

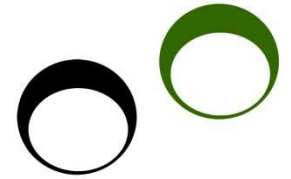
Circular economy strategies and roadmaps in Europe

Identifying synergies and potential for cooperation and alliance building

EESC NAT section – 23 May 2019



Collecting strategies across Europe



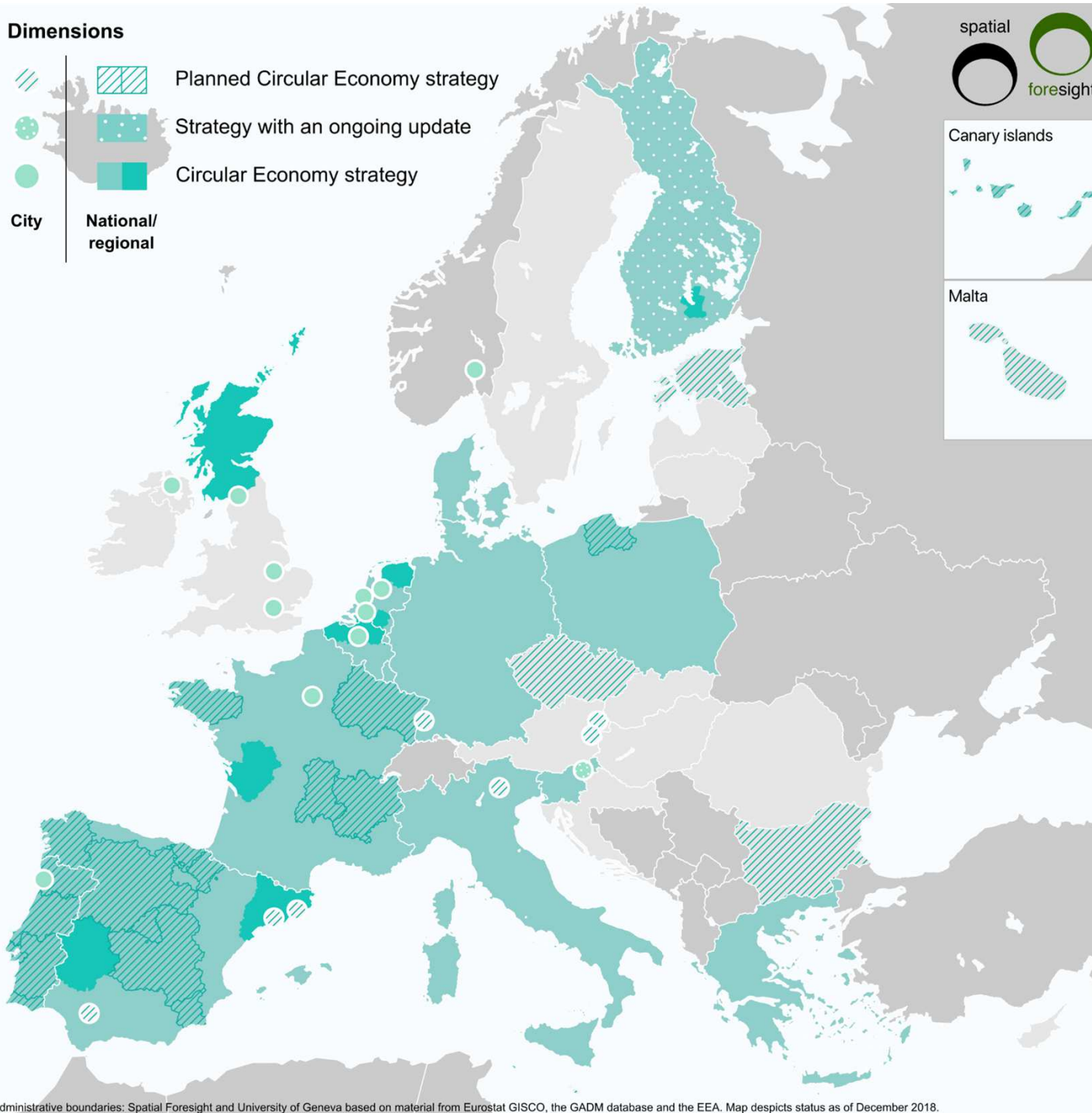
Circular economy strategy definition in the scope of the study

Documents focused on a circular economy, with a clear strategic plan, defining objectives or describing a desired outcome and including key steps or milestones to reach them

