



Waste management in the EU



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EU waste management: facts and figures

- Total EU-27 waste generation 3 billion tonnes a year
- 500 Kg per capita (municipal waste)
- Steady increase 10%/year
- More than 50% landfilled
- Less than 50% recovered (recycling + energy recovery)
- Huge potential of reducing disposal and increasing the use of waste as a resource

Problems to tackle

- Negative impacts on citizens' health and environment
- Differences in implementation of EU waste legislation in the Member States
- Need stringent controls of the application of waste requirements.



Objectives of European waste policy

- **environmental impacts should not increase at the same pace as economic growth**
- **prevention of waste**
- **moving towards a recycling society**
- **promoting the use of waste to produce energy**
- **better application of waste legislation**

Waste prevention and Recycling Strategy

Framework Legislation

Waste Framework Directive

Waste Shipment Regulation

Waste Treatment Operations

Incineration
(Energy Recovery)

Landfill Directive

Recycling standards
(under new WFD)

Waste Streams

Sewage
Sludge

Batteries
Accumulators

Packaging
Packaging
Waste

Mining
Waste

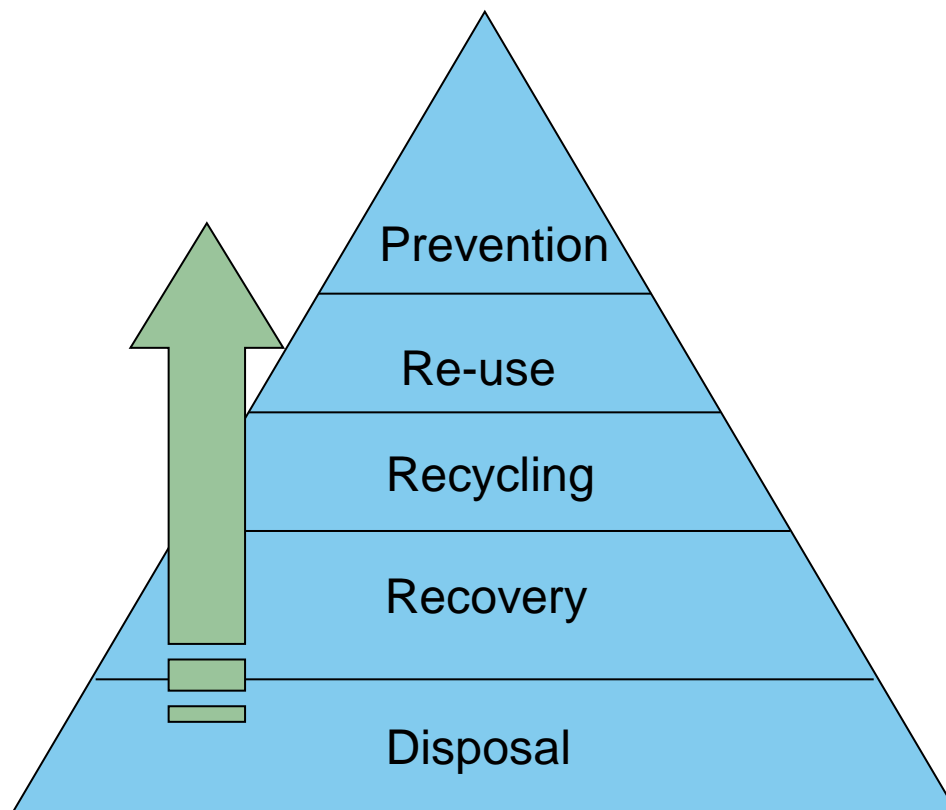
End-of-Life
Vehicles

Electrical &
Electronic
Equipment

PCBs, PCTs

Hazardous
Substances in
WEEE

Moving up the waste hierarchy





SOME TARGETS IN EU WASTE LEGISLATION

		min recovery	min recycling	collection rate
Packaging	2008	60%	55%	
Cars	2015	95%	85%	100%
Electronics	2006 2016	70%	50%	min 4 kg per inhabitant per year 85% of WEEE arising (COM proposal)
Batteries	2011		50% to 75% (efficiency)	
	2012			25%
	2016			45%
Tyres	2006	0 landfill of tyres		
Biowaste diverted from landfills	2006	reduction to 75% of the 1995 level		
	2009	reduction to 50% of the 1995 level		
	2016	reduction to 35% of the 1995 level		
New targets	2015	Separate collection: at least paper/metal/plastic/glass		
(WFD)	2020	50% recycling household waste		
	2020	70% construction and demolition waste re-use/recovery and recycling		

