



# VALUE CIRCLE OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY

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**05.06.2024**

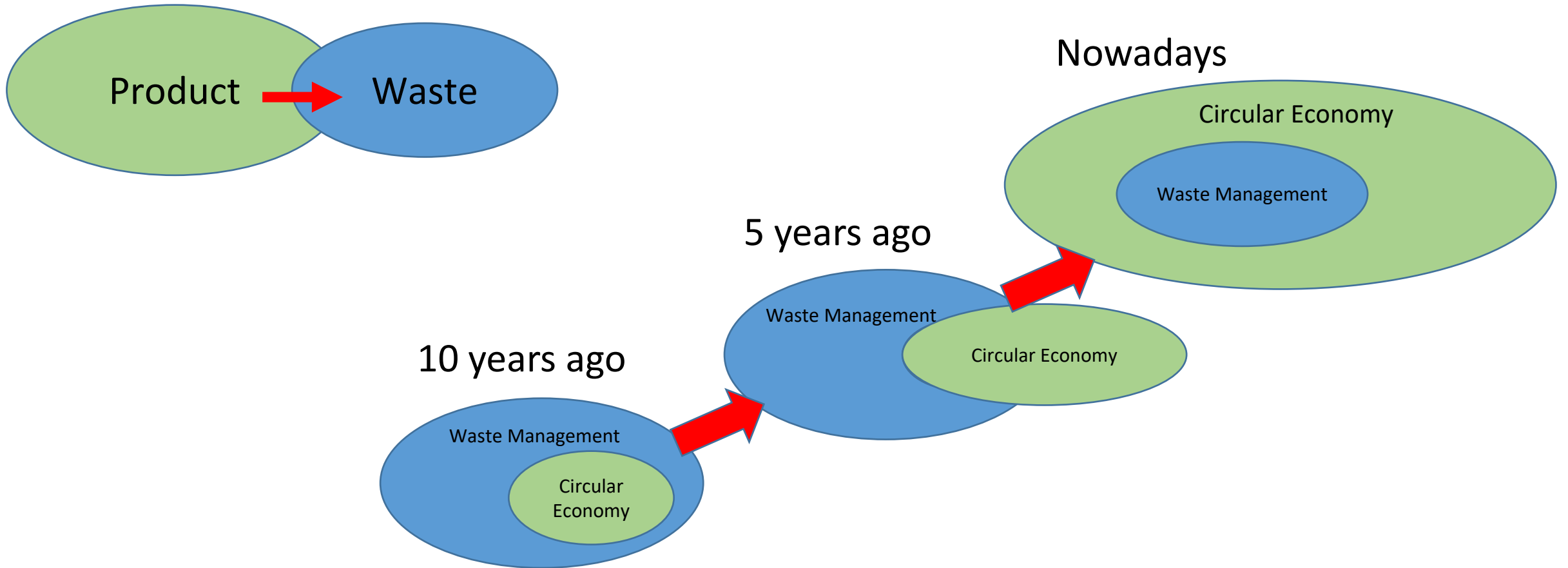
Chair of Waste Processing Technology and Waste Management,  
Montanuniversitaet Leoben, Austria



# Development of "waste" legislation as basic framework for sustainable raw material and energy management

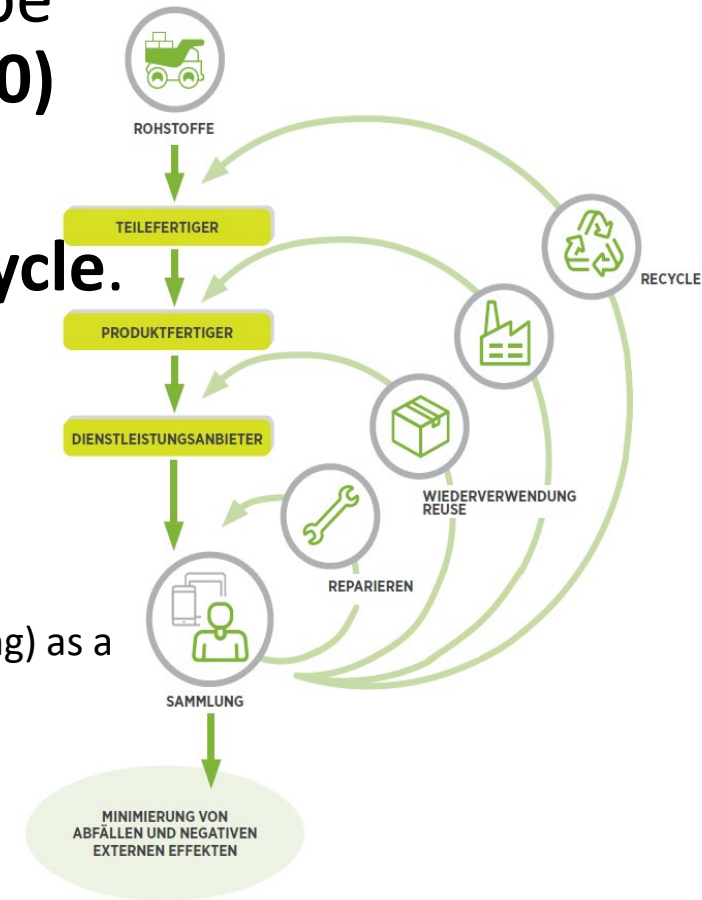
- **1973: The first Environmental Action Programme ...**
- **2015: The first Circular Economy Action plan was adopted...**
- **2016: Paris agreement set the global framework for climate protection**
- **2018: EU adopted **Plastics Strategy**. By 2030, all plastics packagings placed on the EU market should either be reusable or allow cost-efficient recycling.**  
Revision of **Landfill Directive** - municipal waste landfilled is limited to 10% by 2035.
- **2019: European Green Deal (EGD)**  
**SUP Directive (EU) 2019/904) set for the first time mandatory recycled content in products (!!!) => PET bottles 25% by 2025 etc.**
- **2020: 8<sup>th</sup> EAP, Taxonomy Regulation etc.**
- **2021: „Fit for 55“ Climate Package**
- **2024: Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD): i.a. environmental standards**

