

# Circular Economy Package and Waste Policy Review

- 8/12/2014 -

DG ENV, Unit A2 - Waste Management & Recycling

Please note that the Commisison decided on 16/12/2014 to withdraw and replace the proposal that is the subject of this presentation, by a new, more ambitious proposal by end 2015 to promote circular economy.



- Policy context and main elements of the Circular Economy Package
- Waste targets review: background and objectives
- Waste targets review: main elements of the legislative proposal

# Policy context and main elements of the Circular Economy Package



## ➤ Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth

- *Resource Efficiency Flagship Initiative & Roadmap*
- *Also Flagship Initiative on Raw Materials*

## ➤ 7<sup>th</sup> Environment Action Programme

- *Thematic objective to turn the EU into a resource-efficient, green and competitive low-carbon economy*

*MAIN GOAL: Transition towards a circular economy - pressure on resources identified as one of the long-term trends affecting growth*

# Circular Economy Package

## Key elements



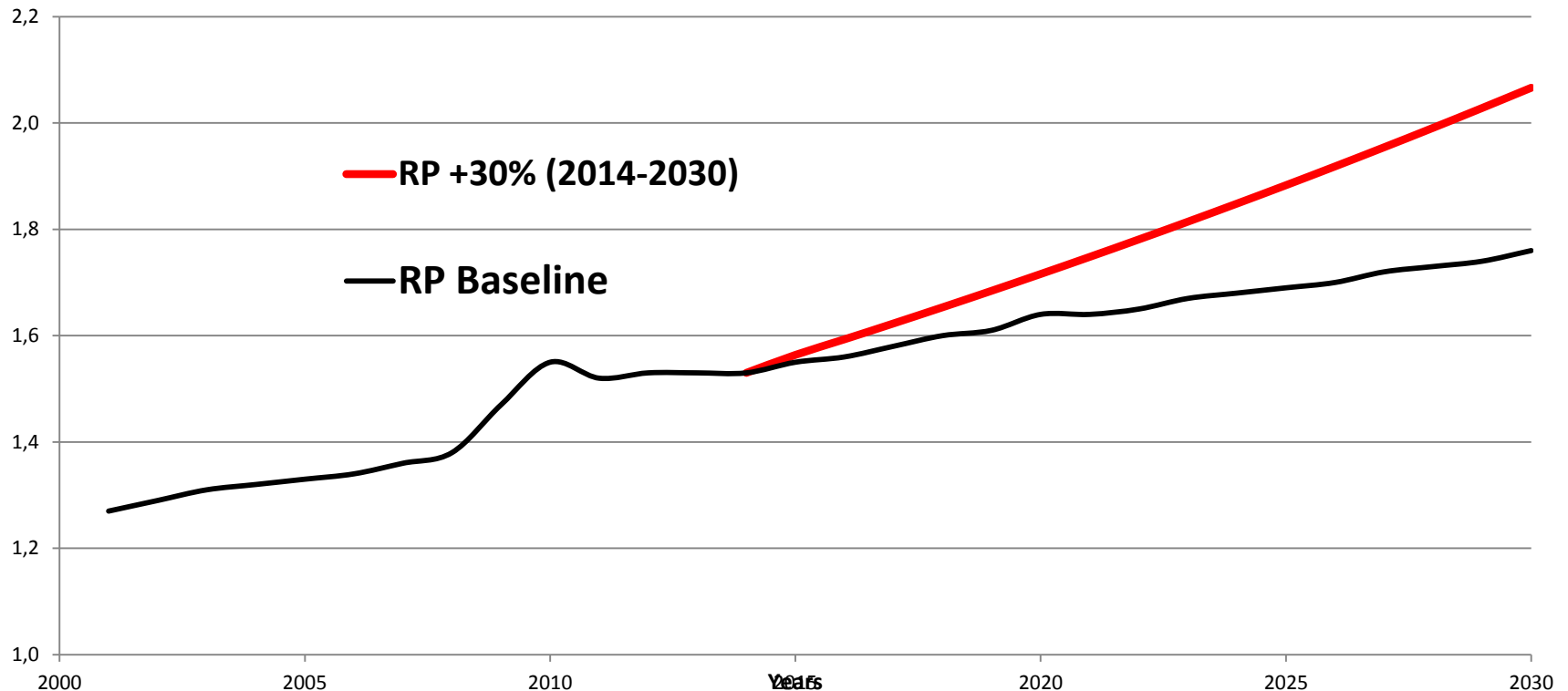
- **Communication "Towards a circular economy: A zero waste programme for Europe"**
- **Waste target review legislative proposal**
- **Green Employment Initiative**
- **Green Action Plan for SMEs**
- **Resource Efficiency Opportunities in the Building Sector**

