



European  
Commission



EP Intergroup Climate Change,  
Biodiversity & Sustainable Development

# A circular economy at the heart of climate action:

... how materials connect the dots in the EU  
Green Deal

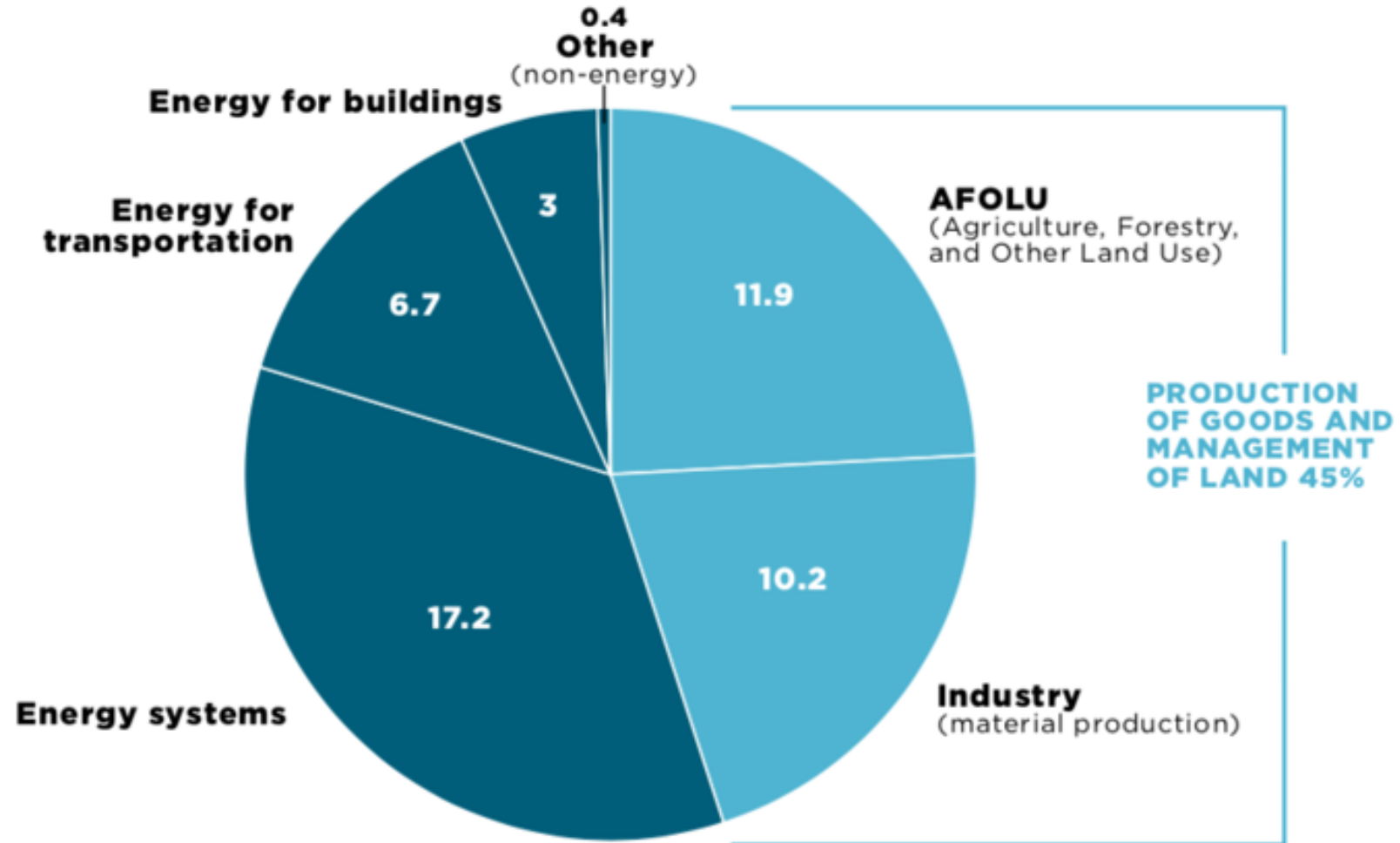
6th July 2020

**William NEALE**  
Adviser on Circular Economy & Green Growth  
European Commission  
Environment Directorate General

# European Green Deal



### Global GHG emissions Billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year, 2010



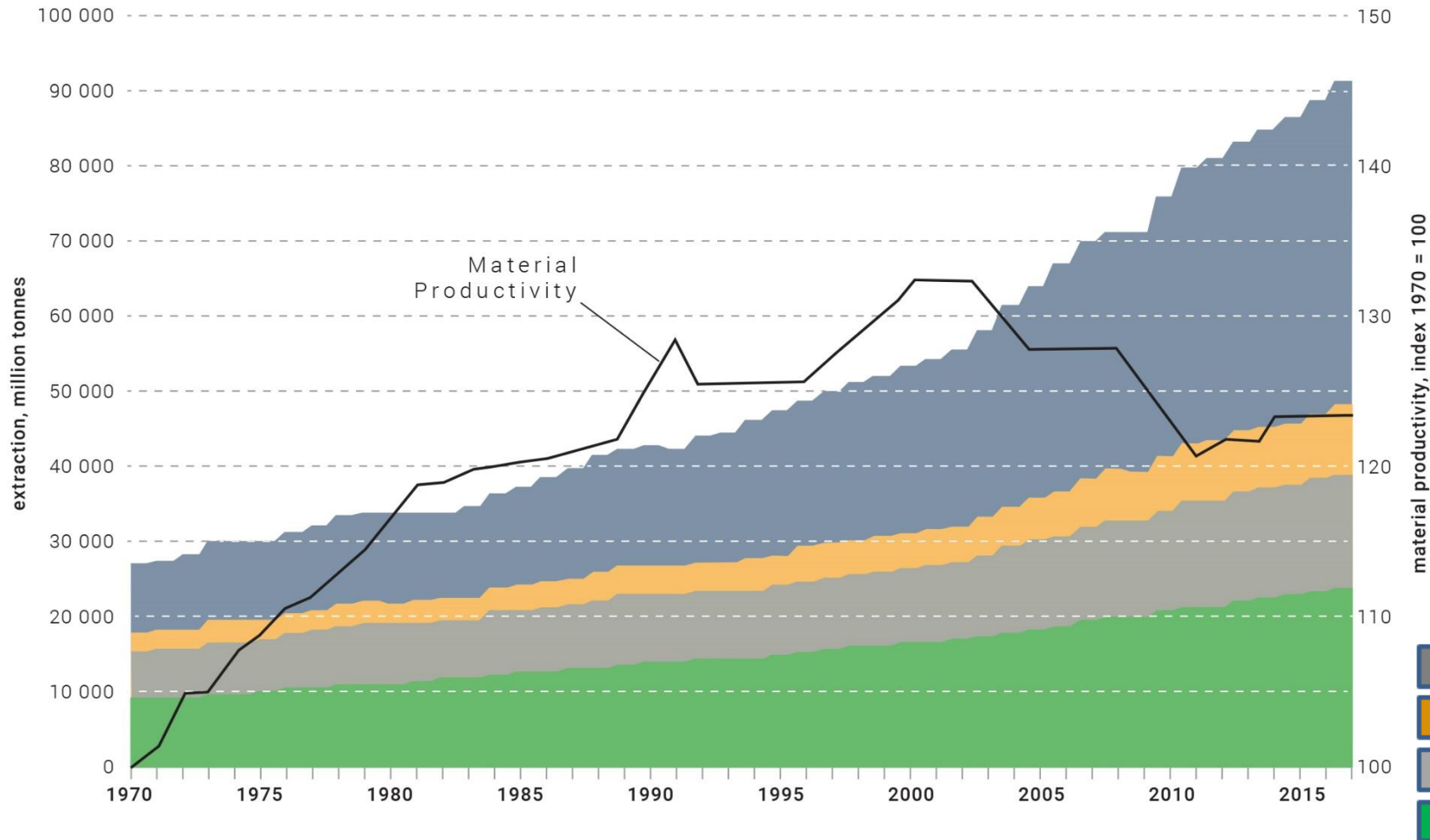
# The Macro/global Picture



Source:



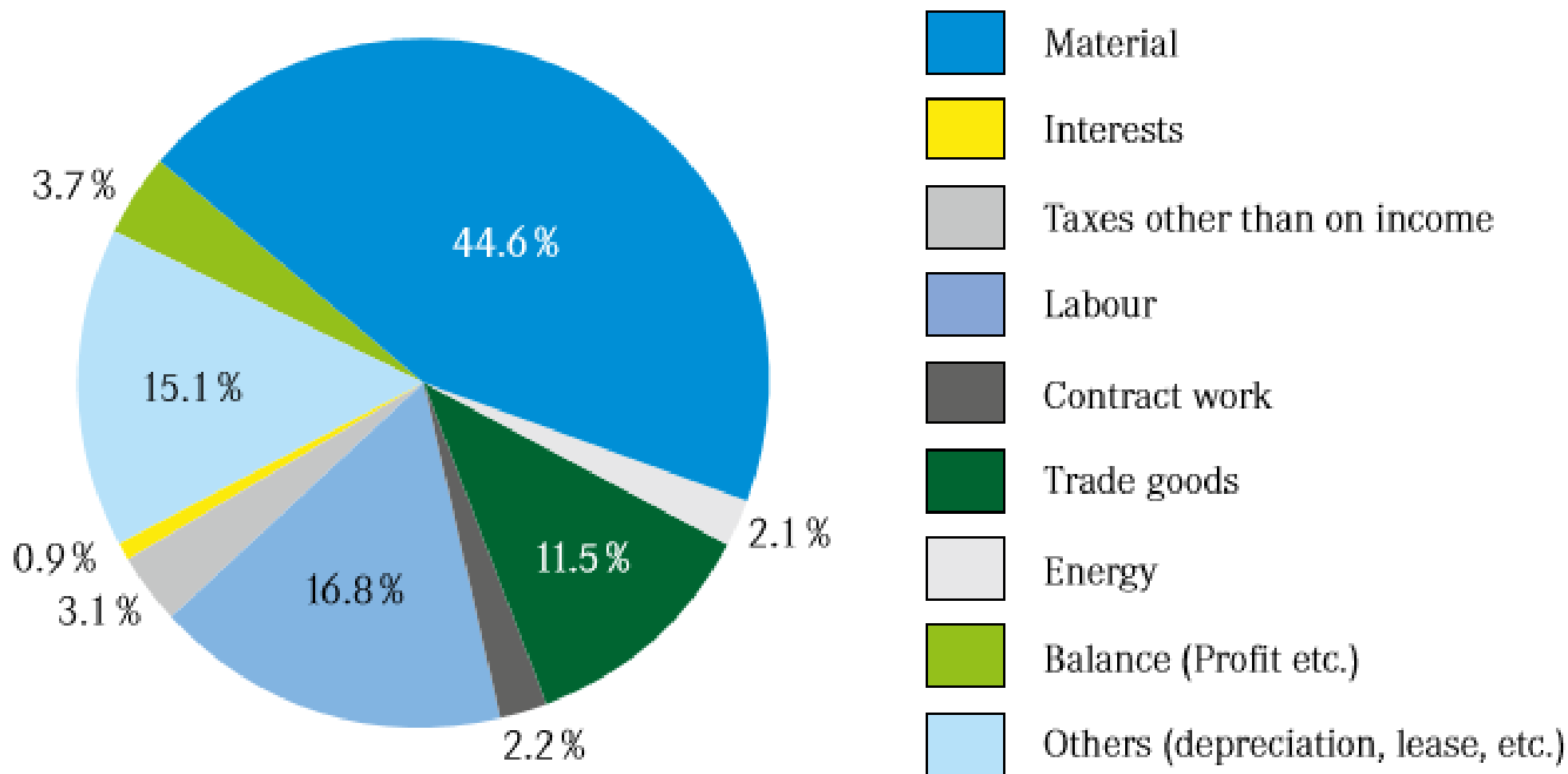
Global material extraction and material productivity, 1970 - 2017

