



Introduction to Solid Waste Management and Legal framework in the European Union

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Scope



- Introduction:
 - What is RTAB?
- EU Legislation:
 - Structure
 - Directives
- National Legislation

Introduction



- Our Brief;
- Preparatory meetings and visits;
- EU legislation – a shared framework;
- National Examples;
- Plenary Discussion



Introduction: RTAB

- RTAB = Resource Technical Advisory Body;
- Technical advisory group with cross- sectoral membership (Business, all levels of local government, 3rd Sector);
- Role prescribed in national guidance:
 - Assemble & monitor regional waste data (published as monitoring reports);
 - Identify best option for meeting future regional waste management requirements;
 - Provide strategic technical advice & guidance to local government, the waste industry and other stakeholders;
 - Share good practice

Climate Change



- In support of the Kyoto agreement, the EU has adopted a series of legislative measures to address climate change;
 - By 2020, reduce emissions by 20% on 1990 levels;
 - By 2020, generate 20% of total energy from renewables;
 - By 2020, increase energy efficiency by 20% from 2007 levels;
 - Endorsement of reductions in emissions by between 80 and 95% on 1990 levels by 2050;

EU Legislation



Needed because:

- **Safe disposal** of all waste streams and in particular hazardous waste has to be regulated by law (responsibilities, recycling quotas and thereby progress in ways of waste treatment, financing, standardised/consistent waste categories etc.)
- **International agreements** are necessary due to globalisation, rising amount of waste, joint responsibility of states to protect climate, resources and environment (e.g. methane emissions have an impact on the world's climate – and not only on local climate) etc.

EU Legislation



- **1970s and 1980s national regulations** on waste management in response to environmental awareness in industrial countries;
- **Globalisation, climate change and resource protection** meant that **international** agreements and regulations became necessary:
 - Harmonisation of requirements for waste management
 - Setting international standards for treatment and disposal
 - Implementation of international targets for waste *prevention, recycling, reuse*, carbon reduction/resource protection
 - Prevention from ‘waste tourism’ (cheap disposal)
- Still need national regulations, state and municipal legislation to implement and control national and international targets and standards locally

