

# Promoting the Circular Economy Package: Towards a Sustainable Future in Europe



**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre,  
Brussels



# Promoting the Circular Economy Package: Towards a Sustainable Future in Europe

## Overview

Each year Europe currently loses around 600 million tonnes of materials contained in waste, which could potentially be recycled or re-used, with only 40% of European household's waste being recycled. However, rising food demands, limited availability of arable land, energy poverty, increase of fresh water together with the impact of climate change constrain us to modify our linear economy. Europe's economy needs to "close the loop", an action which could bring net savings of €600 billion - or 8% of annual turnover - for businesses in the EU and will boost job creation, with more than 170,000 direct jobs potentially being created in Europe by 2030.

Promoting The Circular Economy Concept can be a practical solution to the planet's emerging resource problems. The ambitious scheme of this concept contemplates to minimise the generation of waste and maintain the value of products, materials and resources in the economy for as long as possible. The transition to a more circular economy, however, is going to be demanding. Concerns by the industry that environmental policy making could inhibit competitiveness, financing as well as implementation intricacies do not facilitate the circumstances. In order to make the circular economy happen, it will require long-term involvement at all levels, from Member States, regions and cities, to businesses and citizens.

Having withdrawn a pending legislative proposal on waste in December 2014, the Commission presented a new circular economy package in December 2015. By using its new horizontal working methods, the package is to cover the full economic cycle, not only waste reduction targets. The transition will be supported financially by ESIF funding, €650 million from Horizon 2020, €5.5 billion from structural funds for waste management, and investments in the circular economy at national level.

This timely symposium is an invaluable opportunity for experts, policy makers, industries, NGOs and other key stakeholders to discuss the latest European regulatory policies on the Circular Economy Package aiming at promoting a more sustainable economy. The symposium will allow delegates to assess the current and future challenges faced and to share best practices and initiatives from across



***We will remove barriers that make it difficult for businesses to optimise their resource use and we will boost the internal market for secondary raw materials"***

**- Jyrki Katainen,  
Vice-President of the European Commission**

## Venue and Accommodation

**Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre**  
Avenue du Boulevard 17  
1210 Brussels  
Belgium



## Why Attend?

- ✓ **Evaluate the current EU Circular Economy Package**
- ✓ **Debate on future implementation and challenges**
- ✓ **Explore solutions to ensure and facilitate circular economy in Europe**
- ✓ **Provide recommendations for future initiatives**

## Who Should Attend?

- Small Business Federations
- Chambers of Commerce
- Social Funds
- Environmental Associations
- Local Authorities
- Organisational Development Professionals
- International and Regional Organisations
- National Ministries and Institutes
- Joint Committees on Environment
- Social Exclusion Officers
- Confederations of Independent Unions
- Local Area Trailblazers
- Regional Development and Natural Environment Specialists
- Local Authority
- GreenCity Teams
- Local Authority Waste and Recycling Professionals
- Local Authority Waterways Professionals
- Central Government Departments
- Sustainable Development Stakeholders
- Transport Leads
- Sustainable Tourism Professionals
- Directors and Heads of Parks and Public Spaces
- Environmental Services and Policy Professionals
- Environmental Services Sustainability Professionals
- Environmental Services Urban Design Professionals
- Environmental Planning and Design Officers
- Conservation Professionals
- Environmental Campaigns Professionals
- Environmental Enforcement Professionals
- Housing Authorities and Professionals
- Energy Leads
- Biodiversity Leads
- Renewable Energy Leads
- Energy Efficiency Professionals
- Green Education Professionals
- Schools and Education Stakeholders (including LEAs)
- Regeneration Professionals
- Pollution Professionals
- Private Sector Environmental Organisations
- Business Development Professionals
- Finance Leads
- Greening Retail Organisations
- Greening Industry Professionals
- Third Sector Organisations
- Academics and Researchers

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## Programme

09:15	Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:00	Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks
10:10	<b>Circular Economy: Assessing the Current EU Policy Framework</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introducing the EU Circular Economy Package</li><li>• Evaluating the Current Circular Economy Legal Framework and Legislative Proposals</li><li>• Exploring the Main Future Challenges and Ways Forward</li></ul>
10:40	<b>First Round of Discussions</b>
11:10	Morning Coffee Break
11:30	<b>Addressing the Fundamental Difficulty - Methods to Produce Less Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Measuring the Waste We Produce – The Necessity of Footprint Indicators For Materials, Water, Land and Greenhouse Gases</li><li>• Reduction of Municipal and Industrial Waste - Measures and Methods</li><li>• "Its all about the packing"- Promoting Efficient Production and Recycling</li><li>• Preventing Food Wastage across the Supply Chain</li></ul>
12:00	<b>Second Round of Discussions</b>
12:30	Networking Lunch
13:30	<b>Competitiveness within the Circular Economy: Methods of Redesigning the Way our Economy Works</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Boosting the Market for Secondary Raw Materials: Turning recycling into business opportunities</li><li>• Creating Innovation and New Workplaces through Circular Economy Measures</li><li>• Enablers and Favourable System Conditions for Circular Economy : Creating and Implementing Common Standards for Businesses across Europe</li><li>• Sharing Innovators' Best Practice and Challenges</li></ul>
14:00	<b>Third Round of Discussions</b>
14:30	Afternoon Coffee Break
14:50	<b>From Waste to Resource: Models of How Waste Can be Used in a Smart and Innovative Way</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Converting Waste into a Renewable Energy Resource</li><li>• Wastewater: Safe Use in Agriculture</li><li>• Vertical Farming: A long-term/ large-scale solution in cities?</li></ul>
15:20	<b>Fourth Round of Discussions</b>
15:50	Chair's Summary and Closing Comments
16:00	Networking Reception
16:30	Close

*\*Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice\**

## Event Details

**Date:** Thursday 29th September 2016  
**Time:** 10:00am – 4:30pm  
**Venue:** Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Brussels



## Speakers Include:

- ✓ **Hugo Schally**, Head of Unit, Directorate General Environment, Eco-innovation and circular economy, European Commission
- ✓ **Nadine de Greef**, Secretary General, European Federation of Waste Management and Environmental Services
- ✓ **Cillian Lohan**, Rapporteur Circular Economy, EESC
- ✓ **Virginia Janssens**, Managing Director, Europen
- ✓ **James Ehrlich**, Founder, ReGen Villages; designX resiliency team Stanford University Center for Design Research

## Forthcoming Events

- ✓ Strengthening the European Electric Vehicle Market: Promoting Solutions towards Sustainable and Efficient Mobility  
20th September 2016
- ✓ Copyright in Europe: Adapting EU Rules to the New Digital Age  
26th October 2016

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