# Waste Management is a part of the Circular Economy

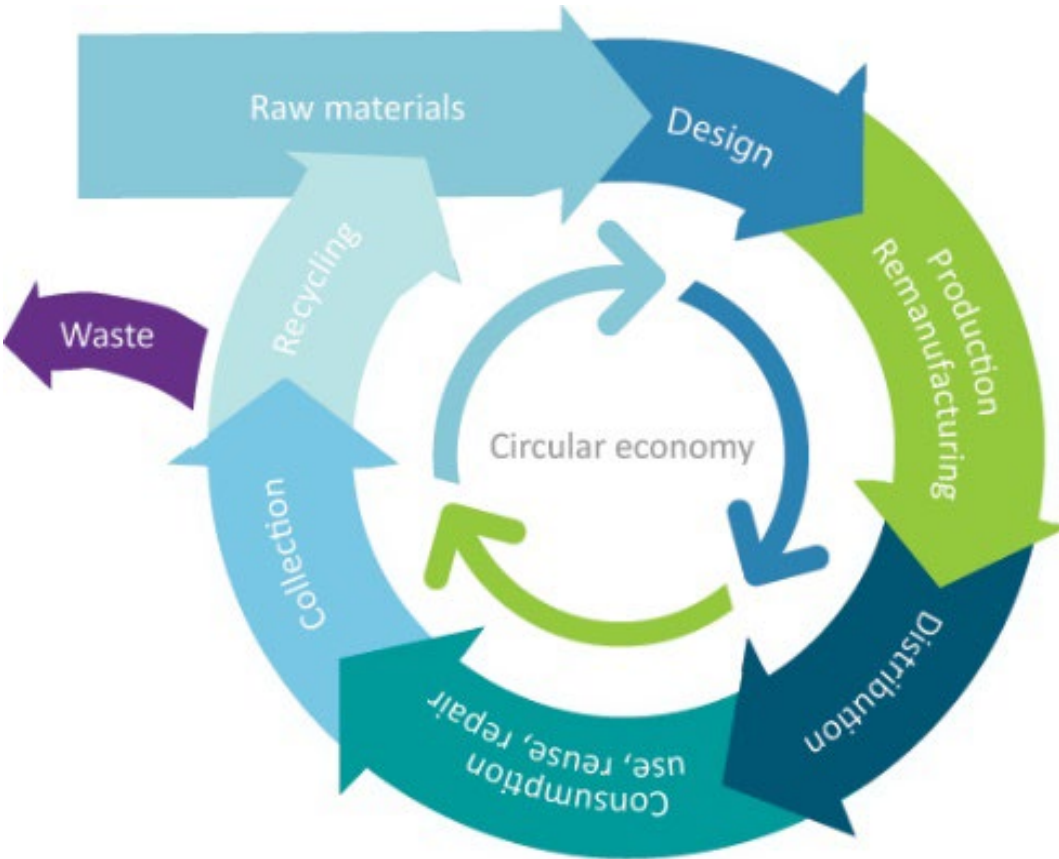


# Circular Economy

- The origins of the concept of the circular economy can be traced back to the **British economist David Pearce (1990) as an economic model.**
- Circular economy is understood as a **closed economic cycle.**
  - Environmentally friendly and efficient extraction of primary raw materials
  - Resource-saving use of raw materials in production
  - Long lifespan and intensive use of products
  - Possible forms of reuse and reparability
  - Material recycling of end-of-life (EoL) products
  - Energy recovery when material recycling is not feasible, as well as regulated disposal (landfilling) as a pollutant sink
- Holistic consideration of the product lifecycle



# Circular economy is "more than just a waste "



**Sustainable waste management**  
+ LCA  
+ eco design  
+ cascadic use  
+ more recycling  
+ substitution of primary raw material  
+ solving ecological problems by installing modern and highly efficient waste treatment plants  
+ ...

## Circular Economy

# Austria's Circular Economy Strategy 2022 & Vision

 Federal Ministry  
Republic of Austria  
Climate Action, Environment,  
Energy, Mobility,  
Innovation and Technology

*“The long-term goal of the Austrian federal government is to reform the Austrian economy and society into a comprehensive sustainable circular economy by 2050.”*

**Austria on the path to a  
sustainable and circular  
society**

The Austrian Circular Economy Strategy

# Austria's Circular Economy Strategy 2022



# GOALS of the Austria's Circular Economy Strategy 2022

- **GOAL 1. Reduction of domestic resource consumption**
  - Reduce domestic material consumption by 25% by 2030 (to 14 t/cap/a)
  - Achieve sustainable domestic material consumption of 7 t/cap/a by 2050 (80% reduction !)
- **GOAL 2. Increase the resource efficiency of the Austrian economy by 50% by 2030 vs. 2015**
- **GOAL 3. Increasing the circularity rate to 18 % by 2030**
  - CMU rate was 12 % in 2020
  - Reduction of the material use by around 20%
  - Increase of recycling by about 10%
- **GOAL 4. Reduction of the material consumption in private households by 10% by 2030**
  - Reduction of the resulting amounts of waste

