



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE

Circular Economy Closing the loop in Estonia



Land area 45 000 km²

Population 1,3 mln

Population density 29,4 p/km²

1.May 2004 Member of EU

79 municipalities

Forest area 51%

Bogs 5%

Farmland 25%



Land area 312 700 km²

Population 38 mln

Population density 122 p/km²

1.May 2024 Member of EU

380 municipalities

Forest area 38.5%

Bogs 3-4%

Farmland 50%



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
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Ministry of Education and Research [↗](#)

Ministry of Defence [↗](#)

Ministry of Climate [↗](#)

Ministry of Cultural Affairs [↗](#)

Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications [↗](#)

Ministry of Finance [↗](#)

Ministry of Regional Affairs and Agriculture [↗](#)

Ministry of Social Affairs [↗](#)

Ministry of the Interior [↗](#)

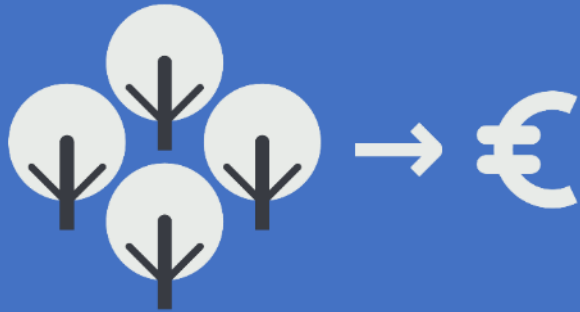
Ministry of Foreign Affairs [↗](#)



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE

Estonian natural values and resources form a national wealth, shall be used sustainably. The task of the Ministry of the Climate is to create such conditions which ensure us and the future generations diverse nature and clean living environment as well as the sustainable use of natural resources.

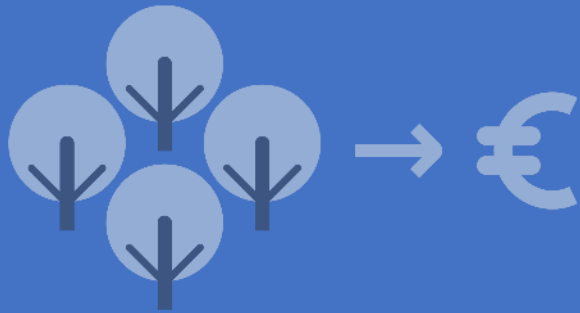
The traditional economy



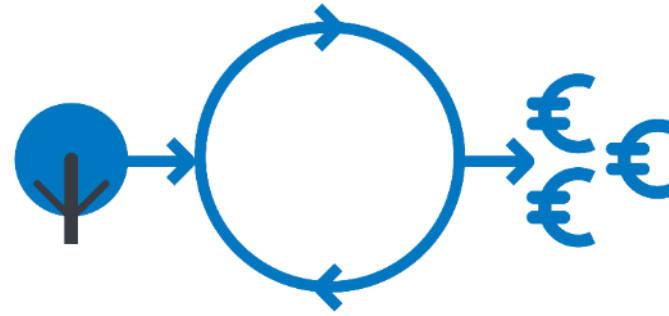
Constant import of resources, energy and export of money.

A lot of potential gets lost.

Reliance on import and relevant prices.



Circular economy



Less imports of energy and resources

Same number of products or more and added value

Less reliance on the prices of imported resources

How we do it in Estonia?



The Circular Economy White paper

- Responsible use of resources
- Waste production is minimized
- Business models are sustainable
- Sufficient nr of experts, and cooperation for expertise
- Quality data and digital solutions
- Favorable economic and regulative environment
- Environmentally conscious behavior



