



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Environment Ireland Conference, 15 & 16 October 2020

Circular Economy

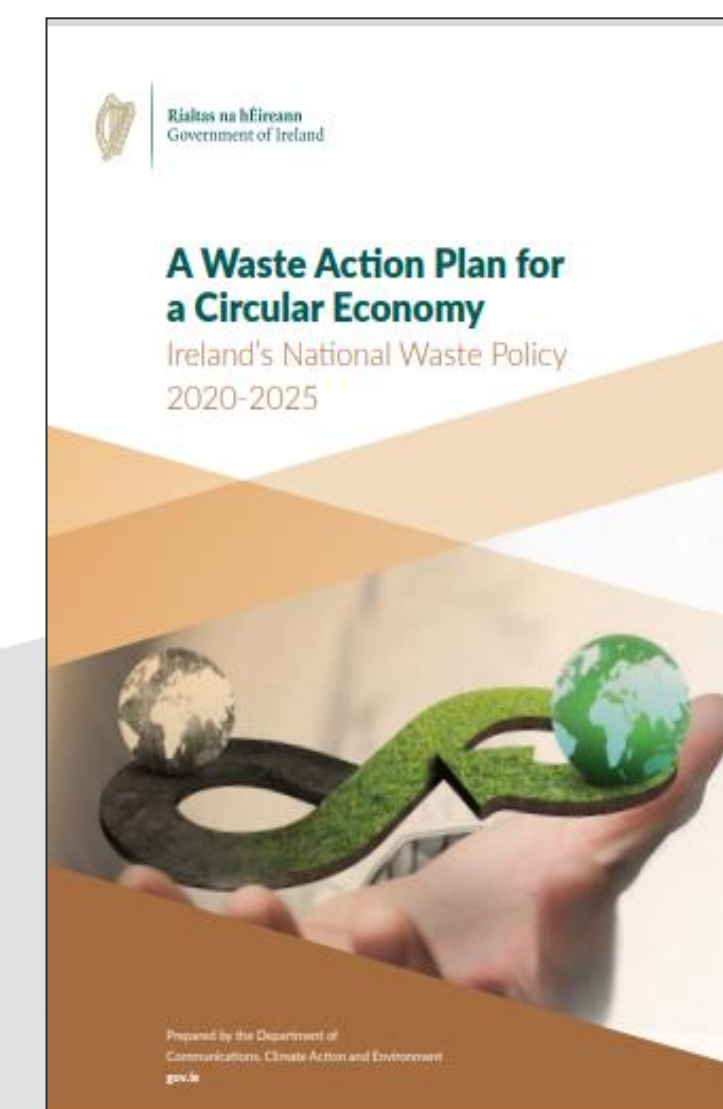
The Policy Picture

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Department of Environment, Communications and Climate Action



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Global – UN, OECD

EU – Green Deal, CEAPs

National Policy – moving on from waste

- 10 slides



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Global



The Economics and
Governance of
Circular Economy in Cities



How can I help as
a business?

- Understand environmental and social impacts
- Identify 'hot spots' within the value chain
- Design solutions that enable and inspire individuals



