



**Embedding the new approach –
from waste to resource – into the
governance of European industry**

The Eurometaux perspective

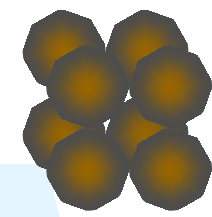
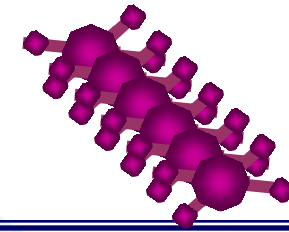
Guy Thiran, Eurometaux

Taking waste management into the future
Municipal Waste Europe Conference
Brussels, 3 December 2014

The global EU context

→ EU 2020 and Resource Efficiency Strategy

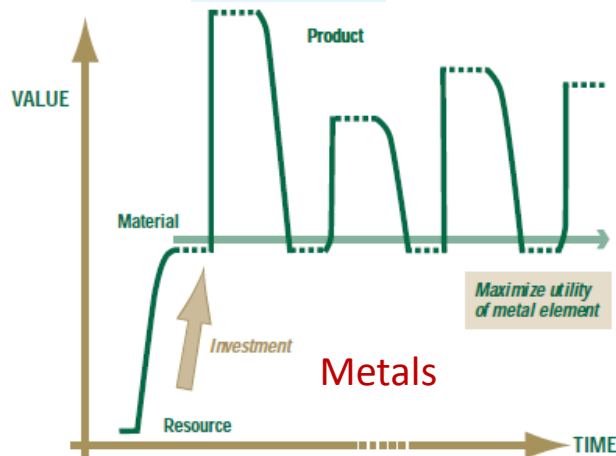
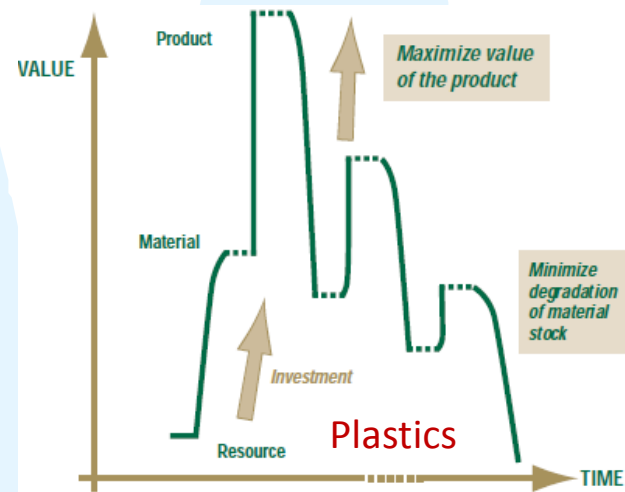
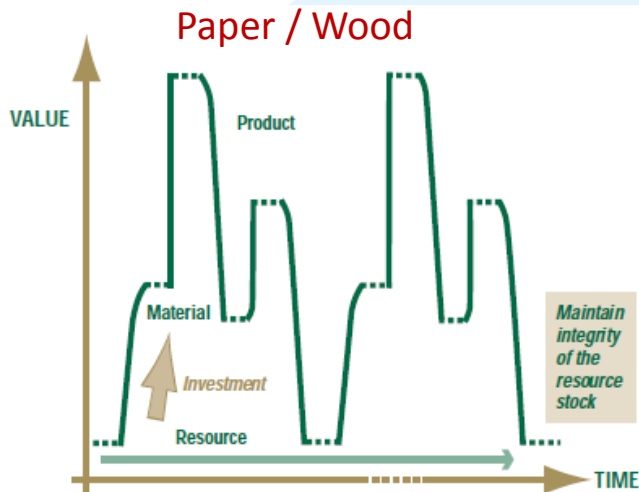
- ✓ Every product that will be produced and used in EU will need to demonstrate an « acceptable » sustainability footprint over its entire life cycle!
- ✓ Circular Economy
 - ✗ How to optimize management of products at the end of their life?
 - ✗ How to optimize product design?
 - ✗ Each material has a different perspective and requires different solutions



	Wood/Paper	Plastic	Metal
Material structure	Fiber (e.g. cellular)	Molecular (hydrogen-carbon)	Elemental
Material renewal	Recycling degrades structure	Recycling degrades structure (also pyrolysis)	Recycling (limited by contamination)
Final fate material	Biodegradation Combustion Dispersion Landfill	Degradation Combustion Dispersion Landfill	Elements are permanent (subject to dispersion and other losses)
Time scale	Days to decades	Days to years	Theoretically unlimited

