



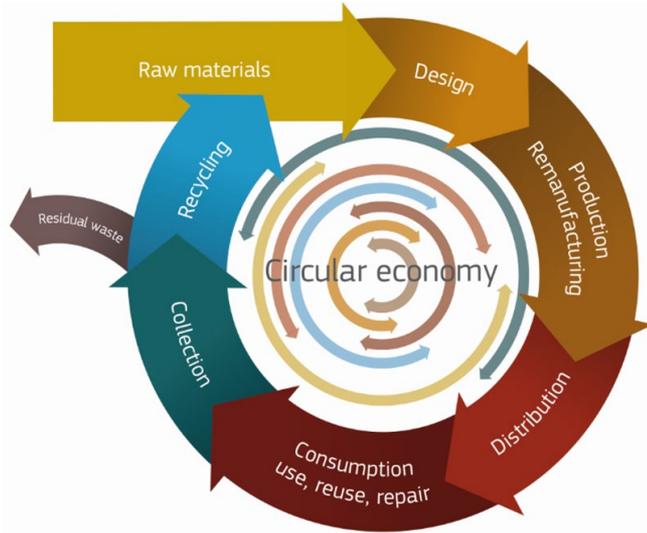
# **EU Policy overview**

## **EuRIC Tyre Recycling Webinar**

**17 June 2021**

DG Environment, Unit B3 – Enrique García John

# Circularity and the CPW (chemical – product – waste interface)



*An economy where the value of products, materials and resources is maintained in the economy for as long as possible, and the generation of waste minimized.*

In this context the borders between products and waste begin to lose their meaning – but different legal frameworks remain.

**EGD objectives:** Climate. Biodiversity. Circular Economy. Zero Pollution.

Which in the CPW context translate to:

- Waste prevention
- Safe, toxic-free material cycles
- Enhanced reuse and recycling
- Reduction in GHG emissions

# Legislative & policy context

Green Deal

Circular Economy Action Plan

Zero Pollution Action Plan

Sustainable Products Initiative

Farm to Fork

Biodiversity Strategy

Renovation wave

Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

Proposal for a Batteries Regulation

SCIP Database - traceability

POPs annex IV & V review

Review of IED Directive



# Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability



- In a clean circular economy it is essential to **boost the production and uptake of secondary raw materials** and ensure that both **primary and secondary materials** and products are **always safe**.
- **Same limit values** for hazardous substances should apply for virgin and recycled material. There may be exceptional circumstances where a derogation to this principle may be necessary.
- **Subject to conditions**: use of the recycled material is limited to clearly defined applications with no negative impact on consumer health and the environment. Time limited → **Case-by-case assessment**.
- One substance – one assessment. Grouping approach.
- **Substances of concern** – primarily SVHCs and those with chronic effects and substances affecting recycling operations. No legal definition envisaged at this stage.

COM(2020) 667 final – adopted 14 October 2020

# Less waste more value



- Enhancing circularity in a toxic-free environment
- Working to create a well-functioning EU market for secondary raw materials

- Methodologies to track and minimise the presence of **substances of concern** in recycled materials and articles made thereof
- The recently adopted Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability addresses the interface between chemicals, products and waste legislation
- Assess the scope to develop further EU-wide end-of-waste criteria for certain waste streams



# COM Study on BP & EoW

- To identify MS legal framework and practices
- To identify relevant case studies
- To make recommendations on the design of national legal and enforcement regimes

Study published May 2020:

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/beb56eaa-9fc0-11ea-9d2d-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-search>

# Case studies

57 cases analysed by the consultant, out of which 10 were selected for analysis:

- Metal bearing slags used as raw material under an EoW status
- Mineral construction and demolition wastes broken into granulates and used as a building material under EoW status
- Refuse derived fuel and solid recovered fuel as EoW material
- EoW and BP to facilitate transfrontier movement
- Metal scraps and residues, other than slags and ashes
- **EoW criteria for rubber from tyres**
- Digestate from anaerobic digestion
- Non treated wood in natural form
- Registers and reporting obligations on case by case decisions
- EoW status of ashes from biomass combustion

# End-of-Waste & by-product criteria

- ❑ **Art. 5 and 6 of WFD amended in 2018 review**
- ❑ **CEAP requires COM to scope the development of possible EU-wide EoW and by-product criteria**
- ❑ **Stakeholder survey from 27 October – 15 January**
- ❑ **Workshop planned later in the year Q3 2021**
- ❑ **Future detailed development work (depending on priority streams) envisaged with JRC.**

# REACH Restrictions

## ❑ PAHs in rubber granules

- ECHA report on rubber granules for infill – February 2017
- ECHA opinion – September 2019
- Commission proposal – 20 mg/kg limit - under scrutiny by EP and Council
- Adoption envisaged in **July 2021**

## ❑ Restriction on intentionally added microplastics

- European Strategy for Plastics – January 2018
- Opinion of Group of Chief Scientific Advisors – April 2019 (**risks of microplastics pollution**)
- Action under CEAP - due 2021
- ECHA opinion – received February 2021. Drafting on-going.

# Thank you

Learn more here:

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm)



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