# **Circular Economy**



# **ELLEN MACARTHUR FOUNDATION**

Global Partners of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation:











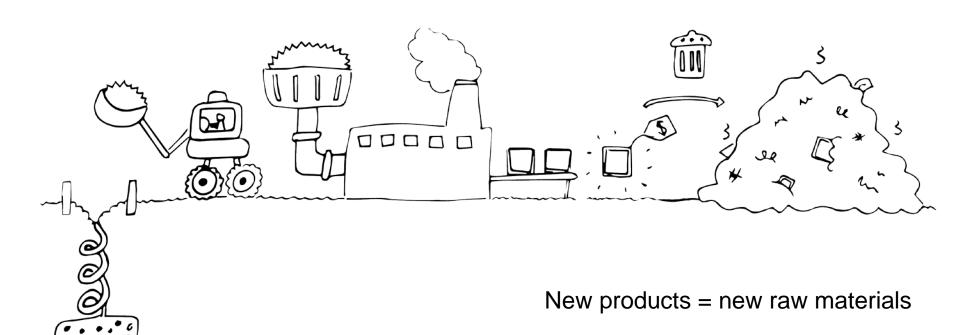








# **TODAY'S TAKE-MAKE-DISPOSE ECONOMY**



Recycling at "end-of-pipe"

Waste is chronically high

# A COMBINATION OF RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

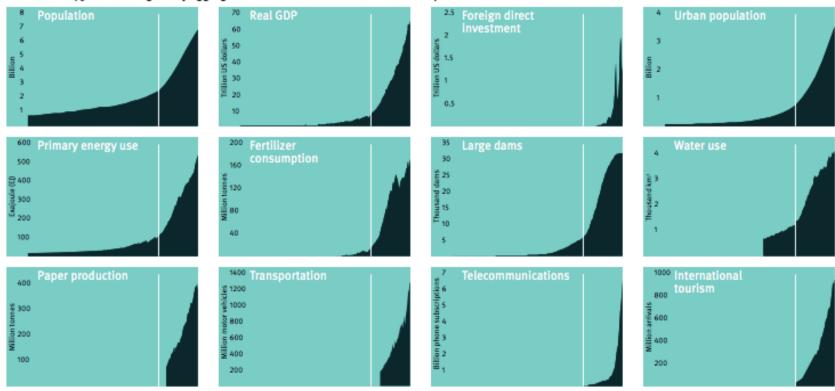
A further 3 billion middle-class consumers will enter the market by 2030 fuelling demand ...



# A COMBINATION OF RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

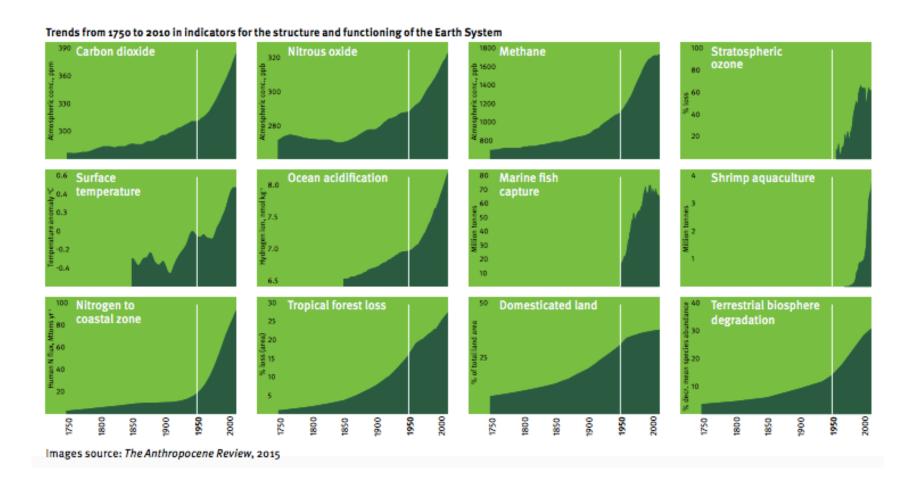
Socioeconomic development

#### Trends from 1750 to 2010 in globally aggregated indicators for socioeconomic development



# A COMBINATION OF RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Living Systems



## A MODEL WITH EMBEDDED STRUCTURAL LOSSES

Faults in the linear model means great economic losses and negative externalities







