Country profile

Early warning assessment related to the 2025 targets for municipal waste and packaging waste

Belgium

June 2022

European Environment Agency

Contents

Acknowledgements

This assessment was prepared by the ETC/WMGE and the successive ETC/CE under guidance of the European Environment Agency and with inputs from a consortium led by Rambøll Group under contract with the European Commission. It builds to a large extent on the answers to a questionnaire, developed by the EEA and ETC/WMGE, provided by provided by the Public Waste Agency of Flanders (OVAM), Bruxelles Environment (BE) and Public service of Wallonia-Environment (PSWE) for respectively the Flemish Region (FR), Brussels Capital Region (BCR) and Walloon Region (WR), as well as the Belgian Interregional Packaging Commission (IRPC) in 2021. The EEA and ETC/CE would like to thank the Belgian authorities for the information provided and for the kind review of drafts of the assessment in 2021 and April 2022.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background and purpose

The Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC (as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/851) includes a target to recycle and prepare for reuse, by 2025, 55 % of municipal waste generated. The Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/852) includes targets for the recycling of packaging waste, both in total and by material, to be achieved by 2025. The Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/850) requires to limit the landfilling of municipal waste to 10 % of the generated municipal waste by 2035. The Directives also foresee that the European Commission, in cooperation with the European Environment Agency, publishes early warning reports on the Member States' progress towards the attainment of the targets, including a list of Member States at risk of not attaining the targets within the respective deadlines, three years ahead of the target dates. This assessment is a contribution from the EEA to the early warning reports according to Article 11b Waste Framework Directive and Art. 6b Packaging and Packaging Waste directive.

This document is an early warning assessment for Belgium. The document is based on the analysis of a number of factors affecting recycling performance (success and risk factors). The assessment aims at concluding whether Belgium is at risk of missing the targets for municipal waste and packaging waste set in EU legislation for 2025. In addition, it provides an early assessment of the prospects for meeting the 2035 target for landfilling of municipal waste.

This assessment takes into account information that was available before 10 May 2022.

1.2 Approach

The assessment follows a methodology developed by the EEA and ETC/WMGE and consulted with the Eionet in 2020 (ETC/WMGE, 2021), which was adjusted in 2021 taking into account experiences with applying the methodology in 2021 (ETC/CE & ETC/WMGE, 2022). This methodology uses a set of quantitative and qualitative success and risk factors that have been identified to affect the recycling performance. The assessment is to a large extent based on the information provided by the Member State in the reply to an EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire as well as on available data and information from Eurostat and other relevant sources. In addition, a consortium under contract with the European Commission (led by Rambøll Group) has conducted a critical review of the draft assessment in Q4/2021 and provided further information.

More specifically, chapter 2.1 assesses the likelihood for Belgium to achieve the target to prepare for reuse and recycle at least 55 % of municipal solid waste (MSW) for 2025. Chapter 2.2 assesses the likelihood for Belgium to achieve the overall packaging waste and specific packaging materials' recycling targets for 2025. Chapter 2.3 examines the prospects for Belgium to landfill less than 10 % of the generated municipal solid waste by 2035. The official early warning assessment for the landfilling target is only due in 2032 and accordingly the assessment contained in Chapter 2.3 is only preliminary.

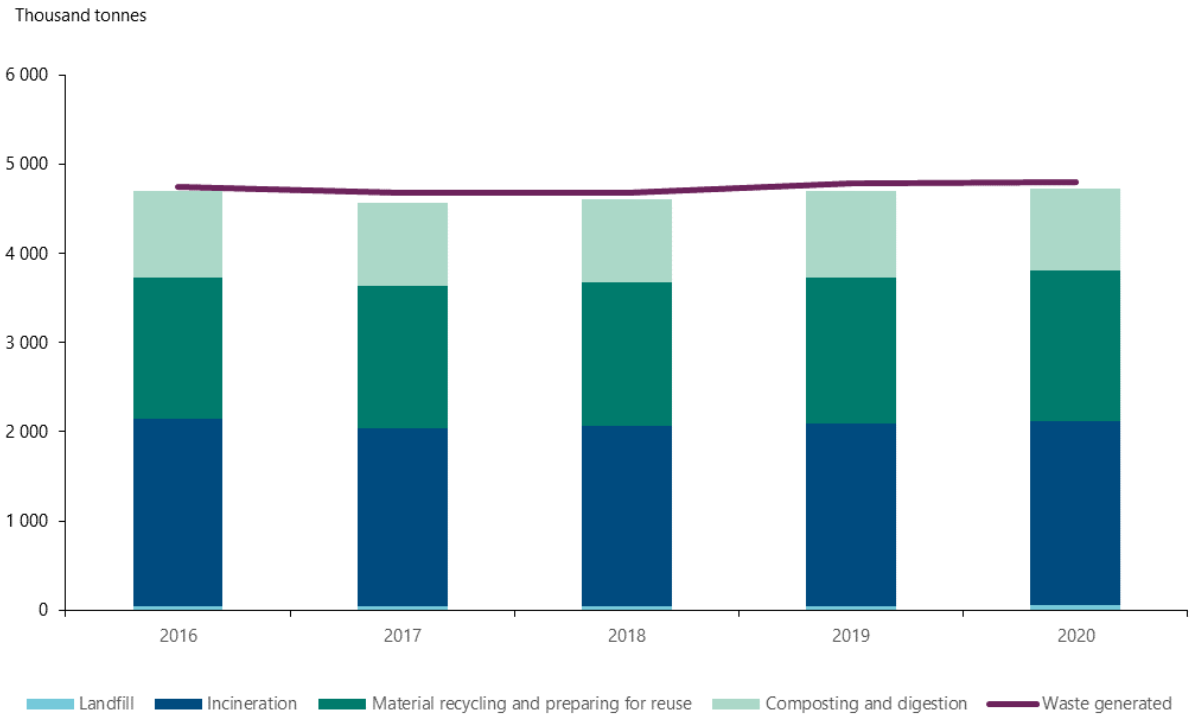
1.3 Member State profile – context parameters

Municipal waste generation and treatment

Belgium has shown a rather stable level of waste generation over the past five years, with almost five million tonnes of municipal waste generated in 2020 (Figure 1.1). This corresponds to 416 kg/cap, which is below the EU average of 505 kg/cap.

Belgium over the last years has managed to divert more than half of the municipal solid waste (MSW) generated to recycling. The recycling rate was more or less stable during the last five years. A landfill ban, in practice, is applicable in the entire country: there is a landfill ban in both Flanders and Wallonia, and no landfill facility in BCR. Moreover, the tax system (landfill tax and incineration tax) makes landfill the least favourable option and favours separate collection, with corresponding sorting and recycling, over incineration for most of municipal solid waste fractions. In 2020, the landfill rate was at an all-time low, of about 1 %. The country has a high level of incineration, reaching a stable plateau around 43 % in 2020 and previous years. In Belgium, the installed incineration capacity is significant: there are ten waste incinerators (all R1 status) in Flanders that also treat MSW, four in Wallonia (all R1 status) and one in BCR (with energy recovery, R1 status). Flanders also has one MBT installation.

Figure 1.1 Municipal waste generation and treatment in Belgium between 2016 and 2020, in thousand tonnes



Source: Eurostat (2022a)

Legal Framework

Waste management (as part of 'environment') is a regional competence in Belgium and therefore the responsibility of the three regions, the Brussels Capital Region (BCR), Flanders and Wallonia, in which waste management planning and statistical reporting are undertaken by three separate entities. All the relevant waste-related statistics are submitted individually to Eurostat, where the information is then compiled, as such providing national data.

Since 'product legislation' is a national competence, all EPR schemes in Belgium are more or less uniform across the regions. For packaging waste, the Flemish Region, the Walloon Region and the Brussels Capital Region have jointly signed the Cooperation Agreement on the prevention and management of packaging waste. The Cooperation Agreement is a legal framework for the prevention and management of all types of packaging waste in Belgium. This Cooperation Agreement is a legal document that applies to the whole of Belgium. The creation of the Interregional Packaging Commission (IRPC) is laid down in the Cooperation Agreement.

In Wallonia, Directive 2018/852 has been transposed through a cooperation agreement in March 2020, amending the Cooperation Agreement of 4 November 2008 on the prevention and management of packaging waste (EEB, 2020). On top of that, additional and operational provisions are laid down in the decisions of the Interregional Packaging Commission (IVCIE), in particular during the recent renewal of the approval of the producer responsibility organisations for household packaging (Fost-Plus) and industrial packaging (Valipac). The sorting, separate collection and recycling of packaging waste are also covered by provisions in the Walloon Waste-Resources Plan.
The transposition of EU Directives 2018/850 and 2018/851 is still in progress. New provisions for EPR schemes are targeted by the legislation, focusing on WEEE, batteries and accumulators, end-of-life vehicles, tyres, non-food oils, packaging (all prior to 4 July 2018) and mattresses (recently), defining the financial management system, waste prevention and management. The fiscal decree of 22 March 2007, promoting the prevention and recovery of waste, already includes tax provisions encouraging the waste hierarchy. An increase if the incineration tax is about to be voted.
The Walloon Waste-Resources plan (PWD-R), adopted by the Walloon Government on 22 March 2018, anticipated the obligations of Directive 2018/851. In particular, it includes a waste prevention programme (section 2 of the PWD-R) including provisions relating to the prevention of food waste (fight against food losses and waste), and it provides new restrictions for landfill, incineration and a focus on public cleanliness (in accordance with Article 11 of Directive 2019/904).

The separate collection of hazardous waste and recoverable waste has been in place for many years. The municipalities have an obligation to organize the service, and the list of different waste streams has grown over time, to also include the collection of bio-waste. The framework of the obligation is the decree of 5 March 2008, relating to the management of waste resulting from households and the related costs. Specifically, for packaging waste, the cooperation agreement of 4 November 2008, relating to the prevention and management of packaging waste, sets the minimum obligations for household and industrial packaging. Sorting for the recovery of business waste in general is regulated by the order of the Walloon Government of 5 March 2015, establishing an obligation to sort certain waste that sets separate collection for flows, including packaging waste, green waste, non-soiled textiles and wood waste. (EEB, 2020)

In Flanders (EEB, 2020), the EU Waste Directives are transposed through three relevant sets of environmental legislation, but the transposition process was only finalized in August 2021:

1. VLAREM II: Order of the Flemish Government of 1 June 1995 concerning General and Sectoral provisions relating to Environmental Safety. The VLAREM legislation contains the rules on environmental permits. It lays down the criteria for which kind of activity an environmental permit is required, and it sets the minimum criteria that activities need to abide to, with the aim of protecting the environment. For different kinds of activities, minimum rules have been laid down, such as for the recovery and disposal of waste. These environmental permits need to guarantee that waste treatment activities have a limited environmental impact.
2. The Materials Decree entered into force on 1 June 2012. The legal text starts from an integral view of the material chain that is essential to find a lasting solution to the waste issue. It anchors sustainable materials management in Flanders. The decree implements the European Waste Framework Directive (EC) 2008/98 for waste management in Flanders.

3. Parallel to the decree, the Flemish Regulations for the sustainable management of material cycles and waste, the VLAREMA, contain detailed regulations on special waste, raw materials, separate collection, transport, the obligation to register and extended producer responsibility. The Materials Decree and VLAREMA entered into force simultaneously on 1 June 2012, with a few exceptions of transitional provisions.

Since 1995, Flanders has had in place overall mandatory measures on separate collection and recycling for many waste streams, established in the aforementioned laws and implementing acts. Apart from that, Flanders also uses bans and taxes to discourage landfill and incineration. Landfill and incineration taxes have been in place since 2007 and are regulated by the Materials decree (Articles 44 et seq). Landfill and incineration taxes guarantee that landfilling is more expensive than incineration and that incineration is more expensive than recycling. The taxes were raised by 50 % in 2015. An effective raise of the incineration tax is currently being investigated. The basic principle is that the polluter pays.

The Flemish Climate Action Plan 2021-2030 contains targets for a reduction in the amount of residual waste sent to incineration, more specifically by 25 % by 2030, through stepping up the separate collection of recyclable waste streams. This corresponds with a drop in the amount of residual household waste, from 145 kg per person to 100 kg per person by 2030.

The key legislation in the Brussels Capital Region related to waste is the Waste Ordinance (Region de Bruxelles-Capitale, 2012), which is the main legal basis for all actions taken on the Brussels level. The Waste Ordinance was modified by the Ordinance of 6 May 2021 in order to implement the obligations from the Waste Framework Directive.

The main objective of this text is to protect the environment and public health by preventing or reducing the harmful impact of waste generation and management, as well as by reducing the global impact of the use of resources and improving the efficiency of this use. The Waste Ordinance enforces several principles, namely the waste hierarchy, principles of self-sufficiency and proximity and the material and financial responsibility of the waste producer for the management of its waste.

It lays out the obligation for waste producers and holders to sort waste adequately, and the mandatory separate collection of paper, cardboard, metal, plastic and glass. It also gives license to the Government to extend this separate collection to other waste streams.

The other key legislation regarding waste is the BRUDALEX, which is the executive order adopted by the Government of the Brussels-Capital Region enforcing inter alia the Waste Ordinance and the Permit Ordinance. It contains four parts, each of them treating a specific subject, as follows:

- Title I: General provisions;
- Title II: Provisions relating to EPR schemes;
- Title III: Provisions relating to waste operations and operators;
- Title IV: Provisions specific to certain waste streams.

Overall, the BRUDALEX specifies in detail the general principles and rules laid out in its two legal bases, as mentioned above.

Waste management plan(s)

The Belgian territory is covered by three Regional Waste Management Plans (RWMP) for the regions of Wallonia, Flanders and Brussels. Currently, only the RWMP of the Brussels region has been updated in line with the requirements of the new Waste Framework Directive 2018/851/EU.

The Regional Resource and Waste Management Plan (PGRD) of Brussels (Plan de Gestion des Ressources et des Déchets (Gouvernement de la Région de Bruxelles Capitale, 2018)) is the plan which legally implements the regional waste policy. The plan is framed by the Ordinance of 14 June 2012 relating to waste and was adopted by the Government of the Region of Brussels Capital on 15

November 2018. The application period is 2018 – 2023. The document constitutes the fifth Waste Plan of the Brussels-Capital Region (RBC). The Plan is a strategic document that describes the intentions in the waste policy of the Brussels Capital Region. The RWMP is divided into seven strategic objectives which are all priorities. Each objective is broken down into several operational objectives which in turn contain measures to be implemented. All this is organized according to the chosen strategic approach, by the target audience. With the exception of the first objective, which structures the entire Plan, all the other strategic objectives address specific target audiences. One action of the 5th RWMP is a study on modernizing the EPR systems. This study is ongoing and aims to improve and optimize the system of EPR, also in order to improve the collection and recycling rates of the waste flows under EPR.