EU Legislation



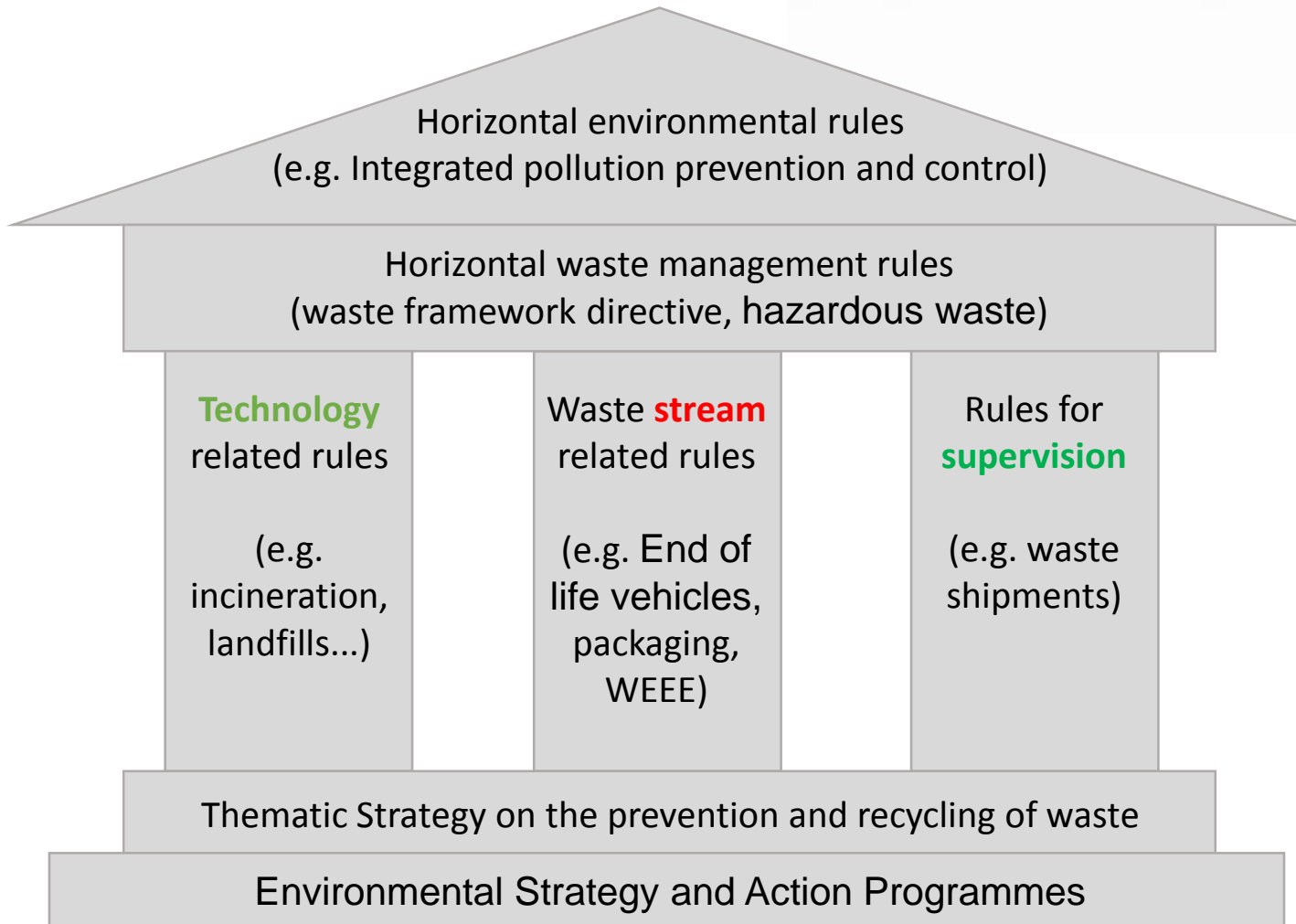
Benefits of EU guidelines

- Improvement of regulatory control of waste treatment shipments and treatment plants
- Improved control of disposal of hazardous waste
- Definition of environmental standards for waste disposal
- Increase of recycling and reuse of waste

Problems caused by EU guidelines

- Insufficient implementation of legislation and targets in some EU-states:
 - Missing standards for disposal, recycling, reuse
 - Low waste avoidance programmes
- Insufficient control mechanisms

EU Legislation: Structure



EU Legislation: Structure



- EU legislation by **directives** or **regulations**
- **EU directives**
 - For alignment of legislation by harmonisation
 - Not directly applicable; determined targets of directive have to be implemented into national law within a determined period of time
 - Obligatory target, but individual implementation
- **EU regulations**
 - For standardisation of legislation
 - Directly applicable in the EU-states (comparable to national legislation)
 - Obligatory target and obligatory implementation