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EU: The Green Deal

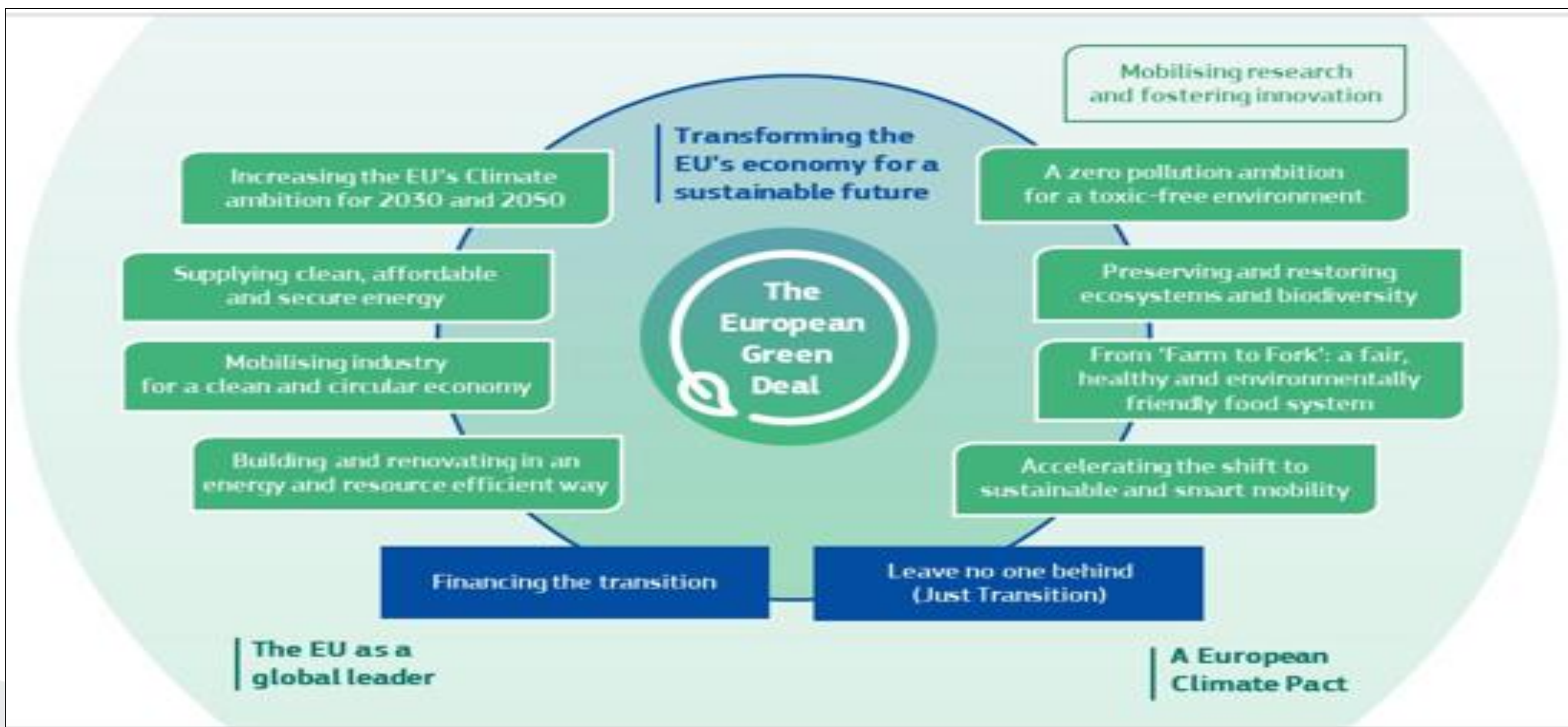


Figure 1: The European Green Deal



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Within the Green Deal:



35 actions along the entire life cycle of products, to:

- Make **sustainable products** the norm in the EU
- **Empower** consumers and public buyers
- **Focus also on key product value chains:** electronics and ICT; batteries and vehicles; packaging; plastics; textiles; construction and buildings; food; water and nutrients
- Ensure **less waste**
- Make circularity work for **people, regions** and **cities**
- **Lead global efforts** on circular economy

Key product value chains



- Improve **durability, reusability, upgradability and reparability**
- Address presence of **hazardous chemicals** and **increasing recycled content**
- Restrict **single-use** and counter **premature obsolescence**
- Incentive **product-as-a-service**
- **Digitalisation**, including digital product passport



Empowering consumers and public buyers

- Revision of the **consumer law**: consumers to receive trustworthy and relevant information on products at the point of sale
- Establishing a new “**Right to repair**”
- Legislative proposal to ensure companies substantiate their **environmental claims** using Product and Organisation Environmental Footprint methods
- Include more systematically durability, recyclability and recycled content in EU Ecolabel criteria



- Proposal for **mandatory Green Public Procurement (GPP)** criteria and targets in sectoral legislation
- Phasing-in **mandatory reporting** on GPP

Less waste, more value



- *Preventing waste from being created in the first place is key*
- *Once waste has been created, it needs to be transformed into high-quality resources*

- **Specific waste reduction targets** for more complex streams
- Enhance the implementation of the requirements for **EPR schemes**
- Continue **modernising EU waste laws** (e.g. batteries, packaging, end-of-life vehicles, hazardous substances in electronic equipment)
- Propose to harmonise separate **waste collection systems**
- Review rules on **waste shipments** facilitating recycling or re-use within the EU; with also the aim to restrict exports of waste that cause negative environmental & health impacts
- Assess the scope to develop further EU-wide end-of-waste criteria for certain waste streams





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The policy fundamentals of the recovery plan

- **The European Green Deal as the EU's recovery strategy:**
 - A massive **renovation** wave of our buildings and infrastructure and a more **circular economy**, bringing local jobs;
 - Rolling out **renewable energy** projects, especially wind, solar and kick-starting a **clean hydrogen economy** in Europe;
 - **Cleaner transport and logistics**, including the installation of one million charging points for electric vehicles and a boost for rail travel and clean mobility in our cities and regions;
 - Strengthening the **Just Transition Fund** to support re-skilling, helping businesses create new economic opportunities.