In May 2021, an intermediate evaluation of the RWMP made it possible to analyse the concrete results at mid-term, to consult and collect the opinion of Brussels stakeholders in order to draw up a series of recommendations to be implemented in the next 30 months.

In summary, the RWMP has broadly met its commitments since its publication, despite the radical change in circumstances brought about by the health crisis. The next challenges to be met by 2023 concern, in particular, supporting professionals and households in the obligation to sort bio-waste, the operational implementation of a Brussels biomethanisation unit, the implementation of the re-use roadmap and the implementation of new EPRs. (Brussels environment, 2022)

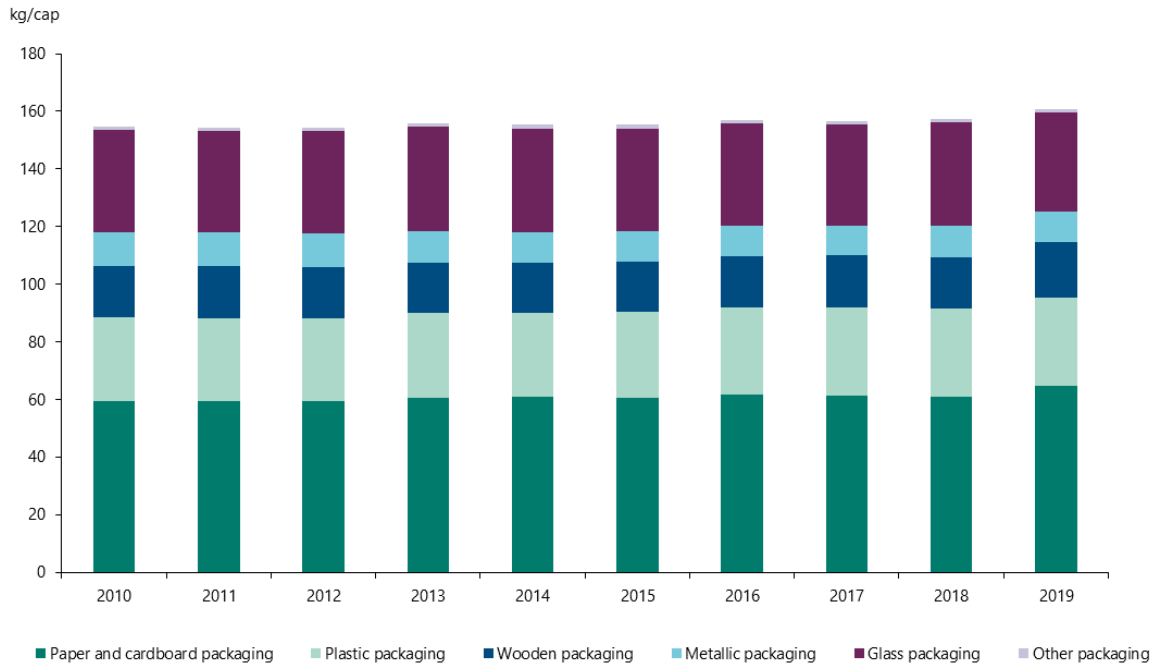
In September 2016, the Flemish Government approved the implementation plan proposed by OVAM - the public waste agency - for the 2016-2022 period (OVAM, 2019). The plan complements the previous one and aims at going beyond waste management to a focus on waste prevention and reuse through local reduction targets (including for industrial waste) and tailor-made residual waste targets for municipalities across Flanders for 2022.

In Wallonia, the 2018 Waste-Resources Plan (Wallonia Environment, 2018) contains targets and actions for 2025 for household and similar waste, and for industrial waste. It followed the second regional waste plan, which was adopted in 1998. The PWD-R includes the strategic framework which covers the actions of the Plan, it constitutes the programme for prevention and reuse of waste, covering both industrial waste and household waste. It constitutes a specific management plan for both household waste and industrial waste, including a plan for public cleanliness and the fight against litter and fly tipping.

Packaging waste generation and treatment

In 2019, 1.8 million tonnes (160 kg/cap) of packaging waste (both household packaging waste and industrial and commercial packaging waste) were generated in Belgium, which is below the EU average of 177 kg/cap. Total packaging waste generation increased by 10 % since 2010, with an increase of 10 to 15 % for paper and cardboard packaging, wooden packaging and plastic packaging (Figure 1.2). Waste generation increased by 2.2 % for glass packaging over the past ten years, while it decreased for metallic packaging by 6.5 %.

Figure 1.2 Packaging waste generation in Belgium between 2010 and 2019, in kg per capita



Source: Eurostat (2022b)

Capture rates for recyclables in municipal waste

The capture rate is a good performance indicator of the effectiveness of the separate collection system. The capture rate is calculated by dividing the separately collected weight of a certain material for recycling (as reported by the regions in the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire) by the weight of the material in total municipal waste (being the product of the residual waste composition and the total amount of residual waste collected, as reported by the region in the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire). For Belgium, the calculated capture rates for different waste fractions, were calculated based on numbers for household waste only (excluding the non-household part of municipal waste) due to lack and uncertainty in data. The capture rates calculated are presented in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 Capture rates for different waste fractions in Belgium (F= Flanders, W=Wallonia, B=BCR)

	Residual waste composition (%)([b])	Residual waste composition (tonnes)([a])	Separately collected amounts (tonnes)([b])	Materials in total MSW (tonnes)	Capture rates (%)
Reference year	F:2013-2014 W:2017/2018 B:2019	2019			
Mixed municipal waste, total		F: 950 985 W: 513 913 B: 206 100			
Paper and cardboard	F: 17 % W: 7.5 % B: 5 %	F: 165 947 W: 38 543 B: 10 305	F: 398 841 W: 174 154 B: 26 563	814 353	74 %
Metals	F: 2.2 % W: 1.4 % B: 1.3 %	F: 20 541 W: 7 195 B: 2 679	F: 34 904 W: 28 454 B: 3 283	92 736	69 %
Glass	F: 3.1 % W: 3.6 % B: 2 %	F: 29 385 W: 18 501 B: 4 122	F: 204 495 W: 110 249 B: 27 201	393 953	87 %
Plastic	F: 13.2 % W: 12.8 % B: 8.9 %	F: 125 815 W: 65 781 B: 18 343	F: 45 711 W: 10 178 B: 8 208	274 036	23 %
Bio-waste	F: 21.4 % W: 41.7 % B: 41.4 %	F: 203 606 W: 214 302 B: 85 325	F: 713 660 W: 305 869 B: 21 337	1 544 099	67 %
Textiles	F: 7 % W: 3.8 % B: 4.7 %	F: 66 759 W: 19 529 B: 9 687	F: 54 696 W: 25 986 B: 4 586	181 243	47 %
Wood	F: 2.3 % W: 0.3 % B: 1.7 %	F: 21 397 W: 1 542 B: 3 504	F: 203 859 W: 140 450 B: 8 479	379 231	93 %

([a]) Note: Share of material in residual waste (household waste only) multiplied with the amount of residual waste in 2018 as reported in the questionnaire by the regions

([b]) Source: As reported in the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire by the regions

This indicates that there is especially room for improvement to capture higher shares of the generated plastic and textiles wastes.

2 Success and risk factors likely to influence future performance

2.1 Target for preparing for reuse and recycling of municipal waste

This chapter aims at assessing the prospects of Belgium to achieve the **55 % preparing for reuse and recycling target** for municipal waste in 2025. For a detailed description of the methodology followed, the development of success/risk factors and their impact on recycling, please consult the Methodology report (ETC/CE & ETC/WMGE, 2022).

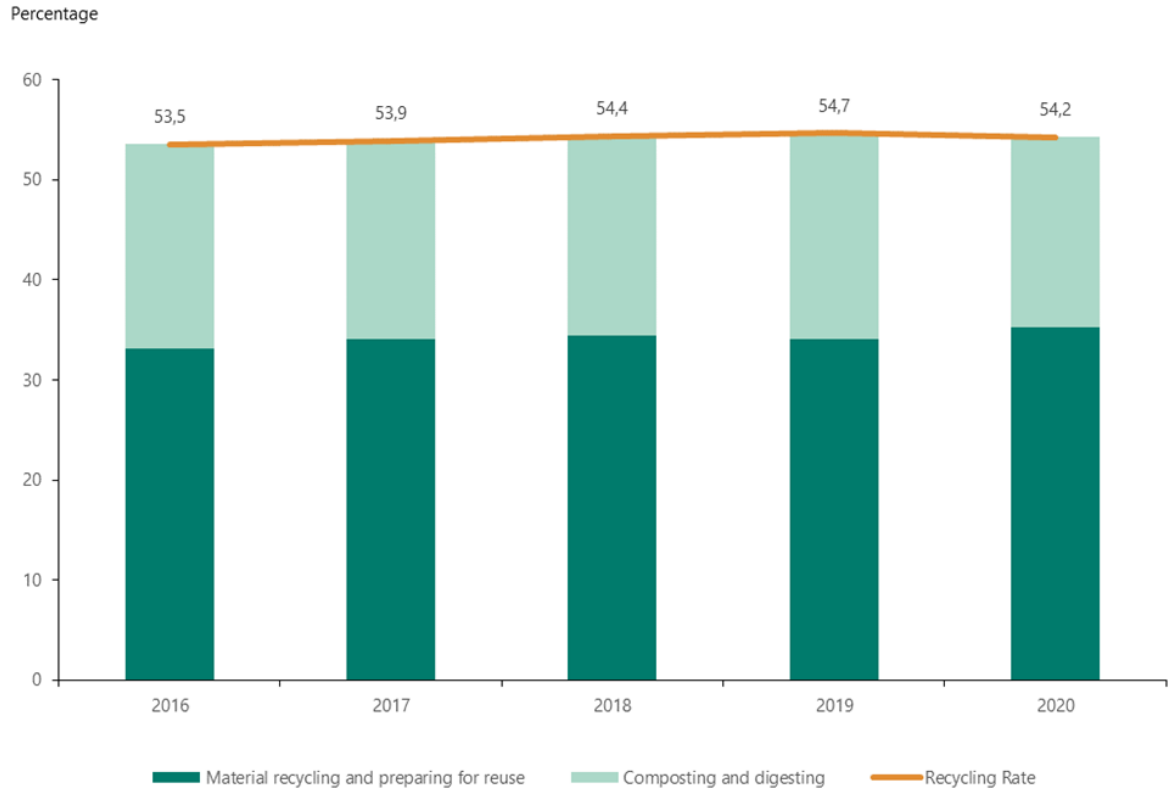
2.1.1 Current situation and past trends

SRF MSWR-1.1: Distance to target

The overall recycling rate for municipal waste in Belgium shows a very slight increase from 53.5 % in 2016 to 54.2 % in 2020 (Figure 2.1).

In this analysis the recycling rate is calculated by dividing the summed amounts of recycling of materials and of composting and digestion by the total generated amounts. The data source use is the Eurostat data set *Municipal waste by waste management operations* [env_wasmun] (following the OECD/Eurostat Joint Questionnaire); Data reported by Member States according to Article 10.2(a) of the Waste Framework Directive are not used for this assessment as the reporting methods differ by Member State, resulting in a lack of comparability between Member States. The data source used here is assumed to be the best available proxy given that data in accordance with the rules on the calculation of the attainment of the targets defined in Article 11a is not yet available.

Figure 2.1 Recycling rate in Belgium between 2016 and 2020, in percentage



Source: Eurostat (2022a)

The actual distance to the target for the most recent data point is a key factor determining the likelihood of meeting/not meeting the target. The closer the Member State is to the target already, the more likely that the target will be met. For Belgium, the recycling rate is 54.2 % in 2020, almost reaching the 2025 target.

However, the data used for this analysis are based on a different methodology than the calculation rules for the target. BCR and Flanders have estimated the impact of the new calculation rules for the recycling rates for 2018 (Table 2.1). The impact of the new calculation rules has not yet been analysed by Wallonia. However, if the average impact of BCR and Flanders is assumed for Wallonia, this would result in a reduction of 11.3 percentage points. Taking into account the weighted impact of the regions, the 2018 data estimate a reduction of the Belgian recycling rate by 11.6 percentage points.

Table 2.1 Overview of impact of new calculation rules for the 2018 recycling rate, in percentage

Region	Recycling rate, old calculation rules (Commission Decision 2011/753/EU)	Recycling rate, new calculation rules (Commission Implementing Decision 2019/1004)	Impact on recycling rate (in percentage points)	Average estimated impact on recycling rate (in percentage points)
BCR	43 %	30 - 35 %	13 – 8	10.5
Flanders	63 %	51 %	12	12
Wallonia	44 %			11.3
Belgium	55.1 %			11.6

If the same impact on the recycling rate as estimated by the Belgian authorities for 2018 is applied to the reported recycling rate for 2020, the estimated recycling rate for Belgium would be 43.5 %.

Summary result

Distance to target 5 - 15 percentage points	Based on the currently available data, Belgium's recycling rate lies at 54.2 % in 2020, 0.8 percentage points below the 2025 target. However, the Flemish and BCR authorities have estimated that the application of the new calculation rules will reduce the recycling rate by 10.5 – 12 percentage points while no similar estimate is available for Wallonia. Assuming that the application of the new calculation rules will have a similar effect in Wallonia as in Flanders and BCR, this would result in an estimated recycling rate of 43.5 %, 11.5 percentage points below the target.
Robustness of the underlying information	The impact of the new calculation rules is an estimate only. Belgium has partially (Flanders and Brussels) assessed the influence of the new calculation rules on the recycling rate (at the time of writing of this assessment).

SRF MSWR-1.2: Past trend in municipal solid waste recycling rate

The recycling rate over the past five years shows a very slight increase of about 0.7 percentage point (Figure 2.1). This indicates that the recycling rate is stabilising, and that additional measures are needed to improve the recycling rate and to be able to reach the 2025 target, especially taking into account the effect of the new calculation rules for the recycling rate.

Both in Flanders and Wallonia, municipalities can get subsidies for investments in waste management infrastructure or specific waste prevention measures (Wallonia). In all regions, a lot of attention goes to sharing of experiences and best practices. For example, in Flanders, an interactive data tool has been developed that shares information on waste management practices and results of all Flemish municipalities. This allows municipalities to benchmark their performance. BCR is currently executing a study in order to improve and optimise the EPR system, also with the aim to improve collection and recycling rates of the waste flows under the EPR. In addition, BCR is currently developing a strategy to support households and professionals to improve the sorting performance of waste, in particular bio-waste, and is preparing the operational implementation of a biomethanisation unit in Brussels. (Brussels environment, 2022)

Summary result

RR < 45% and increase in last 5 years < 10 percentage points	The recycling rate has increased with 0.7 percentage points over the past five years. Flanders and BCR have estimated that the recycling rate would be between 10.5 and 12 percentage points below the currently reported one under the new calculation rules. Assuming a similar reduction in Wallonia, the application of the new calculation rules would indicate an estimated recycling rate for Belgium of 43.5 %.
Robustness of the underlying information	The Eurostat data used are robust and there are no breaks in the time series data. The recycling rate according to the new calculation is; however, only estimated.

