# COLLECTORS Policy Recommendations

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# COLLECTORS policy recommendations

**OBJECTIVE:** promote **framework conditions** enabling the **shift** of municipal waste management systems **toward a circular economy approach**

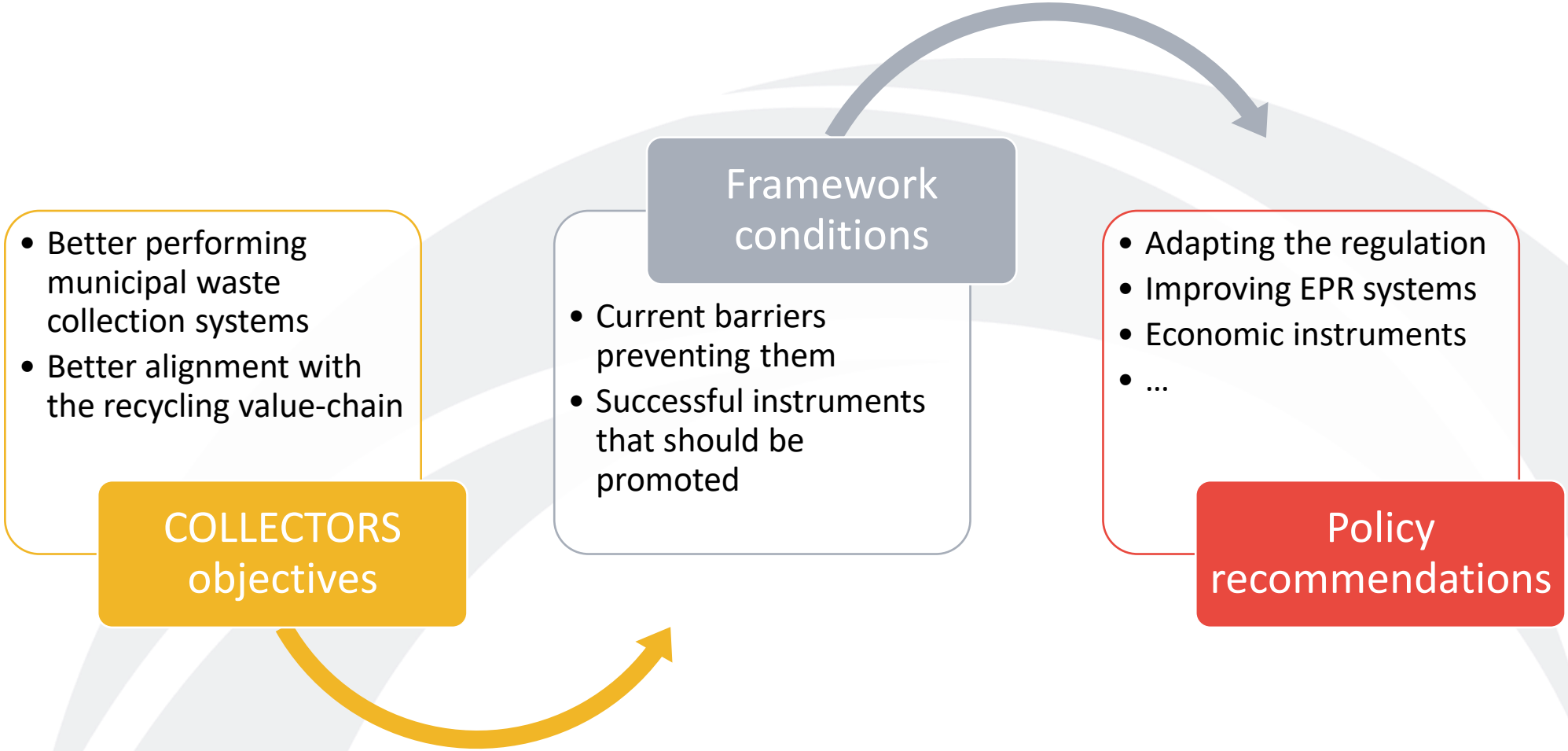
**CONTENT:**

- Key challenges and barriers
- Successful instruments for higher performances
- Example and further references

