

The new Circular Economy Action Plan

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Urgent actions are needed



We have only one planet



**Yet by 2050, the world
will be consuming as if
there were three**

Urgent actions are needed



- From 1970 to 2017, the annual global extraction of materials **tripled** and it continues to grow.

Source: The International Resource Panel, [Global Resources Outlook](#), 2019



- More than **90%** of biodiversity loss and water stress come from resource extraction and processing.

Source: The International Resource Panel, [Global Resources Outlook](#), 2019



- Annual waste generation will increase by **70%** by 2050

Source: [World Bank](#) What a waste 2.0, 2018

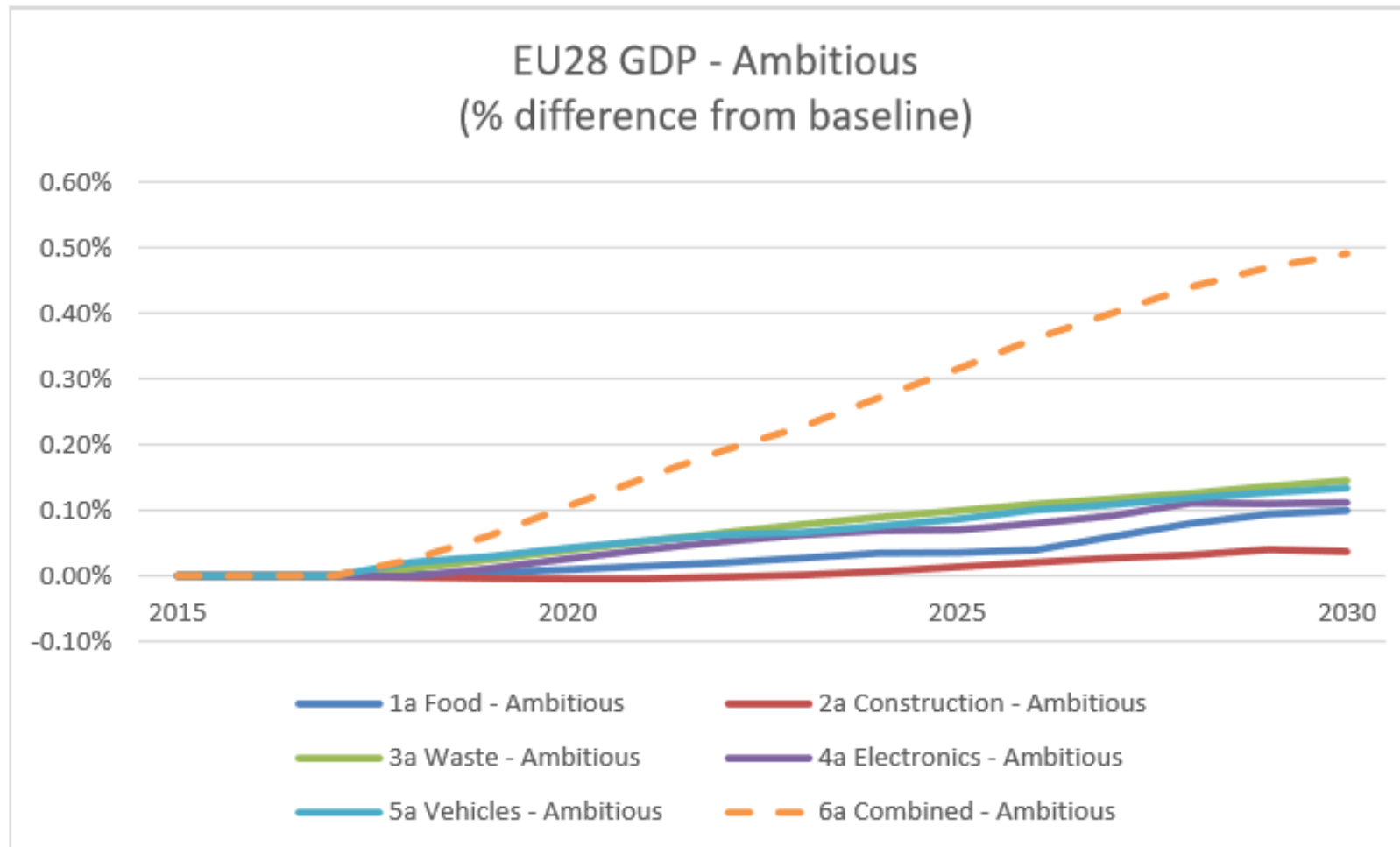


- Only **12%** of the materials used by EU industry come from recycling.

