

## «White Paper» EvaluREC

### Overview / process / benefits

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## 1 Introduction

The EU demands "100% recyclability" by 2030. Various players in the value chain have set targets such as "by 2025 all our packaging is 100% recyclable". Recyclability is thus given much greater weight. This is desirable, since recyclability plays a decisive role in optimising the recycling economy.

The theoretical recyclability alone does not generate an ecological benefit, only the high-quality recycling and reuse of the recycled material creates this benefit - i.e. the actual recyclability, i.e. also the existence of a separate collection, treatment processes and recycling. The EU sets targets for material recycling (e.g. 70% for packaging) and the use of recycled material (e.g. 30% for plastic bottles) accordingly.

The assessment of recyclability is not an exact science. There are principles that are illustrated in the guidelines, instruction manuals for a recyclable design. For a specific statement, detailed clarifications and a holistic view of the entire value chain are necessary. This is where our service EvaluREC comes into play: We want to provide assessments and recommendations in a modular approach.

More information on recyclability and EvaluREC can be found on our website:

<https://www.economie-circulaire.swiss/prestation/>

## Benefits of EvaluREC

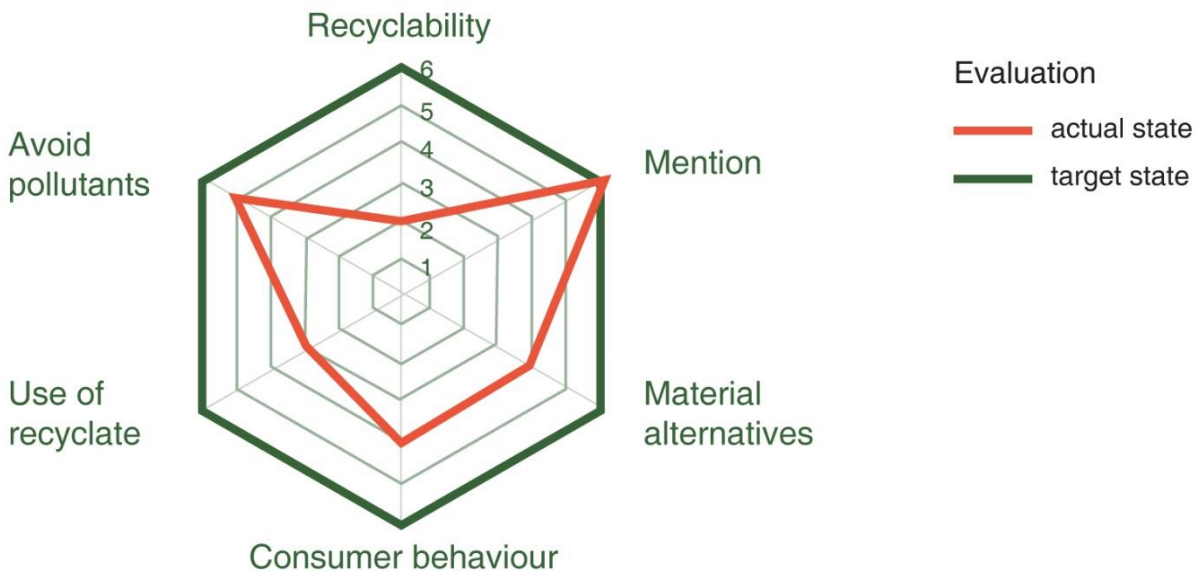
- ✓ We work out practice-oriented recommendations and assess based on a holistic approach, including the labeling (pictograms).
- ✓ We proceed step by step (see chapter 4).
- ✓ We make targeted use of tools such as individual evaluation tools or practical tests.
- ✓ We take into account experiences from abroad and evaluations we already carried out.
- ✓ If necessary, we involve experts, laboratories and other specialist agencies.
- ✓ The findings of EvaluREC are incorporated into the guidelines in a neutral form.

Partners of the Drehscheibe / Allianz benefit from special conditions. They receive a 25% discount on the list price.

## 2 Overview and principles of EvaluREC

EvaluREC is flexible. Depending on existing tests, markets and complexity, the procedure and communication is determined in accordance with the customer.

EvaluREC is not an additional evaluation tool, as there are already countless, but a service that provides holistic and market-specific recommendations (see examples in chapters 5 and 6). Market-specific means that standards, specifications and the existing infrastructure are taken into account with a focus on Switzerland.



EvaluREC has a modular structure and can therefore be adapted to the specific problem(s) of the customer. For example, the question of whether it makes sense to switch from plastic to paper for packaging material can be investigated and represented in the form of a life cycle assessment (LCA).

