

Mapping of measures related to circular economy circularity in WTO



Objective: Identify measures





There are only a handful of measures that relate specifically to circular economy in the renewable energy sector.

Majority of the measures relate to biofuels.

Total of 35 measures in notifications and 29 measures in TPRs that relate to renewable energy

Most of these relate to biofuels (including biomass), with the CE linkage being Waste to energy

There are no measures that specifically deal with circular economy aspects of renewable energy like the solar or wind sector

Most notified measures (29) are subsidies, and few technical regulations (3) and import licensing procedures (3)



Measures related to circular economy
across all sectors in the WTO
Environmental Database



Notifications:

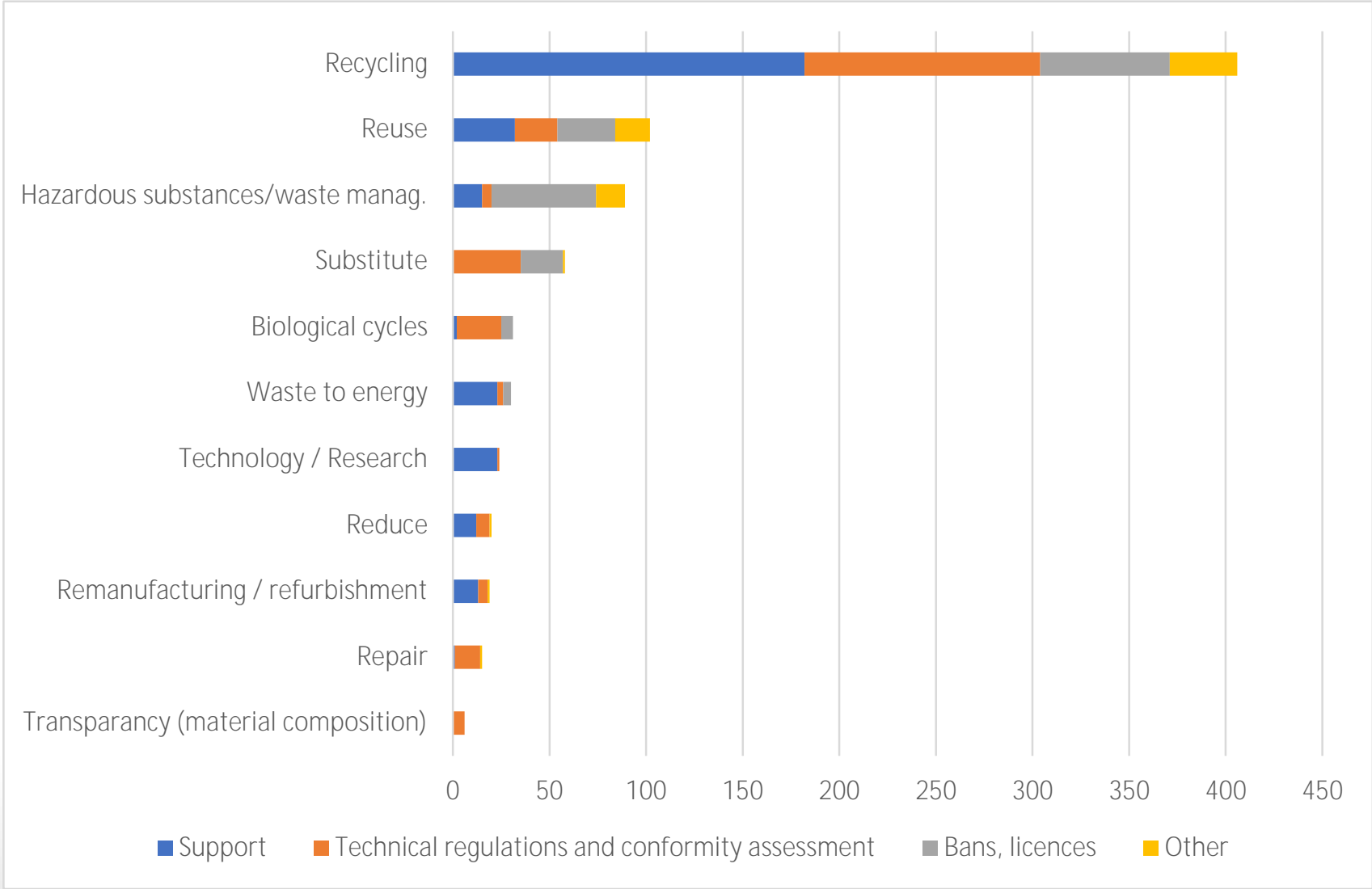
440 measures related to circular economy (out of 1,536 measures relating to circular economy keywords based

