

7 Report



Roadmap – main focus

Key focus areas

Circular economy

Brexit

Technical compliance

Statistics

Standardisation

Lobbying

Communication

Lobbying & Advocacy	Standardisation	Technical Committee	Circular Economy	Communication and Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active involvement within the Circular Plastics Alliance • Increased profile with the Commission • Two virtual meetings with MEPS to introduce ERFMI and the work we are doing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active work on standardisation for Circular Economy within WG10 - Terms and Definitions • Convenorship WG 7 • Liaison TC 249 Plastics WG 11 recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to consultation on CPR • Project on unintentional release of microplastics • Keeping members updated on REACH and other technical matters • Responding to draft delegated act AVCP reaction to fire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of a working group to define a vision and mission for the circular economy • Working on active projects within the Circular Economy including researching identification and sorting technologies and recycling technologies • Trials on extraction of legacy plasticisers using supercritical CO₂ • Circular Flooring Horizon 2020 project • Additional €225,000 via VinylPlus for Revinylfloor recycling and collection projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Series of webinars to inform our members on important topics including Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), • Working with Kalei, on document regarding actions needed to prepare for the French Law on Circular Economy and EPR for Construction Products • update on website text • Information on Covid response • Copy on Cleaning

Lobbying for a favourable policy environment

Establish relationships with main regulatory bodies so as to:

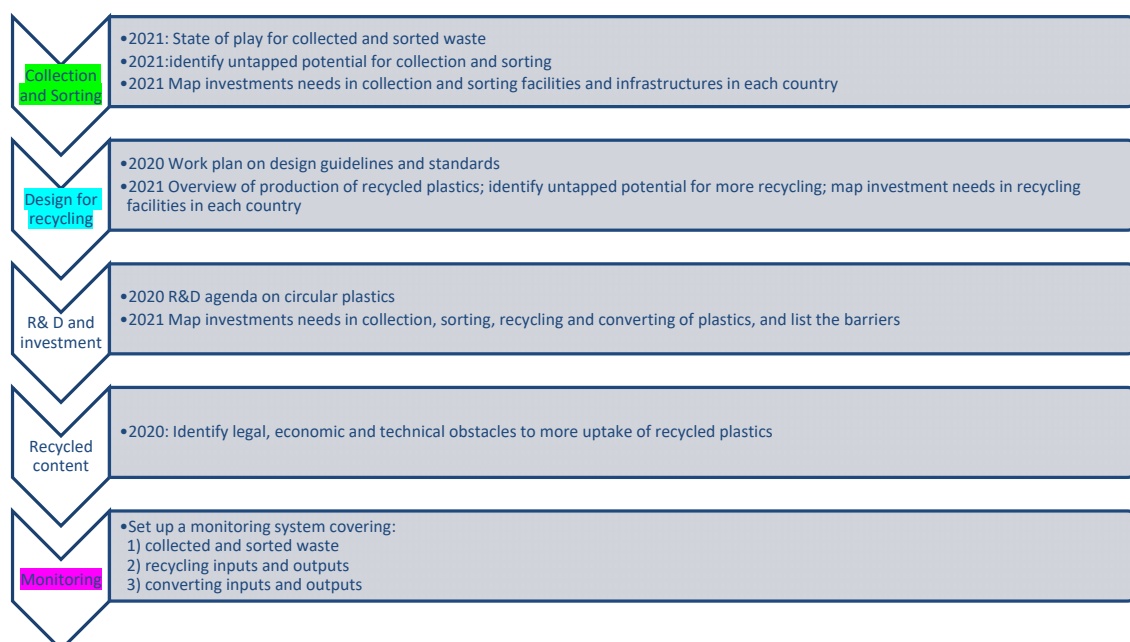
- Anticipate future regulatory requirements.
- Exert a positive influence in shaping regulations.
- Exploit and measure effectiveness of regulations.

Actions	Active role in Circular Plastics Alliance, the Commission's initiative to increase the use of recycled plastics in new products placed on the market in Europe
	Meeting with MEPs: Maria Spytaki Member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) and Substitute in the Environment Public Health and Safety (ENVI) Committee.
	Sirpa Pietikänen: Substitute on the Committee for Environment, Public Health and Food Safety; one of the authors of the 2015 Circular Economy Action Plan
	Response to Commission: CPR consultation
	Response to Commission: French Article 13 of Circular Economy Law
	Response to Commission: Draft Delegated Act AVCP reaction to fire

Circular Plastics Alliance (CPA)

- EU Commission target: by 2025, use of **ten million tonnes of** recycled plastics in new products
- Key points:
Improvement of formulations and design of plastic products towards optimised [recyclability](#).
Identification of previously unused potential within the value chain and in waste management,
- 5 working groups :
Construction products
Automotive Industry
Packaging
Agriculture
Electrical and electronic equipment.

