International Conference and Study Tour

Reuse and Recycling through Deposit Systems

September 25-26, 2023 **Riga, Latvia**

Organised by

Depozīta punkts

reloop resources remain resources

Under the auspices of

State Environmental Service
Republic of Latvia

International Conference and Study Tour

Reuse and Recycling through Deposit Systems

September 25-26, 2023 Riga, Latvia

Mircea Fechet

Minister of Environment, Republic of Romania

MINISTERUL MEDIULUI, APELOR ȘI PĂDURILOR

DEPOSIT RETURN SYSTEM

Ministry of Enironment, Waters and Forests Romania

September 2023

Mircea Fechet

ROMANIA

BUCHAREST

POPULATION

19 MILLION PEOPLE

Urban - 54.5% Rural - 45.5 %

AREA

238,397 km^2

BEVERAGE CONTAINERS POM

Over 6 billion / year

ROMANIA

European Objectives

Romanian pollution data

Infrigement procedures

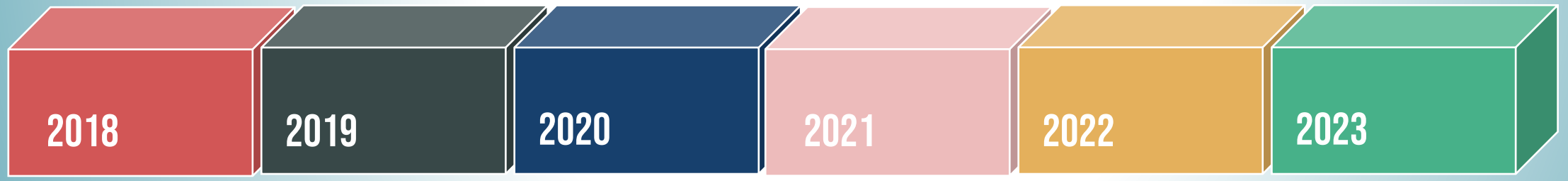
TIMELINES

Professional Presentation

INITIAL TIMELINES by LAW

Law 249/2015 amended through EO 74/2018
By 1st of January 2021, based on economical, social and environment efficiency evaluation, as well as of impact upon small and medium enterprises, through Government Decision is established a deposit return syste applicable to ***primary single use beverage containers of glass, plastic and metal with volumes between 0.1 and 3L inclusive, used for putting on the national market of bere, beer mixes, alcoholic beverage mixes, cider, other fermented beverages, juices, nectars, soft drinks, mineral waters and waters of any kind, wines and spirits.***