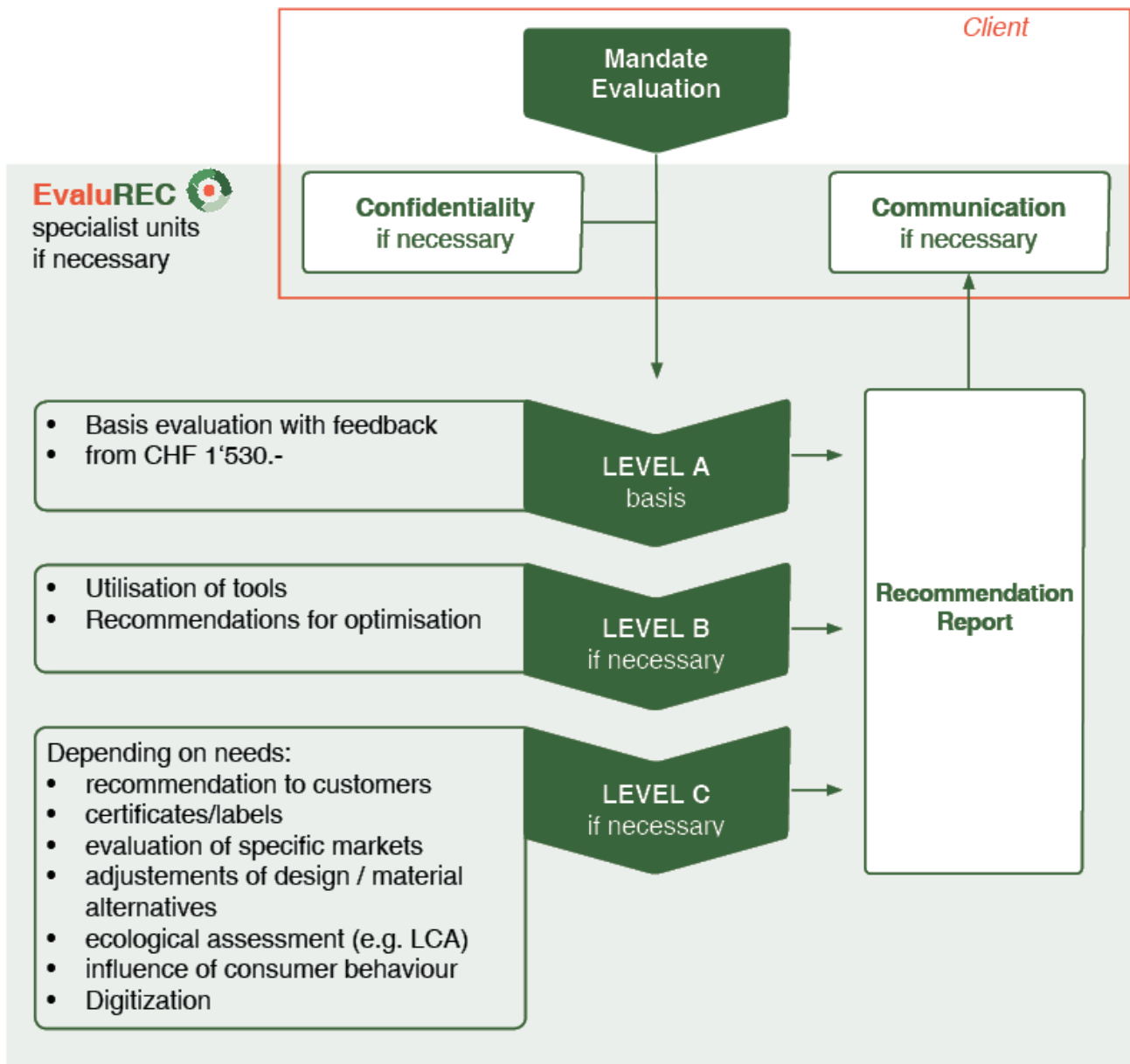
EvaluREC is a joint service of the “Drehscheibe Kreislaufwirtschaft Schweiz” (Platform Circular Economy) and the Alliance Design for Recycling Plastics.

Raymond Schelker and Patrik Geisselhardt form the core team. If required - and after consultation with the client - external experts and specialist units can be involved.

### 3 Process and stages A-C

The valuation is intentionally graded. This enables a pragmatic and customer-oriented approach. The individual steps can be defined together with the client in a customer-oriented manner.

Level A forms the basis. The result is a simple evaluation based on existing recommendations and - if necessary - a proposal for further steps.



## 4 Example report level A

EvaluREC makes a written recommendation in the form of a short evaluation report for the client. In addition to an overview of the product, the report contains information and assessments of the actual recyclability, claims, etc., depending on the client's main focus and questions.

Finally, the report contains an interpretation of the corresponding test results.

