

# 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress and Expo on Recycling

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### Circular Economy and Waste Management: Trends and needs from the perspective of developing countries

**Statement of the Problem:** Governments, industry and the civil society worldwide increasingly recognise that the linear model of economic growth, on which they often relied in the past, or still rely, is unsustainable from an economic, environmental and social perspective and that they cannot build their future on a “take-make-dispose” model. The circular economy approach is not only relevant for established economies. The governments are facing the challenge of addressing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production. Moving towards a circular economy is essential for all governments to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) amid growing scarcity of natural resources and growing urban- populations, with a rising income and increased consumption through increase in purchasing power. In the context of circular economy, there are several SDGs that are of relevance such as SDG 6 (Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all), SDG 8 (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production patterns), SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 14 (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development). The German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) provides official development assistance for numerous countries classified as low- and middle income countries. The presentation informs about strategies to support transformation towards circular economy in those countries and proposed priority targets and actions. These cover for example advice and financing for sustainable handling and recycling of electronic waste, prevention of marine litter, and the support of cities for implementing climate-friendly waste management technologies.



Figure 1: From the linear economy



Figure 2: To the circular economy

### Biography

Dr. Tania Rödiger-Vorwerk leads the Directorate „Environment, Energy and Infrastructure“ at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Dr. Tania Rödiger-Vorwerk holds a PhD in legislative science. Under the German Ex-President Prof. Dr. Horst Köhler, she was appointed to lead the „Sherpa“ for a High-Level Panel for the UN that was formed to elaborate concepts for the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Prior to that she led the BMZ Division In WENT working together with various institutions of academe and civil society and in further functions on behalf of BMZ.

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