Reducing waste disposal - the Landfill Directive

- **Technical standards for the installation of new landfills**
(location, standards of operation, permits, monitoring)
- **Restricting the types of waste that can be landfilled** (e.g. liquid waste, infectious clinical waste, used tyres, reduction target for biodegradable waste going to landfill)
- **Closing landfills not conform with EU standards by July 2009**
- **Implementation remains a problem**

Illegal waste dumping

- **Art. 36 (1) Waste Framework Directive:**

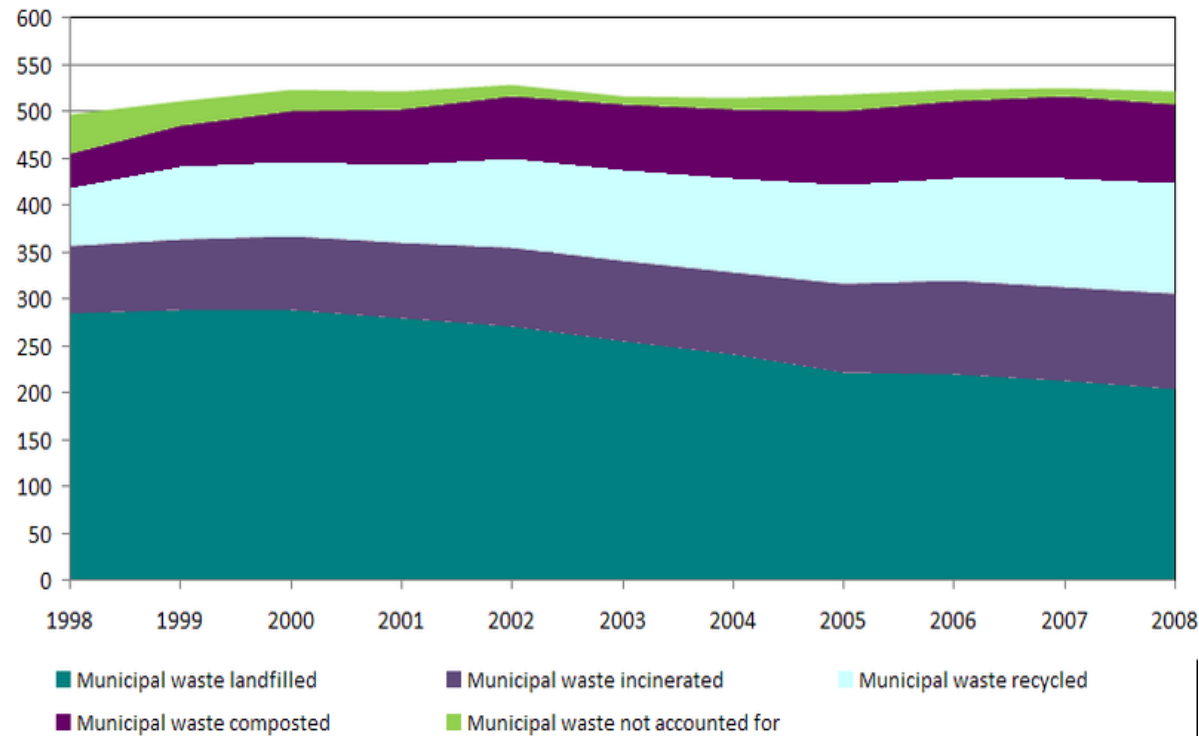
- ➔ « *Member States shall take the necessary measures to prohibit the abandonment, dumping or uncontrolled management of waste* »

- **National authorities to prevent and punish such activities (e.g. set up systems for collection and recycling of waste, punitive measures for illegal dumping)**

