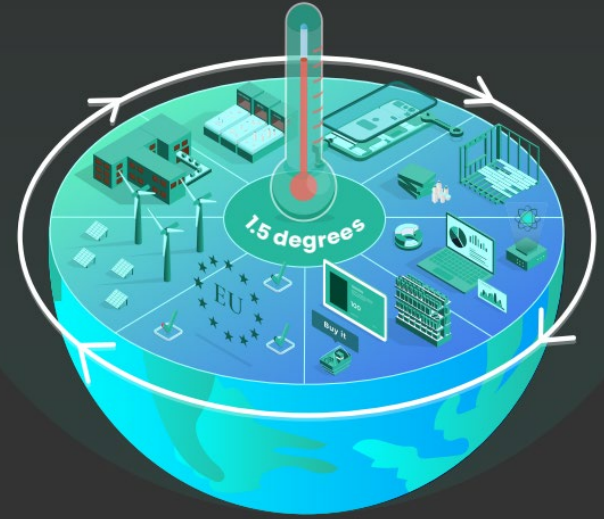


Zero Waste Europe White Paper on the Waste Framework Directive



Whitepaper

Reimagining the Waste Framework Directive

An EU Regulatory Framework for a Circular
Economy consistent with 1.5 degrees

April 2023

 eunomia



Key points

- Carbon emissions as a measure of progress: EU Regulatory Framework for a Circular Economy consistent with 1.5 degrees;
- Presents a vision for 2040;
- Short term revision vs long term overhaul of EU resource policy (before 2029);
- Next: stakeholder engagement and work on concrete policy blueprint.

Why do we need a revision?

- EU's resource productivity has increased by 35% since 2000, the average citizen still consumes almost 14 tonnes of materials each year, and much of the resources on which we depend come from outside the EU
- Growing resource productivity could save Europe €0.6 trillion per year by 2030
- Roughly half of all greenhouse gas emissions derive directly from consumption