Different characteristics = different solutions

Different Life Cycles

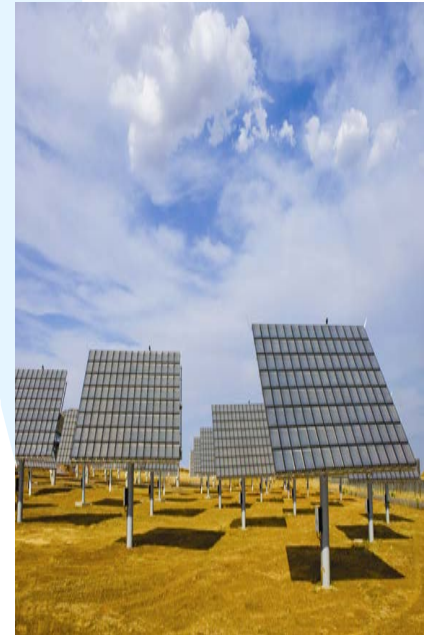


Different Life Cycles and characteristics lead to different optimization strategies

- Paper and Wood: focus on resource
- Plastics: focus on product value
- Metals: focus on material
 - Assets: Durability and Recyclability
- Consequences on life cycle and end of life management

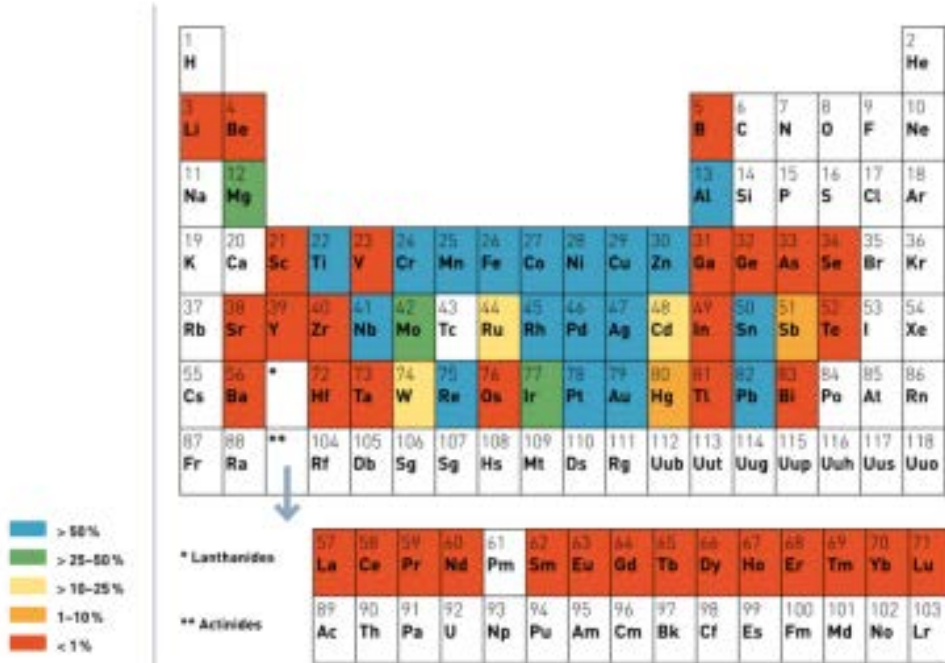
Non Ferrous Metals are essential to a sustainable society

- Without non-ferrous metals, no modern life... and no transition to a low carbon & resource efficient economy!
- As metals can be recycled again and again without losing their properties metals can be considered as a real asset if they are properly recycled
- **Metal Waste are resources that should not be wasted!**
- There is a huge potential to recycle more metals but different challenges need to be addressed along the entire recycling value chain



Recycling addresses key strategic objectives such as resource efficiency, access to raw materials and job creation

Recycling Potential



UNEP, international resource panel, recycling rates of metals a status report (2011)

