

**TOGETHER WE  
MAKE TOMORROW  
MORE BEAUTIFUL**



# Reaching 70% of material recycling: the case of Flanders

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## Our policy

Sustainable management of waste and materials, soil remediation and the prevention of soil pollution.

- to protect the public health and the environment from the harmful impact of waste;
- to prevent raw materials becoming waste materials;
- to regulate waste management policy in accordance with the *waste hierarchy*.

# Content

## ❑ The Waste Framework Directive

- ✓ Implementation in the Flemish region
- ✓ Specific objectives



## ❑ Separate collection and recycling in Flanders

- ✓ General principle

## ❑ Challenges for the future



# The Waste Framework Directive

- ❑ Implementation in Flanders:
  - ❑ From 'Waste Decree' to 'Materials Decree'
  - ❑ No longer focus on end-of-pipe solutions
  - ❑ Sustainable Materials Management:
    - aims at the efficient and environmentally responsible use of materials, independent of whether they are raw materials, products or waste
    - life cycle approach

# The Waste Framework Directive

- ❑ Some specific objectives in the WFD
  - ❑ Waste hierarchy
  - ❑ 2015: separate collection: paper, metals, plastics, glas, ...
  - ❑ 2020: preparation for reuse and recycling of at least paper, plastics and glas = 50 % (weight-based)
  - ❑ ...

## Household waste management in Flanders

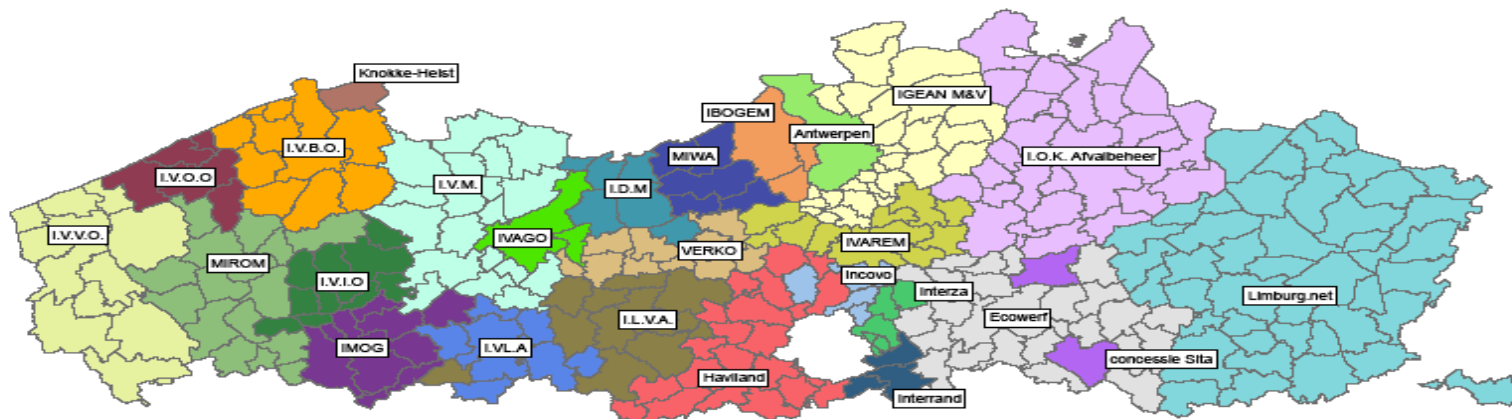
Household waste = from the households!

In some municipalities also the waste of small companies is included.

Household waste = selective and non selective collected waste.



# Household waste management in Flanders: intermunicipal associations



## Household waste management in Flanders: the beginning

1986-1990: 1<sup>st</sup> waste implementation plan

- Introducing levies on landfill and incineration.
- Introducing and **subsidizing selective collection** on voluntary base (amenity sites (containerparks), only non-organic fractions (dry waste)).

## Household waste management in Flanders: scaling up

- 1991 - 1996: 2nd waste implementation plan.
- Introducing waste prevention.
- Installing **overall selective collection**: organic waste or dry waste.
- Producers responsibility, voluntary covenant between Flemish region and municipalities, introducing PAYT.
- 1997 - 2002: 1st household waste impl. plan.
- **Obligatory selective collection.**
- Landfill and incineration prohibitions.

