



FEAD BULLETIN N° 41 - 05 March 2021

Communication, Networking, and Future Events

- **FEAD in EP Hearing on plastics**
 -  On February 25, FEAD's President, Peter Kurth, participated in a **Joint Public Hearing**, held by the European Parliament's **ENVI** and **PETI** Committees on the topic of "**Plastics and waste management in the circular economy**".
 - FEAD issued a relevant **Press Release** [here](#), which was also **featured on the news** [here](#).
 - During the discussion at the EP Hearing, several MEPs posed questions, which due to time limits remained unanswered. **FEAD issued a paper replying to those questions.**
 - In the same link, you can also find Mr Kurth's presentation.
 - FEAD has initiated **communication with ENVI MEPs** on the subject.
- **FEAD Event on Batteries - 22 March 2021 - REGISTRATION OPEN**
 - FEAD will hold a side event to the **EU Industry Days 2021** in partnership with the **European Commission**, on **22 March 2021, at 14h00 – 16h00 CET**, 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 will be entitled

"Batteries' recycling: energising the EU green transition".

- Read more about the upcoming event [here](#).



**Batteries' recycling:
energising the EU
green transition**

22 March, 14h00-16h00
Online conference

FEAD European Waste Management Association **EU INDUSTRY WEEK 2021**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

- **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**
 - The event aims at showing that WtE is a crucial link in the whole waste management chain and that it is integral to the circular economy. It allows to move up waste treatments pursuant to the Waste Hierarchy, as a key enabler to more recycling and a no-regret option for safe treatment of non-recyclable waste. It saves CO₂ emissions by substituting fossil fuel for residual waste to produce heat and electricity. Speakers from the EU institutions and Member States, experts from the waste management sector, and stakeholders will debate on why and how future EU regulations, in particular the Taxonomy, should have a positive approach to Waste-to-Energy.
 - **More information and a link for registration will follow soon.**



ONLINE EVENT

WASTE-TO-ENERGY

an essential element for circularity

12 APRIL 2021, 16H00 - 18H00





- **FEAD supported Event: European technology for a greener and carbon-neutral Hong Kong – electric vehicles and waste management**
 - The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (HKETO) in Brussels and HKETO in Berlin are co-organising a webinar event to introduce the latest green business opportunities offered by Hong Kong to European businesses.
 - **Friday, 19 March 2021, 10:00-11:00 CET**
 - More information [here](#). Register [here](#).

Ongoing Surveys and Consultations

- **EC Consultation on Environmental crime – improving EU rules on environmental protection through criminal law:**
 - The Commission has **published** an initiative - Consultation (public questionnaire) on **Environmental crime – improving EU rules on environmental protection through criminal law**. (EC deadline for feedback is 03 May 2021 - midnight Brussels time).
- **EC Consultation on the Revision of the IED & of the E-PRTR & Consultant's stakeholders' questionnaire:**
 - The Commission has published two initiatives - **Public Consultations (questionnaires) on the Revision of**

the [Industrial Emissions Directive](#) and of the [E-PRTR](#). (Please, note that while there are two different initiatives on the EC website, the consultation and the questionnaire are merged).

- The Consultancy **Ricardo** is also conducting on behalf of the Commission a [stakeholders' survey](#) and they have requested our feedback.
 -  FEAD has prepared the [preliminary drafts of both the questionnaires](#) related to the **revision of the IED**.
-  On **Tuesday 9 March at 14.30-16.00 CET**, **FEAD** will hold an [online meeting](#) to discuss Members' positions on the two consultations on the **revision of the IED**.
 - Ahead of the meeting, we would like to **highlight** the main issues which may affect the waste management sector:
 - The possible inclusion in the scope of the **batteries' disposal and recovery**
 - The possible inclusion in the scope of **landfills**
 - The reduction of thresholds for **waste management – biological treatment**, to be included among IED activities
 - BAT conclusions to be allowed for landfills covered by IED
 - The change of the **default options** for setting **ELVs** (Emission Limit Values) in permits from the higher to the lower limit of the BAT-AEL range
 - The tightening of the conditions for applying **derogations** from BAT-AELs
 - The insufficient coverage of chemicals of concern (including substances of very high concern (SVHC) and persistent organic pollutants (POPS)) in BREFs and BAT conclusions
 - The consideration of GHG emissions when identifying BAT together with pollutants emissions
 - The extension of the scope of monitoring/reporting to cover resource efficiency improvements

- **EC 1st Stakeholders' workshop on Safe and Sustainable-by-Design criteria for chemicals, materials and products**
 - The European Commission will hold online the **1stStakeholders' workshop on Safe and Sustainable-by-Design criteria for chemicals, materials and products** on Friday 19 March at 09:30-13:00 CET. Please find [here](#) the link for the registration to the workshop.

