



European
Commission

More And Better Recycling for a Circular Economy – the EU in Action

**Dakofa Conference
20 September 2018**

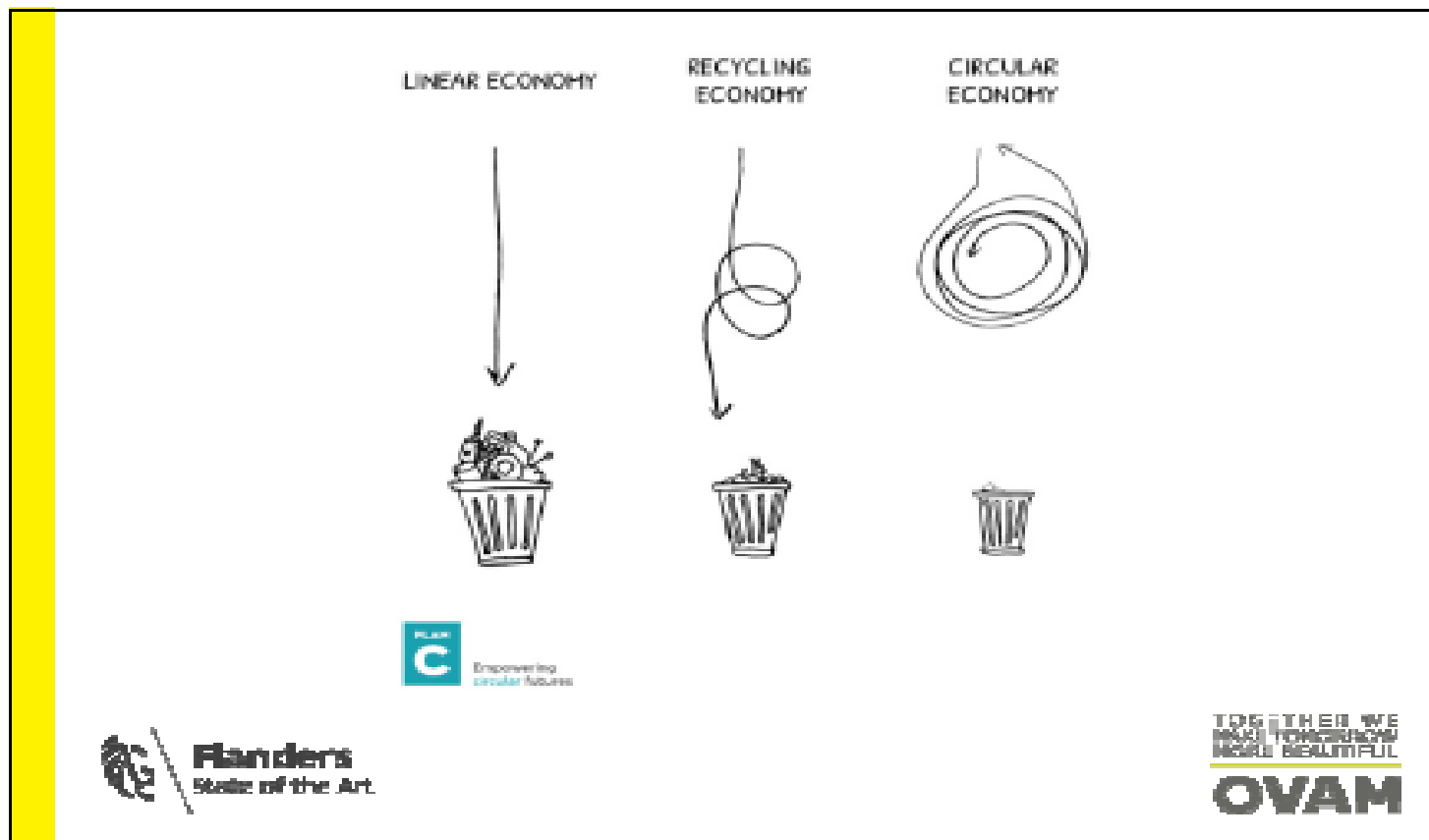
**Silvija Aile
European Commission, DG ENV B3**

