



European
Commission

Circular Economy

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

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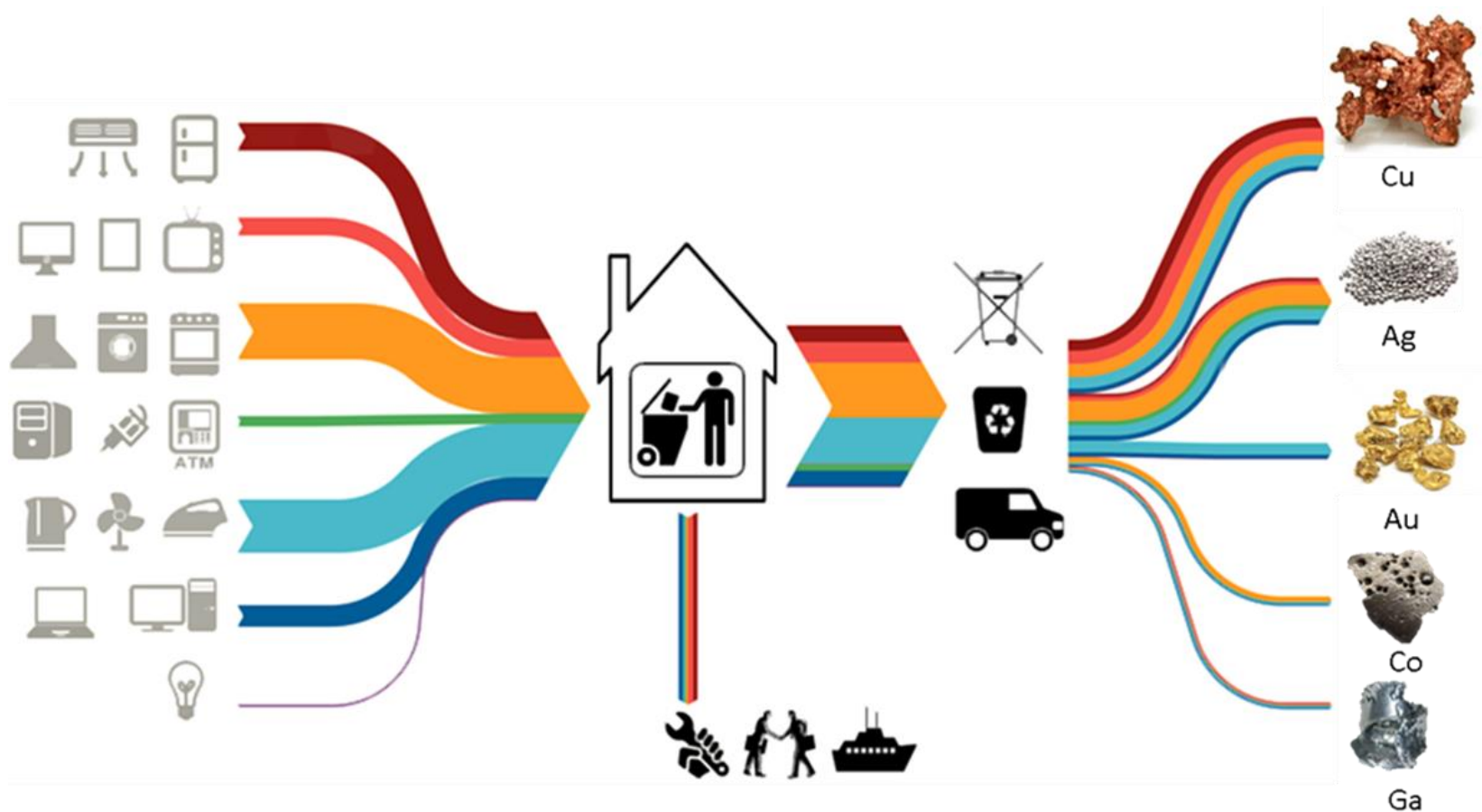
What is the Circular Economy?

- Maintaining the value of products, materials and resources in the economy for as long as possible while minimising waste generation
- To boost our economy and competitiveness with new business opportunities and innovative products and services.
- For economic, social and environmental gains

Cover the full lifecycle



Why do we need Circular Economy?



So, why public authorities needs to intervene?

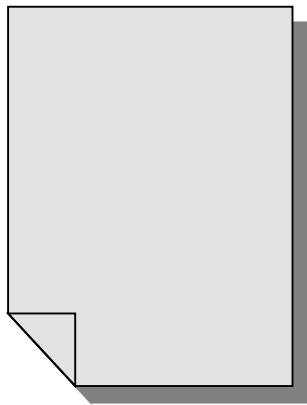
- Opportunities are not yet fully exploited.
- A couple of examples:
 - Potential of the Remanufacturing Sector
 - Suboptimal functioning of the Secondary raw material markets

Objectives of the new Package

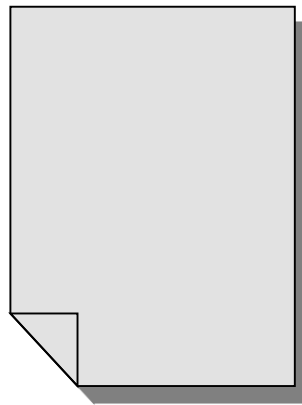
- Synergies **between environment and business agendas**
 - Preserve resources while creating business opportunities
 - Closer links to other key EU priorities: climate and energy, jobs and growth, investment, innovation, social, industrial competitiveness
- Propose **concrete and ambitious** action where EU intervention **has high added value**
 - e.g. long-term vision and targets on waste management; internal market rules for products; environment and consumers protection; regulatory obstacles or enforcement issues; innovation and investments