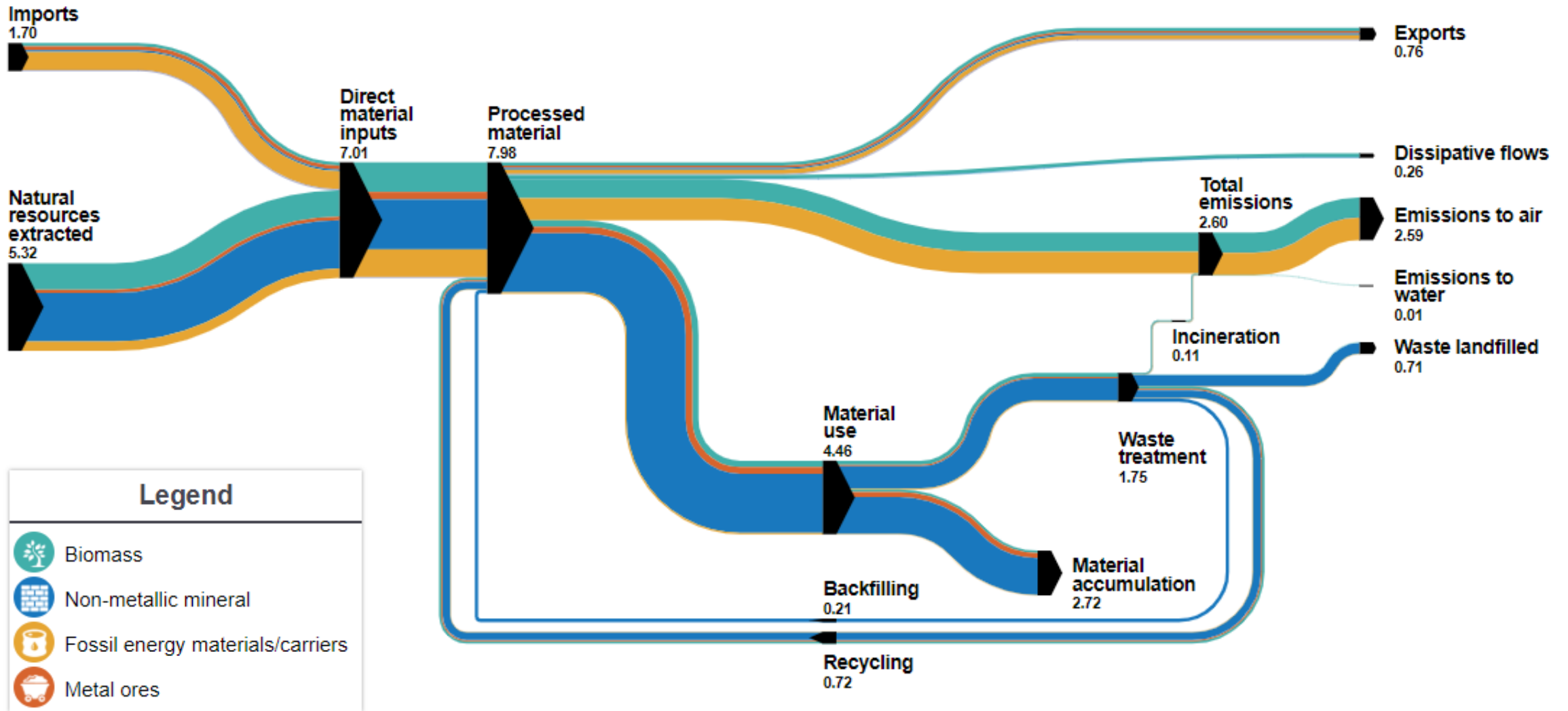


- *Global resource use has more than tripled since 1970*
- *Global material demand per capita grew from 7.4 tons in 1970 to 12.2 tons per capita in 2017*
- *Material productivity started to decline around 2000 and has stagnated in the recent years*