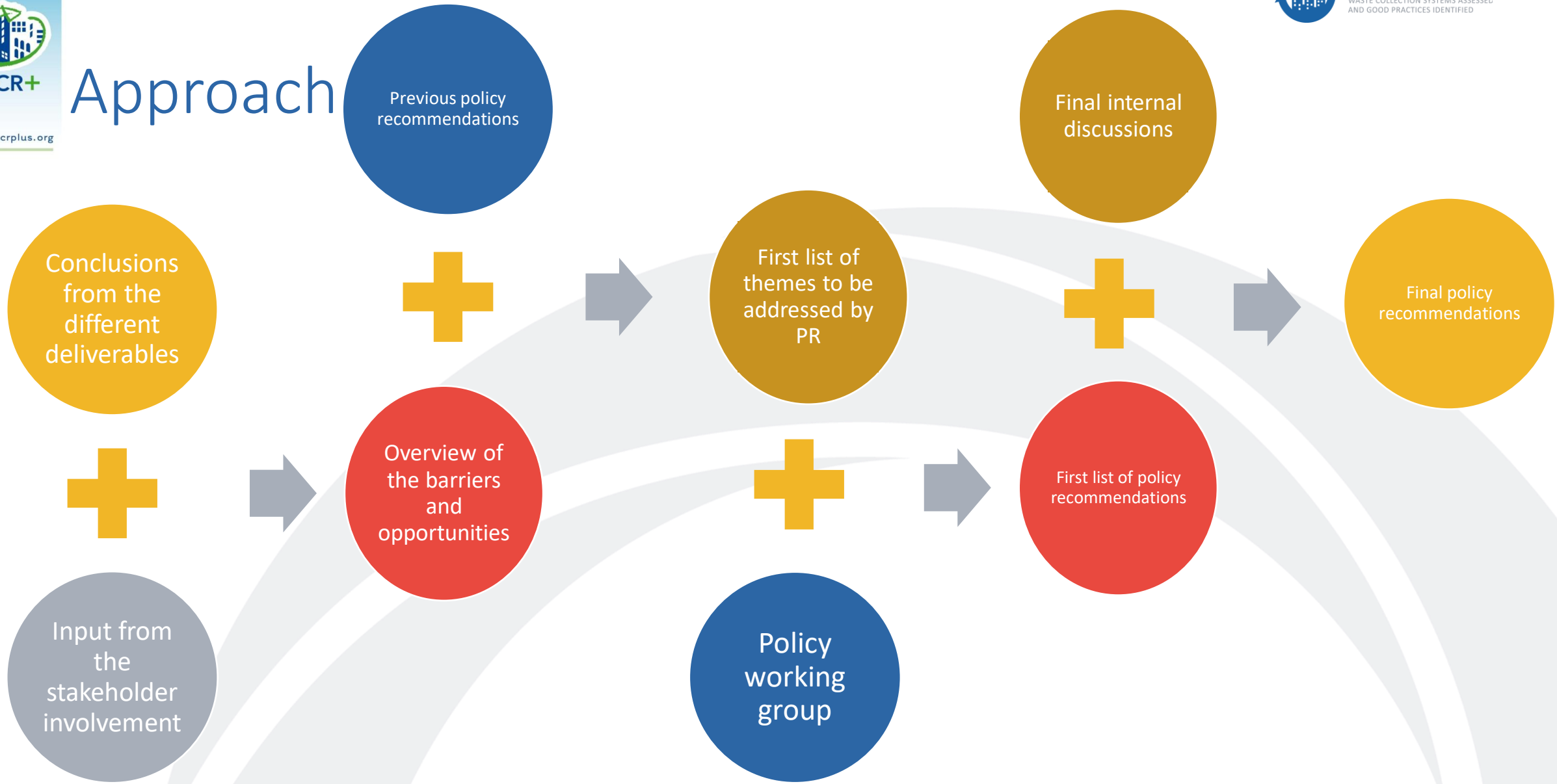
# Drafting the policy recommendations

Subtitle for a new section

# COLLECTORS policy recommendations



# Approach


Previous policy recommendations
Conclusions from the different deliverables
Input from the stakeholder involvement
Overview of the barriers and opportunities
First list of themes to be addressed by PR
Policy working group
Final internal discussions
First list of policy recommendations
Final policy recommendations

# COLLECTORS policy recommendations

Subtitle for a new section

# 6 key topics

- Harmonisation of separation guidelines for PPW
- Improvement of local collection of WEEE
- Better EPR fee modulations
- Improve knowledge and data availability
- Improve recycling of CDW
- Ensure economic sustainability of high performances

PPW

# Harmonisation of separation guidelines for PPW

**CHALLENGES**

- Confusion for inhabitants
- Heterogeneity of the sorted materials
- Highly fragmented value chains with less possibilities for collaboration and upscaling

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Common sorting guidelines (do's and dont's)
- Common separation schemes, with glass and paper/cardboard source-separated
- Limited number of combinations
- Common colour scheme and visual communication

PPW

# Harmonisation of separation guidelines for PPW

IMPLEMENTATION

- Allow some flexibility (e.g. on collection mode, possibility to co-mingle PMC, etc.)
- Long-term process / take into consideration recent investments or recent changes
- Key element: communication on practical aspects and reasons behind changes
- Plastic packaging: extension of sorting guidelines possible if adequate sorting equipment is available
- Non-packaging materials: requires innovations