# Resource productivity target



- **Resource productivity**, as measured by GDP relative to Raw Material Consumption (RMC) = most suitable indicator for resource efficiency target.
- EU already expected to increase its resource productivity by 15 % between 2014 and 2030 under a business as usual scenario
- Policies to promote the transition to a more circular economy => indicative target of 30% by 2030
- Remarks:
  - ✓ Set at EU level, Member States free to set their own targets
  - ✓ MS have flexibility to choose actions that are economically and environmentally advantageous
  - ✓ Final decision to be taken in Europe 2020 Strategy review

# Resource productivity target Scenarios



- Going from today's level to 15% BAU will boost GDP by around 2%.
- Going from 15% to 30% would boost GDP by another 1% and 2 million more jobs.



# Waste target review: background and objectives



- Obligation to review targets in 3 Directives (WFD, PPWD and LFD) by end of 2014
- But other issues also addressed:
  - 1) Better implementation
  - 2) More effective monitoring
  - 3) Simplification and reduction of administrative burden
- Goals in the recently adopted 7<sup>th</sup> EAP

# 7th EAP Objectives



- Waste generation in decline
- Strategy to combat food waste in place
- Recycling/Reuse increased
- Energy recovery limited to non-recyclable waste
- Phasing out of landfilling (limited to non-recoverable waste)
- Use of market-based instruments
- Implementation of the legislation



- Public consultation (closed on 10/09/2013)
- List of options to be considered
- Impact assessment and internal consultations
- Legislative proposal + Package on resource efficiency and circular economy (July 2014)
- Additional supporting actions:
  - Waste Model
  - Fitness Check
  - study on Extended Producer Responsibility
  - Green paper on plastics
  - Marine litter study

# Waste target review

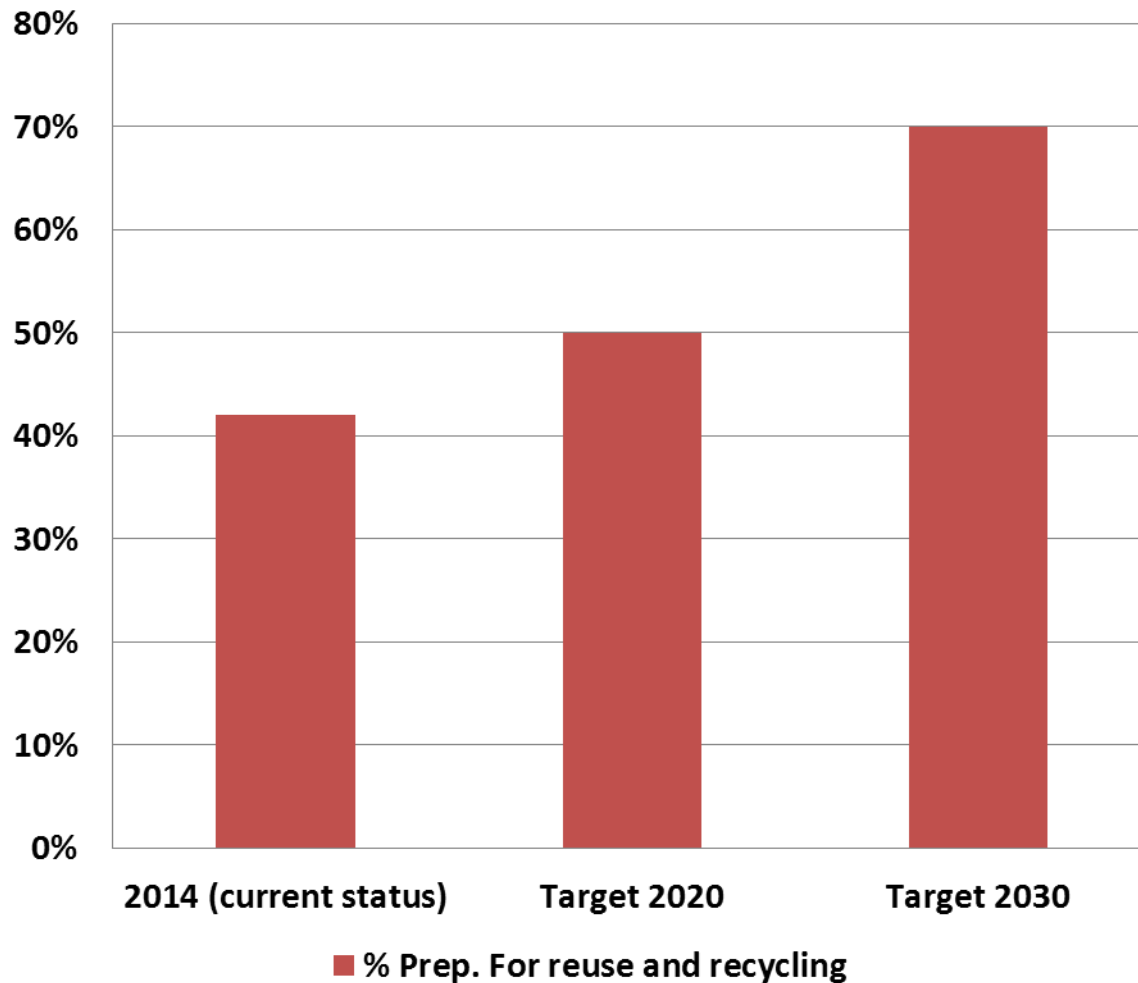
## Main elements of the legislative proposal:

- 1) New targets
- 2) Better implementation
- 3) More effective monitoring
- 4) Simplification and burden reduction

- **Feasible targets:** *what is achieved today in the most advanced MS?*
- **Realistic targets:** *based on past experience, what is the time needed?*
- **Cost-efficient targets:** *what are the costs and benefits of the options?*
- **Acceptable targets:** *what are stakeholder views?*

- No overall waste prevention target for methodological reasons
- Aspirational objective to reduce food waste by 30% by 2025 (Art 9 WFD)
- Waste prevention programmes – specific part on food waste prevention (Art 29 WFD)
- Measures to promote eco-design to respect the waste hierarchy

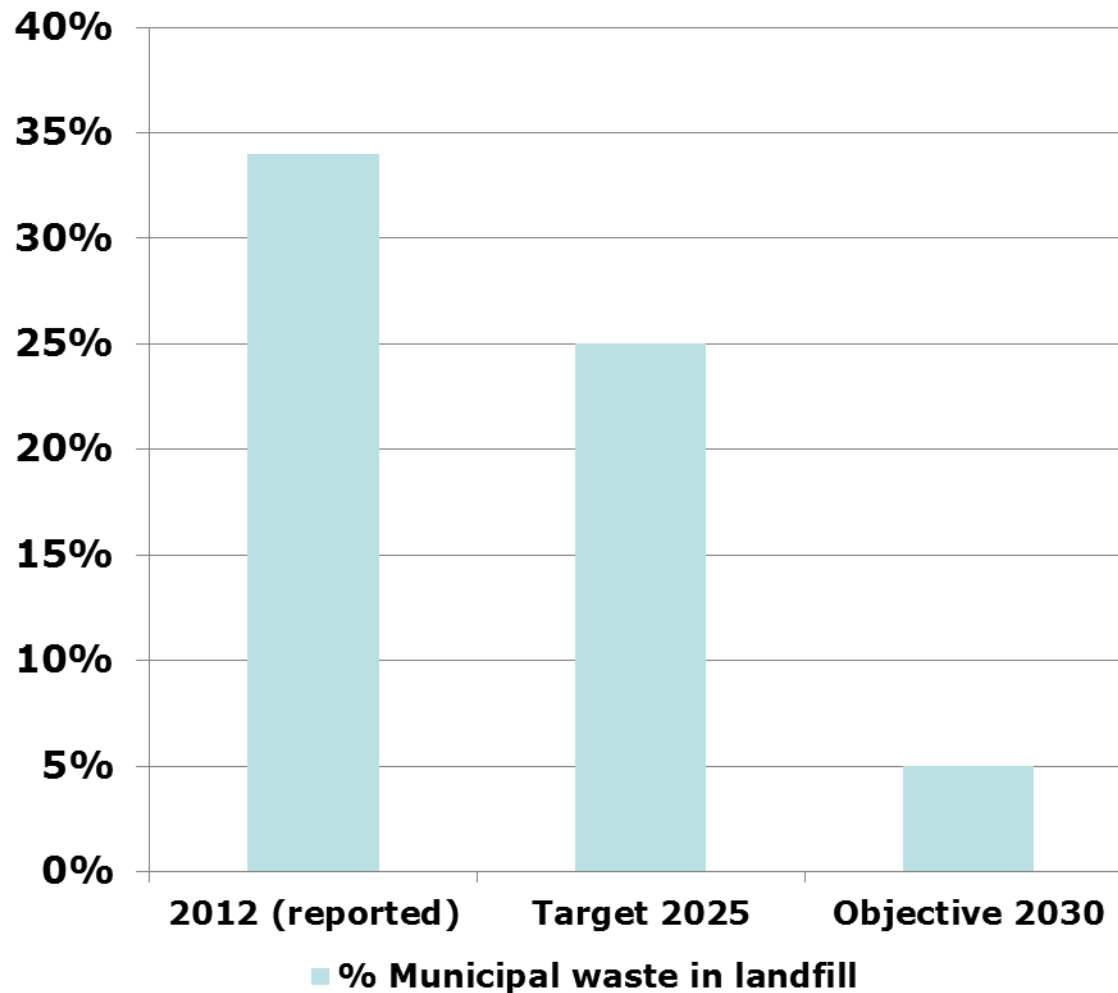
# New targets – municipal waste recycling