ULTERIOR TIMELINES by LAW



Primary legislation stipulation

DRS start - 1st of Jan

1st delay to Oct 2022

DRS start - 1st of Oct

2nd delay to Nov 2023

30th of Novermber – official launch of DRS

ADMINITRATING THE DRS

Non for profit – centralized, national organization and administration

RETURO SISTEM GARANTIE RETURNARE

appointed through Gov Decision

Brewers of Romania for Environment Association

Association of Soft Drinks Producers for Sustainability

Retailers for Environment Association

Romanian State through Env Ministry

60%

20%

20%

APPLICABILITY

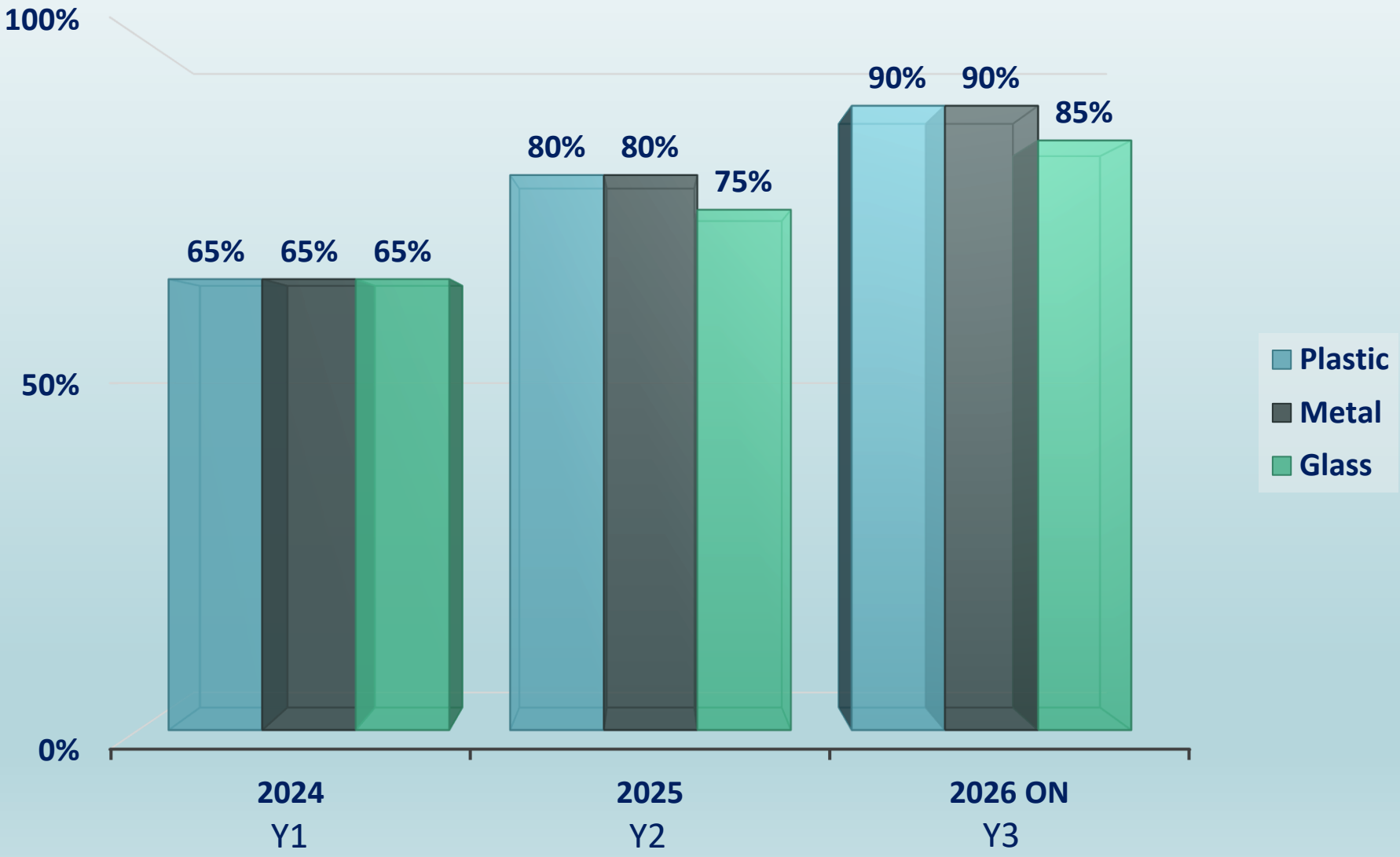
Single use primary beverage containers

PLASTIC METAL GLASS

Volumes from 0.1 to 3 L

- beer
- beer mixes
- alcoholic beverage mixes
- cider
- other fermented beverages
- Juices
- nectars
- soft drinks
- mineral water
- drinking water of all kinds
- wines
- spirits

RETURN FOR RECYCLING TARGETS



RESPONSABILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR:

- Issue the organization plan and operate accordingly
- Fulfill return for recycling targets
- Report to state bodies
- Fund the DRS scheme
- Pick up returned material
- Organize sale of returned material
- Close the contract with producers and retailers
- Issue automated technology standards
- Pay handling fees to return points operators
- Organize public awarness and information

RESPONSABILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

PRODUCERS AND IMPORTERS

- mark the packaging with national barcode and deposit mark
- pay the deposit (0,10EUR) and administration fee
- close the contract with system administrator and register in the DRS
- separate reporting

RETAILERS

- organize the return points under legal requirements
- Pay, withhold and reimburse the deposit
- To communicate the deposit value separately from the product price on the shelf and in documents
- To record and report DRS products according to legal requirements
- To protect and hand over the collected DRS packaging
- Prohibit the sale of unregistered products
- Inform consumers

RETURN POINTS

Obligation to organize a return point:

ALL RETAILERS that sell beverages under DRS scope, regardless their size

Retailers under 200sqm : possibility for partnership with other shops of same size or with municipality

Return point location:

at maximum 150 m from sale structure in urban area and 500 m in rural area

Operating ours:

