



EU policy on used textiles

Chiel Berends
European Commission
DG Environment

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Textiles in the EU

- Textile and clothing industry in the EU
 - Employs 1.7 million people in the EU and generates a turnover of EU 166 billion
- Wide sustainability aspects
 - Production
 - Use phase
 - End-of-life / after use
- Increased consumption
- Low rate of recycled content

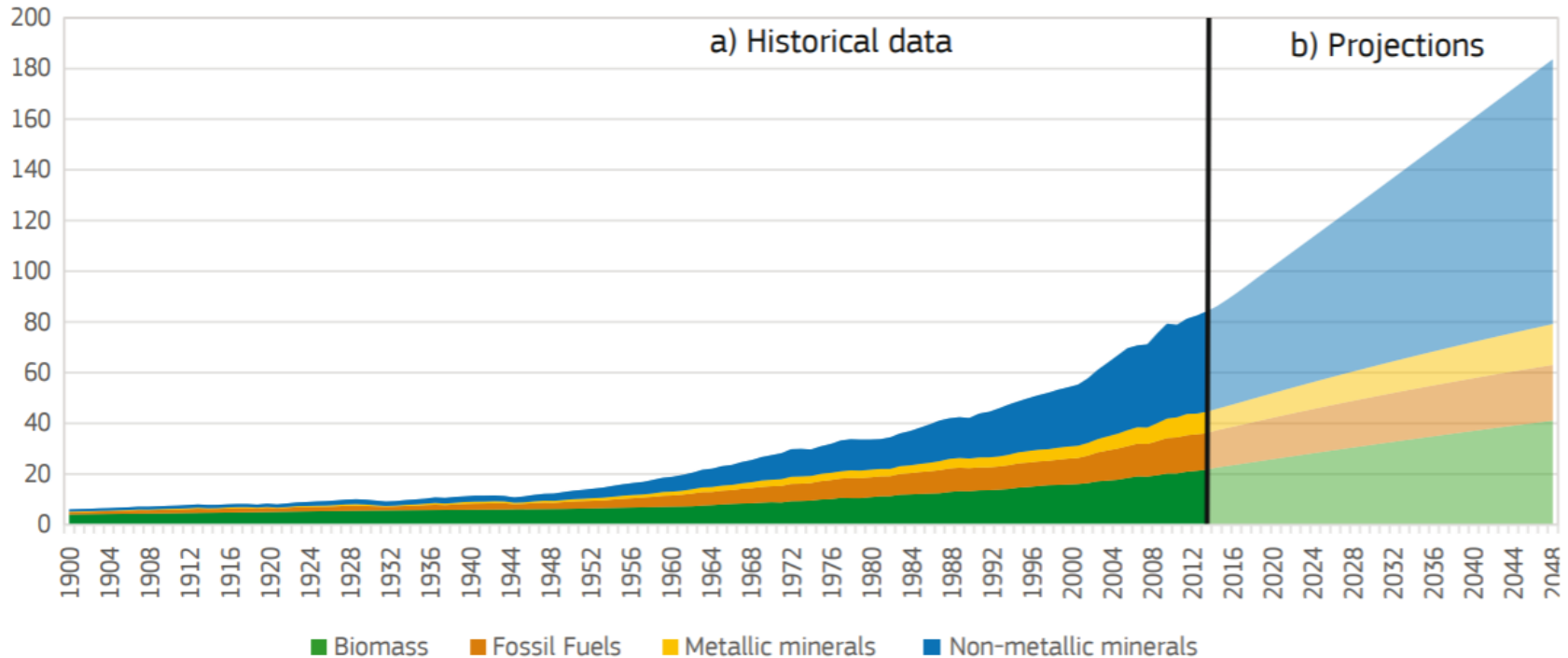
Used textiles in the EU

- Limited data available
- Separate collection that facilitates
 - re-use
 - high-quality recycling
- Collection rates vary significantly within the EU

Textile waste prevention and treatment

- Reuse
 - Domestic reuse markets in Europe are limited to the top 10-20% in quality of used textiles.
- Recycling of textiles is limited
 - Sorting
 - Blended fibres
 - Legacy issues
 - Mechanical / chemical recycling

