PROTOKOLL

Nummer 35

Sammanträdesdatum 18.8.2015

Protokoll fört vid enskild föredragning

Social- och miljöavdelningen Miljöbyrån, S3

Beslutande	Föredragande	Justerat
Minister Carina Aaltonen	Vik.byråchef Inkeri Ahonen	Omedelbart
Ärende/Dnr/Exp. Bo	eslut	

Nr 79

Offentligt samråd om cirkulär ekonomi

ÅLR 2015/8699

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Public Consultation on the Circular Economy

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Frequently Asked Questions

on the Consultation on Circular Economy- the file is available for download here:

FAQs Circular Economy.pdf

1 Introduction

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ENV-GROW-CIRCULAR-ECONOMY@ec.europa.eu

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Global competition for resources is increasing. Supply concentration of resources, particularly critical raw materials outside the European Union, makes European industry and society dependent on imports and increasingly vulnerable to high prices, market volatility, and the political situation in supplying countries. At the same time, natural resources are often used unsustainably across the globe, causing additional pressure on raw materials, environmental degradation and threats to ecosystems. This trend will increase with changes in world population and patterns of economic growth.

A 'circular economy' aims to maintain the value of the materials and energy used in products in the value chain for the optimal duration, thus minimising waste and resource use. By preventing losses of value from materials flows, it creates economic opportunities and competitive advantages on a sustainable basis.

Moving towards a more circular economy can promote competitiveness and innovation, a high level of protection for humans and the environment, and bring major economic benefits, thus contributing to job creation and growth. A circular economy fosters sustainable development in which environmental, economic and social dimensions go hand in hand. It can also provide consumers with longer-lasting and innovative products that save them money and improve their quality of life.

A successful transition towards a circular economy requires action at all stages in the value chain: from the extraction and transportation of raw materials, through material and product design, production, distribution and consumption of goods, repair, remanufacturing and reuse schemes, to waste management and recycling.

In December 2014, the Commission announced the withdrawal of its legislative proposal for the review of waste legislation, to be replaced by a new, more ambitious, initiative for the promotion of the circular economy by the end of 2015.

This initiative aims at promoting the transition to the circular economy through a comprehensive, coherent approach that fully reflects interactions and interdependence along the whole value chain, rather than focusing exclusively on one part of the economic cycle. It will comprise a revised legislative proposal on waste and a Communication setting out an action plan on the circular economy for the rest of this Commission's term of office. The action plan will cover the whole value chain, and focus on concrete measures with clear EU added value, aiming at 'closing the loop' of the circular economy. The circular economy initiative will also contribute to wider EU objectives such as the Energy Union, the climate objectives and resource efficiency.

Input from stakeholders and the public will be a key factor in the preparation of this work. The objective of this public consultation is to help the Commission to pinpoint and define the main barriers to the development of a more circular economy and to gather views regarding which measures could be taken at EU level to overcome such barriers.

Public consultations on the review of EU waste targets and on the sustainability of the food system took place in 2013 [The results of these public consultations can be found here]. This consultation therefore focuses on other points relating to the transition to a circular economy, broadening the scope of inquiry to other parts of the economic cycle (e.g. the production and consumption phases) and general enabling framework conditions (e.g. innovation and investment). Please note that a separate public consultation on waste market distortions will be launched shortly. Stakeholders interested in waste markets may wish to respond to that consultation as well.

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*2.1. In what capacity are you	completing this			
questionnaire?				
C As an individual / private	person • Public aut	thority		
Academic/research instit	ution C Internatio	onal organisation		
 Civil society organisation 	Profession	nal organisation		
 Private enterprise 	Other			
Does your company/organization				
make use of any of the followi	ng?			
□ EU eco-label □ EMAS				
□ Another environmental la☑ No environmental labelli				
☐ I don't know	ng or management sche	·me		
□ I don't know				
If your organisation is not reg	gistered, <u>you can regist</u>	er now		
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\square Hungary \square Iceland	☐ Ireland	\square Italy	☐ Latvia	Liechtenstein
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\square Switzerland \square United	Kingdom			
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2.6. Please provide your email address if you would like to be informed of the outcome of this consultation	
200 character(s) maximum (180 characters left)	

3 Production phase

The design of a material or product can facilitate recycling, extend its lifetime through reuse, refurbishment or repair and reduce its environmental impact by reducing its energy, waste generation or water consumption over its life cycle.

