

# Legal framework and policy issues for the management of municipal organic waste

Vassilis LIOGKAS  
Senior Advisor of the Minister

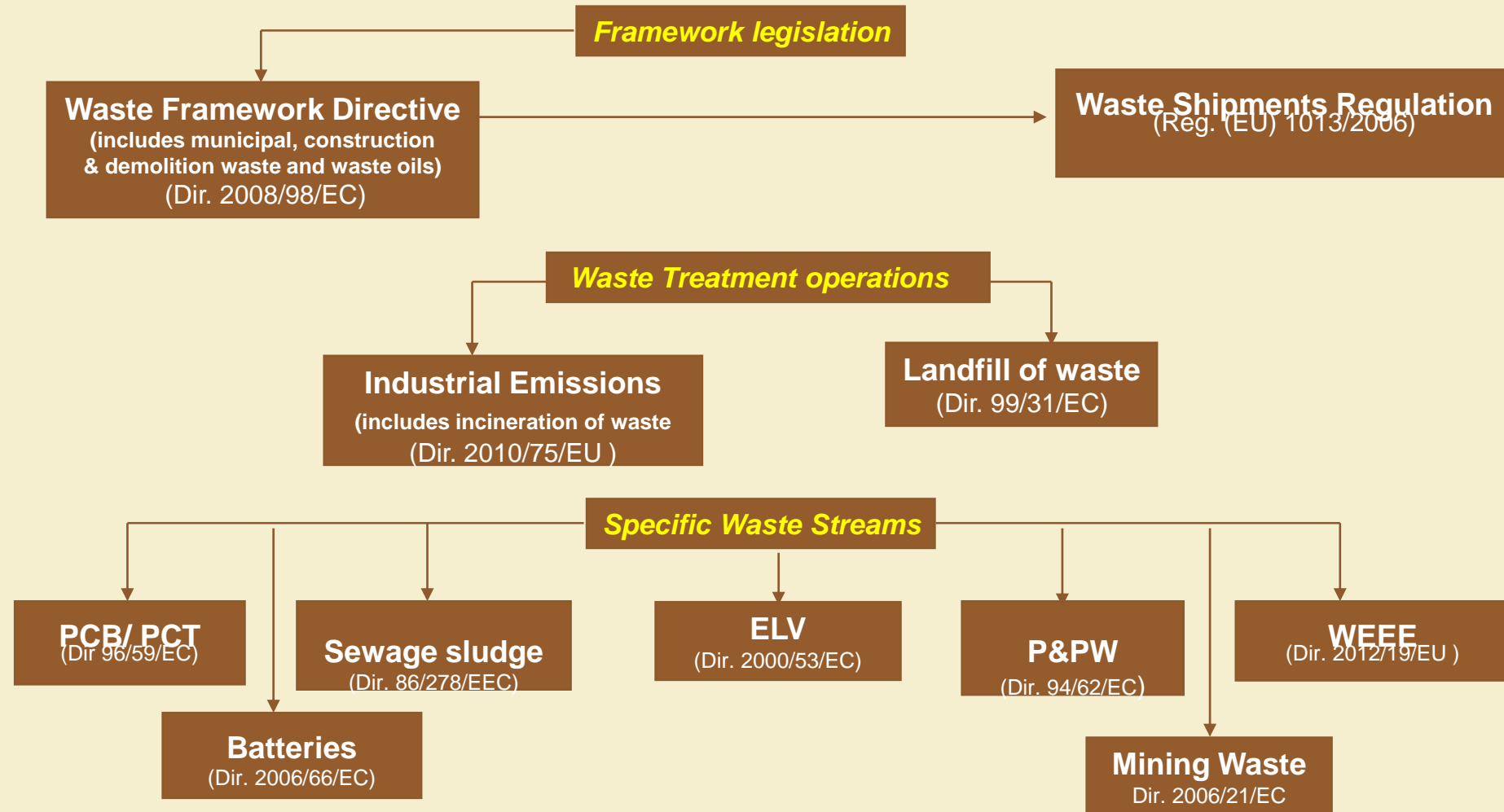
Mechanical Engineer, Dipl. Eng.  
M.Sc. in Urban and Regional Planning & Development  
M.Sc. in Environmental Engineering and Science



# Thematic Strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste [com(2005)666]

EU waste policy has the potential to contribute to reducing the overall negative environmental impact of resource use. Preventing waste generation and promoting recycling and recovery of waste will increase the resource efficiency of the European economy and reduce the negative environmental impact of use of natural resources. This will contribute to maintaining the resource base, essential for sustained economic growth.

