

WEBINAR
27th November, 9:00-10:30 (WET)

The Portuguese Ministry of the Environment and Climate Action, the Portuguese Agency of the Environment, and the European Commission invite you to a webinar to initiate an open discussion on

HOW TO INCREASE THE USE OF SECONDARY RAW MATERIALS IN THE PORTUGUESE INDUSTRY

This event is part of the project 'Closing the loop – from waste to resource – the key for the success' that is supporting the Government of Portugal in the transition towards a more circular economy by promoting efficient use of non-municipal waste and by-products as secondary raw materials.

Your participation as an expert is key to ensure that the initiatives and solutions co-created along this project meet the prevailing challenges and the Portuguese industry requirements and expectations.

The aim of the project is to:

- > Increase the competitiveness of Portuguese industry
- > Increase the introduction of secondary raw materials into the economy
- > Reduce waste incineration/landfilling and the related costs for companies
- > Reduce import of virgin resources to the Portuguese manufacturing sector
- > Increase Portugal's raw material self-sufficiency

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*The webinar will be conducted in English, but a Portuguese speaking moderator will be available for clarifying doubts and answering questions.
All presentations will be in both English and Portuguese.*



CIRCULAR ECONOMY: CLOSING THE LOOP

– FROM WASTE TO RESOURCE –

THE KEY FOR SUCCESS IN PORTUGAL

IN A CIRCULAR ECONOMY, WASTE IS INJECTED BACK INTO THE ECONOMY AS SECONDARY RAW MATERIALS. THESE MATERIALS CAN – IF NOT CHARACTERISED AS HAZARDOUS - BE TRADED AND SHIPPED JUST LIKE PRIMARY RAW MATERIALS, BUT AT PRESENT THEY ACCOUNT FOR ONLY A SMALL PROPORTION OF THE MATERIALS USED IN THE EU, AND PARTICULARLY IN PORTUGAL THE USAGE OF SECONDARY RAW MATERIALS IS BEYOND THE EU AVERAGE.

The project will enable the Government of Portugal to make informed decisions towards achieving socio-economic and environmental benefits from increased utilisation of secondary raw materials as basis for manufacturing. It will also contribute to a consistent design of a monitoring and evaluation framework and to the effective implementation of waste policies in Portugal and full compliance with EU legislation.

The overall objective of the project is to increase the utilisation of secondary raw materials in Portuguese industry, leading to economic and environmental gains and reducing the amount of industrial waste being incinerated or landfilled.

In the first project phase, statistical analyses and stakeholder interviews have been carried out aimed at identifying relevant waste streams and by-products that can potentially be used as secondary raw materials.

Four factors have been analysed:

- The amounts of waste and/or by-products available (presently not utilised as secondary raw materials), specified on waste streams
- The recycling potential of the identified waste streams
- The potential to replace virgin raw materials in Portuguese industry
- The potential strategic value for Portugal and Portuguese industry.

Four material flows have been selected for further work:

- Bio-waste from agroindustry
- Textile waste
- Construction and demolition waste
- Wood waste from furniture production

In the forthcoming phases of the project, a more detailed mapping of waste amounts and of the challenges and opportunities to foster circular economy within the Portuguese industry will be carried out in cooperation with stakeholders playing a key role in the selected material flows.

All stakeholders involved in the selected material flows are invited to contribute to the project, and a range of key actors will be invited to interviews, followed by small group sessions per material flow.

Best EU practices in utilisation of the materials from the mentioned waste streams are analysed, aiming at identifying the main factors of importance for replication in Portugal.

In spring 2021, an open workshop will be conducted to discuss findings, implementable solutions, and strategies. The project team sincerely hopes that by that time it will be possible to have physical workshops in Portugal again and we are looking forward to meeting key stakeholders for constructive consultations.