

HOW TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY?

Less, Better, Longer.

The circular economy consists of preserving and regenerating resources by reducing waste through virtuous loops. The occurrence of the Earth Overshoot Day, which marks the point in the year when humanity exhausts the planet's annual ecological resources, has been degrading each year. A circular economy would allow for much better management of our resources and also extend its fruits to the environmental and social impacts of our consumption patterns.

REFUSING PRODUCTS

Governments have the ability to establish laws against single-use material or implement deposit systems. Companies can eliminate linear incentives and establish goals and incentives for circularity practices, particularly for high-impact items like clothing or electronic devices. Consumers have the power to say no, the choice to stop buying or using certain products, to avoid single-use items or unnecessary packaging, preferring bulk consumption.

Did you know?

In 2021, the European Union generated 188.7 kg packaging waste per inhabitant, 10.8 kg more per person than in 2020.

REDUCING CONSUMPTION

Reducing consumption involves not only purchasing necessary quantities but also producing durable, long-lasting products and combating planned obsolescence. Governments and industries play a crucial role in implementing policies and practices to limit the production of unnecessary items, and promoting eco-design. These changes necessitate a re-design of global supply chains. Implementing territorial and industrial ecology fosters a connected relationship between local industrial production and economic actors, optimizing material, energy, and water flows.

Another approach, the functional economy, prioritizes usage over ownership, shifting the model to focus on services. This approach could save up to 30% of the carbon footprint.

Did you know?

The average time of use for a drill over its entire lifespan is 10 minutes.

REPAIRING & REUSING GOODS

Repairing represents a significant shift from a disposable to a repair-oriented mindset. Instead of discarding devices when they malfunction, choosing to repair and extend their lifespan can reduce waste. Giving them a second life through repair, renovation, or transformation, purchasing second-hand, or opting to rent instead of buy.

Did you know?

3/4 of the environmental impacts of the smartphone are linked to its manufacturing.

RECYCLING & REVALORIZING

Recycling and revalorization should be the last resort of the 5 R's. Proper sorting and recycling of waste, especially through more efficient sorting centers and recyclers, ensure that materials are given a second life instead of ending up in landfills.

Revalorization enables the transformation of non-recyclable waste into raw materials or energy. This can be achieved by encouraging energy recovery technologies such as anaerobic digestion and waste-to-energy incineration, supporting composting initiatives to valorize organic waste, and promoting waste recovery for the production of new products or materials.

Did you know?

Recycling aluminum saves 95% of the energy required for its primary production.

EVERY YEAR,
WE CONSUME MORE THAN

2 planets

or 2 times the resources the planet can produce in 1 year to regenerate its consumption or absorb carbon dioxide.

>90%

OF EXTRACTED MATERIALS
ARE EITHER WASTED,
LOST OR REMAIN UNAVAILABLE
FOR REUSE FOR YEARS

as only 7.2% of the global economy is circular in 2023. The situation has worsened since 2018, where it was 9.1%.

x2 less

CO₂ COULD BE RELEASED
IN THE ATMOSPHERE
BY 2030 IN EUROPE,

if Europe transitions
to a circular economy.

Did you know?

Circular economy should represent a potential for an additional 300,000 jobs in France by 2030.

Main sources of information: ADEME, circularity-gap.world, Ellen MacArthur Foundation, Eurostat

This board has been created with the insights of **Deloitte.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
AND TRANSLATION

