

Recycling of Packaging Waste: Considering all the Costs and all the Benefits



1st International EIMPack Congress
Lisbon, 29-30 November 2012

Brief introduction

- JASPERS: Joint Assistance to support Projects in European Regions
- European regions are “new” member states: EU 12
- Created in 2006 for 2007-2013 budget period; extended to 2014-2020 period
- Funded by EIB, EBRD, KfW, and European Commission

Typical budget of waste project co-financed by EU Cohesion and Structural Funds

- Typical cost: **€40-50 million**

Cost breakdown

- Waste collection and sorting (bins, platforms, transfer stations, sorting stations, home composters): **€8-10 million**
- Treatment and disposal (landfills, mechanical-biological treatment): **€24-30 million**
- Closure of non-compliant landfills: **€8-10 million**

Directive 2004/12/EC on packaging and packaging waste

Objectives

- Minimize impact of packaging waste on the environment
- Ensure free movement of goods within the EU and avoid obstacles to trade
- Harmonize national legislation of 27 countries

Directive 2004/12/EC on packaging and packaging waste

Principle of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Design and production of goods which take into account and facilitate the efficient use of resources during their whole life cycle

- Repair
- Re-use
- Disassembly
- Recycling

Should public money fund collection/sorting of packaging waste?

- Does the EU citizen pay for the implementation of the packaging directive through higher prices of packaged goods, higher waste management fees and taxes or both?
- Economic benefits from the implementation of the packaging directive?
- Market prices of secondary materials?

Milestones

- February 2010: submission of research topic
- Summer 2010: publication of call for proposals
- November 2010: selection of IST
- February 2011: start of research
- November 2012: 1st International EIMPack Congress
- February 2014: completion of project

Results to date

- Literature search
- Five case studies: Portugal, France, Germany, Romania, United Kingdom
- Dozen of presentations and working papers
- Private sector contribution from 100% in Germany to 66% in Romania

In Vino Veritas