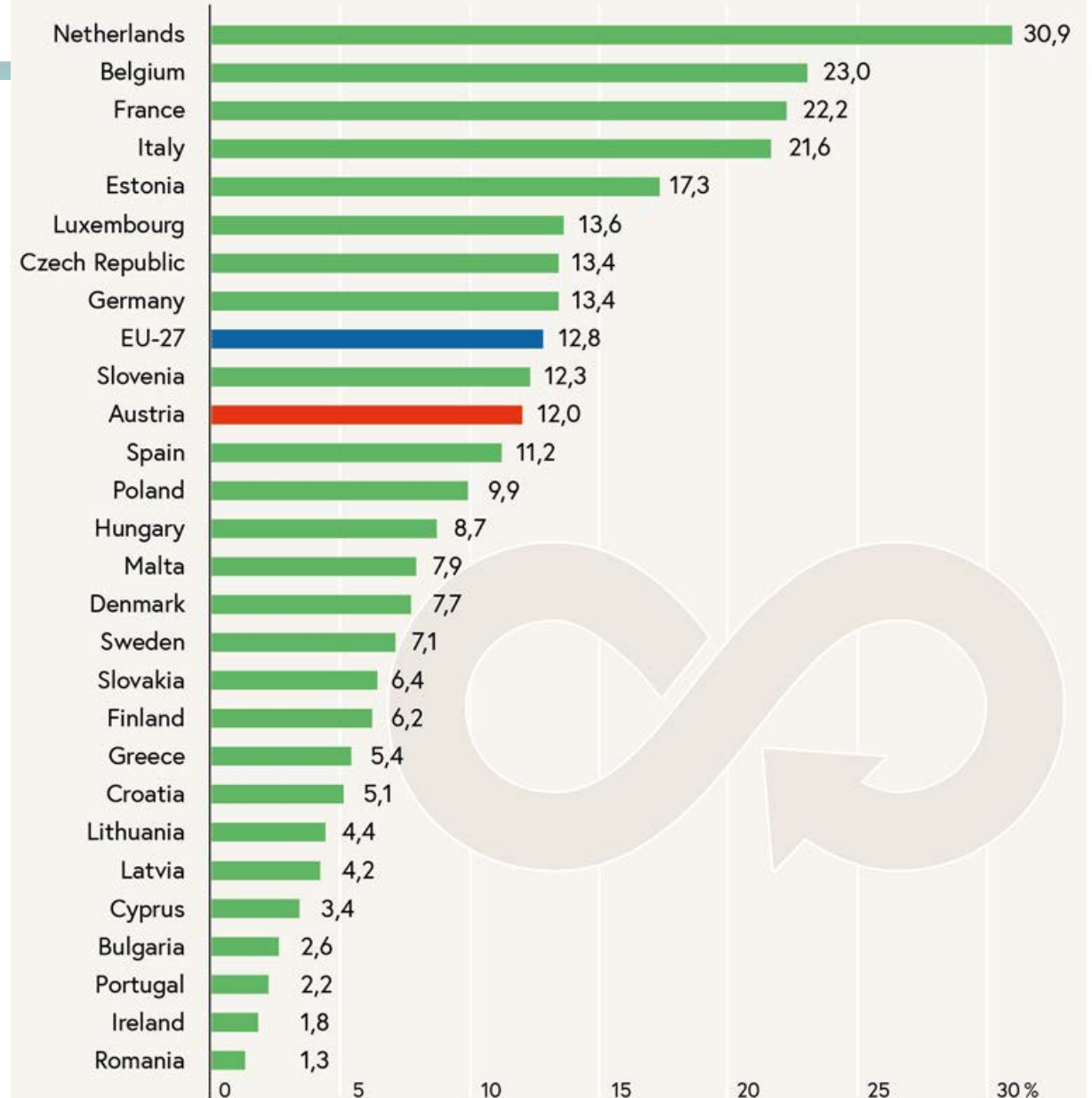


# CIRCULAR MATERIAL USE RATE

- **GOAL 3. Increasing the circularity rate to 18 % by 2030**
- **DE: 13,4%**
- **EU27: 12,8**
- **SI: 12,3%**
- **AT: 12,0 %**
  
- **HR: 5,1%**

## CMU – Circular Material Use Rate

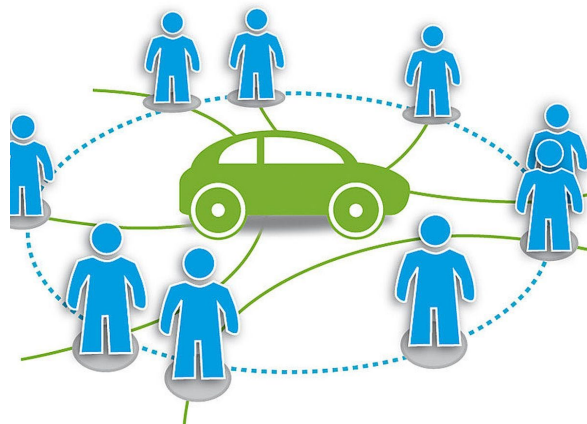
European comparison 2020, data in percent



Source: Eurostat, 4.12.2021

# The 10 principles of the Circular Economy

## ➤ Intelligent USE & PRODUCTION OF PRODUCTS and INFRASTRUCTURE



### Circular Economy



Intelligent use and production of products and infrastructure

#### 1. Refuse

**Make It superfluous.** Products become superfluous, the product use is rendered elsewhere

#### 2. Rethink

**New thinking and circular design.** Design new products and use more intensively, e.g. through sharing

#### 3. Reduce

**Reduce.** Increase efficiency in product production or use through less consumption of natural resources and materials

### ABFALL VERMEIDEN!

Was wir täglich tun können:



Mehrweg- statt Einwegflaschen



Mehrwegbecher statt Einweg-Coffee-to-go-Becher



Unverpacktes statt verpacktes Obst & Gemüse



Mitgebrachter Beutel statt Einweg-Tüte

# The 10 principles of the Circular Economy

## ➤ EXTENDED LIFE of PRODUCTS, COMPONENTS & INFRASTRUCTURE



Increasing circularity

Extended life of products, components and infrastructure

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 4. Reuse         | Reuse. Reuse functional products  |
| 5. Repair        | Repair. Maintaining products and continued use through repair   |
| 6. Refurbish     | Improve. Refurbish old products and bring up to the newest status   |
| 7. Remanufacture | Reprocessing. Using parts from defective products for new products that fulfil the same functions                 |
| 8. Repurpose     | Use for something different. Using parts from defective products for new products that fulfil different functions |

NEW

REMANUFACTURED

SAME WARRANTY

TOP QUALITY

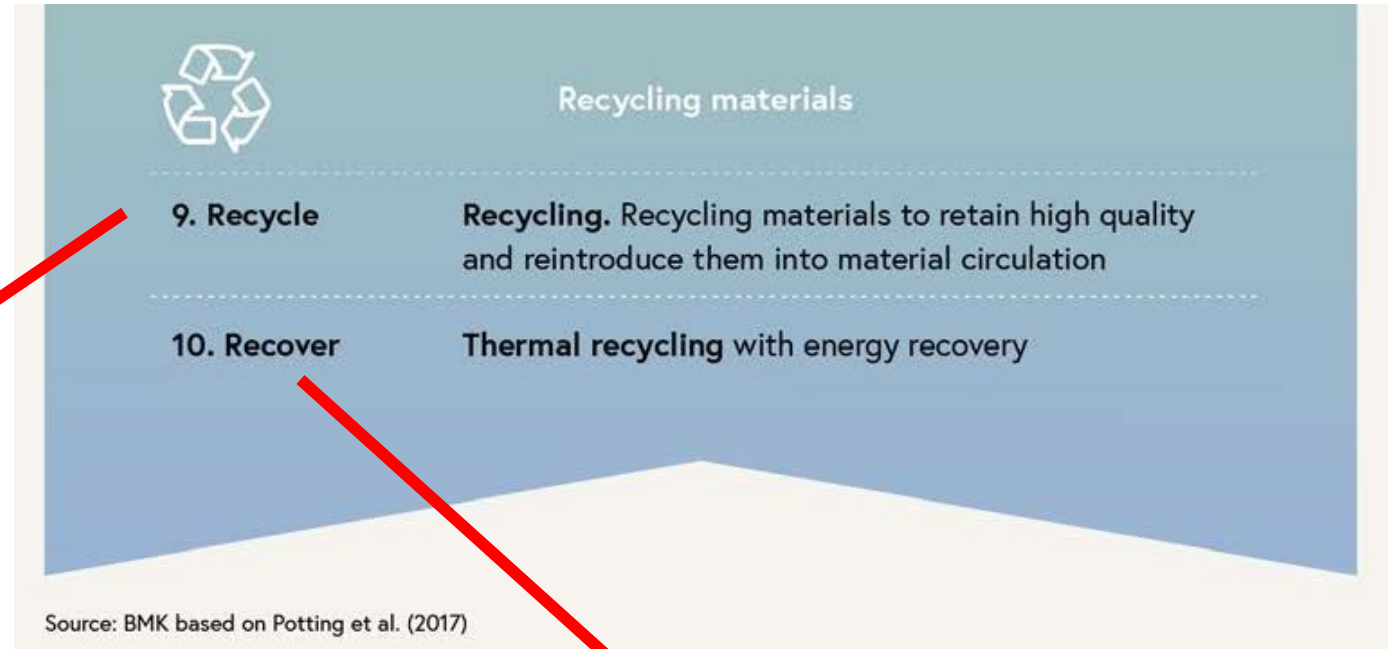
UP TO 50% CHEAPER

SHOP ONLINE



# The 10 principles of the Circular Economy

## ➤ RECYCLING MATERIALS & Thermal recycling with energy recovery



New WtE plant for pre-treated waste for high efficient energy production  
Norske Skog, Bruck/Mur, AT

