

From Waste to Resource

Annex 1: Progress of the actions per operational objective

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Introduction

The original programme concerned 39 actions. In the past year, many actions were successfully started, performed, and completed. Through intensive collaboration with civil-society parties, actions were tightened, firmed up, and extended, with the aim of increasing support from society. The numbers in brackets refer to the action numbers used in the previous exposition of the programme. Other actions (without numbers in brackets) are newly formulated ones.

Operational objective 1: Identifying, sustainably managing and utilising natural capital

The goal of the Cabinet is that by 2020, the use of and impact on natural capital is fully factored into decisions by companies and government bodies.

Action		Status
1. (5)	Digital Atlas of Natural Capital	<p>Result: An initial version is available on www.atlasnatuurlijkkapitaal.nl. Further development of the Atlas and promotion of its use is being planned.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: By 2020, the Atlas has to have fully taken off. The core requirements for this are the creation of a user community, expanding the users' group, and satisfying users' requests.</p>
2. (6)	<i>From Waste to Resource</i> at the local level	<p>Result: The needs of municipalities have been identified through a survey. The selection of materials, target group and instruments is being worked out in detail.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: In mid-2015, the "Go/No-Go" decision will be taken for kicking off the programme.</p>

3. (7)	Natural capital funding	Result: The Netherlands has helped set up a global register of sustainable land-use projects to be started in the next few years. It has also provided the Ecosystem Return Foundation (ERF) with financial support for developing a method, as well as for projects and an organisation to restore degraded agriculture. ERF has reorganised itself to become Commonland.
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Operational objective 2: Focusing the design and development of products on circularity

The goal of the Cabinet is that concepts for circular design are applied in a manner that will substantially help with the objective of 50% reduction in the loss of material, from 10 million to 5 million tonnes, over the next ten years.

Action		Status
4. (1)	Encourage circular designing	Result: A list has been made of the Ecodesign Centres in neighbouring countries. A long-term programme called <i>CIRCO – creating business through circular design</i> has been started by the RACE coalition. Under this programme, a structured approach is being taken to raise the practical application and scientific development of product design for a circular economy to a higher level.
5. (2)	Extension of the Ecodesign Directive	Result: In 2014, the VHK consultancy conducted a study into the practical and legal implications for resource efficiency requirements of Ecodesign. The Netherlands is going to submit VHK's report to Brussels with the aim of achieving the desired expansion of the Ecodesign Directive to the use of resources. This action represents compliance with the Dik-Faber Motion (Parliamentary Paper 30872, No. 155). Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The Netherlands wants to flesh out this subject with its EU Presidency in mind.
6. (4)	Resource labelling	Result: A feasibility study for resource labelling has been completed, published, and sent to the House. The Government is waiting for initiatives from the business community, and will not introduce regulations. This completes the action, and meets commitment 11914 of 29 October 2014.

Operational objective 3: Increasing and disseminating knowledge about the circular economy and making it practicable

By 2020, the Cabinet wants to have the circular economy as an integral part of curriculums for specific professional disciplines and for education in general, as well as a fixed item of industrial policy.

Action		Status
7.	Knowledge map and scientific agenda for the circular economy	Result: RACE partner <i>Het Groene Brein</i> has prepared a draft knowledge agenda for the circular economy, in addition to a knowledge map.

