

Stakeholder workshop Transition to a circular economy

29 & 30 October 2015
EEA premises, Copenhagen, Denmark

Draft agenda

Objectives

- Put circular economy in a wider context, going beyond waste and material flows.
- Assess efficiency gains and sustainability aspects of the circular economy.
- Highlight and deepen a few specific topics in this overarching framework.
- Contribute to the evidence base needed for the transition to a circular economy.
- Inspire stakeholders to think beyond waste and materials management and to learn from the examples and the discussions.

Chair: Jock Martin, Head of Programme, Integrated Environmental Assessments Programme, EEA

Day 1 – 29 October 2015, Thursday	
9:00-9.30	Registration with coffee/tea
Session 1: Opening	
9:30-10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome by <i>Mr Hans Bruyninckx, Executive Director, EEA</i> • Opening by <i>Mr Jock Martin, Head of Programme, Integrated Environmental Assessments Programme, EEA</i> • Introduction to the objectives of the workshop by <i>Mr Michael Kuhndt, European Topic Centre on Waste and Materials in a Green Economy (ETC/WMGE)</i>
Session 2: The transition to a circular economy	
10:00-10:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote speech on transitions and system-thinking, by <i>Mr Frank Geels, SCI Manchester</i>
10:50-11:15	Coffee/Tea Break
11:15 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on the stakeholder consultation and current status of the European Commission’s circular economy package, by <i>Mr Hugo Schally/Ms Karolina D’Cunha, European Commission, DG Environment</i> • Circularity indicators, by <i>Svenn Hermann, Ellen Mac Arthur Foundation</i>
12:00-12:45	<p>Panel debate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr Frank Geels (SCI Manchester) ○ Mr Hugo Schally/Ms Karolina D’Cunha (European Commission) ○ Mr Svenn Hermann (Ellen MacArthur Foundation) ○ Mr Jock Martin (EEA)

	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To give insights in what transition could mean in practice: applying the theory and system thinking while explaining the different aspects of transitions and system-thinking. • To inform about the institutional setup regarding circular economy including the status of the work of the European Commission. • To show the audience that the knowledge base on circular economy, including indicators, needs to be strongly developed. • To explain what the plans of the EEA are and what our role will be.
12:45-14:00	Lunch
Session 3: Potential of the digital economy in supporting needed lifestyle changes for a circular economy	
14:00-15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Europe and collective awareness platforms, <i>by DG Connect – speaker tbc</i> • Changing lifestyles, <i>by Mr Roope Mokka, Demos Helsinki</i> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explain what the consequences of the digital economy could be on material use. • To spread the work of the Collective Awareness Platforms, or how to use networks to connect citizens and ideas for social innovation, leveraging on collective intelligence and action to address sustainability challenges. • To highlight the need for lifestyle changes. • To showcase transition in practice via changing lifestyles. • To explain and show that there is no one-size-fits all solution and that not all niches can be up-scaled.
15:30-16:00	Coffee/Tea break
Session 4 – parallel session A: The role of clean material cycles and related barriers	
16:00-17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean material cycles from an NGO perspective, <i>by Mr Michael Warhurst, CHEM Trust</i> • Clean material cycles from a government perspective, <i>by the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KEMI) – speaker tbc</i> • Clean material cycles from a business perspective, <i>by Ms Patricia Vangheluwe, PlasticsEurope</i> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To highlight the different aspects and angles of this topic from the point of view of the different stakeholders involved. • To highlight opportunities and barriers in establishing clean material cycles and to discuss them with the panel and the audience. • To get input/ideas for future projects or briefings. • To identify specific knowledge gaps and policy options.

Session 4 – parallel session B: The role of products’ life-time and the challenge of obsolescence	
16:00-17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austrian standards, <i>by Mr Sepp Eisenriegler, R.U.S.Z.</i> • German study on obsolescence and related issues <i>by Ms Ines Oehme, German Federal Environment Agency (UBA)</i> • An industry perspective, <i>speaker tbc</i>
	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To inform about studies and existing standards on obsolescence. • To highlight the ethical aspects linked to obsolescence and confront them with the economic drivers to not tackle this issue. • To discuss opportunities and barriers. • To share experiences on obsolescence. • To explore the link between obsolescence and eco-design. • To get input/ideas for future projects or briefings.
17:30-17:45	• Wrap up of session 4 with feedback from the parallel sessions
17:45-18:00	Closing of day 1
18:00-19:30	Closing reception

Day 2 – 30 October 2015, Friday	
9:00-9:15	Opening and recap of day 1
Session 5: Thinking beyond waste and materials management: reuse and sharing	
9:15-10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and environmental contributions of manufacturing and reuse, <i>by Mr Seigo Robinson, Centre for Remanufacturing and Reuse</i> • Sharing economy - <i>speaker tbc</i>
	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore the role of re-use, re-manufacturing and sharing in the circular economy. • To discuss changing lifestyles and consumer behavior. • To clarify the link with eco-design. • To get input/ideas for future briefings and possible projects.
10:30-11:00	Coffee/Tea break
Session 6: Thinking beyond waste and materials management: the role of sustainable forestry and its products	
11:00-12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying the concept of the circular economy to forestry and its products, <i>by Ms Annemarie Bastrup-Birk, EEA</i> • Panel debate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr Jori Ringman (CEPI) ○ Mr Charlie Law (Sustainable Construction Solutions Ltd) ○ Mr Anders Wijkman, Club of Rome - tbc

	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To show how the EEA’s concept on circular economy could be applied to a specific sector. • To explore two possible scenarios: changing lifestyles and business-as-usual. • To discuss possible consequences, opportunities and barriers of the two scenarios with the audience.
12:30-13:30	Sandwich lunch
Session 7: Reflections on the future of the circular economy	
13:30-14:15	<p>Panel debate with representatives from: European Commission – Business – NGO – EEA</p>
	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reflect on issues that need to be tackled in the future, the role of all involved stakeholders and the knowledge base needed.
14:15-14:30	Closing of the workshop