Identified

33 existing strategies

29 planned strategies



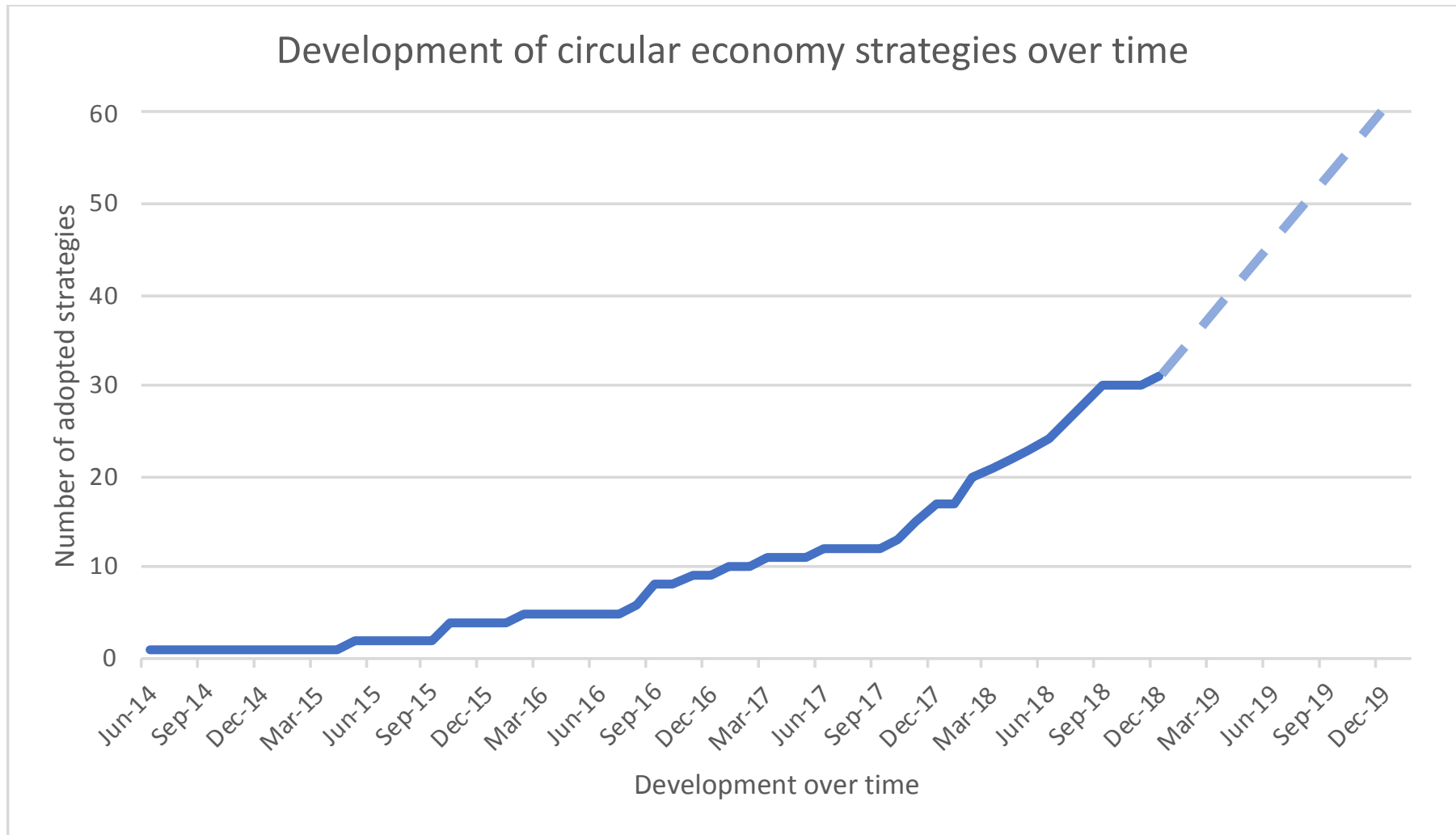
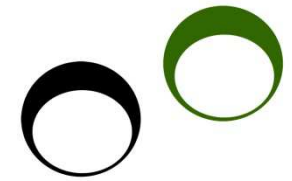
Location of existing and upcoming strategies

Factors:

- Presence of early adopters
- National strategies facilitating regional ones
- Decentralised systems