Progress on key objectives

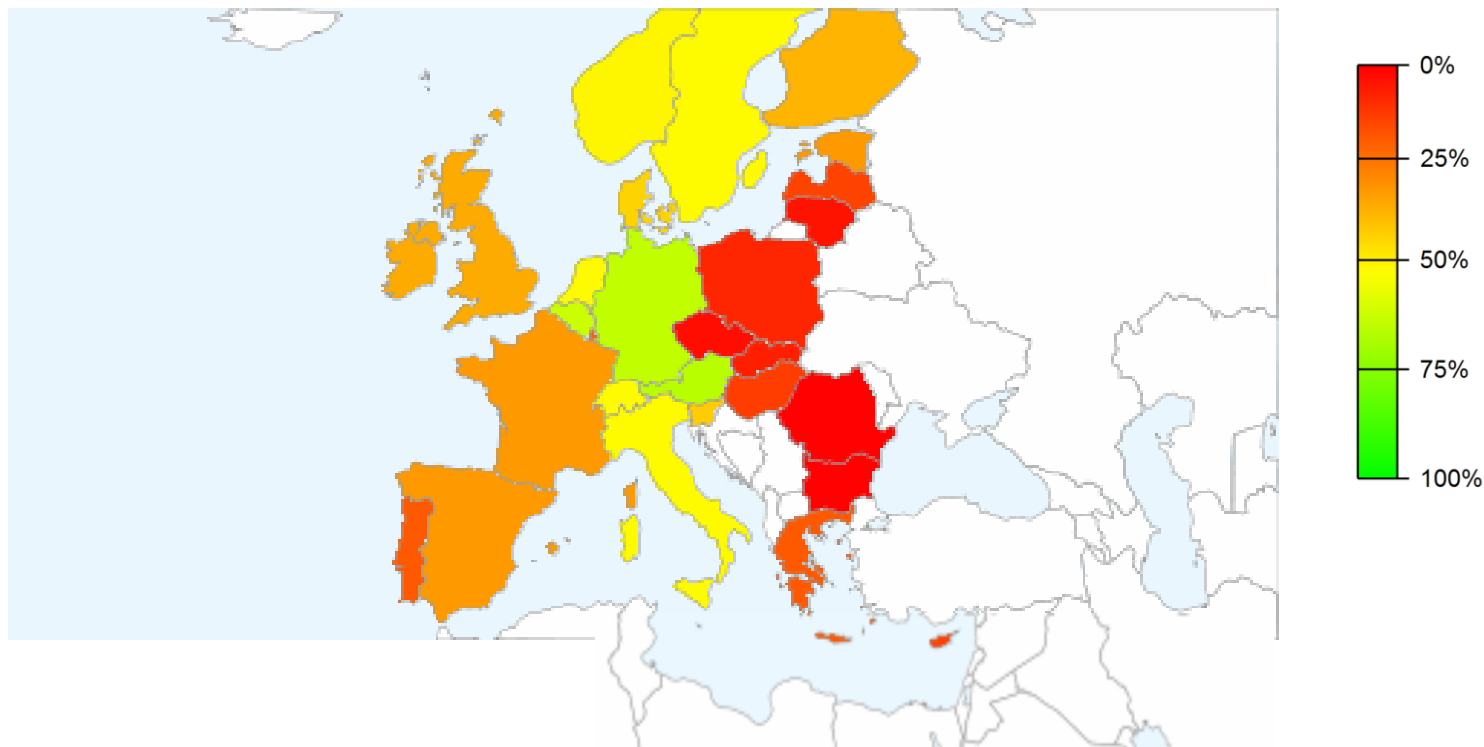
Municipal waste Generation and Management in the EU