- 70% recycling rate by 2030
- Separate collection obligation by 2015 (Art 11(1) WFD)
- New separate collection obligation for bio-waste by 2025



# New targets – municipal waste landfilling



- By 2025:
  - no landfilling of recyclable waste
  - max 25% landfilling
- By 2030 (aspirational):
  - residual waste only
  - max 5% landfilling
- Review clauses:
  - 2018 for inert waste
  - 2025 for the 2030 aspirational target

# New targets – packaging waste recycling



## **Overall recycling** (and preparing for reuse) target:

- 60 % by 2020;
- 70 % by 2025;
- 80 % by 2030.

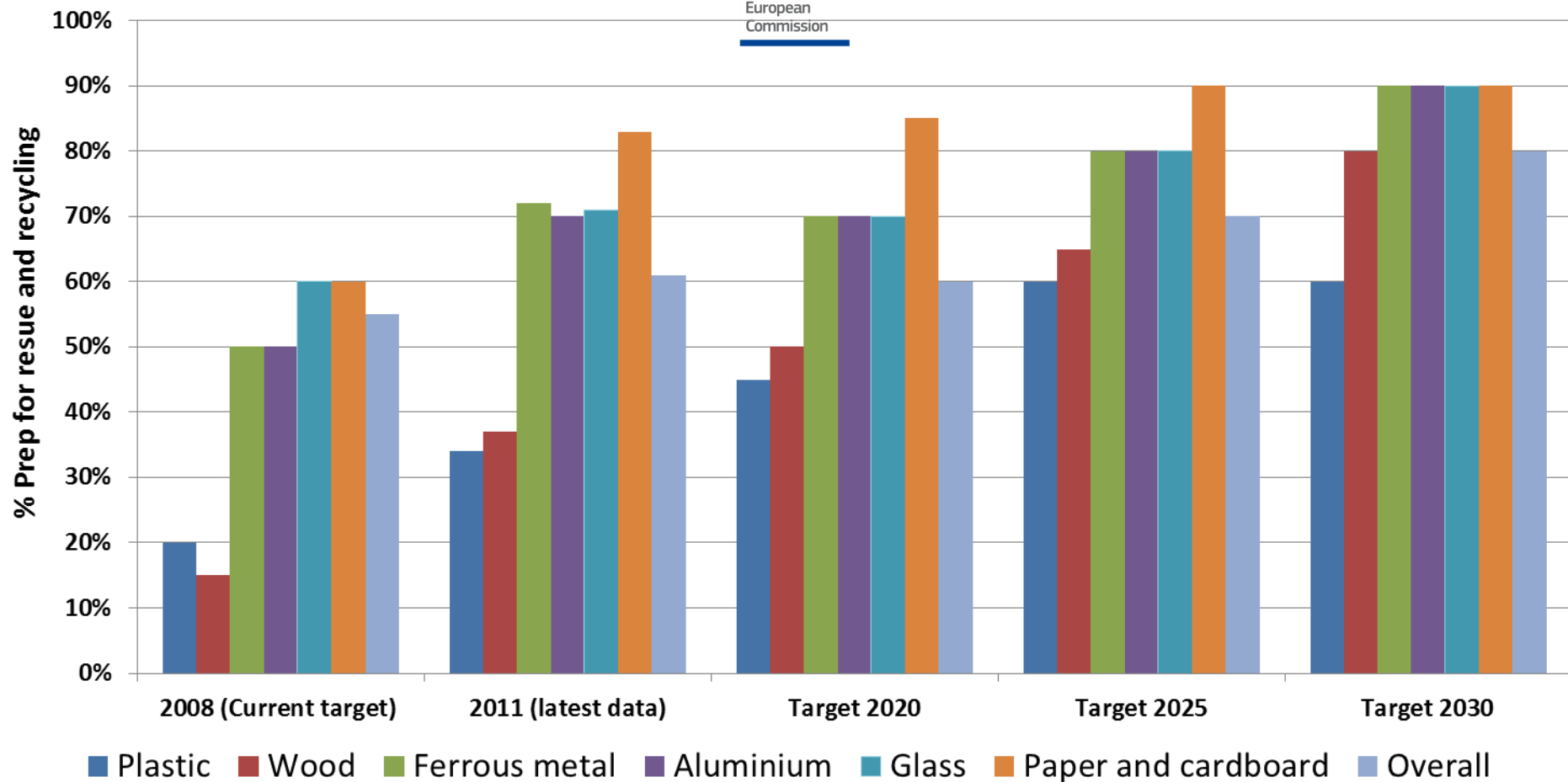
## **Material-specific targets :**

- gradual increase between 2020 and 2030 to reach 90 % for paper by 2025 and 60% for plastics, 80% for wood, 90% of ferrous metal, aluminium and glass by the end of 2030.

