



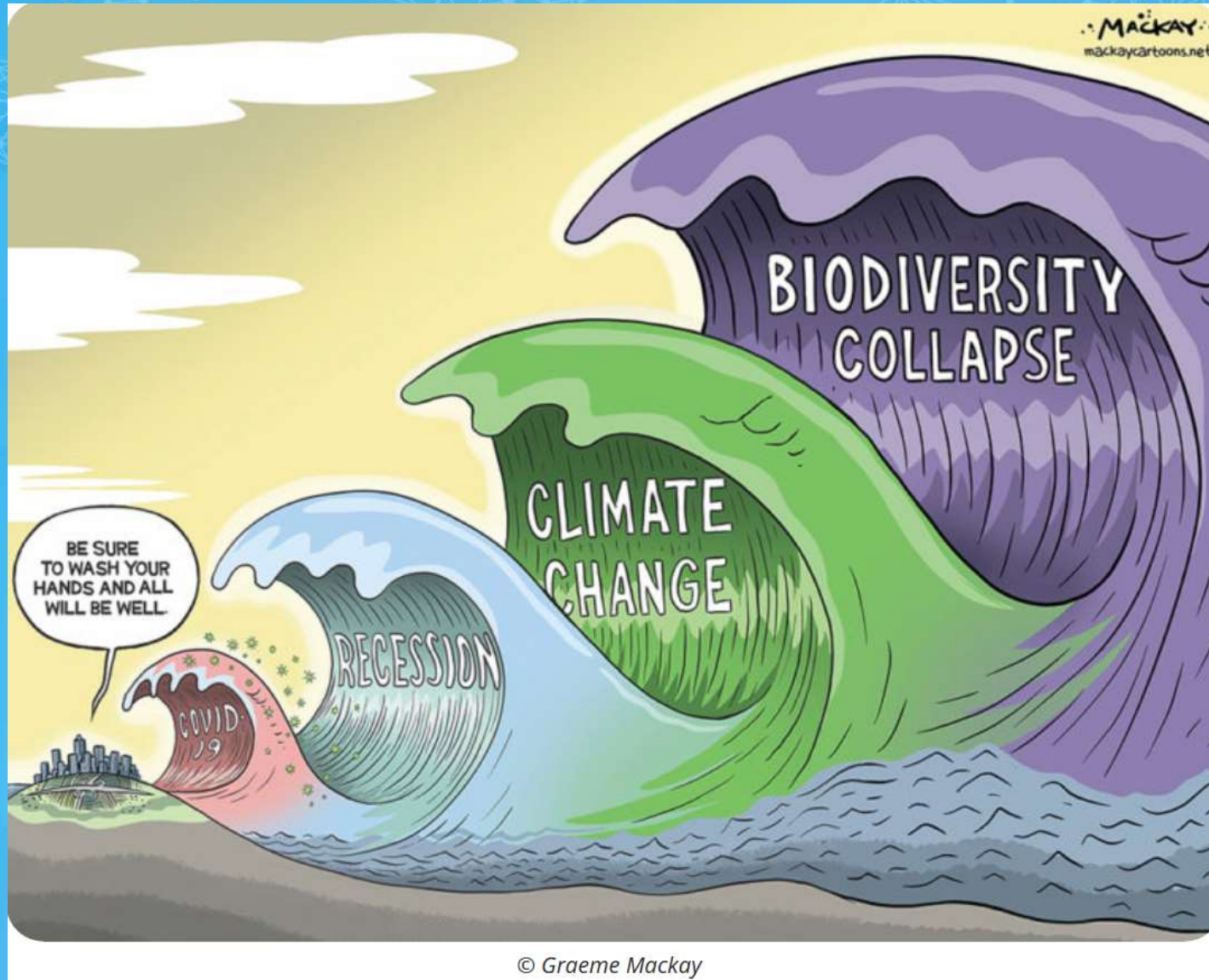
# SWITCH to Circular Economy in East and Southern Africa (SWITCH-2-CE in ESA) program

*By: Matthias Reusing, Delegation of the European Union to Zambia & COMESA*

*High-Level Meeting «Building together the future of the Great Lakes Region», Bujumbura 15/01/2024*



# Global Challenges & Tsunamis





# Linear Economy Pathways...





# Why Circular Economy matters



Around **90 billion tons** of natural resources are extracted every year to support the global economy



Based on current trends, that number is expected to **more than double by 2050**



Currently, **only 9% of resources** find their way back into products after their first use