WEEE

# Improvement of local WEEE collection

**CHALLENGES**

- Much WEEE not entering the « proper » collection routes
- Improper collection leads to poor quality
- Illegal practices hinder the quantities and quality of collected WEEE and impact the environment

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- **Increase source-separation**: **adequate compensation** for collection points based on level of segregation, **ban/penalise mixed collection**, improve **accessibility of collection points**, improve **training** of staff.
- **Tackle illegal practices**: **ban cash transaction** for metal scrap, adapt **compensations** to level of scavenging, promote **securing of collection points, improve monitoring** of individual collection points

WEEE

# Improvement of local WEEE collection

IMPLEMENTATION

- Better control of transactions of scrap metal
- Key role of EPR systems:
  - Propose alternative collection schemes
  - Provide transversal information for inhabitants
  - Enforce collection schemes from retailers (1x1, reverse logistic, etc.)
  - Support mechanisms against theft and scavenging
- Benchmarking of collection points to assess individual performances

PPW

WEEE

# Better EPR fee modulations

**CHALLENGES**

- Recycling performances also impacted by materials that cannot be properly sorted/recycled
- Significant environmental savings associated with re-use
- Lack of information on reparation, space parts, improper designs

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- **PPW**: modulated fees need to address **recyclability**, existence of **recycling routes**, absence of **recycling disrupters,** and **costs associated with disposal**
- **WEEE**: modulated fees need to address information on composition and reparaibility, availability of spare parts, design preventing dismantling, diversity of materials

PPW

WEEE

# Better EPR fee modulations

IMPLEMENTATION

- **PPW**:
  - Criteria – combination of:
    - **Recyclability**
    - **Actual recycling rate**
    - **Cost for the end-of-life**
  - Challenge: lack of data, lack of harmonisation across EU

- **WEEE**: modulated fees with bonuses/maluses depending on:
  - **Reparability**: available instructions, availability of spare parts guaranteed, the possibility to dismantle with commercially available tools
  - **Lifespan extension**: possibility to upgrade the material or software, extended warranty
  - **Recyclability**: presence of specific hazardous substances, of paint/coating…

PPW WEEE CDW

# Improve knowledge and data availability

**CHALLENGES**

- Lack of traceability
- « Recycling » includes various processes with different environmental relevancy
- Lack of local, comparable data on costs, waste composition
- Lack of harmonised reporting for WEEE

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- More harmonisation for cost reporting and composition analysis, better local data on quality
- PPW: **more transparency** over the course of the value chain to enable the assessment of local recycling rates / distinguish **closed-loop from open-loop recycling**
- WEEE: Involve **all players** that can influence collection rates

PPW WEEE CDW

# Improve knowledge and data availability

IMPLEMENTATION

- Promote **homogeneous reporting systems** at national level, incl. figures on quality and costs + Effort toward EU harmonisation

- PPW: **more transparency** and traceability:
  - **Capitalise** on existing databases (EPR)
  - **Better traceability** of input/output in sorting and recycling units
  - Assess individual contamination and composition of inputs with consistant sampling
  - Distinguish **open- and close-loop** recycling processes

- WEEE:
  - **More communication** to consumers, with **surveys** to identify challenges
  - Develop **national WEEE monitoring strategies** to centralise and ease reporting, clarify reporting guidelines, and audits to control reported data
  - Better knowledge on **unreported flows**
  - Better involvement of all the players involve in WEEE management

CDW

# Improve the recycling of CDW

**CHALLENGES**

- Priority waste stream with significant quantities
- Difficulty for local authorities to identify local market for secondary CDW fractions
- Costs for diverting CDW from disposal or back-filling might be high

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Need for financial/regulatory instruments:
  - Landfill taxes or bans
  - Incentives for recycling
  - Focus on fractions for which recycling routes are available (e.g. gypsum)

PPW

# Ensure economic sustainability of high performances

**CHALLENGES**

- Selective collection generally leads to higher costs
- To balance the costs: taxes on disposal, revenues from EPR systems or sales of materials

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- EPR financing for local auhtorities aimed at improving performances
- Better adjustment of landfilling and incineration taxes
- Promote Pay as you throw systems

PPW

# Ensure economic sustainability of high performances

IMPLEMENTATION

- EPR subsidies not only based on performances, but also to implement good practices or to help to overcome specific challenges
- Taxes on disposal based on a better knowledge of local costs / modulation rewarding investment or good practices
- Promotiong (obligation, or financial/technical support) of PAYT systems

# More information on COLLECTORS website


**COLLECTORS policy recommendations**

Executive summary available here

# Thank you!

**Contacts**

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For more info about the project visit the COLLECTORS website at www.collectors2020.eu