

Circular Economy and Pollution

Thibaut Portevin
INTPA F2

Alexander Charalambous
SWITCH to Green Facility

Agenda



- Going circular and zero-pollution: building the case
- EU's ambition to lead a global transition to the CE and the fight against pollution
.....→ **Q & A**
- National level processes: towards a circular economy and a healthier planet for all
- Circular economy intervention areas: examples in priority value chains, and in cities
.....→ **Q & A**
- Closing points

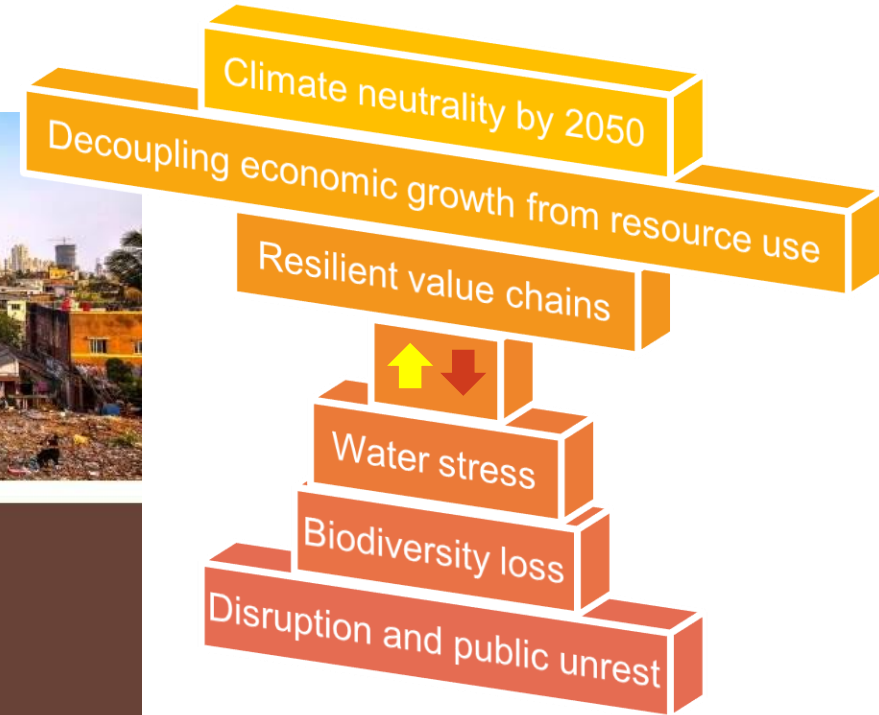
Going circular and zero pollution:

building the case

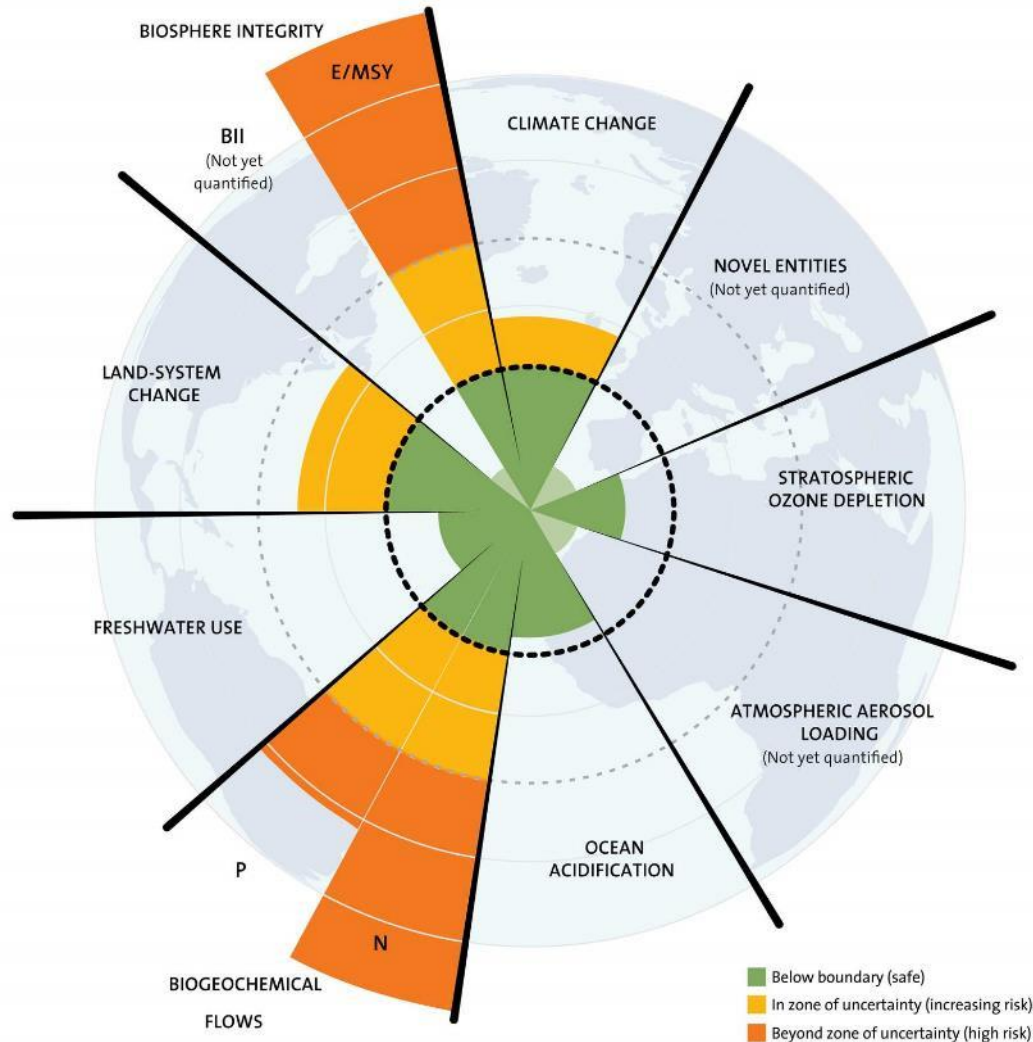
Why circular and zero pollution?