Kg of per capita and per year



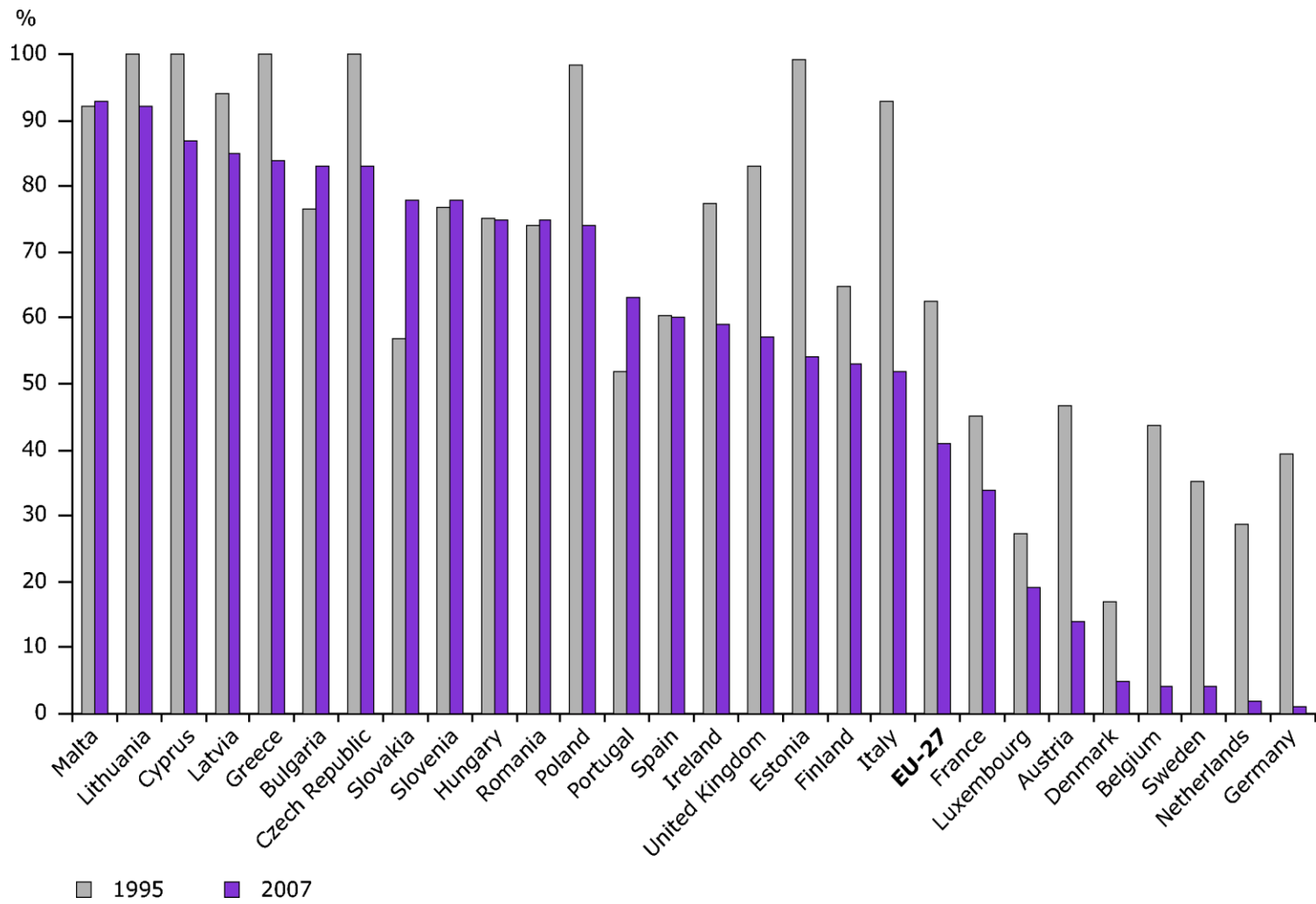
Source: Eurostat 2010

Trends in recycling of Municipal Solid Waste - 2007



Source: Eurostat and for Luxembourg, Norway and the Czech Republic ETC/SCP, 2009

Trends in landfilling of municipal waste



Source: EEA 2009, *Diverting waste from landfill – Effectiveness of waste-management policies in the European Union (Report 7)*