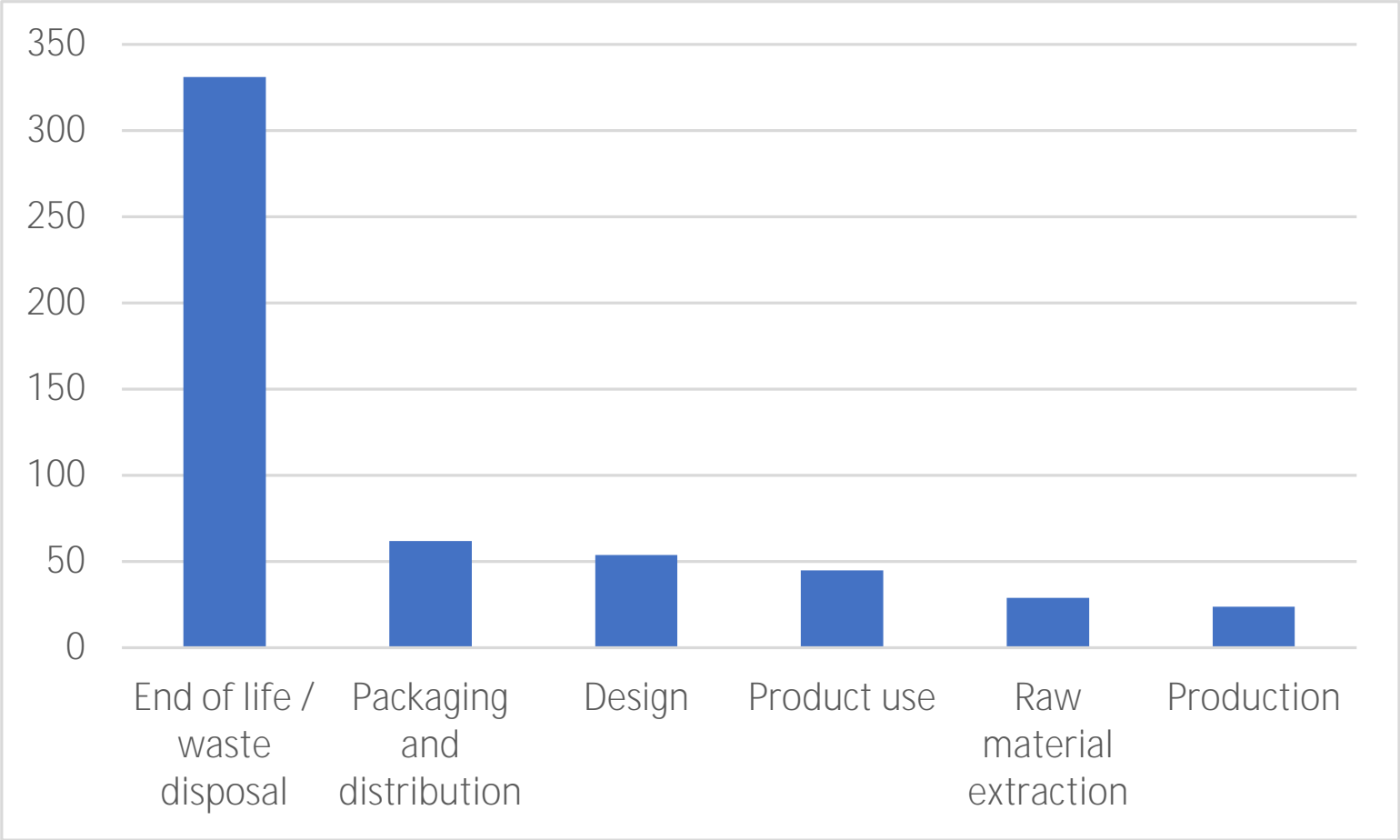


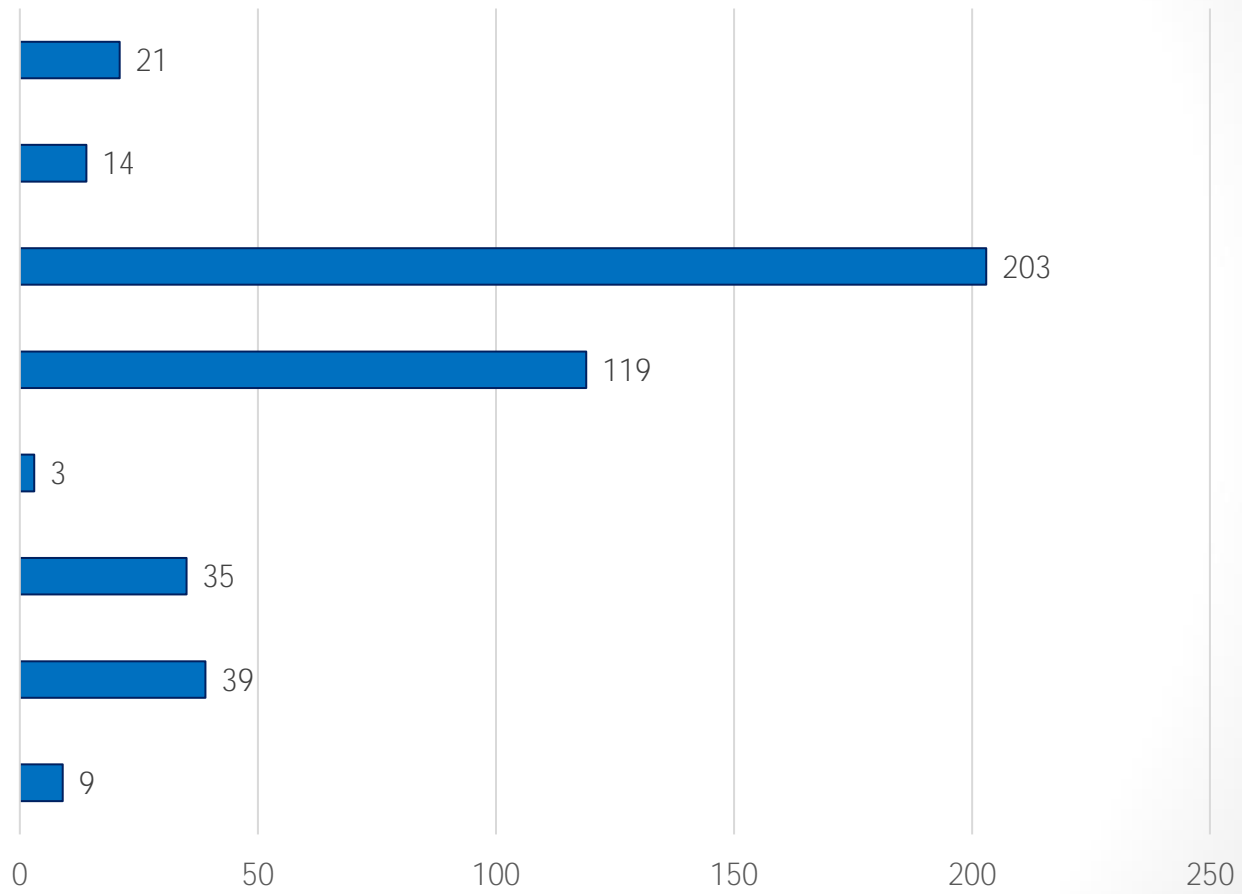


Member	Measures	Member	Measures
United States of America	89	New Zealand	2
China	35	Qatar	2
Korea, Republic of	26	Rwanda	2
Australia	19	Switz re1.87 21>7t BMC qJETQ EMC /P ÅMCID 12	