# EU Waste Management Policy



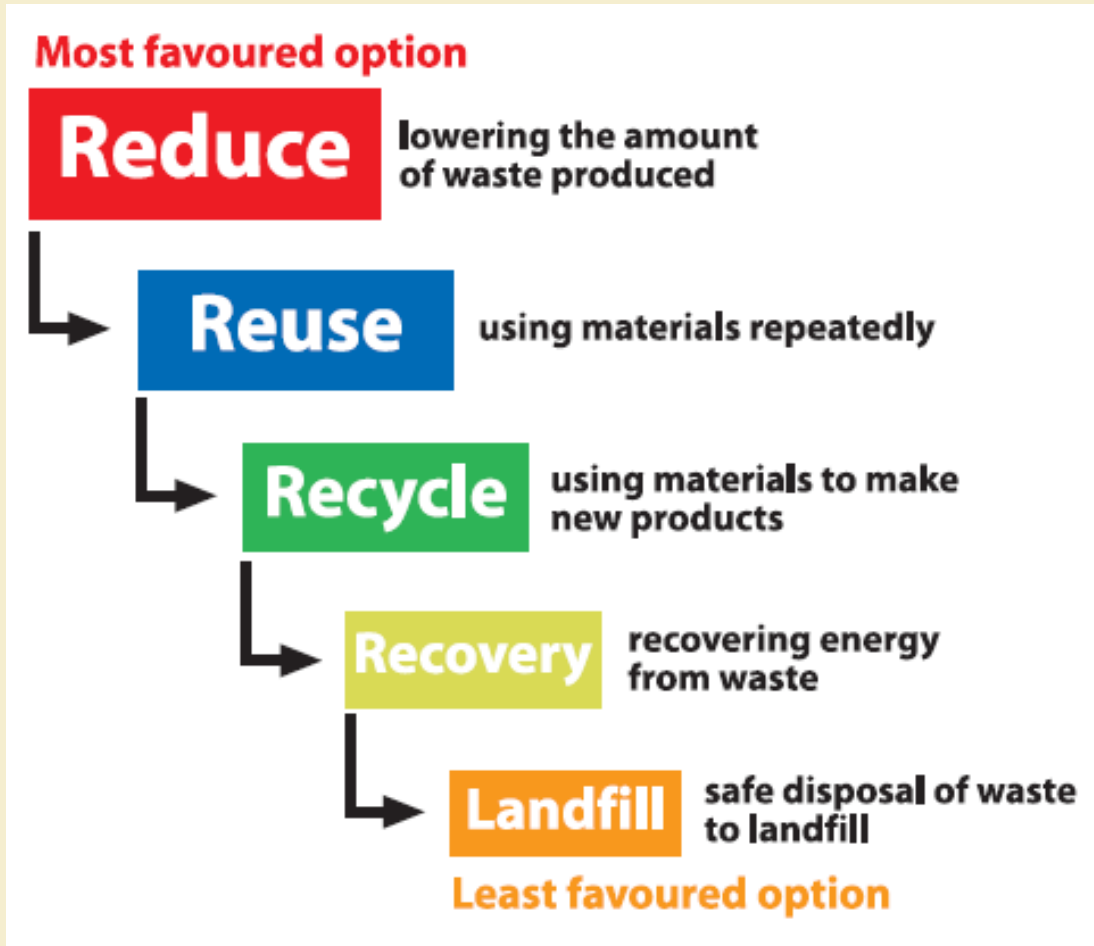
# The solution to the waste «problem»

The effective solution of the «waste problem» depends on of the current production and consumption paradigm's serious shift, i.e. produce more products using fewer natural resources, use natural resources producing less waste and finally consume more environmentally friendly products. Consumption refers to citizens; the aforementioned steps involve the industry.

