



EucoLight

European Association of lighting
WEEE compliance schemes



Annual Report 2022

Making the Circular Economy a Reality for Lighting Products



Fabrizio D'Amico
EucoLight Chairman

EucoLight's Impactful Initiatives in Sustainable Lighting

Priorities that guided EucoLight's choices from its beginning are still a reference point in 2022, starting with the commitment to circular economy in line with the key EU priorities and climate change mitigation. Lighting products have characteristics that require particular attention due to the potential environmental impact at both collection and treatment phases and a special effort in communicating about proper disposal. EucoLight members have been strong performers, with no less than 2 billion lamps recycled. This year again, EucoLight contributed to the debate with policymakers on legislation affecting collection and recycling of lighting WEEE, seeking implementation of compliance rules for all actors, and continuously advocating for an appropriate framework to tackle the huge level of non-compliant products supplied through online marketplaces in the EU market. EucoLight working groups have carried out projects to evaluate ways to improve the sustainable treatment of end-of-life lamps and luminaires, considering technological product evolution, and investigate the requirements to launch circular economy activities. Let me thank our members and secretariat for their deep involvement.



Marc Guiraud
EucoLight Secretary General

EucoLight's Dynamic Year: Highlights, Achievements, and a Fresh Website in 2022

2022 was characterised by major events that we organised. More than 200 persons attended our stakeholder webinar "EPR noncompliance through online marketplaces: the state of play", showing the EucoLight leading role in this debate. The EucoLight conference in Leuven with all our members at managers level was rated the best in terms of content by our participants.

2022 featured several highlights in our advocacy works by engaging with stakeholders and relaying the members' agreed positions to EU policy makers on several key legislative areas:

- the public consultation on the EU Waste Framework Directive,
- the EU Call for evidence for the evaluation of the WEEE Directive,
- and the adoption of the Digital Services Act.

2022 was intense in member cooperation with projects in the field of collection, logistics and recycling of lighting WEEE in order to exchange information on best practices and to help members to improve their operations.

And 2022 marked a new EucoLight website with a fresh look and all our publications easily accessible.

EucoLight Priorities

Harmonise the interpretation of European regulations and directives

- Agree on principles, definitions, and solutions that are valid for the entire EU to facilitate the achievement of the collection and recycling objectives of end-of-life lighting products, lamps, and luminaires.
- Cooperate with producers' associations for a common understanding of the impact of circular economy in view of the extension of the life cycle of a product beyond the use stage.



Ensure a level playing field

- Data transparency requirements and control mechanisms for all actors of the supply and waste management chain beyond producers affiliated with producer responsibility organizations.
- 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. So, that the latter contribute to WEEE fees and register with Producer Responsibility Organizations.



Define achievable collection and recycling objectives

- Reliable data for setting adequate collection targets.
- Importance of collecting gas discharge lamps and LED in the same waste stream.
- Identify efficient LED recycling technologies and address the challenges of LED material recovery.



Manage lighting WEEE operations in an environmentally friendly manner:

- Encourage Producer Responsibility Organisations (PROs) and stakeholders at all levels, which manage lighting WEEE to operate with the least possible environmental impact.
- Monitor the recyclability of waste products, as the material composition impacts the recycling rate performance.
- Monitor the evolution of the CENELEC WEEE treatment standards and follow up on all issues relating to the quality of the treatment outputs.



EU Waste Framework Directive (WFD):

Advocating for the improvement of the implementation of the extended producer responsibility principle and a level playing field amongst all actors

EucoLight answered both the European Commission [Call for evidence](#) and the [Open Consultation](#) for an impact assessment on a revision of the WFD recommending improving compliance with Extended Producer minimum requirements, as defined in Article 8a of the 2018 Directive.

EU Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive:

Understanding Member's experience and sharing facts with the European Commission

Anticipating a potential revision of the current 2012 WEEE Directive, we launched an extensive internal survey (100 questions, 18 contributions, June 2022) asking members about their feedback with the implementation of the WEEE legislation at national level.

