



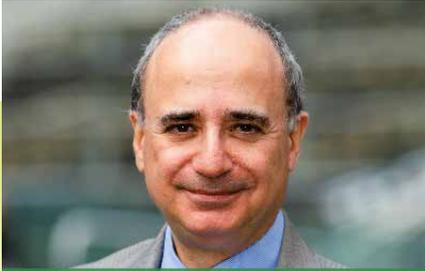
EucoLight

European Association of lighting
WEEE compliance schemes



Biennial Report 2020-2021

Making the Circular Economy a Reality for Lighting Products



Fabrizio D'Amico
EucoLight Chairman

Two billion lamps recycled throughout Europe

Climate change mitigation and circular economy are key drivers of the EU policies for now and for the future. EucoLight members have intensified their efforts to collect and treat lamps and luminaires in the most environmentally friendly way. Two billion lamps recycled throughout Europe, this is the milestone that the 19 EucoLight members have collectively achieved, with huge quantities of metal, plastics and glass recovered from the treatment.

The role of Producer Responsibility Organisations is vital for a sustainable waste management and for the transition to new behaviours such as re-use and re-manufacturing. To facilitate the future of members' operations, EucoLight has organised stakeholder events and conferences with qualified speakers, commissioned studies of specific interest to our industry, built coalitions with other organisations and, of course, maintained the dialogue with relevant EU officials and policy makers.

Our members, staff and Hervé Grimaud, who chaired EucoLight between 2018 and 2021, deserve a sincere tribute and respect for their work.



Marc Guiraud
EucoLight Secretary General

Benchmarking continues for best collection and recycling results

In 2020 and 2021, the world faced the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, also forcing EucoLight member organisations to adapt their collection and recycling operations. But the active members' participation in key EucoLight projects and continuous dialogue with partners created an invaluable sense of connection. A few highlights in our work:

- On extended producer responsibility requirements – we strongly engaged in the debate on requirements at EU level, notably with regards to non-compliant online sales.
- For collection target calculation – we assisted the European Commission by providing lighting specific data within the framework of the update and maintenance of the WEEE Calculation Tool.
- About European WEEE treatment standards, including treatment of lamps – we developed a position on the European Commission Study on quality standards for WEEE and their potential revision.
- About consumer awareness on recycling – we surveyed the perceptions and behaviours of citizens in the disposal of end-of-life lamps and other WEEE.
- Performed studies on ways to improving the sound treatment of gas discharge lamps and LEDs.

In June 2021, the EucoLight Board elected as new Chairman, Fabrizio D'Amico, from Ecolamp/ Italy. I had the pleasure to welcome a new staff member, Maria Sanchez Rodriguez, in May 2021, to reinforce the secretariat in Brussels.

EucoLight Priorities

Harmonise the interpretation of European regulations and directives

- Agree on principles that are valid for the entire EU and encourage harmonised European solutions to EU single market issues to facilitate achievement of the collection and recycling objectives.
- Cooperate with producers' associations for a common understanding of the impact of circular economy principles on EucoLight members, including durability, repairability, upgradeability, design for disassembly, ease of reuse and recyclability.



Ensure a level playing field

- Encourage the early adoption of mandatory consistent requirements, including operational and financial requirements, for all Producer Responsibility Organisations, that reflect the professionalism and integrity of EucoLight members.
- Seek consistent reporting of all EEE and WEEE in the national registers.
- Advocate for solutions to tackle the non-compliance of products sold through online marketplaces.



Define achievable collection and recycling objectives

- Calculation of collection targets must be based on accurate and relevant market data, including product lifespan.
- Importance of collecting gas discharge lamps and LED in the same waste stream.
- Identify efficient LED recycling technologies and addressing the challenges of LED material recovery.



Encourage Producer Responsibility Organisations (PROs) and stakeholders at all levels, which manage lighting WEEE to operate in an environmentally friendly manner

- Monitor the recyclability of waste products, as the material composition impacts the recycling rate performance.
- Monitor the evolution of the CENELEC WEEE treatment standards, especially for lamps, follow up all issues relating to the quality of the treatment outputs.
- Share knowledge and develop guidelines about the collection of lamps and luminaires with the least possible environmental impact.



Achievements 2020

- **Expert contribution to European Commission** “*Study to support preparation of the Commission’s guidance for extended producer responsibility scheme*”.
- **Position paper** calling on Member States to correctly implement the minimum requirements for extended producer responsibility schemes defined in the 2018 revision of the Waste Framework Directive at national level.
- **Market Survey** in Austria, Germany, Italy, Spain and The Netherlands: “Electrical & Electronic Equipment Recycling - an Overview on Consumers’ Habits and Ways of Thinking”.
- **Letter to the European Commission President** on the impact of COVID-19 on Eucolight members, resulting in Member States only having to report to the Commission on national collection performances for 2020 in 2022.

