



# Municipal Waste Europe

European Association of Public Waste Management

**Boosting the Secondary Materials Market,  
leveraging their circular performance**

- **For UTILITALIA, ENEA GREEN WEEK  
EVENT**

**30 June 2025**

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Secretary General





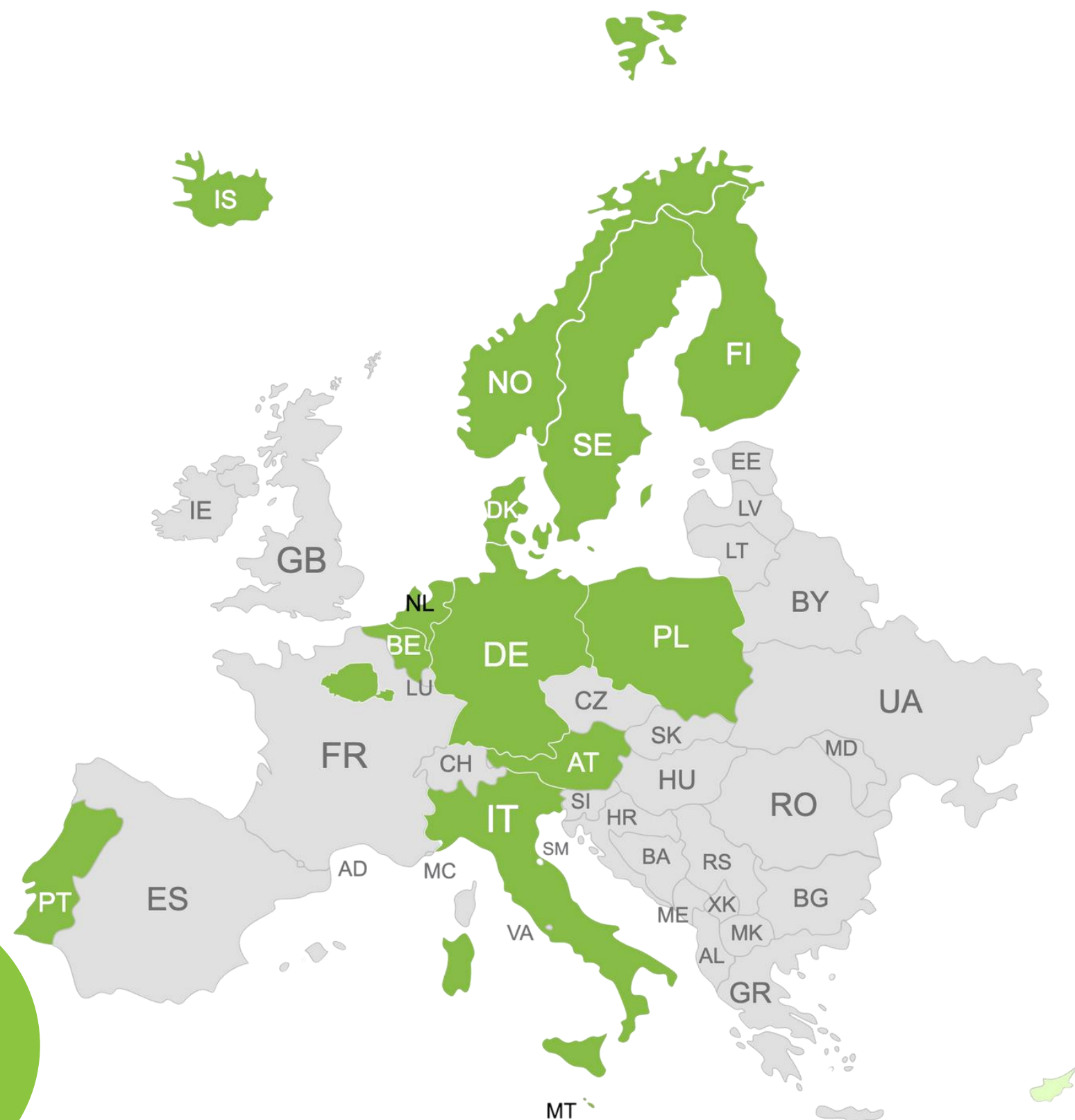


# Municipal Waste Europe

Public Waste Management European Association

## Who we are? What we do?





- 15 full members
- 14 countries
- 2 associate members

## Introduction to MWE

Non-profit European umbrella association representing public responsibility for municipal waste management.

Founded in 2009, based in Brussels (Belgium)

MWE Members are national, regional or local organisations or authorities who hold public responsibility for municipal waste management.