KESKKONNAMINISTEERIUM



KESKKONNAAGENTUUR

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway grants

Sharing Economy

Changing consumption patterns

Change in ownership vs service

Car sharing

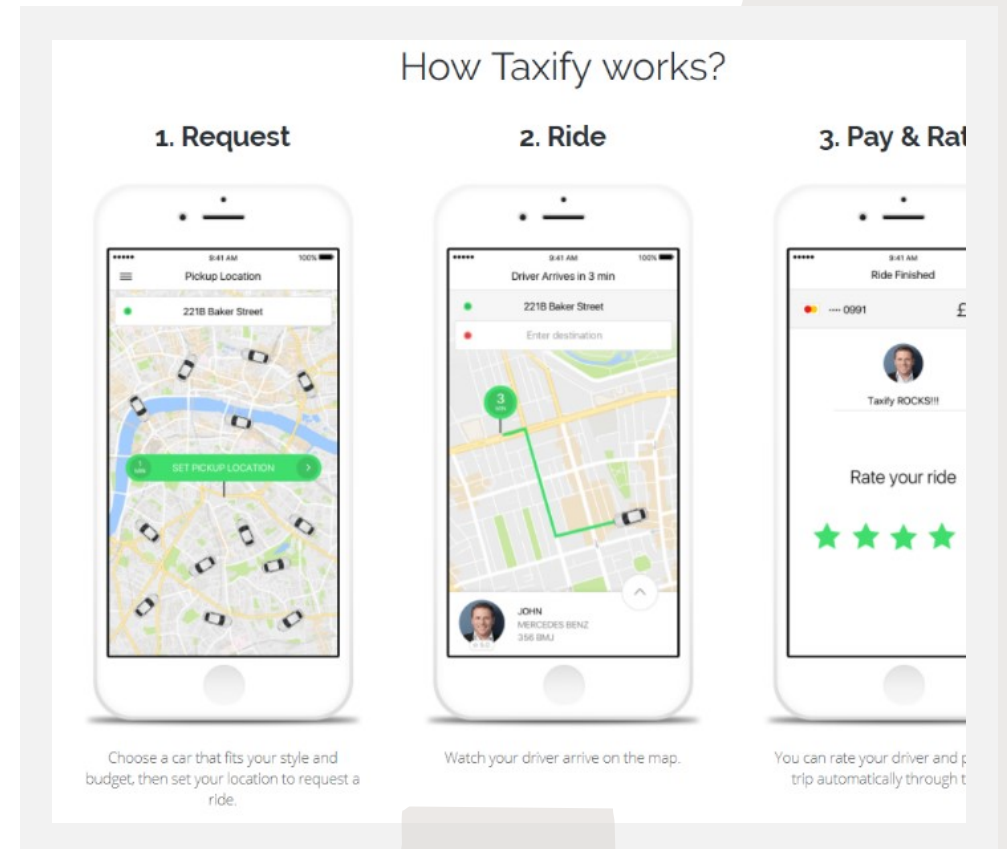
Equipment sharing

Clothes sharing

Material sharing

Food sharing

...



Culture of Repairability



- Repair houses
- Sewing
- Shoemakers
- Jewelry repairing
- Home improvement service
- Phone repairing
- Computer repairing



Collects old computers

Repairs them

Rents them out

Repairs them again

Voluntary Measures



Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) & EU Ecolabel



- The Estonian Ministry of the Environment had EMAS
- Licence holders – 17 organisations / companies
- ENHANCE project

- EU Ecolabel promotional campaign
- Licence holders – 8 companies and ca 1000 products



Green Public Procurement

- Green purchasing is mandatory for the following four categories:
 - Furniture
 - Computers and monitors
 - Coping and graphic paper
 - Cleaning products and services





Voluntary Agreements

- Agreements to establish common goals and understanding between the Ministry of the Climate and a company / an organization.

More good examples



Werrowool OÜ:
Wool for
construction
made 90% from
scrap paper





Algopack: Plastics produced from algae that does not include hazardous chemicals often found in other types of plastics



POLYMIX project: plastic waste used in asphalt

Kira shoes





The non-profit organisation Uuskasutus is an independent social enterprise established in 2004 by the Good Deed Foundation, the Estonian Fund for Nature, the Caritas Foundation and two individuals: Rasmus Rask and Priit Mikelsaar. Its objective is to put used things back in circulation and to make re-use and re-design easily accessible and commonplace for everyone in Estonia.



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- UPMUDE: software that enables textile manufacturers to implement industrial upcycling

EST **ENG** RUS



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Circular Economy Projects



National Waste Management Plan 2022-2028



EU support measures for circularity (111 mln eur)



EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms project for enhancing circular economy in EE (1mln eur)



Data-based reporting project (ca 850 000 eur)

The transition of civic amenity sites into reuse and repair Centers

- 2 reuse rooms (people can give/take reusable goods for free)
- 4 repair workshops (to mend different items)
- Circular Centres
- Awareness rising



Circular renovation in Tartu

- Pilot methods to prove construction materials' circularity usage: Developing methods for the usage of renovation and demolition projects' left-over materials;
- Demonstration of circular usage construction materials in public bicycle pavilions.
- Workshops, seminars





<https://ringmajandus.envir.ee/en>

PODKARPACKIE FORUM INNOWACJI

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Rzeszów
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