This section seeks your views on actions that you think the EU should take to promote the circular economy in the production stage, including product design, production and sourcing of materials.

3.1. How would you assess the importance of the following measures to promote circular economy principles in product design at EU level?

	very important	important	not very important	not important	no opinion
Establish binding rules on product design (e.g. minimum requirements on 'durability' under Ecodesign Directive 2009/125/EC)	•	0	О	О	С
Encourage industry-led initiatives (i.e. self-regulation)	0	•	0	0	0
Develop standards for voluntary use	0	•	0	0	0
Promote and/or enable the use of economic incentives for eco- innovation and sustainable product design (e.g. via rules on Extended Producer Responsibility schemes)	0	•	0	0	0
Review rules on legal and commercial guarantees	0	0	•	0	0
Encourage the consumption of green products (see section 4)	•	0	0	0	0
Other – please specify below	0	0	0	0	0

Glossary:

Legal guarantees: Tangible goods have a minimum two-year legal guarantee under EU consumer legislation (Directive 99/44/EC). This guarantee makes the seller liable to the consumer for any lack of conformity with the sales contract which exists at the time of delivery of the good and becomes apparent within two years from delivery of the goods.

Commercial guarantees: Guarantees provided by traders to consumers on a voluntary basis, by which the trader undertakes to reimburse the price paid or to replace, repair or handle consumer goods in any way if they do not meet the specifications set out in the guarantee statement or in the relevant advertising.

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3.2. In order to facilitate the transition to a more circular economy, how would you assess the importance of the following product features?

	very important	important	not very important	not important	no opinion
Durability	•	0	0	0	0
Reparability: Availability of information on product repair (e.g. repair manuals)	•	0	С	С	0
Reparability: Product design facilitating maintenance and repair activities	•	0	С	О	0
Reparability: Availability of spare parts	•	0	О	0	0
Upgradability and modularity	•	0	О	0	0
Reusability	•	0	0	0	0
Biodegradability and compostability	•	0	О	0	0
Resource use in the use phase (e.g. water efficiency)	•	0	О	0	0
Recyclability (e.g. dismantling, separation of components, information on chemical content)	•	0	0	О	О
Increased content of reused parts or recycled materials	•	0	0	0	0
Increased content of renewable materials	•	0	0	0	0
Minimising lifecycle environmental impacts	•	0	0	0	0
Other- please specify below	0	0	0	0	0

3.3. How would you

assess the importance of the following additional considerations when applying circular economy principles to products at EU level?

	very important	important	not very important	not important	no opinion
Impact on production cost and affordability of the product	С	•	С	О	О
Impact on production processes and value chain	0	•	0	0	0
Impact on consumers (e.g. through durability and reparability)	•	0	О	О	0
Functionality of the product	0	•	0	0	О
Enabling innovation	0	•	0	0	0
Respecting technology neutrality	0	•	0	0	0
Impact on EU imports and exports	О	•	0	0	О
Other — please specify below	0	0	О	0	О