# Recyclability

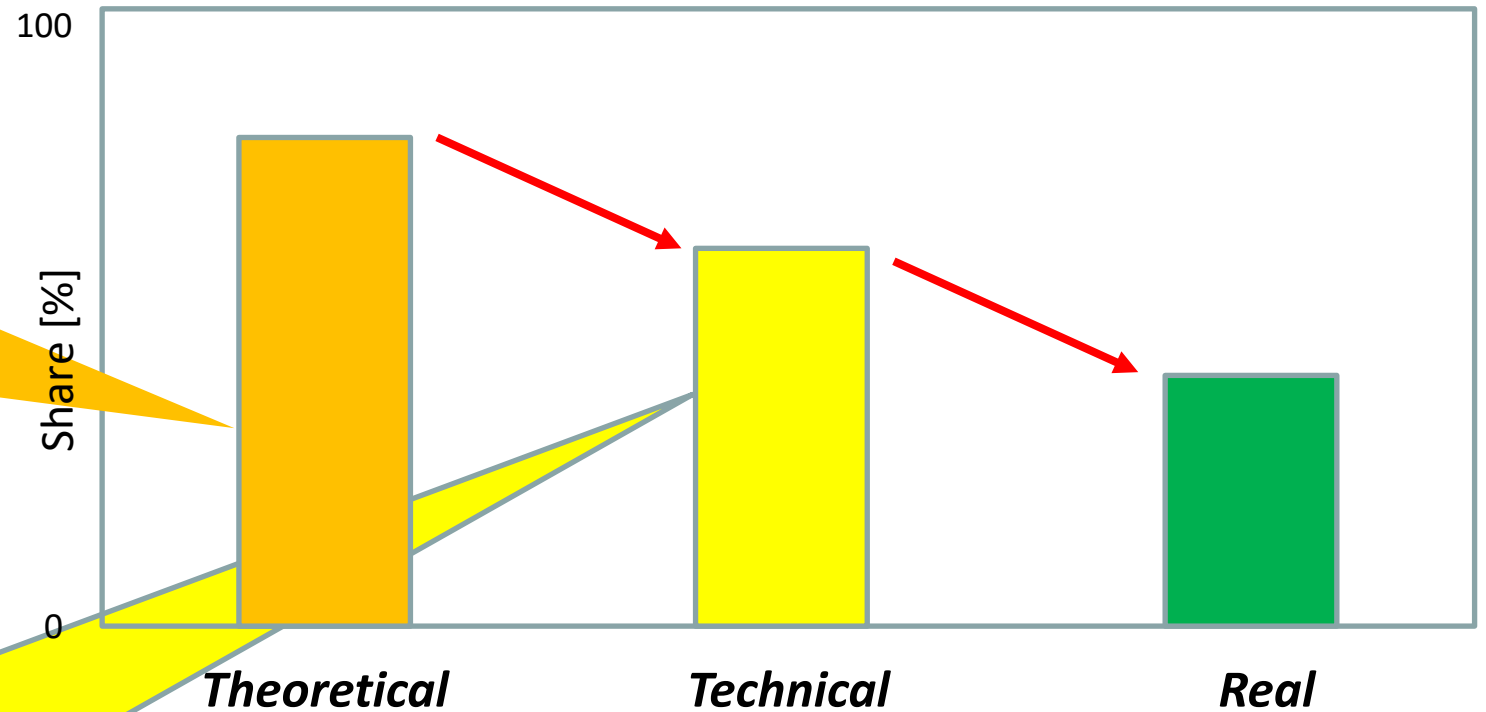
- “Is the ability of a product to be recycled after separate collection and/or waste processing.”
- Recyclability is a **key to more environmentally friendly products** and a **more circular economy**.
- Attention to **THEORETICAL, TECHNICAL AND REAL RECYCLABILITY !!!**
- **There are so many stupid products on the market that are not recyclable !**



# Efficiency model of Recyclability

Pomberger (2020):  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00506-020-00721-5>

Material related  
Original condition of the products without any dirt  
Without tests  
Regardless of the region



**Additionally:**  
Tested detectability  
Sortability test  
Can be sorted  
Recycling process available  
Based on tests  
Regardless of the region

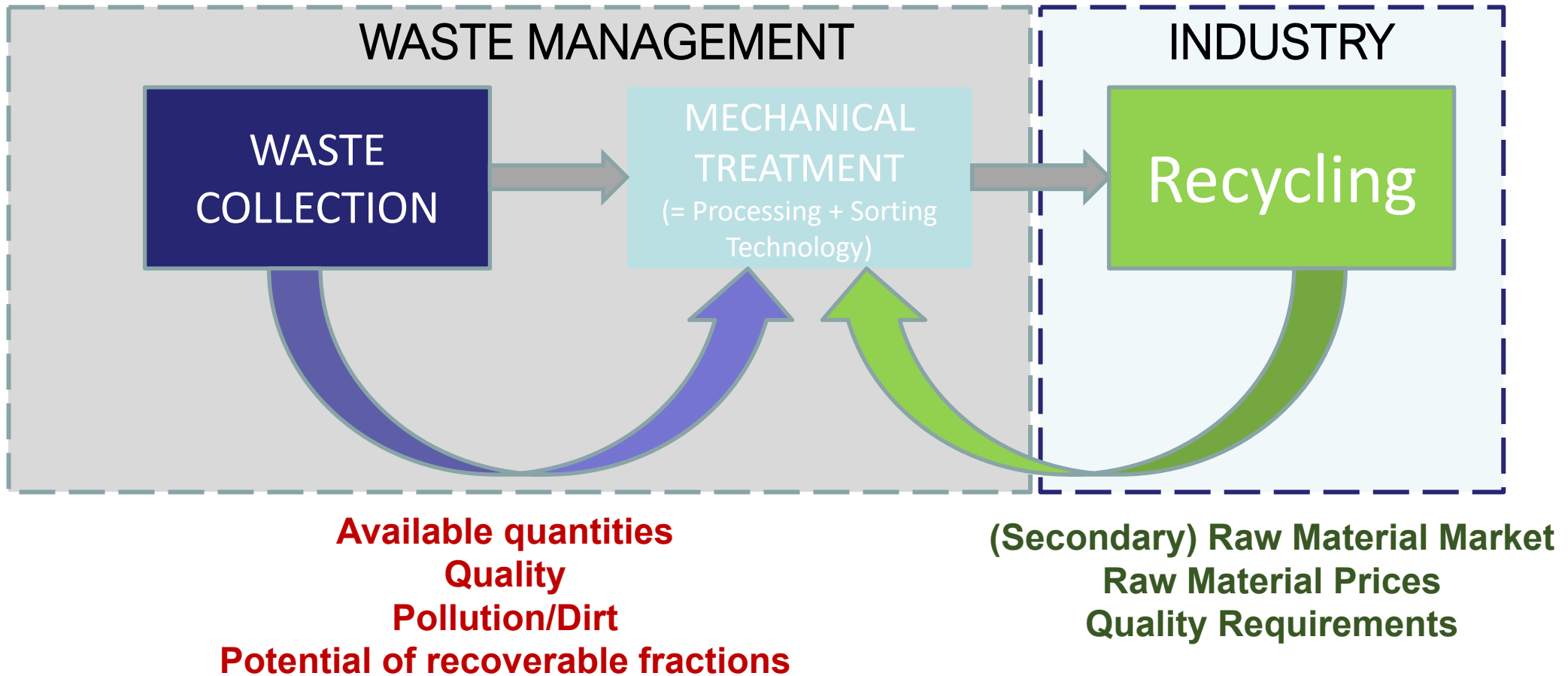
## RECYCLABILITY

**Additionally:**  
In certain region  
Really collected  
Really sorted  
Really marketed  
Really recovered as secondary raw material