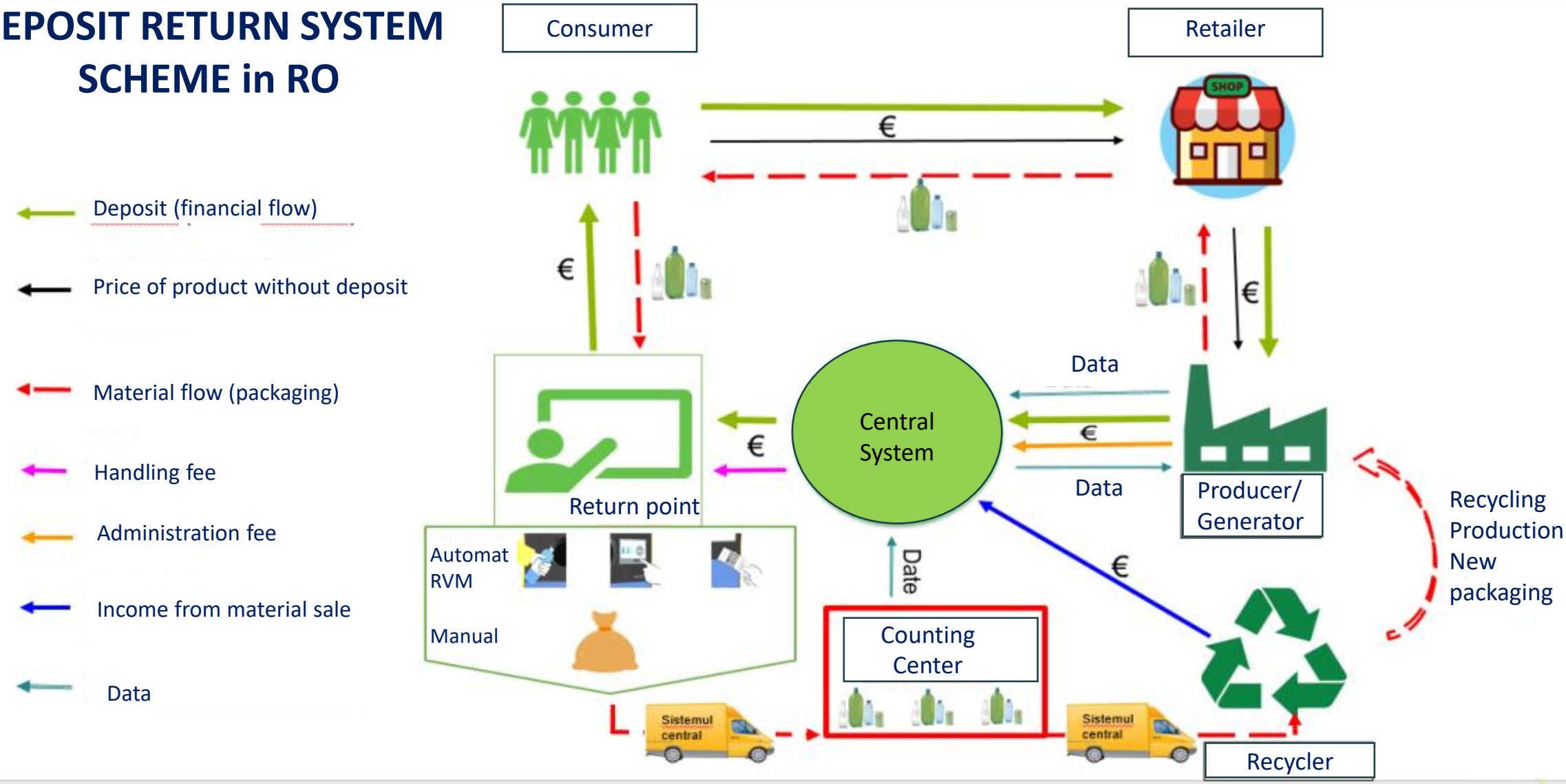
same as the shop

Options to take back : automated or manual

Deposit reimbursed in:

cash, voucher or bank transfer

DEPOSIT RETURN SYSTEM SCHEME in RO



Source: ASE Feasability Study

BENEFITS

Of DRS in Romania

PREVENTING POLLUTION

Eliminating pollution factors affecting cictizens quality life. Aprox 30%(by weight) of the littered items are beverage packaging

REDUCE CO2 EMISSIONS

Estimated 260 000 tons CO2/year
(Equivlent of 120 000 cars emissions/year)

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Approx 100 000 tons of plastic, 11 700 tons of metal, 460 000 tons of glass could return to economy hrough closed loop recycling

NEW JOBS

Aprox 3600 new jobs directly and indirectly excluding collection

CITIZENS RESPONSABLE BEHAVIOUR

Obliging citizens to return separately will impact the general environmental behaviour

MULTUMESC!
THANK YOU!

International Conference and Study Tour

Reuse and Recycling through Deposit Systems

September 25-26, 2023 Riga, Latvia

Martin Udengaard Olesen

Head of Business Development, Dansk Retursystem

Dansk Retursystem

Collection and clearing of single-use and refillable containers in Denmark

26th of September 2023

Agenda

- The history of Dansk Retursystem – how we got to here
- Figures for Dansk Retursystem – where we are
- Refillable vs. single use bottles and cans – our considerations
- Recap

