Circular Economy

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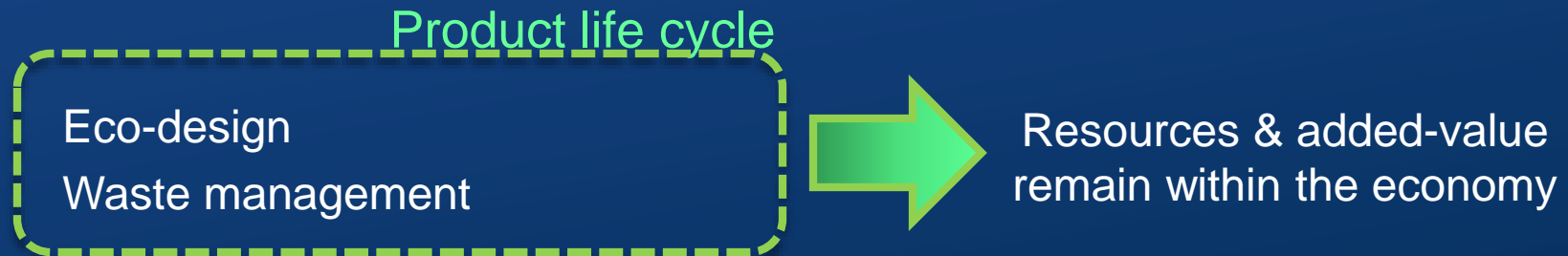
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Circular Economy : background and stakes

- ## Circular Economy is necessary:
  - Scarcity of raw materials
  - environmental & societal pressure

  → Growth through a better usage of resources

- ## Circular Economy is implemented through:

Product life cycle

Eco-design
Waste management

→ Resources & added-value remain within the economy

- ## Circular Economy is a global concern:
  - EU & Japan active through comprehensive approach (product & waste policies)
  - Mentioned in the Elmau G7 Summit joint statement

Priority areas and industries are identified

Areas of intervention

❑ Production processes

❑ Product & material design

❑ Distribution & consumption

❑ Waste management

Industries

❑ Electronics

❑ Packaging materials

❑ Construction products

❑ Clothing & Textiles

But barriers are numerous, which need to be addressed methodically

- Main barriers
  - Lack of standards in quality
  - Lack of information
  - Poor availability of recycled materials
  - Cost of access to recycled materials or of switching to new process

- Counter-measures
  - Strategic approach by policymakers : incentives
  - Target setting : monitor implementation and impact of policies
  - Product requirement : common standards and milestones
  - Waste management : make resources available to the industry

Proposals of EU-JAPAN cooperation (1/2)

❖ **Product Design**

Make mandatory some Eco-design requirements to support :
- reparability
- durability
- recyclability

➢ Reduce size & weight (honeycomb internal walls)

➢ Use low impact materials

➢ Reduce impact during production process

➢ Design for disassembly

➢ Design for longevity & recyclability

Proposals of EU-JAPAN cooperation (2/2)

❖ **Consumption & Incentives**

➢ Higher uptake of Circular Economy criteria in public procurement

❖ **Construction & Demolition**

Give targets for the recovery of valuable resources and promote adequate waste management

➢ 98% of all metals are recovered in Japan

➢ More than 70% of glass is recycled in Europe

.window glass
.fluorescent lighting
.PC/TV monitors
.etc

→

.glass wool
.bottles / containers
.abrasives
.etc