- Cars remain parked 92% of the time
- When moving, they usually carry 1,5 people at a time
- 30.000 lives are lost in accidents and, 1 out of 4 times, this results in irreversible lesions
- 30% of waste sent to landfill in Europe originates from construction (in Brasil, approximately 50%)
- Offices are occupied only 40-50% of the day on a working day
- 11 million empty homes in Europe

- >100Mi tonnes of food lost annually in Europe
- 50% lost along the production chain
- 97% of global food residue is sent to landfill or ~USD 300 bn
- Soil degradation is around 30-80% in Europe

# **Rethinking progress**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\_contin
ue=4&v=zCRKvDyyHmI

## RETHINKING VALUE CREATION

Three guiding principles to the circular economy



Preserve and enhance natural capital by controlling finite stocks and balancing renewable resource flows.



**Optimise resource yields** by circulating products, components, and materials at the highest utility at all times in both technical and biological cycles.



**Foster system effectiveness** by revealing and designing out negative externalities.



# The New Plastics Economy is an ambitious, three-year initiative to build momentum towards a plastics system that works.

Applying the principles of the circular economy, the initiative brings together key stakeholders to rethink and re-design the future of plastics, starting with packaging.

With the aim to create an effective after-use plastics economy; drastically reduce leakage of plastics into natural systems and other negative externalities and decouple plastics from fossil feedstocks, the New Plastics Economy works with five interconnected blocks to create the necessary conditions for redesigning the system:



#### DIALOGUE MECHANISM

Cross-value chain collaboration is at the heart of the New Plastics Economy.



# GLOBAL PLASTICS PROTOCOL

A common target state to innovate towards, to overcome existing fragmentation and enable the creation of effective markets.



# INNOVATION MOONSHOTS

Mobilising innovations that can scale across the system, to re-define what's possible and create the conditions for a new economy.



#### **EVIDENCE BASE**

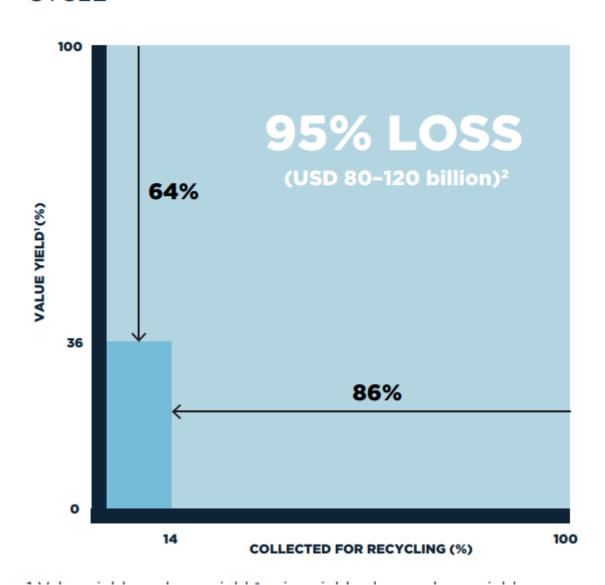
A robust evidence base to guide improvement and inform the global debate.



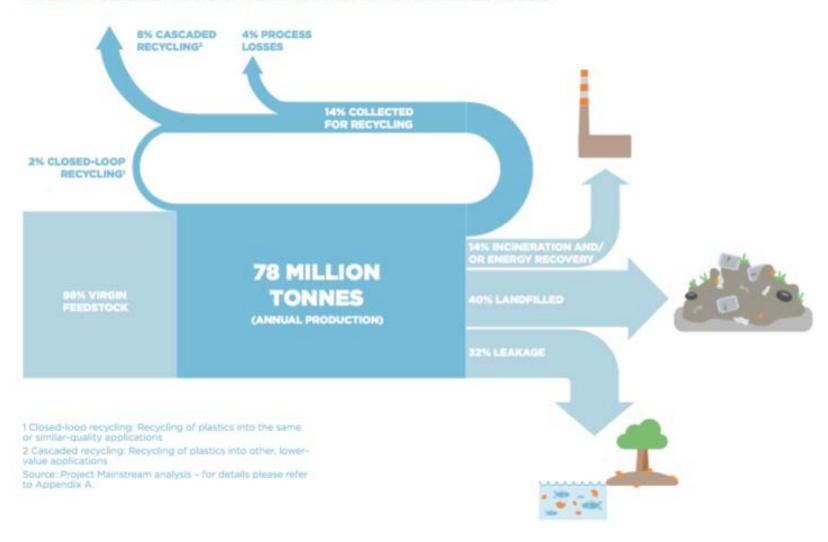
#### **OUTREACH**

Engaging stakeholders to learn, to inform, and to amplify what works.

