Subject: Public Consultation on a Roadmap for a resource-efficient Europe

Eurima Response to the EC consultation: “Roadmap for a resource-efficient Europe”

QUESTIONNAIRE
This section will ask for your view of resource efficiency in the short-to-medium term (up to 2020) and in the long term (up to 2030/50)

1. What are your predictions about the impact in Europe of resource scarcities?

1.1 We will consume natural resources at an unsustainable rate and sustainability limits of natural resources will be exceeded
   - In the short term (by 2020)

1.2 Access to resources will become difficult (e.g. because of tensions between countries)
   - In the longer term

1.3 Europe will face physical shortages of resources like water and minerals
   - In the longer term

1.4 The prices of some materials/resources will rise considerably
   - In the longer term

2. Resource efficiency has the potential to:

2.1 Help the EU's economy cope with sudden price rises and shortages on world markets
   - In the short term (by 2020)

2.2 Make the EU's environment more resilient
   - In the short term (by 2020)

2.3 Create new jobs and growth in the European economy (e.g. new technologies and services)
   - In the short term (by 2020)

3. How would you rate the current use of the following resources in Europe in terms of efficiency?

3.1 Metals and minerals (e.g. iron, copper, lithium)
   - More or less efficient

3.2 Food (e.g. agriculture products, meat, drinks)
   - No opinion

3.3 Fossil fuels (e.g. oil, gas, coal)
   - Not efficient

3.4 Water
   - More or less efficient
3.5 Biotic materials (e.g. wood, biofuels)
   - Not efficient

3.6 Construction materials
   - More or less efficient

3.7 Energy
   - Not efficient

3.8 Ecosystem services (e.g. pollution sink, water regulation, pollination)
   - More or less efficient

3.9 Chemicals
   - No opinion

4 How much potential do the following policies have to help make the European economy more resource efficient?

4.1 Agriculture and rural development
   - No opinion

4.2 Climate change policy
   - High potential

4.3 Consumers and health policy
   - High potential

4.4 Employment policy
   - Some potential

4.5 Energy policy
   - High potential

4.6 Environmental policy
   - High potential

4.7 Industrial policy
   - High potential

4.8 Maritime and fisheries policy
   - No opinion

4.9 Regional policy
   - Some potential

4.10 Research and innovation policy
   - High potential

4.11 Trade policy
   - Some potential

4.12 Transport policy
   - Some potential

5 How significant are the following obstacles in preventing the economy from becoming more resource efficient?

5.1 Inadequate market signals for resource efficiency (i.e. prices do not reflect impact on resources)
   - Significant mainly at global level

5.2 Consumers purchasing decisions not reflecting long term sustainability
   - Significant mainly at global level

5.3 Lack of information (on alternative options)
   - Significant mainly at EU level

5.4 Lack of long-term thinking in decision making (e.g. awareness of new technologies, working methods and processes among managerial staff)
5.5 Insufficient public funding/incentives for investment and innovation promoting resource efficiency
- Significant mainly at EU level

5.6 Limits in existing infrastructure (e.g. energy, transport and communication)
- Significant mainly at EU level

5.7 Dependence on existing technologies
- Not significant

5.8 Current business models
- Significant mainly at EU level

5.9 Skills gaps in the workforce and sub-optimal functioning of the labour market
- Significant mainly at EU level

5.10 Unhelpful existing regulation
- Significant mainly at EU level

5.11 Lack of targets/indicators
- Significant mainly at EU level

5.12 Lack of prioritisation
- Significant mainly at EU level

5.13 Insufficient R&D funding and investment
- Significant mainly at EU level

**POLICY TOOLS**
In this section you will be asked to indicate the most effective public policy instruments to tackle the obstacles preventing the economy from becoming more resource efficient

1. Lack of long term thinking in private innovation and investment in efficiency

How potentially effective are the following ways to promote long-term thinking and planning in the private sector?

1.1 Education & training of consumers, entrepreneurs and workers to raise awareness of resource-saving opportunities
- Effective mainly at EU level

1.2 Binding regulations and standards (e.g. fuel efficiency standards, eco-design requirements, compulsory resource accounting and reporting)
- Not effective

1.3 Mandatory long-term targets
- Effective mainly at EU level

1.4 Market-based instruments (e.g. energy and resource taxes and incentives) to induce resource-saving measures
- No opinion

1.5 Financial support to trigger long-term investments in the private sector
- Effective mainly at EU level

1.6 Public-private partnerships in R&D and innovation
- Effective mainly at EU level
1.7 Support to R&D into new technologies and organisational structures
   - Effective mainly at EU level

1.8 Information tools to strengthen the market for sustainable products (e.g. product labels indicating resource footprint)
   - Not effective

1.9 Eco-friendly procurement contracts by public authorities (to strengthen the market for resource-efficient products)
   - Not effective

1.10 Incentives to consume less, re-use, recycle
   - Effective mainly at EU level

1.11 Trade policy measures (e.g. introduction of sustainability criteria for imported products)
   - Not effective

1.12 Phase out of environmentally harmful subsidies
   Effective mainly at EU level

1.13 Access to credit for efficient use of energy, water and waste management and other sustainable products and services for households
   - Effective mainly at EU level

2. Insufficient public funding/incentives for investment and innovation for resource efficiency
   How potentially effective are the following as ways of boosting investment in innovation for resource efficiency?