The results were used as facts and recommendations in the European Commission [Call for evidence](#) and in setting the following top priorities for EucoLight future investigations and positions:

- Scope and lighting WEEE definitions
- Same rules for all actors
- Collection targets
- Financial contributions paid by the producers

The online free riding issue:

Advocating for solutions to tackle the non-compliance of producers sold online through online marketplaces

Fostering the debate at a large scale:

EucoLight has been a pioneer, alongside other organisations, to raise voice about this issue and debate with policy makers and stakeholders on the state of the situation and solutions. [EucoLight webinar of March 2022](#) confirmed that five Member States, France, Germany, Spain, Austria and Finland, were implementing national legislation to prevent EPR non-compliance via online platforms.

[Update EucoLight survey on non-compliance with national WEEE requirements:](#)

the survey undertaken in October 2022 in 8 countries has shown a persistent high level of non-compliance across seven product groups. In the case of LED lightbulbs, the non-compliance was in the range of 65%-100% in 7 of the participating countries.

The Digital Services Act: EucoLight considered the DSA as an opportunity to address the non-compliance of products on online sales and lobbied for allocated responsibility to online marketplaces for products they render available to consumers:

- Recommendations for the European Parliament - January 2022
- EucoLight suggested recommendations on wording for the institutional negotiations - February 2022
- [Open letter co-signed by 86 organisations](#), "Know Your Business Customer obligations must apply to all intermediary service providers to offer a meaningful tool for tackling illegal activities and products online" - February 2022

- **Study on the feasibility of regulatory and technical measures with the objective to improve extended producer responsibility compliance and tackling free riding in the case of online sales:** we provided technical input to the consultancy Eumonia, which carried out a study on behalf of the European Commission completed in September 2022.

Best practices in field of collection, logistics and recycling of lighting WEEE:

Techniques for sorting: Technical feasibility analysis jointly performed with our technical partner, Fraunhofer IZM, for the identification of types of lamps in recycling streams. Findings were published in a [press release](#) in January 2022.

Monitoring the recycling rates: compilation of data and facts about recycling rates estimation of lamps for the next 5 years, based on a member survey (18 contributions), trends, and product composition analysis, which highlighted potential technical and organisational impacts. Results were presented at the EucoLight Conference in May 2022.

Collection and treatment of Special Purpose Lamps: member survey (10 contributions) aiming at generating an initial overview of the special collection, transport and treatment of lamps used in special b2b applications (e.g., cinema projection, UV disinfection, solar simulation) in various countries. Those lamps have a recognisable mercury dose, high pressure (> 2 bar) –expanding in accidental cases, and low quantity of radioactive Thorium 232 cathodes/Krypton 85 gas filling. Results were presented at the EucoLight Conference in May 2022.

Inventory on circular economy: An extensive questionnaire (almost 100 questions) was dispatched amongst EucoLight members in December 2022. It covered lighting in national circularity laws, in best practises on repair and reuse, and challenges to implement circularity projects. The reporting to members will occur in Summer 2023.

Partner associations



LIGHTINGEUROPE
THE VOICE OF THE LIGHTING INDUSTRY



EucoLight in the Public

EucoLight presentations at external events

LightingEurope Brussels Direct Webinar- “EucoLight’s views on DSA: state of play and future developments”, March 2022

LightingEurope Brussels Direct Webinar- “Review of Waste Framework Directive: EU objectives & EucoLight views”, May 2022

LightingEurope Brussels Direct Webinar- “The Digital Services Act: Main conclusions from the final legislative text”, September 2022

Environmental Action Germany (DUH) Webinar- “Expert round table on take-back systems with minimum ecological requirements in the ElektroG, November 2022

EucoLight Webinar- “EPR non-compliance through online marketplaces: the state of play”, March 2022

EucoLight webinar



EPR non-compliance through online marketplaces: the state of play

Wednesday 9 March | 10:30 - 13:00 CET

Over 200 participants, including 14 Member State national authorities, European institutions, and industry and producer responsibility organisations.

EucoLight Conference in Leuven, May 2022



60 delegates from 19 lighting WEEE compliance schemes discussed updates on the legislative framework for EEE and WEEE, technical developments in lamp recycling, EPR Compliance and Online Sales, and best practice sharing from EucoLight members.