Background and history

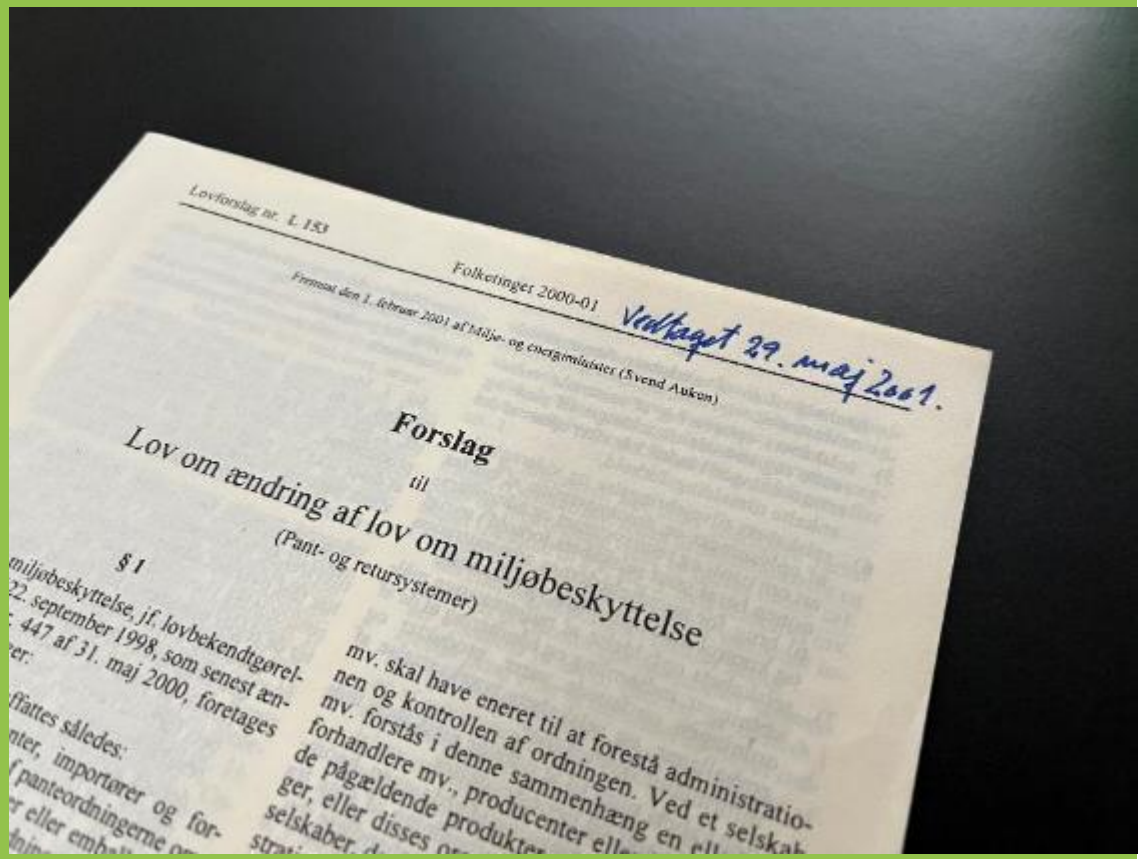
DANSK RETUR SYSTEM

Denmark has a long tradition of collecting used bottles

Denmark has one deposit and return system, and it is easy to use

Dansk Retursystem is one of a kind

- Established 30 June 2000
- A non-profit company
- Owned by Denmark's breweries and regulated by Denmark's Ministry of Environment and Food
- Dansk Retursystem has exclusive rights to operate the deposit and return system governed by a Statutory Order on Deposits
- The Board of Directors comprise representatives from retail, breweries and importers
- Dansk Retursystem strives to maximize the return rate



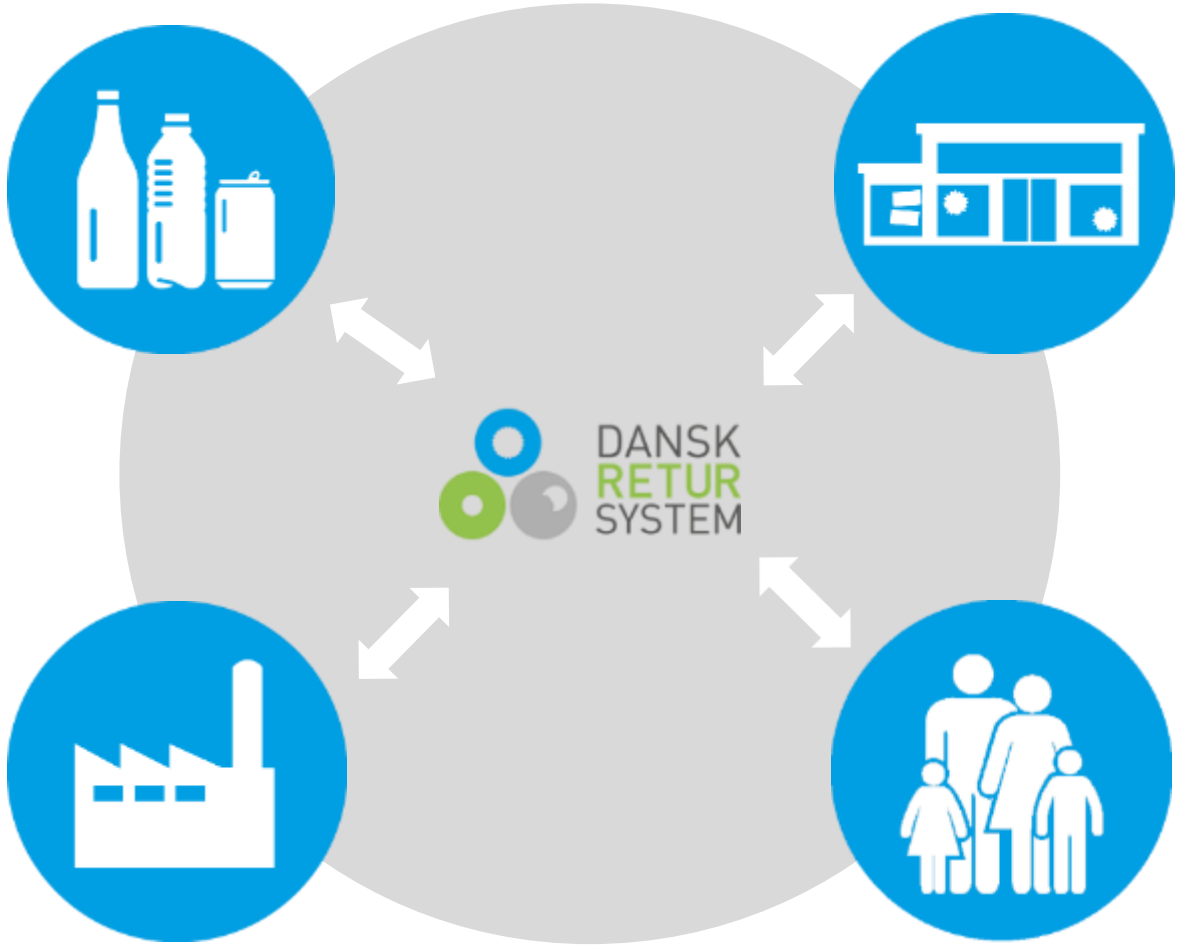
In collaboration with all actors

PRODUCERS

Producers and importers register their products with the deposit and return system. We advise them on the correct labelling of bottles and cans

PROCESSORS

We collaborate with major European recycling plants on ensuring high quality in recycling



RETAILERS, RESTAURANTS, COMPANIES, ETC.

