



# *Packaging in Catalonia*

May 2018

**Sector snapshot**

## The Packaging Sector in Catalonia: sector snapshot

**ACCIÓ**  
Government of Catalonia



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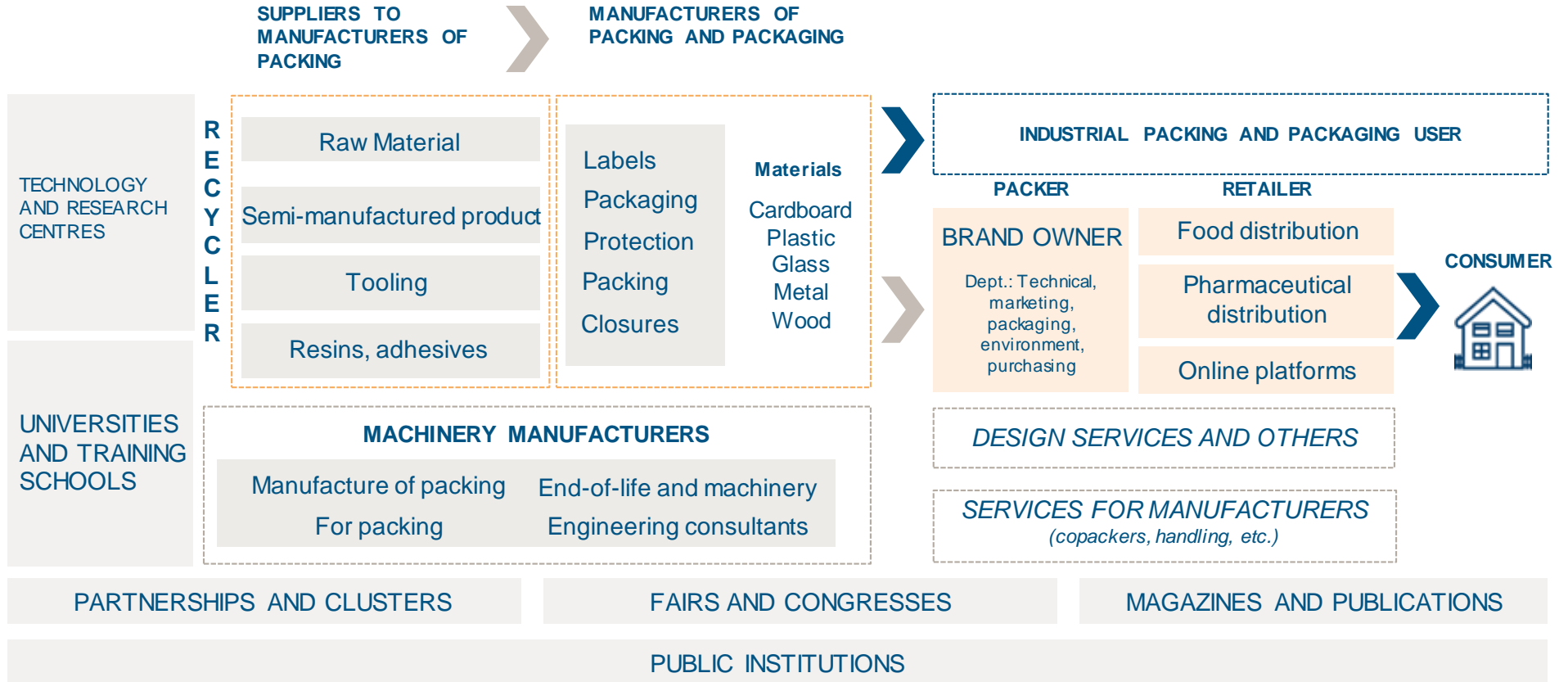
# 1. The packaging sector



# Description of the packaging sector

Science and art of presenting in the best conditions for storage, distribution, protection, sale and use.

## Value chain and map of stakeholders



Source: Cluster Development

# The packaging sector on a global scale

**USD 839 bn**  
Global market (2015).



**Growth of 3.5%**  
in the packaging sector on a  
global scale, CAGR between  
2015 and 2020.



## Main regions

**Asia** it is the first global consumer with **38.4%**, followed by **North America** and **Europe** with **22.3%** and **20.8%** respectively.

The per capita consumption in **North America** and **Europe** is **4** and **2** times **higher than the world average**.



## Main materials

**Paper** and **cardboard** are the most commonly used materials and account for **38%**.

**Plastics** were the most rapidly growing materials between 2010 and 2015. **Flexible plastic** is the fastest growing (**4%**), as a replacement for other traditional materials.