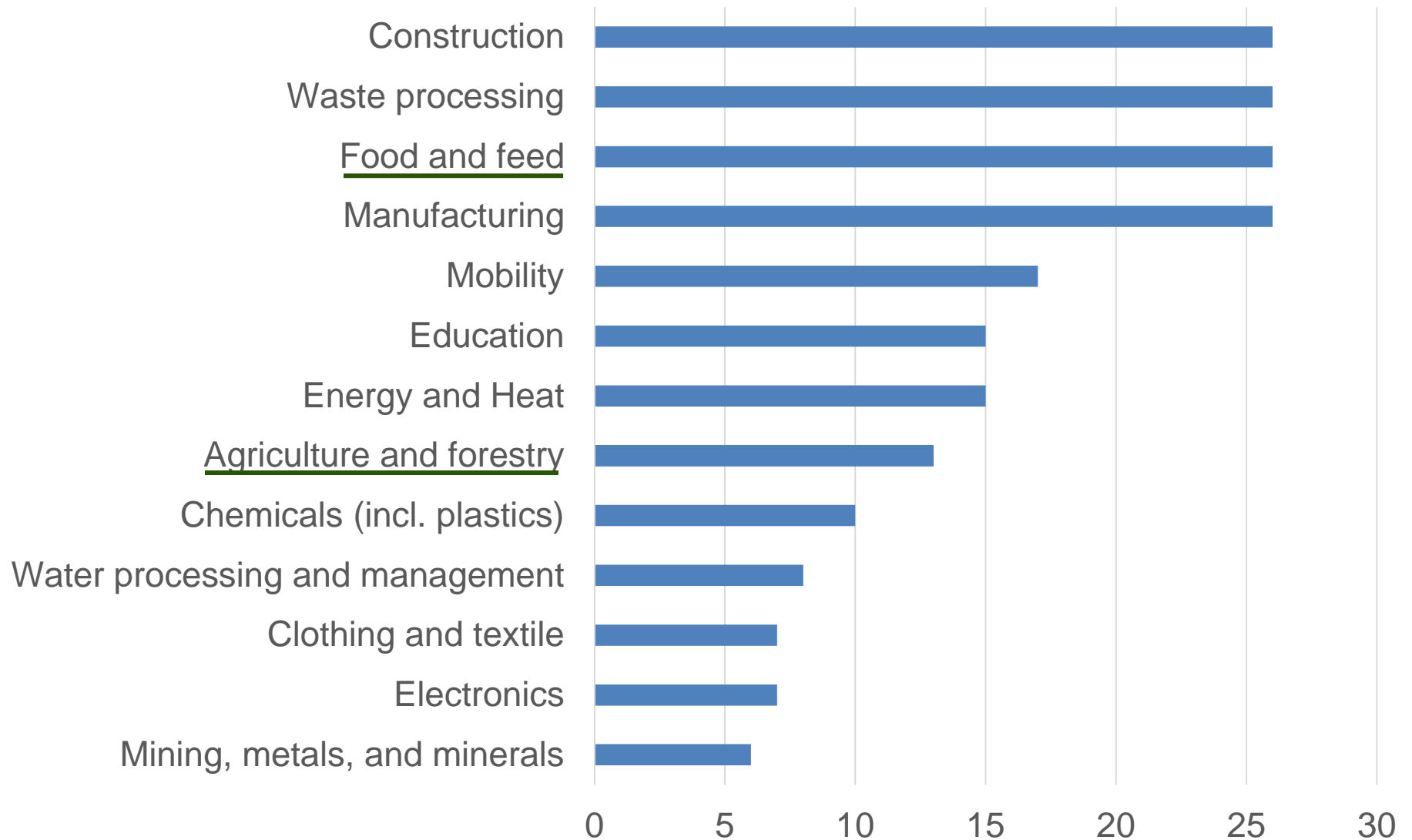
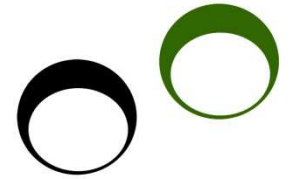
Own elaboration based on existing strategies and information collected from stakeholders

A growing number of strategies

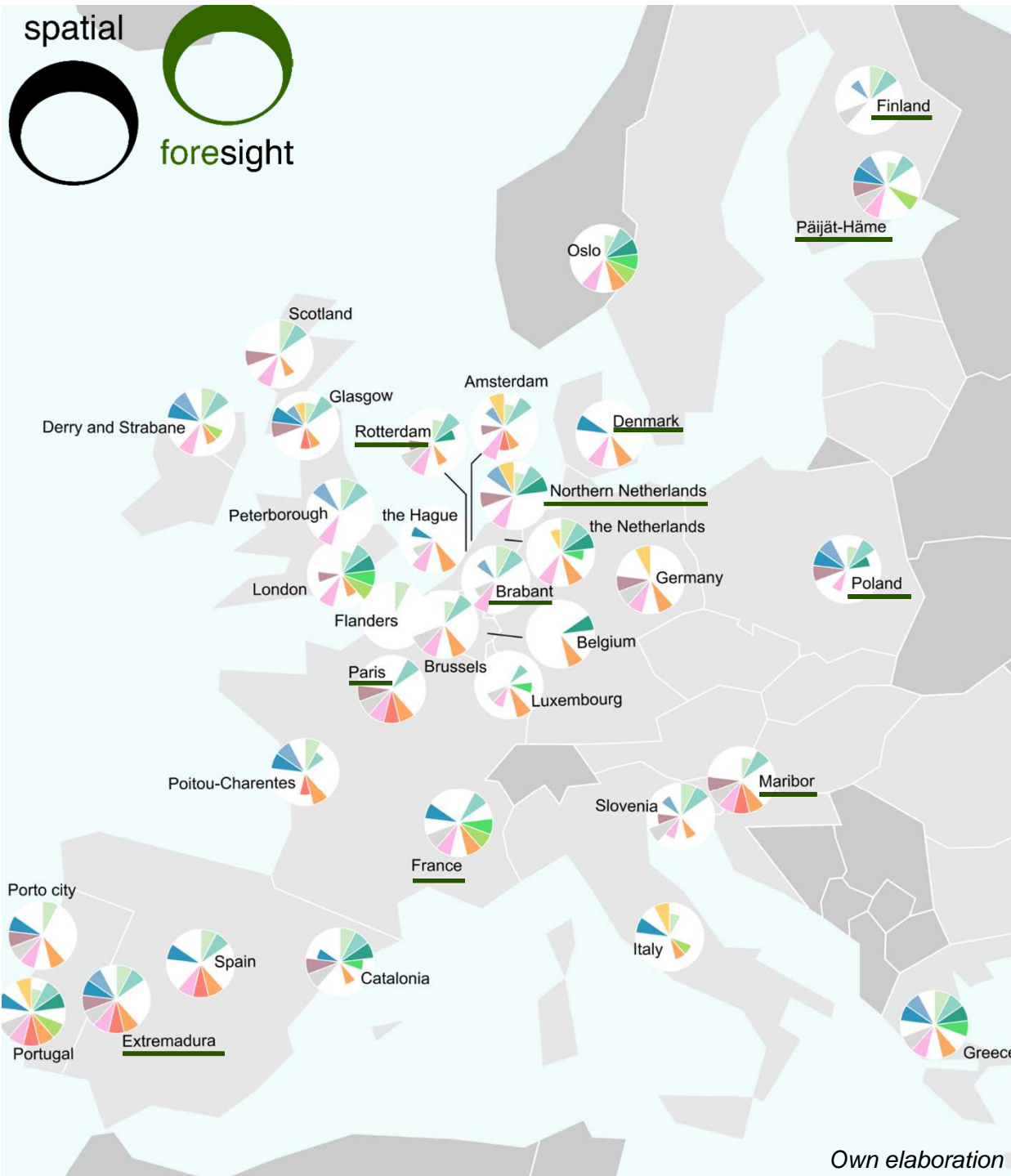
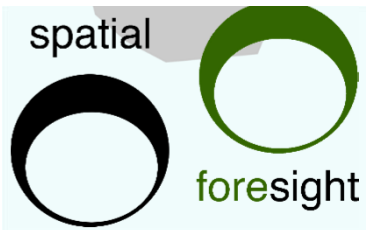


