

# Preventing greenwashing in the circular economy

#### Reflections on the role of ISO standards

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December 4 2020





# Agenda

- 1. About standards
- 2. ISO/TC 323 Circular economy
- 3. The way further







### Why are standards important?

- >1 Best practice internationally
- Developed by key experts
- Effective tools to share knowledge and innovation
- >4 Provide access to markets
- Compliance with international regulations and agreements







«Standards are key tools for achieving the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and our ticket to a sustainable future.»

Eddy Njoroge, the ISO President

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#### Resources, Conservation and Recycling

Volume 127, December 2017, Pages 221-232



Review

### Conceptualizing the circular economy: An analysis of 114 definitions

Julian Kirchherr ≈ , Denise Reike, Marko Hekkert

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https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resconrec.2017.09.005

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1350 citations in three years (!)

#### Highlights

- First comprehensive and systematic analysis of circular economy (CE) definitions in the current scholarly and practitioner discourse.
  - 114 definitions examined; some definitions mistake CE as recycling, link to sustainable development (particularly social equity) weak.
- Variety of understandings can result in CE concept eventually collapsing or ending up in conceptual deadlock.





#### **Ecological Economics**

Volume 158, April 2019, Pages 11-19



#### The Circular Economy: Swings and Roundabouts?

Neal Millar 2 ™, Eoin McLaughlin, Tobias Börger

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https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2018.12.012

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Development. However, despite the individual prominence of the Circular Economy and Sustainable Development in the academic and wider literature, the exact relationship between the two concepts has neither been thoroughly defined nor explored. The consequent result is various inconsistencies occurring across the literature regarding how the Circular Economy can serve as a tool for Sustainable Development and an incomplete understanding of how its long-term effects differ from those of the "linear" economy. A literature review was conducted to interpret





#### **ABOUT**

SECRETARIAT: AFNOR

Committee Manager: M Olivier Cartigny

Chairperson (until end 2022): Mrs Catherine Chevauche

ISO Technical Programme Manager [TPM]: Mr Charles-Pierre Bazin de Caix

ISO Editorial Programme Manager [EPM]: Mr Bastien Gavoille

Creation date: 2018

## ISO/TC 323 Circular economy

#### **SCOPE**

Standardization in the field of Circular Economy to develop frameworks, guidance, supporting tools and requirements for the implementation of activities of all involved organizations, to maximize the contribution to Sustainable Development.

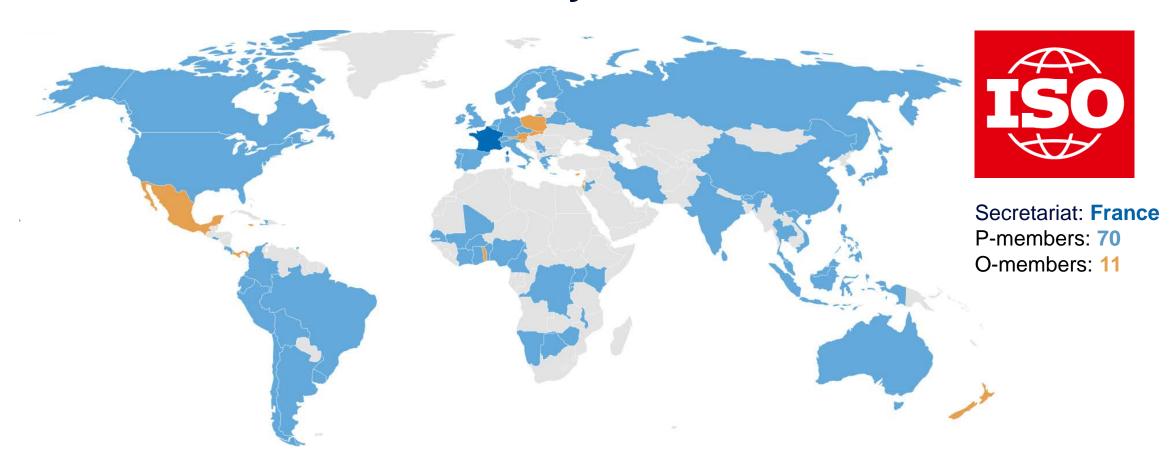
#### Excluded:

Aspects of Circular Economy already covered by existing committees.

Note: In parallel, the ISO TC 323 works in cooperation with existing committees on subjects that may support Circular Economy.



### ISO/TC 323 Circular economy - 81 countries involved







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## STANDARDS BY ISO/TC 323 °

Circular economy

Circular economy - Performance-based approach - Analysis of cases studies

Filter: □ ⊘ Published standards ☑ ⊙ Standards under development □ ⊘ Withdrawn standards □ ⊗ Projects deleted
STANDARD AND/OR PROJECT UNDER THE DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY OF ISO/TC 323 SECRETARIAT (4) ♣
⊙ ISO/WD 59004  Circular economy — Framework and principles for implementation
⊙ ISO/WD 59010 Circular economy — Guidelines on business models and value chains
⊙ ISO/WD 59020 Circular economy — Measuring circularity framework
⊙ ISO/CD TR 59031



Norway has taken a unique position in the further work!

ISO/TC 323

**Circular economy** 

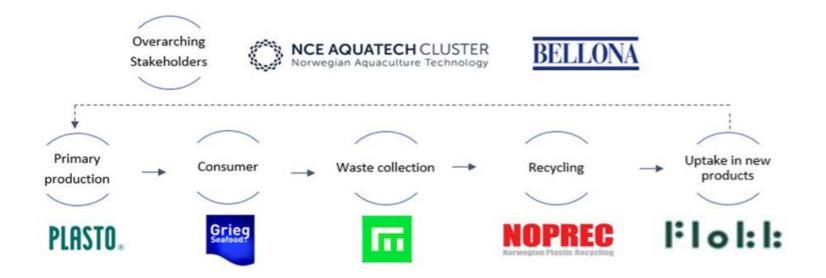
**TECHNICAL COMMITTEES** 

ISO/TC 279

**Innovation management** 



## POCOPLAST









### Please, comment and ask questions!