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years and why?	t few
at most 3 choice(s)	
\square White goods (e.g. dishwashers, refrigerators)	
$\hfill \square$ Small domestic appliances (e.g. microwave ovens, food processors)	
\square Office equipment (e.g. computers, printers)	
\square Small electronics (e.g. smartphones, cameras)	
Packaging materials	
\square Heating equipment (e.g. boilers, water heaters)	
\square Air-conditioning and ventilation systems	
☐ Lighting products	
\square Motors and pumps	
☐ Industrial equipment	
Clothing and textiles	
□ Furniture	
□ Cars	
\Box Construction products (e.g. windows, insulation materials)	
\Box General measures (concerning a broad range of products) should be tak	en
✓ Others	
If you	
think that other product categories not listed above should be taken into account, please specify:	
200 character(s) maximum (189 characters left)	
Dataservrar	;
Please	
Please give reasons for your choice: packaging materials	,
give reasons for your choice: packaging materials	
give reasons for your choice: packaging materials	
give reasons for your choice: packaging materials Förpakningsmaterial leder till stora mängder av avfall	,
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give reasons for your choice: packaging materials Förpakningsmaterial leder till stora mängder av avfall Please give reasons for your choice: clothing and textiles	;

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3.5. Which of the

actions listed below should be given priority at EU level to promote circular economy solutions in production processes?

	very important	important	not very important	not important	no opinion
Promote cooperation across value chains (e.g. through encouraging new managerial modes)	•	0	С	C	0
Address potential regulatory obstacles in EU legislation - please specify	С	0	0	С	•
Address potential regulatory gaps in EU legislation - please specify	0	0	0	О	•
Support the development of innovative business models (e.g. leasing)	•	0	0	c	0
Improve the interface between chemicals and waste legislation	О	•	0	О	0
Promote collaboration between and among private and public sectors, including end-users	О	•	0	С	0
Support the development of digital solutions	0	•	0	0	0
Identify and promote exchange of best practice	0	•	0	0	0
Identify minimum standards for increasing resource- efficient processes (e.g. Best Available Techniques)	•	О	0	С	0
Ensure availability of reliable data on material flows across value chains	С	•	0	С	О
Provide access to finance for high-risk projects	0	0	•	0	0
Other — please specify below	0	0	0	0	0

3.6. How effective do

you think each of the actions at EU level listed below would be in promoting sustainable production and sourcing of raw materials?

	very effective	effective	neutral	not effective	no opinion
Establishing a legally binding framework at EU level (e.g. sustainability criteria)	•	0	0	0	О
Developing and promoting voluntary compliance schemes	0	•	0	0	0
Addressing the issue through trade policy	0	•	0	0	0
Addressing the issue through the promotion of targeted global initiatives	О	•	0	0	О
Promoting the exchange of best practice among businesses	0	•	0	0	0
Other – please specify below	0	0	0	0	0

3.7. Do you have any	other	comments	about	the
production phase?				

Att hela EU antar gemensamma hållbarhetskriterier, t.ex. DNS-systemvillkor.

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Consumption Phase

The consumers' perspective is an essential part of the circular economy. On the one hand, consumers make choices about the products they purchase and use; on the other hand these choices are affected by a range of factors, including the behaviour of other people, the way consumers receive information or advice, the availability of repair and maintenance services, and the perceived costs and benefits of their choices.

This section seeks your views on the best way to promote the circular economy in the consumption phase.

