

The Global Environment Outlook 7 Scoping Meeting



Expert Dialogue – Circularity

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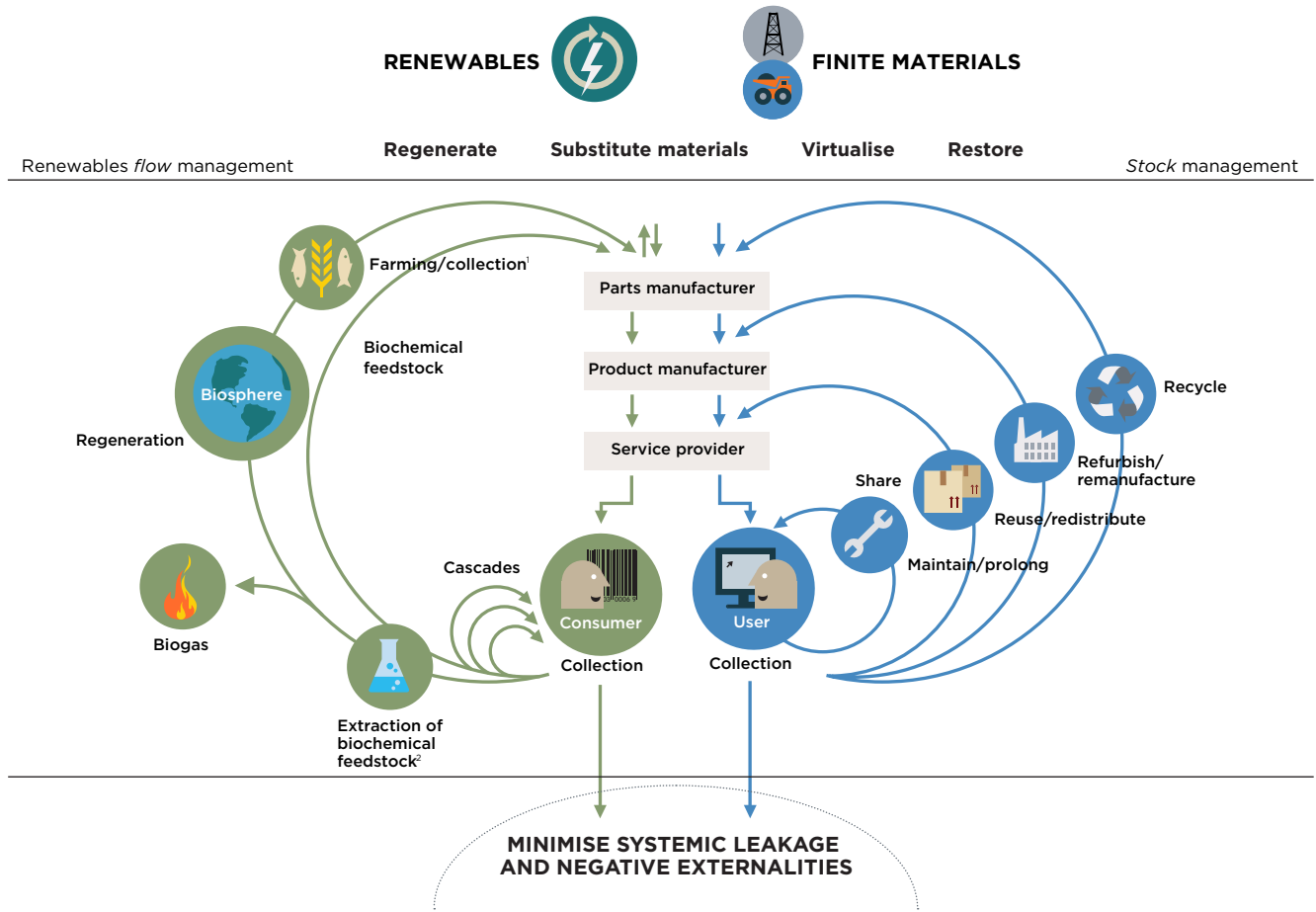
19 October 2022