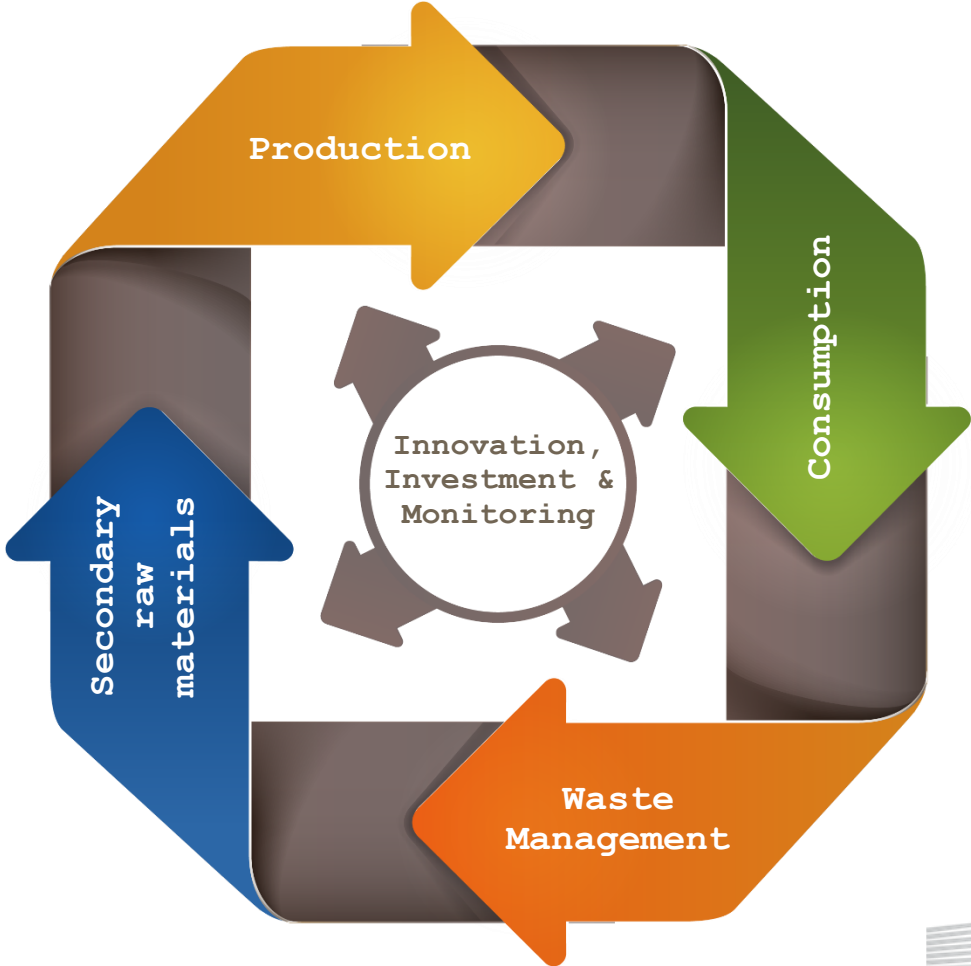
Megatrends and Resource Challenges



Source: Raw Materials Scoreboard, European Union 2018

- **Population growth**
- **Rising consumption levels**
- **Urbanisation**
- **Digitalisation**
- **Decarbonisation**

EU Circular Economy Plan: Key Areas



1 action plan
 5 key areas
 5 priority sectors
 54 actions

Actions	Timetable
Production	
Emphasis on circular economy aspects in future product requirements under the Eco-design directive.	2016 onwards
Eco-design work plan 2015-2017 and request to European standardisation organisations to develop standards on material efficiency for setting future Eco-design requirements on durability, reparability and recyclability of products.	December 2015
Proposal for an implementing regulation on televisions and displays	End 2015 or beginning 2016
Examine options and actions for a more coherent policy framework of the different strands of work of EU product policy in their contribution to the circular economy	2016
Include guidance on circular economy into Best Available Techniques reference documents (BREFs) for several industrial sectors	2016 onwards
Guidance and promotion of best practices in the mining waste management plans	2018
Establishing an open, pan-European network of technological infrastructures for SMEs to integrate advanced manufacturing technologies into their production processes	2016/now
Examine how to improve the efficiency and uptake of the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and the pilot programme on environmental technology verification (ETV)	2017
Develop an improved knowledge base and support to SMEs for the substitution of hazardous substances of very high concern	2018

Consumption	
Better enforcement of existing guarantees on tangible products, accompanied by a reflection on improvements (upcoming Commission proposal for online sales of goods, and Fitness Check of consumer legislation)	2015-2017
Action on false green claims, including updated guidance on unfair commercial practices	2016
Analysis of the possibility to propose horizontal requirements on repair information provision in the context of Eco-design	2018
REFIT of EcoLabel, to be followed by actions to enhance its effectiveness	2016
Assessment of the possibility of an independent testing programme on planned obsolescence	2018
Subject to evaluation of the current ongoing pilots, explore the possible uses of the Product Environmental Footprint to measure and communicate environmental information	2016 onwards
Action on Green Public Procurement: enhanced integration of circular economy requirements, support to higher uptake including through training schemes, reinforcing its use in Commission procurement and EU funds	2016 onwards

