

# cobalt

awareness . learning . dialogue

1<sup>st</sup> Regional Dialogue on “Sustainable raw materials management and circular economy in the Iberian Peninsula: the role of industry and consumers in optimizing the raw materials value chain”

## Introduction to the COBALT project

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# A view on raw materials?



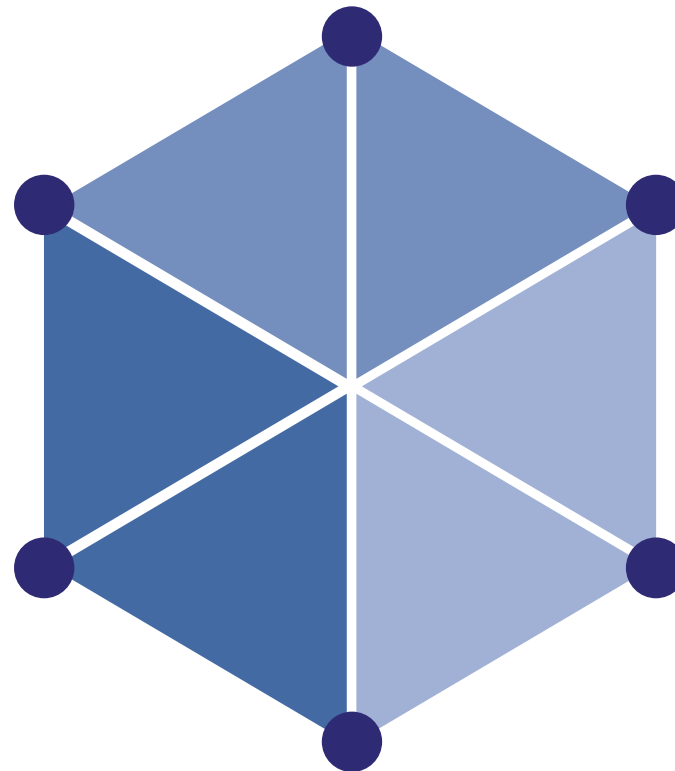
- ❖ **Project:** 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme for research (FP7): runs 2013-2015
- ❖ **Sustainable** and **secure** raw materials supply and use along the whole value chain
- ❖ **Multi-stakeholder platform focusing on an industry and civil society interface**
- ❖ **Supportive framework** for the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials

**Two multi-stakeholder  
European conferences**

**Awareness**

**3 European  
and  
3 Regional  
workshops**

**Dialogue**



**stock-taking of  
skills shortages  
and  
develop strategies**

**Learning**

## Objectives:

- To foster **a targeted Regional dialogue** between civil society and industry, on topics related to raw material efficiency and sustainable raw material use, on an EU and regional level
- To **facilitate exchange of ideas** and **solicit feedback** on research needs
- To **inform** relevant EU **policy** and to **recommend strategies for improved communication** between civil society and industry

## Context:

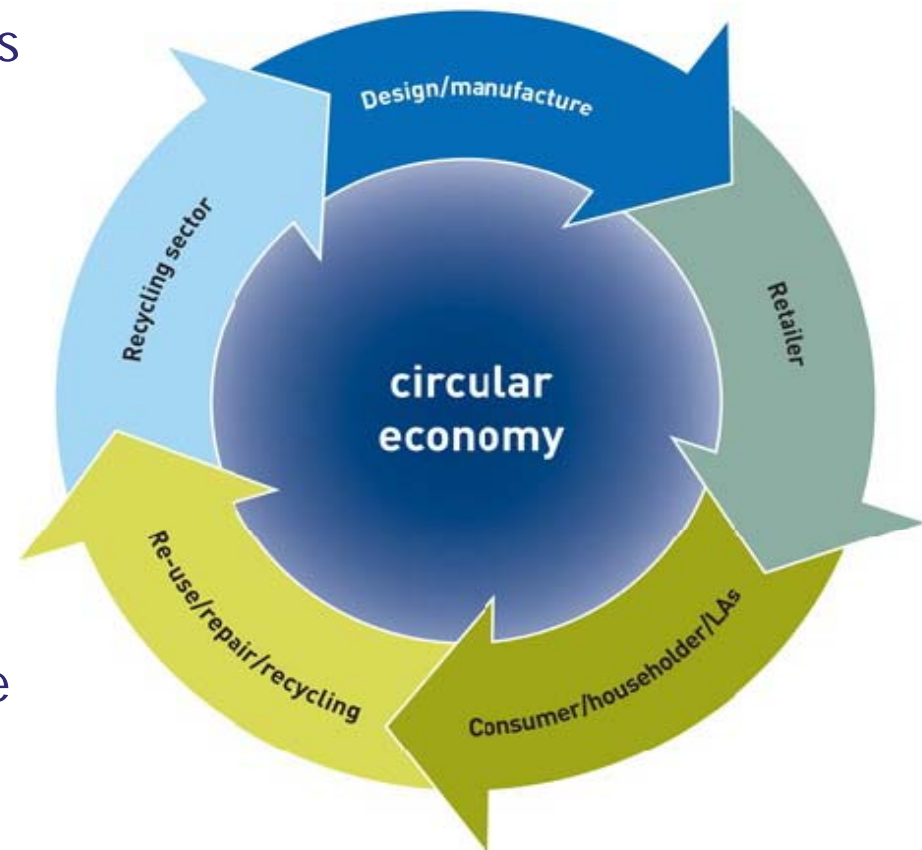
The efficient management of resources in the linear supply chain (make, use, dispose) is now questioned.

## Definition?

A circular economy provides an alternative model where resources are kept as long as possible, maximum value from them is extracted whilst in use, and products are recovered and regenerated at the end of each service life.

Source: WRAP

[www.wrap.org.uk/content/wrap-and-circular-economy](http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/wrap-and-circular-economy)



## *What is the overall frame...*

- ❖ **Circular economy is essential** for driving more sustainable raw materials management
- ❖ **Transition can be most effective** if it involves **collaboration between all key stakeholders**

## Lessons learnt...

- Various industry and CSO case studies highlighted the **need for and effectiveness of a collaborative approach**.
- **There need to be ways of how consumer needs can be integrated** into specific raw materials management challenges.
- **CSOs can act as multipliers** to equip consumers with the right skills and information

- Discussing about RM management along the complete value chain: focus on industrial, particularly **metallic and scarce RM**
- Strong interest in **RM Extraction** in the Iberian Peninsula: several EIP commitments presented → both countries join together to work on shared interests (e.g. PolymetOre, Stand4Mines)
- On the side of the **Recycling**, “urban mines” still host substantial amounts of valuable raw materials not reclaimed from urban waste streams, which can be recycled and reused in a circular way

***Existing challenges from various perspectives: social, environmental, technological that involve CSO and Industry***



## **Collaboration is already taken place**

- Industry and business partners are very prominent in multi-stakeholder approaches,
- CSOs are least prominent

## **Which stakeholder groups are needed**

- Policy makers + CSOs

## **Benefits of CSO-industry collaboration**

- Improve society's (broader public) knowledge and awareness on particular raw material challenges
- Exploring social acceptability and opportunities for change

## **Enablers for CSO-industry collaboration**

- Business' transparency, trust and show-casing good practices

# We wish you interesting discussions

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