Own elaboration based on the review of existing strategies and information collected on upcoming strategies

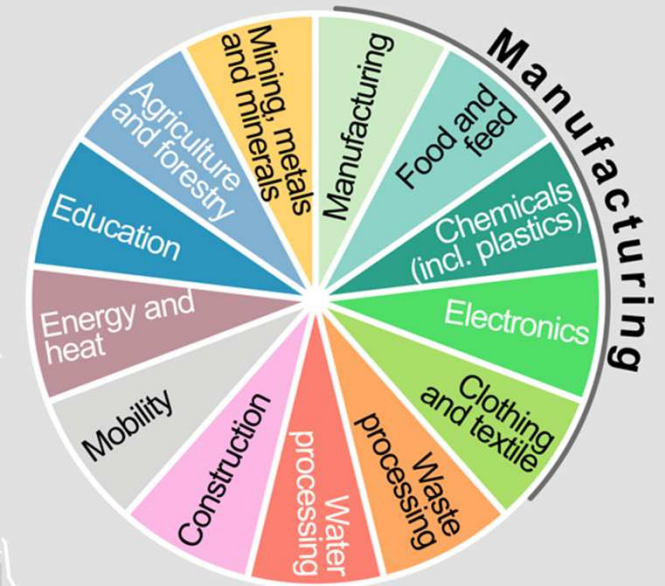
Economic sectors by incidence



Own elaboration



Economic sectors



Key sector

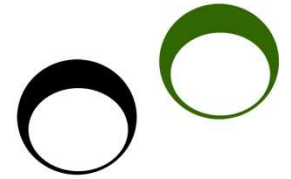
Secondary sector

Different criteria used for sector selection: economic importance, circularity potential, political importance

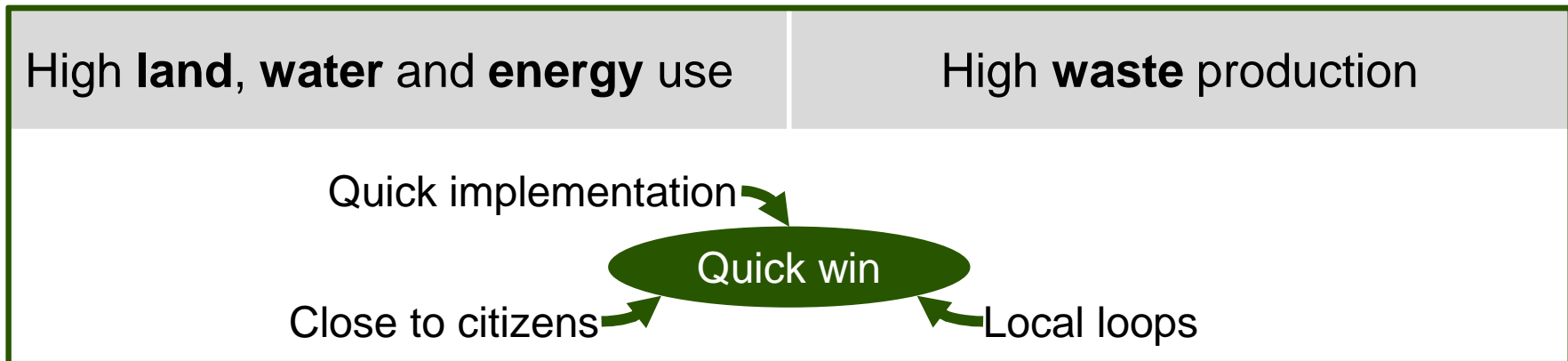
Scalability and transferability often have little consideration in the selection of sectors