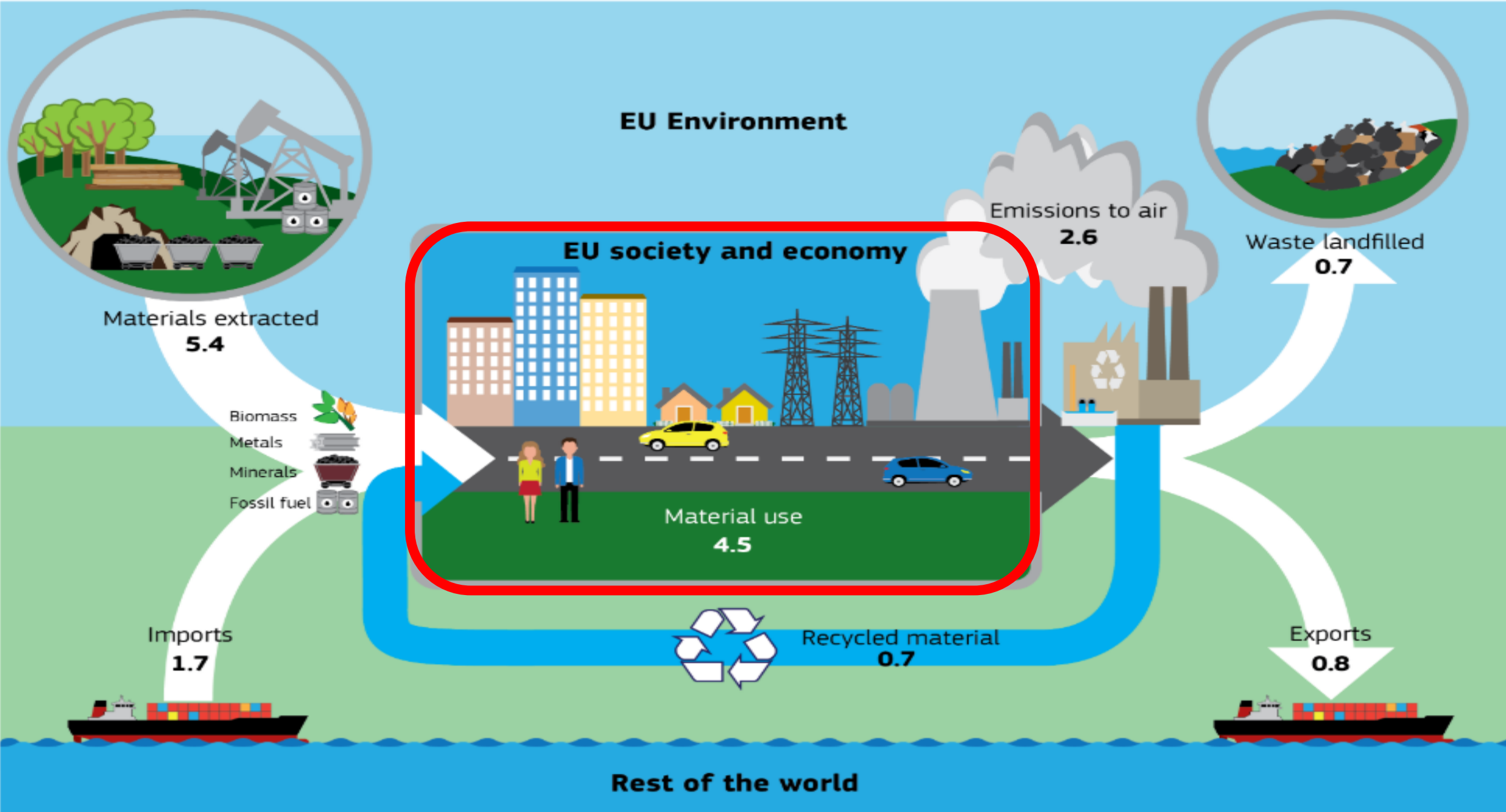


## Cost Structure in Manufacturing (DE)





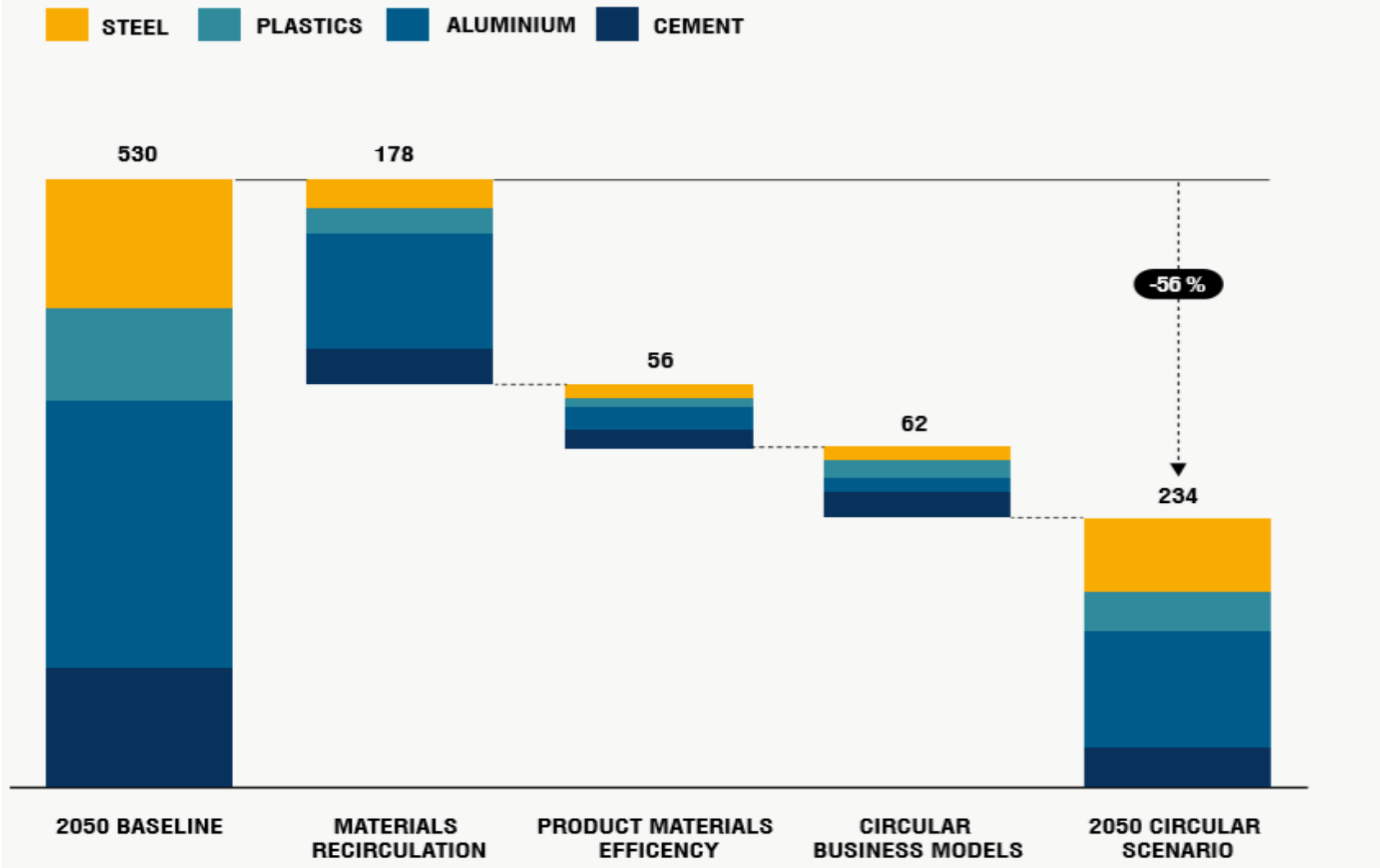
# Material flows in EU, 2017, billion tonnes per year (Gt/year)



