



European
Commission

Circular Economy

Closing the loop –
An EU Action Plan for
the Circular Economy

What are the limitations of a Linear Economy?

- lost value of materials and products
- scarcity of resources
- volatile prices of resources
- waste generated
- unstable supply of raw materials
- environmental degradation & climate change

The EU is heavily dependent on imported raw materials

European Union (EU-28)



Total trade EU-28 to ROW




In 2004: 455 million tonnes
In 2014: 640 million tonnes

EU-28 exports (2014)



EU-28 imports (2014)



-  Biomass
-  Manufactures (finished manufactured products)
-  Fuels and mining products (fossil energy, metal ores and non-metallic minerals)

Rest of the world (ROW)



Total trade ROW to EU-28

In 2004: 1664 million tonnes
In 2014: 1534 million tonnes

From a Linear Economy...

NATURAL
RESOURCES

TAKE

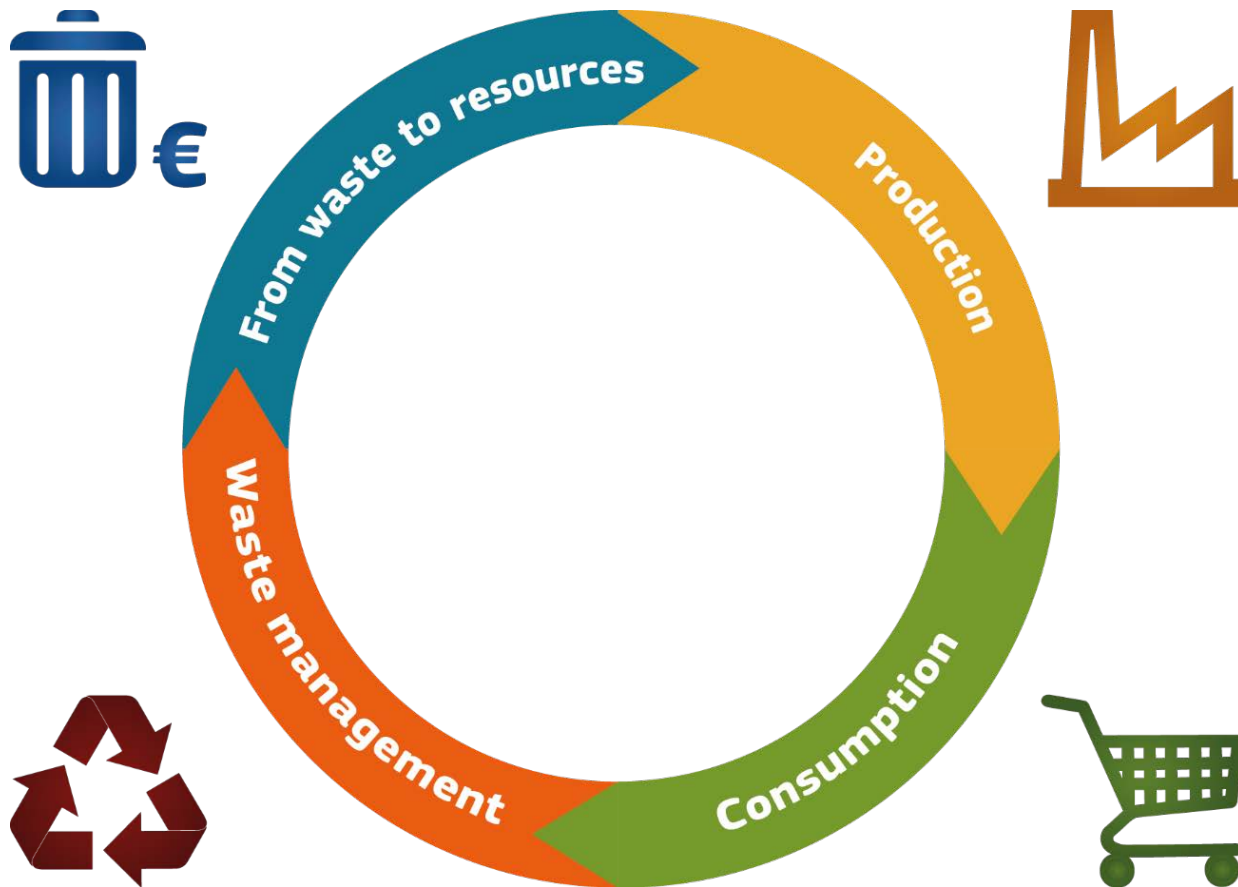
MAKE

DISPOSE

WASTE
WASTE
WASTE



...to a Circular Economy



What are the benefits of a Circular Economy?