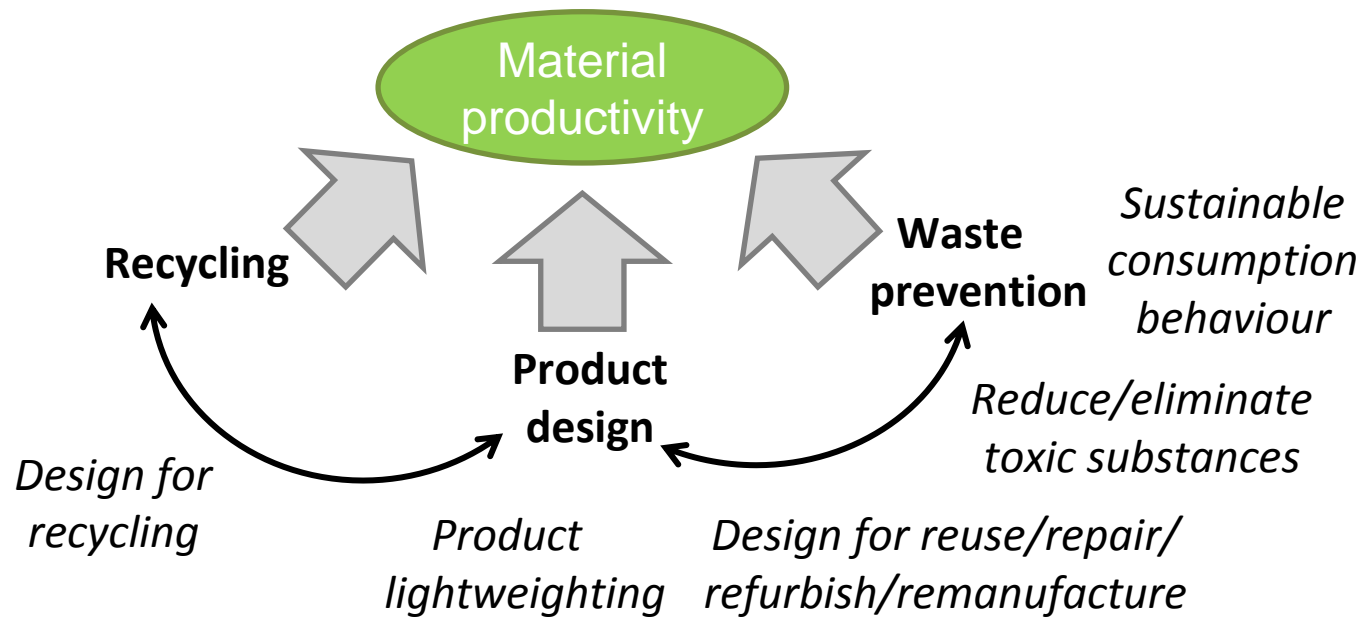
Are we moving in the right direction?

First signals are showing:

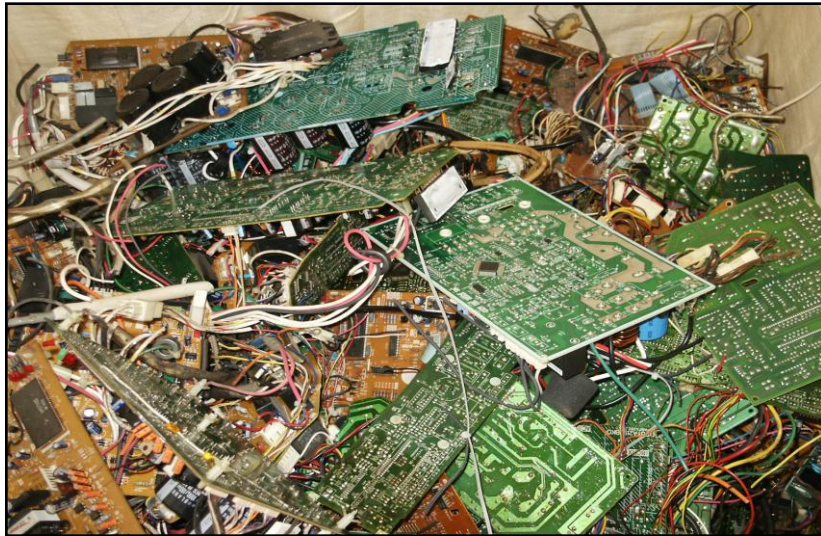
- Limited progress in terms of waste prevention
- Encouraging progress for recycling
- Less landfilling
- Remarkable differences between Member States

Outlook for the future

Prevention and recycling through eco-design



Recycling and resource efficiency



20 kg Electrical and Electronic Waste
per EU citizen per year



Recycling provides metals and has
much lower impacts than mining

Best practices

- **Establish waste management systems**
- **Set up of separate collection systems and bring-back points**
- **Use economic instruments (pay as you throw, landfill taxes)**
- **Apply fines and strict controls on littering**
- **Ensure full and correct application of the existing legislation**

Best practices in waste prevention

- **Halving waste to landfill (UK, 2008):** public commitment of businesses towards reducing construction, demolition and excavation waste sent to landfill by 50% by 2012.
- **European week for waste reduction (EU wide, 2009):** raising awareness on sustainable waste reduction strategies and stimulating permanent changes in the way Europeans produce and consume materials, <http://www.ewwr.eu/>.
- **Kringloop Re-use Centres (NL, 1992):** preventing waste by facilitating resale of discarded products.
- **Courtauld Agreement (UK, 2005):** reducing household waste by working with companies to design out packaging waste growth.
- **Carbon tax on packaging (NE, 2007):** introducing Waste Fund, financed by a carbon tax on packaging.

More best practices:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/prevention/practices.htm>

ONLY ONE EARTH

Thank you for your attention