How is the CPA organised?



Circular Plastics Alliance

Important for ERFMI

- The commission has agreed that pre consumer waste can be included for construction products as it was included in the original pledges
- However **definition of recycled content** is still subject to discussion

Monitoring of recycled content:

- **Importance of definition of recycled content – pre and post consumer waste**
- **ERFMI's definition in guidance document, however still under discussion with Plastics Recyclers Europe**



Circular Economy

Developing a Vision and mission for the circular economy: To what extent are members willing to work together and on what topics

Circular Flooring Horizon 2020

Revinylfloor projects:

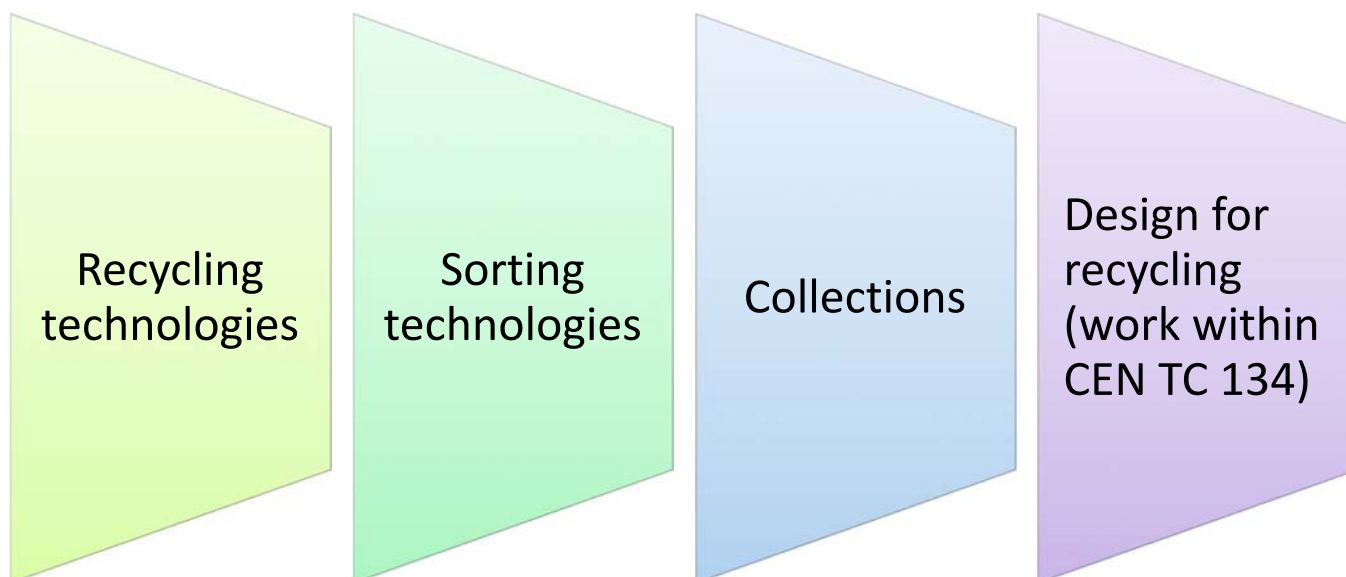
Research into recycling technologies

Research into identification and sorting

Supercritical CO2 extraction trials

CiSuFlo: Circular Sustainable Flooring

Our key focus areas



Revinylfloor research

- Project under ERFMI, co-funded by VinylPlus
- 2020 : €200,000 total expenditure €154,000
- 2021: € 225,000

Carry over to 2021: € 46,000 for collection trials

Revinyfloor

- Recycling technologies that can be used for the recycling of PVC floor coverings
- Identification and sorting technologies that can identify flooring containing legacy additives and sort it from flooring that does not contain legacy additives.
- **Scope:** technologies that have been tried in the past, that are emerging or used for other applications
- **Work undertaken:**
 - Thorough literature and patent search
 - More than 1000 patents were found in total
 - Narrowed down to a long list of 600
 - Creation of a detailed data base including
 - List of 140 relevant companies/ technology providers
 - Interviews with providers

Outcomes

Created a long and short list of recycling, sorting and identification technologies based on Applicability , impact, complexity, maturity etc.