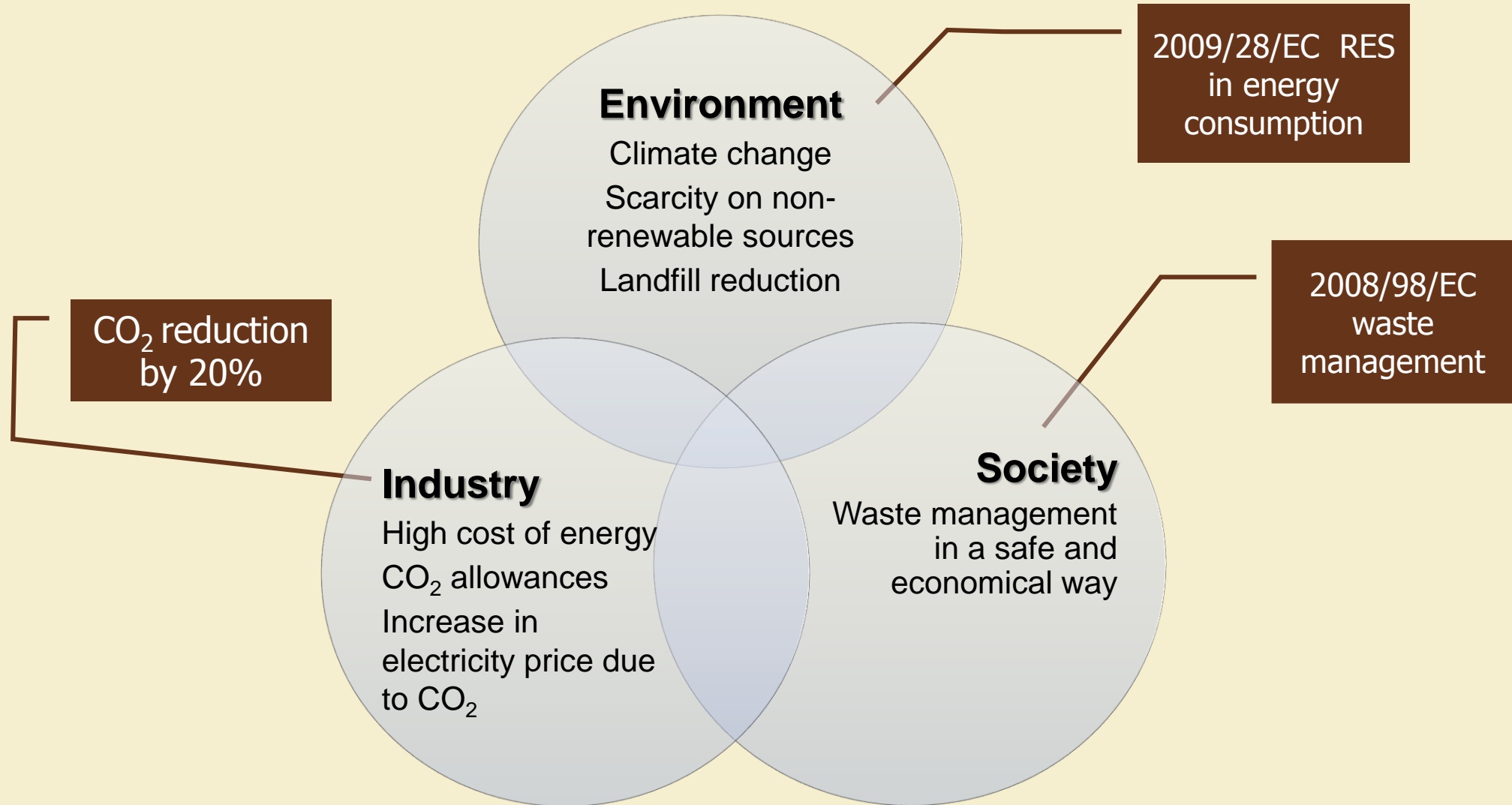
A comprehensive solution for waste management though is associated with major social changes.

The change from waste management to resource management and sustainability is primarily a social rather than a technical issue.