PfG and Ireland's Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy 2020



GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP ON CIRCULAR ECONOMY

HIGH LEVEL ALL OF
GOVERNMENT CIRCULAR
ECONOMY STRATEGY



DEVELOP CIRCULAR
ECONOMY SECTORAL
ROADMAPS



INCLUSION OF
GREEN CRITERIA AND
CIRCULAR ECONOMY
PRINCIPLES IN ALL
PUBLIC PROCUREMENT



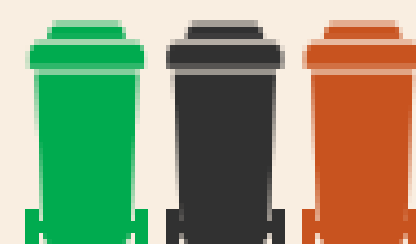
EXPLORE HOW IRELAND'S
DIGITAL SECTOR CAN
ACCELERATE TRANSITION
TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY



HOUSEHOLD AND BUSINESS



RECYCLING
TARGETS
FOR WASTE
COLLECTORS



STANDARDISED BIN COLOURS
ACROSS THE STATE: GREEN
FOR RECYCLING, BLACK FOR
RESIDUAL AND BROWN FOR
ORGANIC WASTE



WASTE RECOVERY LEVY TO
ENCOURAGE RECYCLING

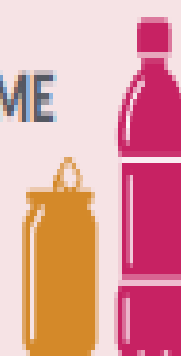
WASTE OVERSIGHT
BODY TO MANAGE
CONSUMER RIGHTS



EDUCATION AND
AWARENESS CAMPAIGN
TO IMPROVE WASTE
SEGREGATION

PLASTIC, PACKAGING AND SINGLE USE PLASTIC (SUP)

DEPOSIT AND RETURN SCHEME
FOR PLASTIC BOTTLES AND
ALUMINIUM CANS



SINGLE USE ITEMS BANNED FROM
JULY 2021:



COTTON BUD STICKS,
CUTLERY, PLATES, STIRRERS,
CHOPSTICKS, STRAWS,
POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS
AND OXO-DEGRADABLE
PLASTIC PRODUCTS

SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE
SUPS BEING PLACED ON
THE MARKET BY 2026



ALL PACKAGING
REUSABLE OR
RECYCLABLE
BY 2030

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)

MANDATORY EPR
FOR ALL PACKAGING
PRODUCERS BEFORE
2024 EU DEADLINE

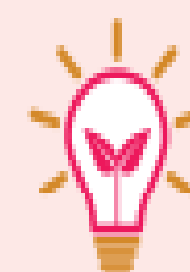


NEW RULES FOR
EPR SCHEMES TO
INCENTIVISE GOOD
PRACTICE IN WASTE
RECYCLING AND
DRIVE BETTER
PRODUCT DESIGN



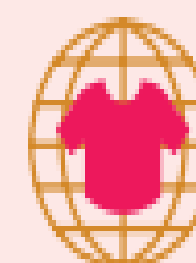
PRODUCERS LIABLE FOR
MODULATION
FEES

TEXTILES



TEXTILE
ACTION GROUP
TO EXPLORE
OPTIONS TO
IMPROVE FUTURE
CIRCULARITY IN
TEXTILES

CONSIDER
GLOBAL
IMPACTS
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
TRADE IN USED
TEXTILES



WORK WITH IRISH
DESIGNERS AND RETAILERS
TO PROMOTE ECO-DESIGN
FOR CLOTHING AND TEXTILES



FOOD WASTE



HALVE OUR
FOOD WASTE
BY 2030

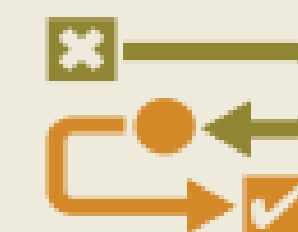


WASTE SEGREGATION
INFRASTRUCTURE
FOR APARTMENT
DWELLERS

SUSTAINABLE FOOD
WASTE MANAGEMENT
OPTIONS FOR ALL
HOMES AND BUSINESSES



CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE



STREAMLINE
BY-PRODUCT
NOTIFICATION AND
END-OF-WASTE
DECISION MAKING
PROCESSES

REVISION OF
THE 2006 BEST
PRACTICE
GUIDELINES
FOR C&D
WASTE



WORKING GROUP TO
DEVELOP NATIONAL
END-OF-WASTE
APPLICATIONS FOR
PRIORITY WASTE
STREAMS



Some Next Steps:

- Establish circular economy as a core function within / across Government / DECC
- Circular Economy National Strategy Development – *engage, build awareness, drive ambition for Ireland*
- Drive delivery of new legally binding recycling targets – *use education and awareness to introduce circular economy to wider audience*
- Implement policy measures in National Waste Action Plan that drive greatest change – *ecodesign, EPR, financial instruments*
- Reconfigure National Waste Prevention Programme as a Circular Economy Programme – *encourage new business models*
- Participate with ambition in development of 2020 EU Circular Economy legislative package – *sustainable products, waste reduction targets, GPP, plastics reduction*



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Thank You