Global trends and challenges

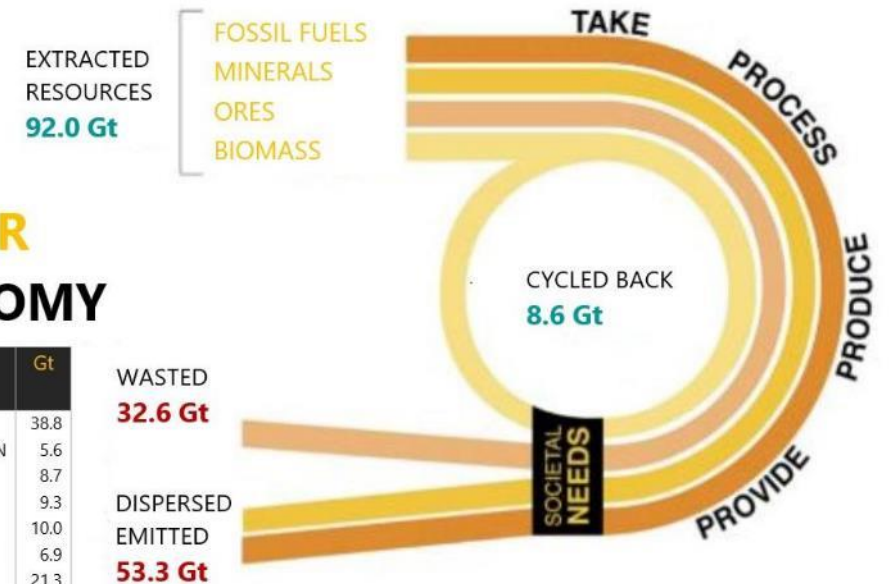


Why the urgency?



OUR LINEAR ECONOMY

SOCIETAL NEEDS	Gt
HOUSING	38.8
COMMUNICATION	5.6
MOBILITY	8.7
HEALTHCARE	9.3
SERVICES	10.0
CONSUMABLES	6.9
NUTRITION	21.3



Source: <https://www.circularity-gap.world/>

Circular economy transition opportunities

Fostering greener and more resilient value chains



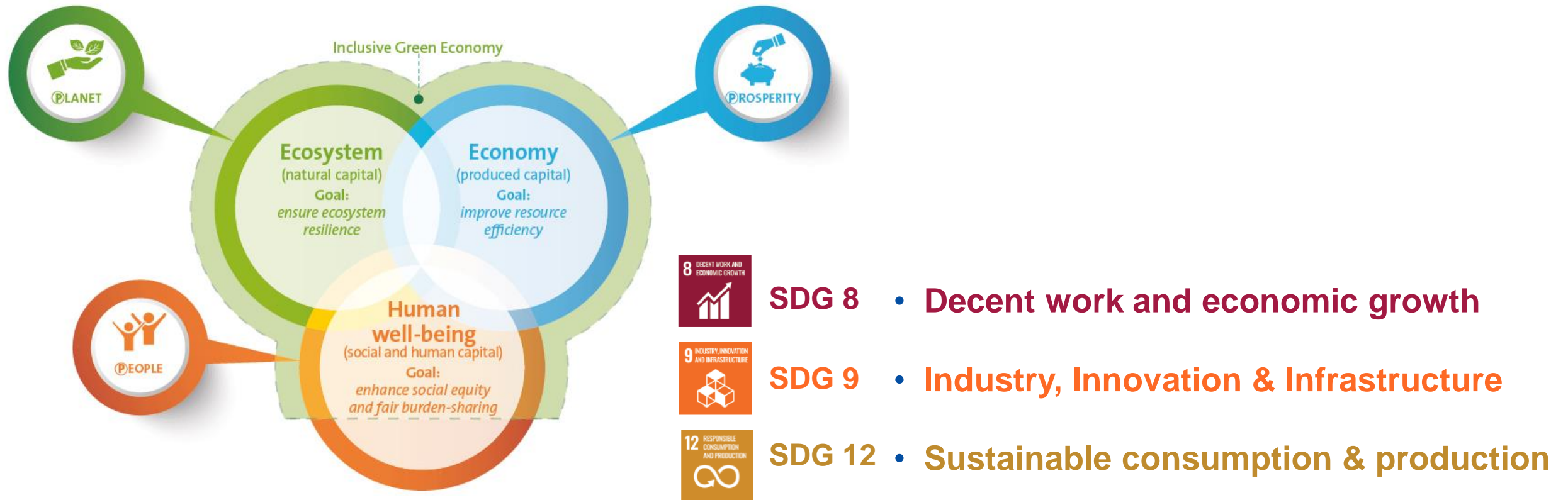
Job creation: in waste management, digitalisation, materials innovation

Protecting nature: addressing resource scarcity, biodiversity loss, climate change



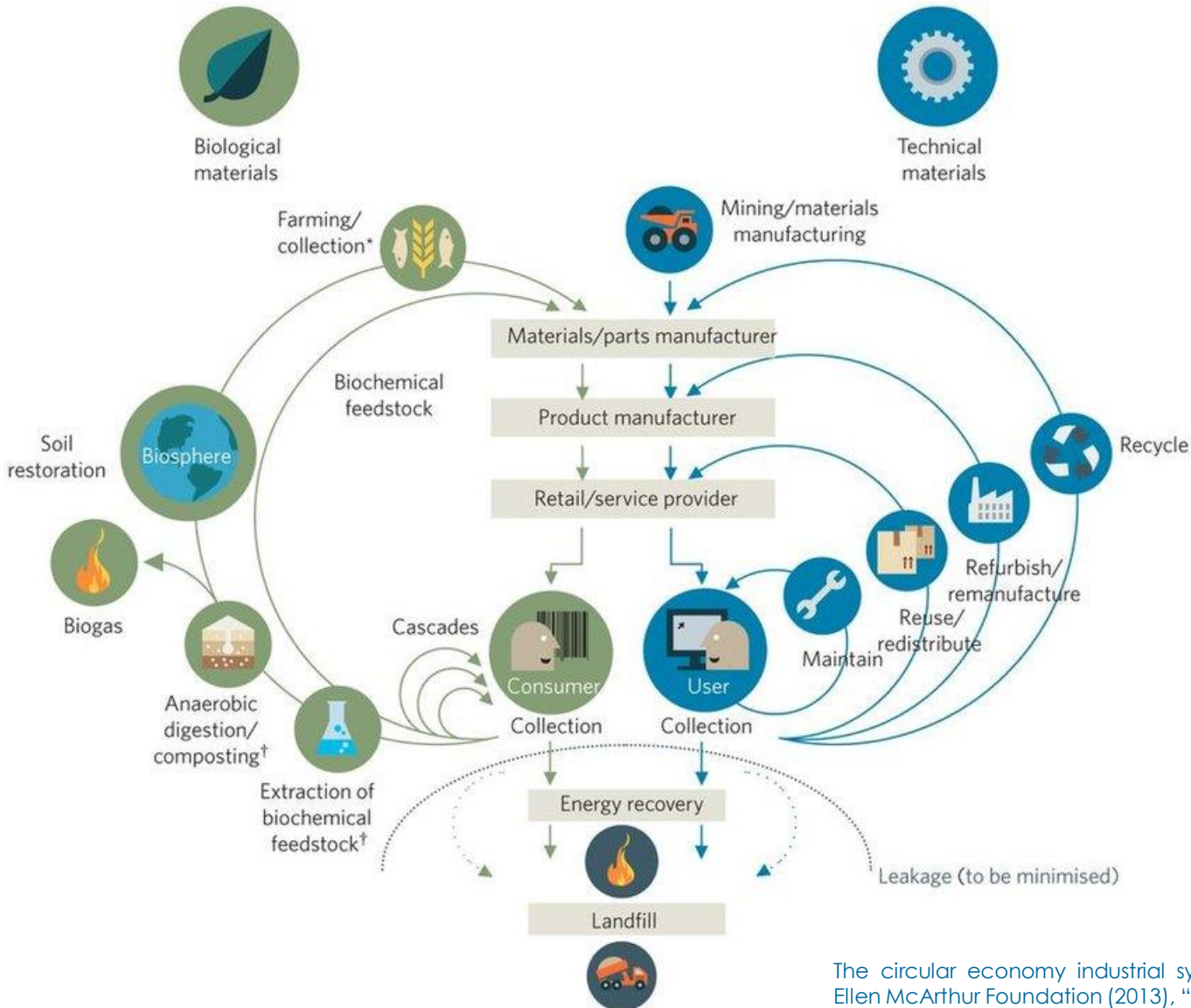
Eliminating Pollution / Waste to avoid costs and create new revenue streams