		<p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: In line with the development of the scientific agenda, the desirable supplementary activities are being identified.</p>
8. (33)	Research and training programme for <i>From Waste to Resource</i>	<p>Result: The report <i>Market survey of the biobased economy in the vegetable, fruit and garden sector</i> was prepared under the research and training programme for <i>From Waste to Resource</i>. It is included as Annex 6 to this progress report. A grant scheme has been established for funding the PRO VANG programme for the next two years. The scheme's target areas are metals, plastics, and biotic waste streams.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The results will be used to create training agendas, so that the acquired knowledge spreads via higher professional education and into the business community.</p>
9.	Youth and education	<p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Under the RACE theme of "Youth & Education", this year will see the circular economy being made an integral part of the training curriculums for accountancy and finance. A portal will be opened for internships and graduation projects at SMEs. The creation of circular-economy networks for and by young people is being encouraged.</p>
10.	Government Sustainability Network (<i>Rijksduurzaamheidsnetwerk</i>)	<p>Result: The Cabinet intends to continue improving and renewing its own approach by becoming an active member of networks such as the <i>Rijksduurzaamheidsnetwerk</i>, the Government Sustainability Network. Within this network, new methods are developed and links forged between people inside and outside government circles. Three gatherings take place every year.</p>
11. (32)	Circular economy in the "top sectors"	<p>Result: For the new round of knowledge and innovation agendas, more attention than previously is being asked for the way in which the "top sectors" tackle social challenges in the road maps, the circular economy for example. The circular economy is an item on the TKI-BE programme ("<i>Topconsortium voor Kennis en Innovatie Biobased Economy</i>"), a group of leading sector companies promoting knowledge and innovation for the biobased economy.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Innovation agendas for the circular economy are being drawn up. Deploying biotic waste streams as a resource is part of the TKI-BE's 8-to-12-year research programme. This crosses the boundaries of three "top sectors": Energy, Chemicals, and Agro & Food. It is also on the Human Capital Agenda of TKI-BE.</p>
12. (34)	Horizon 2020 for NL policy goals	<p>Result: On the instructions of the Cabinet, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO.nl) is organising information and advice for companies on the submission of research proposals for Horizon 2020, with the circular and biobased economy as their subject. Drawing on consultations with the policy and knowledge sectors, the Netherlands is a party to the negotiations with the European Commission on the new Horizon 2020 work programme for 2016-2017.</p>

		<p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The successful participation of Dutch knowledge and industry actors is continued, based on circular and biobased economy programmes that are relevant for Government policy.</p>
13. (35)	Netherlands as circular economy hotspot (RACE)	<p>Result: The RACE coalition has become operational. Its members are Circle Economy, CLICKNL, <i>De Groene Zaak</i>, <i>Het Groene Brein</i>, and CSR Netherlands. RACE receives support from RVO.nl, the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, and the Ministry of Economic Affairs. The themes that RACE takes up are activities from the VANG programme. Specifically, they are circular designing (4), promoting high-value reuse (34), removing obstacles (36), transition strategy for three additional chains (19), portfolio of circular projects (15), and youth and education (9).</p>

Operational objective 4: Encouraging resource-free business operations

The Cabinet's goal is that, by 2020, companies are fully aware of the risks they face regarding resources, and have integrated operations that are more circular in their business strategies.

	Action	Status
14. (24)	Knowledge forum for resources and the circular economy	<p>Result: The study <i>Materialen in de Nederlandse economie</i> ("Materials in the Dutch economy") has been completed and a follow-up study initiated. A knowledge forum is being established, including a self-assessment tool for entrepreneurs.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The self-scan module for companies will be available as from the spring of 2016.</p>
15. (24)	Circular Business Platform	<p>Result: RACE began setting up Circulairondernemen.nl, an online circular business platform that targets companies and civil-society initiatives. Its aims are the formation of communities and the dissemination of information about the circular economy. The platform also has available a portfolio of circular initiatives and a toolbox for circular designing.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The platform opened in the spring of this year, and has undergone further development closely tied to the knowledge forum for resources and the circular economy.</p>
16.	European Raw Materials KIC	<p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The Netherlands' membership of the EU's Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) for Raw Materials consortium ensures alignment at the European level, and that the focus will be on innovation and training from all sections of the chain – mining, processing, recycling, and substitution. This year will see preparation of the contracts.</p>
17.	North Sea Resources Roundabout	<p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The Netherlands is joining forces with the United Kingdom, Germany, France and Belgium for the initiative known as the <i>North Sea Resources Roundabout</i>. Its aim is to harmonise the interpretation of</p>

		regulations and the related supervision. Before the summer, it will become clear what approach to take.
18.	Circular seaports	<p>Result: Seaports function as hubs where all types of resources can be found together: food, biomass, fossil fuels, water, heat, metals, and construction materials, as well as their related waste streams. In the context of “innovation without borders”, seaports are already home to a variety of interesting pilot projects and commercial activities for adding value to waste and for the generation of symbiosis of residual waste streams between different industrial actions.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The work programme Seaports 2014-2016 has spawned actions focused on sustainability, circular economy, biobased economy, and transforming resource flows. On 11 March 2015 (at a high-level meeting), the five Dutch seaports stated their ambition to conclude a Green Deal for them to work jointly and with the Government on expanding the circular economy in the ports.</p>

Operational objective 5: Turning chains into cycles

This Cabinet has the ambition to adapt at least ten major chains, in collaboration with partners, so that the result is an obvious contribution to the three main goals of the programme: keeping our natural capital vibrant; improving the security of supply; and reinforcing the earning power of the Dutch economy.

