

The polluter pays

Key to successful household waste policy



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Dublin,
19.05.2006

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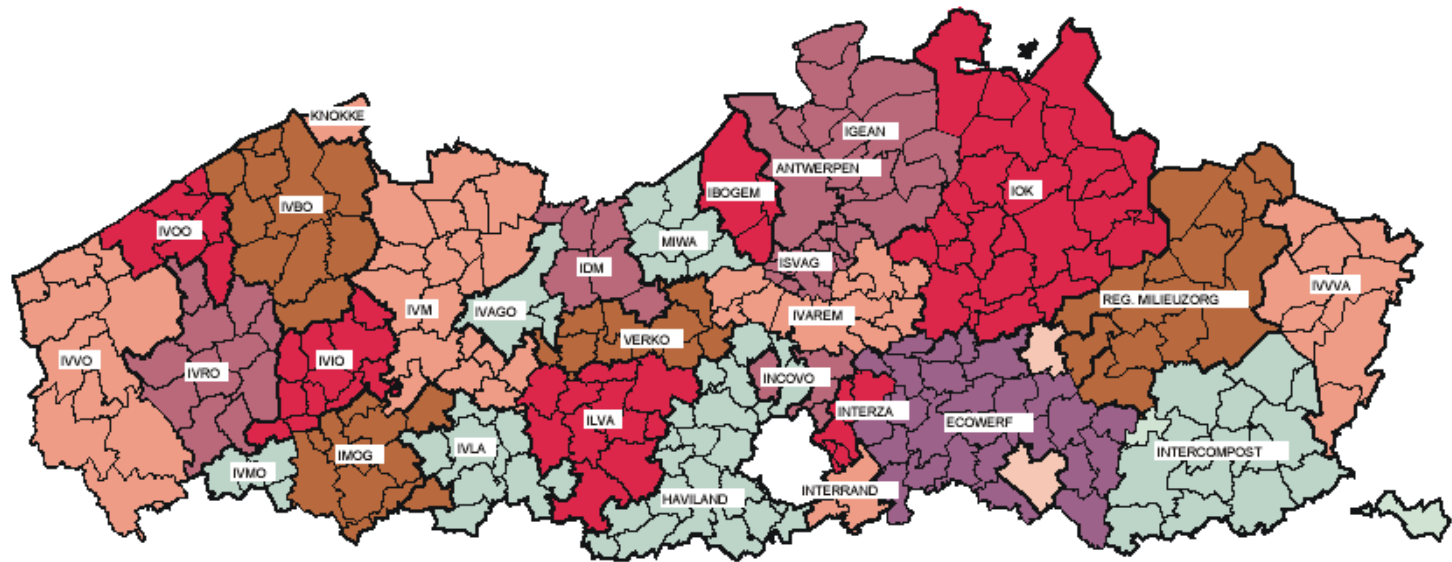
OPENBARE VLAAMSE AFVALSTOFFENMAATSCHAPPIJ

Household waste management in Flanders

- 6 million inhabitants
- 308 municipalities, united in 25 public associations for waste management
- municipality or association is responsible for the collection and treatment of the household waste
- municipality is the competent authority for local rating, taxation on household waste managing

Household waste management in Flanders

WASTE MANAGEMENT IN FLANDERS



Objectives of household waste management

- 13% prevention in 2007 compared with 2000
- 70% selective collection and recycling
- max. 150kg/inhabitant residual waste on flemish level
- max. 200kg/inhabitant residual waste on municipality level

Mix of instruments to reach objectives

1. sensitising and communication
- 2. organising an obligatory, optimal, uniform selective collection**
3. subsidizing and financial support of municipalities
4. stimulating intermunicipal co-operation

Mix of instruments to reach objectives

5. installing environmental levies on landfill and incineration at flemish level
6. implementing landfill and incineration prohibitions
- 7. applying the principle the polluter pays**
- 8. implementing the producer's responsibility**

Obligatory optimal uniform selective collection

- door-to-door: residual waste, bulky waste, organic waste, paper and cardboard, PMC-packaging waste
- bottle banks, textile containers: 1/1000 inhabitants, or door-to-door collection
- containerpark: 20 - 40 different types of waste
- city centre, rural municipalities, tourist/coast areas: special collection systems

The polluter pays at four levels

At municipal level

- prevention: free or lowest cost
- selective collection: low cost
- residual waste: full cost of incineration

At retail level

- recycling fee when buying one-way-packaging (green dot), EEE, batteries, tires, motoroil, ...
- the consumer pays...