Next steps: Technology trials - Feasibility testing

Extraction:

- Ultrasound Assisted Extraction
- Microwave assisted extraction

Sorting and Identification

- MIR - Mid-Infrared, 3–50 µm
- FTIR/ATR Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy /Attenuated total reflection

Current status

- Sample preparation by AgPR
- Extraction trials at lab scale – starting on 19th April
- Mid – Infrared sorting trials at sensor- based sorting manufacturer TOMRA - 7th June

Extraction using supercritical CO₂

- Feasibility trials
- Pre – prepared samples Critical Polymers to undertake trials on the feasibility of extracting legacy plasticisers using Supercritical CO₂.
- ≤ 0.1% legacy plasticizer left in the samples after extraction, SVHC limit
- Next steps to be discussed in Revinylfloor platform

Collection trials

- On hold due to Covid
- Would like to run trials in Europe, particularly France working with Kalei on collection of **resilient flooring** from large distribution sites or retailers
- If accepted: investigate feasibility by June 2021



Circular Flooring Project- EU funded

Aim: to enable the circular use of plasticized PVC from waste flooring by developing a recycling process to eliminate legacy phthalic acid esters that are not conform with the EU REACH directive.

Main objectives:



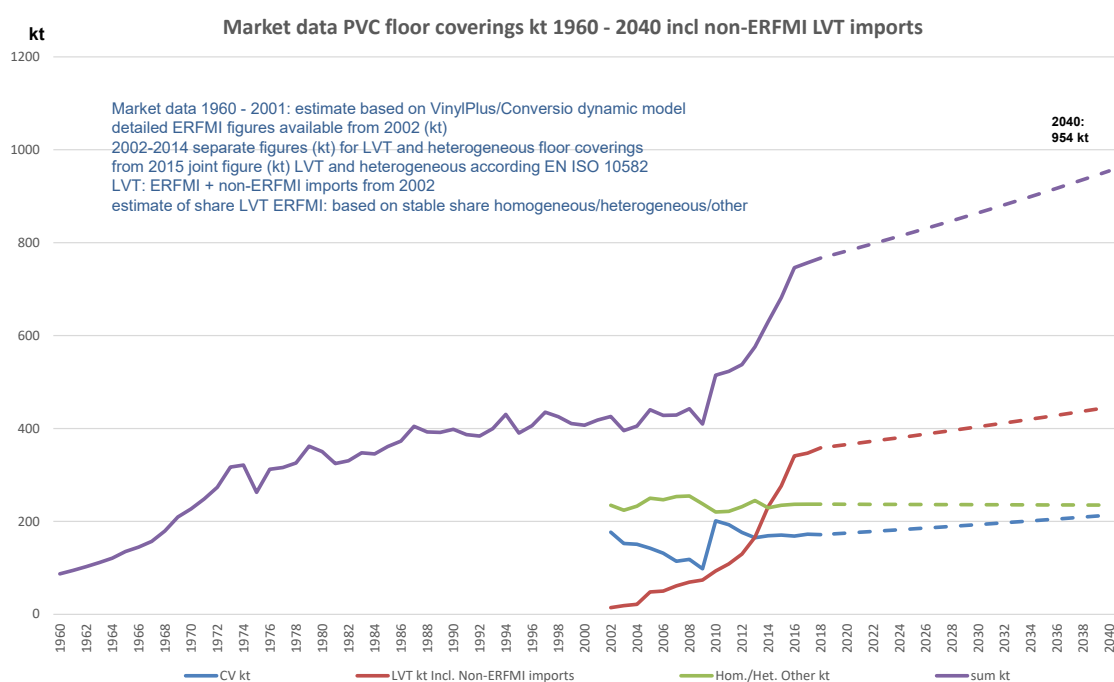
Develop a process for recovering end-of-life flooring waste and producing secondary phthalate-free PVC, thus preventing usable resources from landfill and/or incineration

