

Waste Management – The Role of the Public Sector

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**Vanya Veras
Secretary General
Municipal Waste Europe**

Municipal Waste Europe is a non-profit association which represents European municipalities and their waste management companies, in their responsibility to ensure the management of municipal waste.

Throughout Europe, municipalities are **responsible** for the recovery of material resources from European households.

**MWE members:
national public waste
associations**

**EU Municipalities
and their public waste
management
companies**

17 Members

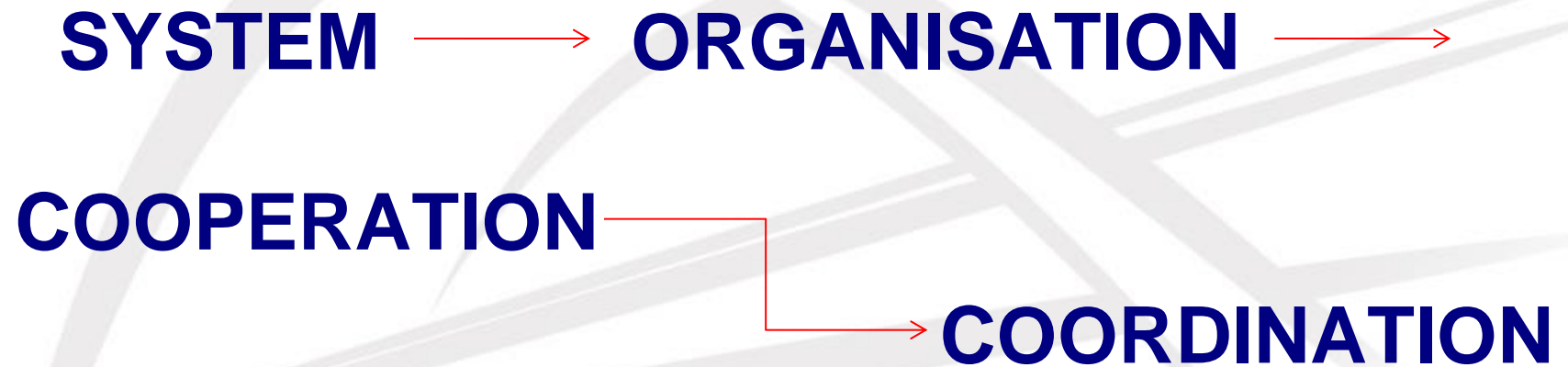
15 Member States

**Serving 60% - 100%
of the national
population**



Municipal Waste Management

- Dispersed Value
- Need:



Confusing Definitions in EU Law

- Existing Waste Framework Directive – no definition of Municipal Waste
- Daughter Directives – some have definition of Municipal Waste but different
- Some Member States define as: household waste and similar waste from other sources
- Some define only as household waste
- First **PROBLEM** in comparing statistics at EU level

WASTE REVIEW

First Task

CLARIFICATION

Second Task

SIMPLIFICATION

WASTE REVIEW

- **ONE DEFINITION** of Municipal Waste in the Waste Framework Directive
- Commission agreed that **only** the WFD should have **all definitions** and Daughter Directives should refer to WFD
- Includes definition of re-use, recycling...
- Tidying up to fill in the gaps and hopefully leave no loop-holes

WASTE REVIEW

CALCULATION METHOD FOR RECYCLING:

- Now 4 different methods
 - EU statistics not comparable
 - EU statistics not reliable
- **Revision:**
- **ONE** calculation method
 - Measuring weight of recyclables minus residues AFTER SORTING
 - If only 2% residues, can include in total

WASTE REVIEW

- **Recycling Targets in WFD:**
 - Minimum 50% by 1 January 2020
 - And 70% by 1 January 2030
- At the same time, increased overall recycling rate for packaging waste:
 - 80% by 2030
 - interim targets of 60% by 2020 and 70% by 2025

PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY

- Producer Responsibility and the relevant compliance schemes play a key role in the achievement of recycling targets
- For these to achieve their full potential, the Commission proposes to set minimum requirements for producer responsibility schemes at EU level
- To help cut costs and eliminate barriers faced by producers having to respect several national schemes in the EU and provide transparency.

