

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

OUR ACTIONS FOR A RESOURCE-EFFICIENT FUTURE: FOLLOWING UP G7 PROGRESS ON TOYAMA FRAMEWORK ON MATERIAL CYCLES AND 5-YEAR BOLOGNA ROADMAP

URGENT NEED FOR POLICY ACTION ON RE/CE/3R/SMM

Resource use is essential for a decent quality of life and to ensure that basic human needs are met. On the other hand, continuous growth in resource extraction and current unsustainable consumption and production patterns have generated negative environmental pressure on our planet. Considering the capacity of our planet and planetary boundaries, we need to take urgent action to avoid further unsustainable extraction, and develop strategies to decouple economic development and human well-being from resource use and its associated environmental impact. The international community has discussed how our society can achieve sustainable natural resource management and has begun to take action through resource efficiency (RE), circular economy (CE), 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) and sustainable material management (SMM).

G7 CONCERTED ACTION ON RE/CE/3R/SMM

The G7 is one of the leading forums to discuss and share best practices of RE/CE/3R/SMM for materialising concrete and concerted action, not only at the G7 level but also on a global scale.

The G7 Alliance on Resource Efficiency was established at the G7 Summit Schloss Elmau in 2015 as a forum to share knowledge and create information networks. In addition, the G7 has been successful in consolidating its concerted actions through the adoption of several documents and initiatives such as the Toyama Framework on Material Cycles at the G7 Toyama Environment Ministers' Meeting in 2016 under Japan's presidency, the 5-year Bologna Roadmap at the G7 Bologna Environment Ministers' Meeting in 2017 under Italy's presidency and the G7 Plastic Innovation Challenges at the G7 Halifax Environment, Oceans and Energy Ministers Meeting in 2018 under the Canadian presidency. The G7 Alliance on Resource Efficiency recognises the significance of sharing best practices both within the G7 and with non-G7 countries through organising workshops and various actions. In addition, the Alliance shared the view on the importance of follow-up activities to look at the status of the G7's actions and good examples in policymaking, implementation and monitoring, and to keep the momentum for our sustainable future.



G7 ALLIANCE ON RESOURCE EFFICIENCY WORKSHOPS

The G7 Alliance on Resource Efficiency, established at the G7 Elmau Summit in 2015, is a forum to exchange and promote best practices and foster innovation together with businesses and other stakeholders, including from the public sector, research institutions, academia, consumers and civil society, on a voluntary, nonbinding basis. As of May 2019, 15 alliance workshops were held as follows:



Sep-Oct 2015	Berlin, Germany	Role of Multilateral Cooperation
Oct 2015	Birmingham, UK	Industrial Symbiosis
Nov 2015	Berlin, Germany	Innovative Bio-based Products
Feb 2016	Yokohama, Japan	International Cooperation
Mar 2016	Washington, DC, USA	Supply Chain Management
Dec 2016	Tokyo, Japan	Resource Efficiency and a Low-Carbon Society
		International Resource Recycling
Feb 2017	Brussels, Belgium (EU)	Promoting Remanufacturing, Refurbishment, Repair, and Direct Reuse (RRRDR)
Mar 2017	Rome, Italy	Environmentally Harmful Subsidies and Environmental Fiscal Reform
Apr 2017	Rome, Italy	Marine Litter
Jun 2017	Berlin, Germany	Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns in the context of SDGs
Mar 2018	Brussels, Belgium (EU)	Plastics in the context of SDGs implementation
Jun 2018	Montreal, Canada	Promoting Value Retention Process (VRP) and RRRDR
Jun 2018	Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA	International Approaches to Reducing Food Loss and Waste
Mar 2019	Paris, France	Tools making value chains more circular and resource efficient - Voluntary agreements, standardisation & non-financial reporting

This is a follow-up to the Toyama Framework on Material Cycles and the 5-year Bologna Roadmap produced by the G7 Alliance on Resource Efficiency under the initiative of Ministry of the Environment, Japan. The results are compiled by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES).

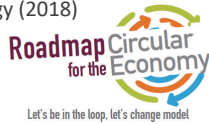


Members of the G7 Alliance have implemented various significant efforts and best practices on the policy areas set out in the Toyama Framework on Material Cycles and the 5-year Bologna Roadmap. The results listed here are non-exhaustive but present recent actions to achieve a resource-efficient future.

Below are some notable examples found in the follow-up report.