Achievements 2021

Ecomodulation of fees paid by the producers

- Joined an industry task force with WEEE Forum and representatives from several EEE producers to set the framework, principles, and mechanisms for a harmonised eco-modulated fee scheme.
- Published report “Eco-modulation of fees for “greener” products - concerns and challenges” in July 2021. It considered the results from an Eucolight survey carried out in the lighting sector in 10 EU Member States over 3 years that concluded that there was zero correlation between fee modulation and change in market evolution.

Non-compliance through online marketplaces

- Published a position on the proposal for the Digital Services Act (DSA):
 - The DSA should distinguish the liability of online marketplaces from that of other type of providers of intermediary services.
 - Online marketplaces should perform compulsory ex-ante compliance checks.
- Defended our position with members of the European Parliament, including the EP rapporteur, and met with several Member States representatives.
- Joined forces with 29 civil society and industry groups to ask policymakers that the DSA holds accountable online marketplaces via a strong liability regime and firm obligations.
- Released a statement to point out the essential elements that should have been reflected in the final version of compromise amendments in the European Parliament IMCO committee.

Achievements 2021

Update and maintenance of the WEEE Calculation Tools (WCT)

- This tool developed at EU level is used to calculate the quantity of WEEE generated by weight in each Member State.
- We provided the European Commission consultants, UNITAR - SCYCLE, with accurate real-life data on key parameters of the WCT e.g., lifetime for lamps and luminaires, average weight for lamps and professional luminaires both expressed as European average.
- EucoLight has been recognized by the consultant as a reliable partner able to deliver in-depth expertise and data for lighting products and their end-of-life.

Studies/Projects 2021

- **Report – Mercury analysis method evaluation (June 2021)**

EucoLight members continuously search for best practices to depollute mercury containing lamps. The Danish Waste Solutions laboratory compiled a study that evaluated available Hg-analysis procedures. The study results were shared with EucoLight members to help them decide on adequate protocols analysing the depollution of their lamp waste.

- **Report – Technical feasibility analysis for the identification of types of lamps in recycling streams (July 2021)**

The Fraunhofer Institute conducted a study for EucoLight assessing technology for the separation of collected End-of-Life lamps, more specifically the technical possibilities for separating conventional gas discharge lamps (GDLs) from conventional light-emitting diode (LED) lamps.

The study created a technical method for automated type detection within lamp waste streams and the results were published.

Partner associations



EucoLight in the Public

“Endeavours to tackle online free-riding for Extended Producer Responsibility schemes” LightingEurope Brussels Direct webinar, September 2020



“Online sales and free-riding: Overview of the current approaches in Europe” Packaging Waste and Sustainability Forum, September 2020

Packaging Waste and Sustainability Forum

Expert Workshop on Online sales Vrije Universiteit Brussel, December 2020



EucoLight webinar “National approaches to prevent non-compliant sales through online marketplaces – Extended producer responsibility free riding”, December 2020

Webinar attracted over 150 participants, including 10 Member State national authorities, European institutions, and many other stakeholders.



EucoLight webinar “2 Billion Lamps Recycled”, February 2021

EucoLight celebrated that its members have collected more than 250,000 tonnes of lamps for recycling, an equivalent of two billion units. The 174 attendees included representatives from 11 Member States.



Board Members, Working Group Chairs and Team

EucoLight Board:



Hervé Grimaud
Chairman until
June 2021
Deputy Managing
Director
Ecosystem (FR)



Fabrizio D'Amico
Chairman since
June 2021
Managing Director
Ecolamp (IT)



Tomáš Rychetský
Vice Chairman
Managing Director
EKOLAMP (CZ)



Stephan Riemann
Treasurer
Managing Director
Lightcycle (DE)



Gied Van Hoorn
Board Secretary
Managing Director
LightRec Nederland
(NL)



**Ourania
Georgoutsakou**
Board Member
Secretary General
LightingEurope (EU)

Working Group Chairs:



Natalia Sierra
Policy working group
Institutional and
Public Affairs
Director Ambilamp
(ES)



David Horcajada
Marketing and
Communications
working group
Director of Marketing
and Communications
Ambilamp (ES)



Xavier Lantoinette
Logistics and Treatment
working group
Environmental
Performance
Projects and Quality
Director Ecosystem
(FR)



Marc Guiraud
Secretary General



**Maria Sanchez
Rodriguez**
Junior Officer for
Public Affairs and
Communications

EucoLight Team:

