

# From Policy to Implementation

Challenges in the Years Ahead for Recycling Ambitions in the EU



Lara Dammer, nova-Institute, 17.01.2023



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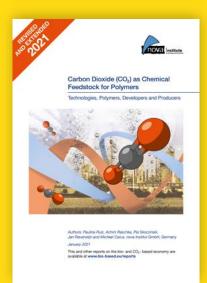


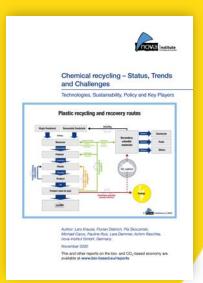


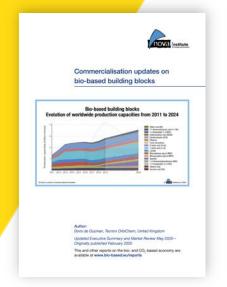


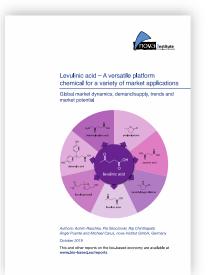


The Best Available on Bio- an CO<sub>2</sub>-based Polymers & Building Blocks and Chemical Recycling









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#### Save the Date!









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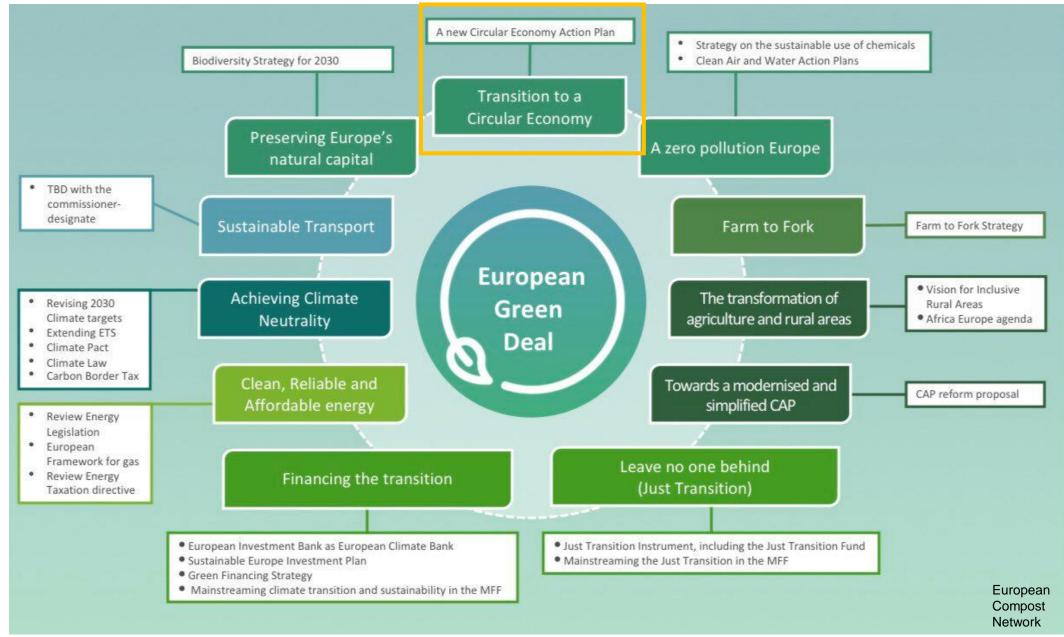
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### The Green Deal (2019)





### **The New Circular Economy Action Plan (2020)**

Key value chains

Electronics and ICT

Batteries and vehicles

Packaging

**Plastics** 

**Textiles** 

Construction and buildings

Food, water and nutrients



### The New Circular Economy Action Plan (2020)

Plans to regulate the following aspects...

35 follow-up legislative measures in Annex!

durability, reusability, upgradability and reparability

hazardous chemicals energy and resource efficiency

recycled content in products

remanufacturing and highquality recycling carbon and environmental footprints single-use and premature obsolescence



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### Spotlight on: PPWR, ELV, SPI

### Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)

- Revision of the PPWD (COM proposal Nov '22)
- Strong reaction by the industry, due to very high recycled content targets, refill and reuse obligations, negative lists on packaging and compostable packaging

### **End-of-life Vehicles Directive (ELV)**

- Revision proposal also exp. for end of 2022, postponed to 2023
- Also expected to contain high recycled content targets, numbers unclear so far

## **Sustainable Products Initiative (SPI)**

- Further development of the Ecodesign Directive

   a broader framework for setting harmonised rules on environmental sustainability
- Commission proposal in March 2022, now waiting for action from EP and Council