The Rise of the Circular Economy at EU Level

Multiple drivers:

- Growth & job creation
- Boosting competitiveness
- Enhancing security of supply
- Encouraging innovation
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Protecting the environment
- Contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

...pointing in the same direction: reduce input, close loops, slow down loops



Circular Economy Action Plan

>85% of actions delivered

Actions	Timetable
Production	
Emphasis on circular economy aspects in future product requirements under the Eco-design directive	2016 onwards
Eco-design work plan 2015-2017 and request to European standardisation organisations to develop standards on material efficiency for setting future Eco-design requirements on durability, reparability and recyclability of products	December 2015
Proposal for an implementing regulation on televisions and displays	End 2015 or beginning 2016
Examine options and actions for a more coherent policy framework of the different strands of work of EU product policy in their contribution to the circular economy	2018
Include guidance on circular economy into Best Available Techniques reference documents (BREFs) for several industrial sectors	2016 onwards
Guidance and promotion of best practices in the mining waste management plans	2018
Establishing an open, pan-European network of technological infrastructures for SMEs to integrate advanced manufacturing technologies into their production processes	2016
Examine how to improve the efficiency and uptake of the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and the pilot programme on environmental technology verification (ETV)	2017
Develop an improved knowledge base and support to SMEs for the substitution of hazardous substances of very high concern	2018
Consumption	
Better enforcement of existing guarantees on tangible products, accompanied by a reflection on improvements (upcoming Commission proposal for online sale of goods, and Fitness Check of consumer legislation)	2015-2017
Action on false green claims, including updated guidance on unfair commercial practices	2016
Analysis of the possibility to propose horizontal requirements on repair information provision in the context of Eco-design	2018
REFIT of Eco-label, to be followed by actions to enhance its effectiveness	2016
Assessment of the possibility of an independent testing programme on planned obsolescence	2018
Subject to evaluation of the current ongoing pilots, explore the possible uses of the Product Environmental Footprint to measure and communicate environmental information	2016 onwards
Action on Green Public Procurement: enhanced integration of circular economy requirements, support to higher uptake including through training schemes reinforcing its use in Commission procurement and EU funds	2016 onwards
Waste management	
Revised legislative proposal on waste	Dec 2015
Improved cooperation with Member States for better implementation of EU waste legislation, and combat illicit shipment of end of life vehicles	2015 onwards
Stepping up enforcement of revised Waste Shipment regulation	2016 onwards
Promotion of industry-led voluntary certification of treatment facilities for key waste/recyclable streams	2018 onwards
Initiative on waste to energy in the framework of the Energy Union	2016
Identification and dissemination of good practices in waste collection systems	2016 onwards
Market for secondary raw materials	
Development of quality standards for secondary raw materials (in particular for plastics)	2016 onwards
Proposal for a revised fertilisers regulation	Early 2016
Proposed legislation setting minimum requirements for reused water for irrigation and groundwater recharge	2017
Promotion of safe and cost-effective water reuse, including guidance on the integration of water reuse in water planning and management, inclusion of best practices in relevant BREFs, and support to innovation (through the European Innovation Partnership and Horizon 2020) and investments	2016-2017

Analysis and policy options to address the interface between chemicals, products and waste legislation, including how to reduce the presence and improve the tracing of chemicals of concern in products	2017
Measures to facilitate waste shipment across the EU, including electronic data exchange (and possibly other measures)	2016 onwards
Further development of the EU raw materials information system	2016 onwards

Sectional action	
Plastics	
Strategy on plastics in the circular economy	2017
Specific action to reduce marine litter implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals	2015 onwards