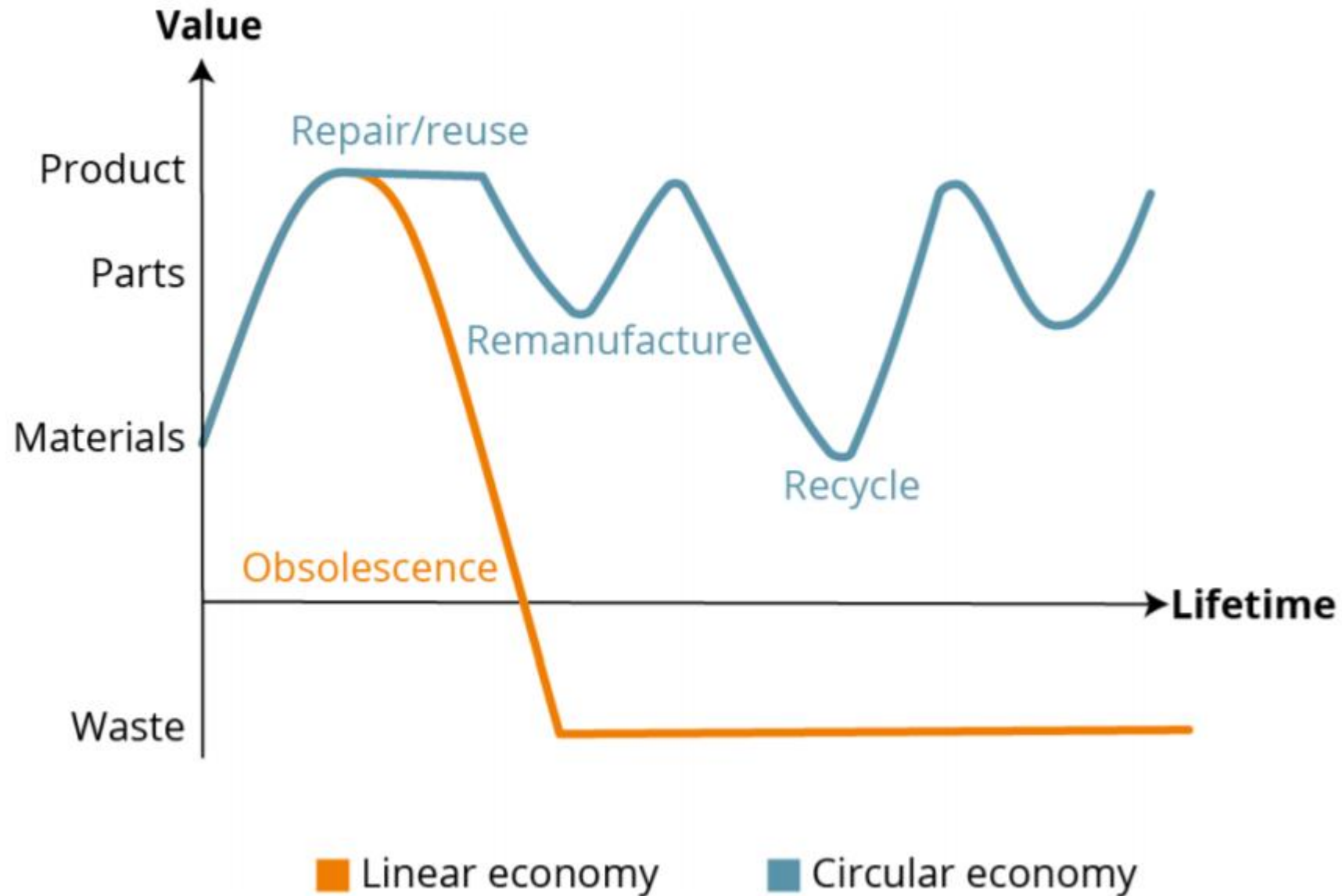
# CIRCULAR OPPORTUNITIES CAN CUT 2050 EMISSIONS FROM STEEL, PLASTICS, ALUMINIUM AND CEMENT BY 56%