## Trends

**Industrial users** are the first receivers, but the **pharmaceuticals and food sectors** are growing most.

Despite increased consumption in the developed countries, there are differences compared to the emerging countries as there is growing **sensitivity to the environment**.

**Sources:** EIC (ACCIÓ) based on *The Future of Global Packaging to 2020* and Top 10 Trends & Drivers of Future Packaging Demand, Smithers Pira.



# 2. The packaging sector in Catalonia



# Mapping of the packaging sector in Catalonia (I)

The packaging sector is characterized by a large number of companies with their **own products** and a diverse value chain. **The high presence of clusters, associations and trade fairs strengthens the sector**, increasingly focused on responding to the demands of the food, cosmetics or pharmaceuticals industries.



**753**  
COMPANIES  
(2015)



**40,000**  
EMPLOYEES  
(2015)



**€7,100 M** of  
INVOICING  
(2015)

- **66% of the companies** are concentrated in the **packing and packaging segment**.
- **96% of the companies** in the packaging sector are **small and medium-sized enterprises**.
- **71%** of the companies manufacturing packing and packaging target the **food market**, **42%** the **cosmetics** market and **32%** **pharmaceuticals**.

- **50% of employees** are concentrated in the segment of **packing and packaging**, **26%** in the **machinery** sector, and **22%** are **suppliers**.

- It accounts for **3.4%** of the total **Catalan GDP**.
- **65% of invoicing** is by companies in the **segment of packing and packaging**, **20%** by **suppliers** and **12%** in the **machinery segment**.

Source: Cluster Development based on SABI, 2015



# Mapping of the packaging sector in Catalonia (II)

## Segmentation of a diverse sector



**SUPPLIERS  
SEGMENT**  
**€1,396.7 M**  
INVOICING (2015)

It is a highly diverse segment, due to the differences between the production chains of different materials.

There is a significant weight of large business groups like **BASF** or **Dow Chemical**, especially in the case of manufacturers of plastic.

**Plastic production** accounts for **73%** of invoicing.



**MACHINERY  
SEGMENT**  
**€868.9 M**  
INVOICING (2015)

**Average growth of 7.3%** annually between 2010 and 2015.

The **machinery for packaging** accounts for **44% of the invoicing** of the companies of this segment.



**PACKING AND  
PACKAGING SEGMENT**  
**€4,573 M**  
INVOICING (2015)

**Average growth of 3.2%** annually between 2010 and 2015.

A large part of production focuses on **the non-industrial end user**, especially in the food, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals industries.

**50%** of the **companies** work primarily with **plastic** due to the high demand for plastic packaging by the food industry.



**SERVICES  
SEGMENT**  
**€187.2 M**  
INVOICING (2015)

They are engaged mainly in the **design of packaging and packing for third parties**, etc.

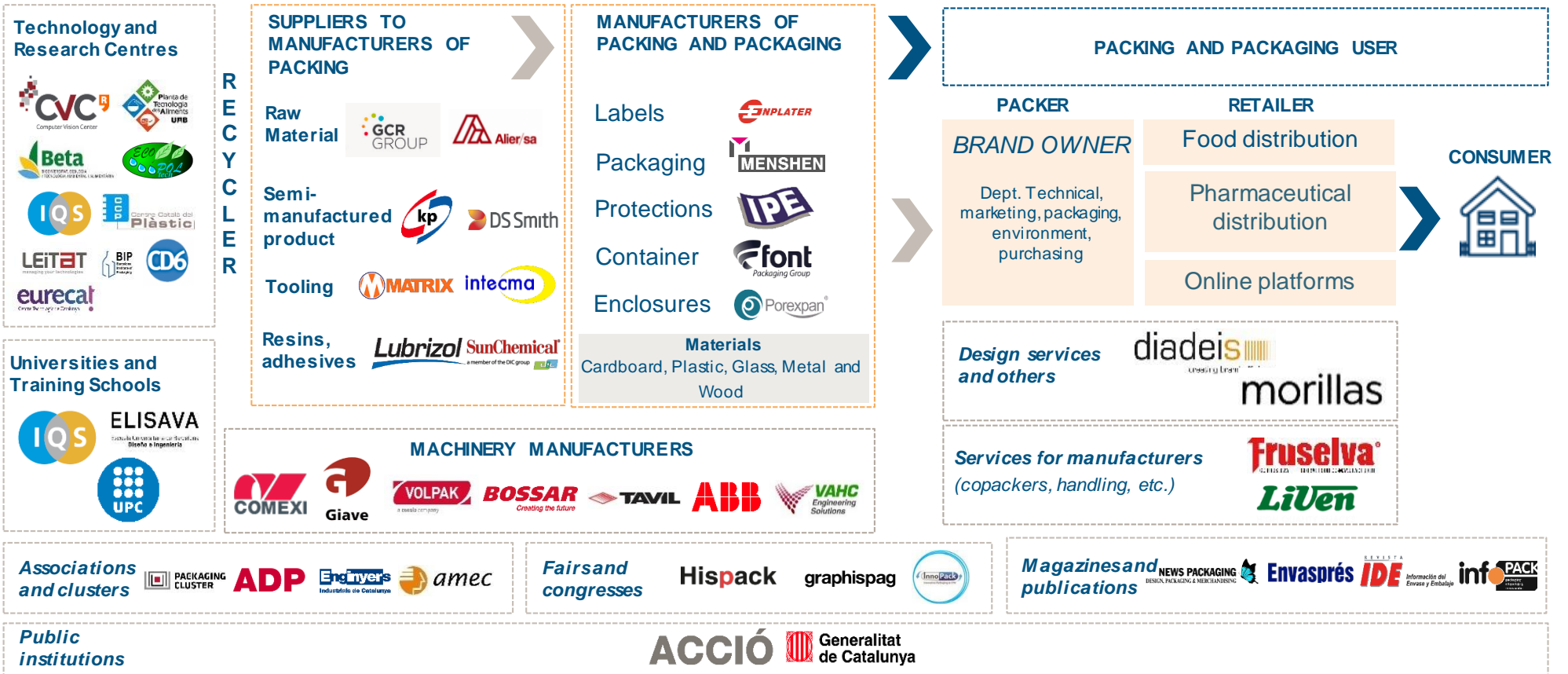
There is a **large number of professionals** for the design of packaging, etc.