### The draft Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation

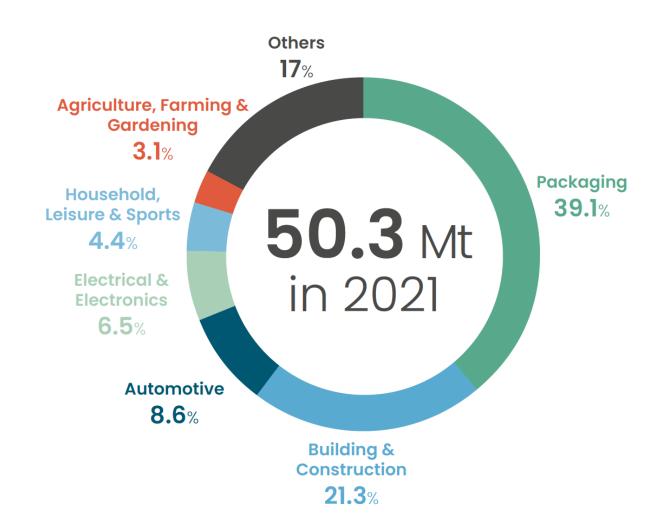
- 1. From 1 January 2030 plastic packaging shall contain the following minimum percentage of recycled content recovered from post-consumer plastic waste, per unit of plastic packaging:
  - (a) 25 % for contact sensitive plastic packaging;
  - (b) 50 % for single use plastic beverage bottles;
  - (c) 45 % for plastic packaging other than under letters (a) and (b).
- From 1 January 2040, plastic packaging shall contain the following minimum percentage of recycled content recovered from post-consumer plastic waste, per unit of plastic packaging:
  - (a) 50 % for contact sensitive plastic packaging;
  - (b) 65 % for single use plastic beverage bottles;
  - (c) 65% for plastic packaging other than under letters (a) and (b).