Own elaboration

Food and agriculture



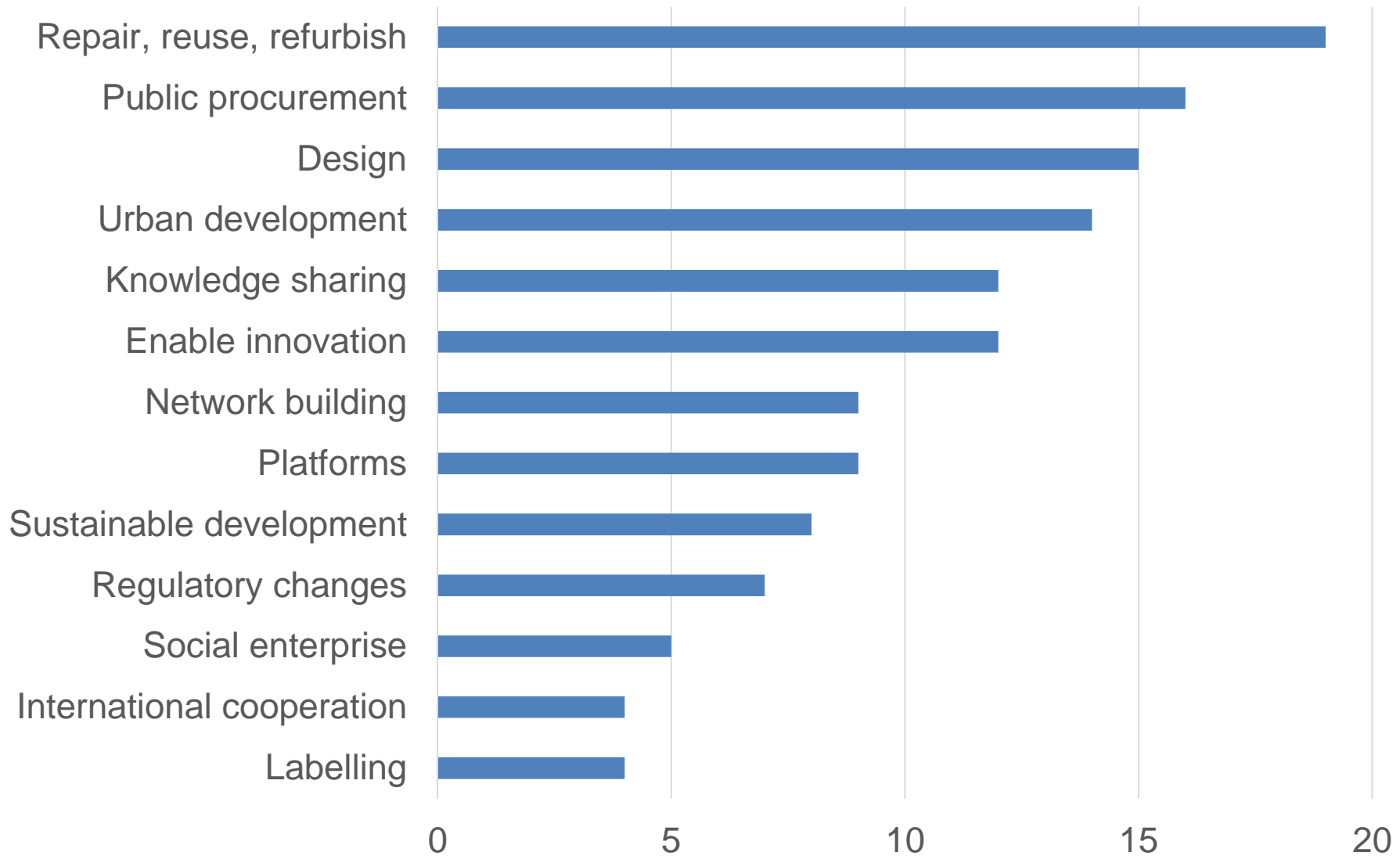
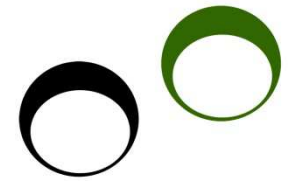
Rationale