They are companies with **few employees** that also give services to other sectors.

Source: Cluster Development based on SABI, 2015

# Ecosystem of the packaging sector in Catalonia

\*Partial illustrational table



**Note:** The use of these brands is for information purposes only. The brands mentioned in this report belong to their respective owners and under no circumstances are they the property of ACCIÓ. This is a partial representation for the purpose of illustrating the companies that belong to the packaging sector ecosystem in Catalonia, but other companies may exist that have not been included in the study.

Source: EIC (ACCIÓ) based on Cluster - Development

# The competitiveness of the packaging sector in Catalonia

## Attractive to foreign investors

Catalonia is **the best region in the South of Europe with regard to investment** for the years 2018 and 2019

(FDI Int, 2018)

### The main sectors targeted by packaging...



The pharmaceuticals sector has received **47.5% of the FDI projects** of the Spanish State.



The food and beverage sector has received **31% of the FDI projects** of the Spanish State.

## Open to international trade

**79%** of the companies in the sector **export** and **10%** have a **subsidiary abroad**.

The average **export ratio** over invoicing for the sector is **34%**.

- **Machinery companies** with ratios of around **80%**.
- **Packing and packaging companies** with ratios of **30%**.

## Innovative and enterprising

**1.46%** of its GDP dedicated to R&D.

**9,282** innovative companies (**22.2%** of the total for Spain).

ACCIÓ, the agency **with the best support for R&D** within the investment attraction strategy (FDI Strategy Awards, 2017).

**Clusters and associations** of the packaging and related sectors.

**Barcelona...**

**5<sup>th</sup>**

City in Europe with regard to scientific academic output (Knowledge Cities Ranking, CPVS, UPC, 2017).

Source: EIC (ACCIÓ) based on fDi Markets. Cluster Development, INE.  
Note: FDI (Foreign Direct Investment).

# Catalonia, the best location for the packaging sector



## STRATEGIC LOCATION AND ACCESS TO MARKETS

Catalonia is **well connected** with the world and is **easily accessible**.

With **200 international destinations in 57 countries**, Barcelona airport is just 15 km from the city centre, has **100 operating airlines** and is regarded as the **best airport in the South of Europe**.



## CONGRESS AND OTHER TRADE FAIRS

Barcelona is the third city in the world for international conferences, only behind Berlin and Paris (ICCA, 2016).

Catalonia is home to some of the most outstanding international technology events, such as the **Mobile World Congress**, which makes Barcelona the permanent global centre for mobile technologies.

Catalonia hosts several **fairs associated with the packaging sector** such as Graphispag, Hispack and InnoPack.



## A COMPETITIVE SECTOR

Presence of associations and clusters such as the **Packaging Cluster** or the **Design Cluster**, which strengthen the sector.

A rich and diverse **system of universities and research centres** that enriches a sector that targets customers of various industries.



## INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

With the Eurecat Technology Centre Catalonia is well positioned to promote technology transfer and collaboration between the university, industry and the administration.

**A leading region for startups in Europe**, Catalonia has more than 1,200 startups and has business incubators and accelerators of the first order.



## BUSINESS MINDSET

Catalonia is **always open to business** and has active government policies that support and complement the strength of the private sector.



## POLE OF ATTRACTION FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL TALENT

Presence of **talent from all over the world** thanks to its high quality of life, its cosmopolitan atmosphere, its entrepreneurial track record and the availability of qualified, multilingual personnel.



## UNBEATABLE LOCATION AND QUALIFIED PERSONNEL

Catalonia has a wide range of **office spaces**.

With high level professionals from all over the world, Catalonia has **skilled, talented workers with lower costs** than other places, such as Madrid, London, Berlin or Paris.

# 3. Trends and innovation in the packaging sector





# Global trends in the packaging sector

## CONSUMER

### Seniors

In 2014, 17% of the European population was **over 65**, in 2060 it will be in the region of **30%**.

### Baby & Kids

This is a segment of consumers that drives innovation especially in relation to **product safety**.

### Singles

There is increased consumption of **ready-made products, single-dose products**, and products are being packaged that never had been previously.

### E-commerce

Online trade is **constantly growing**.

## CHANNEL

### New players

Increased weight of **online sales platforms** that come into competition with large **traditional retailers**, forced to redefine their strategies and channels.

### Multichannel

The **logistics system** depends on the sales channel, which implies **different packaging requirements**.

### Retailers

Increased shelf life of products / Cost reduction / Increase in Ready To-Retail packaging / Opening online channel.

### Online platforms

Product safety / Consumer perception.

## BRAND OWNERS

### Concentration of business

In sectors such as food, a **small number of companies dominate** most brands.

### Short series

The increased range, promotions and market test require short series and **reducing time-to-market**.

### Extended shelf life

Need to seek new **alternative packaging solutions** to multilayer because they have allowed greater safety and longer expiry dates.

## COMPETITION

### Concentration of business

The packaging and packaging machinery sector is dominated by large business groups that grow through mergers and takeovers of companies, such as, for example: **International Paper, Amcor, Smurfit Kappa, Ball, Mondi, Coesia** or **IMA Group**, among others.

### New technologies

Digital printing/Digitalization of the value chain (4.0)

## SUSTAINABILITY

Increased consumer interest in **sustainable products**, especially among **the younger population**.

**Reduction in the volume** of packaging generated and **redesign** of products and packing by distribution brands.

**Trade-off between functionality and sustainability**. Products like plastic lengthen products' shelf life, but are difficult to recycle.

The customer demands more sustainable products but the **cost differential is a hindrance**.

Source: EIC (ACCIÓ) based on Cluster Development

# Technological innovation in the packaging sector in Catalonia



## New technologies related to the packaging sector

### 3D printing

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Manufacture of packaging or parts for machinery by means of 3D printers.

### Active, smart packaging

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Packaging to increase the shelf life of products, monitor their freshness, display information about their quality, improve their safety and convenience.

### Edible packaging

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Edible packaging, to replace disposable plastic packaging for food

### Soluble packaging

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Water-soluble packaging that decomposes in the sea.

### Anti-bacterial packaging

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Packaging that not only protects against possible bacteria but also actively works against them.

### Self-cooling and self-heating packaging

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Packaging capable of heating or cooling its contents independently.

### Multi-sensory packaging

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Packaging that brings new sensations (aroma, sound, etc.) that current packaging does not.

### Non-stick packaging

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Packaging whose contents do not stick to the packaging allowing consuming the entire contents.

Source: Cluster Development.

# 4. International benchmarking



# International Benchmarking

## Detection of main world packaging clusters

	Packbrige	FoodRegio	BreizPack	Korea Packaging Association	Cluster de Innovación en Envase y Embalaje	Atlanpack	Imprim'Luxe
Area	Packaging	Food with packaging workgroup	Packaging	Packaging	Packaging	Packaging	Labels
Initiative	Private	Private with public support	Private	Private with public support	Private with public support	Private with public support	Private with public support
Country	Sweden	Germany	France	South Korea	Spain	France	France
Year founded	2010	2007	2009	1991	2007	1997	2013
Members	189	68	50	97	53	54	48
Value chain	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
Governance	Own structure	Own structure	Own structure	Own structure	Own structure	Own structure	Own structure
Team	6 people	9 people	2 people	-	2 people	3 people	-
Phase of the initiative	Advanced	Advanced	Advanced	Advanced	Advanced	Advanced	First month
Web	<a href="http://www.packbridge.se">www.packbridge.se</a>	<a href="http://www.foodregio.de">www.foodregio.de</a>	<a href="http://www.breizpack.net">www.breizpack.net</a>	<a href="http://kopa.or.kr/en/">http://kopa.or.kr/en/</a>	<a href="http://www.clusterenvase.com">www.clusterenvase.com</a>	<a href="http://www.atlanpack.com">www.atlanpack.com</a>	<a href="http://www.imprim-luxe.fr">www.imprim-luxe.fr</a>