2.1 Tax incentives for sustainable companies
   - Not effective

2.2 Education & training of consumers, entrepreneurs and workers on how to use innovation to their advantage
   - Effective mainly at EU level

2.3 Binding technical regulations and standards (e.g. public buildings energy and water standards to boost investment in the construction sector)
   - Effective mainly at EU level

2.4 Financial support to increase energy efficiency of buildings and invest in renewable energy
   - Effective mainly at EU level

2.5 Information tools (e.g. resource footprint information on cars for consumers)
   - No opinion

2.6 Eco-friendly public procurement to develop the market for more sustainable products and services
   - Not effective

2.7 Public-private R&D and innovation partnerships
   - Effective mainly at EU level

2.8 Increased funding for resource-efficient infrastructure through EU's structural and cohesion funds
   - Effective mainly at EU level

2.9 Other market based instruments
   - Effective mainly at EU level
3. Limits of existing infrastructure
How potentially effective are the following as ways to ensure private investment in a resource-efficient infrastructure (e.g. energy, transport and communication)?

3.1 Cap and trade-type quotas combined with economic incentives
   - No opinion

3.2 Market-based instruments (e.g. higher taxes on energy, roads and congestion instead of income tax)
   - No opinion

3.3 Subsidies
   - No opinion

3.4 Development of demand-side management strategies in parallel with any major infrastructure projects
   - Effective mainly at EU level

3.5 Binding technical regulations and standards (e.g. uniform standards and targets for energy and resources to influence infrastructure-related emissions)
   - Effective mainly at EU level

3.6 Information tools (e.g. standardised methodologies on life-cycle analysis for use by suppliers to increase transparency and allow market comparison)
   - Effective mainly at EU level

3.7 Eco-friendly public procurement (e.g. public infrastructure tenders to impose compliance with sustainability and ecological requirements/indicators)
   - Not effective

3.8 Public-private partnerships
   - Effective mainly at EU level

3.9 Increased funding for resource-efficient infrastructure (e.g. through EU's structural and cohesion funds)
   - Effective mainly at EU level

4. Current consumption patterns
How potentially effective are the following as ways of steering consumers towards more sustainable alternatives?

4.1 Education & training of consumers, entrepreneurs and workers for sustainable consumption and waste generation
   - Very effective

4.2 Better research & design of consumers choices
   - More or less effective

4.3 Binding minimum technical product regulations and standards to remove the least sustainable products from the market
   - Not effective

4.4 Market-based instruments (e.g. energy and resource taxes reflected in product prices) to make sustainable products more price-competitive
   - Not effective

4.5 Information tools (e.g. labelling of products on their resource foot-print)
• Not effective

4.6 Corporate social responsibility (CSR)
• No opinion

4.7 Eco-friendly public procurement to develop the market for sustainable consumer products and services
• Not effective

4.8 Trade measures (e.g. introduction of sustainability criteria for imported products) to develop the market for sustainable consumer goods
• Not effective

4.9 Stricter requirements for waste disposal and recycling for consumers
• No opinion

5. Current business models
For each of the following factors, say how significant it is as a barrier to adopting new business models/organisational innovations by private companies that could contribute to more resource efficiency?

5.1 Excessive perceived risk
• Very significant

5.2 Lack of funds-financing (e.g. in R&D)
• Very significant

5.3 Long payback period for investments compared to short term investors expectations
• More or less significant

5.4 Limited access to information and knowledge (e.g. among managerial staff)
• Very significant

5.5 Lack of suitable business partners
• Very significant

5.6 Uncertain market demand
• Very significant

5.7 Market dominated by established firms
• Not significant

5.8 Regulations not providing the right incentives
• Very significant

5.9 Lack of qualified personnel
• Very significant

5.10 Lack of adequate infrastructure
• More or less significant

5.11 Lack of technological and management capabilities
• Not significant
6. How potentially effective are the following as ways of shifting business behaviour to resource efficient business models?

6.1 Market-based instruments (e.g. energy and resource taxes/incentives in support of resource efficient business models)
   - More or less effective

6.2 Cap and trade-type quotas
   - Not effective

6.3 Education & training of employees, entrepreneurs and workers about progressive businesses case studies and how to replicate them in their environment
   - Very effective

6.4 Binding technical regulations and standards (e.g. fuel-efficiency standards or eco-design requirements and compulsory resource accounting and reporting)
   - Not effective

6.5 Easy access to investment/R&D and innovation funding
   - Very effective

6.6 Information tools (e.g. products information on resource foot-print to encourage businesses to create more sustainable supply chains and business models)
   - More or less effective

6.7 Requirement for public procurement to comply with sustainability and ecological standards
   - Not effective

6.8 Trade measures (e.g. introduction of sustainability criteria for imported products to push businesses to create more sustainable supply chains and business models)
   - Not effective

6.9 Voluntary sectoral agreement (with commitments and targets, possibly to become mandatory after agreement with all parties)
   - Very effective

7. Inadequate market signals for resource efficiency
How potentially effective are the following as ways of steering the market towards resource efficiency?