	What	Status
19. (25)	Make (new) chains sustainable	<p>Result: The VANG programme is focused on closing chains more effectively. The aim is to initiate a change process for at least ten major chains. It has already commenced for the following chains: concrete, food, packaging, phosphate, wood, textile, plastic, and biotic materials. Where relevant, an attempt has been made to join these chains to activities relating to the biobased economy.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The RACE coalition has committed to making three new chains more sustainable, the selection to be made in April of this year.</p>
20.	Concrete sector	<p>Results: The <i>Green Deal Verduurzaming Betonketen</i> for making concrete more sustainable was concluded in 2012. In 2014, a network consisting of companies, industry associations and the Dutch Government researched the potential for sustainable concrete, the opportunities that would have to be seized, and the obstacles that would have to be removed. The outcome has been a number of publications showing, among other things, that the Dutch concrete chain can reduce its annual CO₂ emissions by 1 million tonnes by 2020 (using 2010 as the baseline), representing 30% of all CO₂ emissions by the concrete sector.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: This year, a common system for requesting tenders and awarding contracts is being developed jointly with government bodies. The aim is to make strategic agreements with ten principals on the use of sustainable concrete in actual construction projects. Another aim is</p>

		the execution of three pilot projects for which promising sustainability technologies are used. In addition, the network this year has the goal of using 20% more reusable materials from recycled concrete than in 2014.
21.	Food sector	<p>Result:</p> <p>The project <i>Seven Days of Feedback</i> has been given support, and measurements have been made of the changes in behaviour. A start was made with changing Government catering to become consistently more sustainable. In this context, several departments were guinea pigs for the <i>Meat-less Monday</i> experiment. This was so successful that some caterers have decided to continue with the concept at other locations as well. The Food Atlas of the Netherlands was also produced.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Via <i>Milieu Centraal</i> and with the agreement of <i>Voedingscentrum</i>, reliable information is made available for consumers on the environmental impact of consuming and wasting food, as well as regards the outlook for taking action. The <i>Foodbattle</i> and the <i>Feedback Foundation</i> are receiving support. The intervention database <i>Loket Gezond Leven</i> is being extended this year to the areas of food and sustainability. Taking action to make catering more sustainable and introducing sustainable concepts in the hospitality sector are being further expanded in scope.</p>
22. (3)	Packaging sector	<p>Result:</p> <p>A framework agreement was concluded with chain parties, i.e. the packaging industry and municipalities, for the period 2013 to 2022. Chain parties collaborate under the umbrella of the Kennisinstituut Duurzaam Verpakken (KIDV) on structural sustainability for packaging through an appropriate agenda. In 2014, initial steps were taken in drawing up sustainability plans for the packaging industry. More material is being recycled thanks to more plastic packaging being collected. A start was also made on recycling drink cartons. With the aim of making recycling more productive, the sector has made preparations to set up a lectureship on <i>Circular Plastics</i>. To reduce the number of carrier bags in use, a broad approach is in the pipeline, for example, a ban on free plastic bags at checkouts.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The framework agreement is being implemented. By the end of 2014, companies accounting for over 70% of the market had submitted an industry sustainability plan to KIDV. Companies accounting for a further 25% committed to doing the same in the first quarter of 2015. This means virtually the entire market is covered. As agreed, all the plans will be evaluated, adopted and then made public. It is expected that this year, KIDV will adopt plans containing the highest feasible targets for 80% of the market. These targets can then be included in policy. The aim is for the Ministerial Decree that will allow this to happen to come into force by 1 January 2016. Support for the move is to be increased by quantification of the sustainability methodology this year.</p>
23.	Phosphate sector	<p>Result:</p> <p>In 2012, a phosphate chain agreement was signed and a nutrient platform created. Based on a list of obstacles in laws and regulations governing the development of a biobased economy, the Fertilizers</p>

