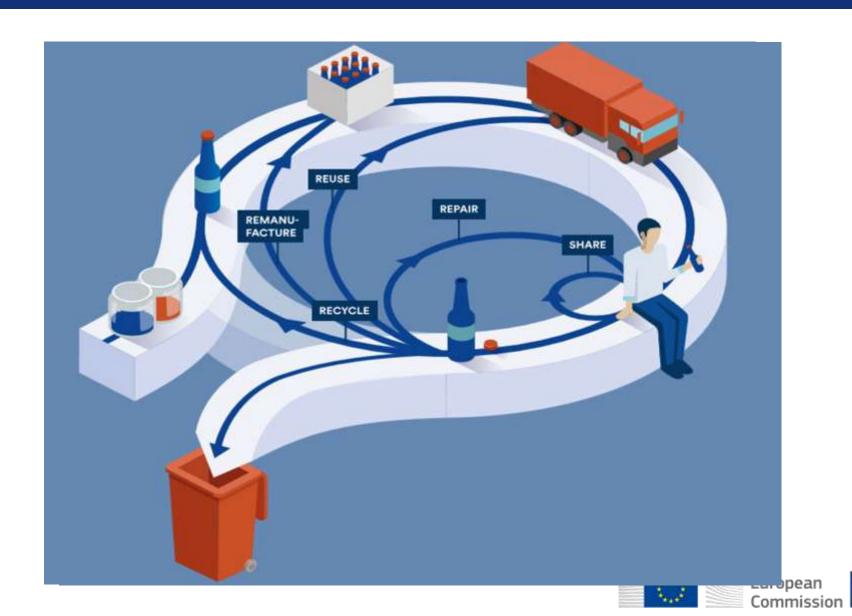
#### What is the circular economy?



 An economy where the value of products, materials and resources is maintained in the economy for as long as possible, and the generation of waste minimized.



### **Our vision**



#### Why do we need a circular economy?

#### Environment

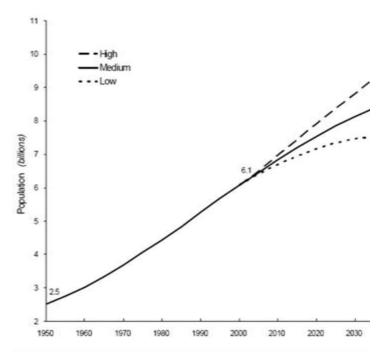
- inefficient use of resources
- greenhouse gas and other emissions
- depletion of resources
- impacts on landscape
- water pollution

#### Access to raw materials

- scarcity or depletion of resources
- future trends

#### Societal pressures

- global middle class = 5 billion by 2030



Estimated world population and projections



#### **Urgent actions are needed**



From 1970 to 2017, the annual global extraction of materials tripled and it continues to grow.



More than 90% of biodiversity loss and water stress come from resource extraction and processing.

Source: The International Resource Panel, Global Resources Outlook, 2019 Source: The International Resource Panel, Global Resources Outlook, 2019

Only 12% of

the materials used by EU industry come from



EU's industry accounts for 20% of the EU's emissions.



Source: Eurostat,

2016 figures

recycling.