Food waste	
Development of a common methodology and indicators to measure food waste	2016
Stakeholders platform to examine how to achieve SDGs goals on food waste, share best practice and evaluate progress	2016
Clarify relevant EU legislation related to waste, food and feed in order to facilitate food donation and utilisation of former foodstuffs for animal feed	2016
Explore options for more effective use and understanding of date marking on food	2017

Critical raw materials	
Report on critical raw materials and the circular economy	2017
Improve exchange of information between manufacturers and recyclers on electronic products	2016 onwards
European standards for material-efficient recycling of electronic waste, waste batteries and other relevant complex end-of-life products	2016 onwards
Sharing of best practice for the recovery of critical raw materials from mining waste and landfills	2017

Construction and demolition	
Pre-demolition assessment guidelines for the construction sector	2017
Voluntary industry-wide recycling protocol for construction and demolition waste	2016
Core indicators for the assessment of the lifecycle environmental performance of a building, and incentives for their use	2017 onwards

Biomass and bio-based materials	
Guidance and dissemination of best practice on the cascading use of biomass and support to innovation in this domain through Horizon 2020	2016-2019
Ensuring coherence and synergies with the circular economy when examining the sustainability of bioenergy under the Energy Union	2016
Assessment of the contribution of the 2012 Bio-economy Strategy to the circular economy and possible review	2016

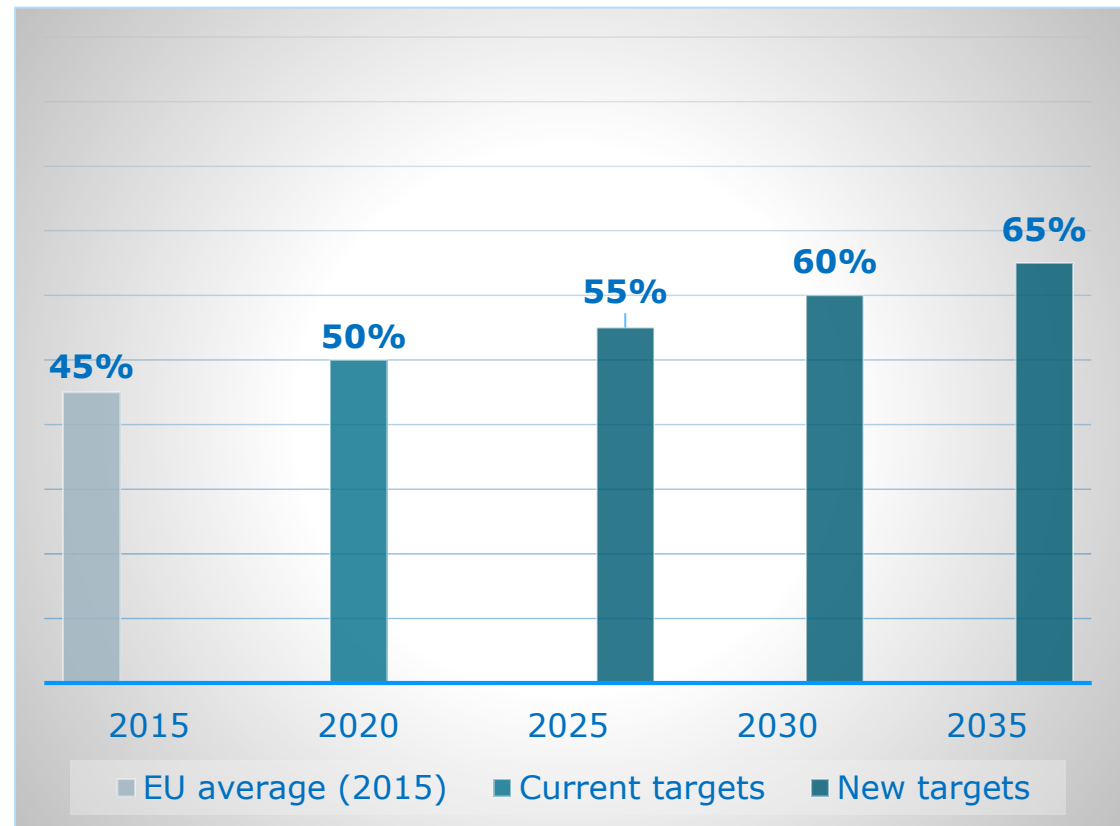
Innovation and investments	
Initiative "Industry 2020 and the circular economy" under Horizon 2020	October 2015
Pilot project for "innovation deals" to address possible regulatory obstacles for innovation	2016
Targeted outreach to encourage applications for funding under EFSI, and support the development of projects and investment platforms relevant to the circular economy	2016 onwards
Targeted outreach and communication activities to assist Member States and regions for the uptake of Cohesion Policy funds for the circular economy	2016 onwards
Support to Member States and regions to strengthen innovation for the circular economy through smart specialisation	2016 onwards
Assessment of the possibility of launching a platform together with the EIB and national banks to support the financing of the circular economy	2016
Engagement with stakeholders in the implementation of this action plan through existing fora in key sectors	2016 onwards
Support to a range of stakeholders through actions on public/private partnerships, cooperation platforms, support to voluntary business approaches, and exchanges of best practices	2015 onwards
Monitoring	
Development of a monitoring framework for the circular economy	2017

