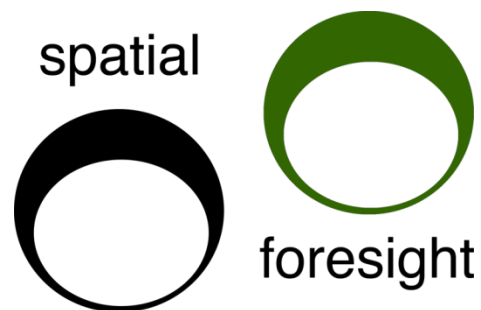# Circular economy strategies and roadmaps in Europe
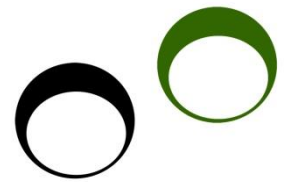
Identifying synergies and potential for cooperation and alliance building

2019 Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference – 7 March 2019

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Collecting strategies across Europe

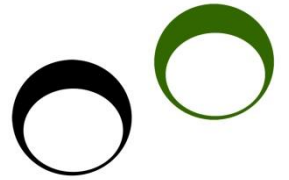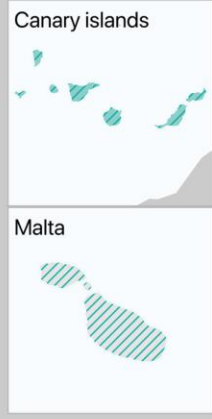**Circular economy strategy definition in the scope of the study**

" Documents focused on a circular economy, with a clear strategic plan, defining objectives or describing a desired outcome and including key steps or milestones to reach them "

Identified

33 existing strategies

29 planned strategies

Dimensions

- Planned Circular Economy strategy
- Strategy with an ongoing update
- Circular Economy strategy

City | National/regional

spatial | foresight

Canary islands

Malta

Location of existing and upcoming strategies

Factors:
- Presence of early adopters
- National strategies facilitating regional ones
- Decentralised systems

Administrative boundaries: Spatial Foresight and University of Geneva based on material from Eurostat GISCO, the GADM database and the EEA. Map despicts status as of December 2018.

Own elaboration based on existing strategies and information collected from stakeholders