7.1 Financial support mechanisms to correct price distortions in the market
   - Not effective

7.2 Influence markets through pricing environment and resource use (e.g. energy and resource taxes instead of income taxes)
   - Not effective

7.3 Independent and trustworthy advice (by public authorities) to consumers and SMEs on energy efficiency applications (in their homes/business)
   - Effective mainly at national level

7.4 Information tools (e.g. products information on resource foot-print to help consumers)
   - Not effective

7.5 Eco-friendly public procurement to influence markets and consumer perception
   - Not effective
7.6 Trade measures (e.g. introduction of sustainability criteria for imported products to send the right signal to national and international markets)
   • Not effective

7.7 Binding regulations and standards (e.g. compulsory resource accounting and reporting, fuel-efficiency standards, eco-design requirements)
   • Not effective

7.8 Private sector financial stimuli (e.g. long-term soft-loan for energy efficient projects)
   • Effective mainly at EU level

8. Monitoring and measuring progress on resource efficiency

How should the European Commission approach the issue of indicators so that improvements in resource efficiency across different parts of the EU economy can be effectively monitored and measured? (Continue using the existing sustainable development indicators as they cover all needs for monitoring appropriately)

INDIVIDUAL ATTITUDES

In this section you are asked about your personal views, attitudes and behaviour as a consumer

1. What do you see as the main criteria steering individual behaviour and decisions to improve resource efficiency?

1.1 Compliance with social, religious or ethical norms (e.g. waste disposal)
   • No opinion

1.2 Perceived usefulness/benefit to society of the individual’s effort
   • Very relevant

1.3 Tendency for short-term thinking
   • Not relevant

1.4 Perceived cost (e.g. up-front investment, more expensive products) and effort (e.g. red tape, complex authorisation systems)
   • Very relevant

1.5 Perceived long-term savings
   • Very relevant

1.6 Perceived trade-offs in terms of comfort
   • Very relevant

1.7 Consumer information
   • Very relevant

1.8 Financial incentive
   • Very relevant

2. Should the resource efficiency footprint of products (resources used in their production, consumption) be indicated on the products’ labels?
   • Strongly Disagree

3. In order to reduce the impact of resource consumption outside of the EU, should the EU trade only products that respect sustainability criteria and labelling (e.g. the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) label certifying that wood is sourced from well managed forests)?
   • Strongly Disagree
4. Would you be willing to pay comparatively more for sustainably produced/imported products (e.g. certified timber, certified sustainable biofuels, etc...)?
   - Don't know

5. Would you be willing to change your diet to reduce the environmental impact of the food-production chain (e.g. favouring seasonal fruit and vegetables)?
   - Don't know

6. Would you consider leasing or buying a service for the following as an alternative to buying goods if the option was available?
   6.1 Transport (e.g. car leasing or buying mileage instead of buying a vehicle)
      - No opinion
   6.2 Personal electronic appliances (e.g. mobile phone, computing)
      - No opinion
   6.3 Household electrical/electronic appliances (e.g. home entertainment, laundry)
      - No opinion

7. What factors would influence you in deciding whether to opt for a service or sharing/leasing scheme (e.g. car sharing) instead of buying a product for your personal use?
   7.1 Ease and flexibility of contractual arrangement
      - No opinion
   7.2 Practicality/availability/reliability of service
      - No opinion
   7.3 Attractiveness of service
      - No opinion
   7.4 Lower environmental impact
      - No opinion
   7.5 Social image
      - No opinion
   7.6 Price/value for money
      - No opinion

8. Would you agree to higher taxes on goods with higher environmental impacts (e.g. energy from fossil fuels, imported goods involving high resource use, etc.) if this was offset by lower taxes on goods with a lower environmental impacts (sustainable products or services) so that there was no increase in your taxes overall? This would increase the price of less sustainable products and services and reduce the price of more sustainable ones.
   - Strongly Disagree

9. How potentially effective do you consider the following private initiatives to contribute to resource efficiency?
   9.1 Change of diet and consumption patterns (e.g. not throwing away food, reducing the number of electronic devices owned)
      - No opinion
   9.2 Using alternative means of transport to minimise private car use and air travel
      - No opinion
9.3 Investing in higher-efficiency installations (e.g. insulation, double-glazing, heating/cooling through air/ground source pumps, energy star rated boilers, thermostats and aquastats)
  • Very effective

9.4 Reducing waste by composting and recycling
  • No opinion

9.5 Investing in smart meters to control consumption and cost (water, electricity)
  • More or less effective

9.6 Investing in small-scale renewable technologies (e.g. solar thermal to heat water, solar photovoltaic and small-scale wind turbines to generate your own electricity and sell the excess back to the grid)
  • More or less effective