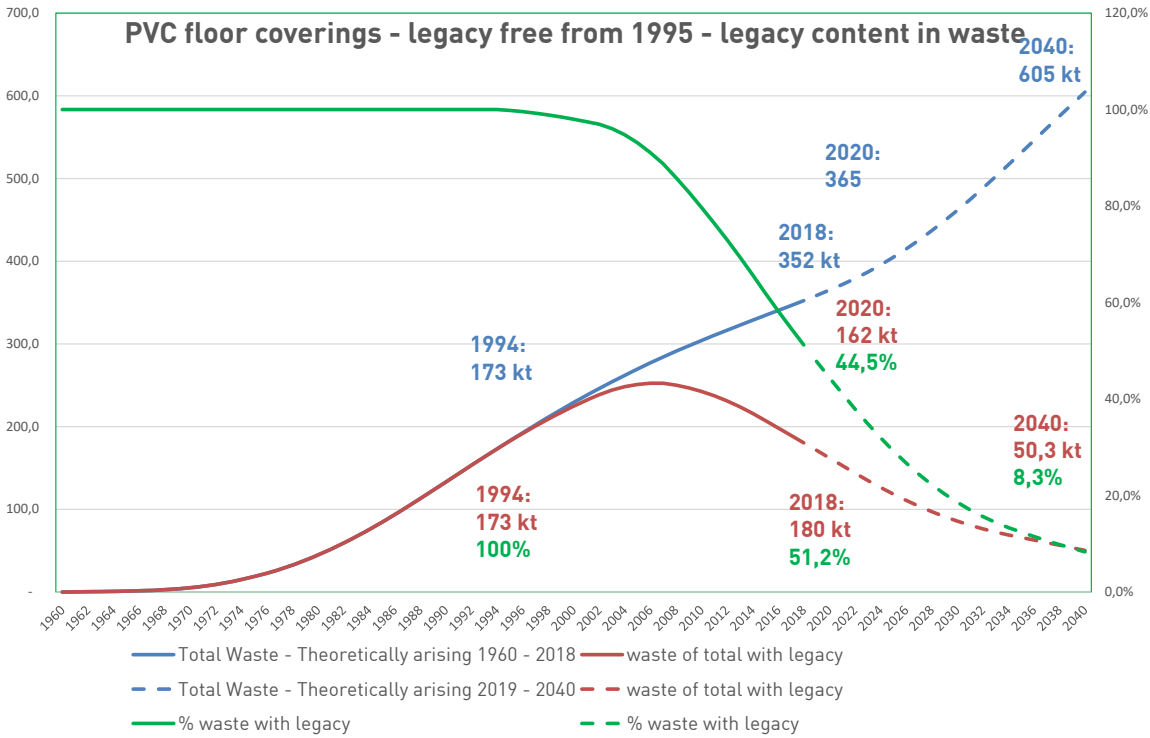
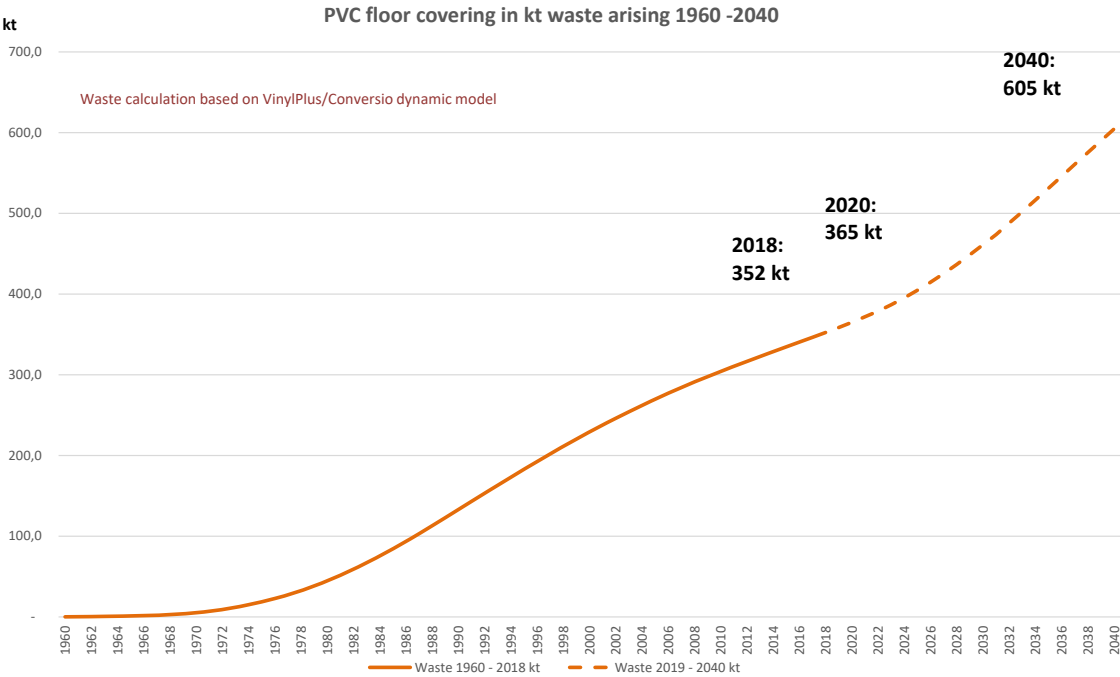
Demonstrate circularity of PVC in flooring and applicability of phthalate-free plasticizers that are compliant to the REACH directive from waste flooring