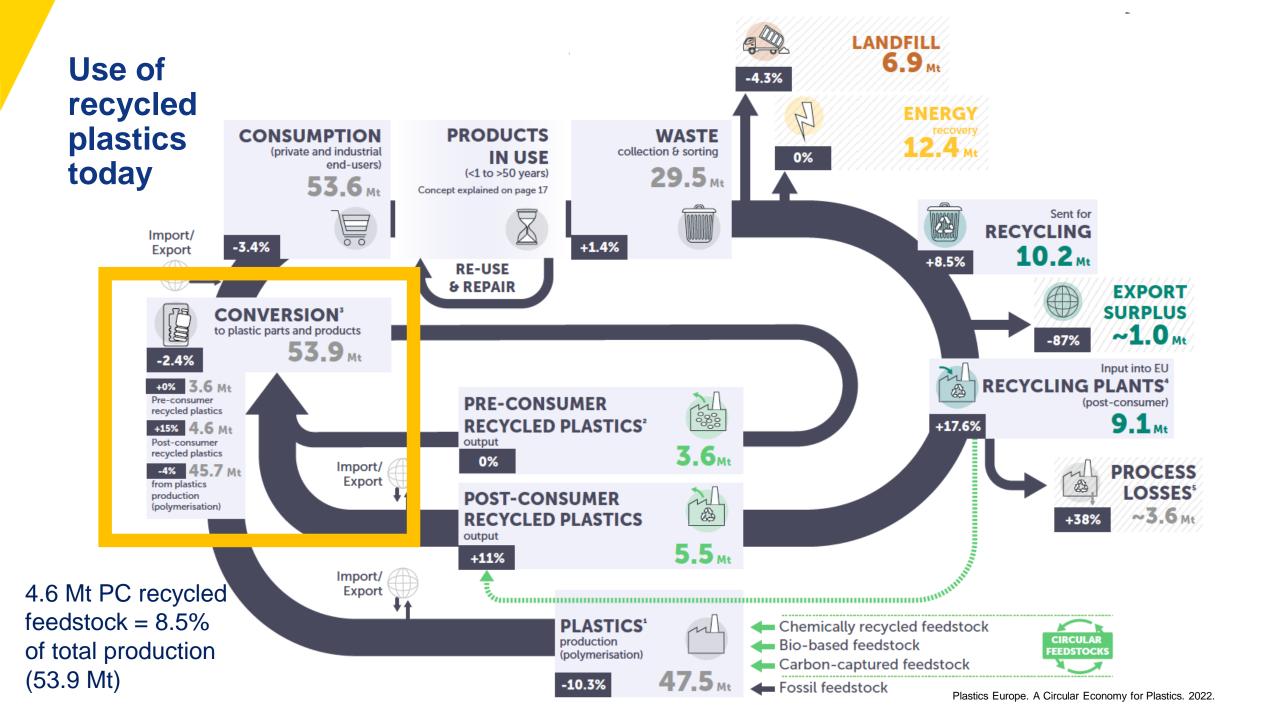




### Plastic packaging produced in EU27+3, 2021 = 20 Mt

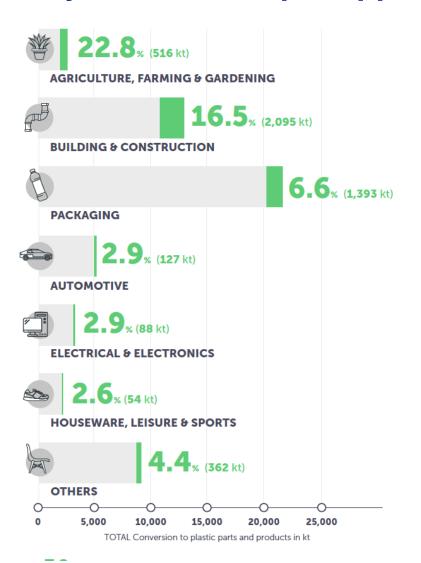
65% recycled content = 13 Mt recycled plastics needed just for packaging







### Recycled content per application sector



in the next 17 years, a **x10** increase in recycled content is necessary!



#### The Sustainable Products Initiative



- May set rules for all products on the market – food, feed and medicinal products are exempted
- A preliminary assessment by the Commission has identified that textiles, furniture, mattresses, tyres, detergents, paints, lubricants, as well as intermediate products like iron, steel and aluminium, have high environmental impact and potential for improvement, and may thus be suitable candidates for the first workplan.



### **Setting targets for recycled content...**

... assumes that recycling capacities will increase due to larger demand.

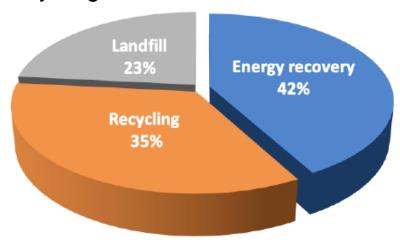
... is an important step towards creating demand and moving the recycling sector from a supply-driven industry towards a demand-driven industry.



### How does policy support the increase in recycling capacities?

- WFD: collection obligation, EPR
  - By 2025, 2030, and 2035, the preparation for re-use and recycling of municipal waste needs to be increased to a minimum of 55 %, 60 % and 65 % by weight respectively (2018/851, article 12.c.ii).
  - encouragement to use economic instruments inter alia landfill and incineration charges, pay-as-you-throw schemes, extended producer responsibility schemes (minimum criteria for EPR schemes)
- End-of-waste criteria

- 30 Mt plastic waste generated in Europe annually
- 29 Mt plastic waste collected in Europe annually
- Recycling numbers include export for recycling!



### EoW framework conditions and methodology

or human health

impacts

**EoW** principle

Waste ceases to be waste. when a useful and safe product is placed on the market

The framework conditions

d) no overall c) meets techn. a) commonly adverse b) a market or requirements, used for a environmental

demand exists

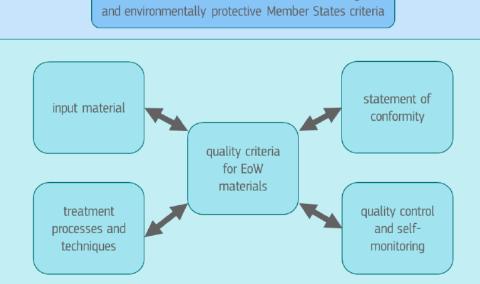
specific purpose

EoW criteria shall be in line with the most stringent

legislation and

standards

Set of specific criteria for each stream



EoW as defined in the WFD

Conditions to be fulfilled for EoW

New requirement (within last WFD revision)

**EoW methodology** developed by the JRC in 2009, providing a comprehensive approach for the development of end-of-waste criteria.





### Selection of waste streams for EoW criteria development

by-product categories and priority streams:	Overall potential
1 - Plastics:	
Polyethylene terephthalate (from plastic waste)	63
Low- and high-density polyethylene (from plastic waste)	60
Mixed plastics (from plastic waste)	57
Polystyrene and expanded polystyrene (from plastic waste)	57
Polypropylene (from plastic waste)	55
2 - Textiles:	
Separately collected clothes and other textiles prepared for re-use	60
Cellulosic fibres (from textile waste)	56
Mixed fibres (from textile waste)	55
3 - Rubber:	
Rubber (from end-of-life tyres)	59
4 - Mineral fractions of construction and demolition waste:	
Aggregates (from demolition waste)	57
Mineral wool (from demolition waste)	55
5 - Paper and cardboard:	
Paper and cardboard waste	55



### Project's scope & objectives

- Polymers currently within scope:

  ET, LDPE/HDPE. PP ED/FT

  - EoW criteria shall be applicable to all polymers within the scope.
  - The scope is flexible to changes, based on evidence provided.
- Point of EoW to be set at a certain point before, between or after sorting or mechanical recycling.





### Thank you for your attention



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