Waste management	
Revised legislative proposal on waste	Dec 2015
Improved cooperation with Member States for better implementation of EU waste legislation, and combat illicit shipment of end of life vehicles	2015 onwards
Stepping up enforcement of revised Waste Shipment regulation	2016 onwards
Promotion of industry-led voluntary certification of treatment facilities for key waste/recyclable streams	2018 onwards
Initiative on waste to energy in the framework of the Energy Union	2016
Identification and dissemination of good practices in waste collection systems	2016 onwards

Market for secondary raw materials	
Development of quality standards for secondary raw materials (in particular for plastics)	2016 onwards
Proposal for a revised fertilisers regulation	Early 2016
Proposed legislation setting minimum requirements for reused water for irrigation and groundwater recharge	2017
Promotion of safe and cost-effective water reuse, including guidance on the integration of water reuse in water planning and management, inclusion of best practices in relevant BREFs, and support to innovation (through the European Innovation Partnership and Horizon 2020) and investments	2016-2017

Analysis and policy options to address the interface between chemicals, products and waste legislation, including how to reduce the presence and improve the tracking of chemicals of concern in products	2017
Measures to facilitate waste shipment across the EU, including electronic data exchange (and possibly other measures)	2016 onwards
Further development of the EU raw materials information system	2016 onwards

Sectorial action	
Plastics	
Strategy on plastics in the circular economy	2017
Specific action to reduce marine litter implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals	2015 onwards

Food waste	
Development of a common methodology and indicators to measure food waste	2016
Stakeholders platform to examine how to achieve SDGs goals on food waste, share best practice and evaluate progress	2016
Clarify relevant EU legislation related to waste, food and feed in order to facilitate food donation and utilisation of former foodstuffs for animal feed	2016
Explore options for more effective use and understanding of date marking on food	2017

Critical raw materials	
Report on critical raw materials and the circular economy	2017
Improve exchange of information between manufacturers and recyclers on electronic products	2016 onwards
European standards for material-efficient recycling of electronic waste, waste batteries and other relevant complex end-of-life products	2016 onwards
Sharing of best practice for the recovery of critical raw materials from mining waste and landfills	2017

Construction and demolition	
Pre-demolition assessment guidelines for the construction sector	2017
Voluntary industry-wide recycling protocol for construction and demolition waste	2016
Core indicators for the assessment of the lifecycle environmental performance of a building, and incentives for their use	2017 onwards

Biomass and bio-based materials	
Guidance and dissemination of best practice on the cascading use of biomass and support to innovation in this domain through Horizon 2020	2018-2019
Ensuring coherence and synergies with the circular economy when examining the sustainability of bioenergy under the Energy Union	2016
Assessment of the contribution of the 2012 Bio-economy Strategy to the circular economy and possible review	2016

Innovation and investments	
Initiative "Industry 2020 and the circular economy" under Horizon 2020	October 2015
Pilot project for "innovation deals" to address possible regulatory obstacles for innovators	2016
Targeted outreach to encourage applications for funding under EFSI, and support the development of projects and investment platforms relevant to the circular economy	2016 onwards
Targeted outreach and communication activities to assist Member States and regions for the uptake of Cohesion Policy funds for the circular economy	2016 onwards
Support to Member States and regions to strengthen innovation for the circular economy through smart specialisation	2016 onwards
Assessment of the possibility of launching a platform together with the EIB and national banks to support the financing of the circular economy	2016
Engagement with stakeholders in the implementation of this action plan through existing fora in key sectors	2016 onwards
Support to a range of stakeholders through actions on public-private partnerships, cooperation platforms, support to voluntary business approaches, and exchanges of best practices	2015 onwards
Monitoring	
Development of a monitoring framework for the circular economy	2017



The New EU Waste Legislation

- Gradual progress to 65% recycling and 10% landfilling of municipal waste by 2035
- 70% recycling of packaging waste by 2030
- Phasing out landfilling of all recoverable waste
- Waste Prevention
- Extended Producer Responsibility
- Economic instruments
- Future-oriented agenda

Separate collection



- Mandatory separate collection of at least paper, metal, plastic, glass + bio-waste (by end 2023) & hazardous household waste and **textiles** (by end 2024)
- Selective demolition and sorting systems for C&D waste (material specific)
- MS to ensure that **separately collected waste is not incinerated or landfilled**
- **Forthcoming Commission guidance on separate collection**

