



Clean material cycles from a business perspective

**EEA Stakeholder workshop – Transition to a
circular economy**

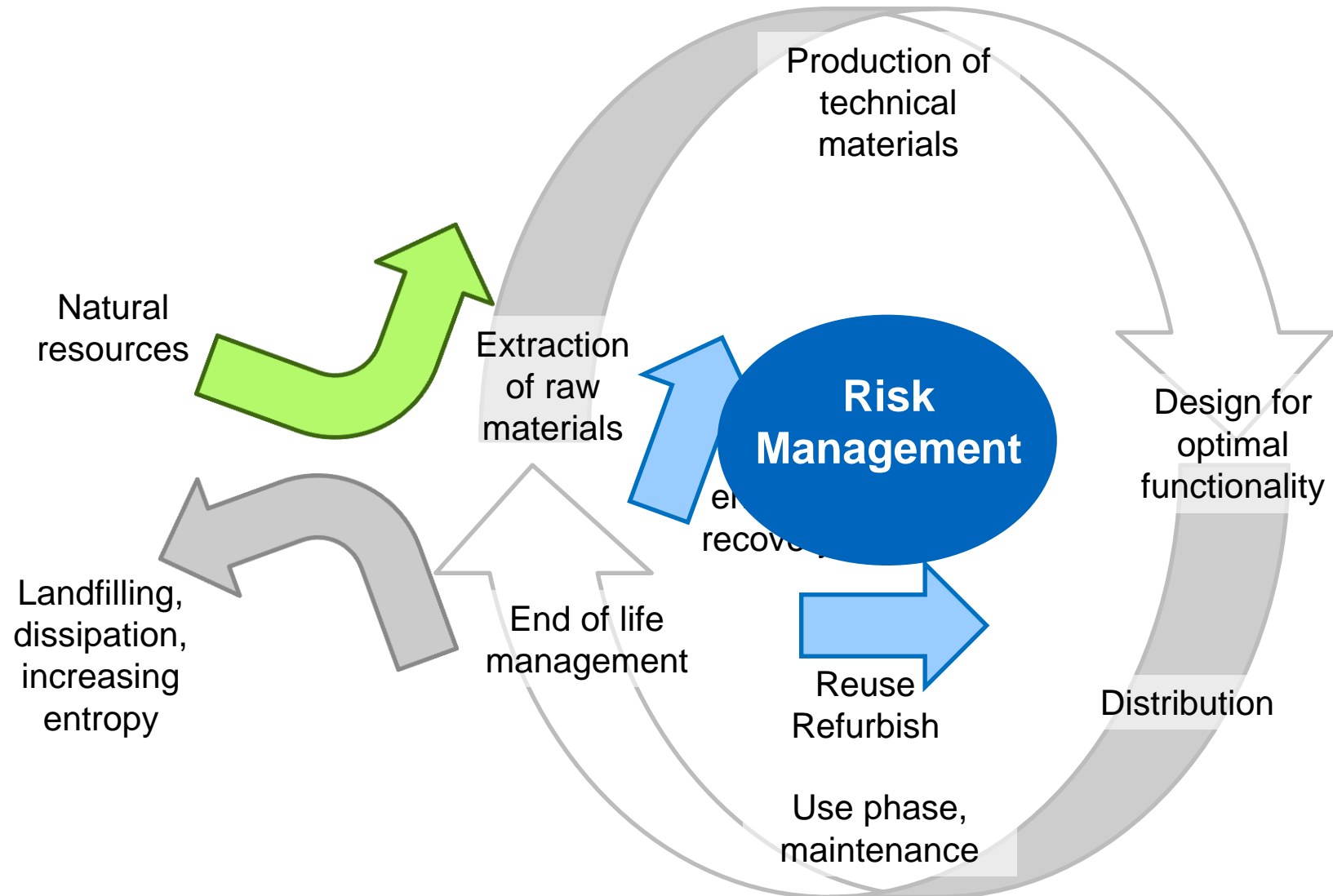
Copenhagen, 29-30 October 2015

Dr. Patricia Vangheluwe

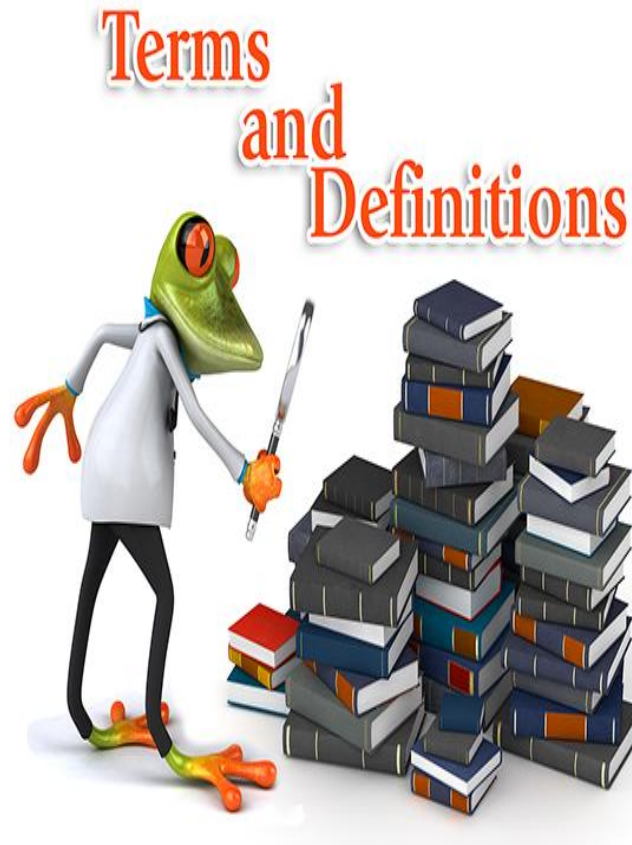
PlasticsEurope
Association of Plastics Manufacturers

- Products that are manufactured and put on the market have to be safe safe for people and the environment
- This holds for virgin materials as well as for recycled materials

Life Cycle Thinking and Risk Management: Two Key Aspects for a Circular Economy



What do Stakeholders Understand by “Clean Material Cycles”?