Sales outlets must take back empty bottles and cans. We help by providing the equipment that makes it easy to refund the deposits and to collect and separate the returned packaging

CONSUMERS

We make it easy to return used bottles and cans. The deposit label guarantees that the packaging will be recycled to benefit both climate and environment

Deposit markings

Primary markings

Secondary markings

Active SKUs in the deposit system

Materials:

- Plastic bottles
- Metal cans
- Glass bottles

The producer decides material, fee based on recyclability

Facts about Dansk Retursystem

About us


377
full-time employees


2.7 bn
DKK in turnover
incl. deposit
2020
2021
2022

2 bn bottles and cans returned i 2022

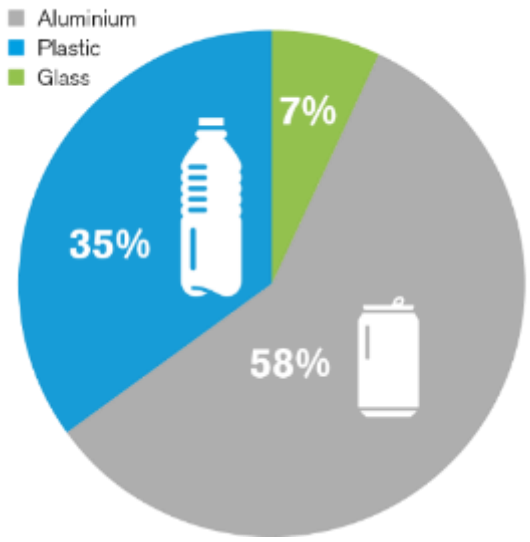
Market


14,490
shops, offices and
restaurants utilize
our system

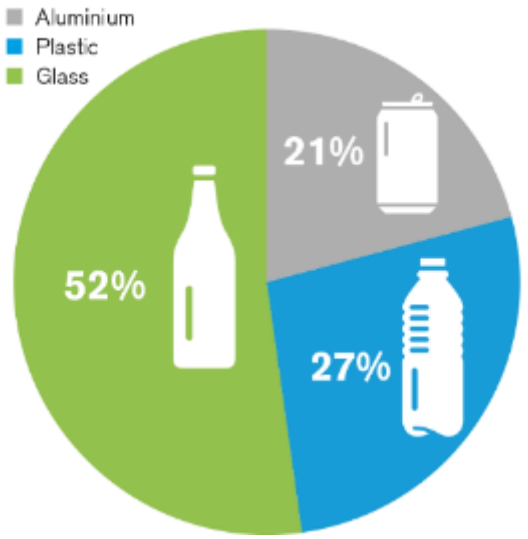

1,637
producers and importers
registered, of which
186 have been added
in 2022

Single use packaging 2022 – material

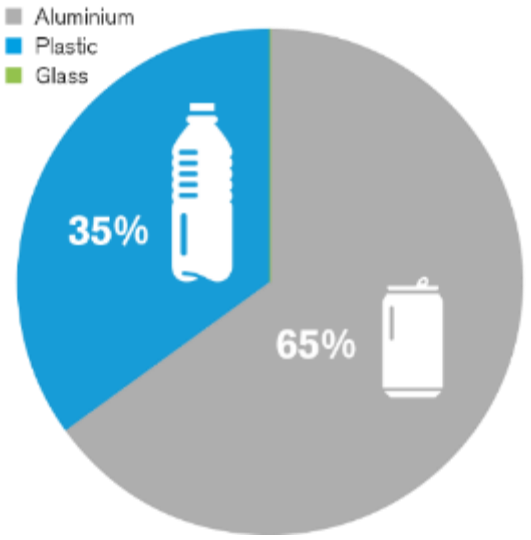
Collected single use packaging
Pieces



Collected single use packaging
Tonnes



Revenue from single use packaging sold to recycling
DKK

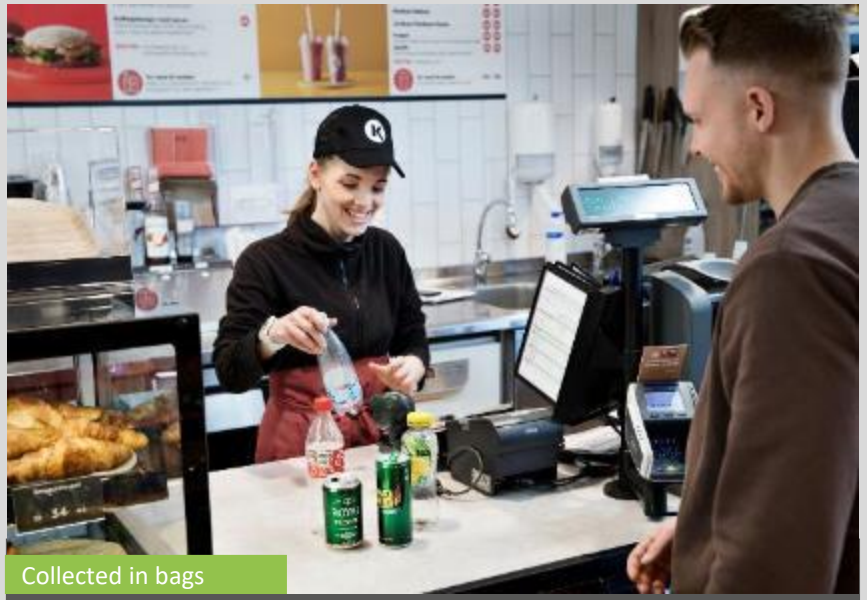


Where are bottles and cans returned?