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL POLICIES & STRATEGIES

- Canada: Canada-wide Zero Plastic Waste Strategy (2018)
- France: A Roadmap on for the Circular Economy (2018)/ Energy Transition for Green Growth Act (2018)
- Germany: German RE Program II – Programme for the sustainable use and conservation of natural resources (ProgRes) (2016) / 1996 Closed Cycle Management Act (2012)
- Italy: “Collegato Ambientale (2015)” (Environmental Bill annexed to the financial law) / Towards a Model of Circular Economy for Italy - Overview and Strategic Framework (2017)
- Japan: Fundamental Plan for Establishing a Sound Material Cycle Society (2003,2008,2013,2018)
- UK: National Waste and Resource Strategy for England (2018) / Industrial Strategy on Resource Productivity (2017) and 25 Year Environment Plan (2018)
- US: Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Program Strategic Plan for 2017-2022 (2009,2015)
- EU: Circular Economy Package /Circular Economy Action Plan (2018)



All members have monitoring indicators and some members have set targets for the strategies and policies including for resource productivity, material flow and recycling rates.

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)

- Canada: Canada-wide Action Plan for Extended Producer Responsibility (CAP-EPR) (2009)
- France: New 2018 Roadmap to extend the scope of some EPR schemes, and deploy new EPR schemes in toys, sports, leisure equipment, DIY and gardening equipment sectors
- Germany: In line with EU law, successfully implemented ERP for several waste streams e.g. packaging, electrical and electronic equipment, batteries and accumulators and end-of-life vehicles.
- Italy: New 2017 Strategy to revise the EPR rules to foresee new models of EPR (ECR: Extended Consumer Responsibility) or even community responsibility
- Japan: Progressive implementation of EPR through recycling laws on packaging, home appliances, end-of-life vehicles and small home appliances as well as Act on the Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources
- UK: New 2018 Strategy to extend the EPR system beyond plastics to other products
- US: EPA's voluntary Sustainable Materials Management Electronics Challenge
- EU: EU waste legislation (2018) on mandatory EPR for packaging, in addition to the existing EPR obligations for vehicles, electrical and electronic equipment and batteries

PLASTICS

- Canada: Canada-wide Zero Plastic Waste Strategy (2018) (action plan to be finalised by June 2019)
- France: Ban on oxo-fragmentable packaging or bags / single-use plastic bags / rinsed cosmetics containing solid plastic particles / disposable plastic cups, glasses, and plates (from 2020) / cotton swabs made of plastic for domestic use (from 2020) (since 2015)
- Germany: Packaging Ordinance / EPR and refund schemes
- Italy: Ban on microplastics in cosmetics (in 2020) / non-biodegradable cotton buds (in 2019) / lightweight plastic carrier bags (2018)
- Japan: Plastic resource circulation strategy to be formulated by June 2019) / Marine Litter Act (2009) Plastics Smart campaign (2018)
- UK: National Waste and Resource Strategy for England (2018) includes a ban on plastic microbeads, tax on plastic packaging with under 30% recycled content, plans as to EPR schemes for product groups other than packaging.
- US: SMM Program Strategic Plan for 2017-2022's program on sustainable packaging (2015) / EPA agreement with American Chemistry Council and Sustainable Packaging Coalition (2016)
- EU: European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy (2018) / A legislative proposal on the reduction of the impact of certain single-use plastic products and fishing gear



COLLABORATION WITH IRP AND OECD - INVITING ASSESSMENT AND GUIDANCE

The G7 has invited the International Resource Panel (IRP) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to provide their assessment and guidance to facilitate policy actions.



- IRP: Resource Efficiency: Potential and Economic Implications (2016) (SPM), 2017)
- OECD: Policy Guidance on Resource Efficiency (2016)
- IRP: Resource Efficiency and Climate Change (to be published soon)

In addition, the follow-up report finds that G7 members have made significant efforts in: Inter-ministerial or cross-cutting activities; Food waste; Green Public Procurement (GPP); Consumers / Citizen involvement and public awareness; Product lifetime extension policies such as Remanufacture, Refurbishment, Repair and Direct Reuse (RRRDR); Research and economic analyses; Financing in private sector; Industrial symbiosis; Best practices by private companies; Support for local actions; Best practices by local governments/cities, Public-private partnerships; International / regional cooperation; Monitoring Processes and Targets.