A pathway to sustainable development



Graph adapted from European Environment Agency, 'Resource efficient green economy and EU policies', Report No. 2/2014.

Understanding the circular economy:



Two **material** cycles:

- biological cycle:** residues are returned to nature after use;
- technical cycle:** products, components or materials are designed and marketed to minimise wastage

How to achieve circularity: The principles



Less Waste:
Design out waste
and pollution



*Products and
materials in use:*
Design long-
lasting, easy-to-
reuse products,
change attitudes



*Giving back to
Nature:*
Regenerate
natural systems



CE and zero-pollution in practice

Recycling Buildings

- **Technology:** Construction materials from demolition waste
- **Policy:** Construction & Demolition Waste Management Regulation
- **Economy:** profitable C&DW products
- **Society:** Sustainable Housing

CE in practice

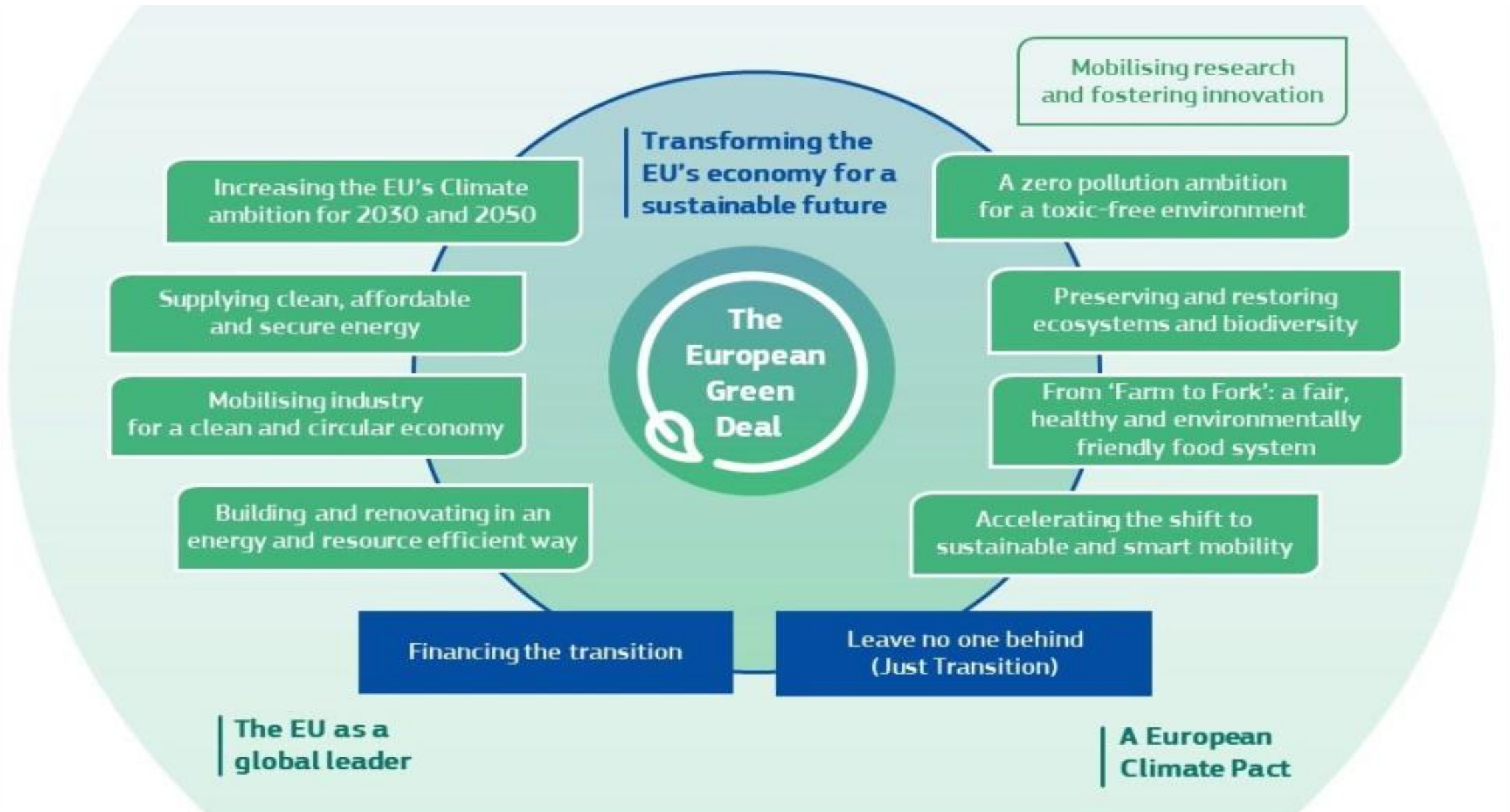
Hello Tractor

- Farmers share the use of tractors
- App or Booking agents enable farmers access tractor services
- Improves **productivity**
- Reduces **investment costs**
- Offers **security** (asset tracking & virtual monitoring)