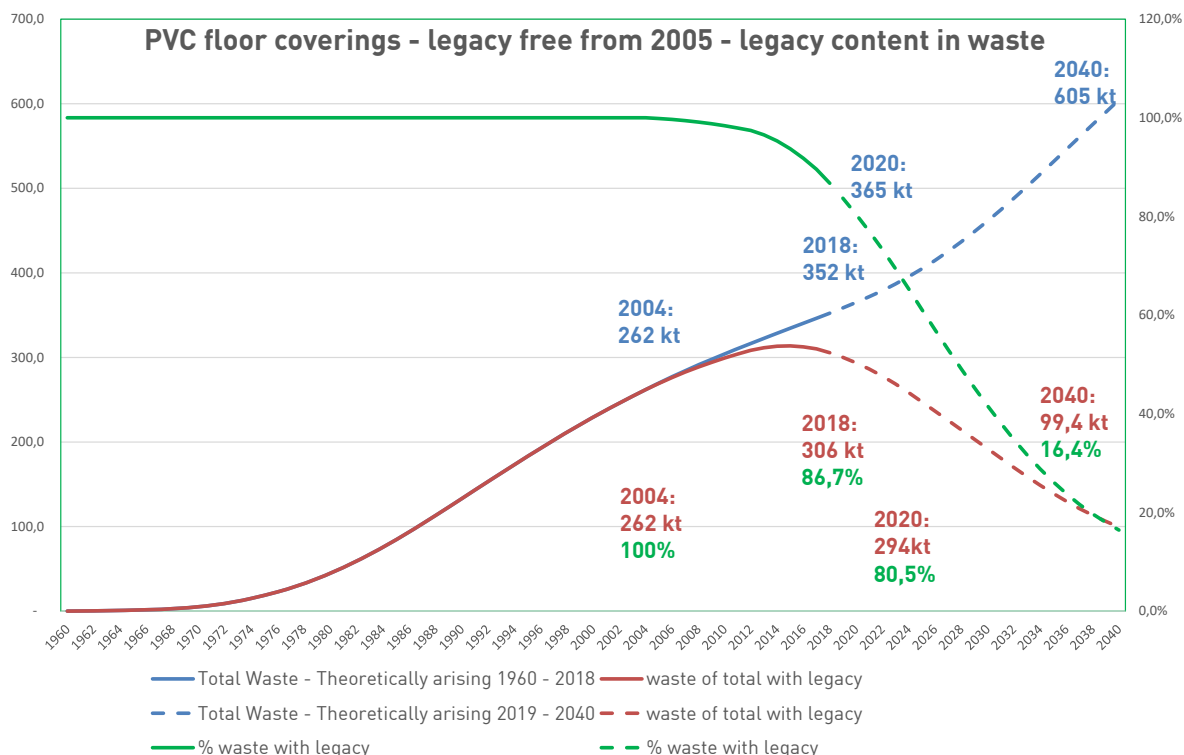
Determine environmental, health and safety impacts and techno-economic feasibility

Key results to date

- Valuable status quo information of PVC flooring waste was generated (production, sales, waste generation, waste collection)
- A recycling process was established at lab scale
- Phthalate level in r-PVC was brought below the legal limit
- Harmful phthalates were safely hydrogenized at lab scale
- Construction of pilot plant building and aquisition of processing machines
- Production of r-PVC flooring sheet and evaluation of r-PVC quality
- Business Model Canvas (cost elaboration)