Recycling rates range between 1% and up to 95%

The « urban mine » offers a huge potential for more recycling

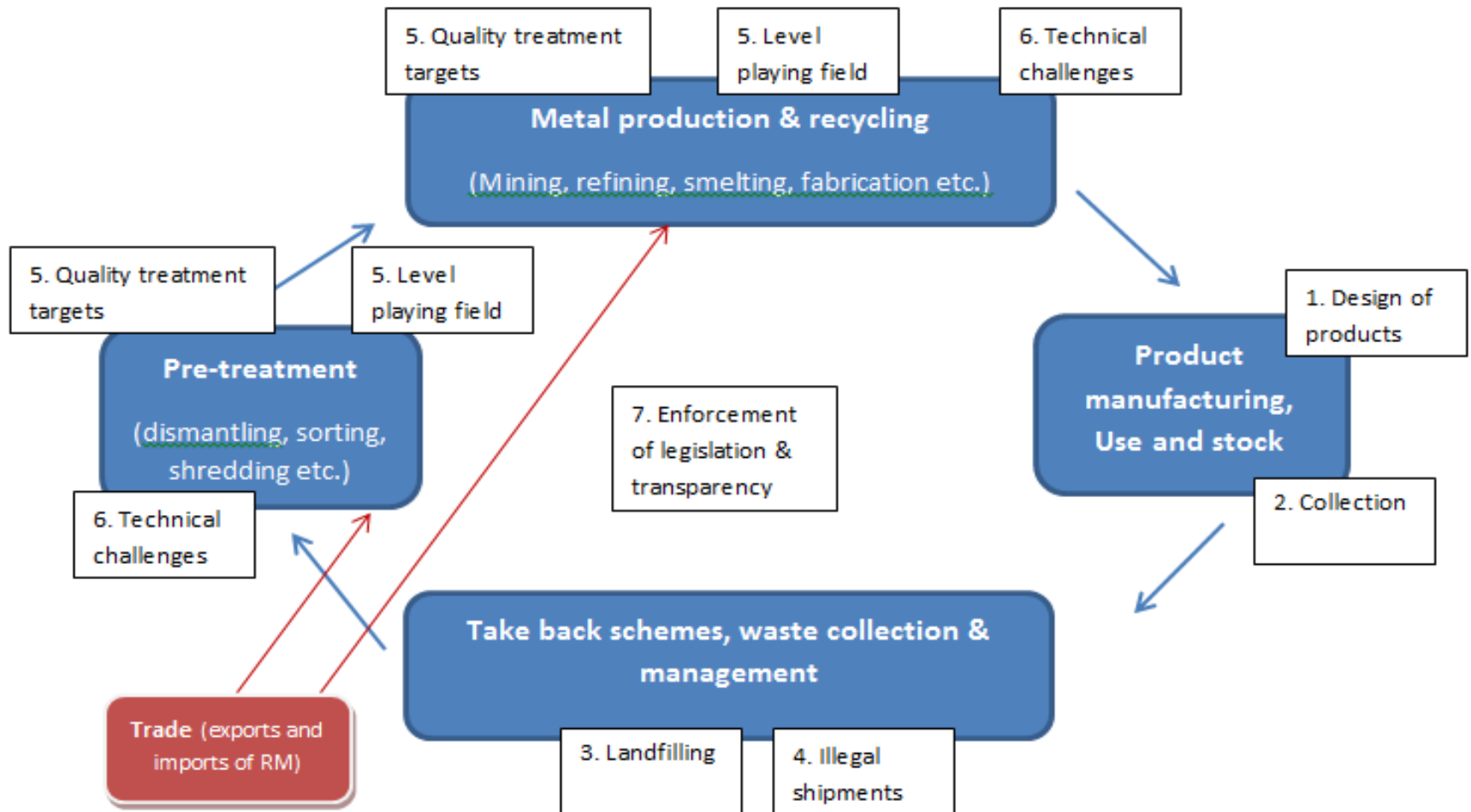
Drivers for recycling:

- Value
- Volume
- environment

Some metals do not fall in these categories!

Great Recycling potential especially for technology metals!
 EU Industry can recycle more provided it has a secured access to raw materials at competitive prices!

