EU legal context of glass recycling

(28 November 2014)

information and state of play

review of recycling targets in EU waste legislation

1. Legal regimes

2. Review process

3. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

1. Legal regimes

Glass packaging

Majority: glass bottles

- **Directive 94/62/EC on Packaging and Packaging waste (PPWD)**

Other types of glass:

e.g. building glass,

- **Directive 2008/98/EC on Waste (Waste Framework Directive – WFD)**

WFD

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Waste Hierarchy:

- Prevention
- Re-use
- Recovery
- Recycling
- Landfill

Waste:

- 'waste' means any substance or object which the holder intends to or is required to discard

Recycling and recovery rates (2020):

household waste: 50 %

non-hazardous waste (construction and demolition): 70 %

End of Waste criteria:

- remove the administrative burdens of waste legislation
- for safe and high-quality waste materials
- facilitating recycling

Packaging

Objectives in the PPWD and trends on the EU market

Prevention:

- progress made in particular by reducing packaging weight (attention point: recyclability)
- Decoupling growth consumption expenditure and packaging waste generated

Reuse:

- Non-binding provision, but MS have implemented wide variety of measures
- Market share of reusable household packaging is decreasing

Recycling and recovery:

- rates increased, but uncertainty as to data reliability and methodology issues

Coherence:

- In principle coherent with Waste Framework Directive
- Adjustments to be made with regard to concepts relating to resource efficiency, waste hierarchy and certain definitions

2. REVIEW PROCESS

Review of quantitative targets in three Directives:

- Waste Framework Directive
- Landfill Directive
- Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive

- Updating of targets (stepwise, e.g. 2020 – 2025 – 2030)
- Examples of issues to be further considered:
  - aligning key definitions of e.g. recycling and recovery to the WFD
  - calculation methods
  - quality check / data verification

