



FEAD BULLETIN N° 8 – 12 June 2020

Dear Reader,

Please note that FEAD is in the process of restructuring its communications tools, including this bulletin.

Enjoy!

Communication, Networking, and Future Events

- **FEAD Bulletin Survey**
 - Thank you to those that have already provided feedback so far. Just to remind you, we have launched a survey regarding the FEAD Bulletin that you have been receiving. We would appreciate your responses to improve our work. Please, provide your feedback [here](#).

- **FEAD President speaks in international webinar**
 - Our President, **Peter Kurth**, will speak at the **1st ABREN International Webinar: Waste-to-Energy in the context of the Circular Economy** about the plans of the EU concerning Green Deal and the Circular Economy.
 - The webinar will take place on the 15th of June 2020, at 3 pm to 5 pm (start at GMT-3).
 - You can watch the webinar live [on this YouTube link](#).

- **Lobbying**
 - On 10.06.2020 FEAD held a meeting with the assistant of MEP Evi (N-A, Italy), with the participation of FISE.

- **FEAD online workshop: Ecotoxicity (HP 14) test methods – navigating EU experiences**
 - FEAD will organize an online workshop on HP 14 Test Methods and classification of waste as ecotoxic. It will be held on the 30th of June from 11:00 to 13:15 CEST.
 - Invitations will be sent out in the following days, along with a link for registration.

- **Last updated List of Events:**
 - Please find [attached](#) the last updated List of (external) Events that we keep at FEAD.

Ongoing Surveys and Consultations

- **Last updated Table of Consultations:**
 - Please find [attached](#) the last updated version (in pdf format) of the FEAD Table of Consultations for your information.

- **Basel Convention online meeting postponed:**
 - Please note that the (online) **twelfth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention (OEWG-12)**, that would notably include discussions on R/D codes, and which was foreseen as from 22 June, has been **postponed**. We will keep you posted on any updates.

- **Green Deal :**
 - **Strategy for smart sector integration**
 - FEAD provided [feedback](#) to the EC Roadmap on 08.06.2020.
 - **"Renovation wave" initiative for the building sector**
 - FEAD provided [feedback](#) to the EC Roadmap on 08.06.2020.
 - The [EC consultation – questionnaire](#) has now opened for feedback until 9 July 2020. FEAD will prepare a draft response to the questionnaire and we will share it with you for your feedback in the upcoming days.
 - **Reducing packaging waste – review of rules**
 - FEAD will prepare the response to the new EC initiative’s roadmap on reducing packaging waste. We will share it with you for your feedback in the upcoming weeks. In the meantime, you can also provide your separate responses [here](#) (feedback until 6 August 2020 - midnight Brussels time). You can find [attached](#) to the present the Inception Impact Assessment.
 - In a ‘circular economy’, waste is reduced and goods are re-used and recycled as much as possible. This means that packaging waste should also be reduced, and packaging should be made easier to recycle. The Commission will review the requirements on packaging and packaging waste in the EU. This will include assessing how to: (a) improve packaging design to promote reuse and recycling, (b) increase recycled content in packaging, (c) tackle excessive packaging, (d) reduce packaging waste.
 - You can take a look [here](#) for EUROSTAT information on packaging waste and [here](#) for an updated table on **packaging waste by waste management operations and waste flow**.

- **Final Workshop for the Study on quality standards for WEEE treatment:**
 - As per our BULLETIN N° 5 – 22 May 2020, the EC and the consultant Umwelt Bundesamt conducted on 15.05.2020 the Final Workshop for the “Study on quality standards for the treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)”.
 - Please find [attached](#) to the present bulletin the entirety of the documents that were shared with us for the workshop.