New EU Waste Legislation: revised WFD, LFD, PPWD

- December 2017: provisional agreement
- 14 June 2018: publication OJ
- 5 July 2018: entry into force
- 5 July 2020: transposition into national law

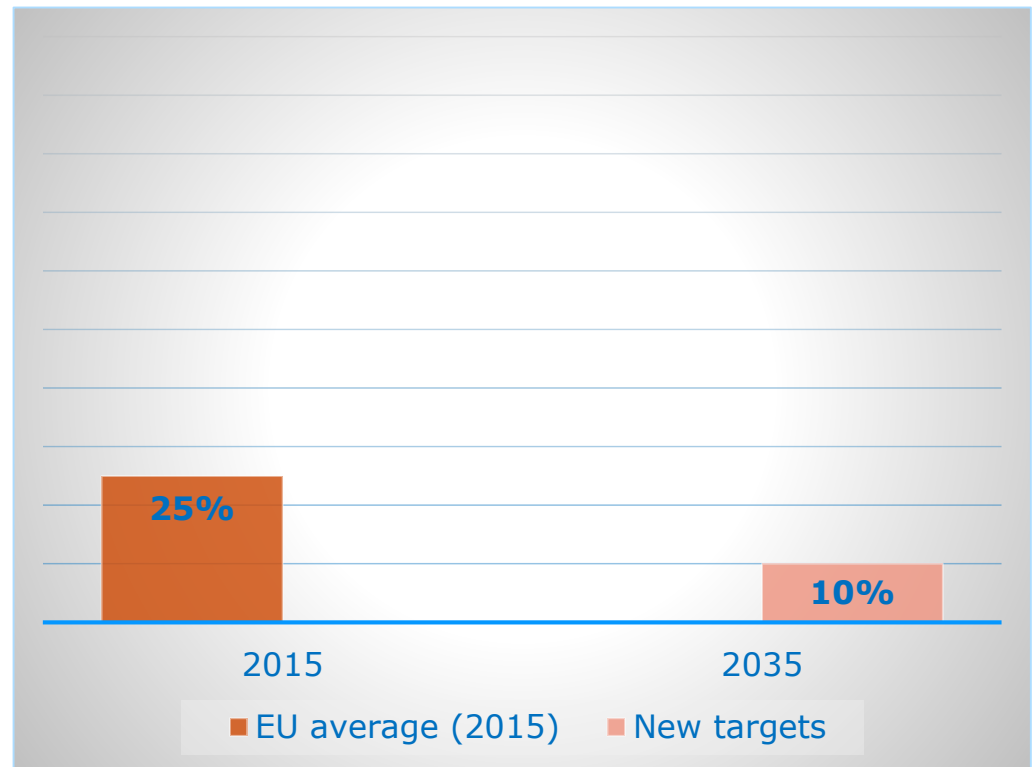
Municipal waste recycling

- 5-year extension for countries with a low starting point
 - 11 MS: EE, EL, HR, CY, LV, LT, HU, MT, RO, SK, BG
 - Implementation plans + interim targets
- Single calculation method
 - harmonised definition of municipal waste
 - reporting input to recycling
- High-quality recycling of biowaste
 - counting only separately collected and recycled bio-waste as of 2027