# 4 Basic laws of (waste management) RECYCLING

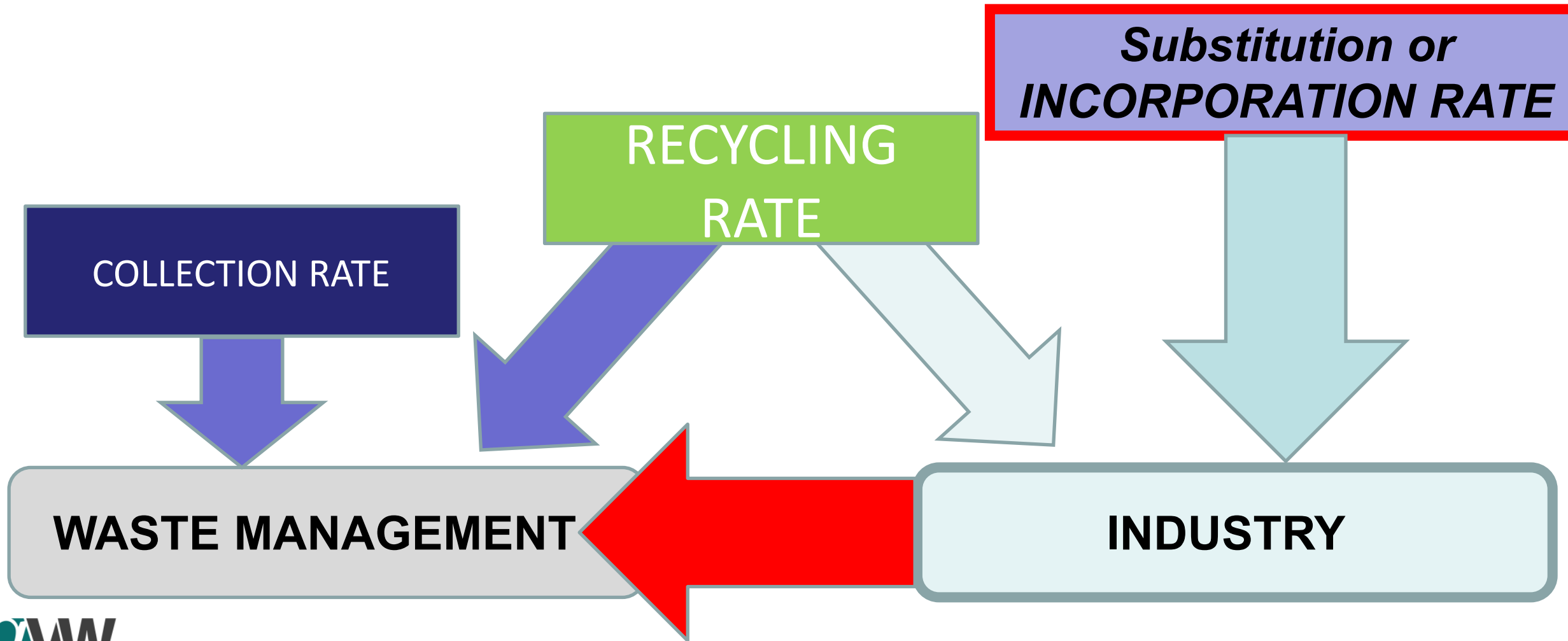
- **what is not in waste, can not be sorted**
- **what has not been collected, can not be sorted**
- **what is not detectable, can not be sorted & recycled**
- **if there is no market, then no one needs it**

# Processing and Sorting technology as a link between waste collection and Recycling





# Quotas in Waste Sector & Industry => DRIVERS for development & cooperation



Quality Requirements...

# *Circular Economy – “brought to the point”*

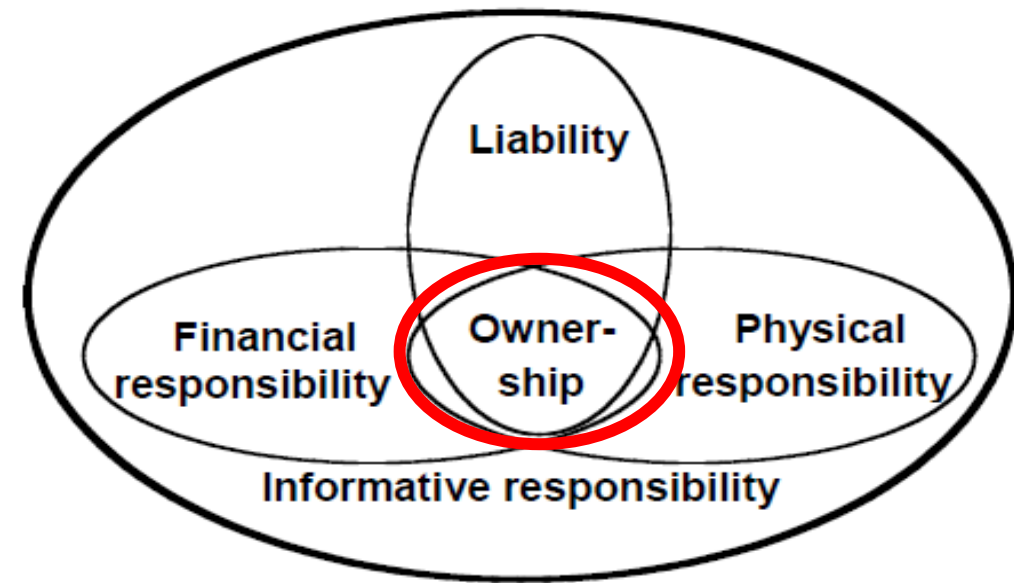
**As much (raw) material as possible  
as long as possible  
to keep in VALUE CIRCLE!**

**= as long as possible  
TO BE USED**



# EPR acc. to Lindhqvist 1990s

Thomas Lindhqvist, sometimes referred to as the father of EPR, has identified **five basic types of producer responsibility**:



- **Liability** - producer is responsible for **environmental damage** caused by the product in question
- **Economic responsibility** - producer **covers all or part of costs** for collection, recycling or final disposal of products he manufactures, and may charge a special fee
- **Physical responsibility** - manufacturer is involved in **physical management of the products** or of the effect of the products. This can range from merely developing the necessary technology, to managing the **total "take back"** system for collecting or disposing of products he has manufactured for which he may charge a fee
- **Ownership** - producers assume both physical and economic responsibility
- **Informative responsibility** - producer is responsible for providing information on the product or its effects at various stages of its life cycle

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY needs Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)



- Study elaborated for the European Commission:  
„Waste Management Costs to be Covered by the EPR Schemes“

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/08a892b7-9330-11ea-aac4-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

***...Producers should bear the operational costs of collecting and managing the material they place on the market so that this material can be recycled...***

Study to Support Preparation  
of the Commission's  
Guidance for Extended  
Producer Responsibility  
Schemes

Recommendations for Guidance

April 2020

eunomia

# PRAVILNIK O AMBALAŽI I OTPADNOJ AMBALAŽI, PLASTIČNIM PROIZVODIMA ZA JEDNOKRATNU UPORABU I RIBOLOVNOM ALATU KOJI SADRŽAVA PLASTIKU (11.2023.)

## SUSTAV PROŠIRENE ODGOVORNOSTI PROIZVOĐAČA KOJIM UPRAVLJA FOND

### Članak 25.

(1) Fond upravlja gospodarenjem otpadnom ambalažom koja je neopasni otpad i ako se ispuni uvjet iz članka 11. stavka 2. ovog Pravilnika i otpadnom ambalažom koja je sukladno ovom Pravilniku opasni otpad.

(2) Fond je dužan ispuniti ciljeve u svezi ambalaže i u tu svrhu raspolaže otpadnom ambalažom, uključujući i otpadnu ambalažu koja je sakupljena u reciklabilnom komunalnom otpadu, provodi poslove za koje sukladno članku 105. Zakona osigurava nadoknadu troškova, te upravlja i osigurava funkcioniranje i učinkovitost sustava gospodarenja otpadnom ambalažom.

Ref. Ares(2023)2428990 - 04/04/2023

 EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
EUROSTAT  
Directorate E: Sectoral and regional statistics  
Unit E-2: Environmental statistics and accounts; sustainable development

**Guidance for the compilation and reporting  
of data on packaging and packaging waste  
according to Decision 2005/270/EC**

(Note: The Commission Delegated Decision on average loss rates is currently being finalised, future versions of this guidance will contain further details on the published legal act.)

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Version of 30 March 2023

# GUIDANCE of the EC: CALCULATION POINT: PLASTICS

➤ 50 % (2025) & 55% (2030)

Ref: Ares(2023)241000 - 04/04/2023

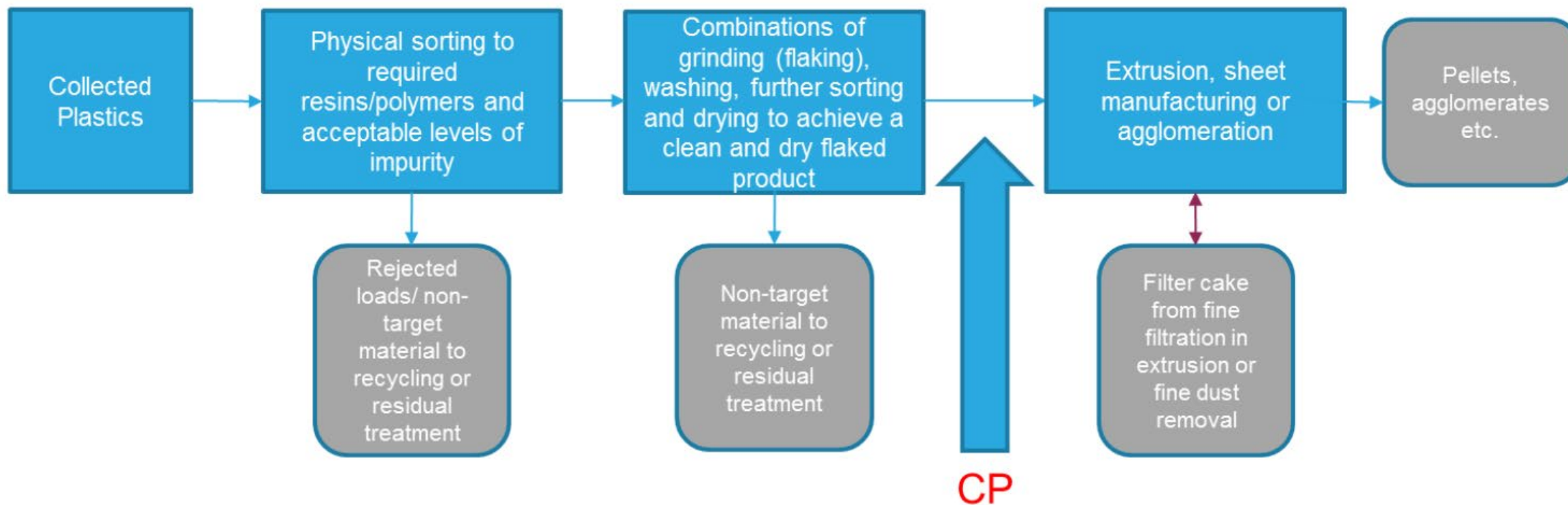
EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
EUROSTAT  
Directorate E: Sectoral and regional statistics  
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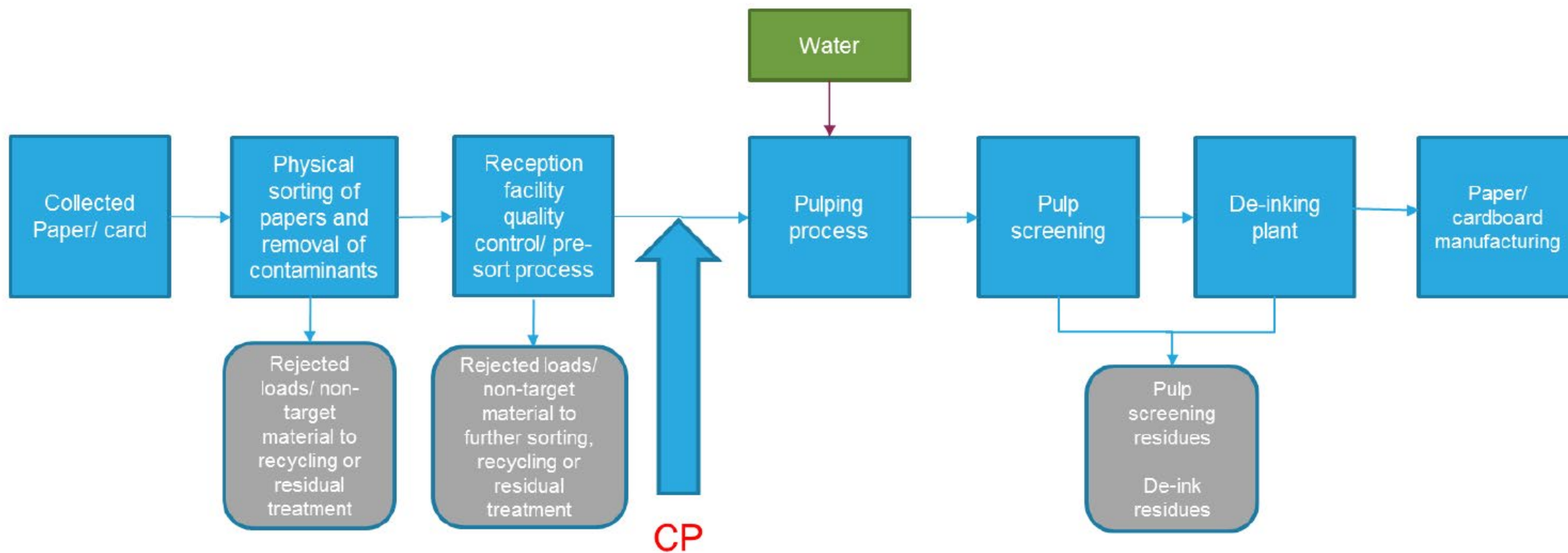
Figure A 1: Plastics calculation point