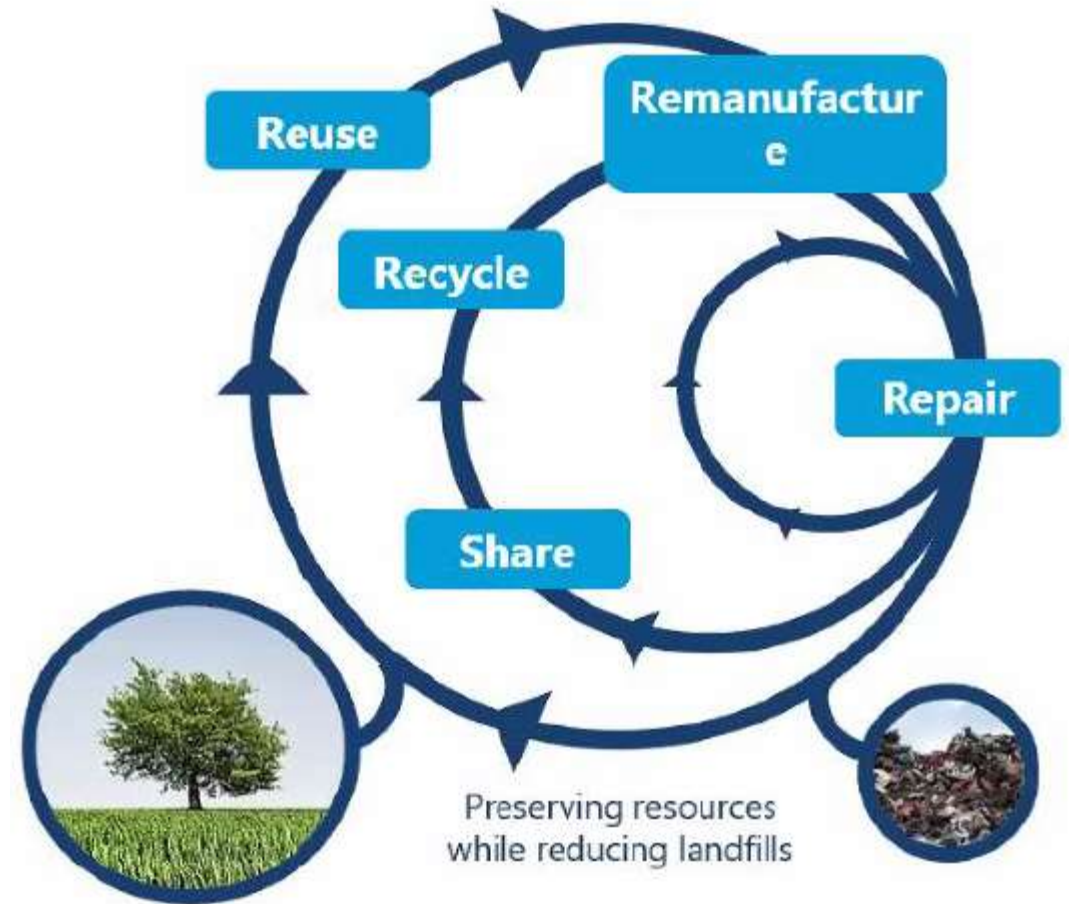
In **2019**, humans used nature's resource budget for the entire year by 29 July 2019, the **earliest overshoot** over the past 20 years

