



# Current Resource Efficiency Policy Issues in Europe

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**1<sup>st</sup> DYNAMIX Policy Platform**  
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- **Europe 2020 strategy**
  - Flagship initiative on "A resource Efficient Europe"
- Communication ***"Roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe"*** in 2011
  - 2050 vision
  - Milestones to be reached by 2020
  - A set of immediate actions

- ***“Using Europe's resources to compete better”***: one of the seven priorities of the Commission Work programme for 2013
- ***“Living well, within the limits of our planet”***: a proposal for a New Environment Action Programme to 2020
- Rio+20 follow-up Communication ***“A decent life for all: Ending poverty and giving the world a sustainable future”***

# Sustainable consumption and production

- COM on **stimulating the single market for green products** (adoption pending)
  - Common methods to measure, benchmark and communicate the environmental performance of products and organisations: Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) and Organisation Environmental Footprint (OEF)
- COM on **green entrepreneurship**: Promoting resource efficiency through entrepreneurship for and by SMEs (Q4 2013, consultation Q2 2013)
- COM on **demand-side policies for industrial/ innovation policy** (Q1 2013)
- Review of **internal market legislation for industrial products** (consultation until 17/04/2013)



# Key sectors

- COM on **sustainable buildings** (Q4 2013, consultation: March/April)
  - addressing life-cycle resource use and environmental impacts of buildings
  - going beyond energy efficiency of buildings: tackling resources such as materials, water, embedded energy and land
- COM on **sustainable food** (Q4 2013, consultation: March/April)
  - promote a reduction in food waste and losses
  - increase the demand for sustainable food products
  - increase sustainable resource management in food production
- **Urban Mobility Package** (Q3 2013)
  - Urban Mobility Plans
  - An EU framework for urban road user charging
  - A strategy for near- 'zero-emission urban logistics' 2030

# Turning waste into a resource

- Review of the **waste policy and targets** (2014, consultation: April 2013)
  - Review of the targets of 3 key directives: the Waste Framework Directive, the Packaging Directive and the Landfill Directive
  - Review/ex-post evaluation of 5 waste streams directives
- Green Paper on **Plastic Waste** (07/03/2013, consultation until June 2013)

# Safeguarding Natural Capital

- Implementation of the **Water** Blueprint
- Review of **air quality** policies (Q4 2013)
- EU **Forest** Strategy (Q1 2013) and **state aid** guidelines on agriculture and forestry (Q4 2013)
- COM on **land** (2014)
- COM on **green infrastructure** (Q1/Q2 2013)
- Green paper on **phosphorus** (2013)
- **EIP** on **raw materials, smart cities** and **agriculture** (2012)



# Investment and innovation

- State aid review: **environmental state aid guidelines** (2013-2014)
- Disclosure of **non-financial information by companies** (Q2 2013)
- Green paper on **long term financing of the economy** (and follow up to the green paper in Q3 2013)
- **Network for Green Public and Private Procurers** (2012)
- **European network of eco-innovation financiers and investors** (2013)



# Finance Roundtable

- **Launch:** 15 February 2013
- **Topics discussed:**
  - **Innovation, new business models** and **SMEs** in resource efficiency
  - **Large investments and infrastructure:** how to enable sufficient financial flows?
  - Mainstreaming resource efficiency in **classical investments**
  - **Key actions** to channel investments in resource efficiency
    - increasing information and awareness
    - developing financial instruments and investment vehicles for resource efficiency
    - using instruments such as project bonds
    - incentivising longer term investments
    - better integration of the resource efficiency in the discussion on the economic crisis



# Resource Efficiency Platform

- **Launch:** June 2012
- Stakeholder Platform to provide guidance
- Main **areas of work:**
  - Circular economy, green economy
  - Framework conditions for RE investments
  - Setting objectives and measuring progress
- Next deliverable: a set of short term **policy recommendations** in June



# Engaging Member States

## The European Semester

- **Recommendations to MSs on**
  - **Getting prices right (identify and phase out environmentally harmful subsidies)**
  - **Raising public revenues through environmental taxes**



**RESOURCE  
EFFICIENCY**  
Using less, living better

**Thank you!**

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/resource\\_efficiency/about/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/resource_efficiency/about/index_en.htm)