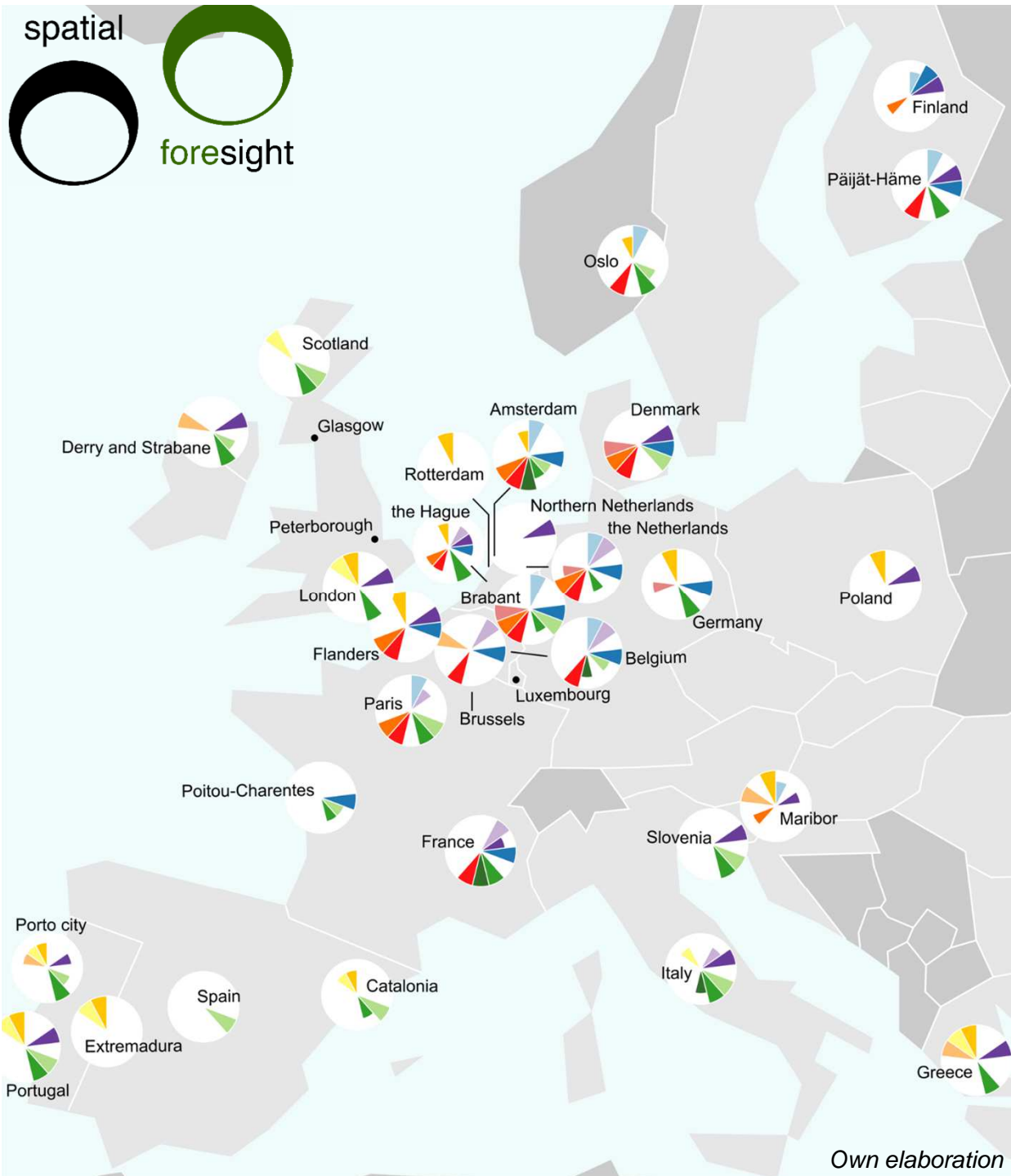
Targeted dimensions

Agriculture	e.g. fertilizer recycling, organic farming
Processing	e.g. efficient energy use, packaging
Distribution	e.g. sustainable transport & stocking
Consumer behaviour	e.g. shaping choices on packaging and waste

Horizontal sectors by incidence



Own elaboration



Horizontal sectors



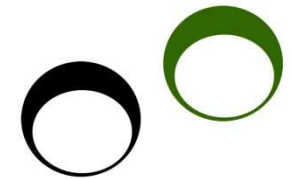
- Key sector
- Secondary sector
- No horizontal sectors

Choice of sectors differs by:

- territorial level
- time of strategy

Many strategies follow an **exploratory/ pioneering approach** in topic/sector selection

Different orientation of strategies

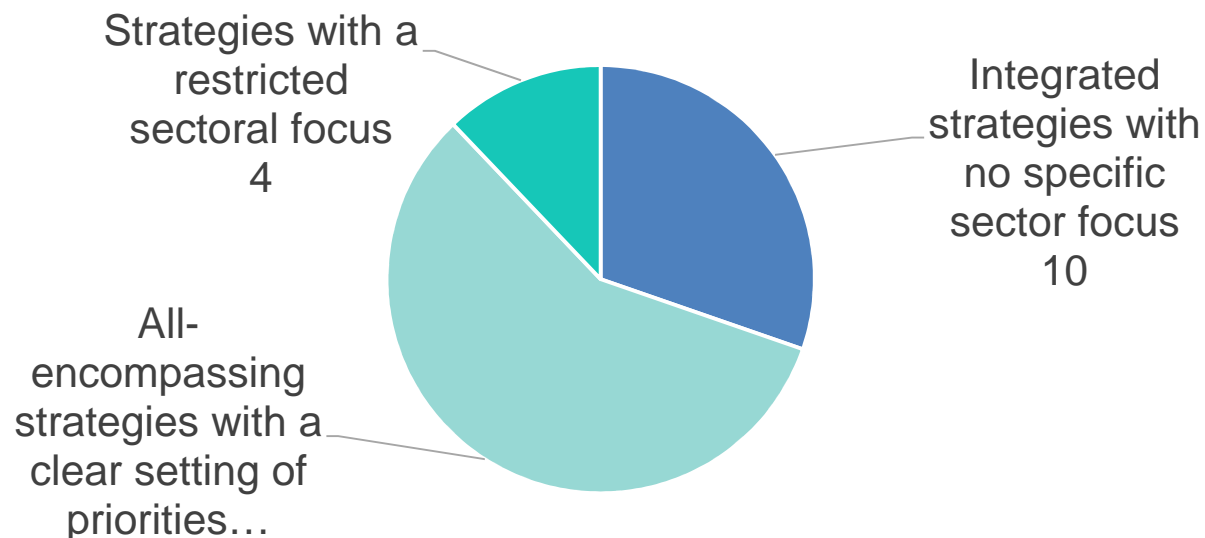


Different rationales for the development of strategies

- Levels of ambition (leaders vs. followers)
- Degrees of concern/integration with global challenges and goals
- Degrees of orientation to territorial context-specific challenges
- Degrees of inclusiveness of value chains