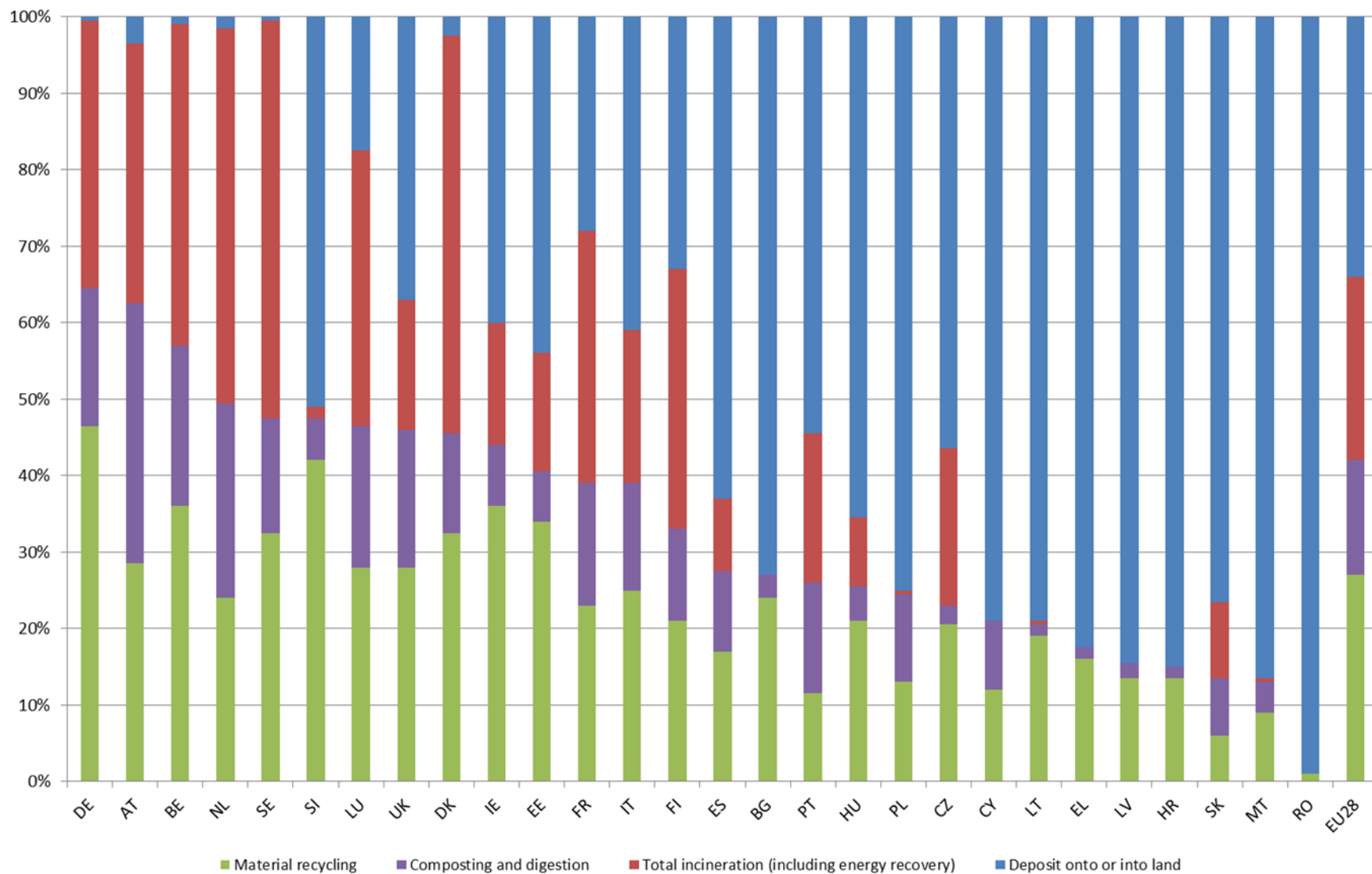
## **Coherence:**

- Repeal of the recovery target
- Repeal of maximum recycling limit

# New targets – packaging waste recycling



## Municipal Waste by treatment (%) 2012



## **Better implementation:**

- Early warning system
- Minimum requirements for EPR
- Supporting measures (compliance promotion)

1. Commission (with the support of EEA) – report 3 years ahead of deadlines, including identification of MS at risk of not meeting the targets + recommendations
2. If identified as at risk, compliance plan, including measures listed in Annex VIII (particular emphasis on proper use of economic instruments)
3. For the 2020 municipal waste recycling target, possibility to request a 3-year extension.



Beyond the legislative proposal, supporting initiatives:

- Compliance-promotion exercise 2014-2015 for municipal waste management - 2<sup>nd</sup> phase in pipeline
- Compliance-promotion exercise for hazardous waste
- Separate collection initiative
- C&D waste benchmark and guidelines
- Evaluation of WMP at national and regional levels
- Ex ante conditionality for EU structural funds

Definition of EPR and minimum requirements :

- Definition of **roles/responsibilities** of the actors and **dialogue**
- Definition of measurable **targets** in line with waste hierarchy and EU legal targets
- **Data** monitoring from product to waste management
- **Information, transparency, reporting**
- Principle of **full net cost** coverage + link fee with **true end-of-life cost** of specific products
- **Enforcement**, monitoring and system of sanctions



- Comparability and reliability of waste statistics:
  - *Only 1 definition of Municipal waste*  
(OECD-based, aligned with EUROSTAT's indicator)
  - Quality checks of waste statistics, including third-party verification.