# Waste management hierarchy



# Challenges for Greece



# Zoom on Municipal waste

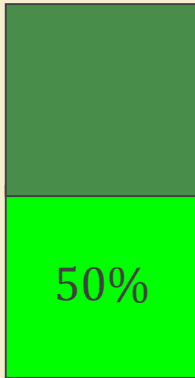
## **Waste Framework Directive**

- Reuse +recycling = minimum of 50% by 2020
- For household and possibly for similar waste
- At least paper, metal, plastic and glass

Comitology Decision allowing 4 calculation methods

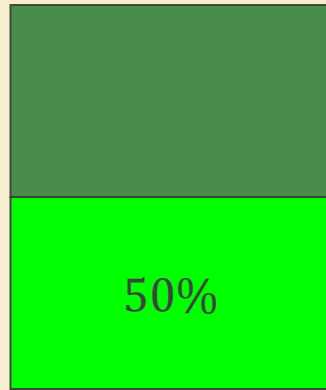
# Zoom on Municipal waste

minimum of  
overall



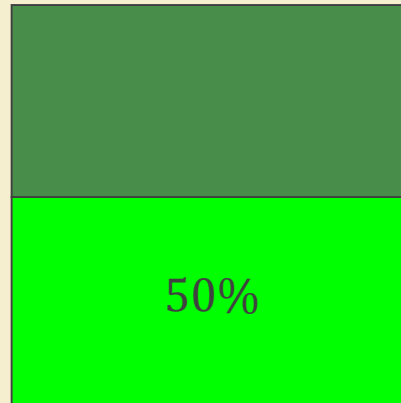
paper,  
glass,  
metal,  
plastic

minimum of  
overall



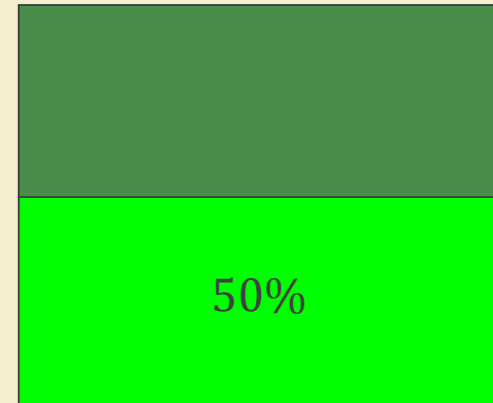
paper, +  
glass, other  
metal, household  
plastic or similar  
waste  
streams

minimum of  
overall



all household  
waste

minimum  
of overall



All waste from  
households +  
all similar waste  
streams =  
all municipal waste

MS options to calculate the 50% target



# Separate Collection

## **Waste Framework Directive**

- Member States shall set up separate collection to ensure high quality recycling
- By 2015 separate collection should be set up at least for paper, metal, plastic and glass

# Other Targets related to municipal waste

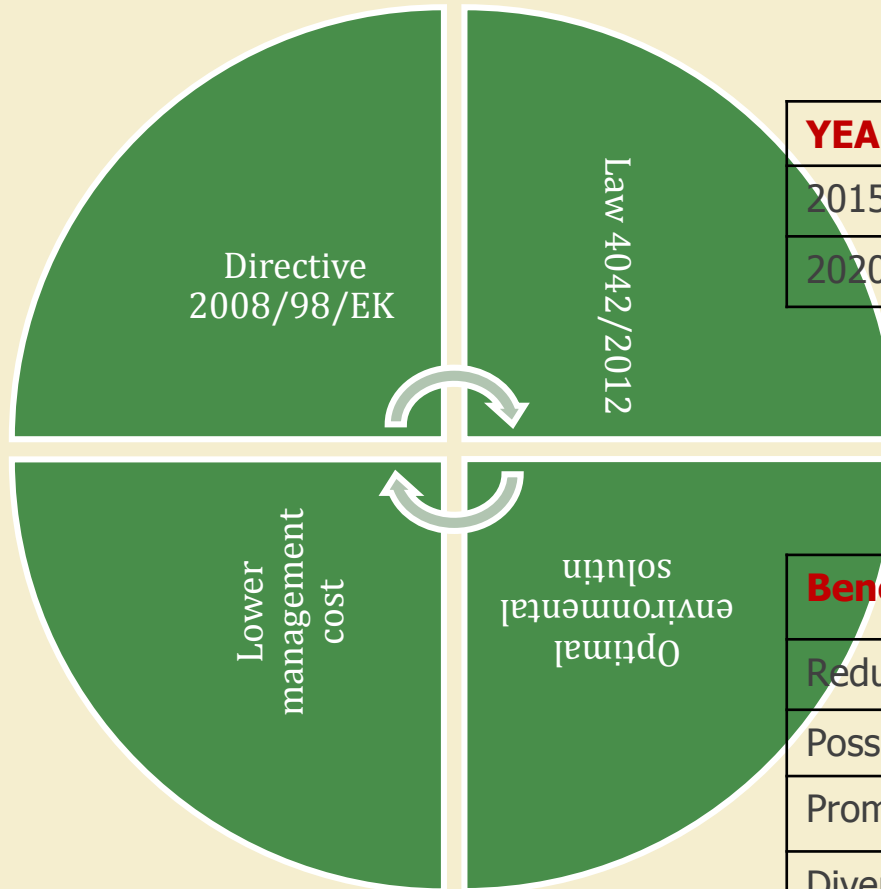
## Landfill diversion targets for biodegradable waste (compared to 1995 data)