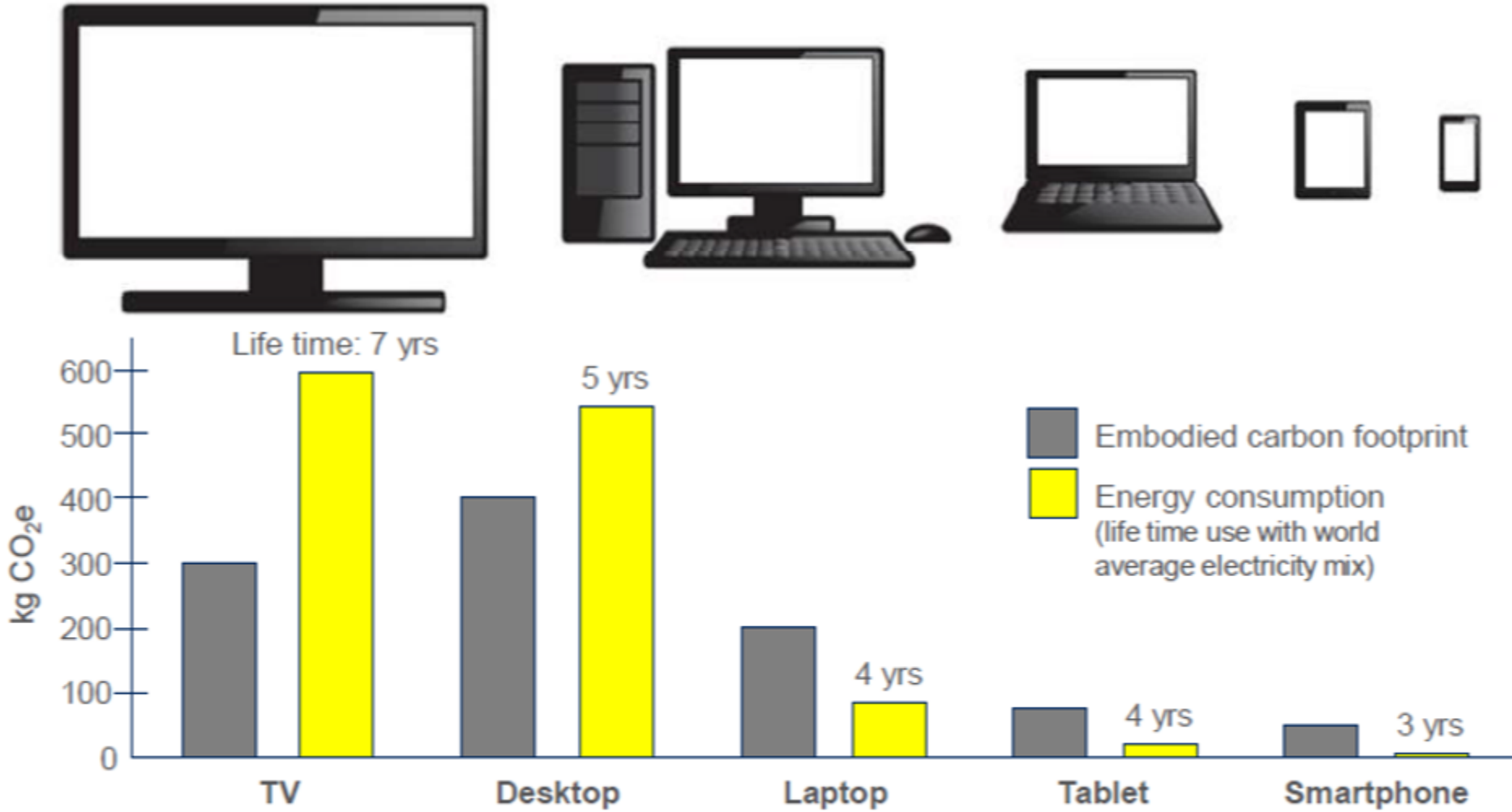
European Commission

EU EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS POTENTIAL FROM A MORE CIRCULAR ECONOMY, 2050  
Mt OF CARBON DIOXIDE PER YEAR