Recycling Value Chain Challenges



Challenges

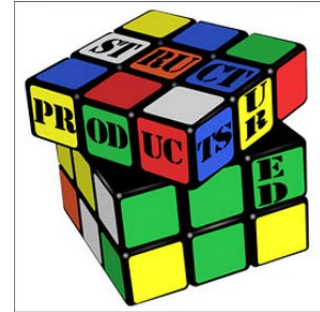
1. Recyclability of products – design for recycling is too often poor or inexistent!
2. Suboptimal end-of-life collection
3. Quality recycling for all steps of the value chain
4. Landfilling of post-consumer goods
5. Shortage of secondary raw material due to exports to non-European countries partly due to illegal or dubious shipments of waste
6. Level playing field worldwide & quality recycling
7. Technological and economic hurdles to recycle increasingly complex products
8. Transparency across the value chain and better enforcement of legislation

⇒ The efficiency of the whole recycling chain very much depends on the efficiency of each step



Let us optimize...

- **Recyclability of finished products > inclusion of recyclability criteria in product policies** + enhanced understanding of value chains' challenges and interactions – **There is no demand problem for metals!**
- **Suboptimal end-of-life collection schemes** > separate collection at source + quality targets for all steps of value chain + clearer objectives and transparency for collection schemes including EPR
- **Quality recycling for all steps of the value chain** as percentage and/or as quality standards as relevant (not necessary for all waste streams)
- Landfilling of post-consumer goods > **diversion of waste from landfill** – progressive ban of post-consumer goods from landfilling as aspirational target provided it is supported by measures to support quality recycling

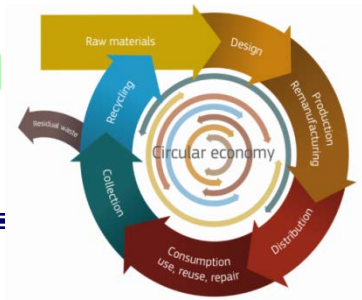


Let us optimize...

- **Shortage of secondary raw material** due to exports to non-European countries partly due to illegal or dubious shipments of waste > stricter enforcement of Waste Shipment Regulation including link with certification of recycling facilities (over 25% of illegal shipments)
- **Lack of level playing field worldwide & quality recycling > mandatory certification scheme of recycling facilities** incl. environmental, health and safety and efficiency criteria defined in quality standard for relevant waste streams
- **Technological and economic hurdles to recycle increasingly complex products** > more support to innovation
- **Transparency across the value chain and better enforcement of legislation** > enhanced cooperation across the value chain



Circular Economy – a step in right direction ...



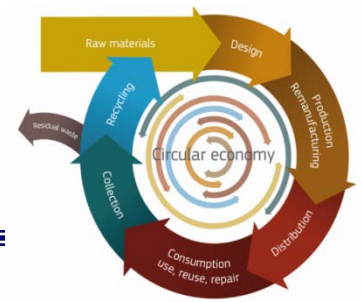
Eurometaux welcomes

- The attempt to clarify definitions
- The more ambitious recycling and landfilling targets
- The proposed minimum operating conditions for EPR
- The request for MS to identify waste containing significant amounts of CRM

BUT

- Regrets the focus on collection and on weight based targets – it suggests to define the recycling value chain – collection – preparation for material recovery and material recovery – and to define targets per step of the chain
- Suggests to refer to standards as basis for quality recycling when relevant
- Calls for transparency of EPR systems
- Suggests that MS should promote the recovery of CRM

Circular Economy – a step in right direction ...



Eurometaux welcomes

- The recognition that no RM productivity target can be adopted
- The progressive ban on landfill of post consumer goods
- The link with innovation

BUT

- RMC/GDP as resource productivity target is a macro economic indicator not to be used for policy making
- Calls for the ban on post consumer goods landfilling to be progressive and supported by measures to encourage quality recycling
- Waste exported as end-of-waste should only be counted as recycled if it is treated against quality criteria /standards equivalent as in the EU and if the exporter can prove equivalent conditions

Circular Economy – a step in right direction ...



Eurometaux welcomes

- More ambitious targets
- The attempt to clarify the calculation method

BUT

- Calls on pragmatism and for more focus on quality treatment
- Questions the usefulness of separate steel and aluminium targets for packaging
- Calls for clarification of the calculation method

System Innovation

- Support to recycling starts with a good analysis of the recycling flows
- There is a joint responsibility along the value chain to ensure that sound recycling takes place!
- Innovation is key to support new recycling business models and technological improvements
- Eurometaux leads on a project to certify the recycling facilities and is part of other projects of the WEEE 2020 programme



For more information



→ carpentier@eurometaux.be

→ thiran@eurometaux.be

Thank you for your attention