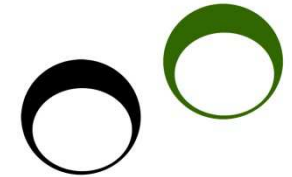
Different thematic and sectoral focus

Different thematic/sectoral focus

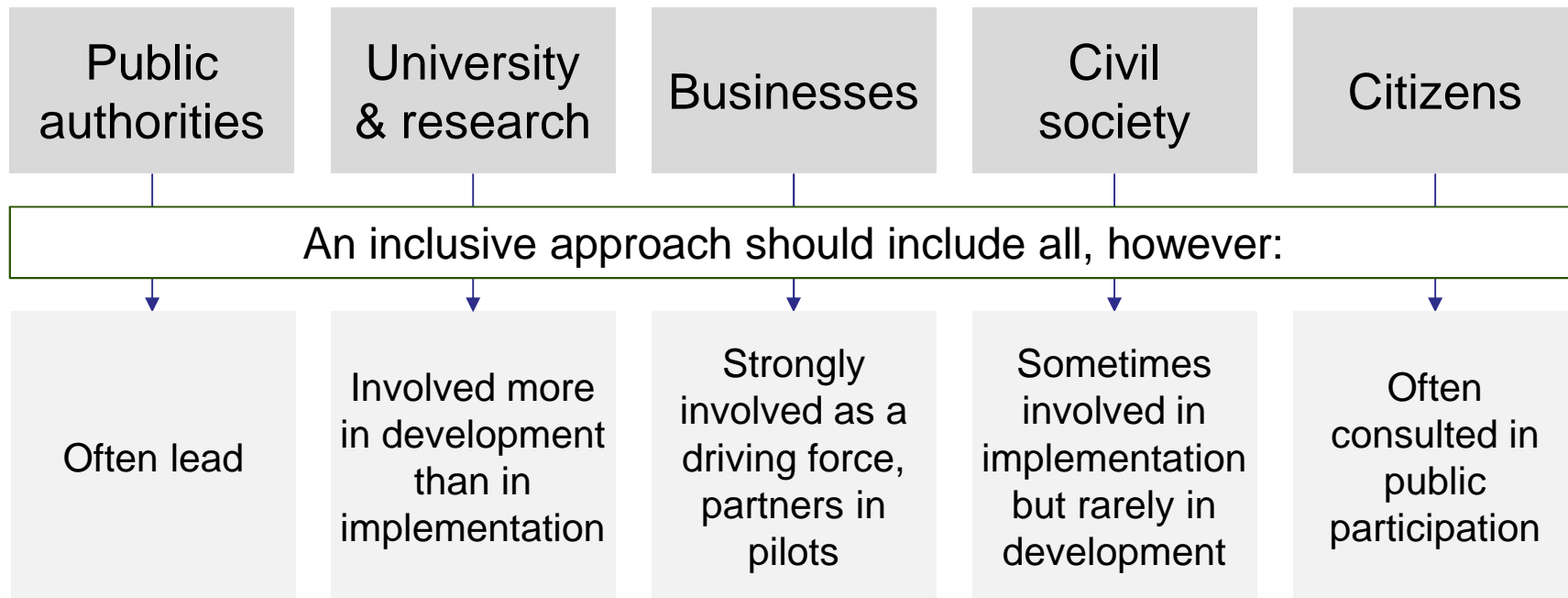


Own elaboration

Players

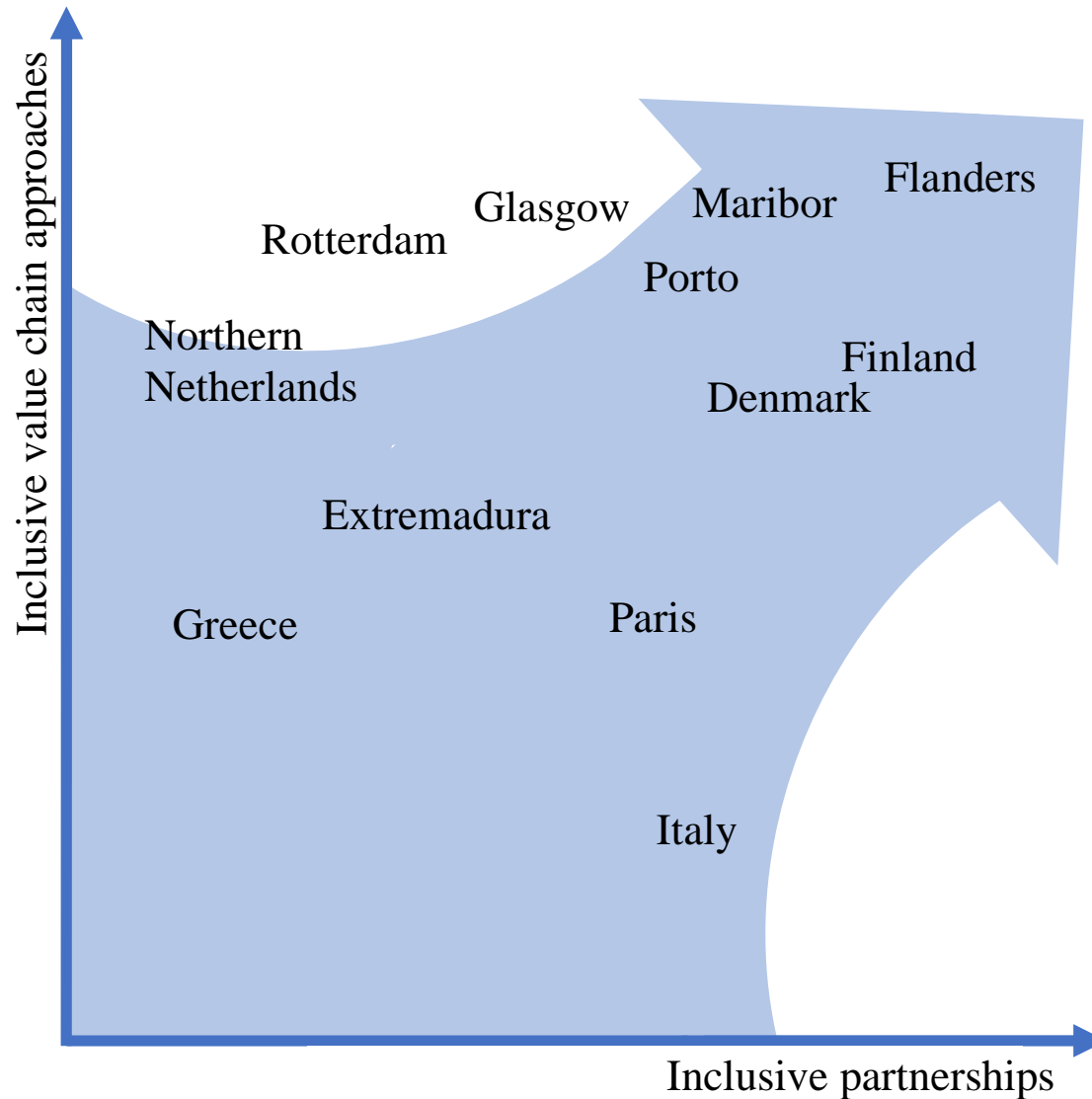
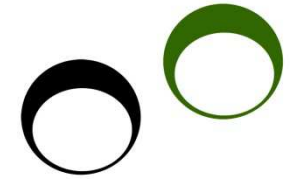


The inclusion of different types of players is considered differently in strategies. Five main types of stakeholders are common in strategies:



Some players have more capacities and instruments to promote the transition to a circular economy, so they are more often expected to take a role in strategy development. Moreover, the degree of inclusiveness changes with the different development stages

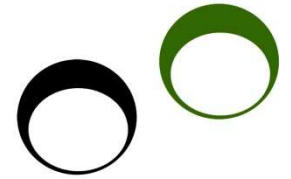
Inclusive value chains & partnerships



The figure illustrates the **degree of inclusiveness** based on thematic focus and partnerships.

Some strategies have focused on inclusive value chain approaches, others on inclusive partnerships.

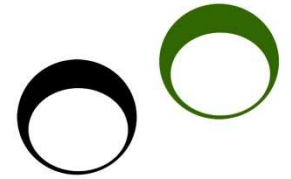
Collaboration for circular economy



Collaboration between strategies can help by:

- Enlarging the **scope** of loops to more territories
- Coordinating efforts across different governance **levels** and sectors
- Enabling **knowledge** sharing to spread existing approaches.