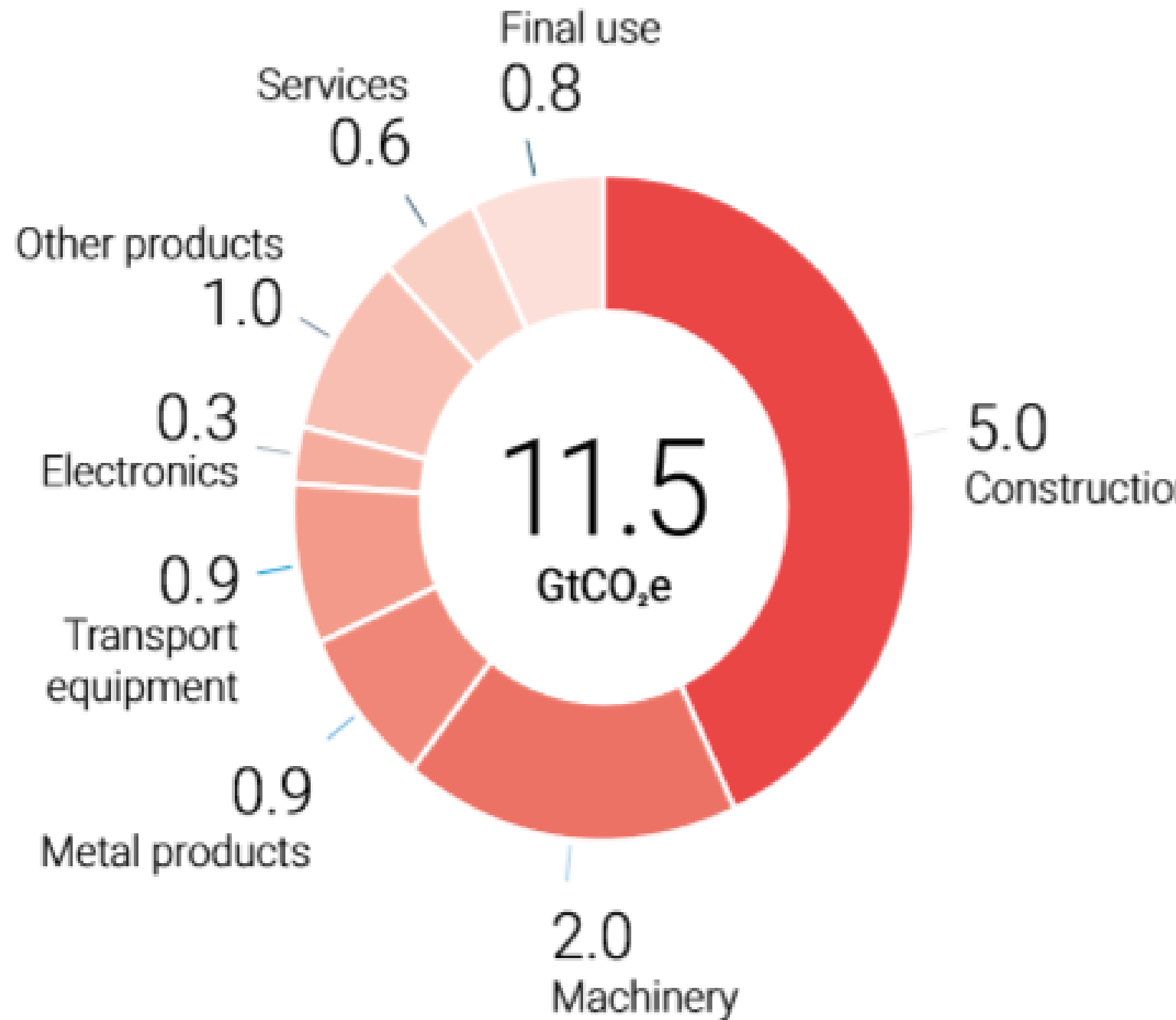


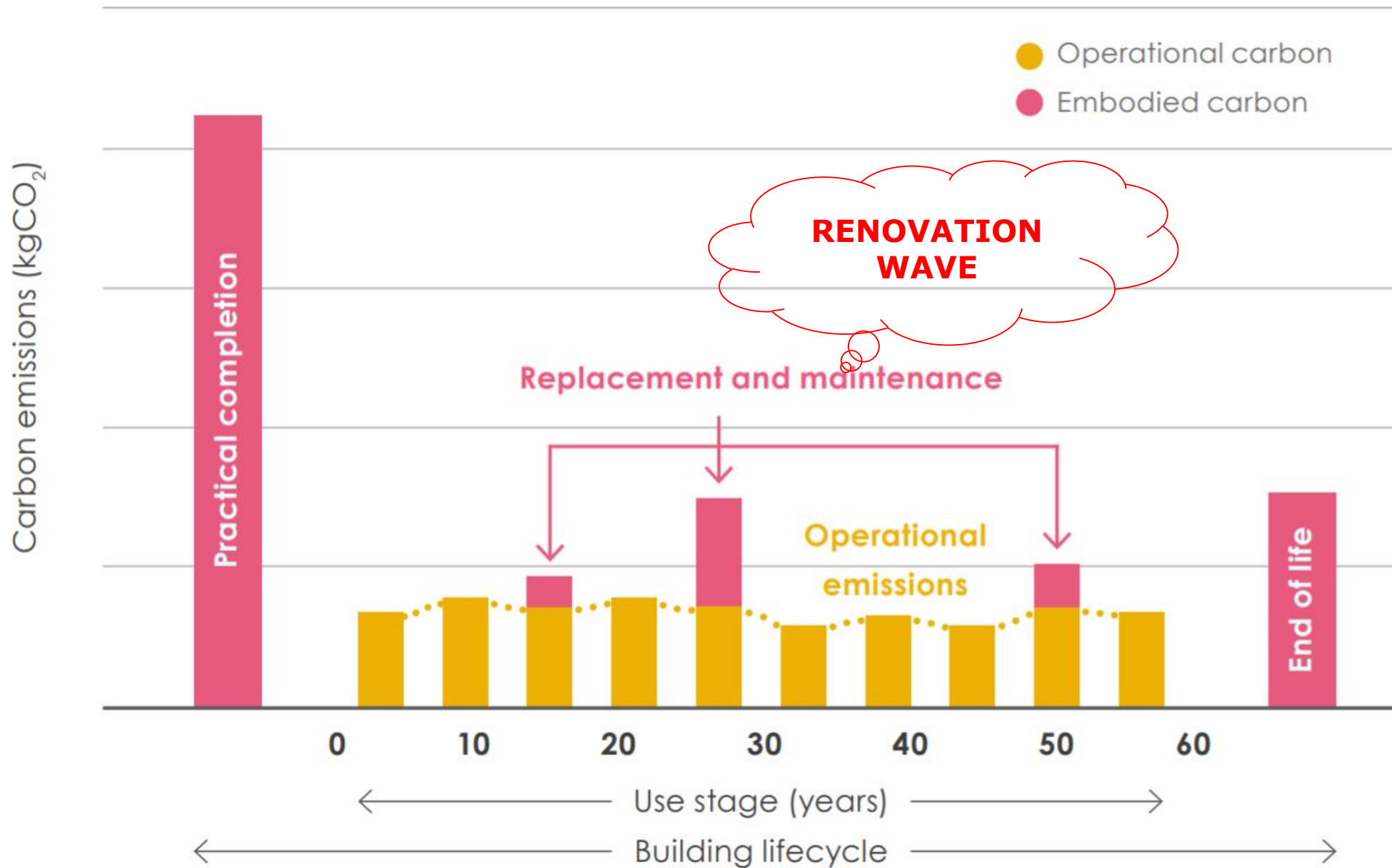






# Emissions Gap Report 2019





# Circular Economy Action Plan 2020

## Structural overview



### Sustainable Product Policy

- *Designing sustainable products*
- *Empowering consumers and public buyers*
- *Circularity in production processes*



### Key Product Value Chains

- *Electronics and ICT; Batteries and vehicles;*
- *Packaging; Plastics; Textiles;*
- *Construction and buildings; Food, water and nutrients*
- *Enhanced waste policy (waste prevention, circularity)*



### Less Waste, More Value

- *Enhancing circularity in a toxic-free environment*
- *Creating EU market for secondary raw materials*
- *Addressing waste exports from the EU*



### Crosscutting Actions

- *Circularity as a prerequisite for climate neutrality*
- *Getting the economics right*
- *Driving the transition through research, innovation and digitalisation*





European  
Commission



# Thank you



© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