# From Linear to Circular

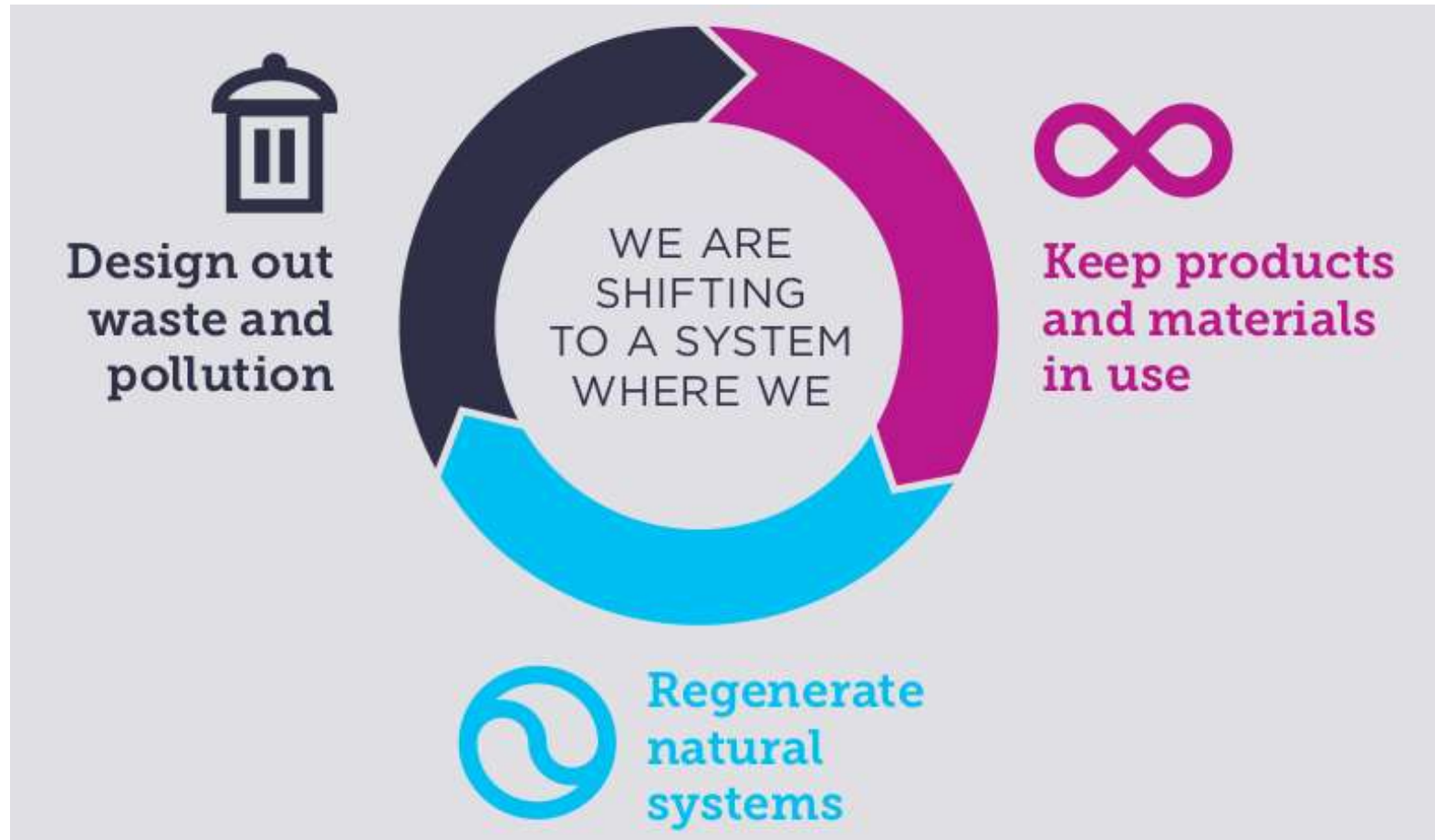
## Linear Economy



## Circular Economy



# The three Principles of Circular Economy





# Why European Union supports Circular Economy in Africa

## EU's Political Priorities (since 2019):

- **The European Green Deal;**
  - EU's growth strategy and pathway to climate neutrality by 2050;
  - Circular Economy Action Plan is integral part of European Green Deal;
- **An Economy that works for the people;**
- **Sustainable Trade;** ...Launch of "Coalition of Trade Minister on Climate" on 19/01/2023 at WEF in Davos
- **International Partnerships...**