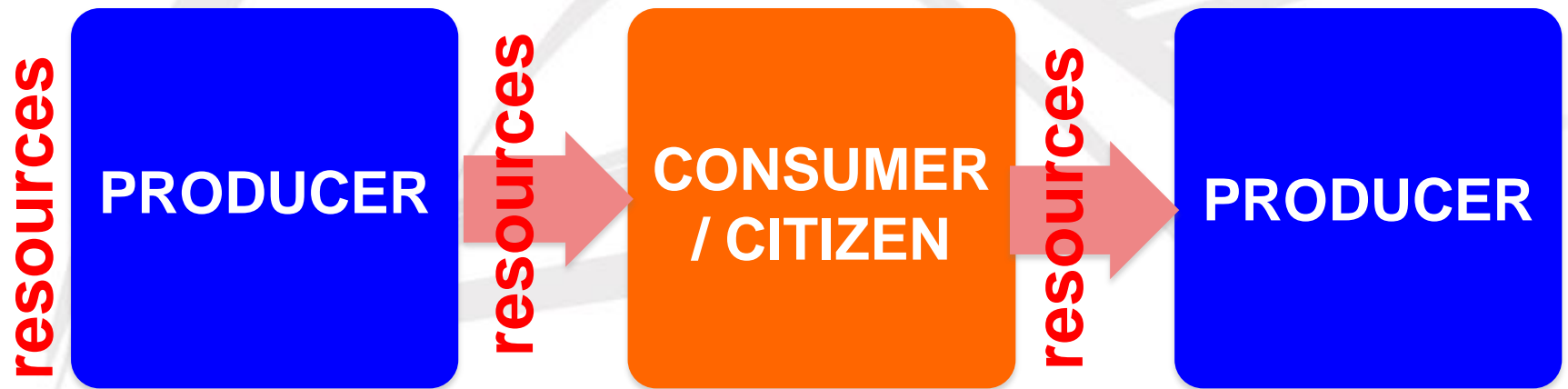
WASTE REVIEW

- **Ban on landfilling of:**
 - recyclable plastics, metals, glass, paper and cardboard and biodegradable waste **by 2025**
 - requires Member States to virtually eliminate landfilling **by 2030**

