

FEAD BULLETIN N° 44 - 26 March 2021

Communication, Networking, and Future Events

- FEAD Event on Batteries 22 March 2021
 - Monday 22 March, FEAD held a successful online debate as a side event to the <u>EU Industry Days 2021</u> in partnership with the European Commission, on the topic of recycling of batteries, in view of the new Regulation on sustainable batteries recently proposed by the European Commission (December 2020). The event was entitled "Batteries' recycling: energising the EU green transition".
 - Overall, 215 people attended the event!
 - <u>Final</u> The material of the event including the agenda, the presentations of the speakers, and the recording can be found on the FEAD website <u>here</u>.
 - Make sure that you also check out our <u>Twitter</u>
 <u>feed</u>from the event.



Batteries' recycling: energising the EU green transition

22 March, 14h00-16h00 Online conference



- FEAD Press Release on the event on Batteries
- Con March 22, following our event on batteries' recycling, <u>FEAD issued a Press Release</u> reiterating some of our keys messages on the subject.
 - FEAD's Press Release was featured on the news here.

• FEAD met with MEP Glück's office

- On March 24, FEAD held a meeting together with its German member BDE with MEP GLÜCK's (Renew, Germany) assistant on the topic of batteries.
 - Emphasis was given on mandatory recycled contents in batteries, on collection targets, and on Deposit and Return Systems.
- For your information, FEAD has launched a new round of discussions with Members of the European Parliament, particularly in IMCO, ENVI and ITRE Committees, who are responsible for preparing reports and opinions on the new Batteries Regulation. We will seek to engage all of our members in these discussions.
- We will keep you updated about any procedural updates and also about our lobbying moves on the batteries dossier.

• FEAD Event on Waste-to-Energy - 12 April 2021 - Save-the-Date

• SAVE THE DATE for the new FEAD online event entitled "Waste-to-Energy: an essential element for circularity".

Monday 12 April 2021 at 16:00-18:00 CET

• More information and a link for registration will follow soon.



Ongoing Surveys and Consultations

- EC Consultation on Sustainable Products:
 - The Commission has <u>published</u> a new initiative Public Consultation (questionnaire) on **Sustainable Products**. (EC deadline for feedback is 09 June 2021 - midnight Brussels time). FEAD will prepare a draft response to the questionnaire and share it with you for your feedback in the coming weeks.
- <u>EC Consultation on Environmental crime improving EU</u> rules on environmental protection through criminal law:
 - The Commission has <u>published</u> an initiative Consultation (public questionnaire) on <u>Environmental crime</u> – improving EU rules on environmental protection through criminal law. (EC deadline for feedback is 03 May 2021 - midnight Brussels time).
- FEAD survey on MS implementation of EU plastics tax:
 - Following a request from our Finnish member, YTP, on how the EU Member States are implementing the new tax on

plastic, **FEAD** has decided to conduct a relevant **survey**. We are kindly asking you to provide us with your feedback about how your countries are implementing the plastic tax. Please, fill in your input <u>here</u> and send it back to us at your earliest convenience.

- <u>Consultant's stakeholders' questionnaire on the Revision of</u>
 <u>the IED:</u>
 - The Consultancy Ricardo is conducting on behalf of the Commission a <u>stakeholders' survey</u> on the Revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive and they have requested our feedback.
 - SFEAD held two online meetings (on March 9 and on March 23) to discuss Members' positions on the two consultations on the revision of the IED. Please, find the updated draft reply to <u>Ricardo's survey</u>.
 - We have deleted the chapters related to manufacturers and kept only the ones related to our sector. You will find the FEAD replies in red highlighted in yellow.
 - Please, provide us with your feedback ASAP.
- New EC study on WEEE:
 - The European Commission has published a new <u>Study</u>
 <u>on quality standards for the treatment of waste</u>
 <u>electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)</u>.
- Informal stakeholders' meeting with MS and the EC on the upcoming guidelines on the new plastic waste entries:
 - On Thursday 25 March, FEAD took part in an informal stakeholders' meeting with Member States and the Commission on the upcoming guidelines on the new plastic waste entries (entered into force on 1 January 2021). FEAD highlighted the following points:
 - Current impurity thresholds are not high enough to allow the proper functioning of EU markets. A threshold of at least 8% could be feasible according to business practices.
 - A clear methodology to measure impurity is needed. In this regard, secondary components (i.e. labels,

caps)and residues should not be taken into account. FEAD also suggested moving away from a dry matter approach.

