



Covenant2022
Circular Economy

A EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP RAW MATERIALS' COMMITMENT

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**Each Region should have a *'Transformation Strategy'*
to implement the Sustainable Development Goals
related to**

a low-carbon, climate resilient, resource efficient, circular and
inclusive economy,

addressing

*innovation, commitments, < co-building > between non-state
actors in partnership with state-actors, monitoring, virtuous
circle to scale up*

EU SDG's Strategy

- The circular economy (SDG 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15) offers a transformative agenda with significant new jobs and growth potential and stimulating sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- Focus on resource efficiency and minimising waste in a context of rapid global resource depletion gives the EU a competitive edge and stimulates innovation. It creates local jobs, at all skills levels and with opportunities for social integration.
- The transition to the circular economy offers a chance for Europe to modernise its economy, making it more future proof, green and competitive. The circular economy also contributes to lower carbon dioxide emission levels and energy savings as well as decreased air, soil and water pollution.

(European Commission)

Covenant 2022 aims



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to contribute to:

- the ‘re-industrialisation’ through a circular economy
- accelerate and combine the energy and circular economy transition
- SDG’s 2030 implementation

In this context:

- material and energy flows will be minimised
- all types of waste are used as a resource (e.g. urban mining),
- a new era of eco-design is flourishing,
- new forms of sharing and collaborative economy are in place,
- a positive economy and new economic and business models are becoming mainstream.

A collaborative scheme



The aim should be to link:

- the regional implementation of the **SDGs** related i.a. to resource efficiency and circular economy, climate, water, food & the development of a **regional green growth and green jobs** strategy
- the importance of **intelligence gathering and exchanges** between peers as a covenant would encourage
- the need to develop a **regional management scheme** of collaboration between non state actors and the EU and their financial arms
- the development of **trans-regional forms of cooperation**
- the use of the EU tools, platforms listed above and connected with EU funding as the Juncker Plan and several other instruments in support i.a. to **SME's** and research

Trans-Regional Cooperation inspired by Airbus and Ariane-Space



- Regions from Europe and the Mediterranean Basin should partner in a joint trans-regional collaborative initiative, ‘a *Covenant Regions 2022*’ to grasp all the opportunities related to the green economy revolution, the digital revolution and the intelligence revolution.
- The transition has moved gear and :
 - Has tipped towards developing countries,
 - Sector hotspots have emerged (manufacturing, energy, food, mobility, housing, cities etc.),
 - Innovations and jobs are increasing in relation with concepts as the circular economy, zero waste, zero emissions while accelerating the energy transition, protecting and having access to ‘strategic raw materials’ .

Linking all relevant parties & initiatives



Each regional integrated strategy should be developed with the participation of all interested parties including organisations and individuals involved in:

- the EIPs raw materials, climate, energy, agriculture, smart cities
- EU Smart specialisation funding programme
- Horizon 2020, Life+, Switch relevant projects
- relevant KICS in place or coming:
 - (i) first wave : energy, climate, digital
 - (ii) second wave : health, raw materials,
 - (iii) third wave : food, manufacturing
 - (iv) fourth wave : mobility

Lessons learnt and recommendations

- Many Actors
- Long term orientation
- Can do and best practices
- Cross sectorial requires multi stakeholders partnerships
- Several cooperation levels to be connected
- Crossing countries
- Cooperation between non state actors and state actors
- Knowledge creation is required
- Need to adapt global indicators to trace progress according to national / regional specificities
- Benchmark and ranking difficult with a broad agenda will require new approaches

Action Areas



The German « **Resource Efficiency Programme II Goal** » shows the way:

- **Decoupling Target:**
 - double productivity of raw materials,
 - reduce impact,
 - increase competitiveness,
 - consider the whole value chain
- **Innovation, investment, monitoring**
- **Green claims, Procurement**

Finance



- A *Covenant 2022* Seminar on Financing Regional Circular Economy strategies hosted by the *Assembly of European Regions* took place on 23 June 2015

and was followed by:

- Conference on Financing the Circular Economy hosted by the Luxemburg EU Presidency on December 15th, 2015.

Multi-sectorial strategy



Concerns:

- Low carbon freight
- Cement
- Chemicals
- Agriculture (fertilisers), Water, Energy
- Forests
- Energy Efficiency in Buildings
- Mobility
- Wastes (buildings, food, etc.)
- Energy and material streams and synergies
- Building and urban development; neighborhoods and buildings
- resource efficient ICT-products, software and services
- Biomaterials

New Methods and Approaches



- Long term vision and trajectory
- Backcasting
- Non-state actors and state actors partnership
- Large scale spatial planning process to address biodiversity
- Renewables, soils & circular economy addressed together
- Up front Planning process reduces legislation needs
- From burden sharing to prosperous innovation

The 4 C's of a multi-stakeholder integrated strategy :



- Clarify principles, objectives and tools
- Commit to implement the SDGs and the 'Paris Climate Agreement'
- Convene for a shared and integrated action plan
- Collaborate to scale up

Covenant 2022: **A Pool of 4Cs Engineers. Coaches, Facilitators :**

- EIP Raw Materials Action Plan implementation
- Shape Action Plan & Management Scheme
- Management audit and trace performances
- European Water Standard in connection with circular economy check list
- Clarify sustainability innovations
- Commitments aggregator
- Convene champions do thank meetings`
- Link with Financiers
- Shape how to scale up and dialogue between virtuous circle Agents, financiers and States

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**European
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