

Identifying the circularity gaps of the European Critical Raw Materials Act



Wednesday 8 November 2023



10.30–12.00 CET



Press Club Brussels, Rue Froissart 95, 1040 Brussels / Hybrid

Agenda

Time	Session	Speakers
10.30-10.35	Welcome and introduction	Antoine Oger Research Director, IEEP
10.35-10.50	Presentation of IEEP's "Circularity gaps" briefing	Emma Watkins Senior Policy Analyst, IEEP
10.50-11.35	Panel discussion	MEP Sirpa Pietikäinen Edoardo Bodo , RREUSE Tahmid Chowdhury , Programme Manager, University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL) Justyna Balbier Inetas , Senior EU Affairs Manager & Head of EU Office, Hydro
11.35-11.55	Audience Q&A	/
11.55-12.00	Wrap up	Antoine Oger
12.00-13.30	Networking lunch	/

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How can the EU meet its growing demand for critical raw materials (CRMs) through domestic recycling? This event explores the gaps between EU ambition to ramp up CRMs recycling and the current state of play.

Delivering a net-zero Europe by 2050 requires an accelerated transformation of the EU's industry to support the growing demand in clean technologies such as electric vehicles (EVs) and batteries, solar panels and wind turbines. Accordingly, to scale up and deliver domestic production of clean technologies to meet the expected future demand the EU will need a substantial amount of critical raw materials (CRMs).

In this context, on 16 March 2023, the European Commission published its [proposal for a European Critical Raw Material Act](#) (ECRMA) to safeguard the green and digital transitions by securing a stable and strategic supply of CRMs for domestic production. The ECRMA proposal sets out four main targets to be achieved by 2030 regarding the origin of EU consumption of strategic raw materials (SRMs):



However, increasing the EU's recycling rate of CRMs to 15% by 2030 will require substantial efforts to bridge the gap between current-day recycling rates for many CRMs and the proposed target as the EU's demand for clean technologies rises. Therefore, for the EU's resource use to remain within its fair share of the planetary boundaries, there is a need to scale up circular economy policies throughout the clean technology supply chains.

During the event IEEP will share insights from recent research on the "circularity gaps" of the ECRMA and facilitate an engaging panel discussion with experts working on CRMs, sustainability and circularity. Some questions this event aims to answer include:

- What circular economy-related elements are integrated into the ECRMA?
- Where does the EU stand and where are the major gaps concerning recycling rates of CRMs?
- What measures could close the gaps and increase domestic recycling rates of CRMs?
- What circular economy policies could support the delivery of the ECRMA objectives?

For more information about the event, please contact: eblot@ieep.eu