Source: European Commission, EU Climate Action Progress Report 2019



#### **Circular economy & the SDGs**





#### 54 actions

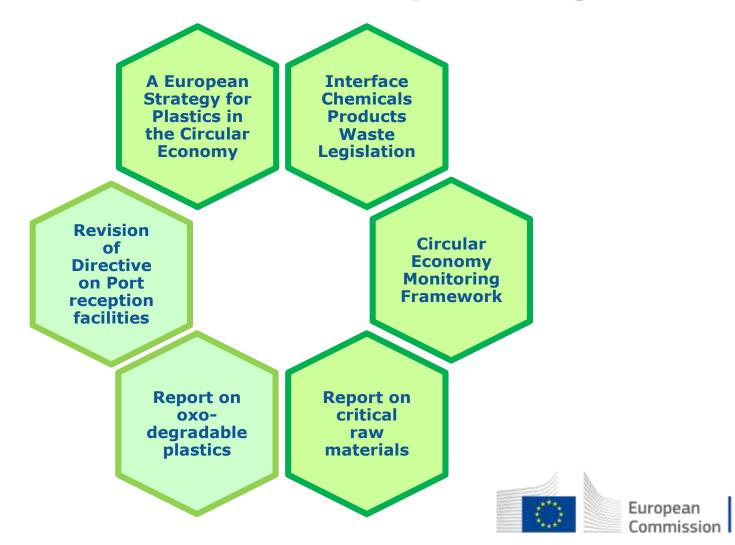
## 4 key areas of actions



#### **5** priority sectors



### **2018 Circular Economy Package**



#### **Eco-design and energy labelling**

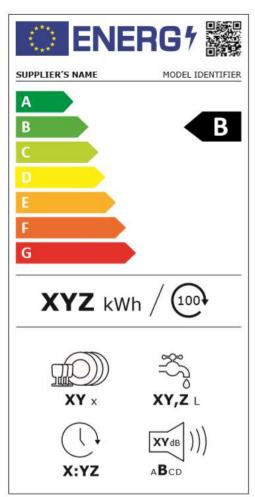
Embed circularity in the design of energy-related products placed on the EU market.

Ecodesign Working Plan 2016-2019: systematic consideration of

- Durability
- Reparability
- Recyclability

In 2019, adoption of 11 ecodesign and 6 energy labelling regulations, including refrigerators, washing machines, dishwashers, displays

New ecodesign requirements such as availability of spare parts and access to technical information for repairers.





#### **Protecting Consumers**

#### New Deal for Consumers



#### **Proposed 11 April 2018**



#### **Objective:**

To ensure that all European consumers fully benefit from their rights under Union law



#### **Complementing the EU Circular Economy Action Plan**

Stronger enforcement and better opportunities for individual redress against unfair commercial practices

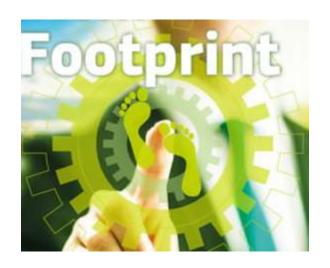


Deterring **misleading** environmental claims or planned obsolescence practices



#### **Empowering Consumers to make sustainable choices**





Helping public authorities to choose sustainable products and services



Commission

#### **Waste Management**





The new rules will make the EU a global leader in recycling:

- By 2030, at least 70 % of all packaging waste in each EU country should be recycled
- By 2035, all EU countries should recycle at least 65
   % and landfill less than 10 % of municipal waste



There are also **recycling targets** for specific packaging materials:

Paper and cardboard: 85 %

Ferrous metals: 80 %

Aluminium: 60 %

Glass: 75 %Plastic: 55 %Wood: 30 %



#### **Secondary Raw Materials**

### Closing the loop

- By removing existing barriers to the trade of SRM,
- By improving waste management practices
- By guaranteeing high quality standards.



• Quality standard for secondary raw materials (ie plastics)



Revised fertilisers regulation- adopted



 Proposal to set minimum quality requirement for reused water for irrigation- adopted

#### **Impacts**



#### **Employment in CE related activities:**

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



#### Repair, reuse, recycling:

- €147 billion value added
- €17,5 billion investments





Recycling and use of recycled materials = steadily growing

Recycled materials = 12% of raw material demand

**More info** 

#### **Ingredients of success (1)**



### Systemic approach along entire value chains – full life cycle

In some cases, material-wide approach: plastics strategy

Single Use Plastic Items Directive & Circular Plastics Alliance

#### **Strong Stakeholder Engagement**

**EU Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform** 

EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste Circular Economy Finance Support Platform

> European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform

#### **Ingredients of success (2)**

#### 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





#### **Preserving Europe's** environment

"I will propose a New Circular Economy Action Plan, focusing on sustainable resource use, especially in resource-intensive and high impact sectors such as textiles and construction"

Ms. Ursula von der Leyen President European Commission 21

#### A biodiversity strategy

#### Zero pollution ambition

#### From Farm to Fork

### A new **Circular Economy Action Plan: March 2020**



Mr. Virginijus Sinkevičius Commissioner for **Environment and Oceans** 





#### Open challenges identified in the 2019 Implementation Report

#### Follow-up to the actions included in the 1st CEAP:

- 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

# A new industrial policy based on the circular economy The response



A new Circular Economy Action Plan by March 2020 to help modernising the EU's economy.

Efforts will focus on resource-intensive sectors such as:







The new Circular Economy Action Plan will include a sustainable product policy that will prioritise reducing and reusing materials before recycling them.

# A new industrial policy based on the circular economy The response



A new Circular Economy Action Plan by March 2020 to help modernising the EU's economy.

- Action to address green claims and to provide reliable, comparable and verifiable information.
- Propose legislative reforms tackling waste and boosting the market of secondary ware materials.
- Measures to encourage businesses to offer and to allow consumers to choose reusable, durable and repairable products.
- Harness the digital transformation for monitoring and optimising how energy and natural resources are used.