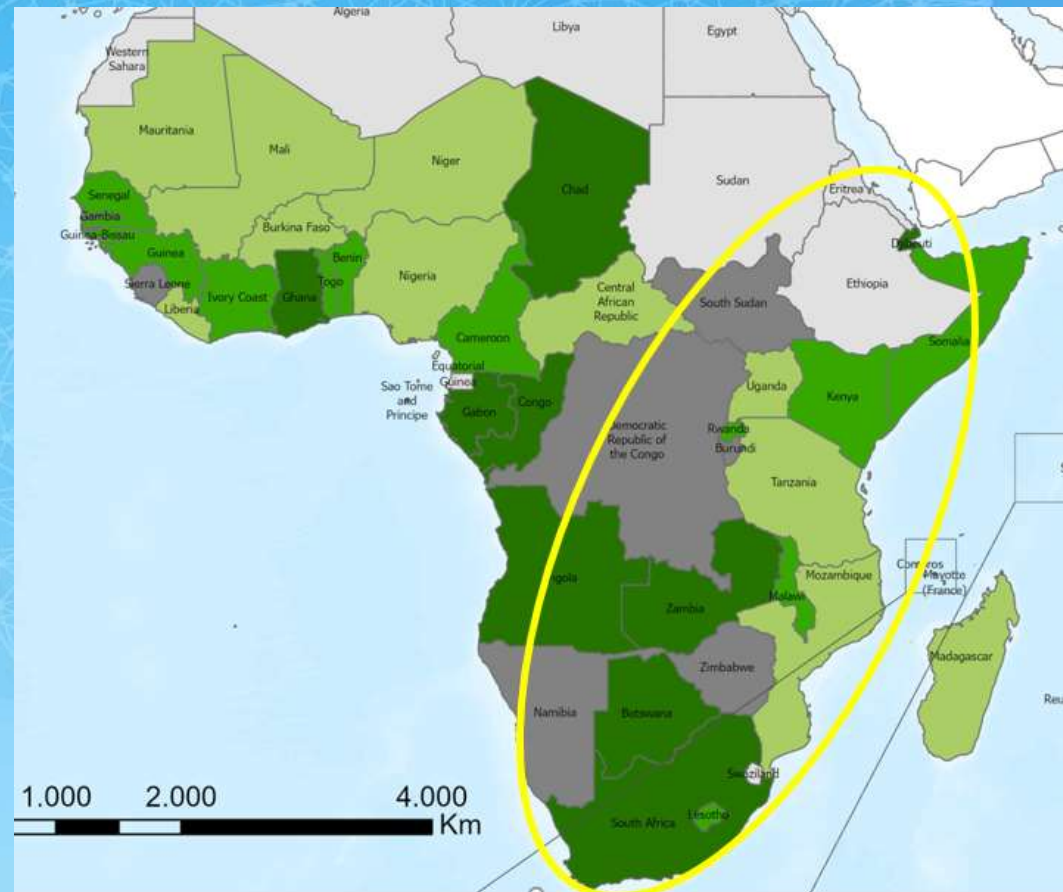
## Global Alliance for Circular Economy and Resources Efficiency

Launched by EU, together with UNEP and UNIDO, in February 2021

### Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, **Virginijus Sinkevičius:**

*"The transition to a resource-efficient, clean and circular economy is increasingly recognised as a must to address the ecological crises the world is confronted with. The circular economy offers opportunities for spurring innovation and making the transition more equitable by creating green jobs and lowering environmental impacts."*

# Why a focus on East & Southern Africa?



Promotion of **South-South Twinning & Peer-to-Peer Learning**





# Stakeholder consultations and co-creation...

INTPA A.2 & F.2

DG ENV

EIB, AfDB & EFDIs

Private Sector

EU Delegations  
(incl. missions)

International  
Organizations

EU Member States

Regional Economic  
Communities (REC)

Governments

Consulting Firms

NGOs / CSOs

Etc.



# Three components of the regional CE programme...

**1) Business Enabling Environment & Investment Climate**



**2) Human & Skills Development**

**3) Matching Grant Facility (MGF)**  
For Start-Ups, SMEs & Joint Ventures

## Main principles:

- **South-South** Twinning & Peer-to-Peer Learning;
- **Green & Digital** Transformation



# Objectives and Programme Components

**Overall Objective (impact): To promote sustainable growth and job creation in Africa**

**Specific Objective: To support the transition to Circular Economy in Eastern and Southern Africa**

The Components in more detail...

**Component 1: Awareness, national policies, business enabling environment, investment climate and policy dialogues on CE enhanced**

- Promote South-South Cooperation & Twinning, across countries within the ESA region;

**Component 2: Human and skills in targeted PVCs improved**

- Peer-to-peer learning / South-South & North-South cooperation, including through e-learning platforms;

**Component 3: Matching Grant Facility (MGF) for innovative start-ups & transformative SMEs;**

- Annual calls for sustainable and circular business plans, targeting PVCs across the region / separate lots for start-ups and SMEs / stimulate joint ventures through business consortia across borders;

# Mobilizing additional Access to Finance for transforming SMEs

## Global Gateway Europe – Africa Investment Package:

- Mobilize additional loans for SMEs through **Financial Instruments** under the **European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD+)**;

- **Our potential partners:**

- European Investment Bank (EIB);



- European Finance and Development Institutions (EFDIs);



- African Development Bank (AfDB);



...and local banks within the ESA region



# THANK YOU