## Household waste management in Flanders: reaching the optimum

2003-2007: 2nd household waste impl. plan:  
**introducing concrete objectives!!!**

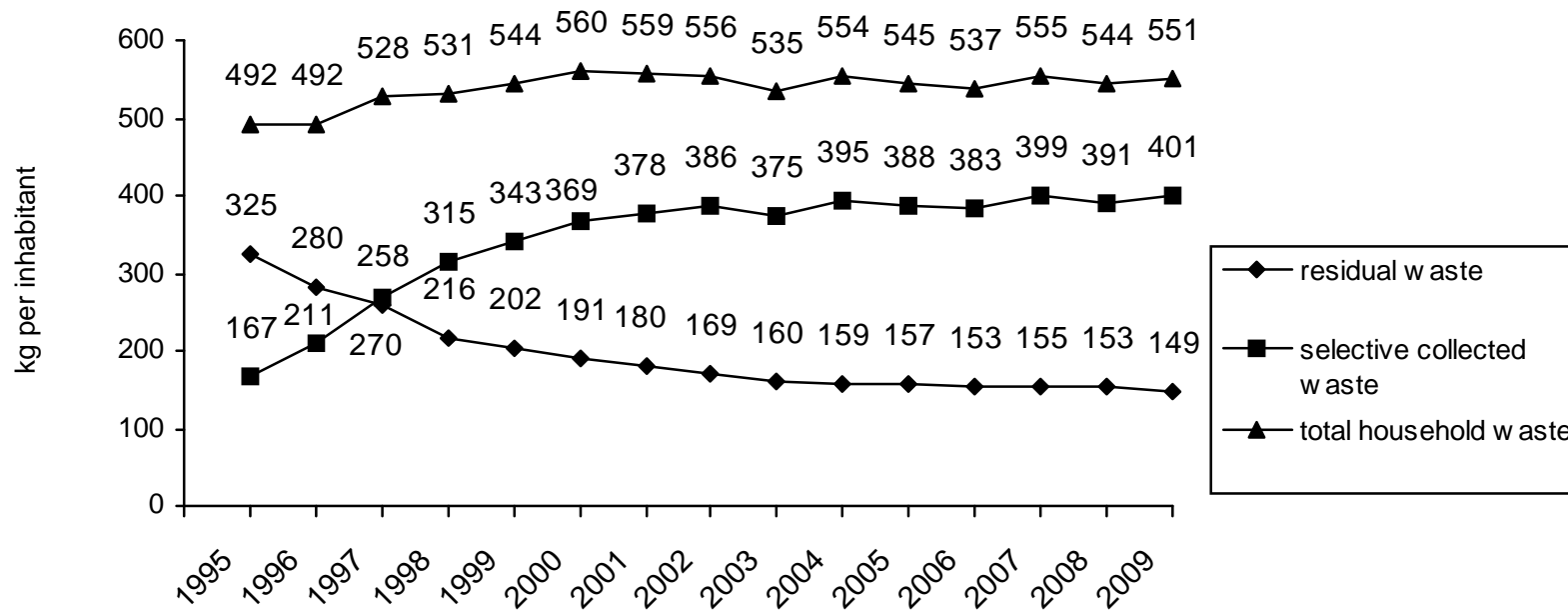
- 13% prevention in 2007 compared with 2000.
- **70% selective collection and recycling.**
- Max. 150kg/inhabitant residual waste on Flemish level in 2007.
- Max. 200kg/inhabitant residual waste on municipality level.
- 01.01.2006: absolute prohibition of landfill of household waste.

## Household waste management in Flanders: going further than waste

2008-2015: 3rd household waste impl. plan:  
introducing C2C

- 2% prevention/year, decoupling growth of waste with economic growth.
- **75% selective collection and 70% recycling.**
- Max. 150kg/inhabitant residual waste on Flemish level/year.
- Max. 180kg/inhabitant residual waste on municipality level from 2010.
- 2015: no more landfilling of combustible waste.

# Household waste management in Flanders: facts and figures



- 203 municipalities have less residual waste than 150kg/inhabitant in 2009.
- 72.9% selective collection in 2009.

## Mix of instruments to reach objectives

1. Sensitising and communication.
2. **Organising an obligatory, optimal, uniform(\*) selective collection.**
3. Subsidizing and financial support of reuse organizations and municipalities.
4. **stimulating intermunicipal co-operation.**

(\*) specific collection systems in extremely rural area or city centre.

## Mix of financial instruments to reach objectives

5. Applying the principle the polluter pays (PAYT).
6. Implementing the producer's responsibility.
7. Installing environmental levies on landfill and incineration at flemish level.
8. Implementing landfill and incineration prohibitions.