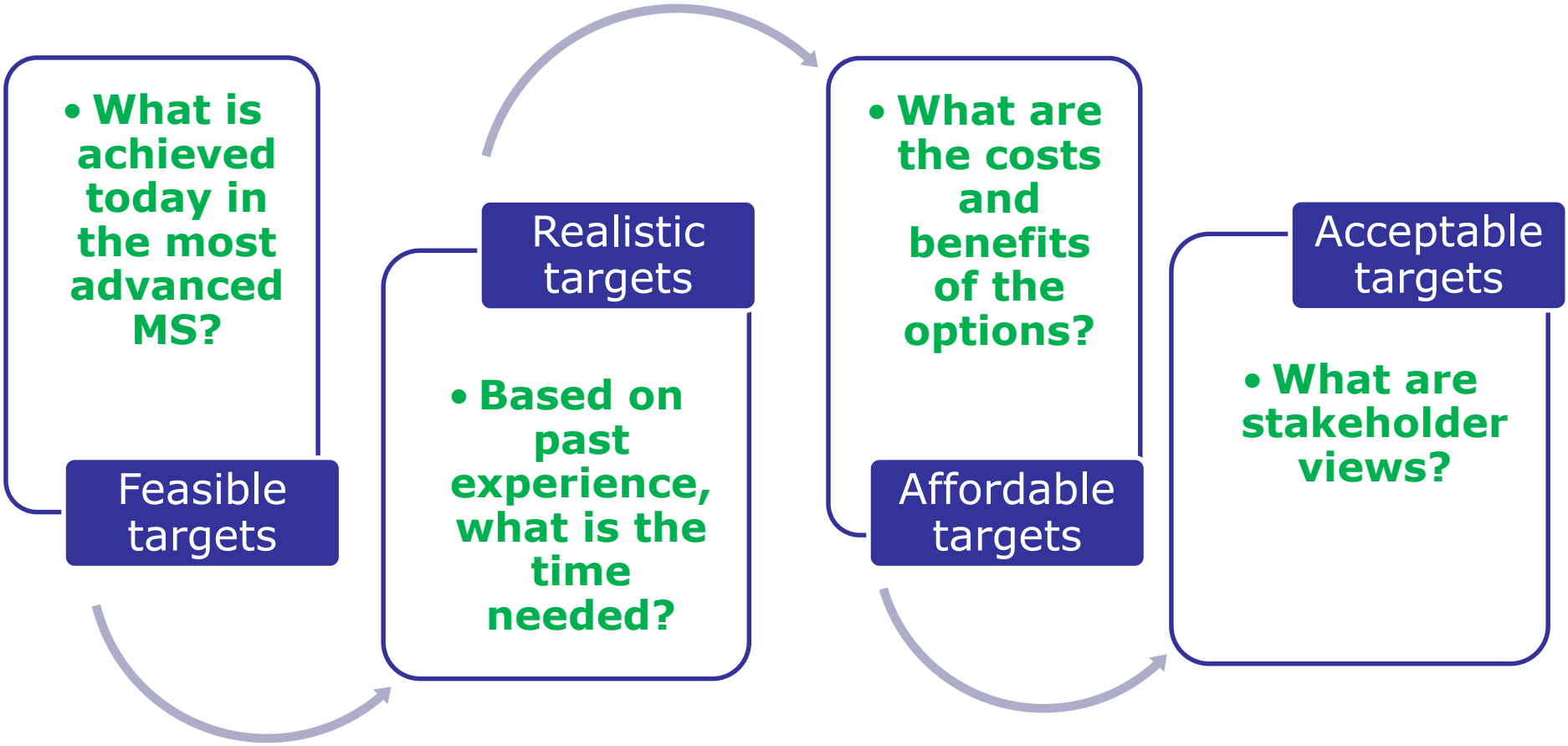
Approach

Commission proposal of 2 July 