2.1.2 Legal instruments

SRF MSWR-2.1: Timely transposition of the revised Waste Framework Directive into national law

Timely transposition of the Waste Framework Directive as amended by Directive 2018/851, into national law within the foreseen period is key for a waste management system in line with EU requirements.

Belgium has not yet fully transposed the amended Waste Framework Directive into national law in all three regions.

Flanders implemented the amended WFD in two steps: 1) by amendment of the Materials Decree, published in the Belgian Official Gazette on 1 April 2021, and 2) by amendment of the VLAREMA, published in the Belgian Official Gazette on 17 August 2021.

BCR finalised the transposition and this was published in the Belgian Official Gazette on 5 May 2021.

For Wallonia, complete transposition is planned for the end of 2022, as part of a comprehensive reform of waste law. However, in many ways the existing regulations already meet various requirements of the framework directive. (PSWE, 2022)

Summary result

No full transposition yet	The transposition by all three regions was not finalised within 12 months after the deadline.
Robustness of the underlying information	The assessment is based on information provided by the Belgian regional authorities. Information was also received from the European Commission (status as of 12 November 2021)

SRF MSWR-2.2: Responsibilities for meeting the targets, and support and enforcement mechanisms, e.g. tools, fines etc.

Clearly defined responsibilities, enforcement and support mechanisms for meeting the targets across different entities and governance levels are important for achieving high recycling rates. The clearer the responsibilities for meeting the target and the accountability for failing the targets are, the higher the chance that the targets will be met.

With respect to the definition of responsibilities for meeting the targets, Flanders and Wallonia are organised in a similar way, including:

- A regional authority (respectively OVAM[1] and SPW ARNE[2]), responsible for laying down targets and setting the general policy framework for waste management;
- Municipalities being responsible for collecting and treating MSW;
- Intermunicipal organisations collecting and treating MSW commissioned by associated municipalities;
- Producer responsibility organisations (PROs), responsible for meeting the recycling targets that are under an obligation for extended responsibility organisations; they have corresponding operational and financial obligations;
- Private waste collectors and treatment operators who collect and treat commercial and industrial waste and work as a contractor for municipalities that are in charge of MSW.

The above described responsibilities show that targets and requirements are included in regional waste management plans and decrees, including the waste streams under an EPR obligation, but the

1 Public Waste Agency of Flanders

2 Service Public de Wallonie Agriculture, Resources naturelles et Environnement

actual duty of care for the collection and treatment of household waste lies mainly with the municipalities.

For Flanders, the municipal solid waste production per municipality (both residual waste and separate collected fractions) is monitored and published on a yearly basis as a first incentive to reach the targets. Subsidies are granted by OVAM to municipalities for amongst other investments in recycling centres, underground collection systems, but also certain waste prevention measures. Municipalities can lose the possibility of getting these subsidies if they are not implementing legislation and in particular when they do not respect the minimum prices for residual waste which are obliged as in VLAREMA. These minimum prices for residual waste should stimulate citizens to sort their waste. This is why a minimum price is set by Flanders for residual waste (also for bulky waste) which all municipalities must implement. This approach seems to be successful as almost all municipalities now have implemented the minimum prices, in some cases after they were refused subsidies.

In Wallonia, not reaching the target(s) could lead to penalties, but no detailed information was provided about their severity.

Besides subsidies, Flemish municipalities can also get direct advice from OVAM and they can use an interactive data tool provided by OVAM benchmarking the results of all Flemish municipalities and sharing information on waste management practices. Flemish municipalities that are far from reaching their targets, are proactively contacted by OVAM. OVAM visits these municipalities on the spot (since COVID-19 more online) and tells them to make an action plan. These interactions take place both on the level of the administration and the political level. Municipal action plans are also followed up by OVAM.

Both in Wallonia and Flanders, learning networks are organised between municipalities to discuss common challenges, share experiences and best practices.

In BCR, the responsibilities are shared by 2 main organisations:

- Brussels Environment is the regional public authority responsible for laying down targets and setting the general policy framework for waste management, gathering and reporting information about the state of the environment in BCR, including data on waste;
- Bruxelles-Propreté (ABP) is the public waste operator for collection and treatment of household waste in BCR.

The 19 municipalities are in charge of cleanliness of local roads and public places and buildings, and removing bulky waste on local roads.

Producer responsibility organisations (PROs) are responsible for meeting the recycling targets that are under an obligation for extended responsibility organisations; they have corresponding operational and financial obligations.

Additionally, several private waste collectors are active in BCR as well, including social economy. (Brussels environment, 2022)

If the objectives for separate collection of household waste are not met, ABP has to pay a tax of 29 EUR/t of waste incinerated exceeding the objective (50 % of separate collection as of 2020). PROs that do not fulfil their obligations can be charged with fines or be prosecuted.

In Belgium, the regional authorities are mainly responsible for setting the framework of municipal waste management policy, but the responsibility for its implementation lies with municipalities, and ABP for BCR, who are the ones directly in charge of collecting waste from households. The regional authorities provide support in the form of information and research, and other tools for the municipalities and ABP, to increase recycling more easily.

For Flanders, the complete waste management plan on household waste (*uitvoeringsplan huishoudelijk afval en gelijkaardig bedrijfsafval*) is binding for local authorities. This includes targets for residual waste generation, but also obligatory door-to-door separate collection of several waste fractions, waste streams to be accepted at the recycling centres, the number of recycling centres municipalities need to have, thresholds for contamination for all different separately collected waste streams, among others.

For Wallonia and BCR, specific obligations for the municipalities are lacking; for example, the recycling target is not translated into binding (uniform or differentiated) targets for the municipalities and the regional authorities have hardly any enforcement tools at hand for municipalities lagging behind. Instead, through a series of regional measures (e.g. disposal taxes), the authorities aim to make low recycling levels uneconomic and unattractive (through peer pressure and inter-municipal competition).

In summary, responsibilities are well defined and support mechanisms for municipalities are in place. The high recycling rates achieved in Belgium indicate that these mechanisms have worked. However, there are no direct consequences for the responsible authorities in Wallonia if the targets are not met. In BCR, the Waste Ordinance foresees a tax of 29 EUR/t to the public operator if targets are not met. The tax revenue may only be used for investment in selective collection infrastructure. Therefore, it can be argued that the municipal waste management governance in Belgium functions in a somewhat suboptimal manner.

Summary result

Clearly defined responsibilities and good set of support tools but weak/no enforcement mechanisms for meeting the recycling targets	Responsibilities are defined and support mechanisms for municipalities are in place, but there are no direct consequences for the responsible municipal authorities if the targets are not met for the entire country.
Robustness of the underlying information	Credible information received from the regional authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire.

2.1.3 Economic instruments

SRF MSW-3.1: Taxes and/or ban for landfilling residual- or biodegradable waste

Bans and taxes on landfilling of residual municipal waste can help to discourage strong reliance on residual waste treatment and thus support recycling.

As BCR has no landfills within the region, it has no landfill tax nor a landfill ban.

Flanders and Wallonia both have a landfill ban as well as a landfill tax. Their situation is summarised in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2 Landfill bans and taxes in Flanders and Wallonia

Region	Landfill ban	Landfill tax (EUR/t)
Flanders	– Since 1998, ban on separately collected waste; – Since 2000, ban on combustible waste (TOC > 6 % and LOI > 10 %); – Since 2007, ban on biodegradable waste.	– 107.87 EUR/t for combustible waste; – 59.33 EUR/t for non-combustible waste.
Wallonia	– Since 2004, ban on combustible waste (TOC > 6%); – Since 2007, ban on biodegradable waste.	– 119.59 EUR/t for general waste; – 66.37 EUR/t for non-combustible waste

Already in 2007, a landfill ban was introduced in Belgium (both Flanders and Wallonia) for biodegradable waste. At that time there already was a landfill ban applicable for combustible waste in both regions.

The tax is levied on all Belgian waste to be landfilled, also on waste that is exported from Belgium for landfilling in other countries and on waste that is imported from other countries for landfilling in Belgium.

There is no algorithm or calculation method applied to determine the level of the tax, but considering the waste management performance of Flanders and Wallonia, the tax seems to have been effective in reducing landfilling of waste and in redirecting waste to incineration.

The landfill ban and tax contributed to driving down the landfill rate of municipal waste, to a level of around 1 % of the generated municipal waste since many years.

Summary result

Ban in place for landfilling residual or biodegradable waste	Flanders and Wallonia have a ban in place for landfilling residual and biodegradable waste. Both regions also apply landfill taxes, while BCR does not have own landfills.
Robustness of the underlying information	Information available in various official sources, and confirmed by the three regional authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire.

SRF MSWR-3.2: Taxes on municipal waste incineration

Taxes on incineration of residual municipal waste can help to discourage strong reliance on residual waste treatment and thus support recycling.

Flanders has nine waste incinerators (all R1 status) that also treat MSW. Wallonia has four waste incinerators (all R1 status) and BCR has one waste incinerator (with energy recovery).

In all three regions an incineration tax is applicable to all waste entering the incineration facilities since several years. The tax is also applicable to waste exported for incineration outside the region. For export of waste, the amount of tax paid in the receiving country may be deducted and the remaining part is levied in Flanders. If the waste is pre-treated in the other country, the tax is levied on the landfill or incineration of the residue.

BCR recently decided to increase the incineration tax to 15 EUR/t from 2022 onwards, and Flanders as well as Wallonia have plans to also increase their incineration tax, but are currently exploring the most effective way to do this in combination with other policy measures, in order to help shifting waste from incineration to separate collection (and recycling).

Table 2.3 shows the current incineration taxes applied in Belgium.

Table 2.3 Incineration taxes in Belgium

Region	Incineration tax
BCR	2021: 6.43 EUR/t From 2022: 15 EUR/t
Flanders	2021: 13.38 EUR/t
Wallonia	2021: – 14.69 EUR/t, for incineration with energy recovery; – 68.33 EUR/t for incineration without energy recovery

Belgium strongly relies on incineration for the disposal of mixed municipal waste, incinerating 43 % of the generated municipal waste in 2019. Reliance on incineration has been stable for the last 10 years.

Summary result

Taxes > 7 EUR/t([a]), but without escalator	A tax of at least 13.38 EUR/t([a]) (corresponding to 11.5 EUR/t rescaled based on purchasing power parities) is already in place in 2021 in Flanders and Wallonia or will be in place soon (in 2022) in BCR. However, no escalator is applied.
Robustness of the underlying information	Small clarifications needed for the scope of the tax

(a) **Note**: Rescaled based on purchasing power parities Eurostat (2020)

SRF MSWR-3.3: Pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) system in place

PAYT systems are designed to incentivize citizens to make a bigger effort in separating their waste at source. However, a PAYT system should be designed with the appropriate level of source separation encouragement to ensure that citizens do not misplace waste in recycling bins in order to avoid residual waste charges. Overall, PAYT usually has a positive effect on source separation and thus recycling rates through direct involvement of citizens.

In BCR, door-to-door collection in plastic bags is the main collection system (around 70-80 %) for residual MSW. For apartment buildings (around 20-30 %) the residual waste is collected in containers. Inhabitants can buy the waste bags in stores and their price only covers the manufacturing price (so not including the costs of the actual waste management). Also the containers are free of charge. In BCR, no PAYT system is in place.

In Flanders and Wallonia, a PAYT system is being applied, covering the entire region and all of the inhabitants. Municipalities charge a fee for the collection of mixed municipal waste and decide on the level of the fee, taking into account a minimum and maximum level imposed by the regional authority. Municipalities also decide on how the PAYT schemes are organised (volume based or weight based, and/or the number of collections) for door-to-door collection.

There is no regulation on Flemish level in terms of fees for other waste streams than mixed municipal waste. In general, municipalities tend to have a fee for bio-waste. Most other waste streams, in particular those under EPR schemes, have no collection fee (e.g. paper and cardboard, WEEE, batteries, …) or a very low fee (e.g. plastics packaging, metal packaging and drink cartons).

Summary result

PAYT scheme fully rolled out (to at least 80% of the population)	Both Flanders and Wallonia have a PAYT scheme covering 100 % of the inhabitants. BCR has no PAYT scheme. Flanders and Wallonia cover more than 80 % of the Belgian population.
Robustness of the underlying information	Robust information was provided by regional authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire, and was combined with additional information from literature.

2.1.4 Separate collection system

SRF MSWR-4.1: Convenience and coverage of separate collection systems for the different household waste fractions

Separate collection systems are a key enabler for high recycling rates and for collecting recyclables at adequate quality. Generally, the more convenient and accessible these systems are for their users, the better results they deliver. The assessment methodology categorises different types of collection systems (door-to-door, bring points with a density of > 5 per km^2, bring points with a density of < 5

per km^2, civic amenity site) for assessing the degree of convenience, and differentiates between cities (densely populated), towns and suburbs (intermediate densely populated) and rural (thinly populated areas). It then calculates which share of the population is served by which type of system. The assessment is done on a material basis and takes into account the different materials according to their average share in municipal waste. This is described in more detail in the methodology (ETC/CE & ETC/WMGE, 2022).

For Belgium, according to the most recent data, the percentage of households living in cities is 60.67 %, in towns and suburbs 35.59 % and in rural areas 3.7 % (Eurostat, 2021a).

Separate collection of municipal waste streams is strongly linked to the corresponding EPR schemes that are applicable in Belgium. For several waste streams an EPR scheme at national level exists, defining which waste streams should be collected separately. The actual implementation of the collection, however, can be organised by the local authorities, being cities and municipalities.

National EPR schemes are applicable for paper and cardboard, glass packaging, plastic packaging, metal packaging, composite packaging (drink cartons), EEE, batteries, mineral oils and cooking and frying oils.

In Flanders recently also an EPR scheme for mattresses, Valumat, was set up.

Table 2.4 gives an overview of the collection system in both BCR, Flanders and Wallonia.

- For residual waste the dominant collection system is door-to-door collection;
- Also for paper and cardboard door-to-door-collection is the prevailing collection system in Belgium, complemented with collection at civic amenity sites (CAS);
- Co-mingled door-to-door collection of plastic, metal and composite packaging, complemented with collection at CAS, (in blue bags) is rolled out across the whole of Belgium;
- For glass packaging a diverse range of collection methods is available; in some cities and municipalities, glass is collected only door-to-door and at CAS, in others bring points are the most common collection method.