Important to get the terms and definitions right

- **Hazardous Substances:** Substances that are classified according to CLP regulation
- **Toxic Substances:** Substances that belong to defined classification categories of CLP
- **SVHC:** Substances that may have serious and often irreversible effects on human health and the environment. They include CMR 1A-B, PBT, vPvB and substances of equivalent concern

Clean material cycles address the following SVHC:

- SVHC on REACH Candidate List: substances that have officially been identified as SVHC and considered as being a priority for eventual inclusion in the authorisation list
- SVHC on REACH authorisation list

What are Clean Material Cycles?

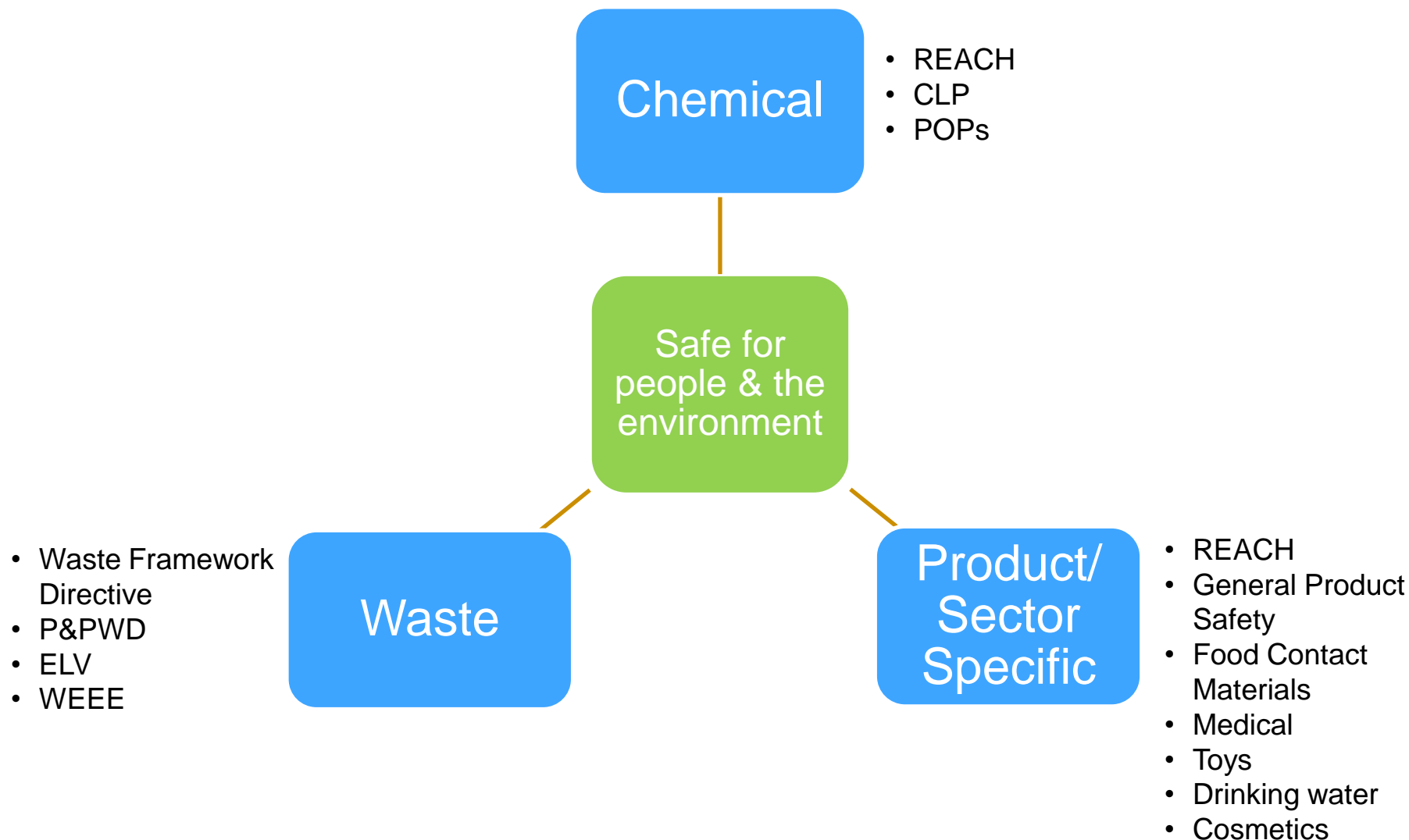
All stakeholders have a common objective:

- **Products that are manufactured and put on the market are safe for people and the environment**

However, there are often different views on how to achieve this:



Interaction between Product, Waste & Chemical Legislation



- Knowledge about the SVHC in materials (for both virgin and recycled materials) and articles
 - Comply with the required legislations
- Key question 1: How to properly know the composition of post-consumer plastic waste?
- Select waste streams of which the waste supplier is capable to deliver proper information on composition or,
 - Make analytical investigations on the waste or,
 - Use the safety data sheet tool developed for recycled plastics
- Key question 2: Why and when to recycle plastic waste containing SVHCs?
- When recycling of plastics is beneficial in terms of avoided emissions and resource efficiency over its life cycle
 - When recycling of plastic waste containing SVHCs does not cause harm to people and environment



Plastics

The Material for the 21st Century