# GUIDANCE of the EC: CALCULATION POINT: PAPER & C.

➤ 75 % (2025) & 85% (2030)

Figure A 2: Paper / cardboard calculation point



Ref: Ares(2023)041000 - 04/04/2023

EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
EUROSTAT  
Directorate E: Sectoral and regional statistics  
Unit E.C.: Environmental statistics and accounts: sustainable development

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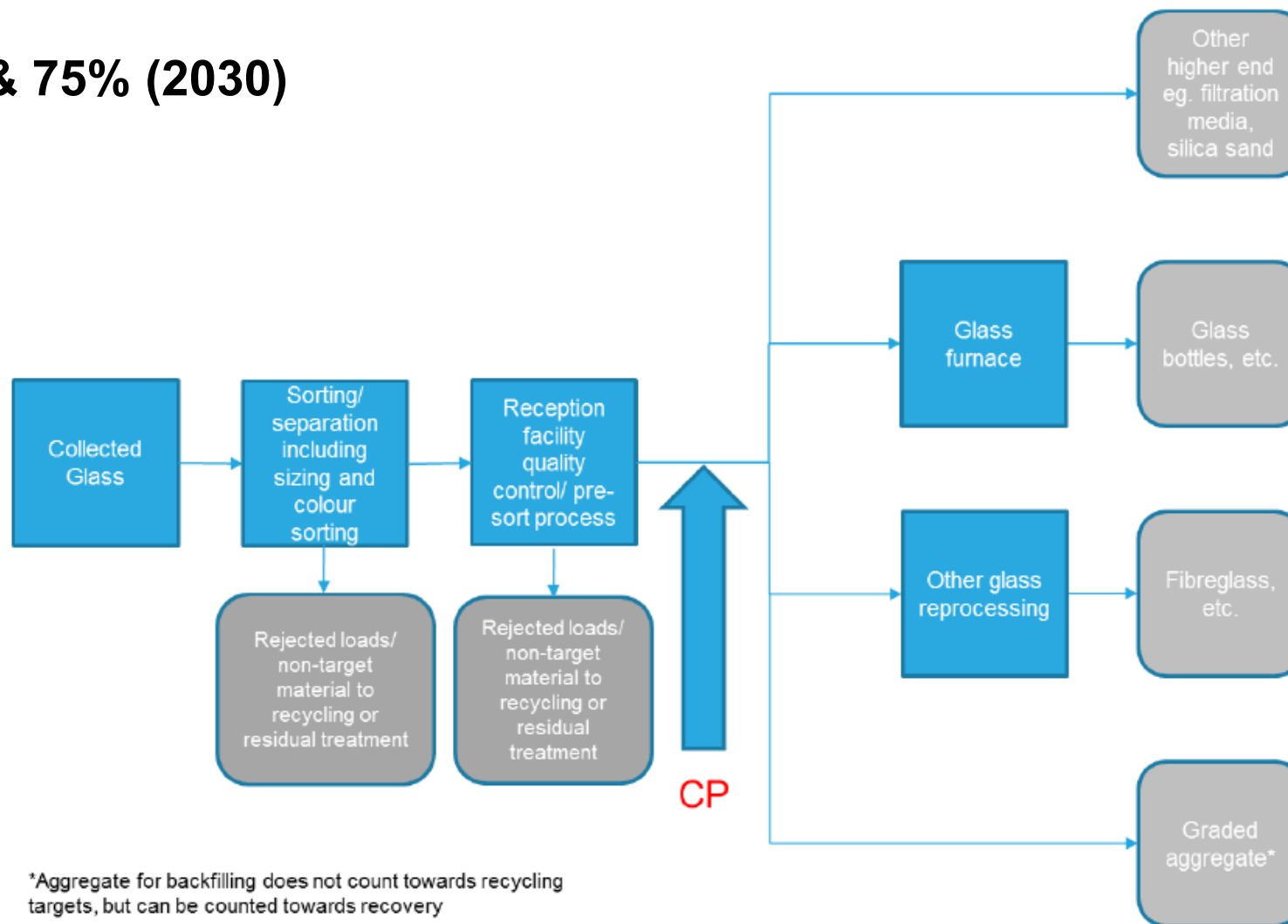
(Note: The Commission Delegated Decision on average loss rates is currently being finalised, future versions of this guidance will contain further details on the published legal act.)

Version of 30 March 2023

# GUIDANCE of the EC: CALCULATION POINT: GLASS

Figure A 3: Glass packaging calculation point

➤ 70 % (2025) & 75% (2030)



\*Aggregate for backfilling does not count towards recycling targets, but can be counted towards recovery