In several areas with high-rise buildings, door-to-door collection is replaced by a bring point close to the buildings. Depending on the city or area, this can relate to residual waste, paper and cardboard, PMC (plastics, metals, drink cartons), bio-waste and/or glass.

Based on the provided information for the three regions, the dominant system for separate collection of paper and cardboard, ferrous metals, aluminium, plastic and composite packaging is high-density collection, whereas for textiles and wood the dominant system is low-density collection. For glass and bio-waste the situation depends on the preferences and priorities of the municipalities. Food waste is collected mostly through door-to-door separate collection. Garden waste, on the other hand, shows a more mixed picture, with, in cities, mostly door-to-door separate collection as well as civic amenity sites, while in towns and suburbs, and in rural areas, the dominant system in all regions is mainly civic amenity sites.

Table 2.4 shows that the collection system per fraction is similar in cities, towns and suburbs and in rural areas, so all citizens receive a similar service.

Table 2.4 Characterisation of the collection system in Belgium (BCR (blue), Flanders (yellow)[3], Wallonia (red))

	Cities (densely populated areas)					Towns and suburbs (intermediate density areas)					Rural areas (thinly populated areas)			
	Door-to-door - separate	Door-to-door - co-mingled	Bring point (>5 per km²)	Bring point (<5 per km²)	Civic amenity site	Door-to-door - separate	Door-to-door - co-mingled	Bring point (>5 per km²)	Bring point (<5 per km²)	Civic amenity site	Door-to-door - separate	Door-to-door - co-mingled	Bring point	Civic amenity site
Residual waste	xx xx xx				xx	xx xx				x	xx xx			x
Paper and Cardboard	xx xx xx				x x x	xx xx				x x	xx xx			x x
Ferrous metals		xx xx xx			xx xx xx		xx xx			xx xx		xx x		xx xx
Aluminium		xx xx xx			xx xx xx		xx xx			xx xx		xx x		xx xx
Glass	x		xx xx	xx	x xx	x		xx	xx xx	x x	x		xx xx	x xx
Plastic		xx xx xx			xx xx xx		xx xx			xx xx	xx	xx x		xx xx
Bio-waste														
Food	xx xx xx			xx		xx xx			x	x	xx xx			
Garden	xx xx x			xx	xx xx	x				xx xx	xx			xx xx
Textiles	xx			xx xx	xx xx xx	xx			xx xx	xx xx	xx		xx xx	xx xx
Wood					xx xx xx					xx xx				xx xx
WEEE	x x		xx	x x	xx xx xx	x x			xx	xx xx	x xx		x xx	xx xx
Composite packaging**		xx xx xx			x		xx xx			x		xx xx		x

Note: xx: dominant system; x: other significant systems. Grey cells indicate high convenience collection systems.

Source: Information provided by Flemish, Walloon and BCR authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire

Other relevant waste streams from households, mainly being collected through civic amenity sites (CAS), are hazardous waste, frying oil, stony demolition waste (not in BCR), asbestos (not in BCR),

[3] The information included in the table for Flanders refers to household waste. For municipal waste from businesses a different waste collection system is in place, mainly dominated by private collectors that provide door-to-door collection. For small amounts of similar waste, businesses can sometimes also use the household waste provisions.

mattresses (not in BCR), tires (only in BCR), batteries, drugs (only in Wallonia) and mineral oils (only in BCR).

Summary result

Paper and cardboard	A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	The dominant collection system is door-to-door collection, complemented with collection at CAS in all 3 regions, in all 3 areas.
Metals	A medium share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	Ferrous metals and aluminium are collected co-mingled door-to-door and at CAS, both in cities, towns and suburbs and rural areas. The high convenience (door-to-door) collection is mostly limited to packaging.
Plastics	A medium share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	Plastics are collected co-mingled door-to-door and at CAS, both in cities, towns and suburbs and rural areas. The high convenience (door-to-door) collection is mostly limited to packaging.
Glass	A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	For glass, the dominant collection method is by bring points. In Flanders, door-to-door collection of glass is also provided in some municipalities. Additionally, glass waste is also collected at CAS.
Bio-waste	A medium share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	In cities, bio-waste is collected door-to-door in all 3 regions. For towns and suburbs and rural areas, both the scope (food/garden waste) can be smaller than in cities, and also the convenience level is typically lower.
Wood([a])	A low share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	Wood is collected at CAS, in all three regions, regardless the population density. In addition wood is also collected door-to-door (mingled with bulky waste) in BCR.
Textiles	A low share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	In Flanders, textiles waste is collected both door-to-door, at CAS and/or at remote bring points. In Wallonia and BCR, textiles is only collected at CAS or at remote bring points, regardless the population density.
WEEE	High to medium convenience collection services dominate	For WEEE the most dominant collection method is at CAS, for all 3 regions, but also door-to-door collection and in bring points are applied.
Robustness of the underlying information		The information can be considered robust, and was provided by the regional authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire.

([a]) Note: For wood, collection results are very good in Flanders and sorting analyses show that wood is hardly found in household residual waste despite the fact that it is not collected by high convenience collection services.

SRF MSWR-4.2: Firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage of separate collection for the different household waste fractions

In BCR, separate collection of garden waste is already compulsory for professional waste holders. BCR plans to extend the compulsory bio-waste collection to food and garden waste for households and professional waste holders.

Also, Flanders will extend separate collection of bio-waste to all households from 2024 onwards.

A clear plan has been launched and is being implemented to extend the scope of the door-to-door plastic packaging waste collection, from plastic bottles only to all plastic packaging, with a target of 8 kg/inhabitant additional plastic packaging waste collection. This plan will clearly improve the convenience of the separate collection for more types of plastic packaging by extending the scope of collection by allowing for additional waste and discarded product categories.

Summary result

Paper and cardboard	N/A (for countries in which a high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)	More than 80 % of the population is already covered by high convenience collection points.
Metals	No firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage	None of the regions has firm plans to improve the type or coverage for collection of metals waste
Plastics	Firm plans to improve the separate collection system, with clear responsible entities and defined targets and timeline	A clear plan is launched and in implementation to extend the scope of the door-to-door plastic packaging waste collection, with a target of 8 kg/inhabitant additional plastic packaging waste collection. The plan will clearly improve the convenience of the separate collection system by extending it with more plastic packaging waste types
Glass	N/A (for countries in which a high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)	A high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection systems
Bio-waste	There are plans to improve the collection service but unclear plan for implementation.	Bio-waste collection will become compulsory in BCR in 2023, and in Flanders for all households and companies from 2024 (or composted at source), and Wallonia plans to extend food waste collection.
Wood	No firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage	No changes planned that will improve the type and coverage of separate collection
Textiles	No firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage	No changes planned that will improve the type and coverage of separate collection Textile Waste collection will become compulsory in BCR in 2025, complying with the Waste Framework Directive
WEEE	N/A (for countries where high to medium convenience collection services dominate already)	No changes planned that will improve the type and coverage of separate collection
Robustness of the underlying information		Information received through questionnaires from all three regions.

2.1.5 Extended producer responsibility (EPR) and similar schemes

SRF MSWR-5.1: Fee modulation in EPR schemes for packaging

Within EPR schemes, fee modulation (or eco-modulation) is a system with different fees for different types of packaging material and designs. While basic fee modulation, i.e. different fees for the main material groups, are common, advanced fee modulation can create stronger incentives for packaging producers to design for recycling and thus create favourable conditions for higher recycling rates. The level of advancement of the fee modulation is assessed against four criteria that have been selected as benchmarks for a well-designed eco-modulated fee system:

- recyclability, for example differentiating between PET and PS, between different colours of PET, or between 100 % cardboard boxes and laminated beverage cartons;
- sortability and disruptors, for example a malus for labels/caps/sleeves made of other materials, which are not fitted for the recycling technologies of the main packaging;
- recycled content; and
- if there is a transparent compliance check by the PRO that producers report correctly.

In Belgium, Fost Plus promotes, coordinates and finances the separate collection, sorting and recycling of household packaging waste for all three regions. Fost Plus is a not-for-profit organisation, set up and financed by industry. It cooperates with (inter-)municipalities, private waste management companies and recyclers to organize the collection and recycling of household packaging, such as glass, paper-cardboard and PMC. As a complementary organization, Valipac is the PRO for the EPR scheme for industrial and commercial packaging waste, and therefore responsible to fulfil the obligations and to stimulate recycling.

Fost Plus is accredited in Belgium for the collection and recycling of household packaging waste. It has financial and partial organisational responsibility. Companies that place packaging material on the Belgian market can join Fost Plus and pay an annual contribution, the Green Dot Tariff, which is based on the quantity and type of their packaging. In return, Fost Plus fulfils their information and take-back obligations, finances the collection and recycling of a number of packaging materials and coordinates the activities of municipalities, inter-municipal waste companies, collection companies and sorting centres.

The Green Dot tariffs applied by Fost Plus are differentiated by packaging material such as 'drink carton' or 'PET bottle'. The Green Dot tariffs for recent years are presented in Table 2.5. They are the lowest for paper-cardboard and highest for non-recoverable materials. The fees are not modulated based on environmental criteria.

For some materials (such as plastics and paper and cardboard) the fee modulation of the EPR scheme does take into account sortability and recyclability (including market prices for secondary materials) as a criterium for defining the level of the fee, both between polymers (f.e. PE versus PS) and even within one polymer (e.g. colourless PET bottles versus coloured PET bottles).

A compliance check is done by Fost Plus with respect to producers reporting correctly for all packaging materials. This is done through automatic timeline checks, comparative analysis of data from members producing similar packaging and regular independent audits. There are several adequate checks on reporting, as this determines directly how much a company has to contribute to the EPR scheme. Competitive companies want assurance that everyone is financing their relevant share. In addition to checks by Fost Plus, this is also checked by an external inspection body/company auditor on a regular basis.

Recycled content is not taken into account in the fee modulation for any of the packaging materials.

Table 2.5 Green Dot Tariffs in the Fost Plus scheme

Materials	Green Dot Tariffs (EUR/t)			
	2015	2017	2019	2021
Glass	24.1	21.4	31.1	49.9
Paper-cardboard	13.9	16.9	22.3	118.9
Steel	52.4	124.4	52.9	211.4
Aluminium	31.7	32.6	33,9	46.2
PET/HDPE	111.1	210.7	-	-
PET bottles	-	-	346.3	200.4 (transparent)
HDPE bottles	-	-	341.8	364.7
Other plastics	-	-	510.3	329.7-1133.7
Drink cartons	232.7	245.5	354.1	445.3
Other recoverable materials	267.7	282.3	618.1	1152
Other non-recoverable materials	294.4	310.6	781.8	1440

In 2021, a dissuasive rate (tariff: 2267 EUR/t) was introduced for nuisance packaging such as:

- plastic cans with metal on top or bottom;
- plastic bottles which are at least 75 % covered by a sleeve (or 50 % for bottles <50cl), provided that the sleeve consists of another material than the bottle and is not perforated;
- aluminium foil laminated plastic packaging for drinks, fruit and vegetables, prepared dishes, pet food, care products and body care;
- oxodegradable packaging;
- laminated cardboard packaging of crisps and milk powders, provided they contain less than 85% paper fibre.

Summary result

There is advanced fee modulation for at least two of the main packaging fractions([a]) AND fee modulation for one packaging fraction meets three assessment criteria	Both sortability and recyclability are taken into account for plastics and paper and cardboard. In addition, the PRO performs transparent compliance checks on the data provided by all involved actors.
Robustness of the underlying information	The fee structure is transparent and publicly available.

([a]) Note: Paper and cardboard, Ferrous metals, Aluminium, Glass, Plastic

2.1.6 Treatment capacity for bio-waste

SRF MSWR-6.1: Capacity for the treatment of bio-waste

Bio-waste is the largest single waste fraction in municipal waste, and adequate treatment capacity needs to be (made) available.

The situation with respect to bio-waste collection and treatment is not uniform across the three regions:

- In BCR, food waste is collected separately only since a few years; in 2019 about 4 kg food waste and 9 kg garden waste per person was collected (a total of 15 816 tonnes of bio-waste) and composted in an installation with a total capacity of about 20 000 tonnes per year. This composting unit covers only garden waste.
  In 2019 about 200 000 tonnes residual municipal solid waste was incinerated in BCR; with a bio-waste content of 41 %, the additional theoretical maximum potential for bio-waste collection is 82 000 ton per year, so the current available capacity only covers about 20 % of the total generated municipal bio-waste. BCR is preparing the operational implementation of a biomethanisation unit in Brussels.
- In Flanders more than 41 kg food waste and 67 kg garden waste per person was collected in 2019, corresponding to an overall amount of 713 660 tonnes of bio-waste; in Flanders, treatment capacity for 350 000 tonnes food waste per year is installed and 650 000 tonnes garden waste, originating from households; also separate collection of bio-waste is already mandatory for all businesses for garden waste, for some businesses for food waste; it has already been decided to expand the mandatory separate collection for food waste for all businesses from 2024 onwards.
  The residual municipal solid waste still contains about 200 000 tonnes of bio-waste (theoretical maximum); there is an expansion in digestion capacity of bio-waste on the existing bio-waste composting plants in Flanders planned during the next years.
- The separate collection rate for garden waste in Wallonia is similar to Flanders (67 kg garden waste per person in 2019); for food waste the collection rate was 17 kg per person; so in total about 300 000 tonnes of bio-waste was collected and treated in 2019. No information is available about the overall treatment capacity for bio-waste in the Walloon region; separate collection of bio-waste is currently only mandatory for households, with expansion to non-households under investigation.
  The residual municipal solid waste still contains about 220 000 tonnes of bio-waste (theoretical maximum).

Summary result

Enough bio-waste treatment capacity for 80% of generated municipal bio-waste	Based on current information, Flanders collects and treats about 80 % of bio-waste separately. This means that Flanders already has treatment capacity for 80 % of the generated municipal bio-waste. For BCR, this is currently only about 20 %, but the Government is preparing the operational implementation of a biomethanisation unit in Brussels. In Wallonia about 60 % of municipal bio-waste is collected and treated. No firm plans to expand capacity are foreseen. However, a prospective needs study to have an integrated planning of waste management infrastructure must be carried out every 4 years under the PWD-R and might/should identify the need for additional capacity timely. Belgium as a whole has enough bio-waste treatment capacity to cover more than 80 % of generated municipal bio-waste in Belgium.
Robustness of the underlying information	The information can be considered robust, and was provided by the regional authorities in response to the questionnaire by the EEA and ETC/WMGE.