New EucoLight website, June 2022



Interview with EucoLight chairman, Fabrizio D’Amico, in The Parliament Magazine, December 2022

Social media presence

Waste Legislation



Environmental days



Online free riding



Board Members, Working Group Chairs and Team

EucoLight Board:



Fabrizio D'Amico
Chairman
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 until
June
Environmental
Performance Projects
and Quality Director
Ecosystem (FR)



Amel Gharbi
Logistic and
Treatment working
group since June
Operations Manager
RecoLight (UK)



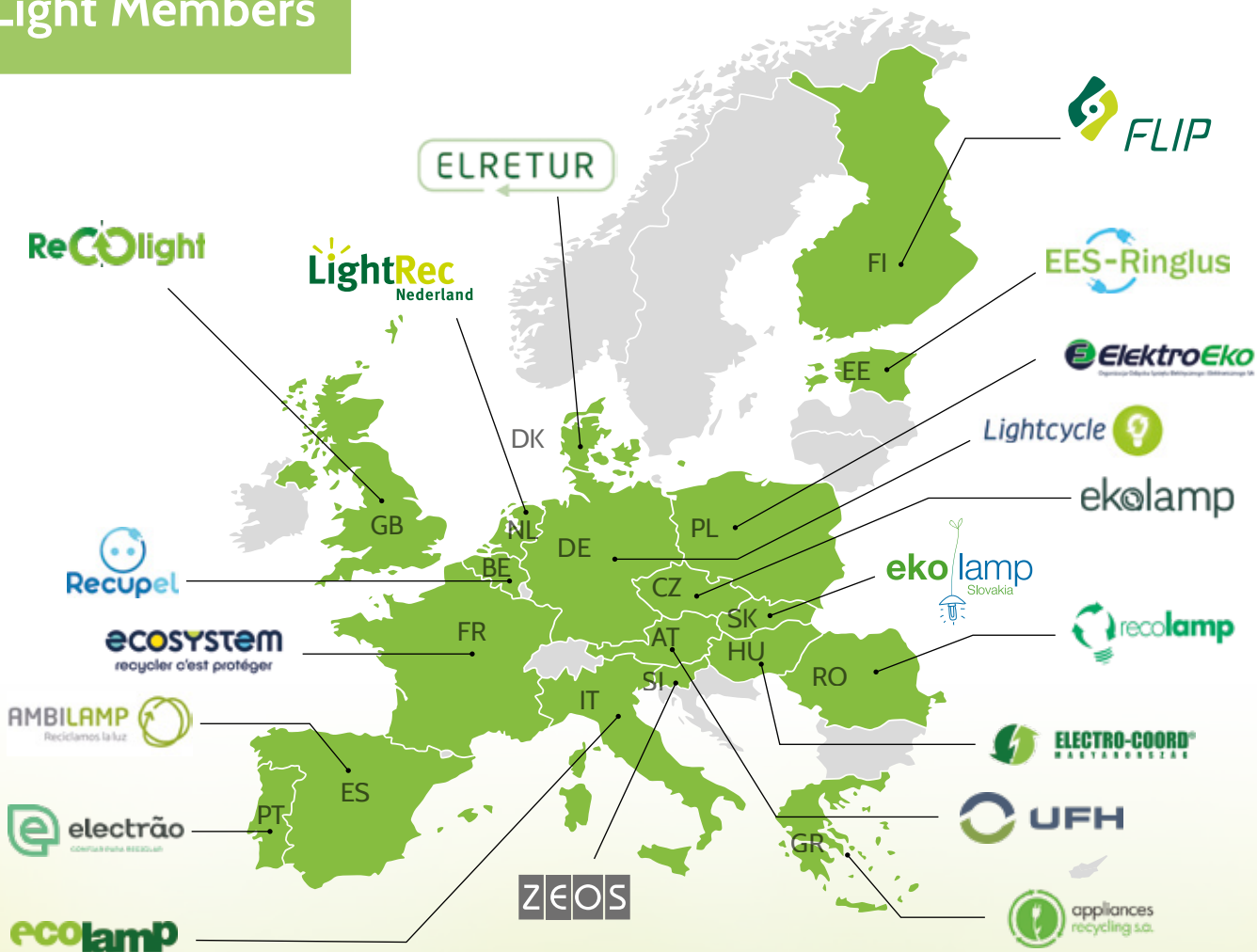
Marc Guiraud
Secretary General



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

EucoLight Team:

EucoLight Members



Affiliate Member:



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