- Clarification of how reuse/recycling rates have to be calculated (input into final process if impurities < 2%)
- National electronic registries for at least hazardous waste

## ➤ **New § 1a in Article 6:**

Waste prepared for re-use or recycled

= weight put into final preparing for re-use or recycling process (A)

MINUS:

weight of materials discarded in the course of that process (B)

UNLESS:

(B) is less than 2% of (A)

Then no corrections necessary

## Article 3 § 4:

Weight of recovered or recycled material

= input in effective recovery or recycling process (A)

If no 'significant losses' then output of sorting plant = (A)

## CORRECTIONS:

- In case natural humidity rate of waste are different from the natural humidity rate of comparable packaging (Article 5 § 1)
- In case the amount of non-packaging materials collected together with the packaging waste risks to lead to over- or underestimation of recycling / recovery rates (Article 5 § 2)

# Simplification and burden reduction



- Reporting obligations – no more implementation reports to be submitted by MS; only waste statistics annually collected by EUROSTAT
- Exemptions from permit and registration requirements for SMEs (non-hazardous waste)
- Lighter obligations for waste registries

# Benefits of the proposal



- **More jobs (around 180,000)**
- Less GHG emissions (- 443 million tons)
- Increased material availability (potential for re-use and recycling estimated at 600 million tons)
- Reduced marine litter (- 27,5% by 2030)

But high level of ambition:

- Better governance/political will needed
- Best practice dissemination
- Involvement of all stakeholders (municipalities, industry, citizens)



# Thank you for your attention

More information:

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/target\\_review.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/target_review.htm)