

Better Regulation



Circular
Bio-economy

Action 3 - Analyse the regulatory obstacles and drivers for boosting an urban circular bioeconomy

This action presents the feedback of experts on regulatory obstacles and drivers contained in specific EU legislations influencing the production of bio-based products from urban bio-waste and wastewater.

Scope and working method

The scope of this action is to present to EU legislators the direct feedback from experts, operating in the value chain producing bio-based products from urban bio-waste and wastewater, on how specific EU legislations influence the production of bio-based products from urban bio-waste and wastewater. A report is written based on a survey carried out by the Partnership on Circular Economy between 2018 and 2019. The survey involved experts from cities, industries and academia working on this value chain.

Drivers and barriers

The 2018 EU Circular Economy package presents some regulatory drivers to boost an urban circular bioeconomy; for example, it supports the separate collection of bio-waste and limits landfilling. Although progress has been made, barriers have been identified that may impede the valorization of urban bioresources. The survey report contains experts' recommendations on how to improve the circularity of specific elements contained in the EU regulation in order to support the production of bio-based products from urban bio-waste and wastewater.

Potential impact

The survey report provides the basis for further analysis and discussion on how the existing EU regulation can be improved to support the development of this value chain, staying at the heart of an urban circular bioeconomy in European cities. Urban bio-waste and wastewater contain valuable substances that urban waste-based biorefineries can process into innovative biowaste-based products such as chemicals, plastics, fertilisers and feed ingredients.

How will this help the new Circular Economy Action plan of the European Commission?

The survey report contains inputs for the analysis of EU legislators to improve the circularity of the EU regulations with special reference to the production of bio-based products from urban bio-waste and wastewater, including the EU Circular Economy Action Plan.

Recommendation from the Partnership to the EU Commission

The partnership recommends the EU legislators to get information on how specific EU legislation are influencing the current production of bio-based products from urban bio-waste and wastewater. The direct feedback from experts in this report provides a useful basis in order to improve the circularity of the EU regulation on this policy area.

The necessary next steps

- The survey report will be shared with the European Commission.



- A brochure containing some of the key messages of the main report will be disseminated among relevant organizations and stakeholders.

Where to find more information

The full survey report is [available here](#).

Connection to the SDGs



This action contributes most to the Sustainable Development Goals 6, 11, 12 and 13.