**FIGURE 3:** PLASTIC PACKAGING MATERIAL VALUE LOSS AFTER ONE USE CYCLE



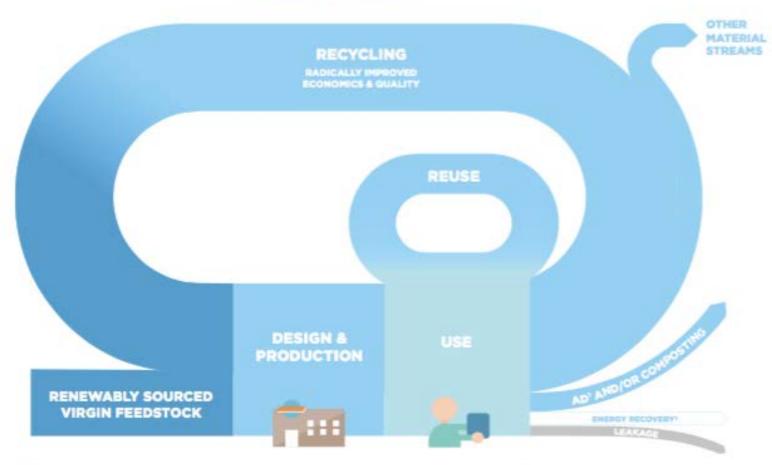
#### FIGURE 4: GLOBAL FLOWS OF PLASTIC PACKAGING MATERIALS IN 2013



WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM, ELLEN MACARTHUR FOUNDATION, MCKINSEY & COMPANY, THE NEW PLASTICS ECONOMY ELLENMACARTHURFOUNDATION.ORG/PUBLICATIONS

#### FIGURE 6: AMBITIONS OF THE NEW PLASTICS ECONOMY

# CREATE AN EFFECTIVE AFTER-USE PLASTICS ECONOMY





I Anaerobic digestion

The role of, and boundary conditions for, energy recovery in the New Plastics Economy need to be further investigated

Source: Project Mainstream analysis.

2 DRASTICALLY REDUCE THE LEAKAGE OF PLASTICS INTO NATURAL SYSTEMS & OTHER NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES

# THE ReSOLVE FRAMEWORK



#### **Re**GENERATE

Regenerate and restore natural capital

#### **E**XCHANGE

Select appropriate resources and technologies



# SHARE

Maximize asset utilisation

#### **VIRTUALISE**

Avoid resource use and deliver utility virtually



#### **O**PTIMISE

Optimise system performance



Keep products and materials in productive cycles

## THE ReSOLVE FRAMEWORK

#### THE RESOLVE FRAMEWORK

#### **Examples**



- Shift to renewable energy and materials
- Reclaim, retain, and restore health of ecosystems
- Return recovered biological resources to the biosphere













- Share assets (e.g. cars, rooms, appliances)
- · Reuse/secondhand
- Prolong life through maintenance, design for durability, upgradability, etc.

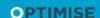














- Increase performance/efficiency of product
- Remove waste in production and supply chain Leverage big data, automation, remote sensing and steering













LOOP



- Remanufacture products or components
- Recycle materials
- Digest anaerobic
- Extract biochemicals from organic waste



















- Dematerialise directly, e.g., books, CDs, DVDs. travel
- · Dematerialise indirectly, e.g., online shopping, autonomous vehicles





















- Replace old with advanced non-renewable materials
- Apply new technologies (e.g. 3D printing)
- Choose new product/service (e.g. multimodal transport)









In the world, we used an

# Eiffel tower

of metal

# every 3 minutes.



Source : P. Bihouix & B. de Quillebon, Quel avenir pour les métaux ? Éditions Sciences Paris 2013.