The Role of the Public Sector

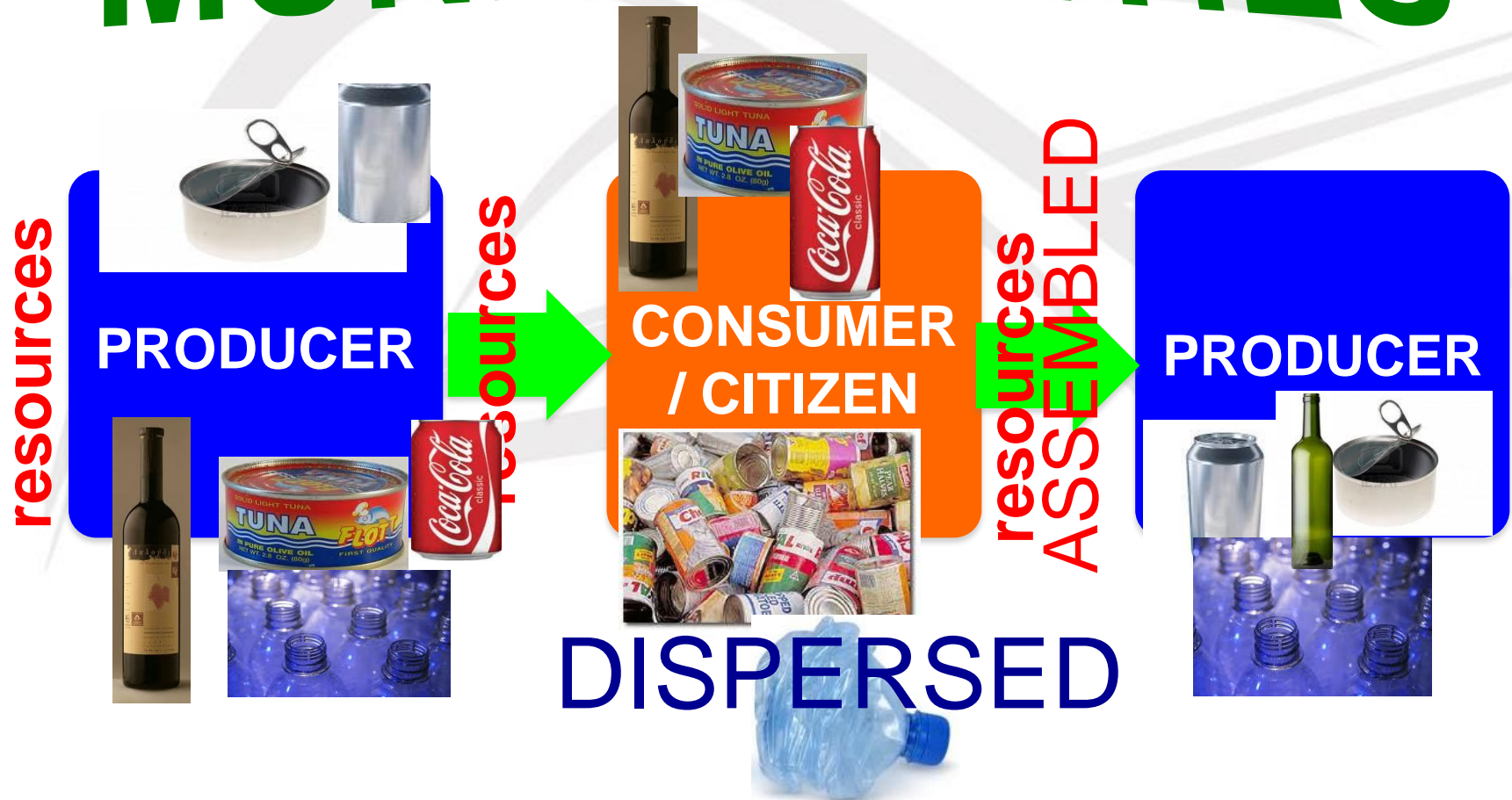
THE BRIDGE

MUNICIPALITIES



THE BRIDGE

MUNICIPALITIES



THE ENABLER

- Municipalities
 - responsibility
 - ensure that systems are in place
 - In-house or contracted out
- Choice of best locally adapted waste management solutions
 - To assemble dispersed materials
 - Cooperation with neighbouring municipalities
 - Cooperation with business and industry

