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Circular Economy Action Plan

For a cleaner and
more competitive
Europe

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**A climate-neutral,
resource-efficient
and competitive
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**

Concrete actions



35 actions along the life cycle of products, to:

- Make **sustainable products** the norm
- **Empower** consumers and public buyers
- **Focus on key product value chains**
- Ensure **less waste, more value**
- Make circularity work for **people, regions and cities**
- **Lead global efforts**

EU Recovery Plan & circular economy

Next Generation EU



A new recovery instrument of **€ 750 billion** boosting the EU budget with financing raised on the financial markets

Multiannual Financial Framework



A reinforced long-term budget of **€ 1.100 billion** for 2021-2027



Member States to invest on circular economy in their **National Recovery & Resilience Plans**; via **Cohesion Funds & REACT-EU**, and **Just Transition Fund**



Support the transition to a circular economy



Stakeholders to take advantage of the new circular economy funding opportunities within **Horizon Europe**, **LIFE Programme**, **InvestEU**

The route so far (1)

Circular Economy
in the context of
the European
Green Deal

 Adopted:



Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 to protect our fragile natural resources



Farm to Fork Strategy to make food systems more sustainable



Renovation Wave to boost renovation in line with circular principles



Chemical Strategy for Sustainability to ensure chemicals are safe and sustainable

The route so far (2): Batteries

A new regulatory framework (Dec. 2020)

To make batteries sustainable for a circular and climate neutral economy

- Increase the share of **rechargeable** batteries
- Targets on recycled content of materials and collection, treatment and recycling
- Increase **removability** and **replicability** of batteries
- **Producer take-back** and **recycling schemes** (EPR measures)
- Establish a **battery dataspace & battery passport** for information exchange

First measure of
the Action Plan
adopted

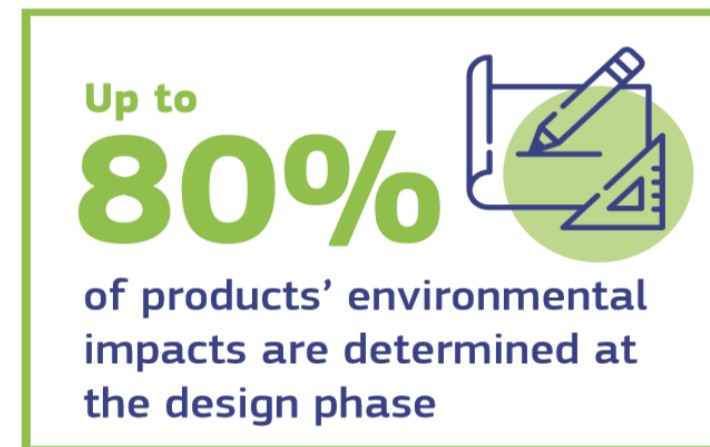


Designing sustainable products

Sustainable Products Initiative

How?

- Widen the Ecodesign Directive beyond energy-related products
- To ensure products placed on the EU market become increasingly more sustainable
- Establish a set of sustainability principles
- Q4 2021



« Sustainable products should be the norm, not the exception »

Designing sustainable products

Sustainable Products Initiative

What?

- Improve **durability, reusability, upgradability and reparability**
- Address presence of **hazardous chemicals** and **increasing recycled content**
- Restrict **single-use** and counter **premature obsolescence**
- Incentivise **product-as-a-service**
- **Digitalisation**, including digital product passport



Priority value chains : electronics, ICT, textiles, furniture & intermediate products such as steel, cement, chemicals

Empowering consumers and public buyers

- Revision of the **consumer law**: consumers to receive trustworthy and relevant information on products at the point of sale, e.g. on lifespan and reparability
- Establishing a new “**Right to repair**”
- Legislative proposal to ensure companies substantiate their **green claims** using Product and Organisation Environmental Footprint methods (Q2 2021)
- Include more systematically durability, recyclability and recycled content in EU Ecolabel criteria

Public authorities’
purchasing power
represents

14%
of EU GDP



- Proposal for **mandatory Green Public Procurement (GPP)** criteria and targets in sectoral legislation
- Phasing-in **mandatory reporting** on GPP

Key product value chains



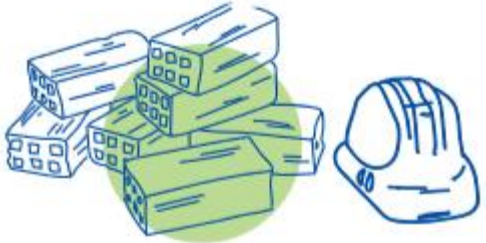
Food, water & nutrients



Electronics and ICT



Batteries & vehicles



Construction & buildings



Circular Economy Action Plan

For a cleaner and more competitive Europe



Textiles



Plastics



Packaging

Circular Electronics Initiative

A Circular Electronics Initiative (Q4 2021)

=> to promote longer lifespan of electronic devices

- Introduce a **common charger**
- Explore EU-wide **take back scheme** for old phones, tablets & chargers



Review of Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive

- **Reducing** packaging waste generation & over-packaging
- Driving **design for re-use** and **recyclability**
- **Stimulating** recycled content



In 2017, packaging waste in Europe reached a record of 173 kg per inhabitant

Plastics



Consumption of plastics is expected to double in the coming 20 years

Realise the ambition of the **Plastics Strategy**, including:

- Measures on **microplastics**
- **Policy framework** on **bio-based, biodegradable** or compostable plastics
- Implementing the **Directive on Single Use Plastics & Fishing Gear**



Textiles

EU Textiles Strategy (Q4 2021)

- Boosting the **sorting, re-use** and **recycling** of textiles through innovation
- Providing incentives and support to create new **circular business models**



Less than 1% of all
textiles worldwide
are recycled

Less waste, more value

Prevent waste in the first place

- Waste reduction targets
- Enhance EPR schemes
- Modernising waste laws: packaging, end-of-life vehicles, electronic equipment;



Transform waste into high-quality & safe resources for recycled materials markets



- Develop chemicals that are sustainable and safe by design
- Reduce the presence of hazardous substances
- Assess end-of-waste criteria for certain waste streams

Address waste exports

- Review EU rules on waste shipments
- Measures to combat environmental crime

Monitoring progress

Towards a circular economy



Stakeholder engagement

#CEstakeholderEU

European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform

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

- **Advancing the circular economy concept on the ground**
- **Strengthening cooperation among stakeholders' networks**

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/>

Thank you



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