- 25% in 2010
- 50% in 2013
- 65% in 2020

## Packaging (municipal + others)

- 60% recovery of which 55% recycling
- 60 % minimum recycling for glass, paper, 50% metals, 22,5% plastics and 15% wood

# Composting or Anaerobic Digestion of source separated organic waste



YEAR	TARGET
2015	5%
2020	10%

## Benefits from the management of source separated organics

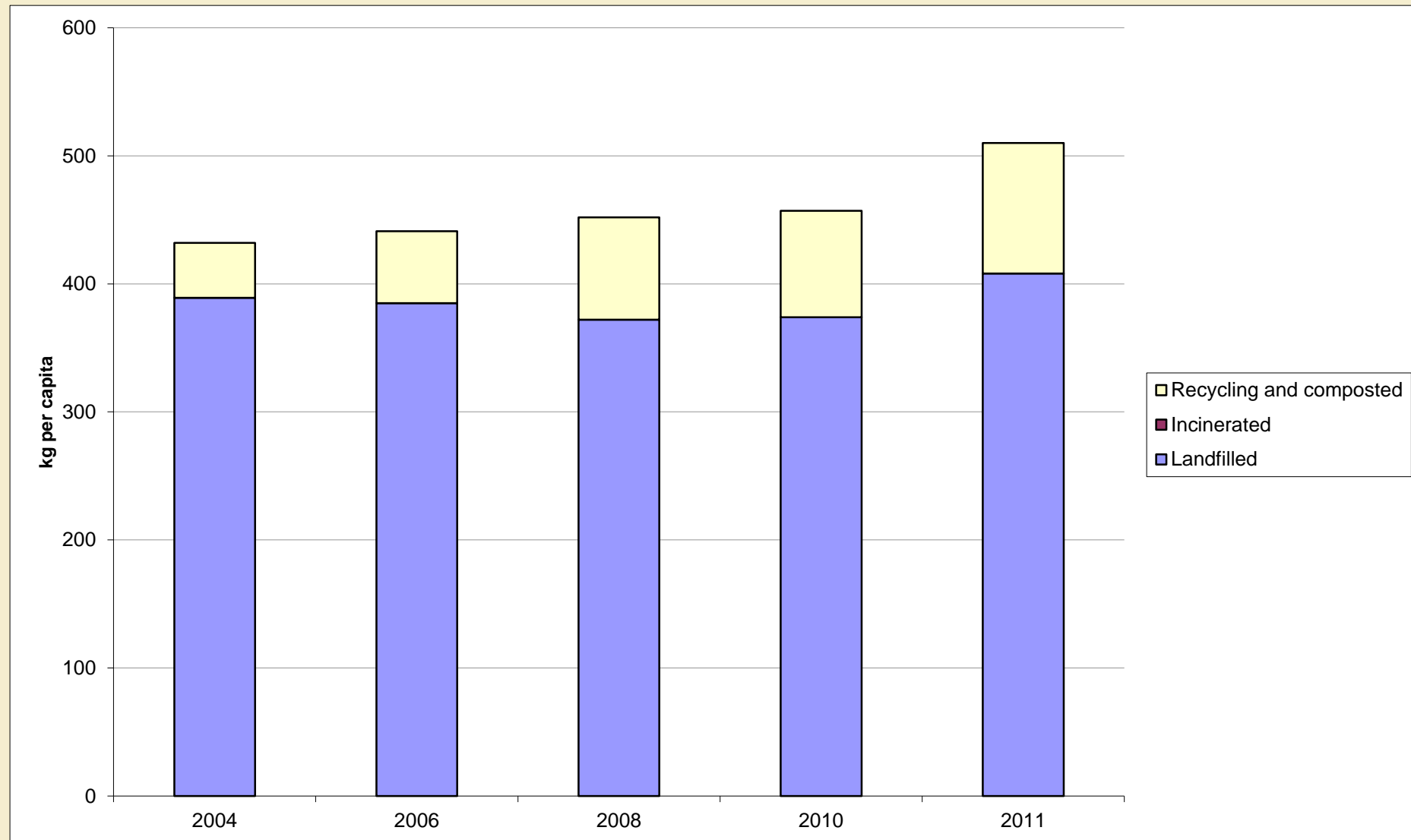
Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Possibility of renewable energy production

