Circular economy competences and learning innovations as a basis for building a sustainable future

Marleena Ahonen Specialist, Circular economy Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra 17.2.2021





A gift to Finland

The Finnish Parliament established Sitra as a gift celebrating the 50th anniversary of Finland's independence.

The public future-oriented organisation was given the mission to build the successful Finland of tomorrow.

The year was 1967.

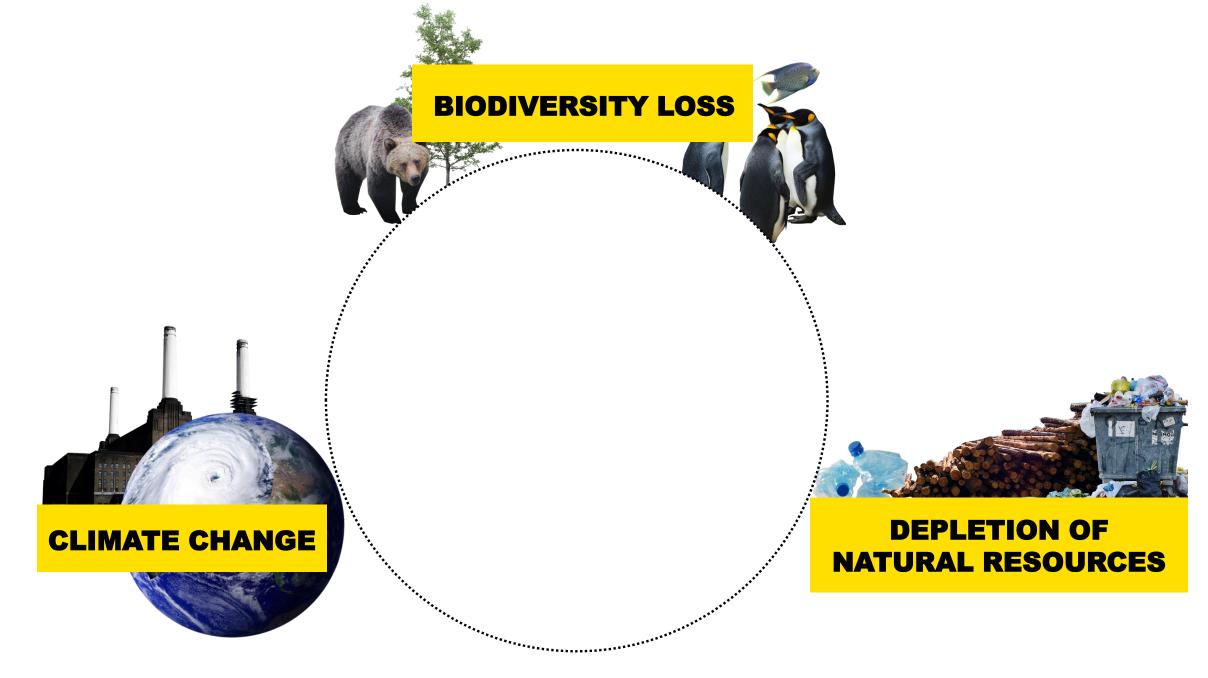


Pushing Finland to become a global forerunner in the circular economy

Sitra's work on the circular economy started in 2015. Since then, we have

- compiled the first national circular economy road map in the world
- built tools for businesses to move towards a circular economy
- created a global circular economy community around the World Circular Economy Forum.





90%

OF BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND WATER STRESS ARE CAUSED BY RESOURCE EXTRACTION AND PROCESSING

