

## **Circular Economy (GRI 301)**

### **Transitioning to a circular economy**

Transitioning to a circular economy is vital to preserving and protecting Earth's natural resources. Due to rising living standards and population growth, particularly in cities, levels of material consumption are likely to continue to grow. UNEP and the International Resource Panel expect consumption to double between 2015 and 2050. Transforming our largely linear (take-make-waste) modes of industrial production holds the potential for vast environmental benefits – in addition to opportunities in other areas such as innovation, employment, and reduced import dependence for raw materials.

### **AURELIUS holistic circular economy approach**

AURELIUS considers the circular economy from a holistic approach, which includes the entire life cycle of a product, from the extraction of raw materials, through to the product's design, production and distribution, to the longest possible use phase and recycling. As an investor and asset owner, AURELIUS focuses on the implementation of circular economy approaches in its portfolio companies. Resource efficiency, reuse, recycle and solid materials are key focus areas.

In our environmental protection guidelines, we commit ourselves to the responsible use of natural resources and to the reduction of our resource consumption. In the Holding companies and in the Group companies, resource conservation measures and policies are regularly reviewed and implemented.

### **Aurelius supports recent regulatory objectives**

Aurelius supports the EU Circular Economy Action Plan. The EU Taxonomy Regulation established the transition to a circular economy as one of its six environmental objectives and invented a new Circular Economy Action Plan.