**This mix of instruments is the key to success!**



## Obligatory optimal uniform selective collection

- Door-to-door: residual waste, bulky waste, organic waste, paper and cardboard, PMC-packaging waste.
- Bottle banks, textile containers: 1/1000 inhabitants or door-to-door collection.
- Containerpark: 20 - 40 different types of waste collected on one site (civic amenity site).
- City centre, rural municipalities, tourist/coast areas: intensified kerbside collection, underground collection sites and/or more small amenity sites.



# Selective collection of glass



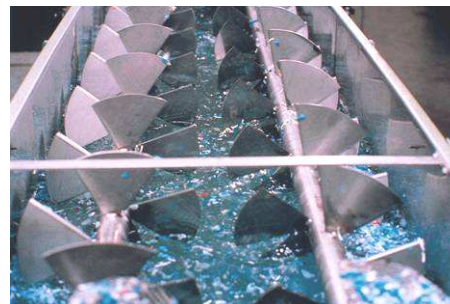
# Selective collection of paper and cardboard





# Selective collection of PMC

(plastic bottles and flaks, Metals packaging, Beverage cardboard)



## Obligatory optimal uniform selective collection

- **Separating at source** instead of afterwards provides the purest materials.
- Every municipality has the same collection system = clear for the population.
- Collect good quality, use simple communication messages ( few impurities  $\Rightarrow$  good prices on recycling market) --> Flemish waste still wanted on the recycling market!

## Obligatory optimal uniform selective collection

- Introduce obligatory bag or bin for residual waste and maximum amounts/collection. Introduce taxes for bag or bin related to the amount of waste.
- Use the same tariffs in neighbouring municipalities: no waste tourists!!!
- Deal with illegal behaviour (illegal dumping, burning at home) and litter.
- Give information about prevention to the population: no waste = no cost!

## Key success of selective collection: civic amenity sites (containerparks)

- 340 containerparks in the flemish region.
- 50% of household waste is collected at containerparks.
- A standard containerpark costs €140.000/year.
  - infrastructure (5 000m<sup>2</sup>) (\*)
  - staffing (2.62FTE) (\*)
  - goods and services (\*)
  - fully equipped with: containers (\*), PAYT-systems, ...  
€250.000/year
  - (\*) in case of producers responsibility, they have to pay the full cost for using the containerparks as collection point!



## 340 containerparks in 2010



## Key success selective collection: intermunicipal co-operation

- Decree on intermunicipal co-operation (2001).
  - Intermunicipal associations receives all the competences on waste collection and/or waste treatment.
- ⇒ Larger scale = logistic and financial profit for communication, collection, investments in treatment plants!

## Total cost of household waste management

- € 225 per household (2.4 persons) in 2010
  - € 36 paid through the producers responsibility
  - € 189 paid at municipality
    - ▶ 1/3 taxes related to the amount of waste (variable cost)
    - ▶ 1/3 fixed household waste tax/household (fixed cost), max. €55-60
    - ▶ 1/3 general taxes related to household income
  
- The polluter pays!