2014 (COM(2014)397):

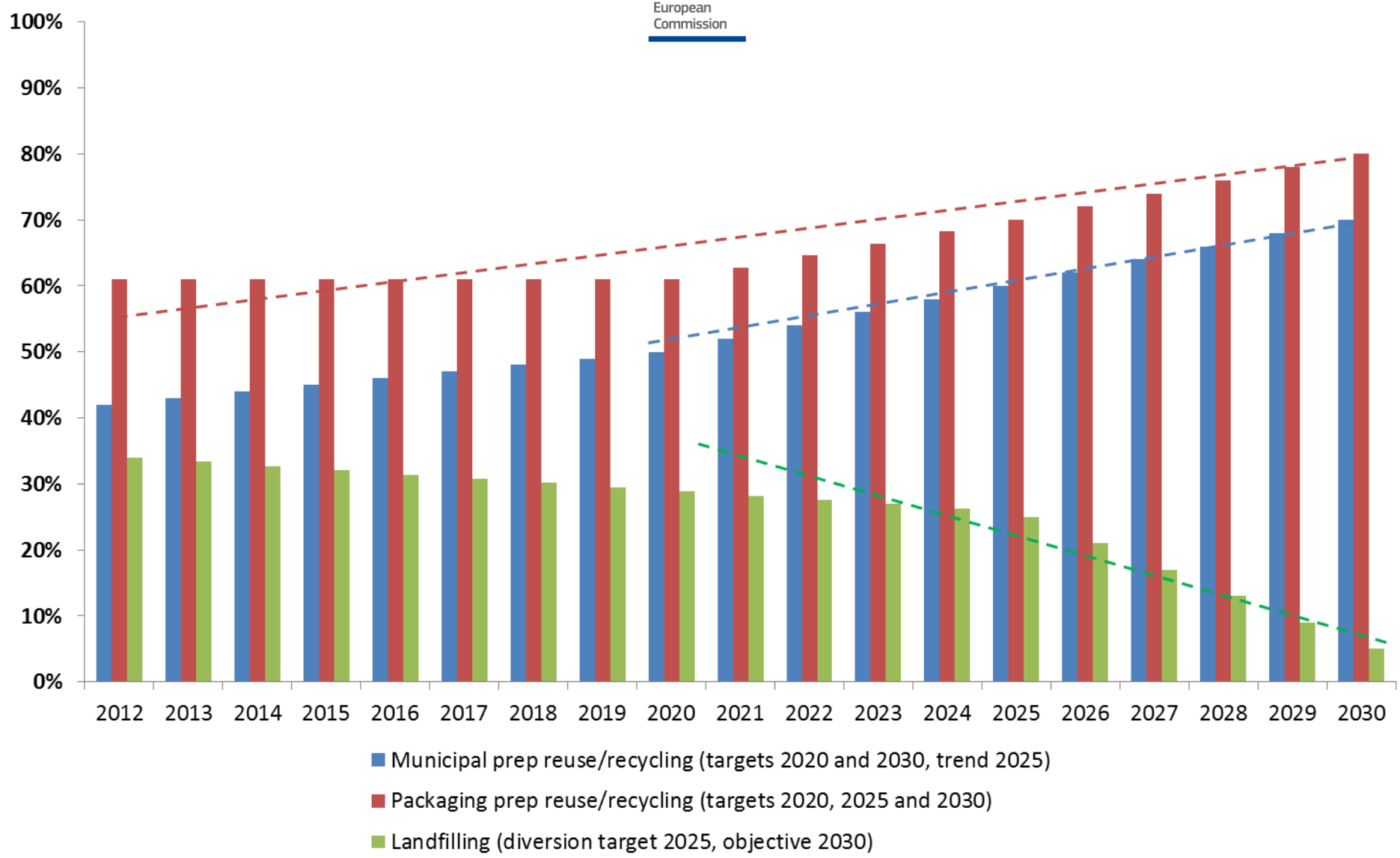
Combination of :