SRF MSWR-7.2: Legally binding national standards and Quality Management System for compost/digestate

To create a market for compost and digestate, compost should be of a good quality for use as a soil improver or fertilizer. Legally binding standards provide guarantees regarding the quality of the compost/digestate produced. A quality management system aims at addressing different elements of

a production process to ensure a stable and high-quality output (product) which helps toward reaching a defined quality for the product.

Flanders has a strong focus on the quality of the collected bio-waste, through strict requirements on the quality of the compost. Flanders has a regional standard for compost quality, complemented with a voluntary Quality Management System for the certification of compost (EEA, 2020). To be able to use the output of composting as a product (as soil improver or for fertilizing purposes) in Flanders, an independent certification scheme, called Vlaco, has been in place since 1992. In the certification process, the operational management, the input streams, the process and the final product are checked, through sampling and intensive company auditing.

On top of this certification scheme, an extra quality label exists, the Vlaco label. The compost producer voluntarily commits to achieving stricter standards than those for the inspection certificate (legal standards). In addition, the composting process is monitored more intensively, more samples are taken and more administrative checks are carried out by Vlaco. Compost with the Vlaco label is guaranteed to contain at least 18 % organic matter (instead of 16 %), consists of at least 55 % dry matter (instead of 50 %) and contains even fewer impurities (0.25 % instead of 0.50 %).

In Wallonia, compost can get a utilisation certificate from the Walloon authorities on a case by case basis, but a general certification system is not applied. Information on quality standards and certification schemes for BCR are not available.

Summary result

No national standards or quality management system, or still under development	Flanders has well-developed quality standards as well as a quality management system. Wallonia does not have a general certification system but applies administrative norms on a case by case basis. No information is available for BCR.
Robustness of the underlying information	The information can be considered robust, and was provided by the regional authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire.

2.2 Target for the recycling of packaging waste

This chapter aims at assessing the prospects of Belgium to achieve the **65 % recycling target for packaging waste** in 2025 as well as the **material specific packaging waste recycling targets** (50 % of plastic; 25 % of wood; 70 % of ferrous metals; 50 % of aluminium; 70 % of glass; 75 % of paper and cardboard), and according to the provisions of the Directive (EU) 2018/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste. This Directive was transposed through the Cooperation Agreement of 5 March 2020 containing an amendment of the Cooperation Agreement of 4 November 2008 on the prevention and management of packaging waste.

In order to conclude on this likelihood, the analysis takes stock of the status of several factors that are proven to influence the levels of recycling in a country. For a detailed description of the methodology followed, the development of success/risk factors and their impact on recycling, please consult the Methodology report (ETC/CE & ETC/WMGE, 2022).

According to the provisions of the Cooperation Agreement of March 5, 2020, the following minimum recycling rates also have to be achieved for the whole of Belgium for the various packaging materials from 2021 onwards:

- 90 % by weight for glass;
- 90 % by weight for paper/cardboard;
- 90 % by weight for drink cartons;
- 90 % by weight for ferrous metals;
- 75 % by weight for aluminium;
- 50 % by weight for plastics;
- 80 % by weight for wood.

And furthermore, for household packaging waste, as from calendar year 2023, a minimum recycling rate of 65% by weight for plastics must be achieved for the whole of Belgium. For industrial and commercial packaging waste, as from calendar year 2023, a minimum recycling rate of 55 % by weight for plastics must be achieved for the whole of Belgium.

Finally, for household packaging waste, as from calendar year 2030, a minimum recycling rate of 70 % by weight for plastics must be achieved for the whole of Belgium.

And for industrial and commercial packaging waste, as from calendar year 2030, a minimum recycling rate of 65 % by weight for plastics must be achieved for the whole of Belgium.

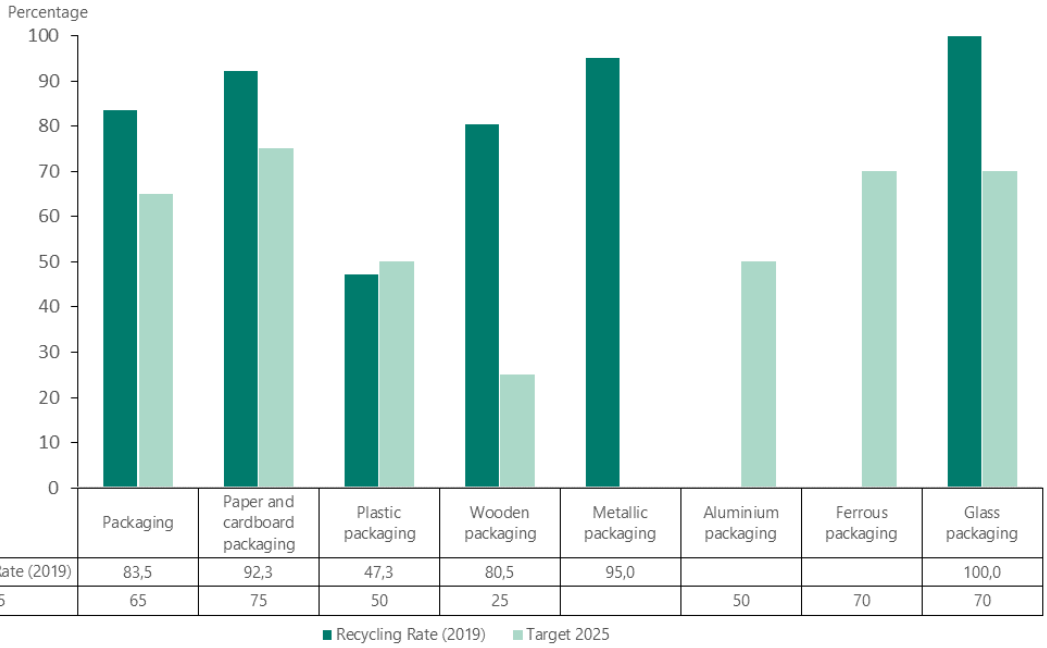
Also, the target recycling rates listed above shall be calculated using the methods determined by the Interregional Packaging Commission, in accordance with European law, i.e. with the calculation rules laid down in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/665.

2.2.1 Current situation and past trends

SRF P-1.1 Distance to target

The actual distance to the target for the most recent data point is a key factor determining the likelihood of meeting or not meeting the target. This analysis is based on data reported by Belgium to Eurostat in accordance with Commission Decision 2005/270/EC as last amended by the Commission Implementing Decision 2019/665 (EC, 2019), published in the dataset *Recycling rates of packaging waste for monitoring compliance with policy targets, by type of packaging [env_waspacr]*. The latest available data refer to 2019. The performance of Belgium for 2019 is illustrated in Figure 2.2.

Figure 2.2 Packaging recycling rates for Belgium in 2019, in percentage



	Packaging	Paper and cardboard packaging	Plastic packaging	Wooden packaging	Metallic packaging	Aluminium packaging	Ferrous packaging	Glass packaging
Recycling Rate (2019)	83,5	92,3	47,3	80,5	95,0			100,0
Target 2025	65	75	50	25		50	70	70

Note: No data available for ferrous metals and aluminium, only for metallic packaging
Source: Eurostat (2022c), EU (2018)

For Belgium, the 2019 recycling rates for total packaging as well as all individual materials exceed the 2025 targets, except for plastics. For metals, the reported rates do not make a distinction between ferrous metals and aluminium, but the total recycling rate for metals exceeds the highest recycling requirement (70 % for ferrous metals) with a large margin.

However, the recycling rates presented are based on the calculation rules of the Commission Decision C(2005)854 and will likely differ from the recycling rates to be reported according to the calculation rules laid down in Commission Implementing Decision 2019/665.

A key difference, inter alia, in the new calculation rules compared to the old rules is that the amount of sorted packaging waste that is rejected by the recycling facility shall not be included in the reported amount of recycled packaging waste.

Sorting residues from sorting plants have never been part of the Belgian reported figures; batches of sorted materials refused by recyclers have in the past always been deducted from the recycling results. Also data on the amount of packaging material placed on the market (PoM), which represents the common denominator of the recycling rate, was corrected for factors, which may cause an underreporting, such as the amount of packing material, which was not licensed via EPR schemes (free riders). According to the quality report submitted alongside the data reported to Eurostat, no information was, however, provided upon losses within the recycling plants and it appears likely that losses during recycling were not accounted for.

As a matter of sensitivity analysis, to assess what the impact of these new calculation rules could be, recycling losses found in literature (EXPRA, 2014) were applied to the packaging recycling rates as reported for reference year 2019:

- Paper and cardboard packaging: decrease by 10 %, from 92.3 % to 83.1 %

- Plastic packaging: decrease by 21 %[4], from 47.3 % to 37.3 %
- Metal packaging: decrease by 14 %, from 95.0 % to 81.7 %
- Glass packaging: decrease by 5 %, from 100 % to 95 %
- Wooden packaging: decrease by 11 % from 80.5 % to 71.6 %
- Total packaging: Calculated based on the amounts of each packaging material generated and recycled in 2019, the recycling rate would drop from 83.5 % to 74.9 %.

Taking these recycling losses into account hardly affects the situation for Belgium with respect to the distance to target analysis; only for plastics the 2025 target would not be reached yet in 2019. A study on the impact of the new calculation rules for recycling target is currently conducted by the IRPC, but is not yet available.

Until 2018, the scope of plastic packaging collection was limited to PET/PE/PP bottles and flasks. The recycling losses for this waste stream are typically lower than the numbers in the EXPRA report.

The reported data on generated packaging waste relies mainly on data provided by the PROs, complemented with estimates of packaging put on the market by free riders, through online sales, private imports and entities below the reporting threshold (de minimis) (Eurostat, 2021b). The reported recycling rates for paper and cardboard, metals, glass and wooden packaging are all above 90 %, indicating a very high efficiency of the packaging waste collection system. However, a recycling rate of 98-100 % seems unrealistic even in a very efficient system, indicating that the data might not reveal the full picture and might point at some underreported packaging put on the market, potentially with e-commerce and cross-border shopping as the main drivers. Therefore, the estimation methods of the total market for household and industrial/commercial packaging waste are being continually improved.

Summary result

Total packaging	Target exceeded	Belgium reports a recycling rate of 85.3 %. If the new calculation rules were applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants), the estimated recycling rate would drop to 74.9 %, 9.9 percentage points above the target.
Paper and cardboard packaging	Target exceeded	Belgium reports a recycling rate of 92.3 %. If the new calculation rules were applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants), the estimated recycling rate would drop to 83.1 %, 8.1 percentage points above the target.
Ferrous metals packaging	Target exceeded	Belgium reports a recycling rate of 95 %. If the new calculation rules were applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants), the estimated recycling rate would drop to 81.7 %, 11.7 and 31.7 percentage points above the target for steel and aluminium packaging, respectively.
Aluminium packaging	Target exceeded	
Glass packaging	Target exceeded	Belgium reports a recycling rate of 100 %. If the new calculation rules were applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants), the estimated recycling rate would drop to 95 %, 25 percentage points above the target.

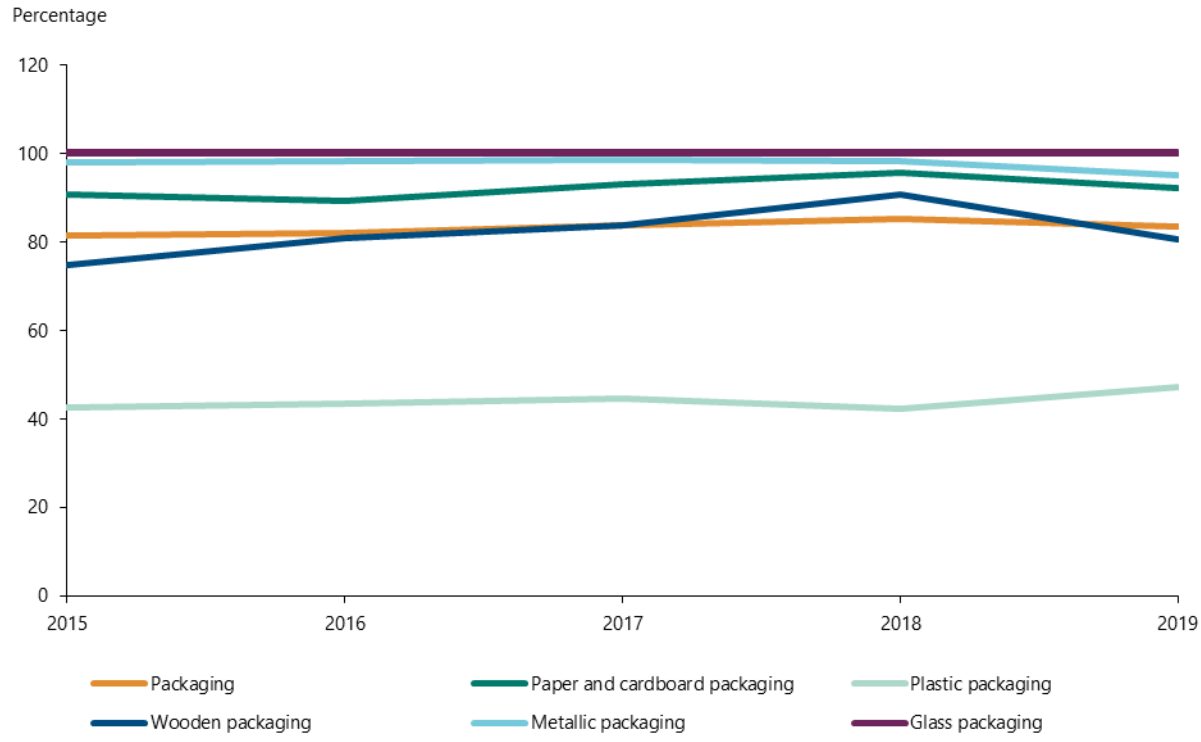
[4] This is the weighted recycling loss taking into account the 29 % recycling loss for packaging waste from household sources (66 %) and the 5 % recycling loss for packaging waste from commercial sources (33 %).

Plastic packaging	5 - 15 percentage points below target	Belgium reports a recycling rate of 47.3 %. If the new calculation rules were applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants), the estimated recycling rate would drop to 37.3 %, 12.7 percentage points below the target.
Wooden packaging	Target exceeded	Belgium reports a recycling rate of 80.5 %. If the new calculation rules were applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants), the estimated recycling rate would drop to 71.6 %, 46.6 percentage points above the target.
Robustness of the underlying information		The assessment is limited by the fact that the recycling rates for 2019 reported by Belgium to Eurostat do not yet reflect the new calculation rules, and the impact of the new calculation rules has therefore been estimated based on literature. Additionally, no separate data are available for aluminium and steel packaging.