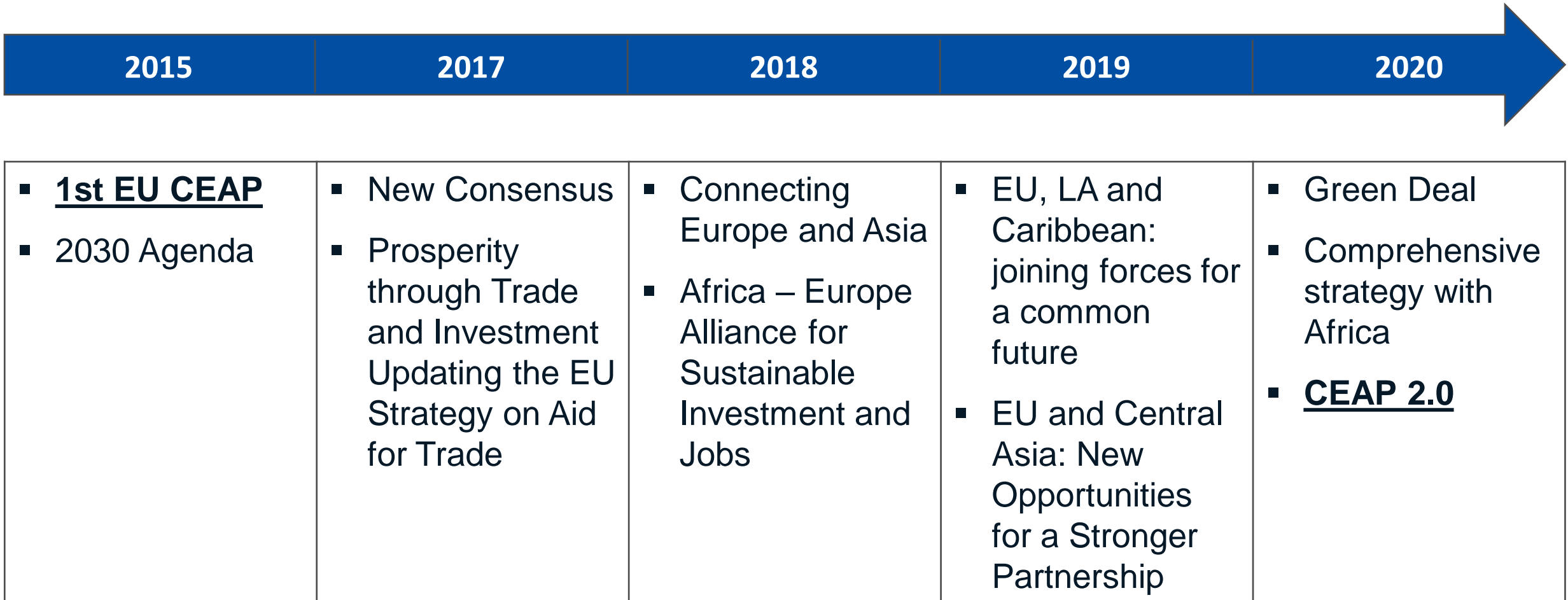
The EU ambition:

leading a global transition to the circular economy and the global fight against pollution

A cross-cutting priority of the Green Deal



A comprehensive framework



Circular Economy Action Plan

The European
Green Deal

#EUGreenDeal

A strong global dimension

- High ambition to drive the global transition through measures at global level
- Possible impacts on third countries through new sustainability requirements for products and services
- Contributions to Policy Coherence for Development

CEAP 2.0: Main actions

Sustainable Product Policy Framework

- Design sustainable products
- Empower consumers
- Circularity in production processes

Key Product Value Chains

- Electronics / ICT
- Batteries and Vehicles
- Packaging
- Plastics
- Textiles
- Construction and Buildings
- Food, water

Less Waste, More Value

- Waste reduction and circularity
- Reduce the use of hazardous substances
- Market for secondary raw materials
- Addressing waste exports

Circular Economy for People, Regions, Cities

- Support skills development
- Supporting CE through cohesion policy funds, the Just Transition Mechanism and urban initiatives

CEAP 2.0: Measures at Global level



- Lead by example
- Use diplomacy, trade, development cooperation and other external policies
- Set standards for sustainable growth across global value chains



A Zero Pollution Action Plan: pathway for a healthy planet for all

Targets by 2030



- ➔ **Air:** reduce by more than **55 %** premature deaths caused by air pollution
- ➔ **Water:** reduce waste, plastic litter at sea by **50 %** and microplastics released into the environment by **30 %**
- ➔ **Soil:** reduce nutrient losses and chemical pesticides' use by **50 %**
- ➔ **Biodiversity:** reduce by **25 %** the EU ecosystems where air pollution threatens biodiversity
- ➔ **Noise:** reduce by **30 %** the share of people chronically disturbed by transport noise
- ➔ **Waste:** reduce significantly total waste generation and by **50 %** residual municipal waste

