



Europe goes Circular:

*Outlining the implementation of a circular economy in the
European Area*

by

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Members

EEAC member councils which have contributed to the overview study:

Belgium	Federal Council for Sustainable Development
Catalonia	Council for the Sustainable Development of Catalonia
Flanders	Environment and Nature Council of Flanders
France	National Council for Ecological Transition , represented by the Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition
Germany	German Advisory Council on Environment
Germany	German Council for Sustainable Development
Hungary	National Council for Sustainable Development
Hungary	National Environment Council
Ireland	National Economic and Social Council
Luxembourg	National Council for Sustainable Development
The Netherlands	Council for the Environment and Infrastructure
Portugal	National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development

Main-conclusions

- ❖ **Circular Economy as an upcoming (policy) issue**
 - *General state of affairs of implementation process*
 - *Differences : approach, focus and timetable*

- ❖ **Role of the councils**
 - *Council contributions*

- ❖ **Many challenges still need to be tackled:**
 - *facilitation and promotion of linear economy;*
 - *the holistic concept;*
 - *consumer behavior*

Approach towards a circular economy

- ❖ Long-term and overarching strategy on circular economy: the Netherlands
- ❖ Circular economy as part of a general long-term strategy: France, Catalonia and Flanders
- ❖ Short-term types of initiatives, solely dedicated to implementation of circular economy: Belgium and Germany
- ❖ Policies on specific elements of a circular economy: Ireland and Hungary
- ❖ Luxembourg and Portugal are expected to publish a national strategy in 2017
- ❖ Inter-ministerial approach

Timetables and time-horizons

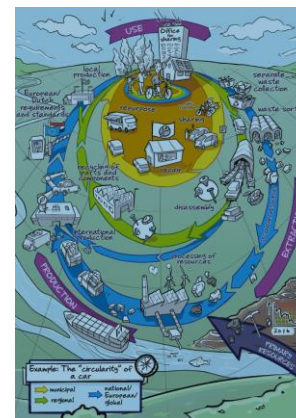
- ❖ **Timetable for certain elements of policy initiatives: e.g. Belgium, France, Germany**
- ❖ **Timetable for entire overarching strategy: the Netherlands**
- ❖ **Horizon at 2030 to 2050: Flanders, France and the Netherlands**
- ❖ **Horizon at 2020-2025: Catalonia**
- ❖ **Short-term Horizon: Belgium and Germany**

Role strategic councils

- ❖ Two kinds of advisory reports: strategic and on specific elements of CE
- ❖ Opinion, research, expert meetings, stakeholder meetings
- ❖ Most of councils received a positive response of their government



Catalan ecodesign strategy
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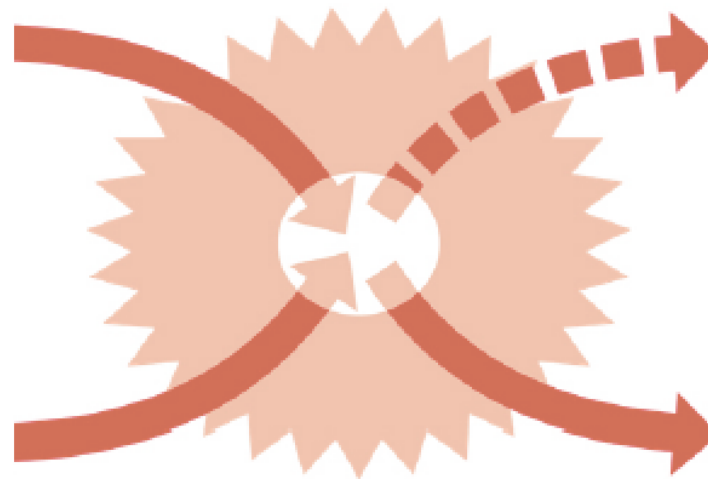
Moving Towards the Circular Economy: Irish Case Studies

Challenges identified by EEAC member councils

An overarching approach

Speaking the same language
Lack of definition
Turning the CE vision into appropriate and coherent targets
From quantitatively oriented environmental management to qualitative requirements
More binding targets
Circular finance
Creation of new markets
New regulatory framework

Resource as a service



Education, awareness
Consumer behavior
Technology and knowledge
New partners

Stop down cycling
Pollutant free materials
New business models
Stop linear tax system
International trading rules, new trade agreements

Thank you for your attention.

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