### Final evaluation

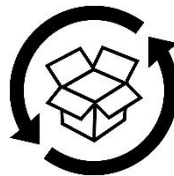
Recyclable	Conditionally recyclable	Not recyclable
YES	-	-

### Assessment / interpretation

Example 1:

"Product X is recyclable in Switzerland. The non-recyclable component Y accounts for less than 5% of the total packaging weight and can also be completely removed in the reprocessing process. This means that no impurities get into the product output (secondary raw material, recycle).

We recommend using the claim "Recyclable" and the corresponding pictogram for the collection of used cardboard".



Example 2:

"Packaging X is in principle theoretically recyclable. However, since there is not (yet) a separate collection in Switzerland, the term "recyclable" should not be used.

We recommend **not** using the "Recyclable" claim and therefore only using the corresponding pictogram for disposal via household waste.



## 5 Example report level B

Here are a few examples and possible statements:

Example 1:

"Although the new packaging is made of the renewable raw material X, the environmental impact is 30% higher than the previous packaging made of Y (measured in environmental impact points UBP). We therefore recommend using the original material Y, but with a recycled content of approx. 40%, and thus to save 25% UBPs compared to today...".

Example 2:

"If the label was made of material X, recycling could be further improved. The recyclability would increase accordingly by about 20%...".

Example 3:

"Laboratory tests carried out on 01.05.20XX at company Z have shown that the barrier material used with the desired product output goes into the main recycling process. As a result of the higher melting point of the barrier material - according to product specification Y - this causes intolerable inclusions in the end product... As an alternative to the barrier material Y, we recommend using the barrier material X.

Example 4:

"For the lid, we recommend using the pictogram for aluminium. For the container, use the pictogram "Rubbish bag (household waste)", as the current state of the art does not allow for recycling and the packaging is perceived as an impurity in the compost fraction..."



## 6 Example communication

If desired and useful, joint communication with third parties can be planned and carried out.

The knowledge of the evaluations carried out is presented in a general form, e.g. neutral recommendations for the sector in the form of guidelines on our homepage [www.economie-circulaire.swiss](http://www.economie-circulaire.swiss).



If required, a concrete best case can also be presented in more detail on the website. For further information, please click here: <https://www.economie-circulaire.swiss/best-practice/>

## 7 Example application form

We will send you a comprehensive application form in German or English. The more information is available at this stage, the more targeted EvaluREC can be launched.

### Applicant

- Level A (Basis)
- Level B (as required and offered)
- Level C (as required and offered)

<p><b>Product/ article designation</b></p> <div style="background-color: #ffffcc; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div> <p><b>Product/ article number</b></p> <div style="background-color: #ffffcc; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
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**Date**

<b>Organisation</b>	<div style="background-color: #ffffcc; height: 40px;"></div>
<b>Street</b>	<div style="background-color: #ffffcc; height: 40px;"></div>
<b>Postcode / City</b>	<div style="background-color: #ffffcc; height: 40px;"></div>
<b>Contact</b>	<div style="background-color: #ffffcc; height: 40px;"></div>
<b>Phone direct</b>	<div style="background-color: #ffffcc; height: 40px;"></div>
<b>Email</b>	<div style="background-color: #ffffcc; height: 40px;"></div>
<b>Webseite (URL)</b>	<div style="background-color: #ffffcc; height: 40px;"></div>

### Return the completed form to

Based on this application form, the procedure, the schedule and also the costs can be discussed and determined.

Furthermore, it is important to make arrangements for handling the available information, as explained in more detail in the following chapter.

## 8 Example confidentiality (German)

Here is the recommended confidentiality declaration/obligation from the application form. If necessary, different wording can be specified.

### Verpflichtung zur Vertraulichkeit

Mit der Erteilung des vorliegenden Auftrags verpflichten sich die beiden Anbieter der Dienstleistung «EvaluREC», die Drehscheibe Kreislaufwirtschaft Schweiz (by Swiss Recycling) und die Allianz Design for Recycling Plastics (by REDILO GmbH), der Vertraulichkeit.

Offenlegende Partei = Antragsteller  
Empfänger = Drehscheibe und Allianz

#### Zweck

Die von einer Partei und/oder deren beauftragten Dritten («Offenlegende Partei») offengelegten Vertraulichen Informationen dürfen von der anderen Partei («Empfänger») nur zur Abwicklung des EvaluREC-Auftrags verwendet werden. Um die Zusammenarbeit zu ermöglichen, tauschen die Parteien Informationen aus. Diese Informationen dürfen nur dafür verwendet werden («Zweck»).

#### Vertraulichkeit

Der Empfänger ist zur Wahrung der Vertraulichkeit und zur Geheimhaltung der ihm im Rahmen dieser Vereinbarung von der Offenlegenden Partei zur Verfügung gestellten Vertraulichen Informationen verpflichtet.