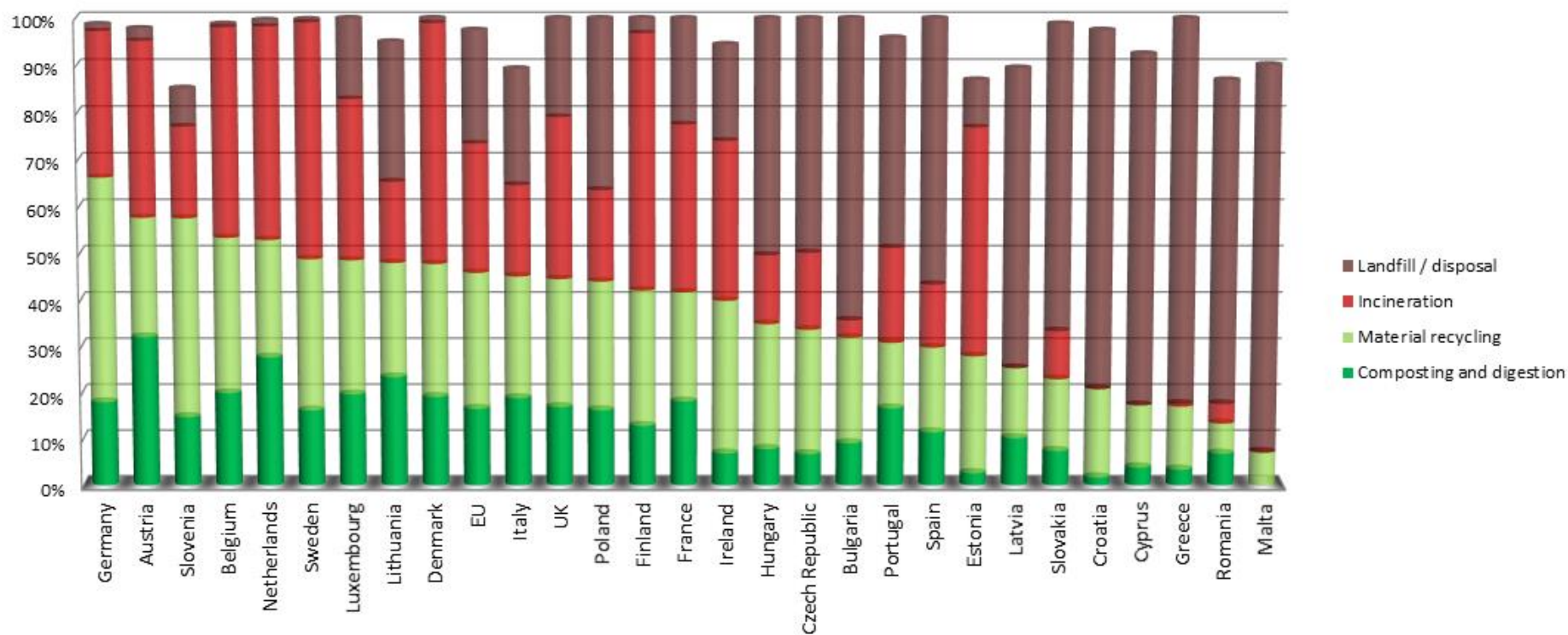


Municipal Waste Landfilling

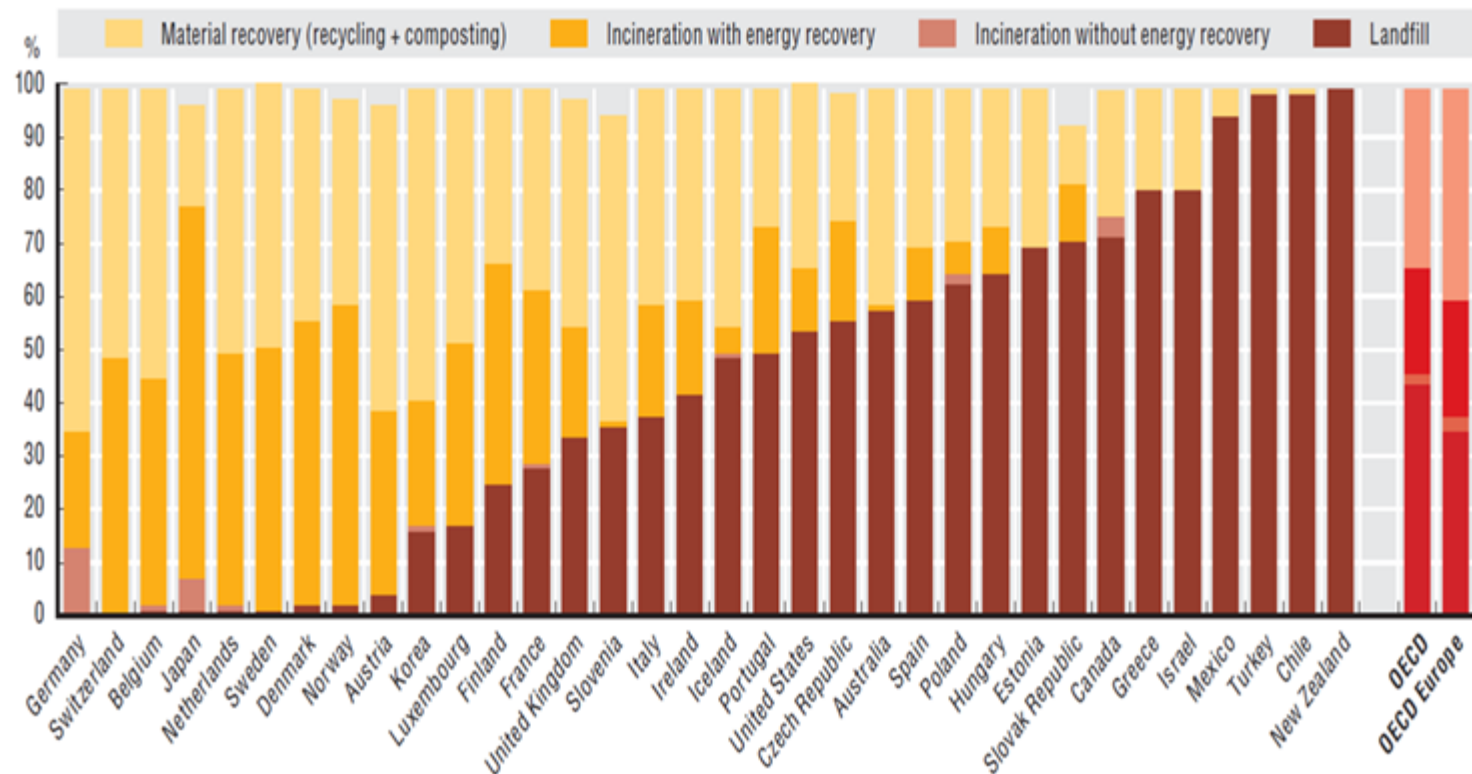
- 5-year extension for countries with high landfill rates
 - 10 MS: EL, HR, CY, LV, LT, HU, MT, RO, SK, BG
 - Implementation plan + interim targets
- Calculation rules for landfilling
- Landfill restrictions for separately collected waste
- Towards no landfilling of *any* waste suitable for recovery as of 2030