## Key success: principle the polluter pays: municipal taxation of residual waste since 1998

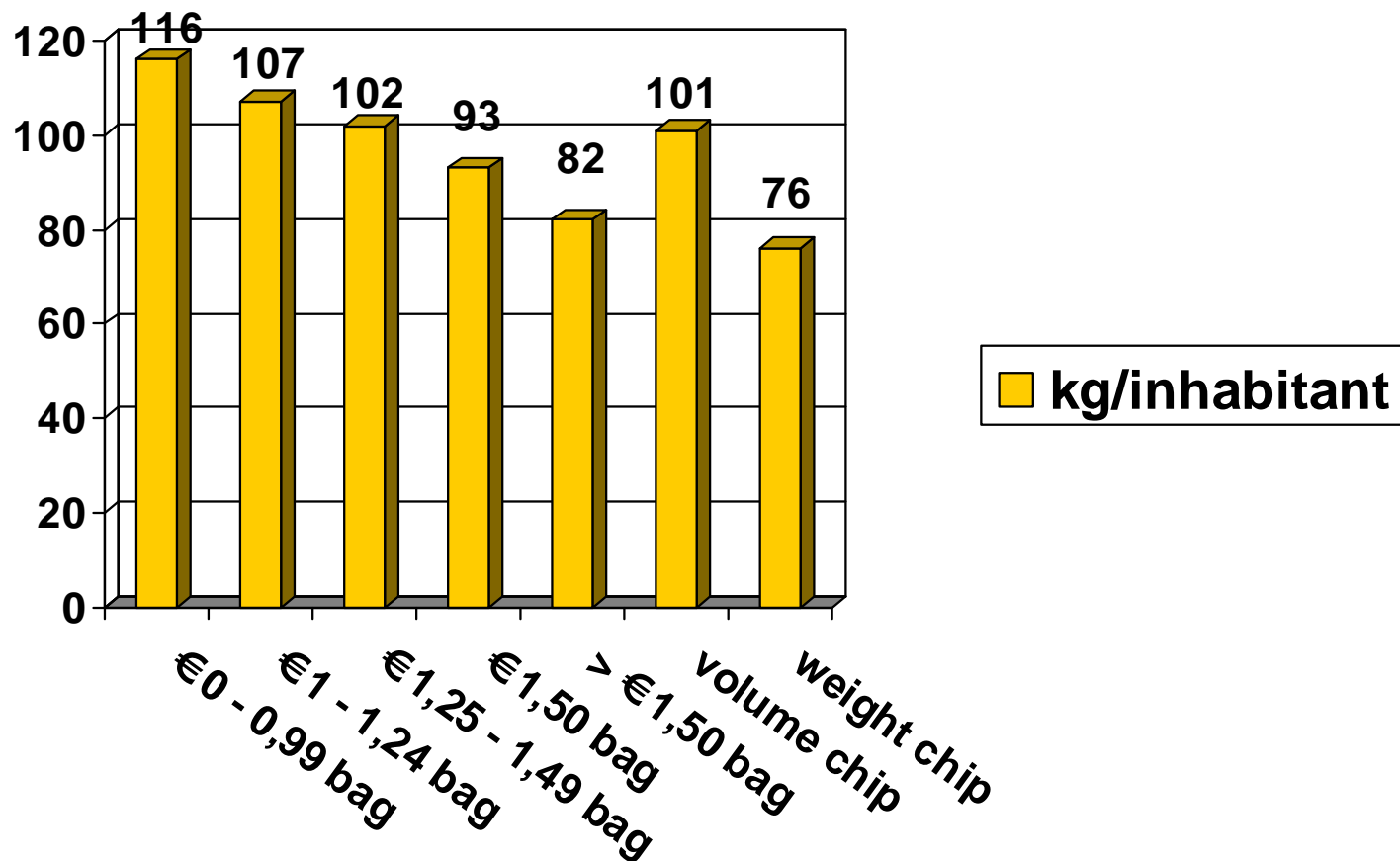
### ■ waste bag (60l.)

Year	1998	2000	2003	2005	2007	2010
Euro	0.60	0.66	1.14	1.22	1.25	1.40

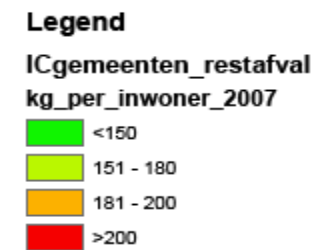
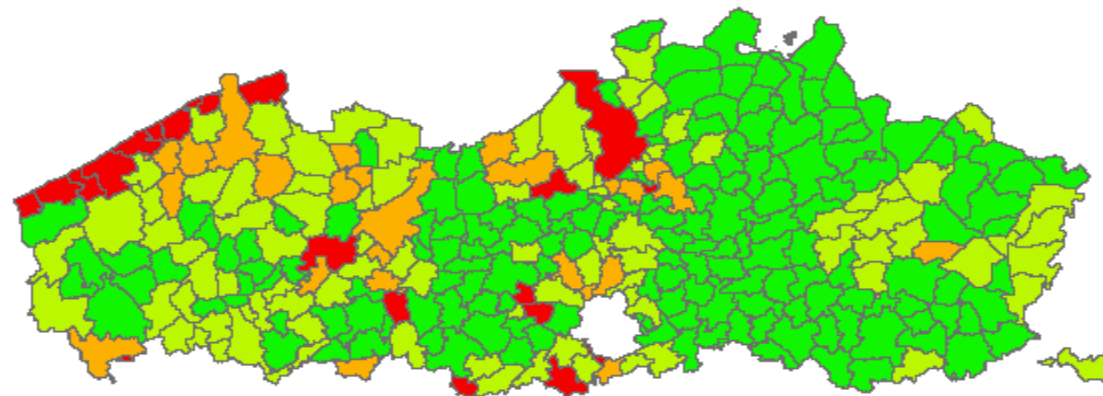
### ■ waste bin/container (120l.) 2010

- taxation per volume €2.5 - 3.76
- taxation per weight €0.15 - 0.2/kg
- taxation per offer €0.25 - 1
- combination weight - offer or volume - offer

## Results residual waste (bag or bin) in 2005 via Diftar (PAYT)



## Results municipal solid waste in 2007 per municipality (kg/inh.)





## Information

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