- **Circular Plastics Alliance - updates:**
 - The Circular Plastics Alliance has sent several questions to be answered before the next Steering Committee meeting.
 - First, they would like to establish **product teams within each Working Group** (sector) to **work on:**
 - design-for-recycling guidelines and standards (recyclability) for the priority products listed in the CPA's Work Plan on Design
 - where necessary, integration of recycled plastics into specific products
 - where necessary, data inputs for the Mass Flow Model.
 - The **product teams** under each working group are:
 - Agriculture: LDPE Mulching and Silage Films, HDPE Net Wraps, PP Twines
 - Automotive PP bumpers, PP body sides, PP dashboards
 - Construction: PVC Window profiles, PVC Pipes, PVC Roller Shutters, PVC Doors, PVC flooring films and sheets, HDPE Pipes, EPS insulation
 - EEE: No groups specified

- Packaging: LDPE Flexible Packaging (already 1 FEAD expert), PP Flexible packaging, EPS Packaging, PET beverage bottles, PET Trays, HDPE necked bottles for milk and detergents (already 1 FEAD expert), PP Food Containers, caps and closures (already 1 FEAD expert), PS cups (FFS), trays and dairy packaging.
 - Please signal your **willingness to join** one or several product teams by **18.06.2020**.
- Secondly, they would like your **feedback** on what are the main needs for European Standards to support the achievement of the 10 million tonnes target by the CPA.
 - Please, fill in the attached excel. Your first reactions on which European Standards are most needed are very much appreciated by **24.06.2020**.
- **InfoFlows Study is published:**
 - The final report of the feasibility study "**Information Flows on Substances of Concern in Products from Supply Chains to Waste Operators**" called InfoFlows Study has now been published.
 - The "long version" which includes all case study reports as annexes as well as further background information, is available [here](#).
 - The "short version" which consists of main text without Annexes is attached to the present.
- **JRC consultation on Comparative LCA of Alternative Feedstock for Plastics Production:**
 - The Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the EC conducts an important project for DG GROW to compare the environmental impacts of plastic products depending on the feedstock used (virgin/recycled/ biomass). It has launched a **written technical stakeholder consultation** on the project "**Comparative Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA) of Alternative Feedstock for Plastics Production**", to gather views on both the proposed methodology and the 10 case studies.
 - For this purpose, two background documents related to the project are made available to interested stakeholders for consultation and commenting, here:
 - Report I, focusing on the updated draft method for comparative LCA of plastic articles, available [here](#).
 - Report II, focusing on the detailed LCA case studies on 10 selected plastic articles: See [Main Report](#) and [Annexes](#).
 - The written consultation process closes on **30 June 2020**.
 - If you have any comments/feedbacks to provide, please let us know.
- **EC public consultation on 6 new Draft Acts on Sustainable Finance:**
 - This week, 6 new EC initiatives (for investment funds and insurance companies) were published for public consultation regarding Draft Delegated Acts based on the Sustainable Finance Regulation and the future Taxonomy. (Feedback until 6 July 2020).
 - The EU's action plan on sustainable finance seeks to clarify the duties of financial institutions to provide their clients with clear advice on the social and environmental risks and opportunities attached to their investments.
 - The 6 initiatives are:
 1. Draft Delegated Regulation: [Sustainable finance – obligation for alternative investment funds to advise clients on social & environmental aspects](#).
 2. Draft Delegated Regulation: [Sustainable finance – obligation for investment firms to advise clients on social and environmental aspects of financial products](#).
 3. Draft Delegated Regulation: [Sustainable finance – obligation for \(re\)insurance companies to advise clients on social & environmental aspects](#).
 4. Draft Delegated Regulation: [Sustainable finance – obligation for insurance firms & brokers to advise clients on social & environmental aspects](#).

5. Draft Delegated Directive: [Sustainable finance – obligation on investment funds to advise clients on social & environmental aspects](#).
 6. Draft Delegated Directive: [Sustainable finance – obligation for mutual funds to advise clients on social & environmental aspects](#).
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Monitoring of EU Institutions

- **Life of EU institutions**

- 2020 Blue Economy Report just published.
 - The report provides an overview of the performance of the EU economic sectors related to oceans and the coastal environment. The report emphasizes the importance of waste management, circular economy, and renewable energy, with particular focus on marine renewable energy, to the protection and development of marine and coastal environments. The blue economy presents a huge potential in terms of its contribution to a green recovery.
 - You can read [here](#) the EC's press release: 2020 Blue Economy Report: Blue sectors contribute to the recovery and pave way for EU Green Deal.
 - You can find the report [here](#).

