



10 of the 12 million tons of waste, ended up in landfills without prior treatment

There are only 10 sanitary landfills in Serbia and more than 3,500 illegal ones

The path of the circular economy is reducing the use of resources, reusing and recycling of all materials so that as little waste as possible is disposed in landfills. (reduce reuse recycle)

## STEPS TOWARDS THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY:

### Plastic packaging management



- Every inhabitant of Serbia uses 50 kg of all types of packaging per year, of which 10 kg is plastic packaging
- 95% of the value of the plastic packaging material is lost after the first use.
- The price of oil from which plastics are made often varies
- Long-term degradation of plastics - Delayed plastics decompose into microplastics that can reach water and other habitats and endanger the health of animals and humans.

Steps towards the circular economy:

- Improve the collection network, encourage reuse and recycling of plastics.
- Reduce or completely ban the use of disposable plastic
- Introduce subsidies and tax breaks to innovative packaging manufacturers who use environmentally friendly materials instead of plastic

### Electrical and electronic waste



- In Serbia, over 19 million pieces of various electrical and electronic products were placed on the market in 2018, ie more than 12 thousand tons of these products
- The risk that the metals used will become rare
- Disposal of heavy metals and materials in a landfill can be toxic to the environment
- Metal processing used in the production of e-devices is the largest industrial emitter of SO2
- About 70% of e-equipment waste is collected in the so-called informal sector

Steps towards the circular economy:

- Improve product design that enables repair, reuse, reconstruction and recycling
- Increase the collection and reconstruction of old models
- Improve waste collection - define cooperation between formal and informal sectors, build a network of collection stations or recycling yards

### Food Waste



- In Serbia, 900,000 tons of food waste are produced annually.
- 250,000 tons of still edible food is thrown away
- 99% of food waste goes to landfill where it emits large amounts of greenhouse gases

Steps towards the circular economy:

- Improve the system of donating surplus food to vulnerable groups
- Increase the use of food waste for energy production or compost production.

### Public procurement



- Public procurement accounts for 7.98% of the GDP of the Republic of Serbia
- The selection of scientists is made according to criteria that are usually based on the price of the product / service and do not take into account the impact of production on the environment.

Steps towards the circular economy:

- Increase the share of green public procurement in the total number of public procurements
- Application of criteria for selection of bidders that promote the green concept: type and manner of use of materials, cleaner technologies and innovations, resource and energy efficiency
- Encouraging the use of standards and other voluntary instruments (EMAS, ECO mark).

### ECONOMIC BENEFITS:

- Increasing the competitiveness of domestic producers in the EU
- Creating more than 30,000 jobs and saving 25-30% of energy
- Extended product life
- Savings in household budgets

### ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS:

- Reduction of waste that is disposed in landfills and emits greenhouse gases
- Preservation of natural resources