A growing number of strategies

Development of circular economy strategies over time
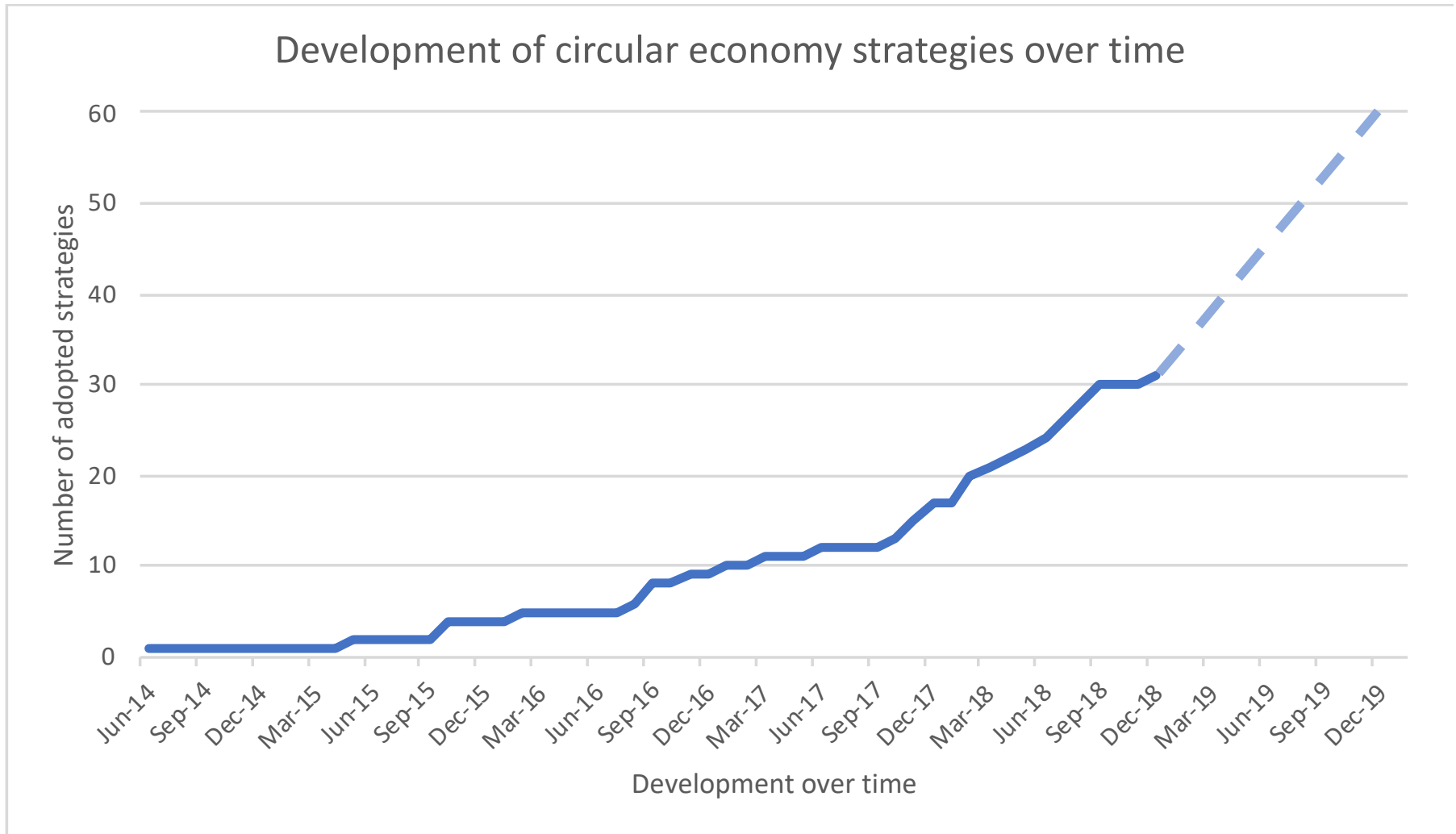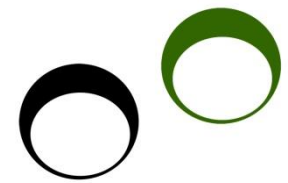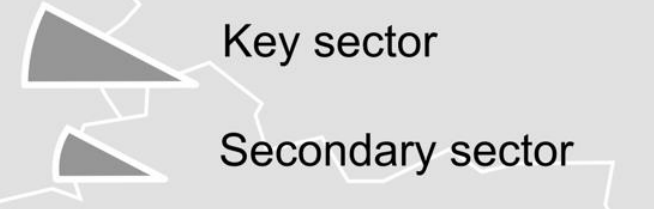
Own elaboration based on the review of existing strategies and information collected on upcoming strategies

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Economic sectors

Mining, metals and minerals · Manufacturing · Food and feed · Clothing and textile · Waste processing · Electronics · Construction · Water processing · Mobility · Chemicals (incl. plastics) · Agriculture and forestry · Education · Energy and heat
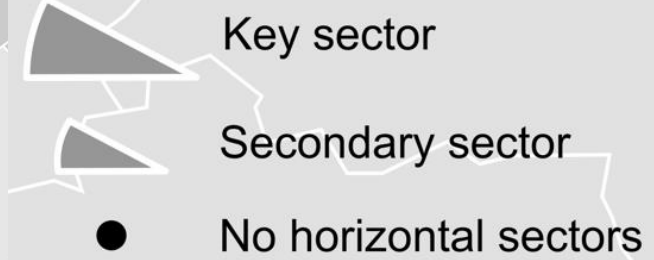
Key sector

Secondary sector

Different criteria used for sector selection: economic importance, circularity potential, political importance

Scalability and transferability often have little consideration in the selection of sectors

Own elaboration

spatial foresight

Horizontal sectors

- Design
- Public procurement
- Repair, reuse, refurbish
- Social enterprise
- Sustainable development
- Urban development
- Network building
- Knowledge sharing
- Enable innovation
- Regulatory changes
- Material flows
- Labelling
- International cooperation