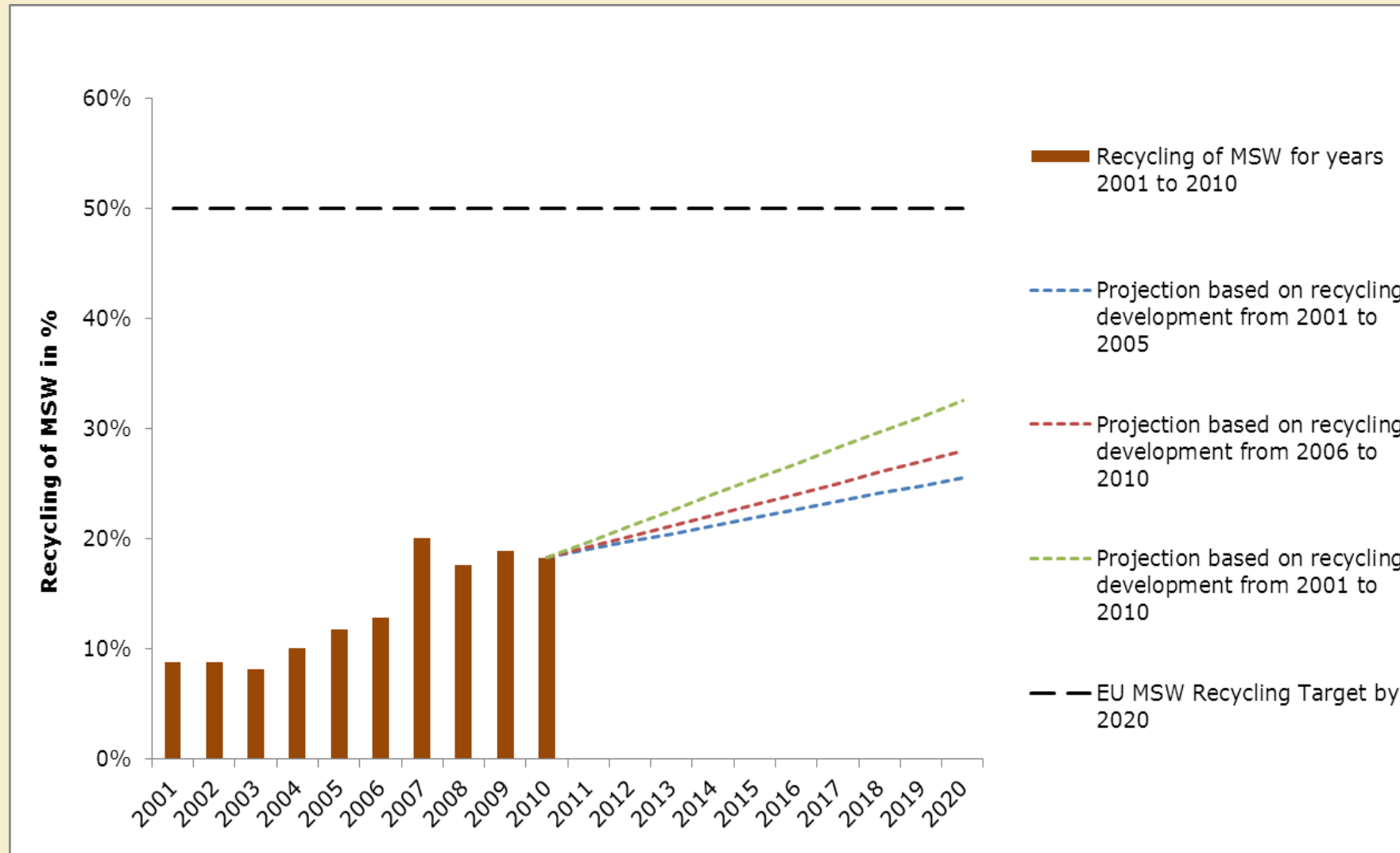
Promote Recycling/ Production of compost