Total cost of household waste management

€ 225 per household (2.4 persons)

- € 30 paid through the producers responsibility

- € 195 paid at municipality

 - 1/3 taxes related to the amount of waste (variable cost)

 - 1/3 fixed household waste tax/household (fixed cost)

 - 1/3 general taxes related to household income

Municipal taxation of residual waste

- Waste bag (60l. standard volume, 30-45-100l.)
- waste bin/container (120l. standard volume, 45-60-240 l.)

Municipal taxation of selectively collected waste

- per volume or weight, fully or only for big quantities
- organic waste (garden + kitchen)
- bulky waste
- wood
- demolition waste
- organic waste
- nappies

No municipal taxation

- textile
- glass
- paper and cardboard
- old metals
- small dangerous wastes
- when producers responsibility
- PMC-packaging (only €0.125 for cost of production and distribution of the blue bag)

Facts and figures

- fixed household waste tax: €60/year
- tune the tarification of door-to-door collection with the tarification of containerpark
- let the SME's pay the full cost
- using containers for residual waste gives best results (see presentation of IOK)
- dealing with illegal and evasive behaviour!

Facts and figures: containerpark

- 320 containerparks in the flemish region
- a “reference” containerpark costs €140 000/year
 - infrastructure (5 000m²) (*)
 - staffing (2.62FTE) (*)
 - goods and services (*)
 - not included: containers (*), transport (*), treatment (*), communication (*), PAYT-systems

Facts and figures: containerpark

- development of a cost calculation model for containerparks (see: www.vvsg.be)
- producers have to pay for the use of a containerpark to fulfil their responsibility (*)
- the use of containerparks is more efficient than take-back on delivery (56% more expensive) or in-store take-back (126% more expensive)
- 50% of household waste is collected in containerparks

Facts and figures: door-to-door (2005)

- separating at source instead of afterwards provides the purest materials
- 25% of paper and cardboard are packaging
33% of collection costs is due to packaging
monthly collection costs €50.8/ton or €2.45/inh. In rural area's (<200 inh/km² €85/ton or €2.16/inh)
- glass collected in 2 separated colours costs with bottle banks €49,1/ton or €1.26/inhabitant (rural €78.15/ton, €2.15/inh)

Facts and figures: door-to-door (2005)

- PMC-packaging, collected 2 times a month, costs €191/ton or €2.5/inh (rural €241/ton or €2.66/inh)
sorting out the individual materials costs €195/ton or €2.85/inh)

Facts and figures: special collection types

- Citycentre:
 - collection of organic kitchen waste not obliged
 - higher frequency of door-to-door collection
 - underground bottle banks
- rural area:
 - bottle banks up to 1/400 inhabitants
 - more home composting
 - collection door-to-door at request