Key actions in the zero-pollution action plan



Improve human health and well-being



Living within our planetary boundaries



Boost change across society



Zero pollution from production and consumption



Implement and enforce pollution laws more strictly



Minimise the EU's external pollution footprint and promote change globally



Track progress and mainstream zero pollution

Zero Pollution Action Plan: Measures at Global level

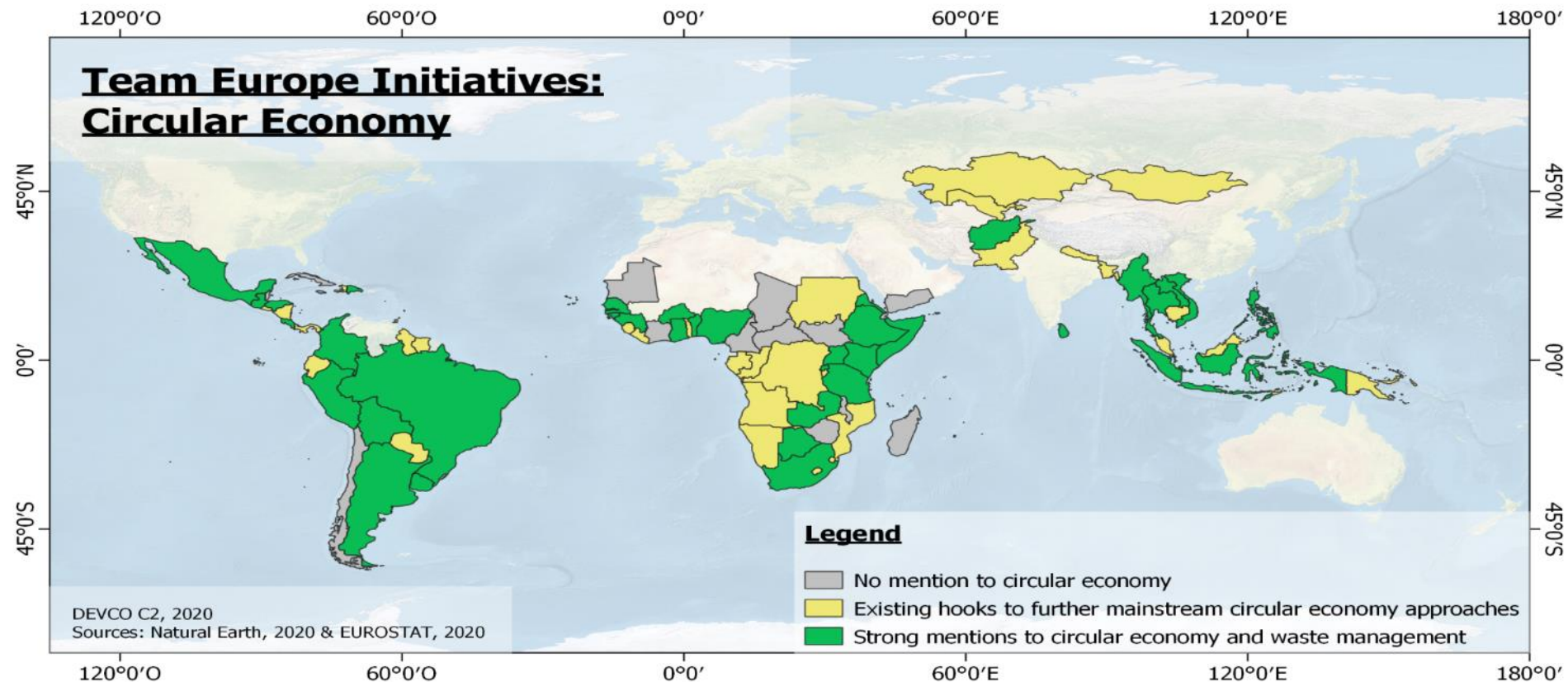
EU external action
combining Green
Deal diplomacy,
development policy,
trade and investments



Integrate CE and zero-pollution in our programmes

- Current contributions mainly through green business development (e.g. SWITCH to Green) and cities (e.g. EIP sustainable cities guarantees)
- Encouraging attention to CE in the programming and TEI development

Integrate CE
& zero-
pollution in
EU
dialogues/
programmes



Integrate CE and zero-pollution in our programmes

A Geopolitical Commission: a Stronger Europe in the World

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Objective: SDGs, Poverty Eradication, Addressing Inequalities by Building Inclusive and Sustainable Societies

Integrate CE & zero-pollution in EU dialogues / programmes

Green Deal Alliances

- Circular economy
- **Biodiversity and Forests**
- Green and smart cities
- **Sustainable energy**
- Food systems: from farms to forks
- **Sustainable agriculture and nutrition**
- Water and Oceans
- Pollution

Alliances for Science, Technology and Innovation, and Digital

- **Responsible Digitalisation:** regulatory frameworks and connectivity, including key enabling infrastructure such as power, broadband
- **Digital skills and entrepreneurship**
- E-services, including e-governance
- Data protection

Alliances for Sustainable Growth and Jobs

- **Sustainable finance**
- Investment and de-risking, including key enabling infrastructure
- Creation of decent jobs
- Education and skills
- Business environment and investment climate
- Regional economic integration, trade and connectivity

Migration Partnerships

- Root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement, including development benefits of migration
- Migration management, including border management, return, readmission and sustainable reintegration, and legal pathways
- Durable solutions for refugees

Governance, Peace and Security, Human Development

- Human rights, democracy, fundamental values
- Rule of law and accountability
- Conflict prevention, sustaining peace and building resilience
- Fight against terrorism and organised crime
- Human development

Questions & Answers I

National level processes towards circular economy

How to get partner countries engaged in CE processes



Partner countries go circular: the stories behind...

- Over 65 countries globally are currently pursuing green growth or green economy strategies
- A Circular Economy transition is being actively supported in an increasing number of partner countries

Available at:

www.switchtogreen.eu (and soon on Cap4Development)

Ecuador goes Circular

The strategy behind

Ecuador is a country of great natural riches and a growing economy, facing the challenges that come with the intensification of industrial activity and changing consumption patterns. For instance, only 6% of the produced waste is recycled nationwide (National Institute of Statistics and Census, 2018). Despite a number of initiatives aiming at improving resource extraction and use, sustainable consumption, reuse of waste materials to manufacture new products, and energy efficiency over the last decade, the concept of circular economy (CE), as such, has until recently been very rarely known in the country.

Important foundations for a circular policy framework were laid down between 2014 and 2018, as circular economy related concepts were integrated in key national legislation. Ecuador's turn towards a circular economy future is manifested in strategic policy initiatives like the National Strategy and Action Plan for the Circular Economy Transition (due mid 2021), the Law for the Circular Economy (under approval by the National Assembly), and the endorsed National Development Plan 2017-2021 ("Toda una Vida") which embraces principles of the circular and the bio economy, encouraging recycling and extending product lifetime. Ongoing policy processes include the Law for Extended Producer Responsibility, a specific normative for electronic waste (expected to be adopted in 2021), and updates to the legislation on non-recyclable plastics.

The Roadmap – how Ecuador is turning circular

🌱 **Integrating circular economy approaches into different policy processes:** With the establishment of the National Solid Waste Management Working Group (2014), circular economy considerations were duly integrated into Ecuador's debates on the Agenda 2030 and on the Action Plan of the National Biodiversity Strategy (2015-2030). In 2015, Ecuador adopted a National Strategy for the Change of the Productive Matrix that aims at a more responsible management of resources, and the adoption of regulations and incentives for higher environmental standards, eco-efficiency and environmentally friendly practices. These processes led to the development of more comprehensive policy approaches directly focusing on the CE, such as the Law on CE and the National CE Action plan.