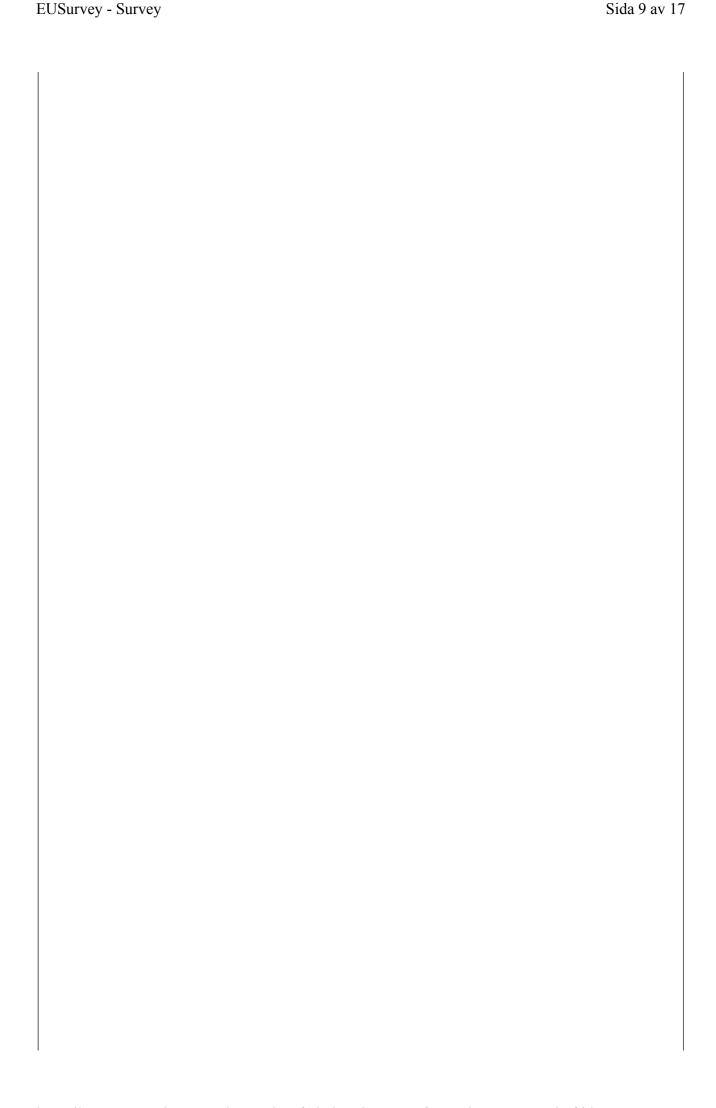
4.1. How would you assess the importance of the following measures to promote circular economy principles in the consumption $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1$ phase at EU level?

	very important	important	not very important	not important	no opinion
Provide more information relevant to the circular economy to consumers, for example on expected lifetime of products or availability of spare parts	•	О	0	С	0
Ensure the clarity, credibility and relevance of consumer information related to the circular economy (e.g. via labels, advertising, marketing etc.) and protect consumers from false and misleading information in this respect	•	С	С	О	0
Organise EU-wide awareness campaigns to promote the circular economy	•	О	O	О	0
Improve/clarify rules and practices affecting consumer protection (e.g. relating to legal and commercial guarantees)	0	•	0	О	0
Take action on product and material design (see section 3)	•	0	0	0	0
Encourage financial incentives to consumers at national level (e.g. by differentiated taxation levels depending on products' resource efficiency)	0	•	0	С	0
Take measures targeting public procurement (e.g. through criteria for Green Public Procurement)	•	0	0	0	0
Encourage new modes of consumption such as shared ownership (e.g. car sharing), collaborative consumption, leasing and the use of internet-based solutions	•	0	0	С	0
Promote the development of repair and maintenance services	•	0	0	0	0
Encourage waste prevention (e.g. minimising food waste)	•	0	0	0	0
Other — please specify below	0	0	0	0	0