THE ENABLER

- First point of Contact for the Citizen
- Network/Access to the public

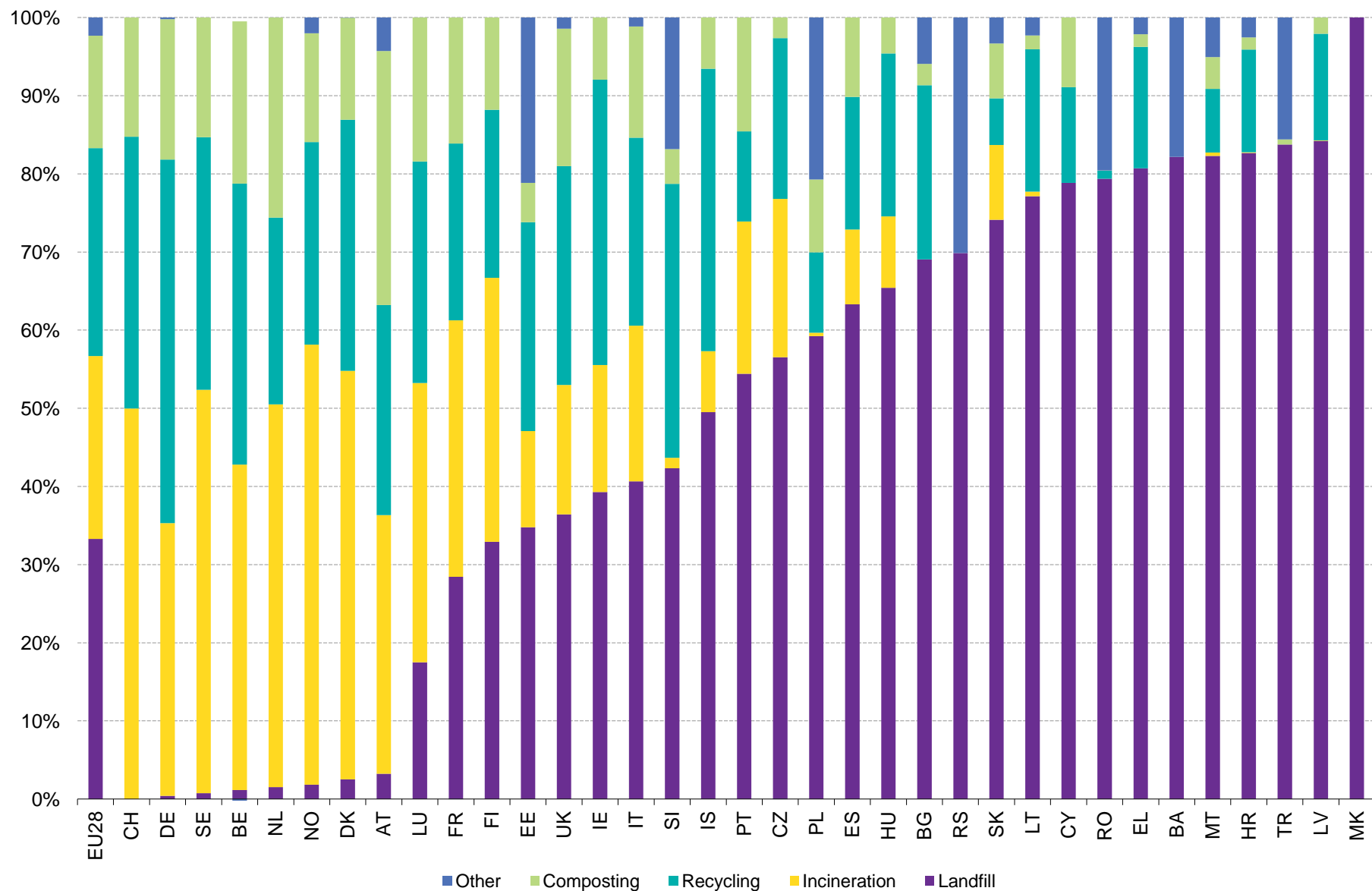
Responsibilities:

- Communication, Training, Motivation
- Inspection
- Data gathering and reporting to Nation and EU
- Communication of results back to citizens

Results:

- Job creation, raw materials, energy, clean environment...and many more

Municipal waste treated in 2012 by country and treatment category, sorted by percentage of landfilling, (kg per capita). *EUROSTAT*



OPPORTUNITY?

- Waste Management in the 35 EU Member States and wider EU area:
 - 19 still landfill 50% or over
 - 3 landfill around 40%
 - 8 incinerate around 50%
- The average recycling rate in the EU28 was 40% in 2011, and is proposed to reach 70% by 2030

SOCIO-ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

- Implementation of current Waste legislation can create 400 000 jobs
- Around 180 000 more could be created through the proposed revision
- Increased material recovery and use of materials in European industrial processes will create more jobs
- Europe must re-industrialise to survive economically

SOCIO-ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

- Europe currently imports 2 thirds more than it exports
 - Trade deficit
 - 2 thirds eventually makes it to the waste stream
- Increased material recovery
 - Local source of raw materials
 - Increased profitability of European manufacturers
 - Creation of employment

WHAT MATERIALS?