Collaboration for circular economy



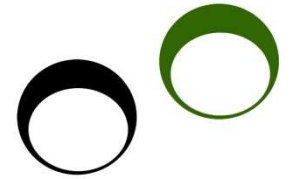
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It can take place on the basis of **economic sectors** by e.g.:

- Replicating approaches in **similar** contexts or
- Exploiting **complementarities** to develop new approaches.

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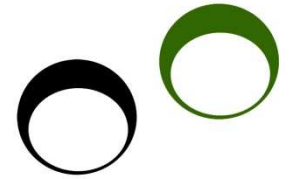
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It can happen on **horizontal sectors** by e.g.:

- Creating a critical mass for the successful application of **regulation**
- Implementing **shared horizontal solutions** (e.g. IT tools)
- Replicating **governance approaches**

Support can come from coop. programmes (e.g. Interreg, UIA, Urbact)

The ECESP role for circular economy



The ECESP could contribute by

1) Liaising with the **civil society**:

- Raising awareness among civil society organisations
- Promoting involvement in early strategy development
- Highlighting the potential for knowledge provision by CSOs
- Providing methodological support.

2) Liaising with **EU institutions**:

- Proposing support tools for research on circular economy
- Supporting the sharing of knowledge and good practices from EU supported schemes such as ESIF.

Thank you!