Municipal waste by treatment 2016



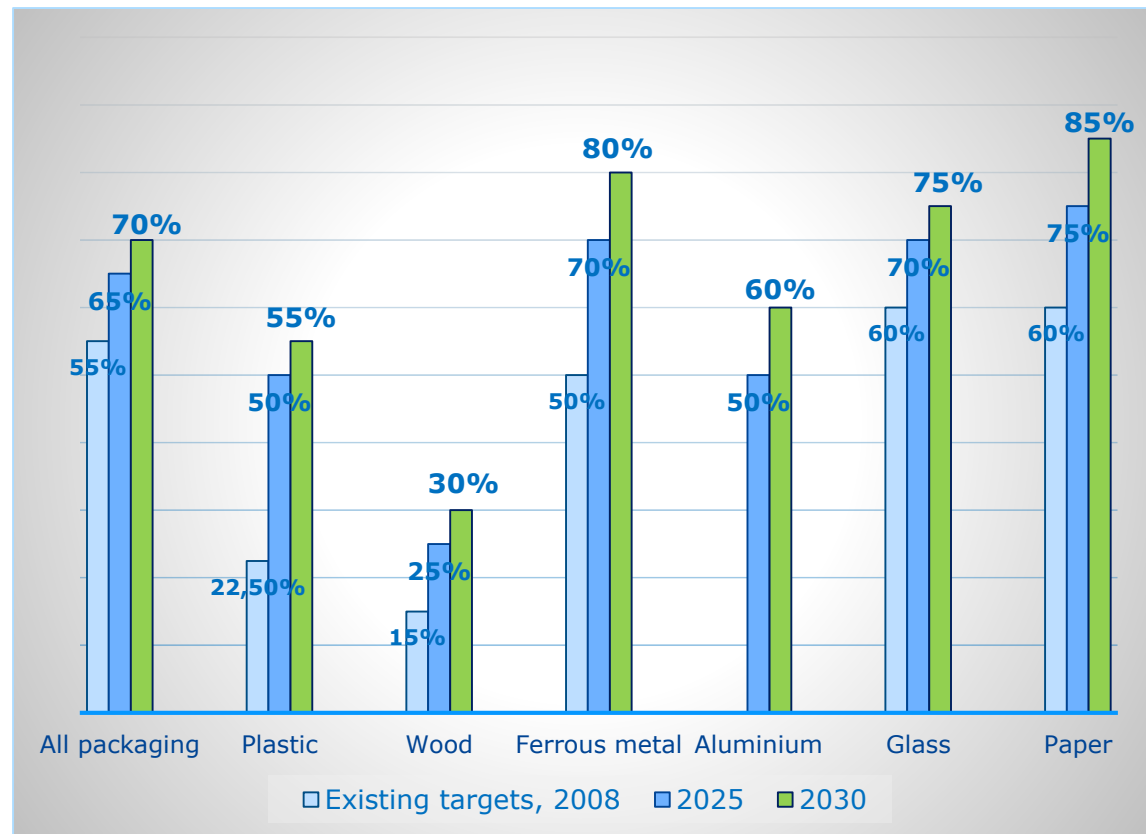
Municipal waste management in EU and OECD countries (2013)



Source: OECD (2015), "Municipal Waste", OECD Environment Statistics (database).