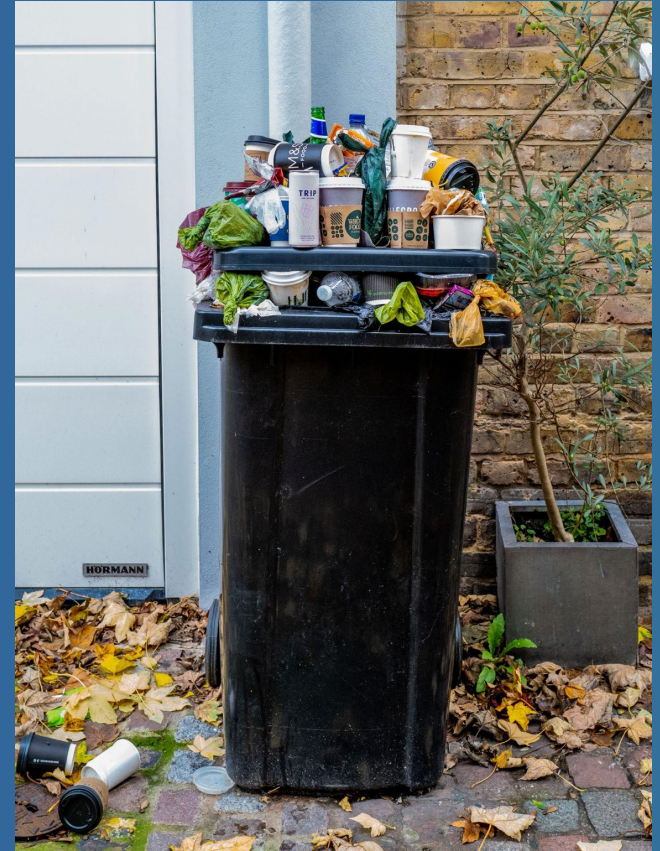
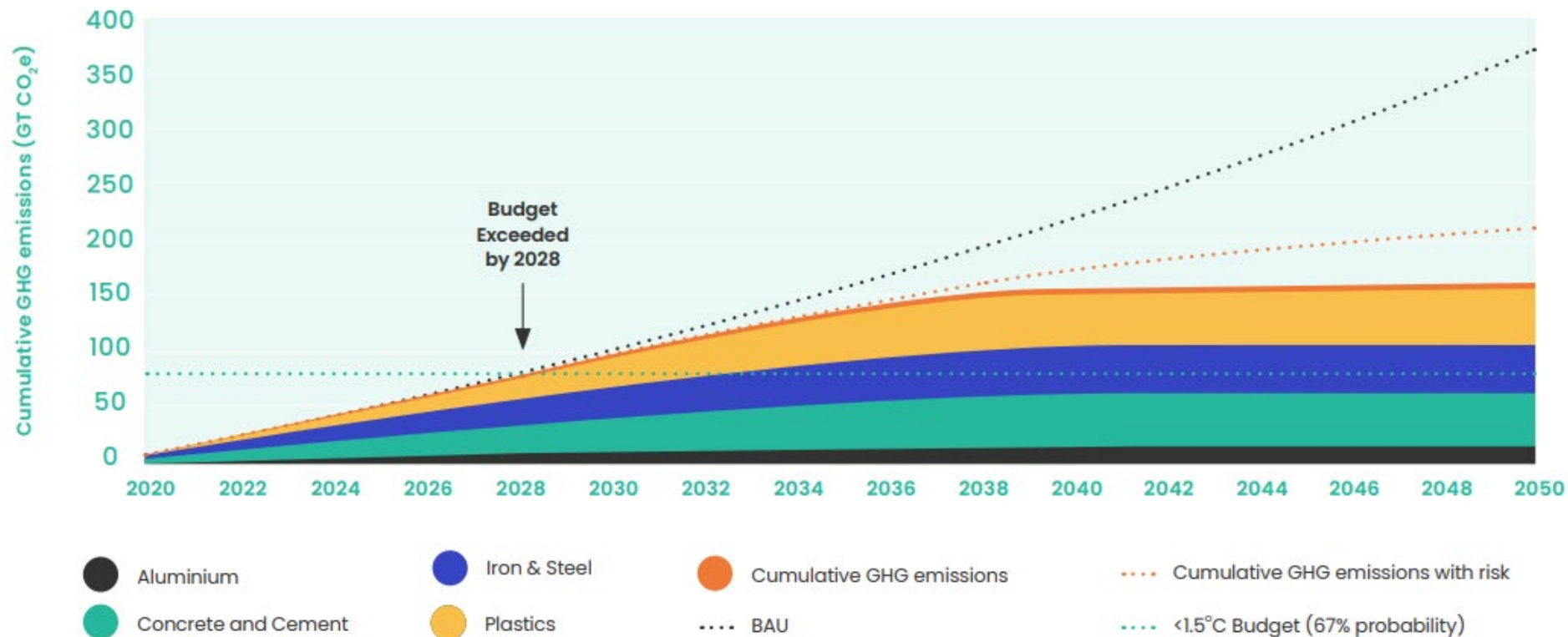


Figure 1 Cumulative GHG Emissions for Four Materials



Six core sectors stand out as those where the EU must take rapid, ambitious action to reduce material consumption in order to keep within the 1.5°C carbon budget:



Construction and buildings



Transport



Food systems



Packaging



Textiles



Electronics, electrical equipment and ICT

Short term revision (before 2026)

- A lighter-touch regulatory environment for products that can be reused, repaired, and remanufactured;
- Greater consistency in the scope and application of extended producer responsibility (EPR), including modulated fees;
- A more granular recycling hierarchy that characterises 'high quality' recycling, and provides a dynamic framework for the beneficial use of composted biowaste; and
- A supportive environment for managing mixed waste to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- In parallel: product policy via eco-design, GPP



Deeper revision (before 2029) Resources Framework Directive

- Guide the continued reduction in raw material consumption to delivers decarbonisation;
- Materials application hierarchy: steer the use to which different materials are put to maximise the potential for decarbonisation across the economy as a whole (rather than on a sector-by-sector basis).





Thank you

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