Dem Empfänger ist es untersagt, die Vertraulichen Informationen unmittelbar oder mittelbar Dritten gegenüber preiszugeben, offen zu legen oder weiterzugeben, oder die Vertraulichen Informationen ohne die vorherige schriftliche Zustimmung der Offenlegenden Partei zu einem anderen als dem oben bezeichneten Zweck zu nutzen. Mitarbeiter, Verbundene Unternehmen und benannte beauftragte Dritte der Parteien gelten nicht als Dritte, soweit sie die Vertraulichen Informationen im Rahmen der Durchführung des Zweckes dieser Vereinbarung benötigen (z.B. Prüflaboratorien, Verwertungsbetriebe oder Technologieanbieter). Die Parteien sind verpflichtet, den Kreis der betreffenden Personen so klein wie möglich zu halten.

In Absprache zwischen der Drehscheibe/Allianz und dem Antragsteller können die Ergebnisse aus dem EvaluREC-Auftrag in geeigneter und vom Antragsteller genehmigten Art und Weise als Best Practices kommuniziert werden (Homepage, Newsletter etc.).

Zürich und Basel, 06.11.2019



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## 9 Appendix: Definition «Circular Economy»

Circular economy is much more than recycling. And yet the actual recyclability of the product or packaging and the quality of the recycled raw materials play a decisive role. Strengthening the "Extended Producer Responsibility" (EPR) is important for implementation. This means that those placing products on the market think beyond the life cycle and, for example, integrate "design for recycling" into product development and design from the outset or use recycled materials.

"In a sustainable closed-loop economy, resources are kept in closed, pollutant-free and high-quality cycles as far as possible. The use of resources is implemented with recyclable or regenerative materials, with as few rejects as possible in the recycling process.

A self-sustaining system is created. This is based on product design (e.g. recyclability), optimised use of materials and products (e.g. new business models), the use of renewable energies and sustainable processes.

This minimizes waste and the demand for primary raw materials, and pollutants are avoided or eliminated. In return, the demand for high-quality secondary raw materials is optimized".

## 10 Appendix: Definition «Recyclability»

Recyclability must be based on practical experience. This means that a theoretical recyclability can be a first step, but only the implemented one, i.e. the actual recyclability, brings an ecological benefit.

The recyclability depends on the respective "market area". This means that the conditions existing in the given system, e.g. collection, sorting and recovery facilities, form the basis of the assessment.

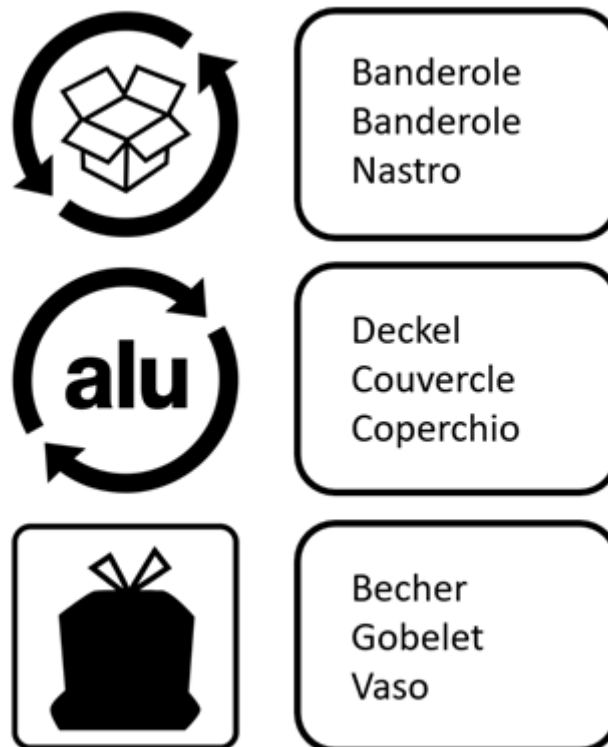
"A product / packaging passes through industrially available and currently used processes according to the state of the art, is finally reused as a recycle and thus replaces virgin material in an equivalent market. This is done without above-average material losses due to non-recyclable components."

## 11 Appendix: Use of pictograms on packaging / product

The (selective) separate collection is the basis for high-quality recycling. It is correspondingly important for a sustainable circular economy. The awarding of prizes, e.g. in the form of pictograms, helps to carry out separate collection professionally.

The umbrella organisation Swiss Recycling - together with other stakeholders - provides a set of pictograms and recommendations for their practical use.

<http://www.swissrecycling.ch/fr/prestations/pictogrammes/>



Sample labeling on packaging, source Swiss Recycling