Towards a CE monitor for Flanders

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Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference
Brussels, March 7, 2019
Policy Research Centre CE

Circular economy is one of the seven transition priorities of the Vision 2050 program of the Flemish government

2.5 M€ funding to increase knowledge base
- academic consortium (2017 – 2021) with expertise in engineering, economics, system thinking, resource efficiency
- involves 3 PhD’s, 3 post-docs, 10 professors
- outputs:
  - a circular economy monitor for Flanders
  - policy advice & reports
  - elaborated case studies
  - conferences and topical workshops
  - academic publications

ce-centre.be
Analysis state-of-the-art

There seem to be two separate domains:

1) Monitoring frameworks: collections of macro indicators

2) Circularity indicators at the micro level

It is not possible to obtain sufficiently direct feedback about the impact of policy interventions by either macro or micro indicators alone.
Bridging macro and micro allows to

- see already in an early stage evolutions towards circular economy
- assess the impact of policy measures
- pick up the effects of innovation
- incorporate the actions of different actors
- obtain a more direct policy feedback
Bridging macro and micro via the perspective of systems to fulfill societal needs

Alaerts, Van Acker et al., Towards a circular economy monitor for Flanders: a conceptual basis, bit.ly/2AKYj2B
Example: the mobility system

Mobility need fulfillment stagnates in Flanders...

... but amounts of cars (and materials) keeps increasing

Alaerts, Van Acker et al., submitted
Example: the mobility system

Use intensity of cars is not increasing...

... neither is use efficiency

Alaerts, Van Acker et al., submitted
Example: the mobility system

Control over EoL stage is decreasing...

... but efficiency increases in applied recycling technologies

Alaerts, Van Acker et al., submitted