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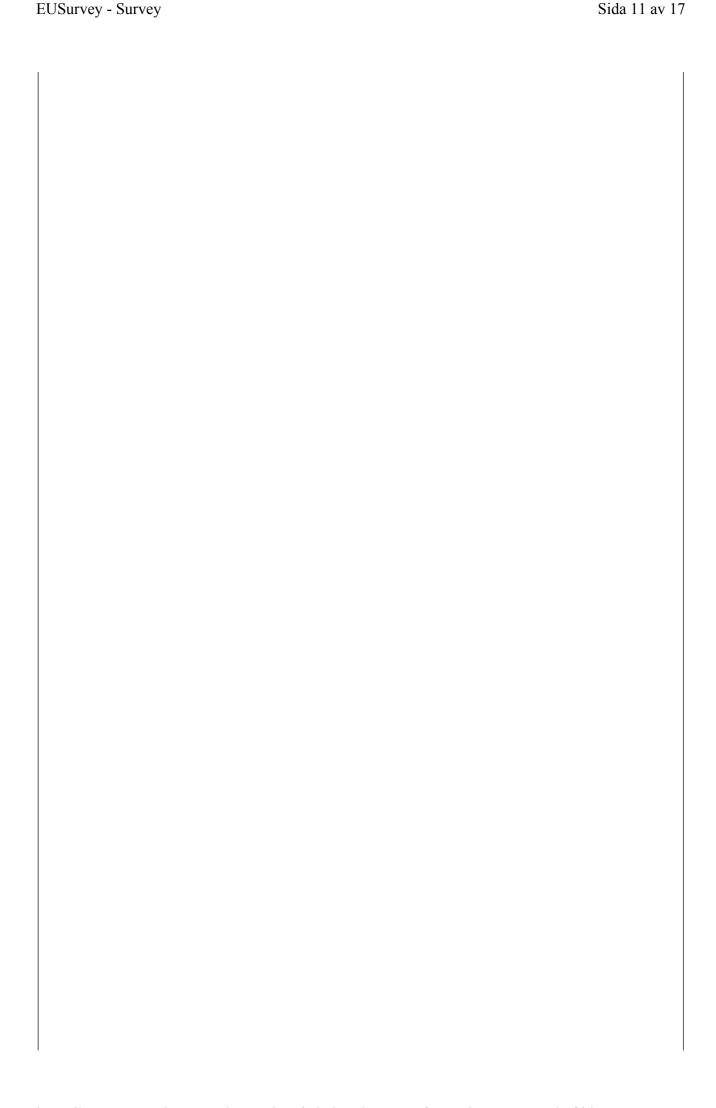
4.2. Which products should be a priority for EU	
action to promote more sustainable consumption patterns and	
why?	
at most 3 choice(s)	
\square White goods (e.g. dishwashers, refrigerators)	
✓ Electronics	
Food and beverages	
\square Packaging materials	
Clothing and textiles	
☐ Furniture	
□ Cars	
☐ Construction products	
\square General measures (concerning all consumer products) should be taken	
\square Other $-$ please specify below	
Please	
give reasons for your choice: electronics	
200 character(s) maximum (200 characters left)	
Please	
give reasons for your choice: food and beverages	
200 character(s) maximum (200 characters left)	
N	
Please give reasons for your choice: clothing and textile	
200 character(s) maximum (200 characters left)	
(-)	
4.3. Do you have any other comments about the	
consumption phase?	
500 character(s) maximum (500 characters left)	
5 Markets for secondary raw materials	

