OBJECTIVES

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach in which the producer’s responsibility for managing the product and reducing its environmental impact is extended across the whole life cycle of the product - from the selection of materials and design of the product to its end-of-life, especially regarding take-back, recycling and disposal. Over the last decades the concept of EPR has become an important feature of (European) waste and resource policies and is a topic of continuous discussions amongst professionals and politicians.

The EPR Club was launched in June 2012, with the support of the European Commission with the intention to contribute to the debate on the European level and to help bringing forward European legislation and policy on EPR. The EPR Club proposes a platform to exchange information and experience, to debate, as well as to improve knowledge about EPR policies and practices with all relevant stakeholders – including the European Commission and other European Institutions.

The EPR Club endeavours to build a joint initiative to identify the good practices in the EPR field, to disseminate them and possibly reinforce the European legal bases. Further, it is the Club’s aim to enable dialogue on EU policy developments and strategies regarding EPR schemes. The Club also wishes to strengthen each level of the waste hierarchy, including prevention and reuse.

ACTIVITIES

A combination of networking events and web-based activities allows the exchange of information and views amongst EPR Club members, political institutions and other stakeholders.

The EPR Club regularly holds lunch debates on specific topics decided by its members. These are mainly intended for the internal debate among the members. In some cases representatives of the European institutions and other external participants are invited. The Club also organises bigger international events addressing a broader audience and generally open to all interested stakeholders. In addition, the EPR Club website and the online Virtual Library represent the main communication and reference tools for members.

PARTNERS INVOLVED

EPR Club co-founders come from all over Europe: ACR+ (European association), Catalan Waste Agency (ES), AICA (IT), Brussels Environment (BE), Fundación para la Economía Circular (ES), Rudologia (FR). Since its creation, the EPR Club has constantly grown in size and scope. At present it forms a real multi-stakeholder platform, including members from public and private sector, as well as NGOs and academics. Considering this evolution, today the EPR Club is guided by a set of governance rules which has to be agreed by any new member.

More information:

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