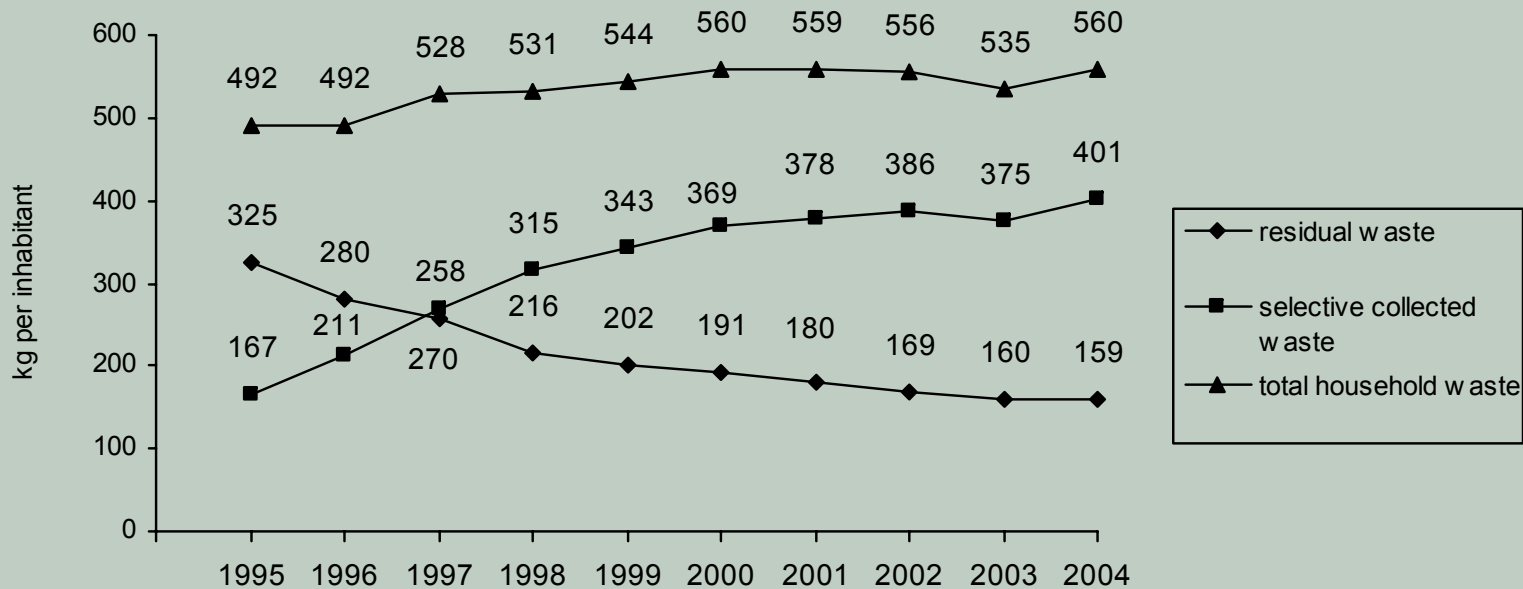
Illegal and evasive behaviour

- 5-10% of the population causes illicit dumping, streetlitter, burning at home, waste migration to work or to other municipalities, pollution of selectively offered waste
- 90-95% of the population participates correctly at the waste management!
- Punishing illegal behaviour by municipalities is necessary
- use the same tarification in neighbouring cities!

Illegal and evasive behaviour

- 5% refuses container for residual waste or doesn't offer it
- 1% of household waste illegally disposed of
- litter exists for 75% of waste fractions without municipal taxation! So no link with “expensive” waste bag or container
- 90-95% participates at selective collection (FOST Plus)
- selectively collected waste contains <5% pollution (<15% for PMC-packaging)

Results of the flemish household waste management



- 161 municipalities have less residual waste than 150kg/inhabitant in 2004
- 7,5 kg/inh WEEE collected in 2005

Results packaging waste 2003

(European Commission DG Environment)

	Reco very	Recy cling		Reco very	Recyc ling
1. Belgium	92	74	10. France	64	48
2. Germany	86	71	11. UK	53	47
3. Austria	77	64	12. Spain	48	43
4. Netherlands	92	62	13. Finland	67	41
5. Luxembourg	87	60	14. Portugal (o2)	50	36
6. Sweden	88	59	15. Slovak Republic	47	36
7. Denmark	89	54	16. Ireland (o2)	35	35
8. Czech Republic	59	51	17. Greece	33	33
9. Italy	58	51			

Conclusion about polluter pays

- the polluter pays is a key instrument but not the only one in the household waste management
- use differentiated rate systems
- household pays only once (municipality or producers responsibility)