SRF P-1.2: Past trend in Packaging Waste Recycling

The development of the historical trend in the recycling rate indicates previous efforts towards packaging waste recycling. In this analysis the recycling rate reported in the Eurostat dataset *Recycling rates of packaging waste for monitoring compliance with policy targets, by type of packaging [env_waspacr]* (latest data year: 2019) is used. The recycling trends for packaging waste by material in Belgium are illustrated in Figure 2.3.

Figure 2.3 Trend in packaging waste recycling rates in Belgium between 2015 and 2019, in percentage



Source: Eurostat (2022c)

The overall recycling rate for packaging waste in Belgium has steadily, but only slightly, increased in the past five years. The recycling rate of plastic and wooden packaging increased, while the recycling rates for glass, paper and cardboard and metallic packaging remained rather stable.

Since 2019, the scope of plastic packaging collection from consumers was extended from bottles and flasks to virtually all household packaging. This was implemented gradually to cover the whole country in 2021. The expected impacts of this extension are estimated at 70 000 tonnes additional collection of plastic packaging and a raise of the recycling rate from 47 to 65 % (not taking into account the effect of the new calculation method).

Summary result

Total packaging	RR > 65%	The recycling rate increased by 2 percentage points over the past five years and is estimated at 74.9 % if the new calculation rules would be applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants).
Paper and cardboard packaging	RR > 75%	The recycling rate increased with 1.6 percentage points over the past five years and is estimated at 83.1 if the new calculation rules would be applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants).
Ferrous metals packaging	RR > 70%	The recycling rate decreased with 3.6 percentage points over the past five years and is estimated at 81.7 % if the new calculation rules would be applied (taking into account recycling losses in the recycling plants).
Aluminium packaging	RR > 50%	
Glass packaging	RR > 70%	The recycling rate remained stable over the past five years and is estimated at 95 % if the new calculation rules would be applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants).
Plastic packaging	RR < 40% and increase in last 5 years < 10 percentage points	The recycling rate increased by 4.7 percentage points over the past five years and is estimated at 37.3% if the new calculation rules would be applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plant). .
Wooden packaging	RR > 25%	The recycling rate increased by 5.6 percentage points over the past five years and is estimated at 71.6 % if the new calculation rules would be applied (taking into account losses in the recycling plants).
Robustness of the underlying information		The assessment is limited by the fact that the recycling rates for 2019 reported by Belgium to Eurostat do not yet reflect the new calculation rules, and the impact of the new calculation rules has therefore been estimated based on literature. The trends over time seem to be robust as there are no breaks in time series indicated. There are no data available for ferrous metals and aluminium separately.

2.2.2 Legal instruments

SRF P-2.1: Timely transposition of the revised Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive into national law

Timely transposition of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive as amended by Directive 2018/852, into national law within the foreseen period is key for a waste management system in line with EU requirements.

The Directive (EU) 2018/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste, was transposed into Belgian national law through the Cooperation Agreement of 5 March 2020 which amended the Cooperation Agreement of 4 November 2008 on the prevention and management of packaging waste. This was ratified by the Government of the Walloon Region (published in the Belgian Official Gazette on 15/07/2020), the Government of the Flemish Region (published in the Belgian Official Gazette on 04-08-2020) and the Government of the Brussels Capital Region (published in the Belgian Official Gazette on 16/09/2020).

According to information provided by the European Commission, full transposition was achieved in September 2021, so with a slight delay.

Summary result

Transposition with a delay of less than 12 months	The revised Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive into national law has been transposed with only minor delay into national law in all three regions.
Robustness of the underlying information	The assessment is based on information provided the Belgian national authority. Information was also received from the European Commission (status as of 12 November 2021).

SRF P-2.2: Responsibilities for meeting the targets, and enforcement mechanisms, e.g. fines etc.

In Belgium, the responsibilities of authorities for packaging waste are defined in a similar way as for municipal solid waste. Main (and only) difference is that specific arrangements have been laid down in an interregional Cooperation Agreement on packaging and packaging waste, leading to the establishment of an interregional governmental organisation, the Interregional Packaging Commission (IRPC), responsible for monitoring the legal requirements of the producer responsibility organisations for packaging waste in Belgium.

The Flemish Region, the Walloon Region and the Brussels-Capital Region have jointly signed the Cooperation Agreement on the prevention and management of packaging waste. The Cooperation Agreement is a legal framework for the prevention and management of all types of packaging waste in Belgium, for household packaging waste as well as for industrial and commercial packaging waste. This Cooperation Agreement is a legal document that applies to the whole of Belgium. The creation of the Interregional Packaging Commission (IRPC) is laid down in the Cooperation Agreement.

The specific tasks of the IRPC include the following:

1. Monitoring whether companies (parties responsible for packaging, also referred to as responsible companies) and accredited compliance organisations are fulfilling their reporting obligation and take-back (i.e. recycling and recovery) obligation;
2. Checking the way in which the responsible companies and accredited compliance organisations meet their statutory recycling and recovery targets (expressed as a percentage);
3. Approving or rejecting prevention plans of companies (responsible companies);
4. Granting or refusing accreditation to the organisations responsible for the promotion, coordination and financing of selective collection, recycling and recovery of packaging waste;

5. Assisting and advising the regional governments, for example by creating consultative forums, providing logistical support or proposing legislative amendments;
6. Conducting or commissioning studies and research into the management and prevention of packaging waste.

Additionally, two PROs for packaging waste are operational in Belgium: Fost Plus is responsible for packaging waste from households and household applications, Valipac is responsible for packaging waste coming from commercial and industrial activities.

PROs that do not fulfil their obligations can be charged with fines or be prosecuted.

The Cooperation Agreement sets out the obligations of parties such as the accredited compliance organisations, companies responsible for packaging and industrial unpackers.

If a party fails to meet its obligations, it risks incurring an administrative fine and penal sanctions. Sanctions may be imposed if one does not fulfil the take-back obligation or reporting obligation, fails to submit a packaging prevention plan or repeatedly submits a prevention plan deemed inadequate, and if obstructing the supervisory activities of the IRPC.

An administrative fine can be applied for failure to comply with the take-back obligation:

- EUR 500 for each tonne (or part tonne) of packaging waste that has not been recovered or incinerated with energy recovery in waste incineration plants within the prescribed time limits,

AND

- EUR 1 000 for each tonne (or part tonne) of packaging waste that has not been recycled within the prescribed time limits.

However, the total amount of the administrative fine may not exceed EUR 25 000.

The penal sanctions can be severe, depending on the seriousness of the offence. The most serious offences are punishable by a custodial sentence of between one and twelve months and a fine ranging from EUR 1 000 to EUR 2 000 000. These penal fines must be increased by the statutory multiplication factor (to correct for inflation). Sanctions and penal provisions are included in chapter 6 of the of the Cooperation Agreement.

PROs are also monitored on their performance, both their financial performance as the distance to target, and they have to foresee budget for setting up innovation, research and communication, in accordance with the regional authorities.

Summary result

Clearly defined responsibilities, enforcement and good set of support mechanisms for meeting the recycling targets	The information available indicates that the responsibility for reaching the targets is set on PROs and that there are direct financial consequences if the targets are not met. Support mechanisms are in place for the PROs to improve their performance.
Robustness of the underlying information	Credible information received from the Belgian authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire.

2.2.3 Economic instruments

SRF P-3.1: Taxes and/or ban for landfilling residual- or biodegradable waste

Bans and taxes on landfilling of residual waste can help to discourage landfilling and thus support recycling, also of packaging waste.

As described in Section 2.1.3 in more detail, Belgium has an extensive landfill ban and a landfill tax. These incentives also affect packaging waste.

Summary result

Ban in place for landfilling residual or biodegradable waste	Flanders and Wallonia have a ban in place for landfilling residual and biodegradable waste. Both regions also apply landfill taxes, while BCR does not have own landfills.
Robustness of the underlying information	Credible information received from the Belgian authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire.

SRF P-3.2: Taxes on municipal waste incineration

Taxes on incineration of residual waste can help to discourage strong reliance on residual waste treatment and thus support recycling. As described in Section 2.1.3 in more detail, Belgium has a tax on waste incineration.

Summary result

Taxes > 7 EUR/t([a]), but without escalator	A tax of at least 13.38 EUR/t* (corresponding to 11.5 EUR/t rescaled based on purchasing power parities) is already in place in 2021 in Flanders and Wallonia or will be in place soon (in 2022) in BCR. However, no escalator is applied.
Robustness of the underlying information	Credible information received from the Belgian authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire.

([a]) **Note**: rescaled based on purchasing power parities Eurostat (2020)

SRF P-3.3: Packaging taxes

Packaging taxes can support the aim to reduce packaging waste generation and/or to influence the choice of packaging materials and encourage recyclability and eco-design.

According to the information available, Belgium applies a packaging tax both on reusable and non-reusable beverage packaging. For non-reusable beverage packaging, a tax of 9.86 EUR/hectolitre of product packed in individual packages is applicable. For reusable beverage packaging, the rate is 1.41 EUR/hectolitre.

This is federal legislation, Law of 16 July 1993 (16 JUILLET 1993. - Loi ordinaire visant à achever la structure fédérale de l'Etat, Livre III.) It is applicable on top of the EPR fees. The fees only apply to individual recipients, excluding barrels etc. There has been no evolution in the fees for several years.

Summary result

Packaging taxes in place	In Belgium, a packaging tax is applicable for all beverage packaging. For reusable packaging the tax rate is lower than for non-reusable packaging.
Robustness of the underlying information	Credible information received from the Belgian authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire.

SRF P-3.4: Pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) system in place

Given the relevance of packaging waste management from households for the recycling targets of packaging waste, PAYT systems influence the recycling rate of packaging waste.

As described in Section 2.1.3 in more detail, PAYT schemes are used in both Flanders and Wallonia.

Summary result

PAYT scheme fully rolled out (to at least 80% of the population)	Both Flanders and Wallonia have a PAYT scheme covering 100 % of the inhabitants. BCR has no PAYT scheme. Flanders and Wallonia cover more than 80 % of the Belgian population.
Robustness of the underlying information	Data both from the Belgian authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire and additional literature resources. Data is considered robust.

SRF P-3.5: Deposit-return systems

Deposit Return Systems (DRS) generate high capture rates for packaging covered by the system and thus contribute to increased recycling rates.

In Belgium only a voluntary deposit system applies for certain types of reusable packaging. For example, for certain reusable household packaging such as glass bottles for drinks (beer, soft drinks, milk, and even for certain wines); and for certain types of reusable industrial and commercial packaging such as metal barrels for beer, various plastic containers, and pallets in wood or plastic. In Belgium there is currently no deposit system for single-use packaging.

All reusable packaging are exempt of the EPR fee.

Summary result

Aluminium drink cans	No DRS	No DRS in place
Glass drink bottles	Voluntary DRS for some drink bottles	Voluntary for some reusable drink bottles
Plastic drink bottles	No DRS	No DRS in place
Plastic crates	Voluntary DRS for some plastic crates	Voluntary for some reusable plastic crates
Wooden packaging	Voluntary DRS for some wooden packaging	No DRS in place for single use packaging. Voluntary DRS in place for most reusable industrial packaging (pallets, IBC's)
Robustness of the underlying information		Credible information received from the regional authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire

2.2.4 Separate collection system

SRF P-4.1: Convenience and coverage of separate collection for different packaging waste fractions

As a large part of packaging waste comes from households, separate collection systems for households and similar sources are a key condition for achieving high recycling rates of packaging waste and for collecting recyclables at adequate quality. Generally, the more convenient and accessible these systems are for their users, the better results they can deliver. The material specific assessment considers packaging waste from both household and non-household sources. For assessing the convenience and coverage of separate collection systems for households, the same methodology is used here as described in section 2.1.4.

There are two separate collection systems for packaging waste in Belgium. A system for packaging of household origin, for which the accredited compliance organisation for this is Fost Plus, and a system for industrial and commercial packaging, with Valipac as accredited compliance organisation. Separate collection must take place for both household and industrial and commercial packaging waste. This is applied for the whole Belgian territory.

The following packaging flows are collected separately for household packaging: glass, paper and cardboard, plastics (various fractions), metals (Fe and Al), drinks cartons and a residual flow 'other' to which the other materials belong. For household packaging waste, this residual category includes small wooden packaging such as cigar boxes and orange boxes, stone bottles of jenever, etc. For packaging of industrial and commercial origin, the following packaging flows are collected separately: paper and cardboard, plastics, metals, wood, and a residual flow 'other'. For industrial and commercial packaging, this residual category includes glass bottles from laboratory agents.

Belgium reports that the dominant system for households for separate collection of paper and cardboard, ferrous metals, aluminium, plastic, and composite packaging is high density collection, whereas for wood the dominant system is low-density collection.

In the accreditation of FostPlus is specifically stipulated that paper and cardboard, ferrous metals, aluminium, plastic and composite packaging must be collected door-to-door at least every two weeks, and in densely populated areas weekly, and, if needed, may be complemented with collection at civic amenity sites. (IVCIE, 2018)

Separate collection of non-household packaging waste is mandatory in both BCR, Flanders and Wallonia for paper and cardboard, ferrous metals, aluminium, glass, and plastic. For wood, it is not mandatory in BCR, but it is in Flanders and Wallonia. For Wallonia, a threshold applies for the packaging waste materials: 120 litres/week for glass packaging, 60 litres/week for PMC, 200 litres/week for plastic foils, 30 litres/week for paper and cardboard, 120 litres/week for non-packaging metals.

Summary result

Paper and cardboard packaging	**1. Packaging waste from households** A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	The dominant collection system is door-to-door collection, complemented with collection at CAS, in all three regions and all areas.
	2. Packaging waste from non-household sources Separation at source is mandatory for non-household paper and cardboard packaging waste	In Belgium it is mandatory for non-households to separate paper and cardboard packaging waste at source, in all three regions.
Ferrous metals packaging	**1. Packaging waste from households** A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	Ferrous metals are collected co-mingled door-to-door and at CAS, both in cities, towns and suburbs and rural areas.
	2. Packaging waste from non-household sources Separation at source is mandatory for non-household ferrous metals packaging waste	In Belgium it is mandatory for non-households to separate metals packaging waste at source, in all three regions.
Aluminium packaging	**Packaging waste from households** A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	Aluminium is collected co-mingled door-to-door and at CAS, both in cities, towns and suburbs and rural areas.