- For streams that cannot comply with the thresholds, derogations based on traceability and EDI should be put in place. In this regard, some organisations have put forward the concept of a certification-based derogation system, to which FEAD has expressed concerns both during the meeting and successively in writing.
- You can find the minutes of the meeting <u>here</u>.
- A Correspondents' meeting took place today (26 March). We are looking forward to receiving a new draft from the Commission soon.
- ED/EL Cooking appliances: 2nd draft review study and 2nd TWG meeting:
 - The second draft of the Review study of Ecodesign and Energy Labelling for Cooking appliances has been published for stakeholders consultation.
 - The second Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting for the Review study of Ecodesign and Energy Labelling for Cooking appliances will take place on 4 and 5 May 2021 by means of interactive webinars.
 - The second draft of the review study can be found here.
 - The technical working group meeting will be as follows:
 - 1st interactive webinar on 4 May from 10.00 to 13.00 (CET): ovens
 - 2nd interactive webinar on 5 May from 10.00 to 13.00 (CET): hobs and cooking fume extractors
 - Please, express your interest to participate no later than 9 April, specifying which webinars you are interested in, writing directly to Mr. RODRIGUEZ QUINTERO Rocio <u>Rocio.RODRIGUEZ-</u> <u>QUINTERO@ec.europa.eu</u>.
- <u>EC 1st Stakeholders' workshop on Safe and Sustainable-by-</u>
 <u>Design criteria for chemicals, materials and products</u>

- On Friday 19 March, the European Commission held online the 1st Stakeholders' workshop on Safe and Sustainable-by-Design criteria for chemicals, materials and products.
- You can find the video recording <u>here</u> and all the workshop material <u>here</u>.
- DG RTD will create a stakeholder list to communicate on progress, outputs and new events under Sustainable by Design. Some of the upcoming communications will be on:
 - Publishing the mapping study carried out by DG RTD (April)
 - Launching a survey to collect input for the Safe-and-Sustainable-by-Design methodology development (April)
- To be included in the list of stakeholders, please reply to <u>this</u> <u>survey</u>.
- Fertilizers Experts Group 18 and 19 March 2021:
 - FEAD participated in the Fertilizers Expert Group on 18 and 19 March. Please find the agenda and the presentations of the meeting <u>here</u>.
- FEAD provided feedback to consultations:
 - On 23 March, <u>FEAD provided feedback</u> to the EC Public Consultation (questionnaire) on the Revision of the <u>Industrial Emissions Directive</u>.
 - On 26 March, <u>FEAD provided feedback</u> to the stakeholders' survey on textile recycling technologies and recycled fibres, in preparation of the study on the "Technical, Regulatory, Economic and Environmental Effectiveness of Textile Fibres Recycling" commissioned by DG GROW.

Monitoring of EU Institutions

Life of EU institutions

Circular Plastics Alliance - Steering Committee

- On Thursday 25 March, the Steering Committee of the CPA held a meeting, with the following agenda:
 - 1. Introduction by the Chair
 - Presentation by the Chair
 - 2. Updated timeline on remaining deliverables
 - See slide 4 in Chair presentation
 - Monitoring system: the drafts have been submitted to EC for comments (due by end-March). Final, revised drafts to submit to EC by end April.
 - Untapped potential report and investment needs mapping and Update of Design Work plan: send inputs to Chaim Waibel and Eugenio Longo by 6/4/21. Revised draft by 10/4/21. Final draft submitted to EC for sharing with Member States by 25/4/21.
 - 3. Other points for follow-up
 - Dialogue with NGOs: update, Kristin Olofsson, Trioworld
 - Recycled Content Report, update on process and timeline, Venetia Spencer, PCEP
 - 4. EC feedback on the inclusion of pre-consumer waste in the 10 million tonnes target
 - See slide 12-19 in Chair presentation
 - 5. Conclusions and next steps
- The next Steering Committee will take place in 6 weeks, date TBC.
- Please, find all the relevant documents of the meeting here.