Reduce - promoting material efficiency - Subsidies:

United Kingdom, "Northern Ireland Executive: Resource Efficiency Capital Grant", 2021 (G/SCM/N/372/GBR): Financial support for the installation of new equipment that delivers a reduction in raw materials, water and/or waste. The aim is to





Colombia (2018) – Recycling (WT/TPR/S/265/REV.2)

“Certain imported products that are not produced in Colombia are exempt or excluded from the payment of VAT, such as machinery or equipment for the recycling and processing of garbage or waste [...] provided they are approved by the Ministry of the Environment”

Hong Kong, China (2015) – Recycling (WT/TPR/G/306)

“In the Hong Kong Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources (2013-2022) published in May 2013, we set out a series of policy measures to create a more favourable operating environment for sustainable development of the recycling and green



Myanmar (2020) – Reduce; reduce; recycle (WT/TPR/G/405)

“The importation of recyclable clean scrap is under close watch. In the 2019 review of the import licensing list, the importation of the recyclable clean scrap was subject to non-automatic licensing. A technical regulation for the importation of recyclable clean scrap is currently under preparation [...]

Myanmar only allows the importation of the recyclable non-hazardous scraps which must be clean, homogenous, intended for direct-use in production processes and free from contamination and other types of waste [...]

Türkiye (2016) – Recycle (WT/TPR/S/331/REV.1)

“The Input Supply Strategy has led to various policy results, including: (...) - the formation and establishment of the National Recycling Strategy; (...)”

Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu (2018) – circular economy (WT/TPR/S/377)

“A Five-Plus-Two Industries Innovation Plan emphasizes accelerating overall industrial upgrades through [...] The “Plus-Two” element of the Plan relates to “new materials” and the “circular economy” with the aim of supporting across-the-board industrial transformation and upgrading.





Reduce: It increases efficiency in manufacturing a product, or use, by consuming fewer natural resources and materials.

Biological cycles: Processes like composting and anaerobic digestion but only for materials that can be safely returned to the biosphere.

Substitute: Switching from one product to another with the latter offering the same through a different product or service

Repair: Fixing and maintenance of defective product so it can be used with its original function.

Remanufacturing: Using parts of a discarded product in a new product with the same function, and as-new-condition.

Refurbishment: Process of restoring an old product and bringing it to specified quality level.

Reuse: Product is still in good condition and fulfils its original function for the same purpose for which it was conceived, or a slightly alternative function.

Recycling: Process of recovering materials from waste to be reprocessed into new products, materials or substances whether for the original or other purposes.

Hazardous substances and waste management: Limiting impact of hazardous substances such as, for e.g., mercury content of batteries. Waste management includes collection, transport, disposal and recovery of waste, including the control of these operations and after-care of disposal sites

Waste to energy: Process of treating waste that creates energy in the form of electricity, heat or fuel.

Technology / Research: Supporting research and development of technology for circular economy

Transparency on material composition: Details regarding material composition, as well as transparency regarding end-of-life activities such as recycling, waste sorting, etc. (does not include labelling requirements, certification schemes, standard of information schemes)



Raw material extraction: Process of extracting crude or virgin materials that are used in product manufacturing or processing.

Design: Decisions made at the design phase influence how long something lasts, what it is made of, if it can be repaired, and what happens to it at the end of life.

Production: Processes or methods that converts inputs like raw material or semi-finished goods to make finished product or services.

Packaging and distribution: Packaging and distribution will provide information on material composition.

Product use: Product use includes consumption, maintenance, and repair of products.

End of life and waste disposal: Reduce, reuse and recycle are captured by different elements of end of life, while waste disposal is limited to incineration and landfills.