		<p>Act (Implementation) Decree was amended and the new version published on 15 December 2014. As a result, it is now legal to apply recovered phosphate as a fertilizer. This year, the Use of Fertilizers Decree is being amended as well. At the European level, the European Sustainable Phosphorous Platform (ESPP) has become an independent legal entity, with the Netherlands acting as interim President. The second European Sustainable Phosphorus Conference took place in Berlin in March of this year. The ESPP fulfils an important role for the exchange of knowledge and policy experience.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: At the national level, the Nutrient Platform is preparing a strategic roadmap in the first half of this year for nutrients until 2030 ("<i>Roadmap Nutriënten 2030</i>"). Major subjects addressed are surveying the possibilities of turning other nutrient chains into cycles, and recovering phosphates from fertilizers. Before the summer, the House will receive an update on the progress of the chain agreement for recycling phosphate.</p>
24.	Wood sector	<p>Result: In 2013, the <i>Green Deal Bevorderen Duurzaam Bosbeheer</i> to encourage sustainable forest management was signed by 27 parties. The purpose of the Deal is to make sustainably produced wood the norm in the Netherlands, thereby making the wood chain more sustainable and protecting the natural capital. Each signatory is responsible for its own commitment, as well as for the related reporting.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: This year will see more activities from the Green Deal being carried out.</p>
25.	Textiles sector	<p>Result: The <i>Green Deal Textielinzameling</i> for collecting textiles was concluded in 2012. Its signatories work to achieve more and better collecting of textiles. In 2013, all the industry associations in the fashion and textile sector put together a joint action plan for making the sector more sustainable ("<i>Groen is de rode draad</i>").</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Government officials from various departments and representatives from all sections of the textile chain are drawing up a covenant for making the chain more sustainable. It results from the study commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs into the risks of corporate social responsibility. The above-mentioned plan ("<i>Groen is de rode draad</i>") is a key factor in the process. When fulfilling the Green Deal, the challenge is to support not only the collecting of textile but also the selling of it.</p>
26. (22)	Biotic materials sector	<p>Result: The Green Deal for an alliance between Dutch Water Boards and the Government ("<i>Green Deal Unie van Waterschappen – Rijk</i>") was signed in 2014. Motivated by the Cabinet's research and innovation policy, various innovative projects for processing biotic waste have started. On the initiative of Water Boards and companies, the two "top sectors" Energy and Agro & Food have kicked off projects for converting sewage sludge and toilet paper into chemical raw materials.</p>

		<p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Biotic chains include organic waste streams such as those consisting of vegetable, fruit and garden matter; residual waste streams from agriculture and horticulture; and residual waste streams from the food and confectionery industry. In collaboration with the National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) and Wageningen University and Research Centre (WUR), an analysis of the sustainability aspects, the opportunities, and the obstacles is being conducted, for the purpose of devising a programme to accelerate the closing of biotic cycles. An action plan will be prepared this year for the sustainable use of biotic residue streams and for setting up a programme.</p>
27.	Plastics sector	<p>Results: The plastics chain agreement ("<i>Kunststofketenakkoord</i>") was concluded in 2013, with over 75 parties from industry, the scientific and NGO communities, and government bodies signing on. It is focused on sustainable innovations for closing the plastics cycle.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Apart from the standard activities (sharing knowledge through member meetings, online communications, and work visits), this year will see other activities being undertaken. Among them are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making improvements to mechanical and chemical recycling • Raising the level of hard-plastics recycling • The launching of a manual titled "Design for Recycling" <p>Next September, the verdict on submission of a plan for LIFE Integrated Project (LIFE-IP) grants is expected. Recognition of the plastics chain agreement as a LIFE-IP will give a boost to the entire VANG programme.</p>
28.	Global Green Deals (GGDs)	<p>Results: The Netherlands is also doing its best internationally to have governments, NGOs and companies join forces to make chains more sustainable. Our strategy for this is to roll out the Green Deal approach abroad. We are compiling a list of promising initiatives as a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) action and in collaboration with interested EU Member States.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Because of the complexity of the international dimension, our plan calls for an initial tranche of GGDs that are of limited size and that clearly show their added value in relation to the existing international set of instruments ("small and beautiful") –in other words, GGDs for highly promising, innovative initiatives of international coalitions comprising civil-society parties, and that will also help in achieving the goals of the VANG programme. By the autumn of this year, it should be apparent which initiatives might be suitable for concluding a GGD. This initial tranche of GGDs could be signed during the Netherlands' Presidency of the EU in the first half of 2016.</p>

Operational objective 6: Developing financial and other market incentives

The Cabinet's goal is to develop financial and market incentives that encourage making business operations circular.

Action		Status
29. (29)	Promote the use of new business models	<p>Result: The Take Back Chemicals Green Deal has been signed. Its purpose is to employ innovative business models to find sustainable and efficient ways of using and reusing chemicals and chemical compounds.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Five projects in the context of Take Back Chemicals are being carried out this year. Potential obstacles for circular business models are assessed and removed, and general research questions and recommendations specified in detail. The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) in collaboration with <i>Het Groene Brein</i> has started research into new business models. One of the aspects being studied, jointly with the Ministry of Economic Affairs and partners from the Province of Zeeland, concerns how new business models arise and how these can be stimulated.</p>
30. (30)	Encourage circular innovation	<p>Result: A study has been initiated to identify the innovations that are needed for a circular economy, and the ways that government instruments can boost them. The MIA and VAMIL environmental lists have been amended.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Results from the study are being applied this year for gearing certain schemes to the circular economy. The schemes in question include <i>Groen Beleggen</i> (green investing), MIA (tax deduction), VAMIL (self-selected depreciation), and other instruments for stimulating innovation. A revolving fund is one of the possibilities in this context.</p>
31. (31)	Tax incentives for the circular economy	<p>Result: On 1 January 2015, the existing tax on the dumping of waste was extended to include its incineration. Work is currently underway on how to include the export levy in the waste tax in a way that is fair. It will come into force by Royal Decree on a date still to be determined. Among the considerations is the effort required by the Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT) and the Tax and Customs Administration for implementing the provisions. The Cabinet is aiming for it to come into force on 1 July 2015.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: This year, the Cabinet is drawing up a list of opportunities and obstacles as regards getting a green taxation agenda on the table during the Netherlands' Presidency of the EU.</p>

Operational objective 7: Making consumption and procurement circular

The Cabinet's ambition is to reduce the footprint of its own procurement and that of total consumption in the Netherlands by 2020. Moreover, it wants to be a leader for the development and dissemination of knowledge and experience concerning sustainable and circular purchasing.

	Action	Status
32. (8)	Make consumer behaviour more sustainable	<p>Result: Test projects (for textile, food, and waste) incorporating the use of incentive instruments have been completed and evaluated. A strategy for making consumer behaviour more sustainable has been drawn up, and is enclosed as Annex 3 to this report.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The strategy for making consumer behaviour more sustainable for the themes of clothing, food, and domestic waste will be implemented. Where relevant, more themes will be tackled in the future.</p>
33. (9 & 10)	Make consumption more sustainable by reuse and repair	<p>Result: Members of the RACE coalition are studying how to encourage high-value reuse and repair. An instrument is under development to this end.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The results of the study will be used this year and next (2016) for collaborating with retail enterprises and recycling and repair businesses (possibly in the form of a Green Deal) to promote high-value reuse and extension of the useful lives of products.</p>
34. (11 & 12)	Sustainable and circular purchasing by the Government	<p>Result: An evaluation was made in 2014 of the policy being followed at the time for sustainable procurement. The results were sent to the House on 2 February 2014. Within the Government's operating units, experiments are underway to test the use of circular concepts and business models in eight areas: ICT, cars, office furniture, buildings, paper, clothing, catering, and packaging. The <i>Green Deal Circulair Inkopen</i> on circular purchasing, in which the Government is participating, is running well. On 24 November 2014, it was honoured with a Runner-up Award for Green Deals.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: By 1 July of this year at the latest, an action plan for sustainable procurement will be submitted to the House.</p>
35.	Reuse of Government data storage devices	<p>Result: The study into the potential reuse of the Government's data storage devices has been completed. Its results are provided as Annex 4 (in response to Parliamentary questions from Dik-Faber and Rebel, 30 September 2013).</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Based on the study results, the Dutch Government is aiming to fulfil the potential for the reuse of its surplus ICT equipment. This concerns 95% of the PCs and laptops that become surplus to requirements each year, i.e. all equipment not classified as "Secret". The General Intelligence and Security Service (AIVD) has confirmed that such data storage devices can be cleaned of data using special certified software, in which case their destruction is</p>

		not necessary. The Directorate currently responsible for such matters (<i>Domeinen Roerende Zaken</i>) will continue to play a key role in the process, in accordance with the regulations governing material management (" <i>Regeling Materieelbeheer</i> "). Following erasure of the data by the Directorate, the ICT equipment will be sold by public auction.
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Operational objective 8: Gearing waste policy to the circular economy, and improving waste collection and recycling

The Cabinet has a two-fold aim: within a year, to have initiated a project for improving the situation regarding all obstructions to the circular economy; and to promote use of the classifications "end-of-waste" and "by-products" in practice. In addition, the Cabinet wants to see 75% of domestic waste being separated by 2020, with no more than 100 kg of such waste per head of the population being produced annually. This 75% target is also a Cabinet ambition for comparable non-domestic waste. In combination with measures earlier in the chain, there should be a 50% reduction in the loss of material, from 10 million to 5 million tonnes, over the next ten years.

Action		Status
36. (18)	Removal of legal obstacles	<p>Results:</p> <p>38 obstacles affecting the VANG programme have been tackled, such as those relating to waste/no-waste, the REACH regulation, and the EU's Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR). Obstacles can be reported by e-mail to info@ruimteinregels.nl and online at the website www.biobasedeconomy.nl/ruimteinregels (as from mid-2015 www.ruimteinregels.nl). During the current year, all obstacles reported in 2014 are being studied. Actions will then be taken to deal with them. The programme distinguishes between operational, structural, conflicting and basic obstacles. An assumption for the ambition is that generic solutions have been identified for all operational, structural, and conflicting obstacles, and have been set in motion where possible. As regards basic obstacles, the underlying problems have been analysed and courses of action initiated where necessary. Examples include the end-of-waste classification, compliance with the REACH regulation, and more forceful implementation of innovative regulations.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years:</p> <p>The programme is continuing this year with taking stock of obstacles that entrepreneurs encounter when investing in innovation. It then ensures that the solution to a particular problem is made available to the entrepreneur concerned. Dealing with complex obstacles can require international pilot projects. An example is trials of new enforcement methods.</p>
37. (19)	Promote use of the "end-of-waste" and "by-product" classifications	<p>Results:</p> <p>An online test is available that companies can use to check a material's classification (see www.ishetafval.nl). To confirm its results from the test, a company can submit a request on the website for a legal evaluation from the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment.</p>
38. (20)	National criteria for assigning "end-of-	<p>Results:</p> <p>By Ministerial Decree on 6 February 2015, end-of-waste criteria</p>

	waste" classification	<p>came into force for recycled granulate. The Decree provides clarity regarding the quality of recycling products from construction and demolition waste, one third of our waste by weight. As such, the Decree adds to the appeal of using these products.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Adoption of national "end-of-waste" criteria for other materials will be considered if the demand for legal evaluations from the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment (see previous action) indicates that for a certain material such criteria constitute the most efficient instrument.</p>
39.	Regulatory criteria for by-products under the Waste Framework Directive	<p>Results: On 1 April 2015, the Ministerial Decree specifying the criteria for by-products under the Waste Framework Directive (WFD) came into force. This Decree utilises the freedom offered by the EU Directive to classify production residues as a by-product instead of as waste. As a result, companies can more easily use production residues as a resource. For the time being, the Decree applies only to crude glycerine.</p>
40. (21)	Optimum use of the EU Waste Shipment Regulation	<p>Results: A helpdesk has been set up to explain enforcement of the EU's Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR), including related decisions. The Netherlands is a leading advocate for making enforcement at the European level more uniform and more effective.</p>
41. (22)	Promote innovation in the field of recycling	<p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Further promoting of innovation takes place within the context of the covenant for more and better recycling ("<i>Meer en Beter Recycling</i>") that has been concluded with the sector. Three steps can be distinguished: produce a list of innovative recycling technologies that are suitable for a circular economy; identify the barriers to the introduction of such innovations; and identify the methods or instruments that can provide more encouragement for adopting such innovations. A report of recommendations will appear in the autumn of this year. It will form the basis for further agreements under the covenant.</p>
42. (23)	Tailor norms to the circular economy	<p>Results: To investigate whether normalisation or certification procedures are restrictive, three cases have been analysed. Although the results for normalisation are known, those for certification have not yet yielded sufficient clarity. In practice, the restrictions appear to be less severe than expected. The problem is more a case of unfamiliarity with the instruments of normalisation and certification.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: An interim report will be produced midway through this year, based on the three cases and the lessons learnt from them. Follow-up pilot projects will then be carried out at selected SMEs. Reporting on the results will be in mid-2016. This year, informative material and communications are being directed at companies to help them become used to normalisation and certification. Finally, the Netherlands is pushing the Eco-innovation Action Plan – High-level Working Group (EcoAP HLWG) to stress the importance of dynamic norm setting.</p>
43. (26)	Promote high-value recycling	<p>Results: In order to improve recycling, collaboration was sought with waste-</p>