Compacter containers

83%

Pantstations and reverse vending machines



Collected in bags

17%

Convenience stores, restaurants and businesses


DANSK
RETUR
SYSTEM
18%
less CO_2
emitted per packaging
in 2022 compared
to 2019
Øre/packaging
17
15
13
8
6
3
0,4
98%
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
Expected
Average fee per
packaging have been
reduced by 98%

Sorting and counting center Høje Taastrup - 2020

DANSK RETUR SYSTEM

Deposit stations

Bulk setup for larger amounts

Refillable vs. single use bottles and cans

Refillable vs. single use
Behind the scene

Refillable

- Registration and reporting, **DRS**
- Handling fees, **DRS**
- Validation of deposit, **DRS**

- Logistic to shops, **Brewery**
- Logistic from shops empty, **Brewery**
- Deposit collection and payment, **Brewery**

- Washing, **Brewery**

Single use

- Registration and reporting, **DRS**
- Handling fees, **DRS**
- Validation of deposit, **DRS**

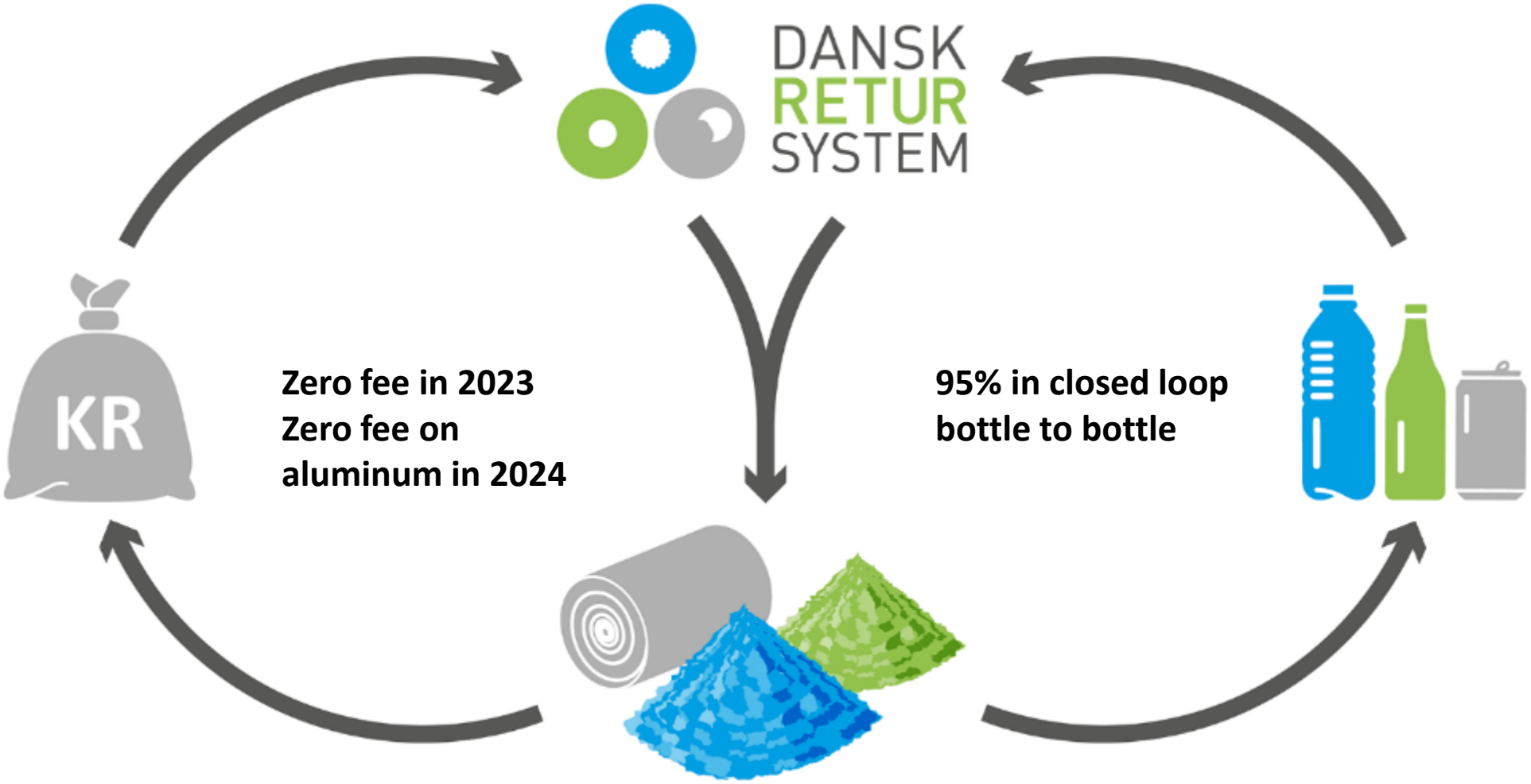
- Logistic to shops, **Brewery**
- Logistic from shops empty, **DRS**
- Deposit collection and payment, **DRS**