- the value of products, materials and resources is maintained in the economy for as long as possible
- waste generation is minimised
- boost to the economy and competitiveness by creating new business opportunities, and introducing innovative products and services
- brings economic, social and environmental gains

Circular Economy: looking to the future

- growth & job creation/
up to +7% GDP
 - up to 600 billion in savings/8% of annual turnover for business in the EU
 - estimated 170 000 direct jobs in waste management sectors created by 2035
- boosting competitiveness and ensuring security of supply
- building economic and environmental resilience
- encouraging innovation
- reducing total annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2-4%

Circular Economy Package

Adopted by the Commission 2 December 2015



Action Plan
Communication



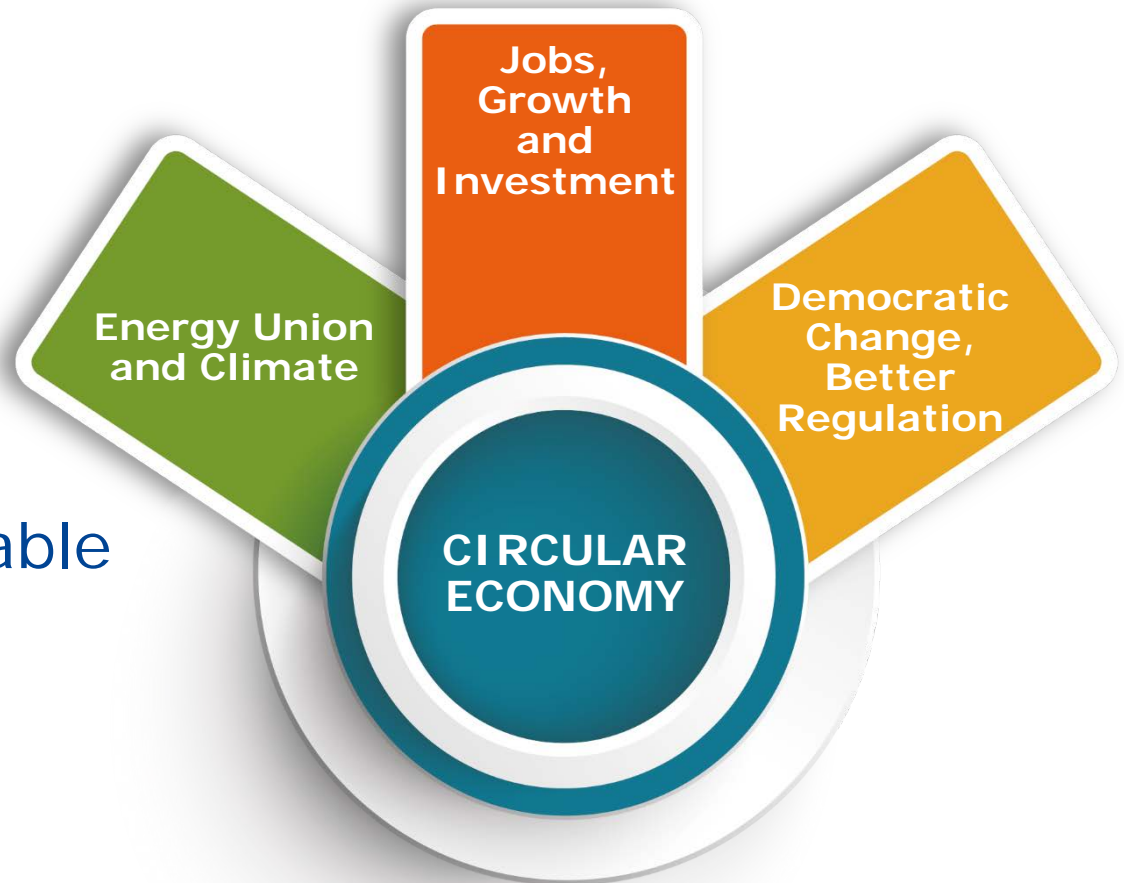
List of Follow-up
Initiatives (Annex)