Source: websites of the respective clusters

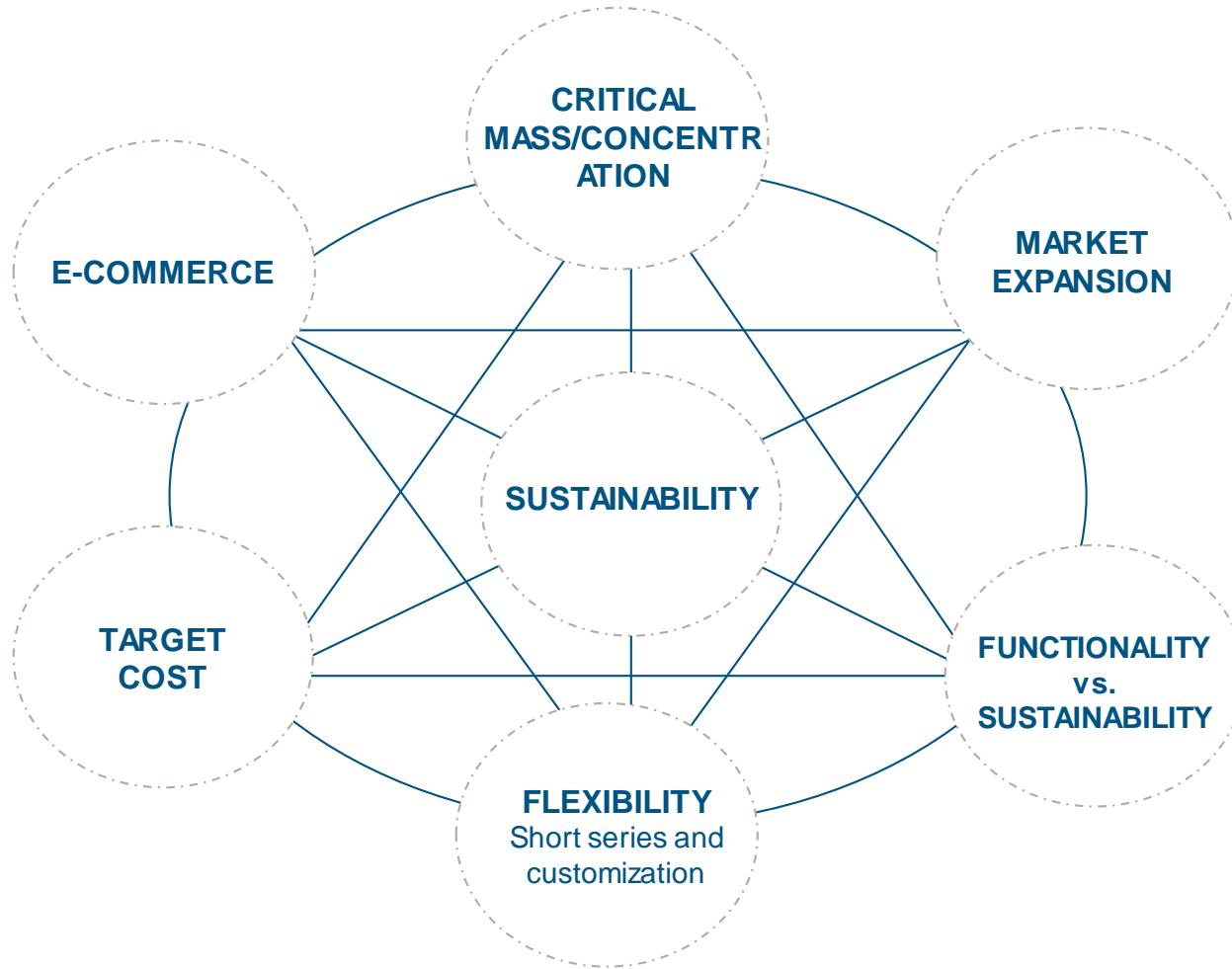


# 5. Strategic challenges





# Strategic challenges of the sector



Source: Cluster Development

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**Més informació sobre el sector, notícies i oportunitats:**

<http://www.accio.gencat.cat/ca/sectors/packaging/>