## Our Ethos



**Sustainability  
circular economy**



**Service of  
General Interest**



**Waste hierarchy**



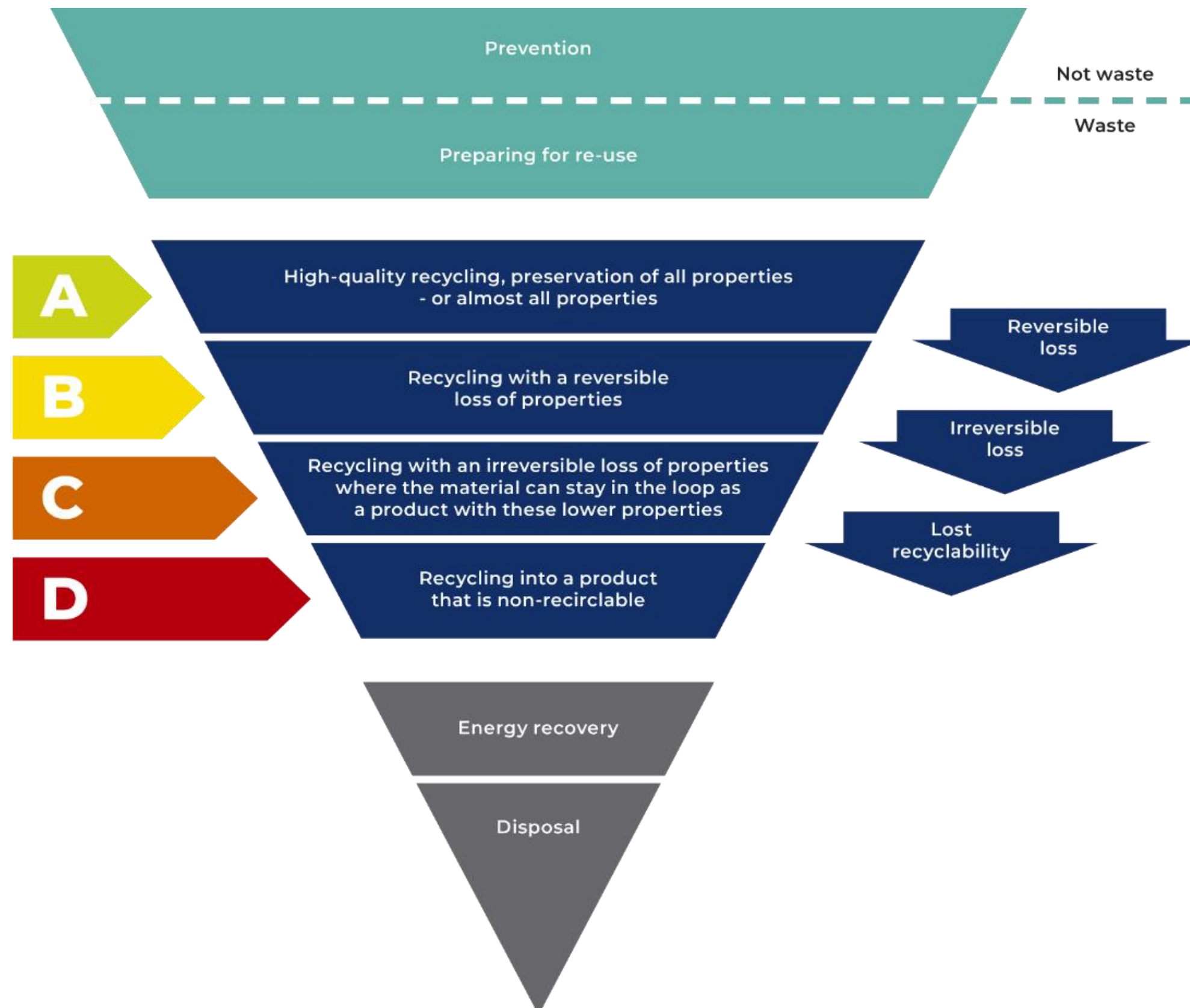
**Collaboration**

Promotion of the implementation of adopted legislation, the waste hierarchy and environmentally-sound, efficient municipal waste management

Focus: municipal solid waste

MWE team: Secretary General, Policy Officer, Communications & Events Officer

# The Waste Hierarchy - Reasoning



# Making Implementation Possible

- 30 years of EU waste legislation has demonstrated that the stick works in some cases, some Member States but not in others – still a HUGE IMPLEMENTATION GAP in EAST and SOUTH
- Now we need implementation, not only for the environmental and health protection but for our economic survival as Europe – we need to build a self-sufficient circular economy
- Protecting our environment, our land and its ability to store water and grow food is also a key part of that – BIOWASTE – CCS in soils
- It is time for Member States to recognize the importance of their leadership in delivering the political will, facilitated permitting and incentives – the carrot – to regions and municipalities currently lagging behind in separate collection and treatment of municipal waste
- Italy is one of the front-runners in effective, efficient and sustainable waste management, achieving high recycling rates, low landfill rates and with a wide network of biogas plants treating separately collected biowaste from municipalities, commerce, industry and agriculture
- The work done by Utilitalia and ENEA to develop this measurement of





## INCENTIVES TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Plastics recycling in the EU is failing, whether it is of packaging or from other sources because the producer is not investing, neither directly nor through EPR and is buying cheap imported recyclate or virgin raw materials
- Applying a monetary value to the certified measurement of Carbon avoided through recycling as demonstrated by the TEEC & 3C certificates and database put together in this study is a methodology that can be used to lower the price of EU recyclates of all materials and boost their intra-EU sales, thereby boosting the EU recycling industry
- Such methods should be included in the EU Taxonomy as enabling financial measures
- To achieve minimum recycled content targets in the packaging regulation and SUP, such incentives are necessary for all materials and particularly plastics
- An EU circular economy for clean plastics is still far away: Plastics are the least recycled material and the most problematic because of toxic components such as PFAS and yet they are not included in the CBAM (carbon border adjustment mechanism)
- Protect our markets from cheaper and toxic imports, non-conforming – impossible to truly verify
- Provide easier to access, smaller packets of funding, e.g. EIB + national banks



## INCENTIVES TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Implementing PPWR and REACH requirements is the legal obligation of the PRODUCER and yet the waste management industry ends up with the problem
- We can only produce high quality recycled raw materials IF the PRODUCER/IMPORTER puts high quality, non-toxic materials onto the EU market
- ECODESIGN REGULATION – design out toxicity and design in prevention, reusability and recyclability
- This measurement methodology and certification possibility for CO<sub>2</sub> avoided through recycling as compared to primary production is a tool that the EU has been looking for for some time and could very effectively be harmonized at EU level, formally recognized and applied e.g. through the TAXONOMY, ETS as a valuable INCENTIVE to INVESTMENT and making MARKET ACCESS for RECYCLATES much easier





# Contact & Follow us!



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