🌱 **Endorsing multi-stakeholder commitment:** Next to leadership of the Vice President's Office shifting to a CE in Ecuador benefited from multi-sector participation, engaging both local and national actors from the policy arena, the private sector, the academia and the civil society. Commitment to the Circular Economy was endorsed with the [National Pact for a Circular Economy](#) (2019), signed by over 330 supporting parties who drive the country's transition to a circular economy, along nine strategic axes, including (among others) industrialisation and use of waste, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, eco design, sustainable business, progressive substitution of plastics and development of CE indicators.

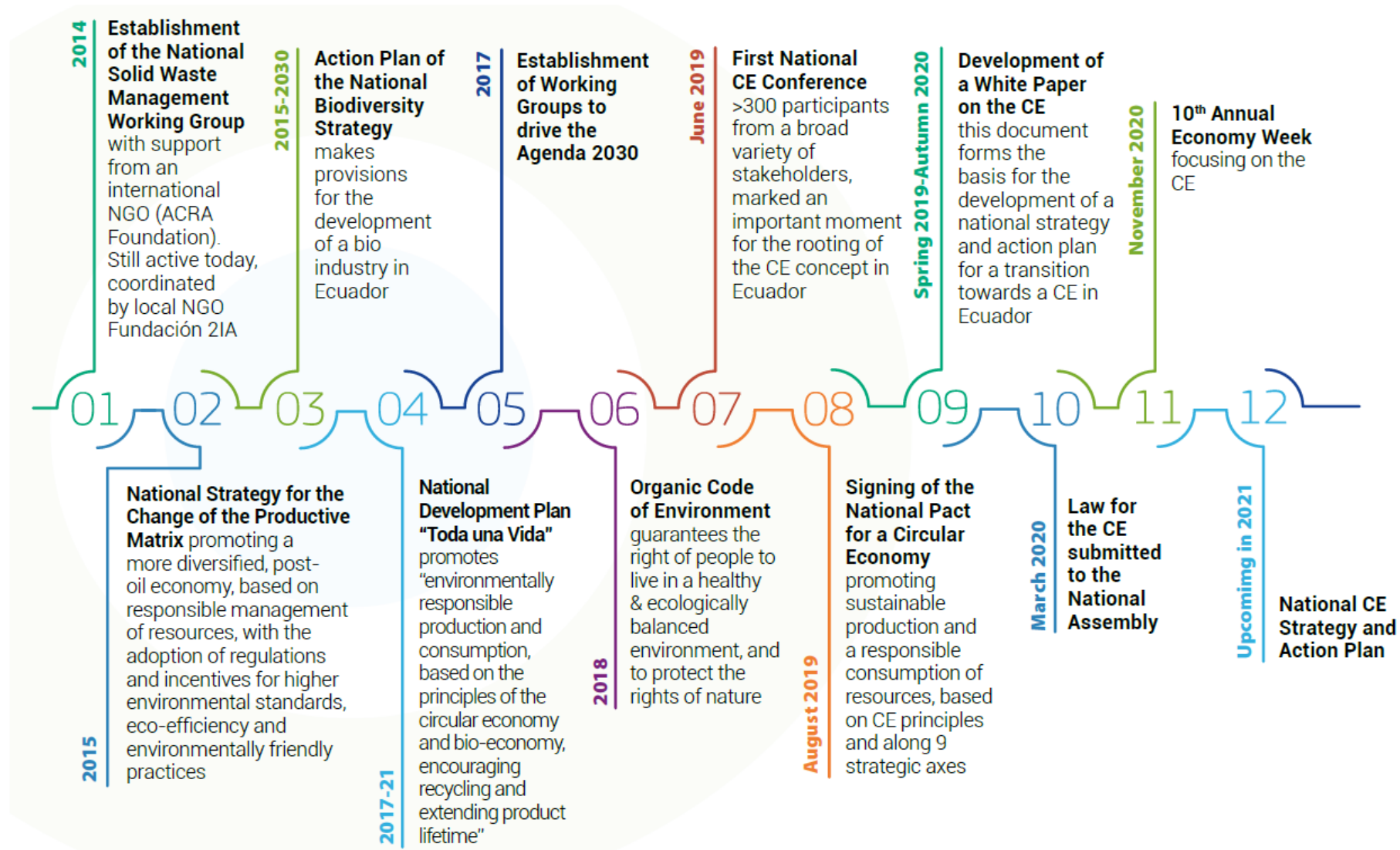
switch2green

Ecuador's recipe

- Integrating Circular Economy approaches into different policy processes
- Endorsing multi-stakeholder commitment
- Enabling policy and leadership
- Disseminating information and sharing knowledge