		<p>processing companies and the recycling industry. This has resulted in the <i>Meer en Betere Recycling</i> covenant, signed on 16 March 2015. Some twenty collaborative projects are now ongoing thanks to this covenant, aimed at more recycling (higher volume) on the one hand, and high-value recycling (better quality) on the other. A project for defining and producing high-value recycling has been started within the context of the covenant. The project is attracting interest from a wide variety of parties.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Before this summer, tenders will be requested for the development of methodologies on which to base policy that establishes high-value recycling of waste. The contract also includes studying a number of actual waste streams to find ways of converting them to high-value recycling streams. Completion of the study should be at the end of this year. A decision will then follow on whether and how to translate the results into policy.</p>
44. (13)	Encourage better waste separation	<p>Results: In 2014, a study was made of how waste separation can be improved at sorting facilities so that more material stays in the chain.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: Based on the results of the above study, two or three follow-up projects are being carried out this year. Conclusions to be drawn are expected at the beginning of 2016, after which the projects can be implemented on a wider scale. The collaboration is under the umbrella of the <i>Meer en Betere Recycling</i> covenant.</p>
45. (14)	Sustainable use of bottom ash produced by waste-to-energy plants	<p>Results: The first batches of bottom ash have been reprocessed. Under the terms of the Green Deal ("<i>Verduurzaming Nuttige Toepassing AEC-bodemassen</i>"), in 2017 at least 50% of the bottom ash needs to be reprocessed to produce generally usable building materials. A potential obstacle is that the reprocessing methods increase the cost. To overcome this, the need for supplementary measures is being looked into.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: This year, a definitive answer will be given to the question concerning the conditions that would make the reprocessing of bottom ash acceptable to society. In addition, this year will see clarification of whether there are technical barriers to the reprocessing of bottom ash into a generally usable product, and of the extent to which reprocessing can be carried out at socially acceptable costs.</p>
46. (15)	Collect more separated domestic waste	<p>Results: In collaboration with municipalities, a public framework for sustainable waste management has been defined, and an action programme for reducing the amount of residual waste has been set up. On 1 January of this year, a programme office, representing a joint effort of municipalities and central government, kicked off the programme.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years: The first step of the strategy for reaching the goal of 100 kg of residual waste per head of the population by 2020 is in the form of a</p>

		directive that classifies this aim according to, for example, the number of high-rise buildings in a municipality. As a result, it will be known what each municipality can contribute. There will be support for municipalities to take the steps towards realising the ambition that is suitable for them. Benchmarks will be one of the means employed to increase the political will. Knowledge will be shared, and municipalities will receive support when carrying out pilot projects and studies. The role of private citizens will be stimulated by making more use of insights from behavioural science when conducting campaigns. Chains will also be closed more effectively, starting with a study into the opportunities and obstacles relating to incontinence products such as diapers. The progress with the actions from the implementation programme and their effect on the amount of residual waste will be monitored, and actions modified if necessary.
47. (16)	Motivate private citizens to separate waste	<p>Results:</p> <p>The Ministry's information programme <i>Duurzaam Doen</i> channels tips to private citizens on how to live sustainably. Motivating private citizens is also part of the implementation programme <i>VANG Huishoudelijk</i>, for domestic users.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years:</p> <p><i>Duurzaam Doen</i> will become a campaign this year. Actions relating to themes will then be defined in detail to focus on the potential for action by residents, consumers and commuters in their respective direct living, consuming, and travelling environments where the waste separation has to be carried out.</p>
48. (17)	Separation of non-domestic waste	<p>Results:</p> <p>The aim of the <i>VANG Buitenshuis</i> programme is to have non-domestic waste separation, and hence achieve a widespread change in behaviour. Sustainable behaviour also exerts a positive influence on domestic waste separation, as well as in the fight against litter on the streets and plastic trash in the seas. A core theme alongside separation is prevention, which requires agreements with a wide variety of sectors. A list of these sectors has been made, and to gain experience, one of the first projects selected concerns train passengers. This has led to a Green Deal that was signed on 23 February 2015.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years:</p> <p>The Trains and Stations Green Deal goes into operation this year. As regards new sub-areas, this year sees action focused on schools, public events, healthcare, sports associations, and the public spaces that municipalities manage. Collaboration on these activities is within the context of the <i>Meer en Betere Recycling</i> covenant. The Dutch Government is also stepping up the waste separation in its own offices, as well as at service areas managed by <i>Rijkswaterstaat</i> alongside motorways.</p>
49.	Enforce the rules for refuse collection and recycling centres	<p>Result:</p> <p>The motion of Dik-Faber has been implemented (Parliamentary Paper 30872, No. 145). This pressed for strict enforcement of the new rules applying to refuse collection and recycling centres, and an independent study into the environmental benefit of the compulsory post-separation sorting of residual waste. The reports "<i>Scheiding afvalstromen – Scheiden van 18 stromen grof huishoudelijk afval op</i></p>

