

# Circular Economy in SEA and EIA

# Circular Economy (CE) and SEA: Current Situation



**Circular Economy Action Plans for a Cleaner  
and More Competitive Europe**



**Guidelines for a Transition to the Circular  
Economy of Lithuania until 2035 (CE Guidelines)**



**SEA of national CE Guidelines**



**Compatibility with other strategies and policies**

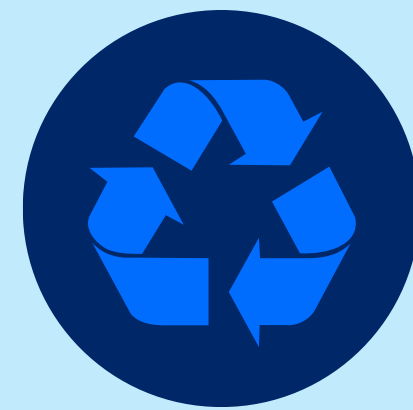
# Circular Economy (CE) and EIA: Current Situation



**No specific legal requirements related to CE in EIA**



**No consideration of the CE principles during EIAs**



**Voluntary integration through energy and resource efficiency, waste reduction and reuse**

# Potential Benefits of Integrating Circular Economy Principles into SEA and EIA



## A win-win situation?



### Environmental benefits:

- reduction of waste and pollution
- circulation of products and materials
- reduction of dependence on primary raw materials
- more effective carbon reduction



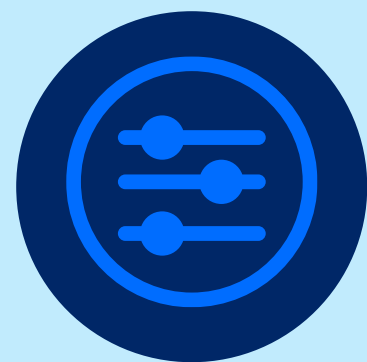
### Benefits for developers:

- reduction of environmental taxes
- increase of energy efficiency
- increase in resource efficiency
- increase of social acceptability

# Integrating Circular Economy Principles in the Assessments (esp. Transboundary)



**Amendments to the Espoo Convention and SEA Protocol**



**Harmonization of Regulatory Frameworks**



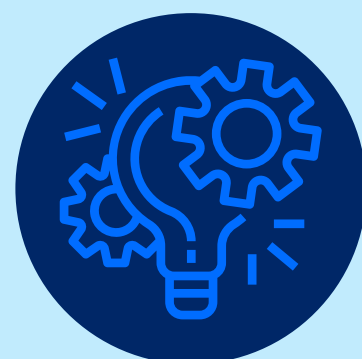
**Public Participation**



**Information Sharing and International Cooperation**



**Guidance and Recommendations**



**Capacity Building**



**Monitoring and Reporting**

# Circular Economy (CE) and SEA / EIA: Conclusions



**There are no legal requirements for integration of the Circular Economy principles into EIA and SEA**



**Countries can ensure that projects with cross-border implications prioritize sustainability, minimize waste, and reduce their environmental impacts**



**Integrating the CE principles into national EIA can both promote the development of CE and enhance the effectiveness of EIA**

**Integrating the CE principles into national SEA can lead to more sustainable planning and decision-making**

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