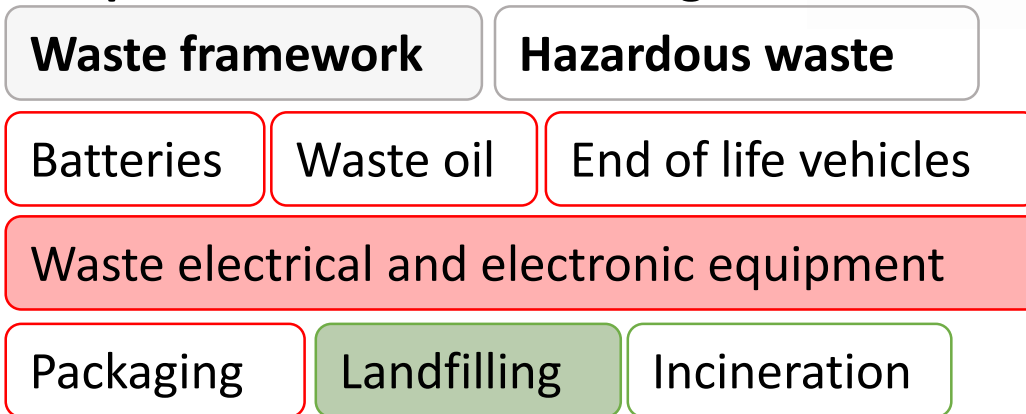
**European
framework**

**European
law**

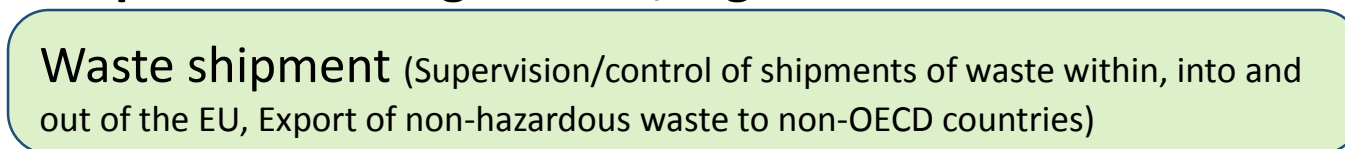
EU Legislation: Structure



European waste directives, e.g:



European waste regulations, e.g:



EU Legislation



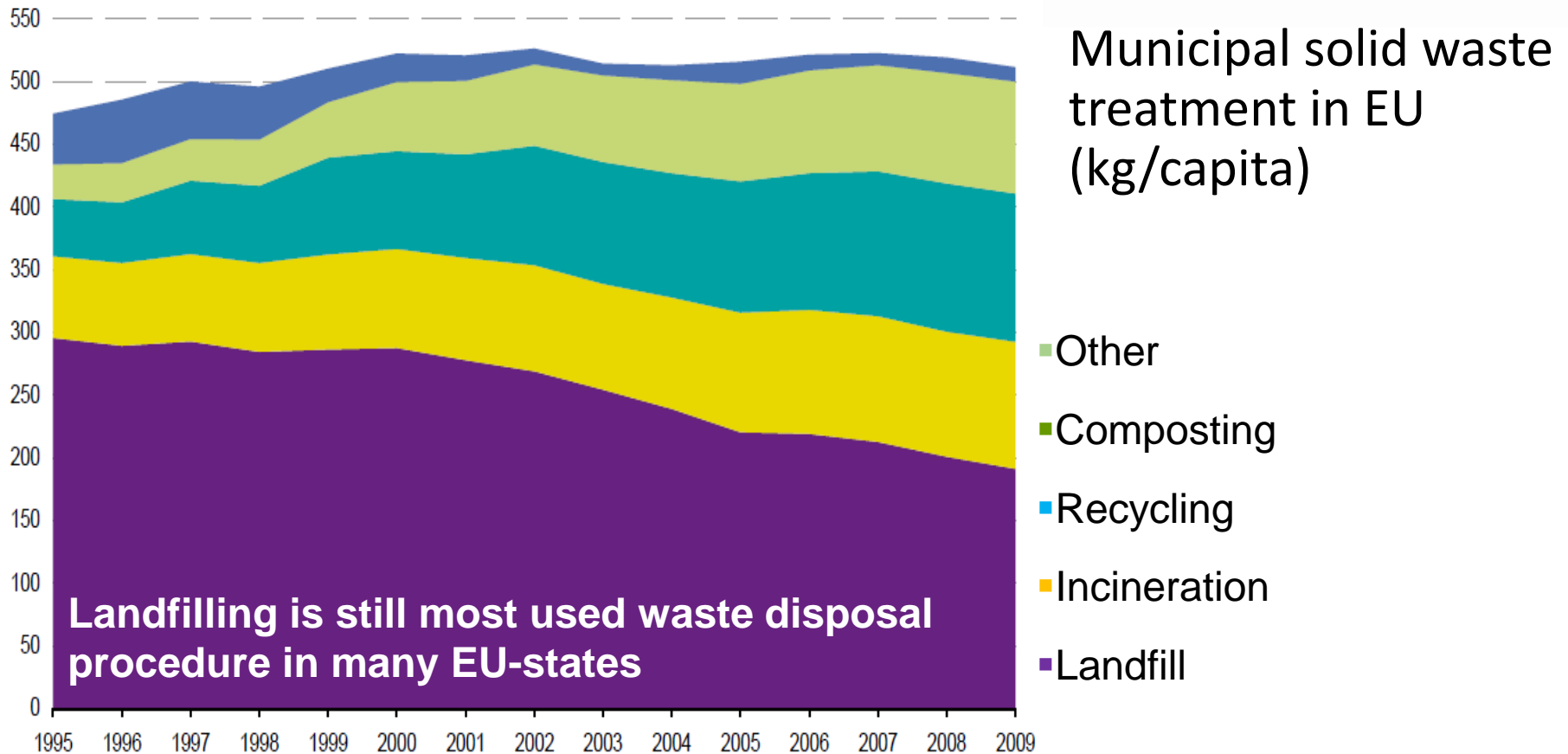
Waste Framework Directive

- Implemented in 1975, last amendment in 2008;
- Sets definitions of waste, recycling, recovery;
- Explains when waste ceases to be waste;
- Establishes basic waste management principles:
 - Avoid endangering human health and harming the environment
 - Avoid causing a nuisance through noise or odours
 - Avoid adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest
- Establishes waste management hierarchy;
- Establishes "polluter pays principle" and "extended producer responsibility“;
- Establishes recycling and recovery targets to be achieved by 2020;
- The Directive requires that Member States adopt waste management plans and waste prevention programmes.