Ref: Ares(2023)041000 - 04/04/2023


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Version of 30 March 2023



# GUIDANCE of the EC: CALCULATION POINT: Fe & Al

Figure A 4: Steel calculation point

➤ **70 % (2025) & 80% (2030)**

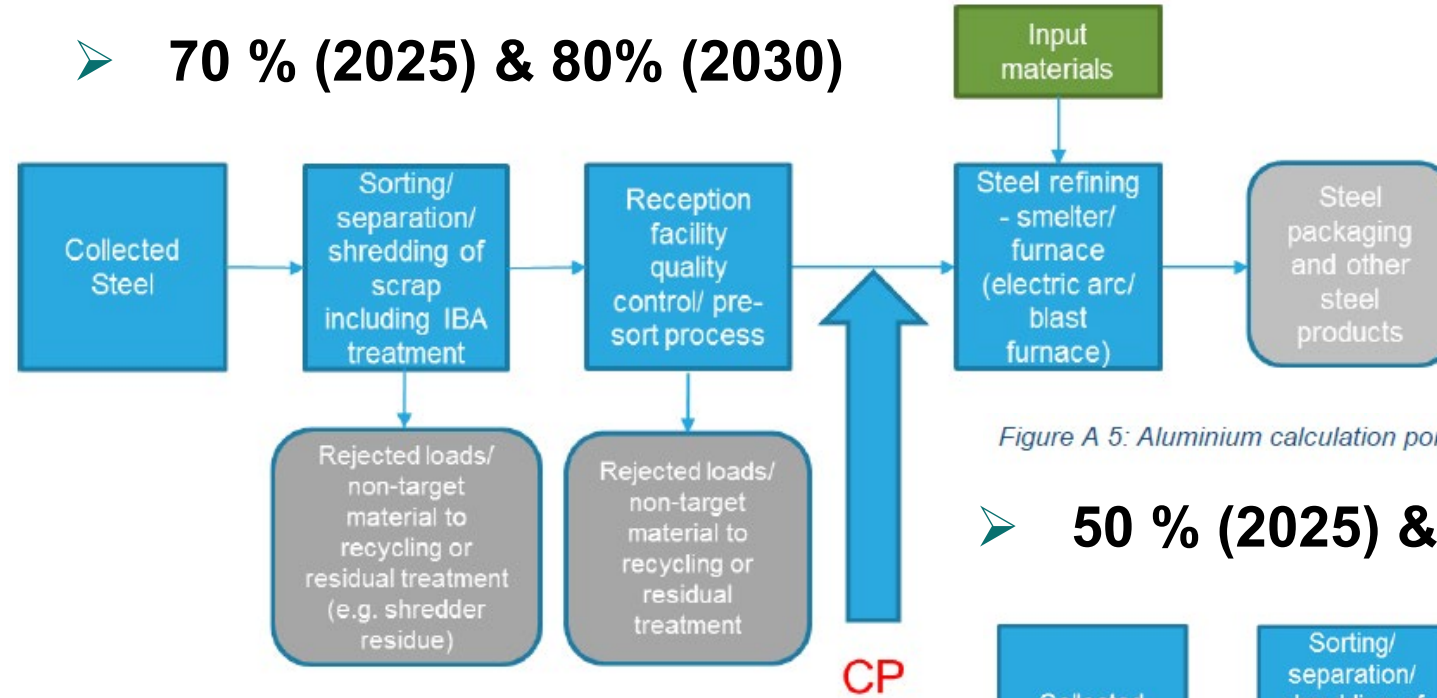
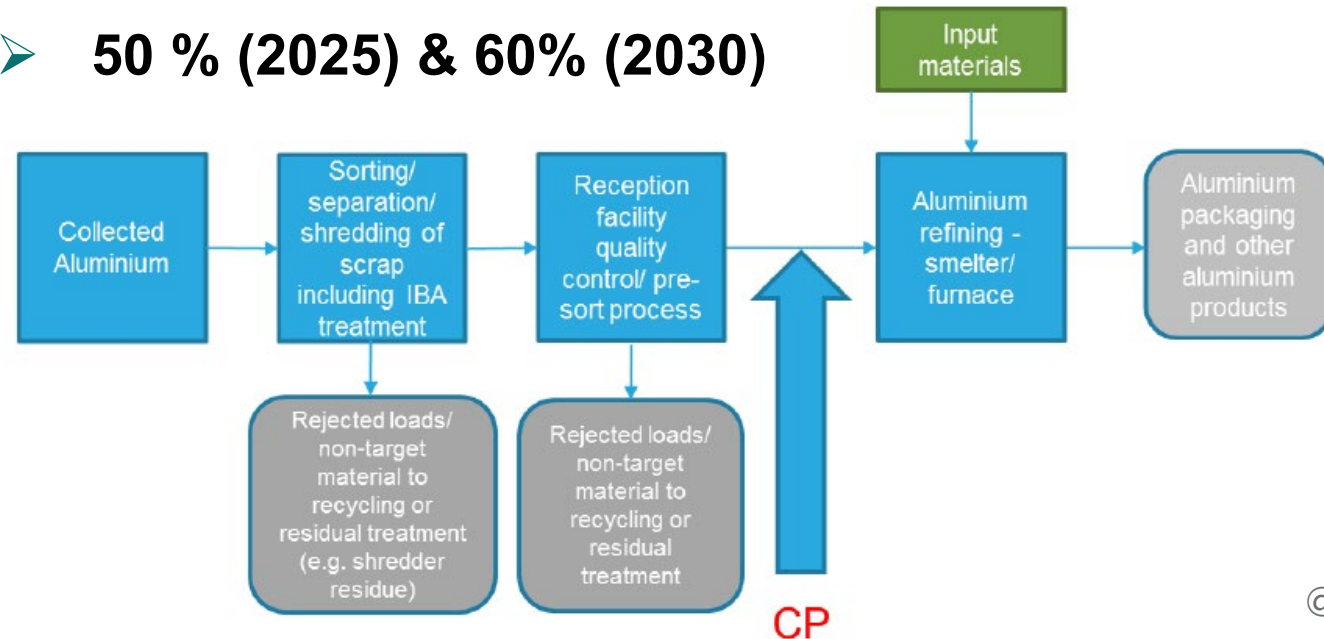


Figure A 5: Aluminium calculation point

➤ **50 % (2025) & 60% (2030)**



# 3 important contributions of WM to the CE & Climate protection

## LANDFILL BAN

+ reduction of GHG emissions  
+ diversion of resources in  
waste treatment plants



Foto: Vjeran Zganec Rogulja/PIXSELL

<https://www.vecernji.hr/vijesti/iznad-cakovca-gusti-crni-dim-gori-odlagaliste-otpada-u-totovcu-1321696>

## TRANSFORMATION OF WASTE TO SECONDARY RESSOURCES

Waste Management ensures raw materials for local and sustainable production

## MORE QUALITY RECYCLING

Substitution of primary by secondary materials  
=> results in saving of energy and GHG-emissions

## ENERGY RECOVERY

substitutes primary fossil fuels

- RDF/SRF in cement industry and high-efficient WtE
- Waste in Incineration plants with efficient CHP production

+ biogenic C-content is GHG-neutral

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***Circular Economy requires intensive COOPERATION***

***of all stakeholders along the value chain of  
every single product that will become waste***

***(it is just a question of time) !***

# Thank You & Hvala !

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Partial funding for this work was provided by the Center of Competence for Recycling and Recovery of Waste 4.0 (acronym ReWaste4.0, 2017–2021, contract number 860 884) and the Center of Competence for Recycling and Recovery of Waste for Future (acronym ReWaste F, 2021–2025, contract number 882 512) under the scope of the COMET – Competence Centers for Excellent Technologies – financially supported by BMK, BMDW and the federal state of Styria, managed by the FFG.



**TEHNOEKO**

11. MEĐUNARODNA KONFERENCIJA OZAŠTITI OKOLIŠA



5. - 7. lipnja 2024., POREČ