Glass packaging	**1. Packaging waste from households** A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	For glass, the dominant collection method is door-to-door (only in Flanders) or by bring points. Additionally, glass waste is also collected at CAS.
	2. Packaging waste from non-household sources Separation at source is mandatory for non-household glass packaging waste	In Belgium it is mandatory for non-households to separate glass packaging waste at source, in all three regions.
Plastics packaging	**1. Packaging waste from households** A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	Plastics are collected co-mingled door-to-door and at CAS, both in cities, towns and suburbs and rural areas.
	2. Packaging waste from non-household sources Separation at source is mandatory for non-household plastic packaging waste	In Belgium it is mandatory for non-households to separate plastic packaging waste at source, in all three regions.
Wooden packaging	**Packaging waste from non-household sources** Separation at source is mandatory for non-household wooden packaging waste	In Belgium it is mandatory for non-households to separate wooden packaging waste at source.
Robustness of the underlying information		Credible information received from the Belgian authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire.

SRF P-4.2: Firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage of separate collection for the different packaging waste fractions

To improve the type and coverage of separate collection, concrete plans are needed.

Belgium already has very convenient collection systems for packaging waste, and none of the three Belgian regions has firm plans to further improve the type and coverage of separate collection for packaging waste fractions.

The assessment is done on a material basis and summing up the scores of the different materials according to their average share in packaging waste[5]. Again, the material specific assessment considers packaging waste from both household and non-household sources.

[5] Based on data from Eurostat on the average share of packaging materials in total packaging

Summary result

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Paper and cardboard packaging</td><td>1. Packaging waste from households
N/A (for countries in which a very high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)</td><td rowspan="10">Belgium already has very convenient collection systems for packaging waste, and none of the three Belgian regions have firm plans to further improve the type and coverage of separate collection for packaging waste fractions.</td></tr>
<tr><td>2. Packaging waste from non-household sources
N/A (for countries already having mandatory separation at source)</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Ferrous metals packaging</td><td>1. Packaging waste from households
N/A (for countries in which a high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)</td></tr>
<tr><td>2. Packaging waste from non-household sources
N/A (for countries already having mandatory separation at source)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Aluminium packaging</td><td>Packaging waste from households
N/A (for countries in which a high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Glass packaging</td><td>1. Packaging waste from households
N/A (for countries in which a very high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)</td></tr>
<tr><td>2. Packaging waste from non-household sources
N/A (for countries already having mandatory separation at source)</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Plastics packaging</td><td>1. Packaging waste from households
N/A (for countries in which a very high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)</td></tr>
<tr><td>2. Packaging waste from non-household sources
N/A (for countries already having mandatory separation at source)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Wooden packaging</td><td>Packaging waste from non-household sources
N/A (for countries already having mandatory separation at source)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Robustness of the underlying information</td><td>Credible information received from the Belgian authorities through the questionnaire from the EEA and ETC/WMGE.</td></tr>
</table>

2.2.5 Extended producer responsibility (EPR) and similar schemes

SRF P-5.1: Coverage of EPR schemes

For households, Fost Plus manages and coordinates the separate collection of the following packaging waste fractions for both Flanders, Wallonia and BCR: glass, paper and cardboard, metal (ferrous and aluminium), plastics and drink cartons. Similarly, Valipac covers these packaging waste fractions in Belgium for non-household sources.

Summary result

All main packaging fractions([a]) are covered by EPR schemes, covering household and non-household packaging	A separate EPR scheme is active for all main packaging fractions respectively for households (Fost Plus) and for non-households (Valipac).
Robustness of the underlying information	Robust information received from the Belgian authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire, confirmed by credible information consulted online.

([a]) Note: Paper and cardboard, Ferrous metals, Aluminium, Glass, Plastic

SRF P-5.2: Fee modulation in EPR schemes for packaging

As explained in Section 2.1.5, fee modulation (or eco-modulation) is a system with different fees for different types of packaging material and designs. The assessment is the same as described in Section 2.1.5

Summary result

There is advanced fee modulation in at least two of the main packaging fractions([a]) AND fee modulation for one packaging fraction meets three assessment criteria	Both sortability and recyclability are taken into account for plastics and paper and cardboard. In addition, the PRO performs transparent compliance checks on the data provided by all involved actors.
Robustness of the underlying information	The fee structure is transparent and publicly available.

([a]) Note: Paper and cardboard, Ferrous metals, Aluminium, Glass, Plastic

SRF P-5.3 Material specific EPR assessment

The material specific assessment is based on a combination of the coverage of the material-specific EPR schemes and the use of fee modulation for the specific packaging material. The assessment takes the different situations for different types of materials into account: Plastics packaging is the packaging material that is the most difficult to recycle out of the packaging materials targeted by the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive. Fee modulation therefore plays a larger role for plastic packaging than for the other materials and is therefore rated differently from paper/cardboard, ferrous metals, aluminium and glass. The methodology foresees a green score for plastics packaging only if all four fee modulation assessment criteria mentioned above are met. On the other hand, wooden packaging is mainly generated by commercial and industrial sources and fee modulation is less relevant, therefore the methodology only relies on EPR schemes for wooden packaging from commercial and industrial sources.

The wooden packaging declared to Fost Plus, such as cigar boxes and small orange boxes, are placed in the residual category 'other materials'. The global recycling and recovery targets apply, but there is no material specific target for household wood packaging waste. The European target for wood packaging waste is entirely met by the target for industrial and commercial wood packaging waste. The wooden packaging declared to Valipac, such as wooden crates and wooden pallets, comprises a separate waste stream and forms a separate material stream.

The tariffing system for packaging materials for households is explained in 2.1.5.

For industrial packaging (non-households) the tariffs applied are presented in Table 2.6. This implies that distinction is made based on recyclability at the material level only and not within the material level.

Table 2.6 2020 tariffs for industrial packaging in Belgium

Tariffs (VAT excluded) per ton of industrial packaging reported	**2020**
Single-use packaging	EUR/t
Paper/cardboard, metal, glass, natural fibres, wood and other recyclable materials	14.50
Recyclable plastic	39.50
Recyclable plastic for construction industry	49.50
Non-recyclable materials (non-recyclable plastic included)	53.00
Reusable packaging	0

Summary result

SRF P-5.3.1 EPR scheme for Paper and cardboard packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging but no advanced fee modulation applied	Belgium has an EPR scheme in place covering household, industrial and commercial packaging for paper and cardboard packaging waste, but limited fee modulation.
SRF P-5.3.2 EPR scheme for Ferrous metals packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging but no advanced fee modulation applied	Belgium has an EPR scheme in place covering household, industrial and commercial packaging, but limited fee modulation.
SRF P-5.3.3 EPR scheme for Aluminium packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging but no advanced fee modulation applied	Belgium has an EPR scheme in place covering household, industrial and commercial packaging, but limited fee modulation.
SRF P-5.3.4 EPR scheme for Glass packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging but no advanced fee modulation applied	Belgium has an EPR scheme in place covering household, industrial and commercial packaging, but limited fee modulation.
SRF P-5.3.5 EPR scheme for Plastic packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging, with a fee modulation meeting at least two assessment criteria	Belgium has an EPR scheme in place covering household, industrial and commercial packaging, but limited fee modulation. Fees are modulated for household packaging but not for commercial/industrial packaging.
SRF P-5.3.6 EPR scheme for Wooden packaging waste	EPR scheme covering all non-household packaging	The EPR scheme covers wood for business in entire Belgium.
Robustness of the underlying information		Robust information provided by the Belgian authorities through the EEA-ETC/WMGE questionnaire, complemented with reliable online information from PROs.

2.3 Target on landfill of municipal waste

2.3.1 Current situation and past trends

SRF LF-1.1: Distance to target

The Landfill directive (1999/31/EC), as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/850, sets a target to reduce, by 2035, the amount of municipal waste landfilled to 10 % or less of the total amount of municipal waste generated (by weight).

Data to show the current rate of landfilling in line with the reporting rules will only be reported by mid-2022. Therefore, this analysis calculates the landfilling rate based on the current Eurostat dataset *Municipal waste by waste management operations* [env_wasmun]; by dividing the amount of landfilled waste by the total amount of waste generated. The overall landfilling rate of Belgium was 1.1 % in 2020.

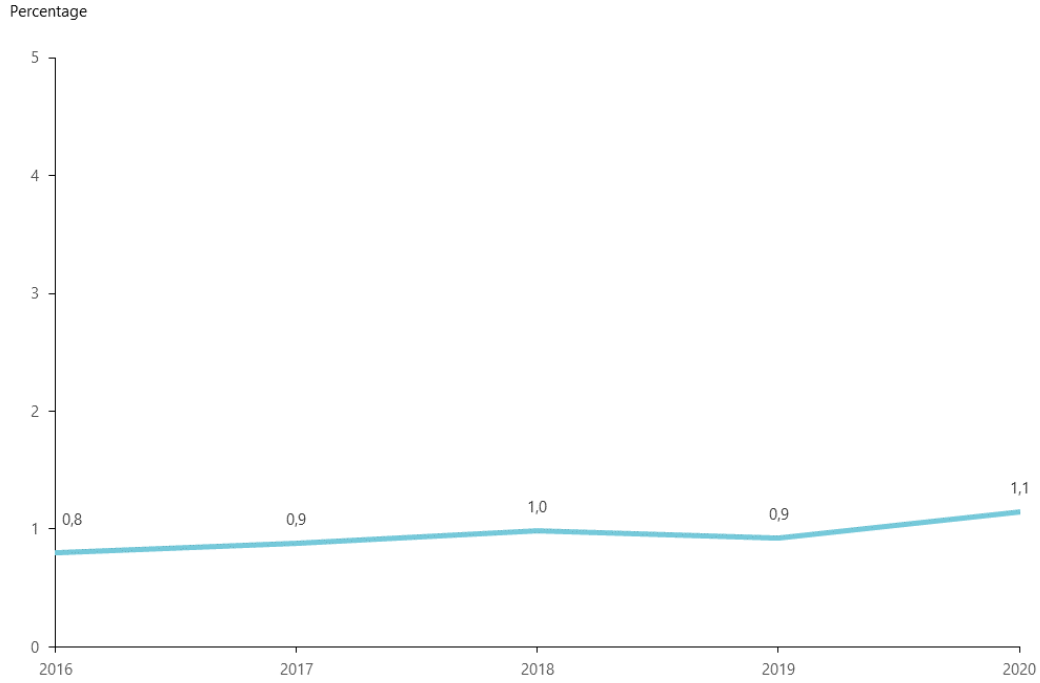
Summary result

Target exceeded	The landfill rate in Belgium in 2020 is 1.1 %.
Robustness of the underlying information	The data are derived from Eurostat and are considered to be rather robust. However, the reported landfill rate might increase once the new calculation rules laid down in the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1885 will be applied. Based on the available information, it is currently not possible to quantify the impact of the new calculation rules on the landfill rate.

SRF LF-1.2: Past trend in municipal solid waste landfill rate

Over the past five years, the overall landfilling rate of Belgium has been lower than 1 % (Figure 2.4). This is merely due to fluctuation of the total generated waste rather than from the amount of landfilled waste.

Figure 2.4 Landfilling in Belgium between 2016 and 2020, in percentage



Source: Eurostat (2022a).

Summary result

Landfill rate in 2020 < or = 10%	The landfill rate in Belgium was between 0,8 and 1.1 % during the past five years.
Robustness of the underlying information	Robust information, as in Eurostat databases and official regional and national reports. However, the reported landfill rate does not yet implement the new calculation rules laid down in the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1885.

SRF LF-1.3: Diversion of biodegradable municipal waste from landfill

Landfilling of biodegradable municipal waste is banned in Belgium, and the reported rate of landfilled biodegradable municipal waste has been reported as 0 % in 2017, 2018 and 2019 (EC, 2022).

Summary result

Target for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) landfilled to 35 % of BMW generated in 1995 has been achieved in 2016 or in the year specified in the derogation where applicable	The landfill rate of biodegradable municipal waste related to the biodegradable municipal waste generated in 1995 is 0 %.
Robustness of the underlying information	Robust information, available in regional and national reports and legislation. Data provided by the European Commission based on data reported by Belgium.

3 Conclusion

This risk assessment indicates whether Belgium is at risk of not meeting the targets. The 'total risk' categorization is the result of the sum of the individual scores of each SRF as described in the previous chapter, where the assessment of each SRF results in a score of **2 points (green), 1 point (amber) or 0 points (red)**, depending on the assessment of the SRF. As some SRFs are considered to have a higher impact on meeting the target, the score of the SRF is multiplied by the defined weight of the SRF. As some SRFs might not be applicable to Belgium, only the SRFs relevant to Belgium are taken into account to define the maximum score. Belgium is considered to be 'not at risk' if its score is more than 50 % of this maximum score, and 'at risk' if its score is less than 50 % of this maximum score.

3.1 Prospects for meeting the recycling target for municipal solid waste

55 % **of maximum score**	Based on the provided information and the analysis done, it is concluded that Belgium is **not at risk for not meeting the MSW recycling target in 2025**.
Current situation and past trends:	Based on the currently available data, Belgium's recycling rate lies at 54.2 % in 2020, 0.8 percentage points below the 2025 target. However, the Flemish and BCR authorities have estimated that the application of the new calculation rules would reduce the recycling rate by 10.5 – 12 percentage points while no similar estimate is available for Wallonia. Assuming that application of the new calculation rules will have a similar effect in Wallonia as in Flanders and BCR, this would result an estimated recycling rate of 43.5 %, 11.5 percentage points below the target. The recycling rate has increased with 0.7 percentage points over the past five years.
Legal instruments:	The transposition of the Directive was not finalised by the three regions within 12 months after the deadline. Responsibilities are clearly defined and some support mechanisms for municipalities are in place, but there are no direct consequences for the responsible municipal authorities if the targets are not met for the entire country.
Economic instruments:	Flanders and Wallonia have a ban in place for landfilling residual and biodegradable waste. Both regions also apply landfill taxes, while BCR does not have any landfills. An incineration tax is already in place in 2021 in Flanders and Wallonia or will be in place soon (in 2022) in BCR. Both Flanders and Wallonia have a PAYT scheme covering 100 % of the inhabitants. The tariffing system is mainly based on volume, frequency and/or weight. BCR has no PAYT scheme.

Separate collection systems:	To foster the recycling of municipal waste, separate collection has been part of the strategy of Flanders and Wallonia for many years. Since several years, also BCR has joined this approach. Belgium reports that the dominant system for separate collection of paper and cardboard waste, and for metals and plastics is high convenience collection, whereas for textiles and wood the dominant system is low-density collection. For glass and bio-waste the situation depends on the preferences and priorities of the municipalities. There are firm plans to improve plastics separate collection as well as bio-waste collection.
Extended producer responsibility:	In Belgium, one national PRO (Fost Plus) is in charge for all household packaging covering all three regions. Similarly, Valipac is the national PRO for all non-household packaging. Advanced fee modulation is applied.
Bio-waste treatment capacity and quality management:	The overall available bio-waste capacity for Belgium is estimated to be more than 80 % of the generated municipal bio-waste. However, there are significant differences between the three regions. Quality standards and a quality management system for compost/digestate are only in place in Flanders, while in Wallonia there are administrative norms that are applied on a case by case basis.