This week's focus: Taxonomy leaked draft delegated act

- We are expecting the adoption of the first Taxonomy delegated act on mitigation (Annex I) and adaptation (Annex II) activities on the 21st of April.
- However, there is a **leaked draft** act that the Commission circulated to the European Parliament and to the Member States last week. This is neither final nor official.
- A few takeaways from the **leaked document** (*Vs* the previous version opened for feedback in December 2020) for activities that

relates to our work:

- In the text of the delegated act:
 - Recital 27 on waste management activities now reads: "(..)The technical screening criteria should recognise as substantially contributing to climate change mitigation those activities that process a uniformly set minimum share of sorted separately collected non-hazardous waste into secondary raw materials. However, it is not possible at this stage for technical screening criteria based on a uniformly set target for reprocessing waste to address fully the climate mitigation potential of individual material streams. It may therefore be necessary to further assess and review those technical screening criteria".
- In the text of Annex I (mitigation activities):
 - New introduction of "Manufacturing of batteries" among the economic activities (Annex I, section 3.4, p.51); it also concerns the recycling of end-of-life batteries.
 - Criteria are introduced with regards to reuse and use of secondary raw materials, design for durability and recyclability, information and traceability of substances of concern.
 - Cogeneration of heat/cool and power from bioenergy(now only under section 4.20 – p 108); now only refers to biomass and explicitly excludes cogeneration from blending fossil fuels with biofuels.
 - Collection and transport of NHW in source segregated fractions (section 5.5, p. 129); this point now reads under the criteria:
 - "all separately collected and transported nonhazardous waste that is segregated at source is intended for preparation for reuse or highqualityrecycling operation". Co-mingling is now not specified.
 - Anaerobic digestion of sewage sludge (section 5.6, p.130); now the condition specifies "a plan is in place tominimise leakage at the facility".

- anaerobic digestion of bio-waste (section 5.7, p.131); condition 5 has been amended as follows: "(...) in the dedicated bio-waste treatment plants, bio-waste constitutes at least 90 % of the input feedstock, measured in weight, as an annual average, and the share of other input material is less than or equal to 10 % of the input feedstock. Such other input material may not include food or feed crops."
- material recovery from NHW (section 5.9, p.134); the description has been changed to clearly include backfilling purposes.
- landfill gas capture and utilization (section 5.10, p.135); now includes our comments on the concept of a "landfill cell" (both in the description of the activity and in the technical screening criteria).
- Leaked Annex II (adaptation activities) for your information.
- As expected, waste-to-energy is still left out. Regarding the process, we are looking at gathering eventual comments on these highlighted issues and others you might see within the draft. Please let us know if you have any <u>by Thursday 1 April COB</u>.
- We are also currently looking at the report published last week by the Platform on Sustainable Finance with regards to transition activities, available <u>here</u>.

FEAD website - Reminder

- Go to your Member Area (<u>https://fead.be/index.php</u> > "Members Only")
- Enter your login and password (Please ask your login and password to <u>info@fead.be</u> if you forgot it)
- Go to "Active Files" and here you have access to all files followed by FEAD Secretariat. We keep it updated!
- Frequency of FEAD Bulletin: The bulletin will be sent maximum once per week, but without a minimum if it not necessary. If there

is a slow week with no new relevant information, then we deem that it is not necessary to send it.

For further information or enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the FEAD Secretariat at <u>info@fead.be</u>