- **This week's focus: Chemical Recycling**

- Chemical recycling has been receiving increasing attention as an alternative route for treating waste. However, **FEAD remains sceptical** towards the concept and underlines the importance of monitoring closely the relevant developments.
 - On a [Press Release dated 6.12.2019](#), FEAD explained its position towards Chemical Recycling:
 - FEAD excludes the idea of changing the definition of recycling contained in the Waste Framework Directive, as it appropriately addresses chemical recycling in its current definition.
 - An independent study to assess the CO2 footprint of chemical recycling and a cost-benefit analysis of chemical recycling compared to mechanical recycling are deemed necessary to be conducted.
 - In order to create a level playing field between chemical and mechanical recycling, the former's installations have to be classified as waste treatment plants and consequently comply with the relevant legislation on waste.
 - The **Coalition for Chemical Recycling** will hold a meeting on Wednesday 17 June 2020 at 10:00 – 12:00 CEST. It will be a SKYPE/phone conference call.
 - If you are interested in participating, you can send an e-mail to Celine Oostens (coo@cefic.be).
 - Chemical Recycling hit the news once again:
 - **“Chemical recycling of plastics a “dangerous distraction”, campaigners warn”** - Environmental damage from ‘chemical recycling’ outweighs any benefits to tackling plastic waste, campaigners have said, despite official EU backing for the technology. (Find article [here](#) and [attached](#))
 - Gaia, a global alliance of some 800 civil society groups, and the organization mentioned in the article above, published last week (04.06.2020) a **Research Briefing** and a **Technical Assessment** on Chemical Recycling. You can access both [here](#).
 - You can find [here](#) a relevant **factsheet** on the topic of chemical recycling produced also by Gaia.

Press Review & Reports

- **ZERO WASTE EUROPE CALLS FOR EU ‘BRIDGE STRATEGY’ FOR RESIDUAL WASTE**
 - Environmental NGO Zero Waste Europe (ZWE) has called for the introduction of a Material Recovery and Biological Treatment (MRBT) system in the EU as a ‘bridge strategy’ for managing residual waste in a circular economy.
 - Read [here](#).
- **[UNEP report assesses plastic packaging labels](#)**
 - On May 19, Consumers International, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and One Planet Network [released](#) their global assessment of recycling and sustainability labelling on plastic packaging.
 - The joint report maps and assesses global labelling schemes and claims related to recycling and disposal of plastic packaging; recommends global harmonization of definitions, better consideration of actual local conditions, restriction of chasing arrows symbol, labels being verified with enforcement of proper use.
 - The research found only 19% of assessed labels give consumers quality information to make informed recycling and purchasing decisions. In response the report authors have created five global recommendations for action to engage business, policy makers, standard setters in creating better plastics labelling that make sustainability the easy choice for consumers.
 - Consumers are [increasingly aware of the impact of plastic](#) on the environment and want to reduce their use. However, the information provided to them to make more sustainable choices is not always clear or actionable, leading to reported confusion. There is a lack of standardisation and accountability with individual brands creating their own labels and claims without third party certification. Ensuring better labelling is an important way to support consumers to be a force for change.
 - You can find the report [here](#).

Webinars

- **SUEZ.uk webinar: Hanging on by a thread | How the textiles industry needs to change**
 - Tuesday, June 16, 2020 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM CEST. Register [here](#).
- EURACTIV held a virtual conference on 10.06.2020 on “**European energy decarbonisation: reinforcing the EU’s 2050 climate goal through a green recovery**”.
 - Decarbonising the energy sector in Europe by 2050 is an ambitious, yet achievable objective. The new reality brought about by the COVID-19 health crisis has reinforced the need to align the climate goals of the European Green Deal with the much-needed economic recovery efforts to build a more resilient, robust and sustainable EU economy. Will a 'green recovery' plan be able to deliver the necessary innovation and jobs that are needed to kick-start the European economy? And what will be the role of the energy sector in this plan?
 - You can watch the recorded virtual conference [here](#).
- FoodPackagingForum WEBINAR on **Key characteristics for identifying hazardous chemicals** – recording available to watch [here](#)
 - Martyn Smith from UC Berkeley presents on the development of sets of key characteristics to help identify hazardous chemicals; international working group of experts focuses on carcinogens, male and female reproductive toxicants, expanding work on other toxicants.

FEAD website - Reminder

1. **Go to your Member Area** (<https://fead.be/index.php> > “Members Only”)
2. **Enter your login and password** (Please ask your login and password to info@fead.be if you forgot it)
3. **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

All the best,
The FEAD Secretariat

In case of comments or questions, feel free to contact the team by replying to this email.

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