IRP Global Resources Outlook 2019

OECD Global Material Resources Outlook to 2060

Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2019

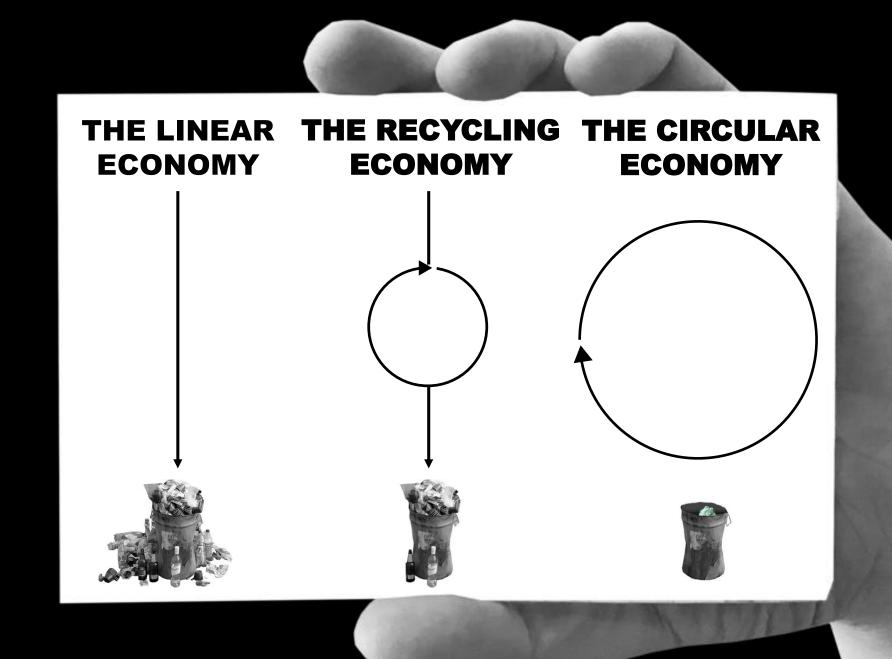
45%

45 PER CENT OF CLIMATE EMISSIONS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH MAKING PRODUCTS.



GLOBAL MATERIAL USE IS PROJECTED TO MORE THAN DOUBLE FROM 79 GT IN 2011 TO 167 GT IN 2060.



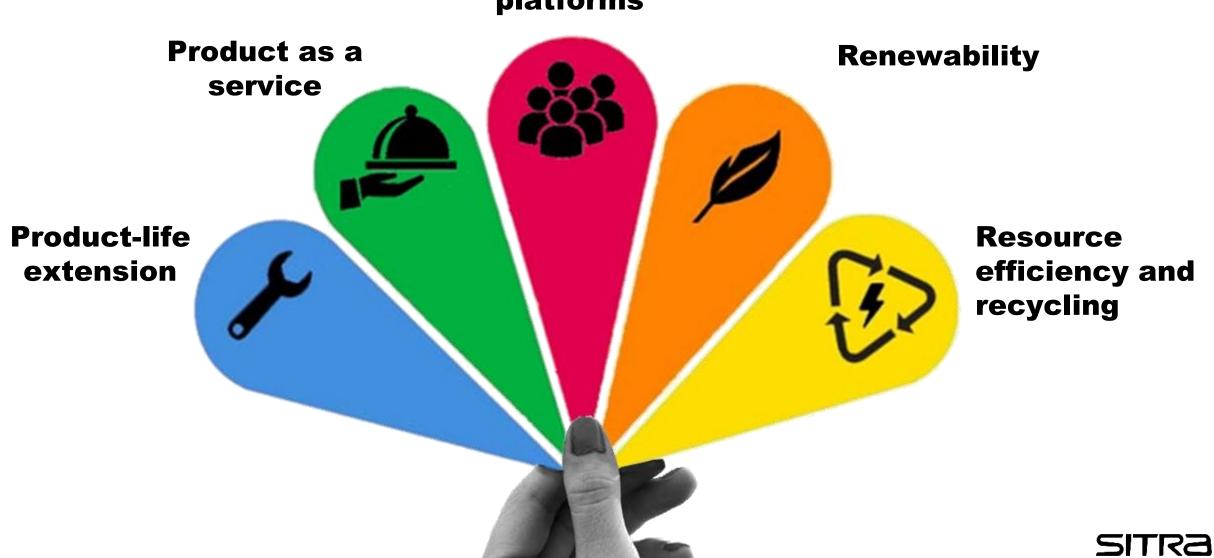


Shifting to a circular economy calls for a fundamental change in the way we produce and use materials and goods.

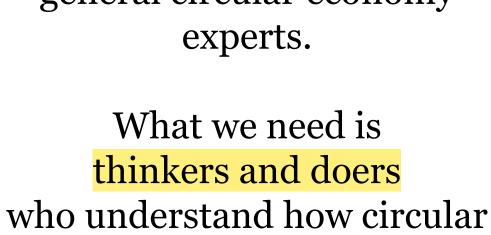
This brings about a need of new competence and skillset.







We don't need numerous general circular economy experts.



economy principles can be

applied in their jobs as

engineers, teachers, assembly line workers or fashion designers.





Transportation and logistics

Engineering

Forest Industry

Processing Industry

Construction Industry

Mining Industry

Marketing

Electronics Industry

Circular

Business

Chemical expert

Economy Specialist

Chemistry

Environmental legislation

Forestry

Communications

Food Industry

Agriculture



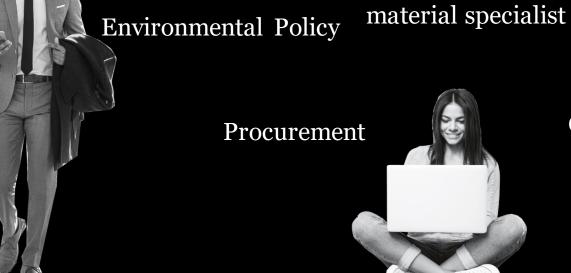




Hybrid and

composite





What skills are needed?