- Recycling, **DRS**

Consumers perspective
Refillable vs. single use

One system

Circular Economy in Dansk Retursystem



CO_2 saved by recycling instead of producing a new container

95%

Aluminium cans

81%

Plastic bottles

58%

Glass bottles

Recap:

- Two string system in Denmark
- Consumer perspective (one string system)
- Producer perspective
- Packaging perspective

International Conference and Study Tour

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September 25-26, 2023 Riga, Latvia

Anna Larsson

Director, Circular Economy Development, Reloop Platform

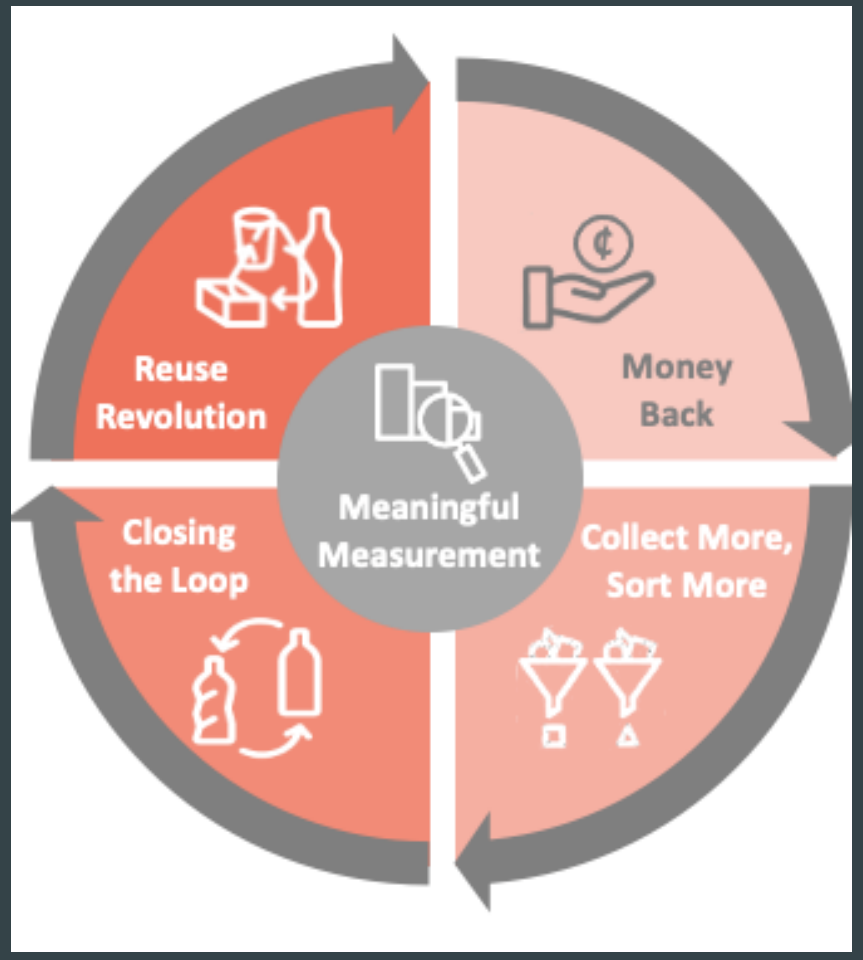
Deposit systems

for beverage containers in Europe

Anna Larsson

Director, Circular Economy Development
Reloop Platform

Reloop Platform

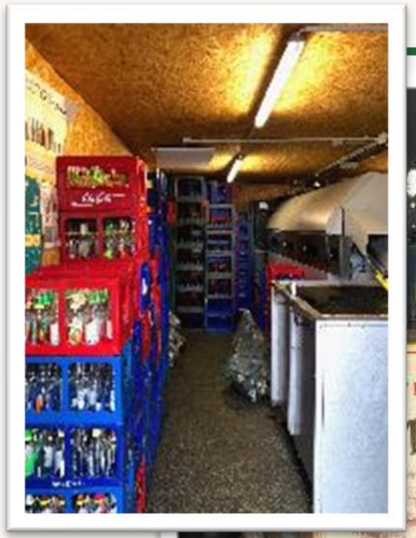


Vision
World without waste pollution

Mission
Implementation of Circular Economy

= cash

Deposit systems - history



Swedish refillable bottle

Slovak single use bottle

DRS has been used as a **method of the collection** of beverage containers for decades. Producers have used the deposit, id est, a monetary incentive, in order to guarantee **returns of refillable** containers.

Collection method based on deposit has been **adopted for single use** beverage containers.