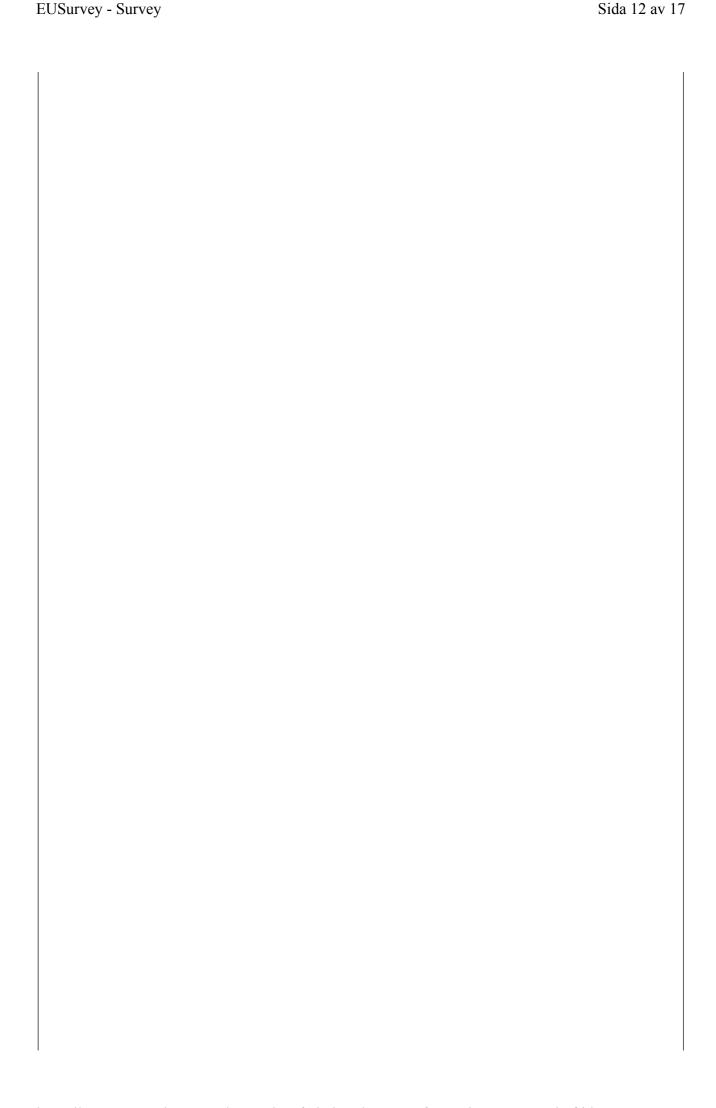
Secondary raw materials are waste materials which are to be sold and used for recycling in manufacturing. At present, they still account for a very small portion of the material used in the EU. The quality and supply of secondary raw materials depends greatly on waste management practices and the degree of separation of material streams at source. However, other barriers to the development of markets for secondary raw materials can be identified. Some of these barriers may be of a horizontal nature, while others may only be relevant to specific types of material.



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EU?	arkets for secondary raw mater			
In the list below, for each materi	al, indicate the obstacle(s) that you consi	ider significant by ticking the corre	sponding cell(s)	





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	Significant for all materials	Bio- nutrients	Construction aggregates	Critical raw materials	Glass	Metals	Paper	Plastic	Wood/Biomass
Lack of EU-wide quality standards for recycled materials		<u>~</u>	▼						
Poor quality of recycled materials (e.g. containing unwanted substances/high contamination)	П								
Lack of information or misinformation about the quality of recycled materials									
Poor availability of waste/material to be recycled									
Poor reliability of supply for recycled materials		П							
Low demand for recycled materials (e.g. on the EU market)						П		П	
Cost differential between primary and secondary raw materials									
Organisational cost of switching from primary to secondary raw materials in industrial processes					П				
Regulatory obstacles at national/regional/local level									
Regulatory obstacles at EU level									
Regulatory gaps at EU level									
Regulatory gaps at national/regional/local level									
Insufficient cooperation/exchange of information along the value chain (e.g. between producers, recyclers and authorities responsible for waste management)									