The case of Ecuador

Circular economy in Ecuador: Key milestones



Ecuador goes circular: Key lessons-learnt

EU commitment to co-lead the Process

- impetus to reach milestones

A champion / key player / influencer

- drives the CE transition forward

Shared understanding of CE

- informed dialogue
- coherent strategy formulation

A deep country and actor analysis

- multiple entry points to the CE

Topics that drive the debate within each sector

- actors engage in CE related actions



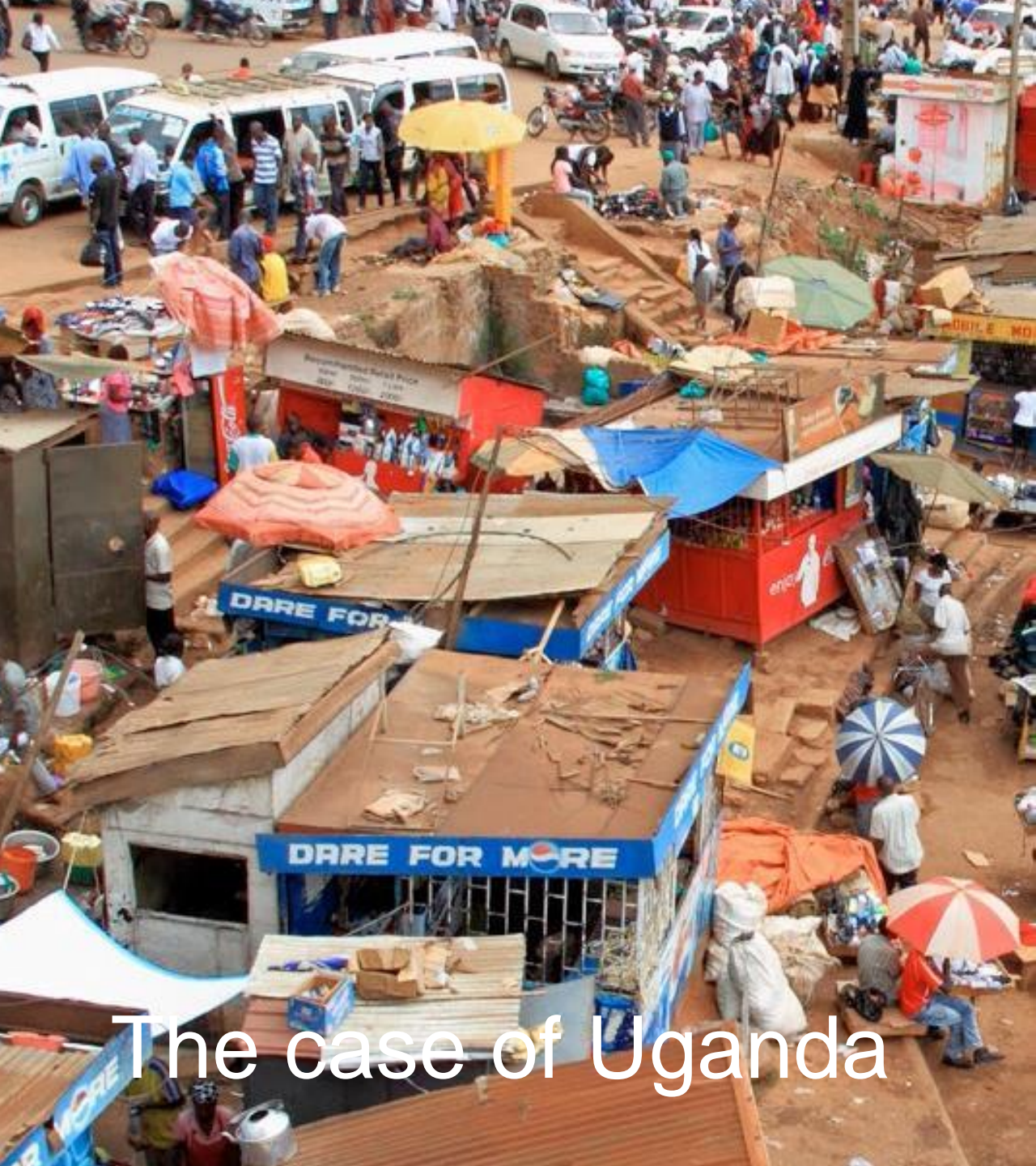
CE in Ecuador



Recommendations on EU support

“Even with little or no dedicated resources, with the right mix of conviction in the importance of a transition to CE, dedication to the process, expertise, open dialogue spaces with key counterparts, a solid communication strategy and a pinch of creativity you can give important impulses to the process and achieve a large impact”

Andrea Ferrari Bravo, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Ecuador

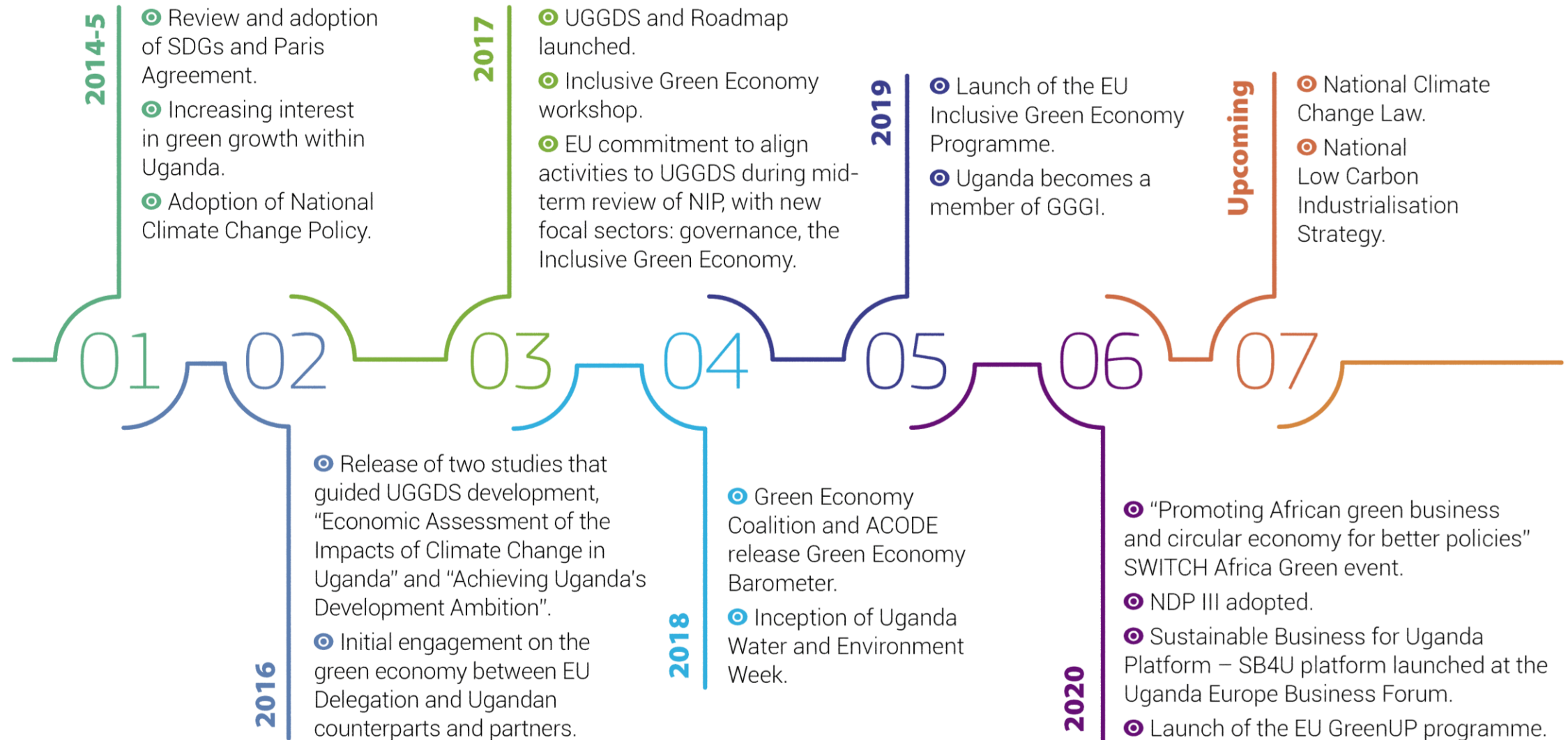


Uganda's recipe

- Translating international targets into national development plans
- Evidence-based decisions / Informing policy decision-making
- Formulating Strategy and Roadmap
- Mainstreaming the GG & CE Agenda
- Harnessing opportunities for cooperation