- Skills related to the circularity of materials, from product design to recycling and reuse
- Skills that support the circularity infrastructure, e.g. reverse logistics and material infrastructure management
- Skills on repairing and maintaining goods
- Service skills, e.g. knowledge on digital platforms in sharing economy or second-hand markets
- Creative skills, e.g. design and marketing of circular products and services



Vocational school

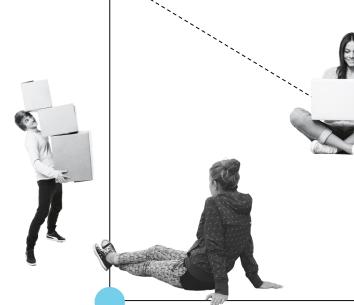
Upper secondary school

CARBON NEUTRAL CIRCULAR ECNOMY PROFESSIONAL

How to make the circular economy part of the national education system

— Tips from Finland

Primary school



Lifelong learning









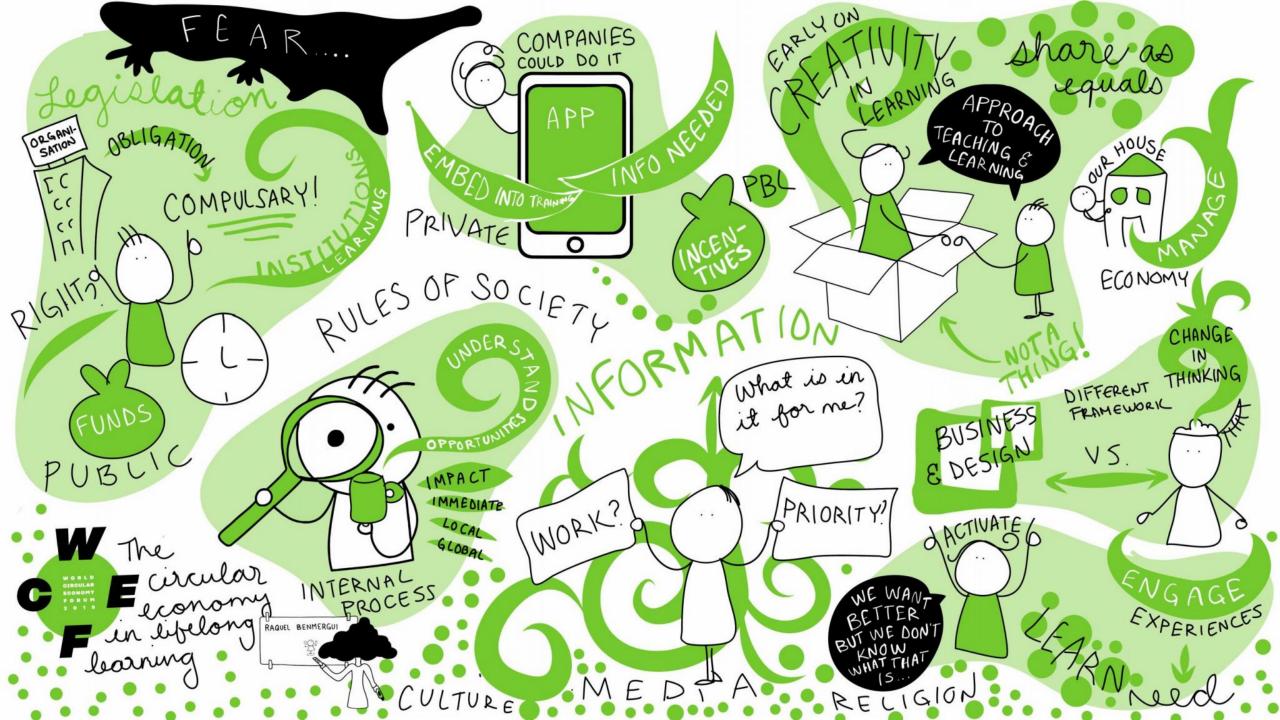
SITRA

Leadership for Sustainable change how to lead change in complex systems by utilising circular economy, needed skills, knowledge and attitudes, how to make and collaborate on a concrete sustainability project plan (University of Helsinki, Tampere University, University of Jyväskylä)

Multidisciplinary study module on the circular economy a minor subject study module on the circular economy through co-operation between the five universities. F.e. CE Design Forum, Circular economy politic, law and societies, Environmental Chemistry and Ecology (Aalto University, University of Oulu, University of Eastern Finland, LUT, University of Helsinki)

Circular economy in food chains f.e. Nutrient cycles, Business opportunities, Product development, Modern consumer behaviour, digitalization. (Seinäjoki, Savonia and Karelia Universities of Applied Sciences and Universities of Vaasa and Jyväskylä)







Psst.

CE for vocational schools and life-long learning piloting funding open until 30.3. in Sitra.fi Check it out!