# An Olympic pool of cement is used

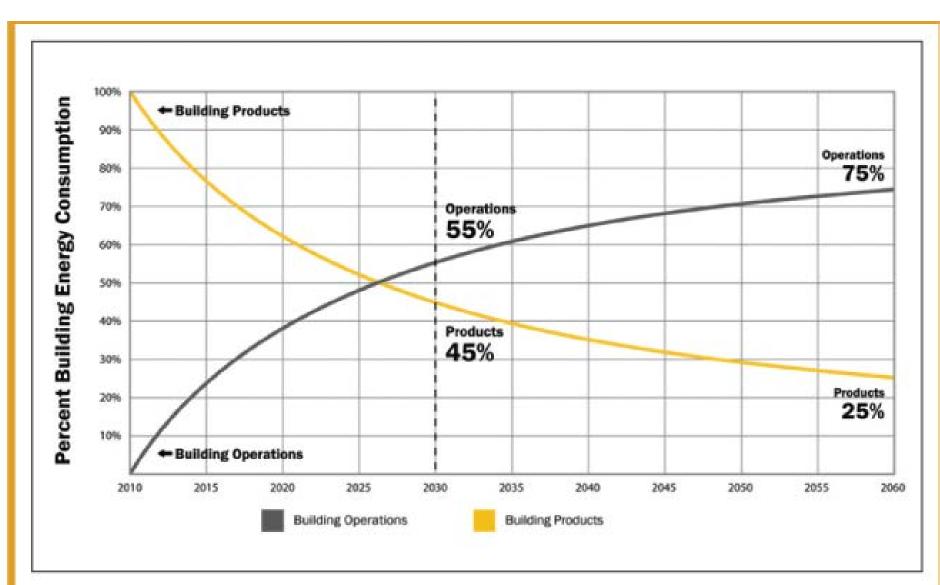
# every 15 seconds.



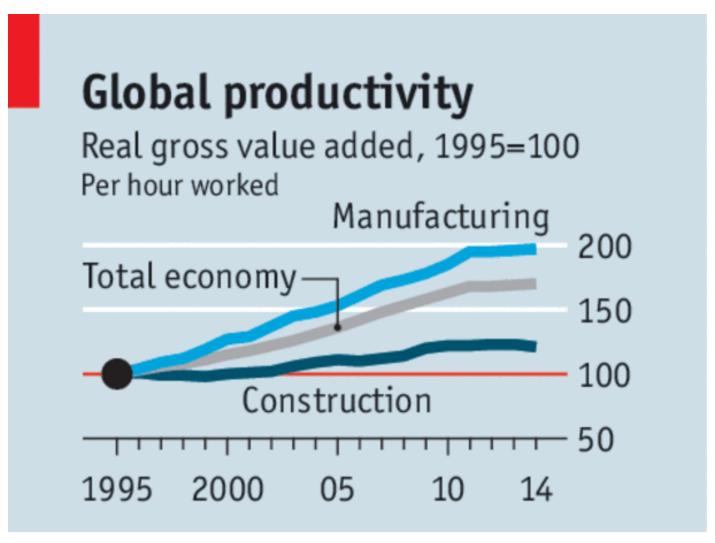
Source : PC Alcin & S. Mindness, Écostructures en béton, Comment diminuer l'emprunte carbone des bâtiments ? Eyrolles Paris 2013.

If we continue the same way, no beach in the world will have any sand in less than 20 years.





Data courtesy Architecture 2030, EIA 2011, Richard Stein



Economist.com

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION ReSolve Framework













# **CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION Regenerate**

Regenerating and restoring natural capital

- Diverting waste from landfill (FA, GGBS in concrete)



Safeguarding, restoring and increasing the resilience of ecosystems



Madrid + Natural tackling climate change through the greening of existing infrastructure to provide natural habitats for wildlife and spaces for human enjoyment Dartington Primary School, UK: reclaimed tyres act as planters in the school grounds

# **CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION Share**

#### Maximising asset utilisation

- co-location
- co-living
- Airbnb -valued at around US\$25bn. Airbnb guests use 63% less energy than hotel guests. In Europe, in just one year Airbnb saved water equivalent to the contents of 1,110 Olympic-sized swimming pools, and avoided GHG emissions equivalent to 220,000 cars.

#### Pooling the usage of asset

- WikiHouse
- 3D Hubs over 32,000 printers in over 150 countries
- HeadBox

#### Reusing assets

- Globechain





# CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION Optimise

Optimising system performance (maintaining materials and components at their highest value)/Decreasing resource usage

- Flexible design methodologies
- Off-site construction and modular components
- Reusing materials

#### Prolonging an asset's life

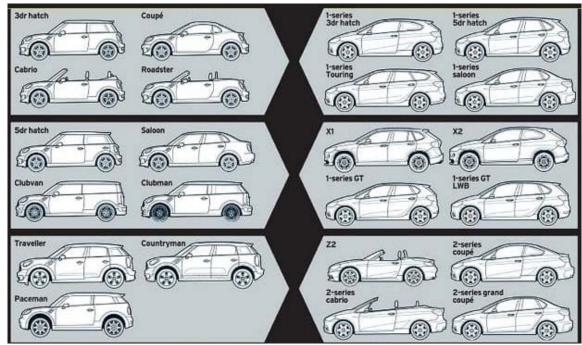
- Repurposing - designing flexible building cores