CiSuFlo

- Circular Sustainable Flooringcoverings.
- Project leader Centexbel
- Flooring association partner EUFCA
- Number of Partners 19
- Budget : 7,7 M€
- Duration : 48 months , starting from June 2021
- Role EUFCA and associations:
- Member of steering group
- Active role in work packages – JG project lead for collections

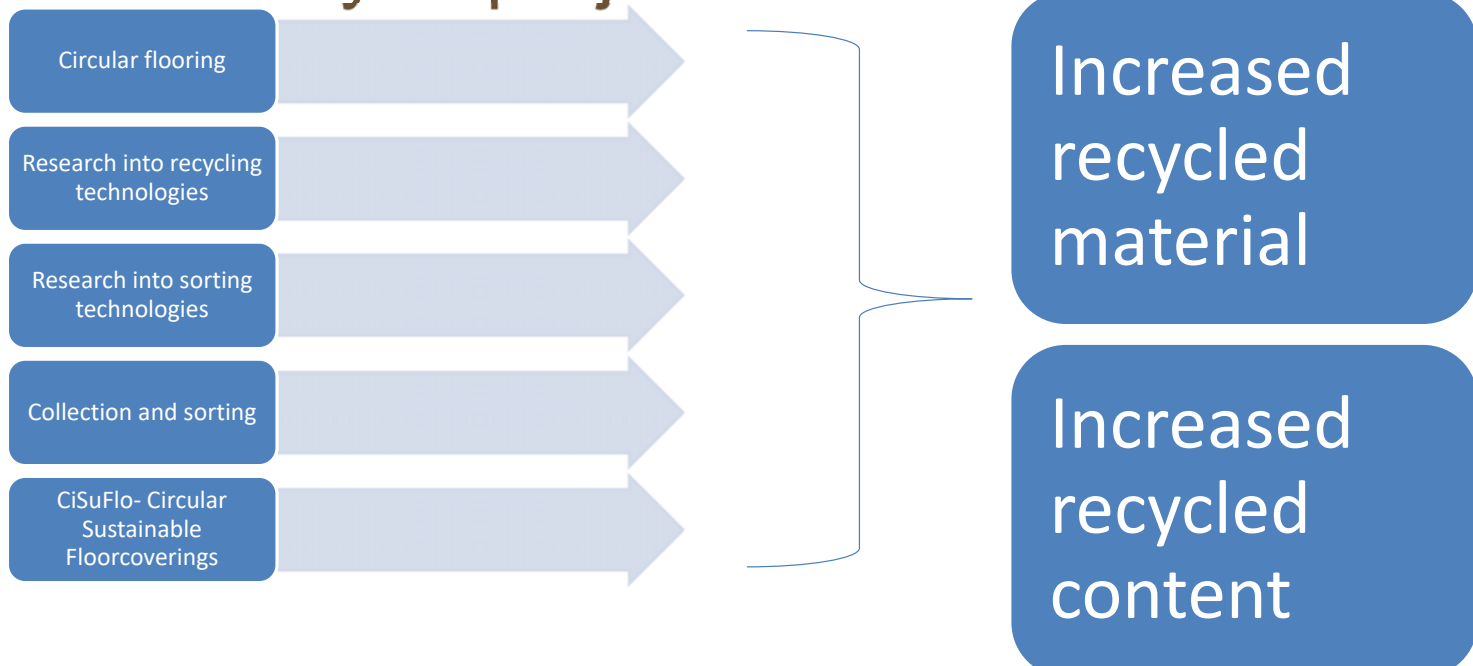
■ Project Objective

- systemic framework for circular and sustainable floor coverings Setup Integrated Product information system
- Define and evaluate circular business models and related socioeconomic impact.
- Demonstration of circular flooring via 6 pilots
- Perform sustainability assessment.
- TransfBeyond flooring and clustering
- Dissemination and exploitation

■ Pilot projects

- Manufacturing of circular floorings
- Sorting of flooring waste
- Separation of material fractions from complex flooring waste - EuPolySep
- Laminate flooring recycling
- Vinyl flooring recycling
- Textile flooring recycling

Summary of projects



Communication

- Webinars held on the following topics
 - Extended Producer Responsibility November 2020
 - UK REACH February 2021
 - Overview of Building market in Europe March 2021
- Copy on cleaning
- Circular economy position paper



EUFCA

- CiSuFlo project
- Information on UKCA marking distributed
- Following CPR Review
- Leading on Design guidelines within TC 134