

Tasks of the Federation Initiative European Circular Economy

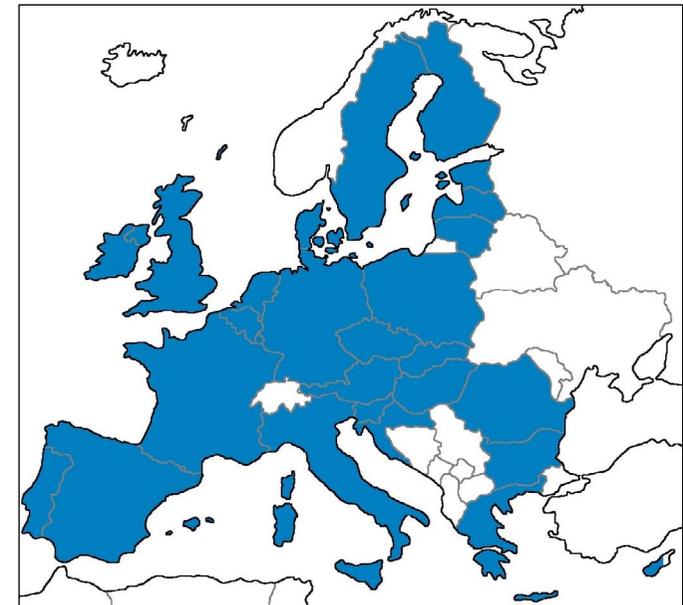
- Promotion of an EU-wide exchange of politics and federations of the waste management and recycling sector for longterm and sustainable collaboration on resourceefficient waste treatment.
- Waste, which are still predominantly landfilled in the EU shall be transferred, for a transitional period, to the existing infrastructures of neighbouring countries for recycling and recovery.
- Facilitation of notification procedures in order to avoid financial disadvantages of environmentally sound treatment of waste in west and north European plants compared to the predominant landfilling in east and south Europe.
- Promotion and reinforcement of separate collection systems and development of treatment techniques in individual Member States.
- Support for the establishment of a high-quality waste infrastructure, particularly of the east and south European partners.

Cooperating federations

Federation Initiative European Circular Economy is supported by the following federations:



Federation Initiative European Circular Economy



Preliminary remarks

The EU Waste Framework Directive (WFD) includes the five-step waste hierarchy. In the course of its transposition into national law, treatment capacities were or rather are built up in some EU Member States.

The already existing or rather created capacities have led to the results that resourceefficient recycling has lost financial attractiveness in some parts of the EU.

Situation in Europe

However, the bigger part of waste is still landfilled in the EU.

A lot of waste incineration plants or landfill in east and south Europe are planned and funded by EU funds in order to transpose the WFD shortly.

On the other hand, shipments of waste to Member States having high quality recycling and efficient waste incineration plants is hampered due to notification procedures and complicated legislation, though this would allow



for an economically advantageous and fast transposition of the Waste Framework Directive. Still, there is the risk that new capacities for waste treatment will be established due to which the primary targets of WFD will not be achieved.

Targets of the Federation Initiative European Circular Economy

To avoid misinvestments of EU funds and found a resource-saving and sustainable waste management system in the EU Federation calls for the following points:

- Existing high quality treatment capacities for waste shall be used in an European Alliance across the country borders following ecological and economical criteria. This applies to the material as well as to energy recovery from waste.

- EU funds shall be used to build up infrastructures for collection systems and treatment techniques in Member States with less developed waste management sectors, in order to ensure a high quality recycling or recovery of the waste.
- Building of further capacities of plants that do not achieve the primary targets of the Waste Framework Directive or that lead to local overcapacity shall no longer be promoted with EU funds in Member States (especially in areas close to the borders).
- Cross-border waste shipment shall be an integral part of an EU-wide Circular Economy to fulfil the primary targets of the WFD.
- EU Member States, where a big amount of waste is still landfilled shall have the possibility to use existing recovery capacities of their neighbouring countries without having to use complex notification procedures.