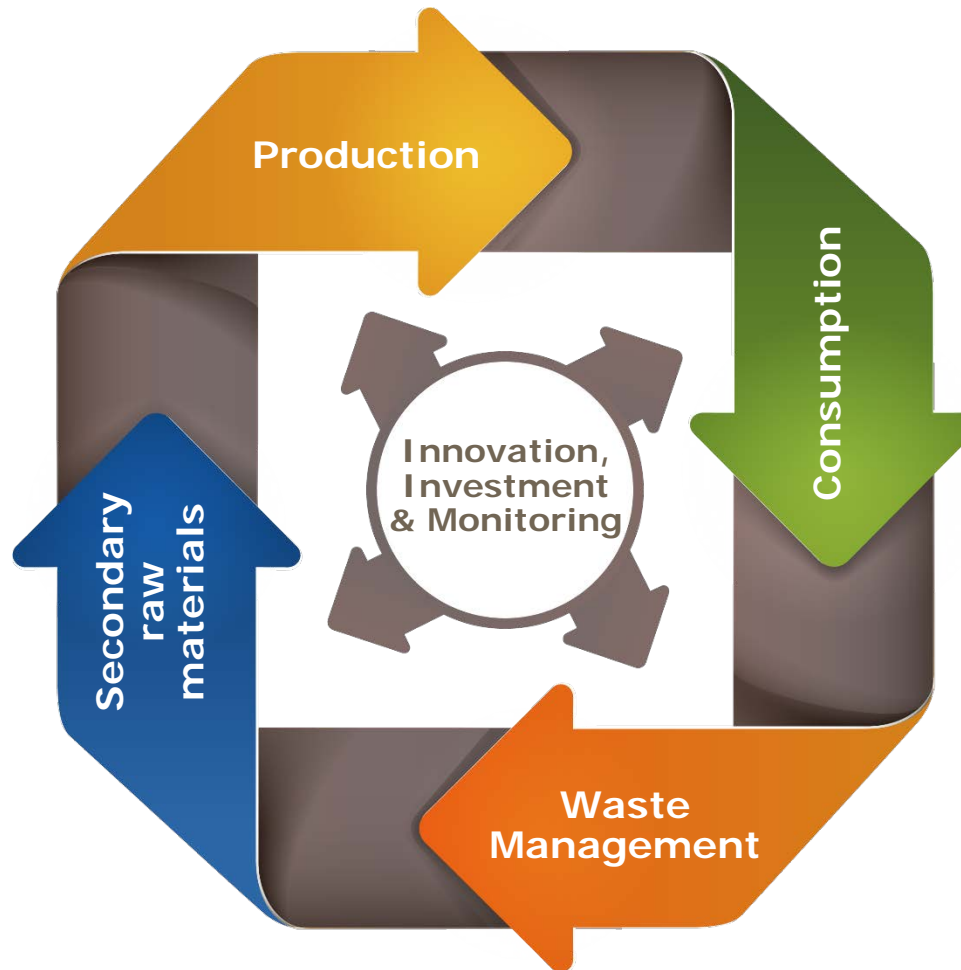
4 Legislative
proposals on waste

In line with the Commission's overall priorities

Protecting
the environment
and boosting
competitiveness
go hand-in-hand:
both are about
building a sustainable
future.