RESTORE, REGENERATE, REDEFINE GROWTH

Eliminate waste and pollution

Keep products and materials in use

Regenerate natural systems





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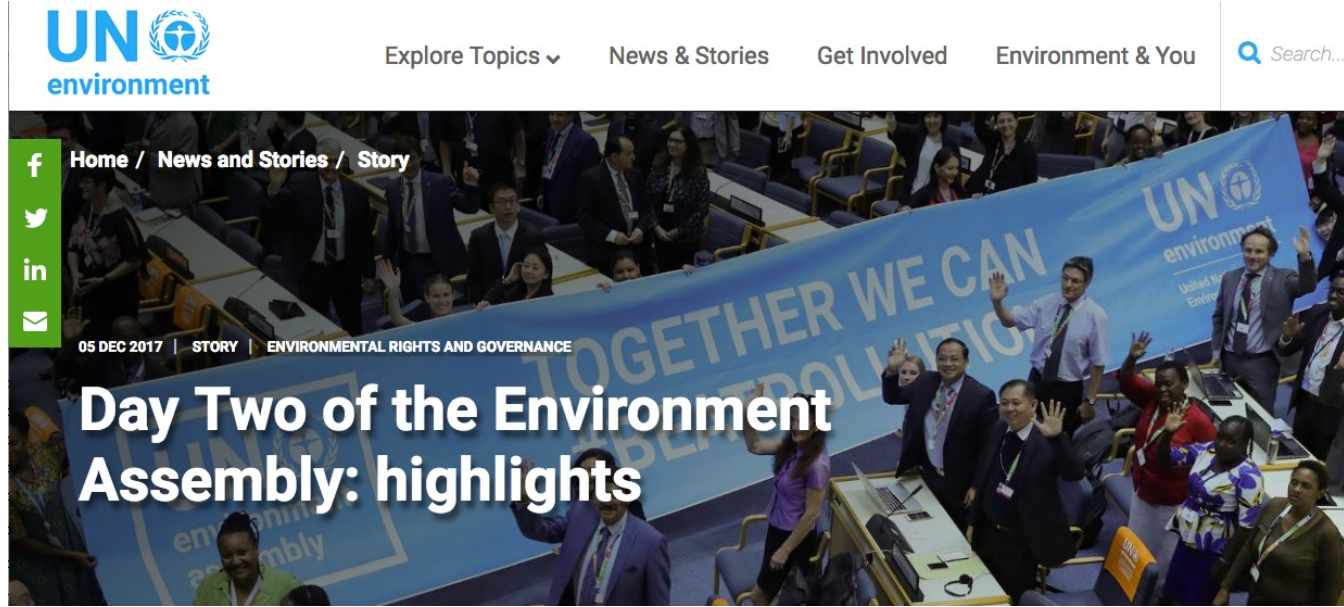
Brussels, 17 December 2012



MEMO

MANIFESTO FOR A RESOURCE-EFFICIENT EUROPE

In a world with growing pressures on resources and the environment, the EU has no choice but to **go for a transition to a resource-efficient and ultimately regenerative circular economy.** Our future jobs and competitiveness, as a major importer of resources, are dependent on our ability to get more added value from the same resources. **Our future jobs and competitiveness, as a major importer of resources, are dependent on our ability to get more added value from the same resources.** According to the OECD, this could lead to steady economic growth with business opportunities across the economy.



Circular economy

Tuesday also saw a well-attended 'leadership dialogue' on the transition toward a more resource-efficient "circular" economy.

Delegates dug deep into issues including designing products so they be easily recycled, how finance can encourage sustainable business, and whether incineration can be part of responsible resource management (not in the long-term, speakers agreed).