Key sector

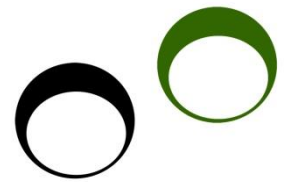Secondary sector

● No horizontal sectors

Choice of sectors differs by:
- **territorial level**
- **time of strategy**

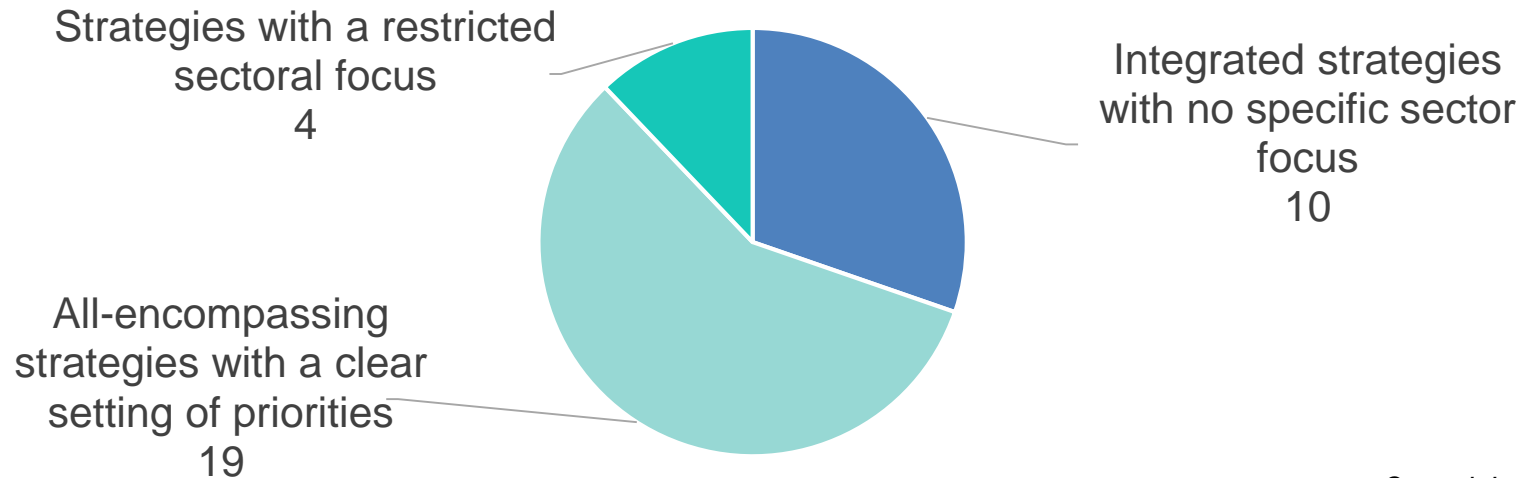Many strategies follow a **exploratory/ pioneering approach** in topic/sector selection

Own elaboration

Different orientation of strategies

- Levels of ambition (leaders vs. followers)
- Degrees of concern/integration with global challenges and goals
- Degrees of orientation to territorial context-specific challenges
- Degrees of inclusiveness of value chains
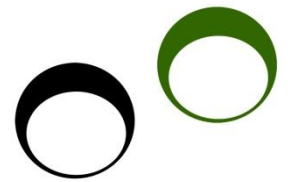
Different thematic and sectoral focus

Different thematic/sectoral focus

Strategies with a restricted sectoral focus
4

Integrated strategies with no specific sector focus
10

All-encompassing strategies with a clear setting of priorities
19

Own elaboration

Findings: inclusive approaches

Public authorities take a **leading role** in issuing circular economy strategies (28 of 33)

The inclusion of **different types of stakeholders** is considered **differently** in strategies

Some strategies set-up **boards or organisations** improving stakeholder involvement and follow-up
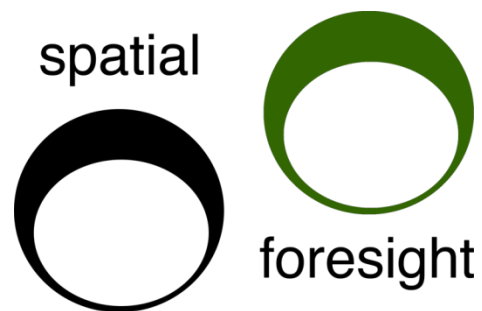
There is a **trade-off** between the **inclusion** of many types of players and **agility** of formulation and implementation of strategies

Civil society involvement is higher during strategy **implementation** than during strategy development

Strategies could benefit from a **greater inclusion of civil society**. Often CSOs are mentioned without identifying any specific role, or as a target group

Thank you!

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