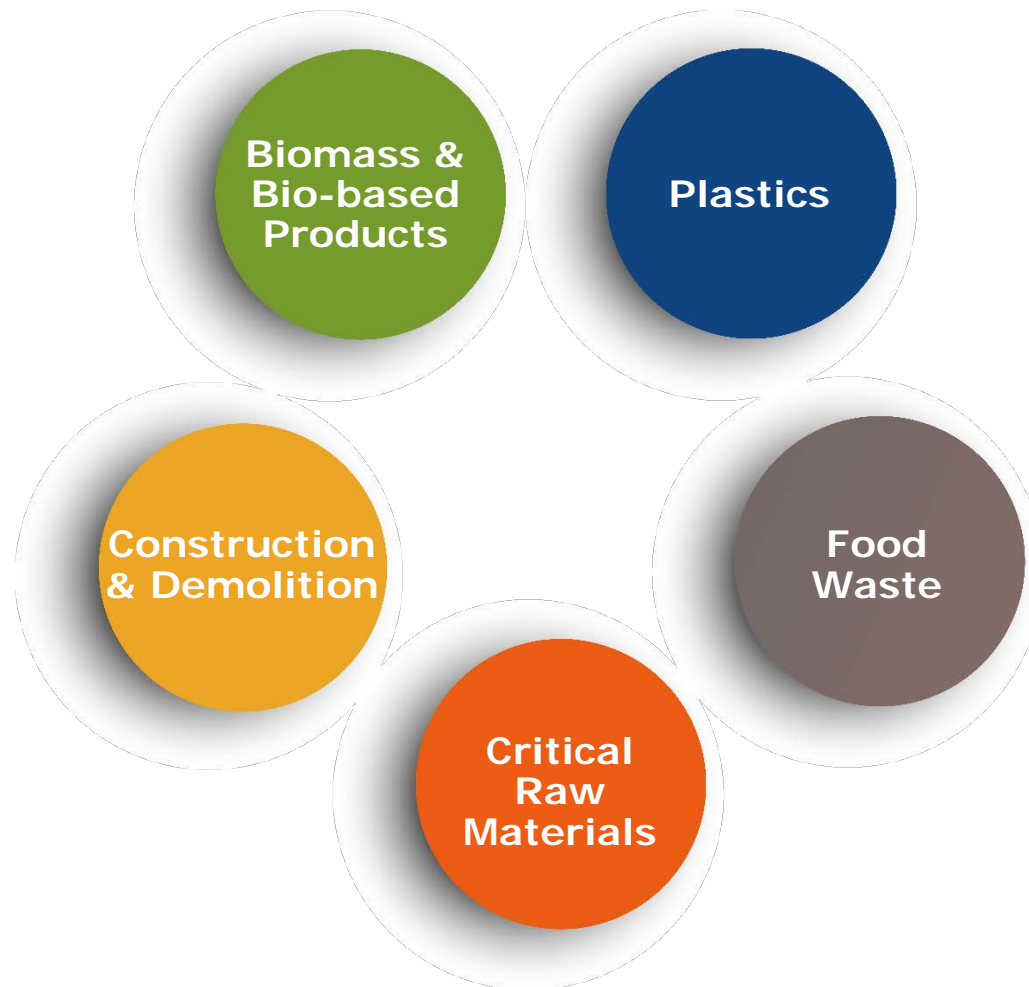
Key action areas



Concrete and ambitious actions

- **ecodesign** to include reparability, durability, recyclability
- legislation on **fertilisers**, including organic and waste-based fertilisers
- minimum requirements for the **reuse of wastewater**
- actions on **Green Public Procurement**
- **funding** of €650 million for 'Industry 2020 in the circular economy'
- quality standards for **secondary raw materials**
- **strategy on plastics**, including marine litter
- interface between **chemicals, products and waste legislation**

Priority sectors



Proposals on waste

- **long-term recycling targets** for municipal waste and packaging waste, and to reduce landfilling
- measures to promote **waste prevention**, including food waste
- clearer rules for **preparation for reuse**, simplification on **by-products and end-of-waste** status
- extension of **separate collection to bio-waste** on top of glass/paper/plastic/metals
- common minimum requirements for **extended producer responsibility** schemes

Circular Economy: an international dimension

- transition to a Circular Economy will help the EU meet its international commitments
 - 2030 Sustainable Agenda, adopted by the United Nations in Sept 2015
 - COP21, historic agreement on 2°C global warming limit in Dec 2015
 - G7 Alliance for Resource Efficiency, building more sustainable supply chains and global markets for secondary raw materials

Next Steps

- more than 50 key actions included in the EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy
 - ➔ timeline for implementation
 - ➔ progress report 5 years after adoption
 - ➔ actions to be developed in line with the Better Regulation principles
- European Parliament and Council to decide on the 4 legislative proposals on waste