EU Legislation: Waste Hierarchy

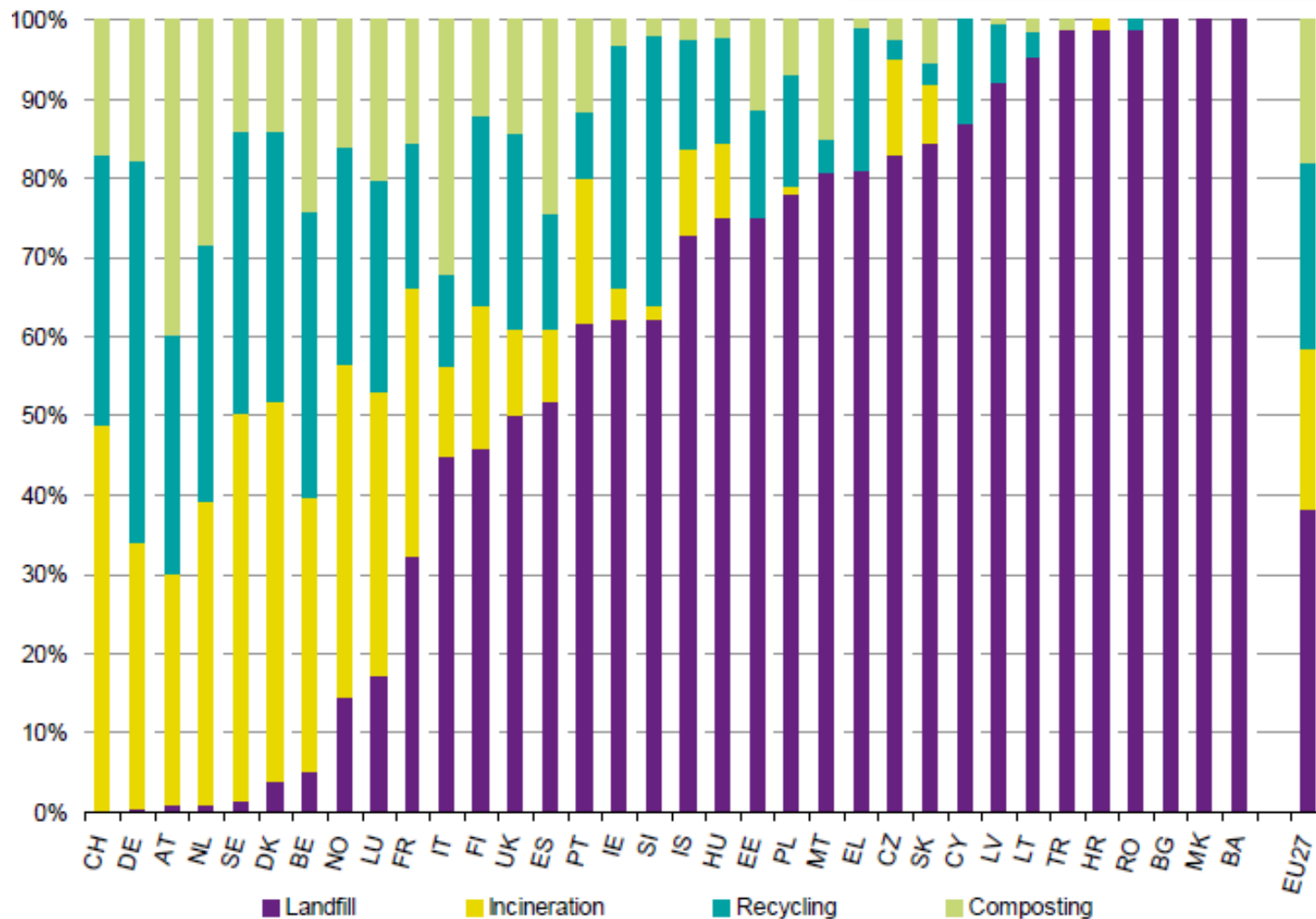


EU Legislation: Landfill Directive



2. European legislation

Municipal waste treated in 2009 by country and treatment category



- AT **Austria**
- BA Bosnia and Herzegovina
- BE **Belgium**
- BG **Bulgaria**
- CH Switzerland
- CY **Cyprus**
- CZ **Czech Republic**
- DE **Germany**
- DK **Denmark**
- EE **Estonia**
- EL **Greece**
- ES **Spain**
- FI **Finland**
- FR **France**
- HR Croatia
- HU **Hungary**
- IE **Ireland**
- IS Iceland
- IT **Italy**
- LT **Lithuania**
- LU **Luxembourg**
- LV **Latvia**
- MK fYR of Macedonia
- MT **Malta**
- NL **Netherlands**
- NO Norway
- PL **Poland**
- PT **Portugal**
- RO **Romania**
- SE **Sweden**
- SK **Slovakia**
- SI **Slovenia**
- TR Turkey
- UK **United Kingdom**
- Marked red: EU states**

Source: <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/waste/documents/KS-SF-11-031-EN.pdf>

National Legislation



International agreements

Concerning mainly the control of transboundary movements of waste
(Basel Convention, 4th Lomé Convention, Resolutions of OECD-council)



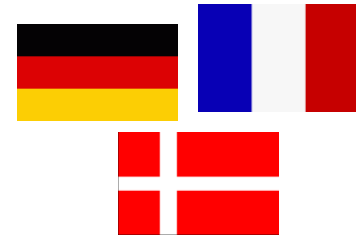
European legislation

EU legislation is superordinated to national legislation in EU-states
(Waste Framework Directive, Directive on Packaging/Packaging Waste,
Landfill Directive)



National legislation (e.g. Germany)

Waste framework: Closed Cycle Management Act. Lots of ordinances and
administrative regulations (Packaging Ordinance, TASI)



State legislation in Germany (e.g. Hamburg, Bavaria)

Concretion/completion (responsibilities) of national legislation.
Administrative regulations (e.g. sealing of landfills, construction/operation
of composting plants). Preparation of waste management plans.

Municipal regulation authorisation (e.g. Hamburg)

Further guidelines in municipalities
(Hamburg Waste Management Act, City Cleaning Act, Official Fee Act)