EPR



- General minimum requirements for all **extended producer responsibility schemes**
 - Producers cover the costs of separate collection and treatment and the costs necessary to meet EU targets
 - Efficient governance and monitoring of EPR schemes

Economic instruments & Financing



- **Economic instruments:** landfill & incineration charges, PAYT schemes
- Efficient spending of **EU funds to promote the waste hierarchy**

Up the waste hierarchy

MS shall take measures to prevent waste generation, incl.:

- Encourage the re-use of products and the setting up of systems promoting repair and re-use activities, including in particular for [...] **textiles** [...]
- Promote sustainable production + consumption models
- Promote reuse and repair [..]
- MS shall develop and support information campaigns to raise awareness about waste prevention and littering

Implementation and enforcement

- Dialogues with Member States
- Technical assistance (Peer2Peer, EIR etc.)

Follow-up: re-use of products

- Commission to establish a common methodology to report on **re-use of products**
- By the end of 2024, Commission shall consider the feasibility of measures to encourage the **re-use of products**

Follow-up: guidance on separate collection

- Ongoing study to support the Commission in establishing guidelines for separate collection of waste
- Plastic waste, bio-waste, **textile waste**, hazardous household waste

Follow-up: guidance on EPR

- Ongoing study to support preparation of the Commission's guidance on the implementation of the **general minimum requirements for extended producer responsibility schemes** set out in Article 8a of the revised WFD

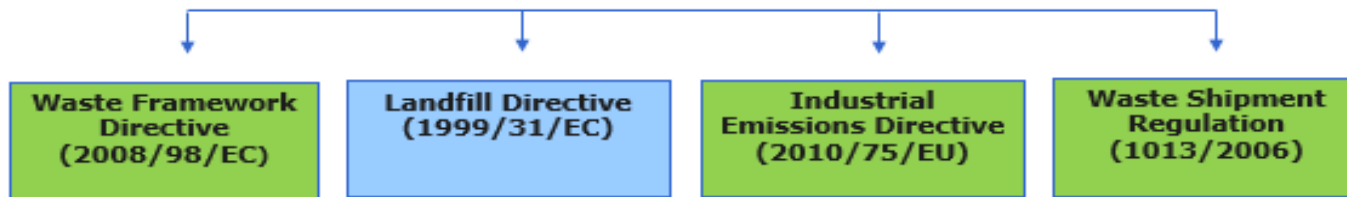
Follow-up: review clauses

- By 31 December 2024, the Commission shall consider the setting of **preparing for re-use** and **recycling targets** for a.o. **textile waste**.
- By the end of 2024, Commission shall consider the feasibility of measures to encourage the **re-use of products**

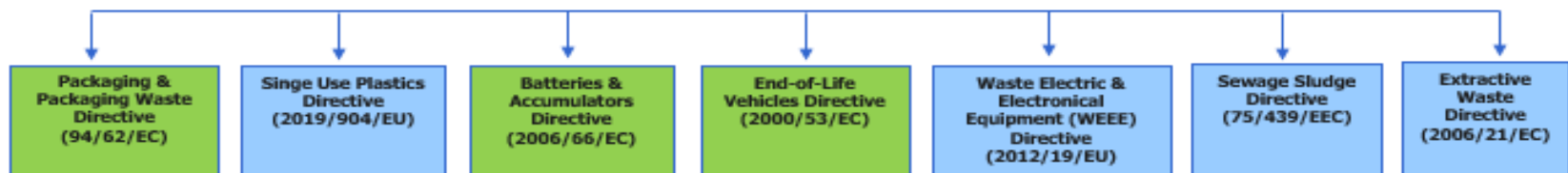
Looking forward: A NEW EU waste legislative agenda

EU Treaties & Environmental
Action Programmes

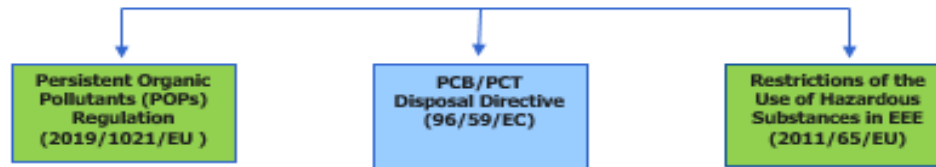
Since 1975
EU Waste Framework Legislation



Waste Stream Specific Legislation



Chemicals in Waste Legislation



In green: Up for review of key elements
in the coming year(s)!

Political guidelines for the next European Commission 2019-2024



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



Learn more about EU policy on circular economy & waste:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm

ec.europa.eu/environment/waste