Diversion of biodegradable waste from landfill

# Municipal waste in Greece by treatment



# Trend recycling of MSW in Greece



Source: [EEA 2012] Waste Implementation Project, Ex-post MSW analysis, GR, Final draft

# Actions by the Ministry of Environment

- ▶ Introduction of national targets for the promotion of biowaste separate collection: 5% (w/w) by 2015, 10% (w/w) by 2020 (Article 41 of Law 4042/2012)
- ▶ Preparation & distribution to all stakeholders of the “Guide for biowaste management practices”
- ▶ Preparation & distribution to beneficiaries of the “Technical guidelines for the design of composting plants – tender documents”
- ▶ Launching of Call 4.10 for the funding of biowaste collection systems and composting plants (129 municipalities and WMBs for 142.000 tn separate collection of BW and treatment (composting)).
- ▶ Development of a “Guide for Composting Plant operation” which is near completion
- ▶ Development of specifications of various types of compost for market promotion (to be awarded)
- ▶ Technical assistance from experienced Member States through collaboration with TFGR

# Biowaste management efforts in progress

- ▶ Biowaste represents the main fraction to be targeted in a waste management policy aiming at resource efficiency.
- ▶ The Ministry has proceeded with a programme that includes guidelines, technical specifications, implementation of programmes and plants on a small scale, raising of awareness and capacity building, all funded by the OP Environment.
- ▶ However, most probably, NSRF funds will not be sufficient for completing the 2015 programme, but funding will be available in the PP 2014-2020.
- ▶ Evaluation of proposals submitted to the 4.10 call revealed that there is need for guidance to competent authorities in the design, operation and monitoring of biowaste management systems.
- ▶ Technical assistance from experienced member states was considered useful, in order to minimise the risk of failure due to poor application of programmes or poor operation practices.

# The way ahead

- ▶ Update of national and regional Waste Management Plans (WMPs) including specific policy measures how to achieve the targets set by the Waste Framework Directive (WFD) and Law 4042/2012.
- ▶ Implementation of landfill tax with its progressive increase to divert waste from landfill. Use revenues to support separate collection and alternative infrastructure.
- ▶ Implementation of the bio-waste strategy including specific measures to divert biodegradable waste from landfill.
- ▶ Establishment and control of separate collection infrastructure and schemes. Implementation of door-to-door separate collection as soon as possible.
- ▶ Extend and improve the cost-effectiveness, monitoring and transparency of existing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes and eliminate free-riding.
- ▶ Extend and enforce Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) scheme. Provide incentives and support for households to participate in separate collection.



# Planning for the future

## **Programming period 2007-2014**

- Very unlikely that funding will be released for the approval of all projects necessary to achieve the 2015 target.
- However, because of nature of projects (short timetables) they will be considered, depending on the outlook of the overbooking

## **Programming period 2014-2020**

- Strong emphasis on biowaste management with the funding of separate collection schemes, small-scale composting plants and home composting.
- At least 60 Meuro for biowaste management.
- In addition, funding will be available for achieving 2020 biodegradable waste diversion targets (phasing or new projects)
- Need for involvement of private sector to cover funding gaps
- Need for supporting beneficiaries in design & costing of projects



*Thank you for  
your attention*