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Other- please specify	norus and organic matter (from e.g. sewage sludge and farm organic construction, including sand, gravel, crushed stone or slag. Is of great economic importance to the EU, with a high risk of in here: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw- see at EU level to remove the obstacles you have identified as er from e.g. sewage sludge and farm organic matter residues) for inseed in construction, including sand, gravel, crushed stone, slag)	s and organic i				•
Bio-nutrients- Recovered material such as nitrogen, or phosphorus and organic matter (from e.g. sewage sludge and farm or matter residues), for use as fertiliser. Construction aggregates- Coarse particulate material used in construction, including sand, gravel, crushed stone or slag. Critical raw materials- Critical raw materials are raw materials of great economic importance to the EU, with a high risk of disruption of supply. The European Commission has listed them here: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw-materials/critical/index_en.htm 5. 2. In your view, what are the most relevant actions to take at EU level to remove the obstacles you have identified a significant? Please be specific close of EU-wide quality standards or recycled materials 30 character(s) maximum (500 characters left) 8. Which secondary raw materials markets hould the EU target first to improve the way they orok? 2 t most 3 choice(s) 3 Bio-nutrients (e.g. nitrogen, phosphorus and organic matter from e.g. sewage sludge and farm organic matter residues) in fertiliser use Construction aggregates (i.e. coarse particulate material used in construction, including sand, gravel, crushed stone, slaged class [Paper] 4 plastics Wood/Biomass Other — please specify below Wood/Biomass Other — please specify below Passe We reasons for your choice: Bio-nutrients for fertiliser use Passe We reasons for your choice: Critical raw materials such as rare earth elements	norus and organic matter (from e.g. sewage sludge and farm organic construction, including sand, gravel, crushed stone or slag. Is of great economic importance to the EU, with a high risk of in here: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw- see at EU level to remove the obstacles you have identified as er from e.g. sewage sludge and farm organic matter residues) for issed in construction, including sand, gravel, crushed stone, slag)	s and organic I				Other- please specify
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Sectoral measures	
neasures	
Certain sectors may require a tailored approach in or strategic priorities in order to accelerate the transition	der to 'close the loop' of the circular economy, and some could be made on.
This section seeks your views on which sector(s) shoul actions should be taken.	ld be considered a priority for EU action, and which relevant measures or
6.1. In your view, which sectors should be a priority for specific EU action on the circular econo	omy and
why?	
at most 3 choice(s)	
Agriculture	rganic matter residues) for use in fartilizar-
Bio-nutrients (e.g. from sewage sludge or farm or	ganic matter residues) for use in fertilisers
Chemical industry and process manufacturing	
□ Construction/demolition and buildings☑ Electrical and electronic goods	
☐ Energy	
☐ Fisheries/ aquaculture	
Food and drinks, including reduction of food wast	
Forest-based and other bio-based products	e
Furniture	
☐ Information and communication technologies	
☐ Mining and quarrying	
□ Plastics	
☐ Retailing	
□ Services	
✓ Textiles	
☐ Transport	
☐ Water sector/sewage treatment	
☐ Other- please specify below	
6.2. For the sectors that you have selected, what n	neasure(s) would be needed at EU level?
Electrical and electronic goods	
500 character(s) maximum (500 characters left)	
Food	
and drinks, including reduction of food waste	
500 character(s) maximum (500 characters left)	
Textiles	

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7 Enabling factors for the circular economy, including innovation and investment

Enabling factors are essential to support the development of the circular economy could include supporting the development, dissemination and uptake of innovative solutions, investing in technology and infrastructure, supporting SMEs and developing the required skills and qualifications.

This section seeks your views on the role of these enabling factors in the development of the circular economy.

7.1. How important are the following enabling factors in promoting the circular economy at EU level?

	very important	important	not very important	not important	no opinion
Financing innovative projects or technologies relevant to the circular economy (from EU funds, e.g. Horizon 2020)	•	0	0	0	0
Public incentives (e.g. financial guarantees) for private investors to finance projects conducive to the circular economy	•	c	0	O	0
Support for the development of circular economy projects (e.g. technical assistance)	•	С	0	0	0
Support for innovative systemic approaches and cross-sectoral cooperation (e.g. industrial symbiosis and cascading use of resources)	C	•	O	0	0
Partnerships with public authorities to help innovative businesses overcome potential legal obstacles to innovation	0	•	0	0	0
Promotion of innovative business models for the circular economy (e.g. leasing and sharing)	•	С	0	0	0
Specific measures to encourage the uptake of the circular economy among SMEs	•	С	0	0	0
Exchange and promotion of best practice	0	•	0	0	0
Promoting the development of skills/qualifications relevant to the circular economy	С	•	0	0	0
Support for capacity-building in public administrations	0	•	0	0	0
Support for market penetration of innovative projects through labelling, certification and standards, public procurement for innovation, etc.	•	C	0	O	0
Better monitoring the implementation and impact of policies contributing towards the circular economy agenda	0	•	0	0	0
Increasing the knowledge base by collecting and providing information and data e.g. on material flows, technologies and consumption patterns	•	С	C	C	0
Other- please specify below	0	0	0	0	0

7.2. Do you have any other comments about
enabling factors to promote the circular economy?

500 character(s) maximum (500 characters left)

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