From these products:

- Packaging
 - paper and card, plastic, glass, metals
- Electrical and Electronic Equipment
 - Critical raw materials (CRM), rubber, plastics...
- Batteries....metals, heavy metals, CRMs...
- Cars
 - Metals, rubber, plastics, CRMs...

INNOVATION

EUROPEAN SOLUTION

- Moving from no waste management (illegal landfills) to prevention, recycling and a circular economy will not happen overnight
- Building **realism** into the equation, widely accepted that during transition, there should be shipments of residual waste to better treatment options in other EU Member States
- It is the better environmental option while recycling systems are being put in place
- Commission promotes data exchange on available capacities throughout the EU, e.g. in Waste to Energy

The Public Sectors Role in Closing the Loop

- The oft criticized Waste Hierarchy
 - **1** Prevention **2** re-use **3** recycling
 - 4** recovery **5** disposal
- **Integrated** solution adapted to local needs (materials/heat/organic matter/fuel...)
- A focus on retrieving materials is a focus on closing the materials loop and achieving **self-sufficiency** for Europe

ACHIEVING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Self-sufficiency in raw materials goes hand in hand with increased energy independence to strengthen an economy = **resource efficiency**
- Europe's goal is to achieve 20% of its energy needs from renewable energies by 2020 – only 5 years left
- Anaerobic Digestion is a significant part of closing the loop in a circular economy
 - particularly in Southern Europe (40 to 60% organic waste fraction in municipal waste)

ACHIEVING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- If applied across European industry, it is estimated that such a circular economy could reduce raw material needs by:
 - **17%-24% by 2030**
 - and save **approximately €630 billion per annum**

WASTE TARGETS REVIEW - TIMING

- Communication on a Circular Economy with waste review package:
 - Published on 2 July 2014
 - Entered into co-decision officially in autumn 2014
 - Rapporteurs in CoR, EESC, European Parliament have been nominated
 - Adoption can be expected by 2016
- Targets are set up until 2030, however this legislation is revised every 5 years

WASTE TARGETS REVIEW

Adoption Process & Implementation

- Autumn 2014 – co-decision begins:
 - Debate, conciliation and adoption by vote occurs in the European Parliament and Council, informed and facilitated by the European Commission
 - This process takes a minimum of 12 months for such a complex file and easily longer
 - The final step is adoption in Council (the Member States) followed by publication in the European Official Journal

WASTE TARGETS REVIEW

Adoption Process & Implementation

- Following publication in the Official Journal of the EU:
 - Member States usually have 12 months to transpose the Directive into their national legislation
 - Once transposed, the new procedures and targets must be implemented in practice, which can take much longer
 - The Commission began a follow-up procedure in 2012, whereby struggling Members' progress is monitored and guided
- » Now embedded in the revision of the waste framework directive

OTHER LEGAL INSTRUMENTS

- Strategic Implementation Plan on Raw Materials
 - promotes re-use, recycling, ecodesign
- Resource Productivity Target of 30% by 2030
 - would naturally reach 15% by 2030
 - the target doubles this

Municipalities play a key role in:

- Coordinating and enabling access to the raw materials in the waste stream
- Collecting and reporting data
- Inspecting and controlling illegal shipments
- Delivering more, cleaner materials for recycling to the market

ACHIEVING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- To get from the relatively low average EU recycling rates today, to higher recycling rates by 2025/30:
 - Municipalities are a key
 - Business is a key
 - Coordination
- Challenging but achievable

Thank you for your Attention

Vanya Veras

Secretary General

www.municipalwasteeurope.eu