		<p><i>gemeentelijke milieustraten 2014</i>" (on the separation of 18 bulk household waste streams at municipal refuse collection and recycling centres in 2014) and "<i>Onderzoek naar de milieuwinst van nasorteren bij een goede scheiding op de milieustraat</i>" (on a study into the environmental benefit from sorting waste following effective separation at a refuse collection and recycling centre) are included with this report.</p> <p>A random sample of the centres studied shows that almost all the above-named waste streams can be offered. Regarding the five waste streams to which mandatory separation applies, most of the waste is accepted in separate containers and kept separated. At efficient centres with 18 containers, only 13% of the waste goes in the container for residual waste. For the larger part of this waste, recovery is not cost-effective. With a well-equipped sorting installation, however, it is possible to sort a further 25% to 35% of the above-mentioned 13%, and recycle instead of incinerate it. More environmental benefit is to be gained by ensuring that all municipalities really do make a good job of waste pre-sorting – and hence minimise the amount of residual waste – than by imposing regulations for compulsory post-sorting.</p>
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Operational objective 9: Developing indicators and metrics that quantify the transition to a circular economy

The Cabinet's intention is to help develop reliable metrics, methods and certification standards that can measure the transition to a circular economy and boost its acceleration.

	Action	Status
50.	Enhanced Material Flows Monitor	<p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years:</p> <p>The current monitor (developed by Statistics Netherlands) is being extended to waste-water and other flows. Consideration will then be given to producing statistics for new themes, such as the repair and high-value reuse of products, reduction in materials used for goods and services, and high-value recycling, substitution, and sustainability of resources.</p>
51. (36)	Standardise methods for measuring sustainability	<p>Results:</p> <p>Statistics Netherlands, the Sustainability Consortium, and the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) have together produced a report titled <i>Reporting on sustainable development at national, company and product levels: The potential for alignment of measurement systems in a post-2015 world</i>. The focus of the report is on making the measurement methods more sustainable at the levels mentioned in the title of the report. The Netherlands wants to employ its knowledge of statistics to establish logical relationships between these different methods used at different levels, domestically as well as internationally.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years:</p> <p>This year, RIVM is facilitating a Community of Practice for owners of measurement systems.</p>
52. (37)	Update comparative sources of information	<p>Results:</p> <p>The quality label guide ("<i>Keurmerkenwijzer</i>") was updated in 2014.</p> <p>Planning for 2015 and subsequent years:</p>

		The website www.metenvanduurzaamheid.nl is receiving a new look this year.
53. (38)	Transparency about the economic impact on natural capital	Results: The development of a single indicator for the economic impact on natural capital is not yet within sight. The roll-out of the VANG programme is primarily focussed on increasing transparency through the medium of the Digital Atlas of Natural Capital. This represents completion of the action.
54. (39)	Improve waste-stream information	Results: The evaluation of actual (<i>ex-post</i>) results of the national waste management plan (" <i>Landelijk Afvalbeheerplan</i> ", or LAP) included the availability, quality and use of the data. This action has therefore been completed.