THE ECONOMICS OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY TRANSITION

AGENDA

5 December 2022, online - register here

OECD BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

RE-CIRCLE Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy Project

Ministerio del Medio Ambiente Gobierno de Chile

UNITED NATIONS ECLAC

CENTRA CENTER FOR ENERGY TRANSITION UNIVERSIDAD ADOLFO IBÁÑEZ

UNIVERSIDAD ADOLFO IBÁÑEZ

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INTRODUCTION

As the global economy expands and living standards rise, the world's raw materials consumption is expected to nearly double by 2060. This is particularly alarming because materials extraction, processing, use and waste management lead to very significant environmental pressures, ranging from local pollution at mining sites to GHG emissions from metal processing or air pollution from waste handling and disposal. In parallel, the mismanagement of plastic has resulted in significant environmental pollution and, if left unchecked, has the potential to cause even more important economic and social impacts since annual global plastics production is projected to triple by 2060.

A circular economy aims to transform the current linear economy into a circular model to reduce the consumption of finite material resources by recovering materials from waste streams for recycling or reuse, using products longer, and exploiting the potential of the sharing and services economy. Circular economy policies and initiatives largely take place domestically at the national or regional level. They also have essential interlinkages with international trade.

Against this context, Chile has progressed in several areas in recent years to advance towards a circular economy. An Extended Producer Responsibility Law was approved in 2016. A law that prohibits plastic bags was approved in 2018. And a law that regulates single-use plastics was approved in 2021. In addition to these laws, the country has recently published two crucial strategic planning documents: the National Strategy for Organic Waste and the Roadmap for a Circular Chile by 2040. These and other initiatives have set the stage for rapid progress towards a circular economy, progress that can significantly benefit from exchanges with organisations that can provide international experience, such as the OECD.

This event investigates the following questions:

- How will socioeconomic trends affect materials use and the challenge to transition to a resource-efficient, circular economy?
- How can the circular economy transition be designed to have double dividends for the economy and the environment?
- How can the extractive industry adapt to a global circular economy transition?

9:30-9:45	**OPENING** **Opening remarks**: Raúl O'Ryan, Chile's Center for Energy Transition (CENTRA) (5 minutes) **Opening presentation:** "An outlook on global and regional materials use for the coming decades", Rob Dellink, OECD Environment Directorate (10 minutes)
9:45-10:45	**AMBITIOUS POLICIES TO FOSTER THE TRANSITION TO A RESOURCE-EFFICIENT AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY** This session discusses the policy mix needed for achieving progress towards the circular economy transition, such as extended producer responsibility and labelling and information schemes. The presentation will be complemented by a presentation from Chile's Ministry of Environment on Chile's Circular Economy Roadmap. **Moderator**: Carlos De Miguel, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) **Presentations**: - "A Circular Economy roadmap for Chile", Tomás Saieg Páez, Chile's Ministry of Environment (10 minutes) - "OECD work on policies for the CE transition", Peter Börkey, OECD Environment Directorate (10 minutes) - "Impacts in Chile of a Transition to Green Copper", Raúl O'Ryan, Chile's Center for Energy Transition (CENTRA) (10 minutes) ***Followed by a discussion among participants*** *(30 minutes)*
10:45-11:00	***COFFEE BREAK***
11:00-12:00	**KEY LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES OF TRANSITIONING TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY** This session highlights long-term socioeconomic trends that influence the circular economy transition and are affected by it, focusing on extractive sectors and macroeconomic consequences identified by the OECD, such as the jobs potential and the role of trade in facilitating the transition. A regional perspective zoom-in by ECLAC will complement the session. A presentation on the OECD Global Plastics Outlook will complete the session. **Moderator**: Raúl O'Ryan, Chile's Center for Energy Transition (CENTRA) **Presentations**: - "The sectoral and macroeconomic consequences of the circular economy transition", Rob Dellink, OECD Environment Directorate (10 minutes) - "Circular economy in Latin America and the Caribbean: an opportunity for a transformative recovery", Carlos De Miguel, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (10 minutes) - "OECD Global Plastics Outlook", Peter Börkey / Rob Dellink, OECD Environment Directorate (10 minutes) - " Preparing for a legally binding global agreement to combat plastic pollution ", Christoffer Vestli (TBC), European Commission (10 minutes)

	Followed by a discussion among participants *(20 minutes)*
12:00-12:30	**CLOSING REMARKS** This closing panel will bring together the insights from the previous sessions, answer questions from the audience and draw some conclusions and recommendations. **Speakers:** - Eduardo Bitran, Chile's Center for Energy Transition (CENTRA) and Chile's ex-Minister of Public Works - José Luis Samaniego, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) - Peter Börkey / Rob Dellink, OECD Environment Directorate - Tomás Saieg Páez, Chile's Ministry of Environment
12:30	***END***

This event highlights findings from a series of recent OECD and CENTRA reports on the circular economy, including:

OECD:

The OECD's "Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy" (RE-CIRCLE) project provides policy guidance on resource efficiency and the transition to a circular economy. It aims to identify and quantify the impact of resource-efficient, circular economy policies to guide a range of stakeholders in OECD member countries and emerging and other market economies through quantitative and qualitative analysis.

- Global Material Resources Outlook to 2060: Economic Drivers and Environmental Consequences (link)
- Global Plastics Outlook I & II (link)
- Policy Scenarios for a transition to a more resource efficient and circular economy (link)
- The jobs potential of a transition towards a resource-efficient and circular economy (link)
- Business models for the circular economy (link)
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Updated Guidance for Efficient Waste Management (link) & Modulated fees for EPR schemes (link) & EPR and impact of online sales (link)
- Preventing single-use plastic waste (link)
- Labelling and Information Schemes for the circular economy (link)
- International trade and circular economy - Policy alignment (link)
- The Consequences of a More Resource-Efficient and Circular Economy for International Trade Patterns (link)

CENTRA:

- Webpage (link)

Chile's Ministry of Environment:

- Roadmap for a Circular Chile by 2040 (link)

For more information on the event:

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