#### Decreasing resource usage

 3D printing technology can reduce waste, promote material resource efficiency and minimise transport needs

#### Implementing reverse logistics

- Leasing phones
- Returning engine cores





# CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION Loop

Keeping products and materials in cycles, prioritizing inner loops

 Focusing on disassembly during the design phase increases the chance of effective second use and reuse pathways

Remanufacturing and refurbishing products and components

#### **Recycling materials**

- Buildings and structures can be designed to allow component parts to be easily separated and recycled Standardisation of components will also facilitate this process and increase recyclability



Olympic Stadium, Stratford, London: 98% of demolition material was reused or recycled

# **CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION Virtualise**

Displacing resource use with virtual use

 virtual marketplaces like Peerby and Streetbank connect users wanting to lend or borrow infrequently-used household

Replacing physical products and services with virtual services

- Building information modelling (BIM)

Replacing physical with virtual locations

- video conferencing
- real-time language translation

Delivering services remotely

 embedded sensors and smart monitoring devices that anticipate problems and carry out maintenance works can extend the life of built environment assets



Materials passports provide information on the value of materials and products

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION Exchange

Replacing with renewable energy and material sources

- generating energy and heat through closed-loop systems such as anaerobic digestion, or using wind, solar and other renewables as part of a low- and zero-carbon

Using alternative material inputs

- sewage sludge into bio-plastic
- bricks made from microscopic, fibrous fungi bound to agricultural waste
- Bioreactive façades onto buildings to generate renewable energy from algal biomass and solar thermal heat

Replacing traditional solutions with advanced technology

- LED
- 3D printing (weight reduction by 40%)

Replacing product-centric delivery models with new service centric

- pay per lux



SolarLeaf's bio-reactive façade generates renewable energy from algal biomass and solar thermal heat

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION Dubai Creek Tower

> 1km skyscraper

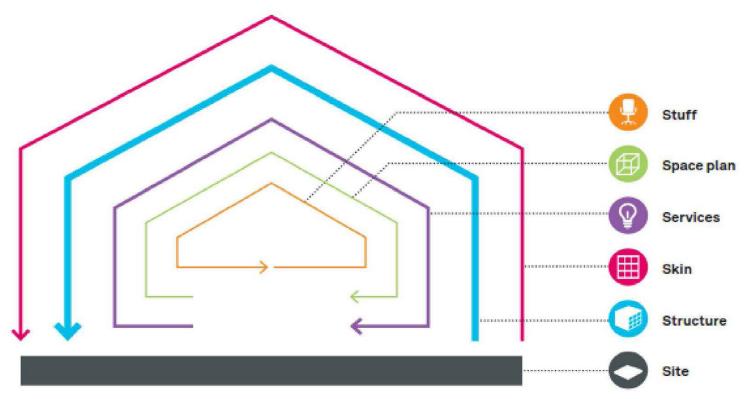


A highly efficient cooling system, where collected water from the system will be used to clean the façade of the building.

Green corridors across the structure will provide solar protection.

An integrated shading system will improve the energy-efficiency of the building.

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION Building in Layers



- Building Shell (e.g. 50-75 years lifespan): generous floor to ceiling heights allow flexibility; Spacious cores and risers enable flexibility to adapt to changing expectations; Use bolted rather than welded connections
- Services (e.g. 15-20 years lifespan): ensure services are accessible and demountable for ease of repair or replacement; Look at modular systems that will allow simple upgrade to services without the whole system becoming obsolete; Consider leasing arrangements rather that outright purchase, as this passes responsibility onto the manufacturer for upgrades and changes
- Interiors (e.g. 5-10 years lifespan): Look for modular designs that enable partitions to be dismantled and relocated into different configurations, allowing a space to be easily modified to create new spaces
- Settings and Furniture: Think how consumables will be replaced e.g. carpet tiles can be replaced individually when damaged, instead of replacing a wall-to-wall carpet; Select products that can easily be recycled or broken down at the end of life

#### **CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION**

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"Adopting circular economy principles could significantly enhance global construction industry productivity, saving at least US\$100bn a year."

World Economic Forum, 2016

300,000 cars





5,300,000 cars



