
Chatham House 3rd Annual Circular Economy Conference

Thursday 24 February 2022
Online

10.00 – 10.20	Introduction and welcome remarks
	Professor Tim Benton, Director, Environment and Society Programme, Chatham House Patrick Schröder, Senior Research Fellow, Environment and Society Programme, Chatham House
10.20 – 10.40	Keynote presentation
10:40 – 11:00	Question & Answer session
11.00 – 11.40	Panel 1: Global developments on the circular economy
11.40 – 12.00	Question & Answer session
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch break
13.00 – 13.40	Panel 2: Trade frameworks and principles for an inclusive global circular economy
13:40 – 14:00	Question & Answer session
14.00 – 15.00	Break
15.00 – 15.40	Panel 3: Metrics and indicators for circular businesses and financial regulation
15:40 – 16:00	Question & Answer session
16:00 – 16:15	Closing remarks

This event and programme of work are kindly made possible by the support of the MAVA Foundation.



Event contact: esp@chathamhouse.org

Context for the event:

A radical transformation in the way the world uses natural resources is needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the global climate target of 1.5 degrees and meeting the needs of future generations.

The circular economy that minimises waste and keeps materials and products in circulation for as long as possible, is increasingly regarded as a promising model for driving sustainable and resilient economic growth in both developed and emerging economies.

To successfully scale circular practices and ensure the transition from a linear to a circular model leaves no one behind, an open, inclusive and collaborative approach is required.

Until recently, the discussions around the circular economy have predominantly focused on waste management. The circular economy is now becoming more deeply linked with countries industrial strategies, offering pathways for a low-carbon and nature-friendly pandemic recovery. Many countries across sub-Saharan Africa, South and Southeast Asia and Latin America are adopting national policies to promote the circular economy, but no country can navigate the circular transition on their own. To promote collaborative opportunities for an inclusive circular economy transition at the international level through trade, a clearer understanding of the opportunities and potential trade-offs in regional and global trade frameworks is needed.

This third international conference will bring together circular economy leaders from policy, business, academia and civil society across the emerging economies and the developed world to identify best practices, initiatives and existing alliances that can help to build the pathways for achieving this vision.

The conference will build on previous and ongoing research by Chatham House, and others, to drive forward an inclusive circular economy agenda and promote a just transition from linear to circular economic models.

Read more in our Chatham House research reports on the circular economy:

A great deal of circular economy activity is already taking place in emerging economies, as this report [*An Inclusive Circular Economy: Priorities for Developing Countries*](#) discusses.

New financial instruments and investments are needed to support the growth of circular business models and innovations at scale. <https://www.chathamhouse.org/2021/07/financing-inclusive-circular-economy>

Considerations of justice and social equity are as important for the circular economy transition as they are in the contexts of low-carbon transitions and digitalization of the economy <https://www.chathamhouse.org/2020/04/promoting-just-transition-inclusive-circular-economy>

A new generation of technologies is poised to restructure the global trading system and accelerate the transition to a circular economy. <https://iap.unido.org/articles/trade-technology-and-just-circular-transition>

