

INVITATION

The European Union has recently adopted the Circular Economy Package (CEP), the implementation of which shall lead to sustainable resource management in European countries. The revised Waste Framework Directive as well as the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive, which are both part of the CEP, recommend use of deposit systems for beverage containers in order to reduce littering and increase recycling of beverage packaging.

In February 2016, two years before the European Directives recommended it, Lithuania adopted a deposit return scheme in domestic legislation and successfully implemented the system. With a collection rate of 92%, Lithuania's deposit system is one of the best performing systems in the world and proves that economic incentives and access to user friendly infrastructure can lead to high quality material recycling.

The Norwegian deposit system has been the best case for Circular Economy since as early as 1999. Thanks to efficient collection and excellent eco-design of packaging, Norwegian PET beverage containers from the deposit system have been a most favourable substrate for food grade quality recycling.

Lithuania and Norway are therefore an optimal venue for the 1st European Conference on Deposit Return Schemes, which will be an excellent opportunity to benefit from the knowledge and expertise of the system operators, beverage producers, recyclers, and representatives of the government authorities. The conference is organized by Reloop Platform in cooperation with Užstato Sistemos Administratorius (Lithuanian system operator) as well as INFINITUM (Norwegian system operator), and under the auspices of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to the Republic of Lithuania.

It is our great pleasure to invite you to Lithuania and Norway, where we will be honoured to present best practice examples in the implementation of circular economy principles. All practical information related to the conference and subsequent study tours is summarized in the attachment to this invitation.



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