- **EC Consultation on Fertilising products - technical update:**
 - The Commission has **published** an initiative - Consultation on a **Draft Act on Fertilising products - technical update**.
 - Please, find [here](#) the **revised text of Annex II**, in word, with the changes highlighted in yellow, the Commission Delegated Regulation text **with all the proposed amendments** (also available on the EC website).
 - ⌚ Please provide us **with your feedback on the proposed amendments by ASAP**, so we can build up a FEAD reply to circulate to members (EC deadline for feedback is **16 March 2021** - midnight Brussels time).

- **FEAD provided feedback to EC public consultations:**
 - On 01 March 2021, [FEAD provided feedback](#) to the **EC Public Consultation (questionnaire) on the Proposal for a Regulation on Batteries - modernising EU rules**, which is published [here](#).
 - On 26 February, [FEAD provided feedback](#) to the **EC Public Consultation (questionnaire) on Sewage sludge use in farming – evaluation**, which is published [here](#).
 - On 26 February, [FEAD provided feedback](#) to the Consultancy that conducted a **survey targeting specific stakeholders on the sewage sludge directive** on behalf of the Commission.

Life of EU institutions

- **Commissioner** for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, **Virginijus Sinkevičius** responded to [a question for written answer submitted by EPP MEP Tomislav Sokol \(Croatia\)](#) on 23 February 2021 under Rule 138 of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure.
- In its [response](#), Commissioner Sinkevičius noted that following the Circular Economy Action Plan's mandate, **the Commission is currently assessing several measures to address excessive and avoidable packaging.**
 - In particular, the Commissioner stressed that whilst no estimations of over-packaging were currently available, the Commission was **committed to establish a definition and determine the related quantities** within the framework of the impact assessment study supporting the expected revision of EU rules on packaging and packaging.
 - Lastly, Commissioner Sinkevičius indicated that, together with the EU legislation on packaging, global initiatives in the field of e-commerce and retail sector were of outmost importance to address over-packaging.

This week's focus: Waste-to-Energy & Taxonomy

- Last week, the Commission held a series of webinars on how the Platform for Sustainable Finance (currently advising the Commission on delegated acts, the definition of technical screening criteria, and the way forward) is proceeding.
- Briefly, here's what we can expect:
 - **The Commission will adopt the first delegated act on adaptation and mitigation activities on 21 April 2021.**
 - The Commission has asked the Platform to further investigate the scope of transition activities, with a deadline set to mid-end March.
 - The Commission is set to send a draft to Member States and to the Parliament around mid-March (potentially 12 March).

- Just as a reminder, after adoption, MS and the Parliament will have up to 4 months (2+2 if renewed) to raise objections.
 - The proposal for a second delegated act (covering objective 3-6, including circular economy) can be expected in the Summer (June/July), with discussions starting in the Platform towards the end of Summer.
 - Considering this process, **FEAD has kick-started the work on technical screening criteria for waste-to-energy**, which we would like to discuss with you, together with a common strategy on the next steps. We suggest organising a **short meeting** with you next week to gather input on the latter. **Please fill in this doodle by Monday, 8 March 2021 COB.**
 - You can find [here](#) a short **agenda**. A working document including a very initial proposal for technical screening criteria for waste-to-energy will be circulated in the coming days.
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Press Review & Reports

- **Think2030 paper: "A low-carbon and circular industry for Europe"**
 - The Ellen MacArthur Foundation and the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP) have co-written a paper entitled **"A low-carbon and circular industry for Europe"**.
 - You can watch here an [online briefing](#) on the paper, held today, 5 March.

Webinars & Conferences

- **"Empowering the circular bioeconomy through the EU Green Deal!"**
 - **MEP Franc Bogovič**, chair of the Bioeconomy Working Group of the **European Parliament Intergroup on 'Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development'** is

hosting a webinar entitled "Empowering the circular bioeconomy through the EU Green Deal!".

- 17 March 2021, 14:00 - 16:00 CET. Register [here](#).
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FEAD website - Reminder

- **Go to your Member Area** (<https://fead.be/index.php> > "Members Only")
- **Enter your login and password** (Please ask your login and password to info@fead.be 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 info@fead.be