The case of Uganda

Circular economy in Uganda: Key milestones



Uganda goes circular: Key lessons-learnt

Experience of partners active in IGE/CE

- Navigate the complexity of the green/circular economy environment

A2F / Leverage private sector financing

- Promote synergies across programme components and value chains

Early start / broad understanding of the process

- More detailed agenda as a clear definition is more broadly accepted

Shifting to green & circular takes time

- Implementation arrangements and conditions for engagement of actors

Circular economy in Uganda “



Recommendations on EU support

“The green economy focus is topical. There is money to be mobilised. It is the future”

*Jean-Baptiste Fauvel, Programme Manager,
EU Delegation to Uganda*

Circular economy intervention areas

Examples in priority value chains, and in cities

Circular economy intervention areas

Inspiring and learning



Enabling



Financing



Implementing



Building the case for the circular economy



Improve awareness and understanding of the **CE potential** by **businesses** and **policy makers**

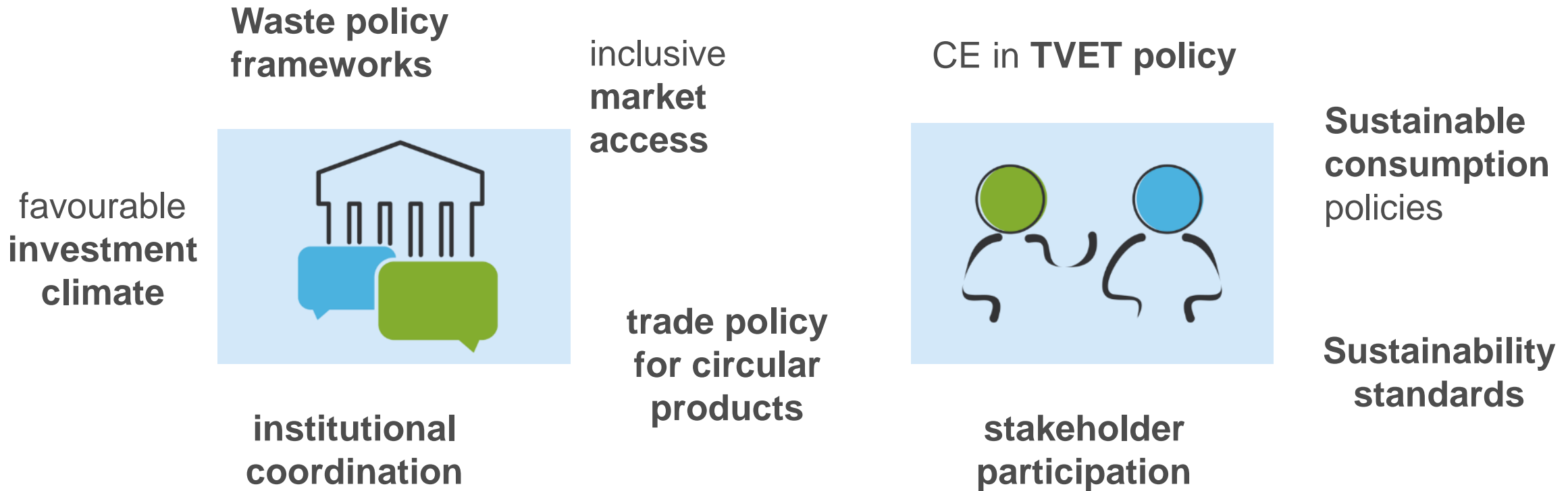


Enhanced **dialogue** and **learning mechanisms** on CE



Improved awareness of **consumers** on the environmental and social impact of the products they buy

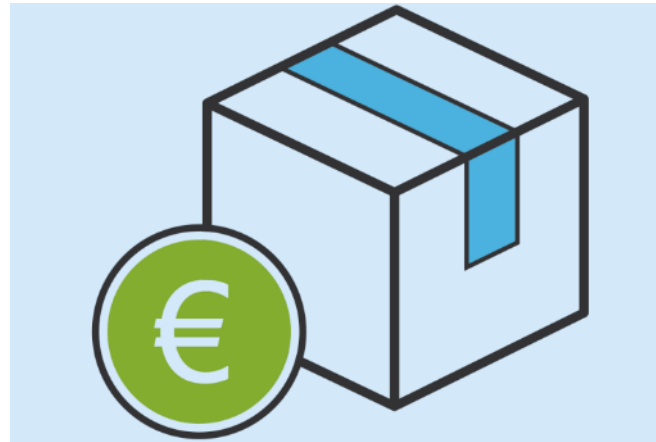
Circular Economy policy frameworks



Financing circular economy investments



**financial
assessment of CE
projects**



**availability of CE-
related financial
products and
services for MSMEs /
regions and cities**



**quality of bankable
CE projects**

Circular economy in key value chains and in regions & cities

IMPLEMENTING

Uptake of **CE business models** by the private sector in key value chains



Improved **competitiveness** and **sustainability** of companies adopting **CE business models**



Uptake of **CE practices** in regions & cities



Increased **market demand** for **recycled/re-used goods**



Circular economy outcome and impact

a just transition to a climate neutral and circular economy

Awareness and understanding of the CE potential



Enabling policy frameworks



CE investment financing



Uptake of CE business models and practices



in key value chains, regions & cities

Results and Indicators for Development



CE Results chain and indicators guidance

- Inspiring and Learning
- Enabling
- Financing
- Implementing



Promoting a global transition to a green and circular economy

the **switch2green** Facility



Technical Assistance



Short-term technical assistance, including through country missions



Quality support, technical backstopping and quality reviews



Capacity building and know-how development and sharing



Awareness raising and information sharing



Support to policy dialogue and programme coordination



Development of tools and methodological support

switch2green

www.switchtogreen.eu



Questions & Answers II



www.switchtogreen.eu

Guidance documents also available in:

capacity4dev.eu (public group on Environment, Climate Change and Green Economy)

Further
information

switch2
green



Thank you



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