What is Circular Economy?

At Amundi, we consider <u>Circular Economy</u> as a change of economic model that <u>allows producing sustainable consumer</u> goods while protecting nature - by giving it time to regenerate - and ensuring the well-being of individuals.

Linear Economy versus Circular Economy

Our current linear economic model - produce, consume and throw away - has devastating impacts on our environment and compromises it in the long term.



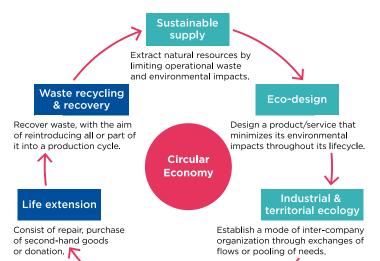
Natural resources depletion

and GHG emission Shortening product life Waste insufficiently and/or badly sorted and treated



If the global population reaches 9.6 billion by 2050, an equivalent of almost 3 planets would be required to sustain current lifestyle.

Circular Economy, on the other hand, proposes a new economic model where each production stage has to be rethought.



Responsible Consumption Economy of functionality

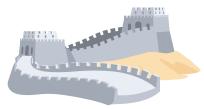
Take into account the Favour use over po

environmental impact at all lifecycle stages. Favour use over possession and tend to sell services complementing products rather than the products themselves.

Case Study: the Electronics & ICT Sector

Under the EU's New Circular Economy Action Plan, the Electronics & ICT sector has been identified as one of the 7 resource-intensive sectors with the highest potential for Circular Economy².

In 2021, it was estimated that around 57.4 million tonnes e-waste were discarded, outweighing the Great Wall of China, the world's heaviest human construction³.



Where Is the E-waste Coming from?

The mass volume of e-waste stems from 3 aspects:

Early obsolescence

Electronics are getting disposed before reaching end of life. Europeans tend to replace their smartphones every 2 years⁴.

Difficulty for devices to be repaired

Inconvenient design such as glued components may stain key parts when the device is opened.

Difficulty to reach a high recycling rate

Current recycling facilities are insufficient due to high set-up costs and stringent health/ environment requirement.

3 Major Consequences of Poor Treatment of E-waste

- E-waste, if not dealt properly, may pollute soils, water sources and food chains.
- In the process of informal e-waste processing, workers are exposed to toxic substances.
- Most CO₂ emissions are incurred during production rather than the product lifetime. The manufacture of a tonne of laptops could emit 10 tonnes of CO₃⁵.

How Can the Electronics & **ICT Sector Integrate the Circular Economy Concept?**

Ever since its first Circular Economy Action Plan in 2015, the EU has been advocating the sector to review its practices through guidelines and legislations.

Here is a glimpse of major developments recently:

By 2022 yearend	Proposal on the "right to repair" will be issued ⁶ .
2Q22	Agreed on designating USB Type-C as the single charging port for all mobile phones, tablets and cameras in the EU by autumn 2024 ⁷ .
1Q22	Rolled out the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation to ensure products are designed for energy efficiency and durability, reparability, upgradability, maintenance, reuse and recycling ⁸ .

DID YOU KNOW?

The "right to repair" has always been a key focus in the European Green Deal. The upcoming legislative proposal is believed to be an extension to current eco-design regulations which demand manufacturers to9:

Production ■ Ensure the sealing techniques do not prevent the disassembly for repair or reuse



- Make most spare parts and repair manuals available to professional repairers
- Allow repairs with commonly available tools
- Deliver spare parts within 15 working days

France's Reparability Index



Countries have also issued their own legislations to defend the "right to repair". An example would be France's Reparability Index. This index is mandatory at the point of sale for products like smartphones, laptops and TVs. On a score of 1 to 10, the product will be evaluated with criteria such as availability and price of spare parts, as well as, the ease of disassembly¹⁰.

Amundi, a key player in Responsible Investment

Amundi ranks among the top 10 fund managers globally¹¹, with assets of USD 2.01 trillion¹², including over USD 829 billion in responsible investments.¹²



>USD 829 billion

in Responsible Investment assets under management¹²



of Amundi's open-ended funds include ESG analysis12



>13,500

issuers rated on the basis of ESG criteria¹²



7,309

general meetings of shareholders where Amundi voted in 202113



2022 ESG Clarity Awards **Best ESG Active Fund House**



2022 Asia Asset Management - Best of the Best Awards

Best ESG Manager



2021 & 2022 Asian Investor Asset Management Awards

Best ESG Strategy Advisor (2021) **Best ESG Investment Strategy** Advisor for Private Markets (2022)



2021 & 2022 Insurance Asia News - Institutional Asset Management Awards

Best ESG Strategy

- Source: International Institute for Sustainable Development.
- Source: European Commission. Source: World Economic Forum.
- Source: NGI Policy Lab.
- Source: World Economic Forum.
- Source: European Parliament.
- Source: European Parliament.

- 8 Source: European Commission.
- 9 Source: National Law Review.
- 10 Source: Right to Repair.
- 11 Source: IPE "Top 500 Asset Managers" published in June 2021 and based on AUM as at December 2020.
- 12 Source: Amundi. Data as of 30 June 2022.
- 13 Source: Amundi. Data as of 31 December 2021.

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