Prospects for meeting the recycling targets for packaging waste

94 % **of maximum score**	Based on the provided information and the analysis done, it is concluded that Belgium is **not at risk for not meeting the 65 % recycling target for total packaging waste in 2025**	
90 % of maximum score	Paper and cardboard packaging	Not at risk
90 % of maximum score	Ferrous metals packaging	Not at risk
84 % of maximum score	Aluminium packaging	Not at risk
84 % of maximum score	Glass packaging	Not at risk
59 % of maximum score	Plastics packaging	Not at risk
88 % of maximum score	Wooden packaging	Not at risk
Current situation and past trends:	The 2019 recycling rates for total packaging as well as all individual materials exceed the 2025 targets, except for plastics, which is 12.7 percentage points below the target. The overall recycling rate for packaging waste in Belgium has steadily, but only slightly, increased in the past five years.	
Legal instruments:	The revised Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive has been transposed into national law with a delay of less than 12 months. Responsibilities are clearly defined and enforcement mechanisms are in place. The responsibility for reaching the targets is set on PROs and there are direct financial consequences if the targets are not met. Additionally, there are support mechanisms for the PROs to improve their performance.	
Economic instruments:	Belgium has banned the landfilling of mixed municipal waste, and applies adequate taxes for both landfilling and incineration. A packaging tax is applicable for all beverage packaging. There is a PAYT scheme in place in Flanders and Wallonia, covering 100 % of inhabitants. BCR has no PAYT scheme. There are no or only voluntary DRS for packaging.	
Separate collection systems:	There are two separate collection systems for packaging waste in Belgium: a system for packaging of household origin and a system for industrial and commercial packaging. For all main packaging fractions a high share of the population is covered by high convenience services. Separation at source is mandatory for both households and non-households, for all main packaging waste fractions.	

Extended producer responsibility:	All main packaging fractions are covered by EPR schemes, covering household and non-household packaging, and advanced fee modulation is applied for some packaging fractions from households.

3.2 Prospects of meeting the landfill of municipal waste target

100 % **of maximum score**	Based on the provided information and the analysis done, it is concluded that Belgium is **not at risk for not meeting the 2035 target to reduce the amount of municipal waste landfilled to 10 % or less of the total amount of municipal waste generated.**
Current situation and past trends:	The landfill rate in Belgium was between 0.8 and 1.1 % during the last five years.
Diversion of biodegradable municipal waste from landfill:	No biodegradable municipal waste is landfilled in Belgium.

List of abbreviations

Abbreviation	Name
ABP	Bruxelles-Propreté
BCR	Brussels Capital Region
BMW	Biodegradable Municipal Waste
CAS	Civic Amenity Site
DRS	Deposit Return System
EEA	European Environment Agency
EPR	Extended producer responsibility
ETC/CE	European Topic Centre on Circular Economy
ETC/WMGE	European Topic Centre on Waste and Materials in a Green Economy
IRPC	Interregional Packaging Commission
MBT	Mechanical biological treatment
MSW	Municipal solid waste
NWMP	The National Waste Management Plan
PAYT	Pay-as-you-throw
PET	Polyethylene terephthalate
PGRD	Plan de Gestion des Ressources et des Déchets
PMC	Plastics, metals, drink cartons
PPWD	Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive
PRO	Producer Responsibility Organisation
PWD-R	Walloon Waste-Resource Plan
RR	Recycling rate
RWMP	Regional Waste Management Plans
SPW ARNE	Service Public de Wallonie Agriculture, Resources naturelles et Environnement
SRF	Success and risk factor
TOC	Total organic carbon
VAT	Value Added Tax
WEEE	Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment
WFD	Waste Framework Directive

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Annex 1 Detailed scoring of success and risk factors

Assessment sheet - Recycling target for municipal waste

MS Belgium

Date Jun-22

SRF		Assessment result	Weight	Score
Current situation and past trends				
MSWR-1.1	Distance to target	Distance to target 5 - 15 percentage points	5	5
MSWR-1.2	Past trends in municipal solid waste recycling rate	RR < 45% and increase in last 5 years < 10 percentage points	1	0
Legal instruments				
MSWR-2.1	Timely transposition of the revised WFD into national law	Transposition with delay of > 12 months, or no full transposition yet	1	0
MSWR-2.2	Clearly defined responsibilities for meeting the targets and support and enforcement mechanisms	Clearly defined responsibilities and good set of support tools but weak/no enforcement mechanisms for meeting the recycling targets OR Unclear responsibilities but clearly defined enforcement mechanisms and a good set of support tools for meeting the recycling targets OR Clearly defined responsibilities and enforcement mechanisms but no/weak support tools for meeting the recycling targets	1	1
Economic instruments				
MSWR-3.1	Taxes and/or ban for landfilling residual or biodegradable waste	Ban, or landfill tax > 30 EUR/t* with escalator, or landfill tax > 45 EUR/t	1	2
MSWR-3.2	Taxes on municipal waste incineration	Taxes > 7 EUR/t*, but without escalator	1	1
MSWR-3.3	Pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) system	PAYT scheme fully rolled out (to at least 80% of the population) OR Implemented in some regions / municipalities (50-80% covered) and firm plans for rolling out to at least 80% of the population	1	2

Separate collection systems				
MSWR-4.1	Convenience and coverage of separate collection systems for the different household waste fractions			
	Paper and cardboard	A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	0.46	0.92
	Metals	A medium share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	0.08	0.08
	Plastics	A medium share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	0.28	0.28
	Glass	A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	0.18	0.36
	Bio-waste	A medium share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	0.84	0.84
	Wood	A low share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	0.06	0
	Textiles	A low share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	0.06	0
	WEEE	High to medium convenience collection services dominate	0.04	0.08
MSWR-4.2	Firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage of separate collection systems for the different household waste fractions			
	Paper and cardboard	N/A (for countries in which a very high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)	0.23	0
	Metals	No firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage	0.04	0
	Plastics	Firm plans to improve the separate collection system, with clear responsible entities and defined targets and timeline	0.14	0.28
	Glass	N/A (for countries in which a very high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)	0.09	0
	Bio-waste	There are plans to improve the collection service but unclear plan for implementation	0.42	0.42
	Wood	No firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage	0.03	0
	Textiles	No firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage	0.03	0
	WEEE	N/A (for countries where high to medium convenience collection services dominate already)	0.02	0

Extended producer responsibility (EPR) and similar schemes				
MSWR-5.1	Fee modulation in EPR schemes for packaging	There is an advanced fee modulation for at least two of the main packaging fractions* AND fee modulation for one packaging fraction meets three assessment criteria	1	2
Bio-waste treatment capacity and quality management				
MSWR-6.1	Capacity for the treatment of bio-waste	Enough bio-waste treatment capacity for 80% of generated municipal bio-waste	1	2
MSWR-6.2	Legally binding national standards and Quality Management System for compost/digistate	No national standards or quality management system, or still under development	1	0
			Total score	**18.26**
			Maximum score	33.32
				55%

Assessment sheet - Recycling target for packaging waste

MS Belgium

Date Jun-22

SRF		Assessment result	Weight	Score
Current situation and past trends				
P-1.1	Distance to target - Overall packaging	< 5 percentage points below target, or target exceeded	5	10
	Distance to target - Paper and cardboard packaging	< 5 percentage points below target, or target exceeded	5	10
	Distance to target - Ferrous metals packaging	< 5 percentage points below target, or target exceeded	5	10
	Distance to target - Aluminium packaging	< 5 percentage points below target, or target exceeded	5	10
	Distance to target - Glass packaging	< 5 percentage points below target, or target exceeded	5	10
	Distance to target - Plastics packaging	5 - 15 percentage points below target	5	5
	Distance to target - Wooden packaging	< 5 percentage points below target, or target exceeded	5	10
P-1.2	Past trends in packaging waste recycling rate	RR > 60% and increase in last 5 years > 5 percentage points, or RR > 55% and increase in last 5 years > 10 %, or RR > 65%	1	2
	Past trends in paper and cardboard packaging recycling	RR > 70% and increase in last 5 years > 5 percentage points, or RR > 65% and increase in last 5 years > 10 %, or RR > 75%	1	2
	Past trends in ferrous metals packaging recycling	RR > 65% and increase in last 5 years > 5 percentage points, or RR > 60% and increase in last 5 years > 10 %, or RR > 70%	1	2
	Past trends in aluminium packaging recycling	RR > 45% and increase in last 5 years > 5 percentage points, or RR > 40% and increase in last 5 years > 10 %, or RR > 50%	1	2
	Past trends in glass packaging recycling	RR > 65% and increase in last 5 years > 5 percentage points, or RR > 60% and increase in last 5 years > 10 %, or RR > 70%	1	2

	Past trends in plastic packaging recycling	RR < 40% and increase in last 5 years < 10 percentage points	1	0
	Past trends in wooden packaging recycling	RR > 20% and increase in last 5 years > 5 percentage points, or RR > 15% and increase in last 5 years > 10 %, or RR > 25%	1	2
Legal instruments				
P-2.1	Timely transposition of the revised Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive into national law	Transposition with a delay of less than 12months	1	1
P-2.2	Clearly defined responsibilities for meeting the targets and support and enforcement mechanisms	Clearly defined responsibilities, enforcement and good set of support mechanisms for meeting the recycling targets	1	2
Economic instruments				
P-3.1	Taxes and/or ban for landfilling residual or biodegradable waste	Ban, or landfill tax > 30 EUR/t* with escalator	1	2
P-3.2	Taxes on municipal waste incineration	Taxes > 7 EUR/t*	1	1
P-3.3	Packaging taxes	Packaging taxes in place	1	2
P-3.4	Pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) system	PAYT scheme fully rolled out (to at least 80% of the population) OR Implemented in some regions / municipalities (50-80% covered) and firm plans for rolling out to at least 80% of the population	1	2
P-3.5	Deposit-return systems for aluminium drink cans	No or voluntary DRS for some drink cans	1	0
	Deposit-return systems for glass drink bottles	No or voluntary DRS for some drink bottles	1	0
	Deposit-return systems plastic drink bottles	No or voluntary DRS for some drink bottles	1	0
	Deposit-return systems for plastic crates	No or voluntary DRS for some plastic crates	1	0
	Deposit-return systems for wooden packaging	No or voluntary DRS for some wooden packaging	1	0

Separate collection systems				
P-4.1	Convenience and coverage of separate collection systems for the different packaging waste fractions			
	Paper and cardboard packaging (household)	A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	1	2
	Paper and cardboard packaging (non-household)	Separation at source is mandatory for non-household paper and cardboard packaging waste	1	2
	Ferrous metals packaging (household)	A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	1	2
	Ferrous metals packaging (non-household)	Separation at source is mandatory for non-household ferrous metals packaging waste	1	2
	Aluminium packaging	A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	2	4
	Glass packaging (household)	A high share of population is covered by high convenience collection services	1	2
	Glass packaging (non-household)	Separation at source is mandatory for non-household glass packaging waste	1	2
	Plastics packaging (household)	A high share of the population is covered by high convenience collection services	1	2
	Plastics packaging (non-household)	Separation at source is mandatory for non-household plastic packaging waste	1	2
	Wooden packaging	Separation at source is mandatory for non-household wooden packaging waste	2	4
P-4.2	Firm plans to improve the convenience and coverage of separate collection systems for the different packaging waste fractions			
	Paper and cardboard (household)	N/A (for countries in which a high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)	0.5	0
	Paper and cardboard (non-household)	N/A (for countries already having mandatory sorting at source)	0.5	0
	Ferrous metals packaging (household)	N/A (for countries in which a high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)	0.5	0
	Ferrous metals packaging (non-household)	N/A (for countries already having mandatory sorting at source)	0.5	0
	Aluminium packaging	N/A (for countries in which a high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)	1	0
	Glass packaging (household)	N/A (for countries in which a very high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)	0.5	0
	Glass packaging (non-household)	N/A (for countries already having mandatory sorting at source)	0.5	0

	Plastics packaging (household)	N/A (for countries in which a very high share of the population is already covered by high convenience collection services)	0.5	0
	Plastics packaging (non-household)	N/A (for countries already having mandatory sorting at source)	0.5	0
	Wooden packaging	N/A (for countries already having mandatory sorting at source)	1	0
Extended producer responsibility (EPR) and similar schemes				
P-5.1	Coverage of EPR schemes	All main packaging fractions* are covered by EPR schemes, covering household and non-household packaging	1	2
P-5.2	Fee modulation in EPR schemes for packaging	There is fee modulation in at least two of the main packaging fractions* AND fee modulation for one packaging fraction meets three assessment criteria	1	2
P-5.3	Material specific EPR assessment - Paper and cardboard packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging	1	1
	Material specific EPR assessment - Ferrous metals packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging	1	1
	Material specific EPR assessment - Aluminium packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging	1	1
	Material specific EPR assessment - Glass packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging	1	1
	Material specific EPR assessment - Plastics packaging waste	EPR scheme covering household and non-household packaging, with a fee modulation meeting at least two assessment criteria	1	1
	Material specific EPR assessment - Wooden packaging waste	EPR scheme covering all non-household packaging	1	2
Total packaging recycling target				**30.00**
			Maximum score	32.00
				94%

Paper and cardboard recycling target

Total score	**27.00**
Maximum score	30.00
	90%

Ferrous metals packaging recycling target

Total score	**27.00**
Maximum score	30.00
	90%

Aluminium packaging recycling target

Total score	**27.00**
Maximum score	32.00
	84%

Glass packaging recycling target

Total score	**27.00**
Maximum score	32.00
	84%

Plastics packaging recycling target

Total score	**20.00**
Maximum score	34.00
	59%

Wooden packaging recycling target

Total score	**28.00**
Maximum score	32.00
	88%

Assessment sheet - Target for landfilling of municipal waste

MS Belgium

Date Jun-22

SRF		Assessment result	Weight	Score
Current situation and past trends				
LF-1.1	Distance to target	Distance to target < 10 percentage points, or target exceeded	5	10
LF-1.2	Past trends in municipal solid waste landfill rat	Landfill rate in 2020 < 20% and decrease in last 5 years > 5 percentage points, or Landfill rate in 2020 < 25% and decrease in last 5 years > 10 percentage points or Landfill rate in 2020 < or = 10%	1	2
LF-1.3	Diversion of biodegradable municipal waste from landfill	Target for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) landfilled to 35% of BMW generated in 1995 has been achieved in 2016 or in the year specified in the derogation where applicable	1	2
			Total score	**14.00**
			Maximum score	14.00
				100%