Packaging waste recycling

- 5-year derogations (15% on a single target or divided between two targets)
- Taking account of re-use (max. 5%)
- Harmonised reporting: input to recycling
- Ambitious targets for plastics
- New targets for aluminium



Separate collection

Current rules

- Separate collection to promote **high quality recycling**
- Separate collection for at least **paper, metal, plastic and glass by 2015**

New rules

- Strengthened separate collection obligation, MS have to **justify derogations**
- MS to ensure separate collection of at least paper, metal, plastic, glass, **bio-waste (by end 2023)**, **hazardous household waste and textiles (by end 2024)**
- MS to **ensure selective demolition and sorting systems for C&D waste (material specific)**
- Specific requirements in **waste management plans**

Economic Instruments and EPR

Current rules

- **Polluter-pays principle:** the costs of waste management shall be borne by the original waste producer or by the current or previous waste holders (Art. 14 WFD)

New rules

- MS to put in place **economic instruments** to promote waste hierarchy; new Annex with an indicative list of such instruments
- **MS to introduce mandatory EPR schemes for all packaging by end 2024**
- **General minimum requirements for all EPR schemes; producers to cover the majority of costs**
- **Specific requirements in waste management plans**

Other important provisions

- Strengthened waste prevention measures, in particular:
 - ➔ Requirement to **measure and prevent food waste**
 - ➔ Requirement to tackle litter and to **halt the generation of marine litter**
- MS to ensure that **waste is decontaminated** prior/during recovery to facilitate high quality recycling
- MS to ensure that **separately collected waste is not incinerated or landfilled** unless it delivers a better environmental outcome
- **Waste operators to have access to information on SVHC in articles** through a database to be set up by ECHA

Preparing for transposition & implementation

End of March 2019	<p>Delegated Acts on food waste measurement methodology and 'average loss rates' for sorted waste</p> <p>A number of Implementing Acts on calculation rules and reporting of data</p>
End of 2019	<p>Guidance documents on modulation of EPR fees, separate collection of waste (such as hazardous household waste and plastic waste), municipal waste and backfilling</p>

Promoting real implementation on the ground

- Forthcoming Commission Implementation and *Early Warning* Report (including country-specific policy recommendations)
 - ✓ 14 MS at risk of missing the MSW recycling targets for 2020 - urgent policy measures needed:
 - ✓ Cascade national targets down to the municipal level
 - ✓ Improve and extend separate collection
 - ✓ Use economic instruments to phase out landfilling
 - ✓ Improve functioning of EPR schemes
 - ✓ Use available funds to support waste hierarchy
- Environmental Implementation Review and 'Peer to Peer' mechanism
- Exchange of good practices – Article 38 WFD

Ongoing work under the European Plastics Strategy



**Improve
the economics
and quality
of plastics
recycling**



**Curb plastic
waste and
littering**



**Drive
investments
and innovation
towards circular
solutions**



**Harness
global
action**

Many initiatives to promote more & better recycling - open to explore the scope for more

- **As part of the new waste legislation:**
 - Ambitious recycling and landfill reduction targets (municipal & packaging waste)
 - Clearer and stricter calculation methods
 - New and stricter separate collection & sorting obligations (bio- and textile waste, C&D waste)
 - Better use of economic instruments and extended producer responsibility
 - And ... better implementation of EU waste legislation by MS
- **As part of the wider Action Plan:**
 - Improve recyclability of products (Eco-design Directive, Strategies on Plastics & Waste/Chemicals interface) and action to boost demand for recycled materials
 - Quality standards for secondary raw materials
 - Green Public Procurement
 - EU cohesion funding to focus on the higher tiers of the waste hierarchy

The future agenda

End of 2020	Reviews of: Essential Requirements for Packaging; End-of-Life Vehicles Directive; Waste Shipment Regulation + Ongoing Review Batteries Directive
End of 2022	Establish EU waste oil recovery targets
End of 2023	Establish EU food waste reduction targets
End of 2024	Introduce additional waste prevention measures, including EU waste reduction targets
	Establish EU-wide preparation for re-use and recycling targets for construction & demolition waste, textile, commercial, non-hazardous industrial waste, municipal bio-waste and other waste streams.
	Measures to regulate, including through restrictions, waste disposal operations
	Review packaging waste recycling targets
End of 2028	COM proposal to review 2035 MSW recycling target , including calculation rules
And...	A Circular Economy Action Plan 2.0?



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Thank you for your attention!

Additional information:

**[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/index.
htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/index.htm)**