**Up to \$630bn
materials savings
by 2025**



**Up to 50% water
and fertilisers
reduction by 2050**



57%



68%



85%

of global GDP
generation



75%

of global resource
consumption



60-85%

of global GHG
emissions



50%

of global solid
waste production

OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE



BUILDINGS



1bn



\$650bn



60%



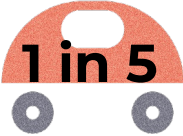
MOBILITY



90%



2-5%



1 in 5



PRODUCTS



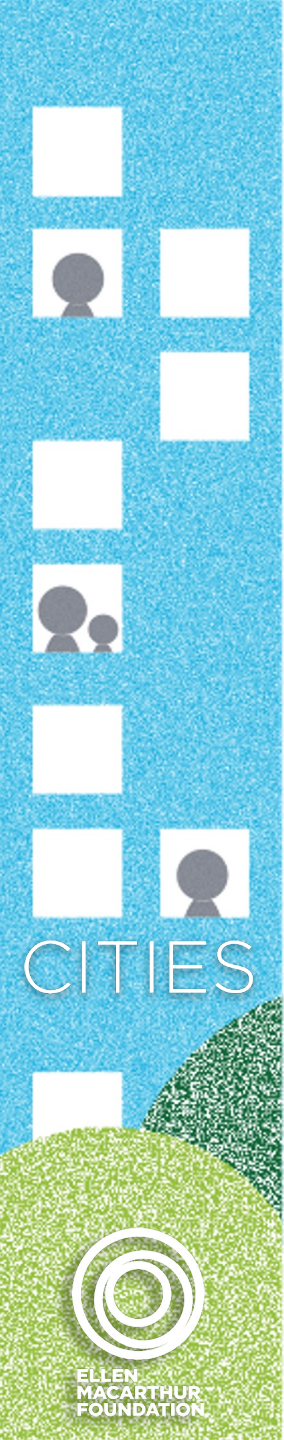
75%



20%



80%



CITIES



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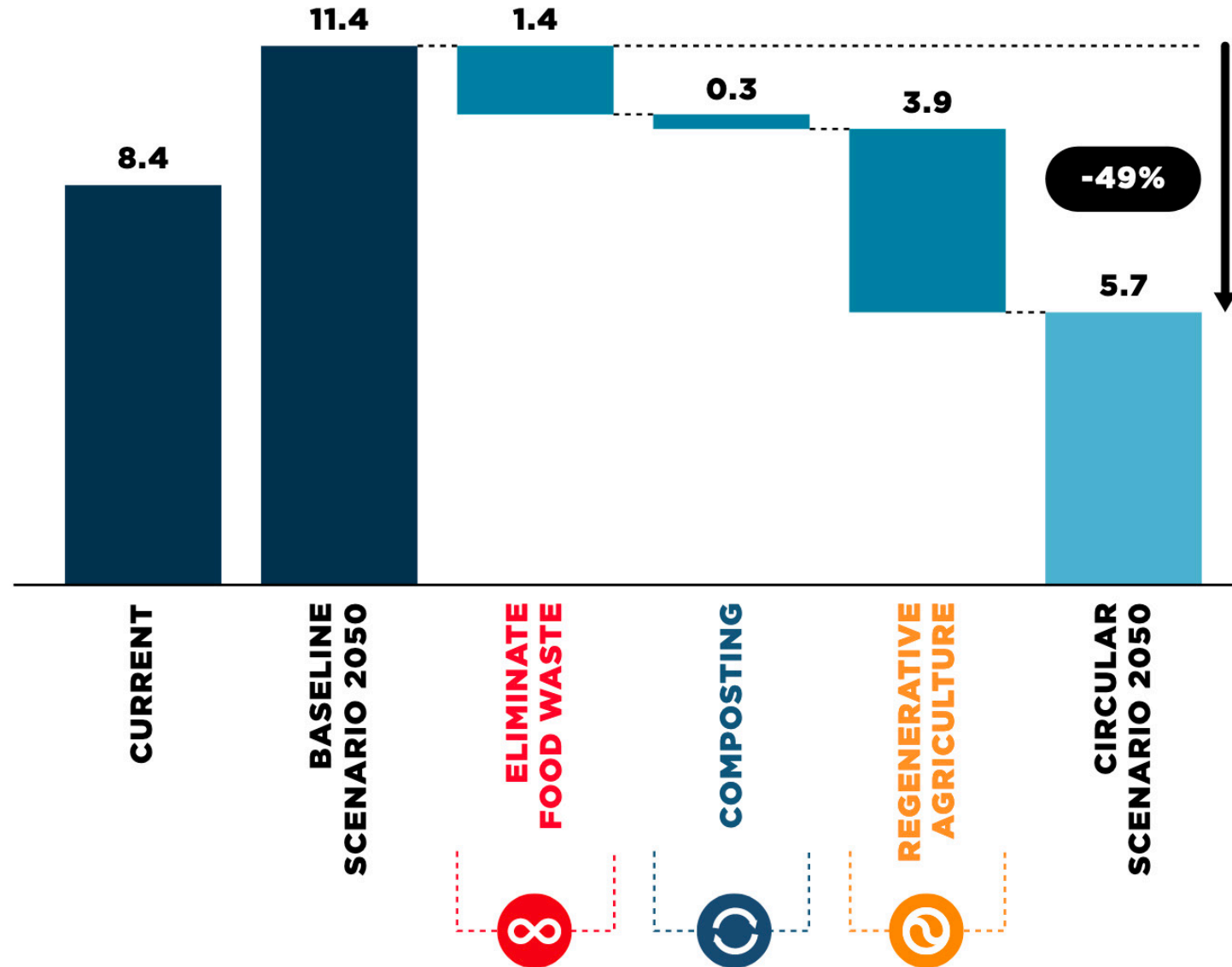
A circular scenario for food could reduce CO2 emissions by

49% in 2050



Emissions from the global food system

Billion tonnes of CO₂e per year



Applying the circular economy in just five key areas (cement, plastics, steel, aluminum, food) can remove nearly half of these remaining emissions

9.3 billion tonnes in 2050



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**Equivalent to eliminating
current emissions from all
forms of transport globally**



Design out waste and pollution **to reduce GHG emissions across the value chain**



Keep products and materials in use **to retain the embodied energy in products and materials**



Regenerate natural systems **to sequester carbon in soil and products**

- Designing for circularity
- Eliminating waste
- Substituting materials
- Reusing products and components
- Recirculating materials
- Regenerative agriculture



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