The Circular Economy Package

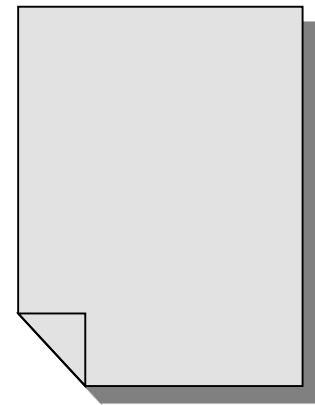
- **Adopted by the Commission on 2nd December 2015**



**Action Plan
Communication**



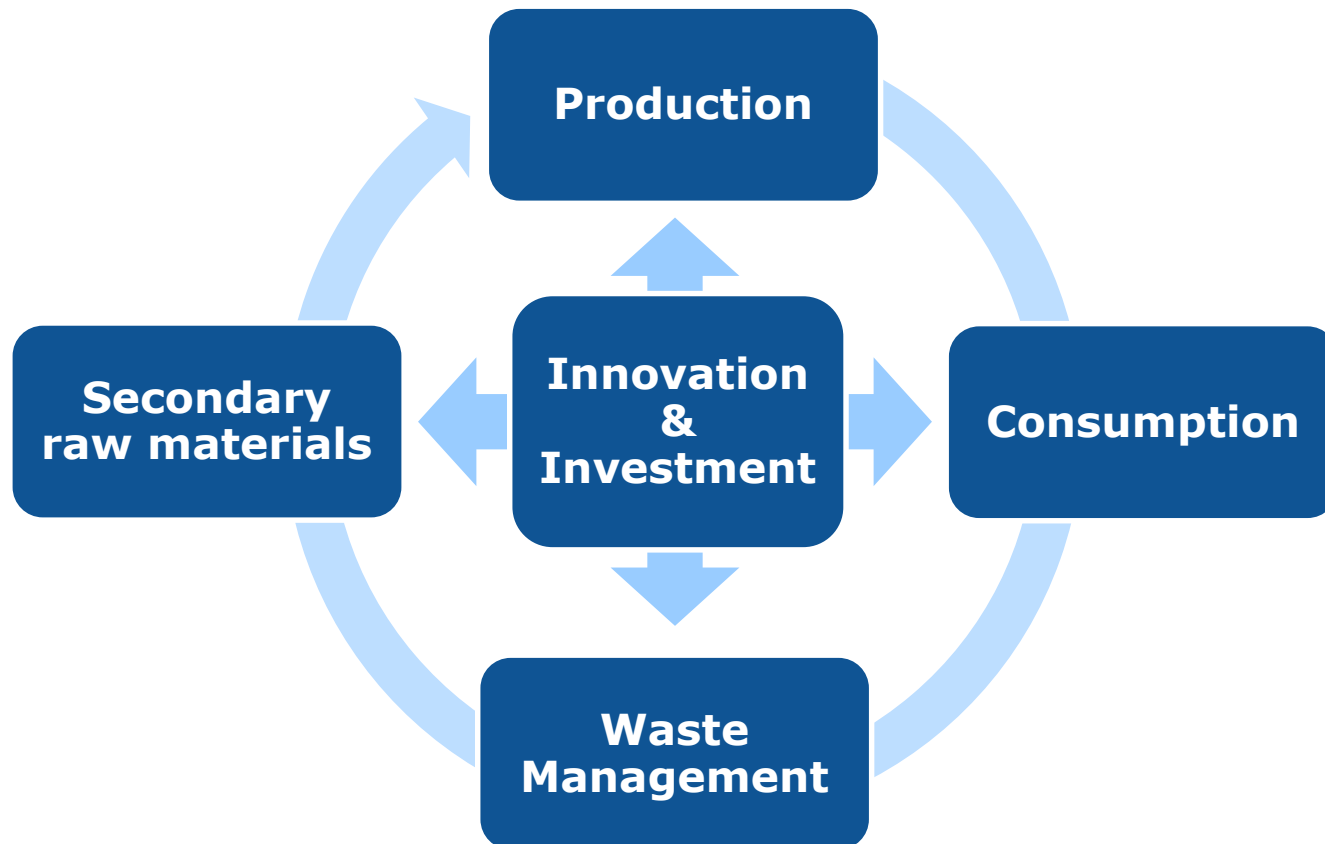
**List of Follow-up
Initiatives (Annex)**



**Legislative
proposal on waste**



5 Main Areas of Action





A functioning and modern Internal Market needs:

- administrative and legislative barriers,**
- + standardization and common standards**

Circular Economy Action Plan

Boosting Markets for SRM

Objectives

- Increase the use of secondary raw materials
- Increase recycling of plastics and Critical Raw Materials
- Safely manage risks of chemicals of concern
- Improve knowledge of material stocks and flows

Key actions

- Quality standards for secondary raw materials
- EU regulation on fertilizers
- Adopt a specific strategy to reduce plastic waste
- Encourage recovery of CRMs, and draft a report on best practices and options for further action at EU level
- Analysis on the interface between chemicals, product, and waste legislation
- EU-wide electronic system for cross-border transfers of waste

Priority Sectors

Plastics

Food waste

Critical Raw
Materials

Construction
&
Demolition

Biomass &
bio-based
products

Inclusive implementation

- Waste legislation proposal now to be considered by EU co-legislators.
- SMEs should be part of the strategy
- Each one of the action will be discussed and assessed
- Global cooperation

Thank you

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Ressource Efficiency and
Circular Economy
in the EU and Japan.

Tokyo, 15 February 2016