Source: [Eurostat](#), 2016 figures

An opportunity for our economy

Figure 5.1 EU GDP impacts in the circular economy scenarios (% from baseline)



A new vision for Europe

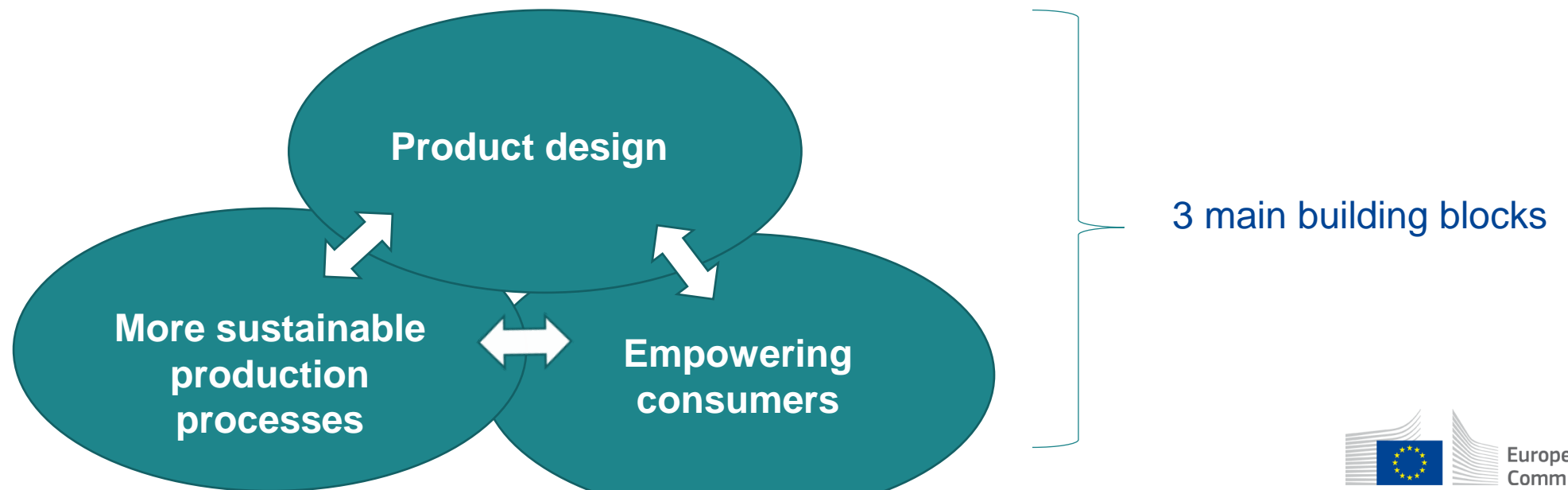


35 actions along the entire life cycle of products, to:

- Make **sustainable products** the norm in the EU
- **Empower** consumers and public buyers
- **Focus also on key product value chains:** electronics and ICT; batteries and vehicles; packaging; plastics; textiles; construction and buildings; food; water and nutrients
- Ensure **less waste**
- Make circularity work for **people, regions** and **cities**
- **Lead global efforts** on circular economy

Towards a Sustainable Product Policy Framework

- A new overarching framework addressing all products placed on the EU market, supporting more sustainable patterns of consumption and cutting waste by e.g. promoting better design
- A central role will be played by the **Legislative proposal for a sustainable product policy initiative**



Key product value chains



Food, water & nutrients



Electronics and ICT



Batteries & vehicles



Construction & buildings



Textiles



Plastics



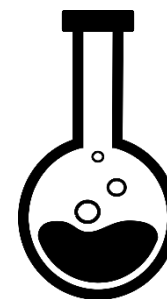
Packaging

Less waste, more value



- Preventing waste from being created in the first place is key
- Once waste has been created, it needs to be transformed into high-quality resources

- Enhancing circularity in a toxic-free environment
- Working to create a well-functioning EU market for secondary raw materials



Making circularity work for people, regions and cities

A joint agenda, a transition where no one is left behind



Main actions:

- Revision of the Skills Agenda
- A new Pact for Skills
- Cohesion policy funds
(to help regions implement CE strategies & reinforce their industrial fabric)
- Just Transition Mechanism
- Urban initiatives



4 million jobs

linked to the
circular economy
in the EU



Crosscutting actions



- **Circular economy as prerequisite for climate neutrality**

- **Getting the economics right**



- **Research, innovation and digitalization**

Leading efforts at global level



- Global agreement on plastics
- Global Circular Economy Alliance
- Free trade agreements
- Outreach activities – e.g. Circular Economy Missions
- Regional focus: Africa, Western Balkans



[See Staff working document:
'Leading the way to a global circular economy: state of play and outlook'](#)



Monitoring progress

Measuring progress at EU and national level in the transition to a circular economy



Thank you

Learn more here:

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm



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