4evergreen

A Circular Future for Packaging

Susanne Haase, Programme Director Thursday 17 November 2022























4evergreen

brings together companies across the fibre-based packaging value chain who are committed to raising circularity and sustainability



where we come from



Today, 82% of paper and board packaging is recycled.* As we discussed how our sector could become more circular, it became clear that finding innovative and practical solutions is best done together.





* Source: Eurostat, 2019



In 2019, many companies in the packaging value chain contacted Cepi to discuss and understand the implications of the Single **Use Plastics Directive.**



After several successful workshops organised by Cepi, it became evident that there was a need to create a platform to continue collaborating.





aim, goal and approach



Our aim is to contribute to a climate neutral and sustainable society by **perfecting the circularity** of fibre-based packaging.

90%

We will focus on the types with a low performance today, in particular household and on-thego food packaging.



Our goal is to raise the overall recycling rate of fibre-based packaging to 90% by 2030.

Our approach is **holistic** in identifying and promoting innovative solutions towards climate neutrality.



value chain

Together, we can adopt a holistic approach and look at the full life cycle of fibre-based packaging.





who we represent





achievements

This is what we have achieved so far:





political support

"It's a pleasure to welcome the commitment of the paper industry to act together towards an ambitious goal, **4evergreen**.

This alliance is clearly in step with our thinking and with our objectives for a circular, low-carbon future. A future where sustainability goes hand in hand with innovation and creates exciting business opportunities.

That's the future the Commission laid out in the European Green Deal."





Virginijus Sinkevičius European Commissioner for the Environment

statement made at the 4evergreen launch conference on 25 November 2020

4EG – timeline







PART 2

What we do





how we make a difference (1/2)



PERFECTING CIRCULARITY TOGETHER



recyclability evaluation protocol

circularity by design guideline

guidance for improved collection & sorting



WS-4 innovation

SPREADING THE WORD



Translating the work of the technical workstreams into digestible and educational messages for industry & policymakers.

Building consistent views and collaboration, enabling efficient & effective engagement with decision-makers and stakeholders.

Involving the customer (usage) and inform on how to dispose of their consumed fibre-based packaging product.



11

What is the Recyclability Evaluation Protocol?

A tool allowing a technical evaluation of recyclability of a given fibre-based packaging item. Based on consistent and reliable lab procedure across Europe.

Aims to imitate a "standard" mill's capabilities, thus tackling the largest chunk of fiber-based packaging. Focuses on imitating a mill with de-inking capabilities where extra process units are available.



Imitating mills with more specialized equipment and processes, able to recycle materials not fitting "standard" mills.



Why do we need a European recyclability evaluation protocol?



recycling is the perfect embodiment of circularity







- There is a strong focus from the European Commission on circular economy and
- To increase the recycling rate of fibre-based packaging to 90% by 2030
- Circularity is not infinite and therefore it is reliant on new fibres entering the loop



What is the Circularity by Design Guideline?

And why do we need it?

Design is the first step in creating packaging and

the beginning of the whole fibre-based packaging life-cycle. But it's also our first opportunity to boost circularity.



We are focused on **saving** resources and ensuring that the highest volume of material will be kept in the loop for us to reach our target of a 90% recycling rate.



Bringing confidence to

designers to create packaging that is designed for circularity across Europe and the world.



Guidance on the Improved Collection and Sorting of Fibre-Based Packaging for Recycling



Challenges

- Collection and Sorting are key to improving the recycling rate of fibre-based packaging
- Collection systems vary across Europe and should allow volume and quality











Our Contribution: the Guidance

A state of the art **review of the collection and** sorting systems across Europe

Provides **best practices** to guide the implementation of future collection, sorting and recycling infrastructure

Focus on household collection and recommends collection and sorting in **2 co-existing streams** for paper & board (PB) and lightweight packaging LWP)

Guidance on the Improved Collection and Sorting of Fibre-**Based Packaging for Recycling**



4evergreen key recommendations

- Ο be hampered
- **Legislative initiatives** to incentivise participation of all relevant stakeholders & Ο Extended Producer Responsibility fee structures that reflect real costs as much as possible
- Ο behaviours
- Ο commercial (>90%)
- **Mandatory separation** of packaging at sorting facilities from household Ο lightweight packaging



Existing and well-functioning collection and recycling systems should not

- **Continuous communication to consumers** to increase awareness & change
- Separate recycling targets for household collection (>85%) and industrial &





Three projects on innovation

Novel sorting technologies

Investigating the **efficiency of** technologies for complex wastepaper bales containing barrier paper and board.

- Testing for selected technologies
- Piloting promising technologies
- Insights for future industrial implementation

Investigating technologies for small-scale, decentralized, and novel recycling or mixed paper waste while efficiently dealing with rejected material.

Lab scale tests for selected technologies focusing on fibre recovery.



2

Novel recycling technologies

Comparative recyclability impacts

Explore the fate of each fraction in the fibre stock and waste or process waters. Understand the compatability of materials with different recycling mill and potential improvements needed.

3

Run lab tests and validate that the Recyclability Evaluation Protocol cover the needs of barrier materials.



social media







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Internal use

Thank you!

Connect with us 4evergreen@cepi.org



