



MINISTRY  
OF THE ENVIRONMENT



# POLISH POSITION TO EU COMMUNICATION "TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY. A ZERO WASTE PROGRAMME FOR EUROPE"



Beata B. Kłopotek Ph. D.  
Department of Waste Management  
Cracow, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014



# Resource efficiency - documents

1. EUROPE 2020 A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth – COM(2010)2020
2. A resource-efficient Europe – Flagship initiative under the Europe 2020 Strategy – COM(2011)21
3. Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe – COM(2011)571
4. THE 7th ENVIRONMENT ACTION PROGRAMME TO 2020 – ‘LIVING WELL, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF OUR PLANET’ – OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 171



## Main goals:

- Sustainable growth
  - Effective and efficient management of resources
  - Sustainable reindustrialisation of the EU economy (sustainable industrial renaissance in the EU)

## Main action:

- Moving from a linear model towards a more circular economy

## Benefits:

- Savings
- Reduction of emissions and waste generation
- New jobs



### Barriers:

- Market barriers
- Existing infrastructure
- Business models and technology
- Established behaviour
- Lack of information
- Lack of confidence
- Lack of capacity to move to circular economy solutions





# Setting up an enabling policy framework

## Designing and innovating for a circular economy

- ❑ Additional data and reporting – fear of additional bureaucratic burdens
- ❑ New innovative technologies (also cost effective) – respect of technological neutrality

## Unlocking investment in circular economy solutions

- ❑ Indicative 50% Green Public Procurement (GPP) target – fear of additional costs for state budget

## Harnessing action by business and consumers and supporting SMEs

- ❑ Preparing of methodology of measuring the environmental impact of products and organizations – insufficient real participation of SMEs and NGOs in consultations, “geographical asymmetry” of participants in a pilot phase
- ❑ Increase of green jobs depends on varried factors



# Modernising waste policy and targets: waste as a resource

## Defining waste targets for a move to a recycling society

- ❑ Recycling targets should take into account properties of materials; waste hierarchy is not only a 5-step-pyramid but also includes life-cycle thinking (recycling in a "sustainable" way); too "ambitious" targets can cause down-cycling and export of waste

## Delivering simplification and better implementation of waste legislation

- ❑ "early warning system" – against rights of Member States to decide how to implement EU law
- ❑ "tolerating more shipments of waste within the EU ..." – against principle of proximity and principle of self-sufficiency
- ❑ "third-party data verification", "mandatory electronic data interchange for waste shipments" – unclear

## Tackling specific waste challenges

- ❑ Marine litter, food waste – no reliable data to establish targets





# Setting a resource efficiency target

- ❑ Resource productivity indicators, methodology of calculation of raw material consumption, targets – further analyses are required.



MINISTRY  
OF THE ENVIRONMENT



THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION

Beata B. Kłopotek Ph. D.  
Department of Waste Management  
Cracow, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014