- Improved/increased targets
- Measures to ensure proper and full implementation

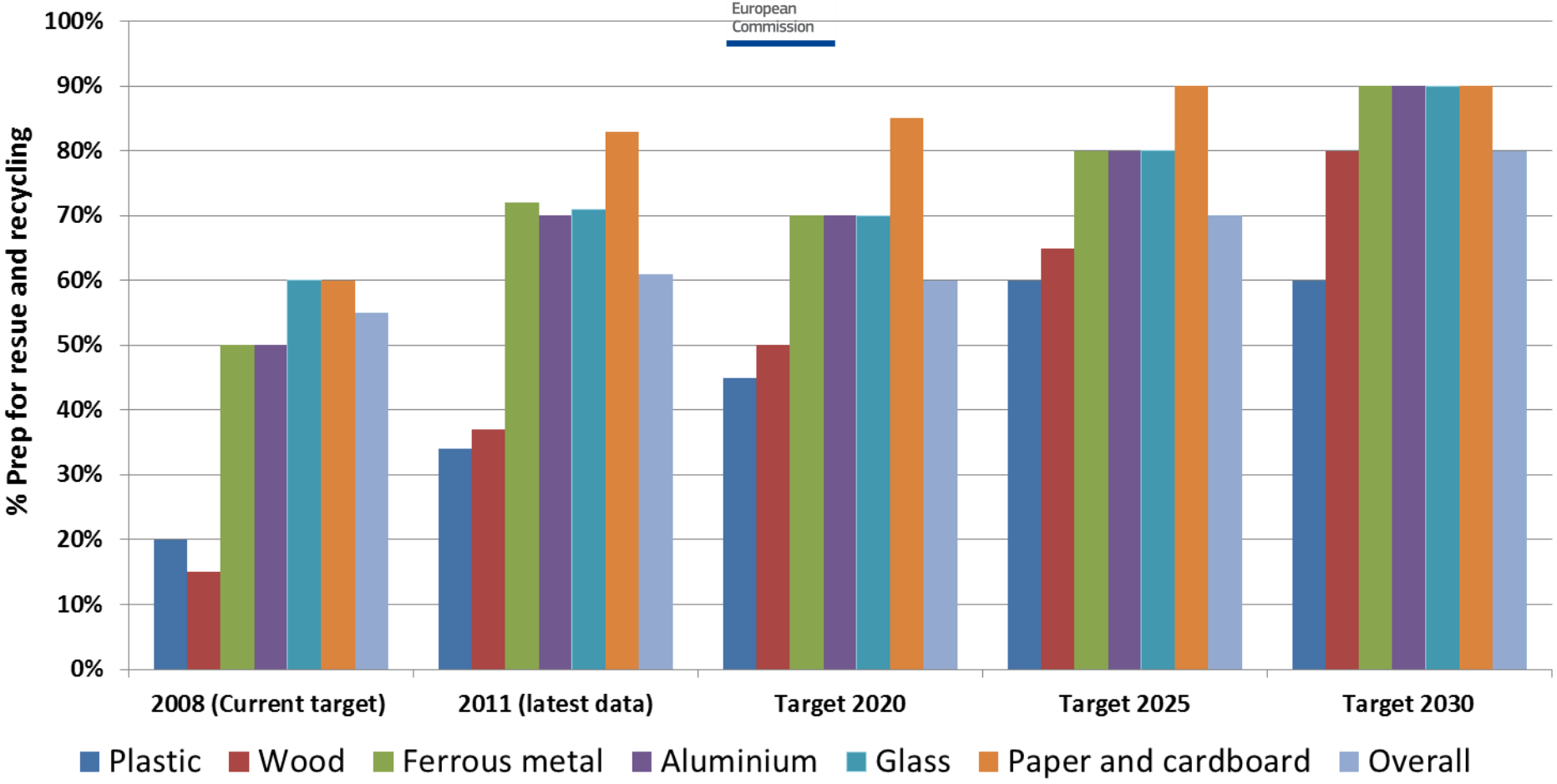
Target setting



Proposed targets



New targets – packaging waste recycling



- Clarification on measuring (same as for municipal waste)
- Repeal of the recovery and max recycling targets
- New target for aluminium

Proposed targets (packaging)

	Current (2008) targets	2020	2025	2030
All packaging	55	60	70	80
Plastics	22.5	45	60	? (recital, possible review)
Wood	15	50	65	80
Ferrous metal	60	70	80	90
Aluminium	60	70	80	90
Glass	**60**	**70**	**80**	**90**
Paper & board	60	85	90	

Better implementation

- Better data:
  - Improved definitions
  - Clarification on what counts as "recycling" (input to recycling if impurities <2%)
  - Single calculation method MSW
  - Third party verification of statistics
  - National electronic registries

- Dissemination of best practices:
  - Minimum conditions for EPR
  - Early Warning System

Departure points:

- Benchmarking of national reporting methodologies + third party verification of data quality should improve quality and reliability of data

  (recital 19 proposal)

- Reliable reporting requires that MS use most recent methodology developed by Commisison and national statistical offices of MS

  (recital 30 proposal)

More detailed

- **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 descarded in the cours of that process (B)

  UNLESS:

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

  Then no corrections necessary

COMPARISON

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)

3. EPR

Objectives of the study

- Describe, compare and analyse different types of EPR systems operating in the EU

  (not only on packaging waste, also on batteries, end of life vehicles, graphic paper and electronic waste)
- Identify necessary conditions and best practices for the functioning of EPR systems
- Propose and assess options to promote an optimal use of EPR systems across the EU

- Case studies on EPR systems on project website (http://epr.eu-smr.eu):
  - 7 studies on packaging: AT, BE, CZ, FR, DE, NL and UK.

EC initiative

- clarifying scope, definition and objectives of EPR, and
- defining common principles and minimal requirements for their implementation

through:

- more specific provisions: Commission Proposal of 2 July 2014
- guidance documents in the future ?

European Commission

Minimum requirements for EPR in Annex VII:

1. Technical and economic feasibility
2. Definition roles and responsibilities
3. Setting of measurable targets
4. Sufficinet information on collection systems for waste holders
5. Reporting procedure
6. Financial contributions (covering entire costs, take into account revenues from sale of waste, based on true end of life management, support litter and clean-up actions
7. Recognition procedure (equal treatment, transparent as regards contributions and geographical coverage)
8. Appropriate sanctions defined
9. Adequate monitoring and enforcement means, dialogue between involved actors

For more information please visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/index.htm

(entry point for review, including fitness check, targets review and plastic waste)