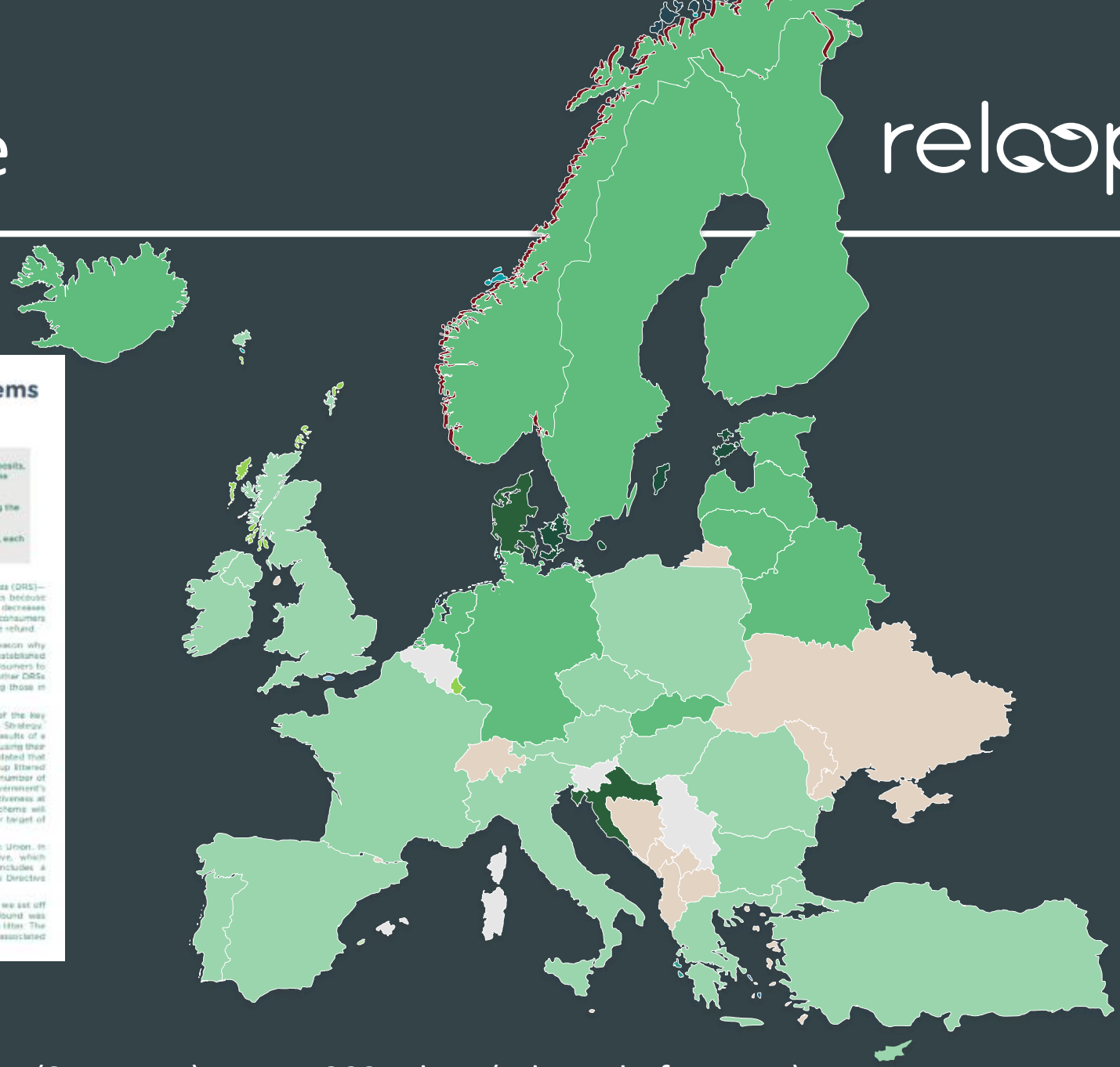
Sweden

First country to introduce DRS for single use containers

1984 – DRS for cans
1994 – DRS for plastic

Shifting from refillable containers into single use packaging created risk for littering.
In order to prevent it, producers and government entered a dialog the result of which for first deposit system for beverage containers in Europe.

DRS in Europe



Fact Sheet: Deposit Return Systems Reduce Litter

- Attaching a monetary value to beverage containers, in the form of refundable deposits, decreases the likelihood that the containers will be littered or remain as litter in the environment.
- The impact of a DRS on litter reduction depends on a number of factors, including the level of the deposit/refund and the program scope.
- There are different ways to measure beverage containers as a proportion of litter, each of which has its own advantages and pitfalls.

In addition to increasing recycling rates, one of the main benefits of deposit return schemes (DRS)—and one that cannot be accomplished without it—is litter reduction. Quite simply, this is because attaching a monetary value to a beverage container, in the form of a refundable deposit, decreases the likelihood that the containers will be littered or remain as litter in the environment, as consumers and other citizens will be motivated to return them for recycling so that they can claim the refund.

It probably does not come as a surprise then that litter concerns were a primary reason why legislated DRSs were invented and passed in the first place. The first legislated system, established in British Columbia in 1970, began as "The Litter Act" and was aimed at encouraging consumers to recycle beverage cans and bottles instead of tossing them to the side of the road. Many other DRSs introduced in the 1970s and 1980s were also mainly passed as anti-litter laws, including those in South Australia, Oregon, Vermont, and California.

In New South Wales (NSW), Australia, the state government identified DRS as one of the key actions it's taking to achieve the objectives in the 2019-2022 NSW Litter Prevention Strategy. Moreover, the state's decision to implement DRS in 2017 was principally based on the results of a cost-benefit analysis where benefits to communities from litter reduction were estimated using their willingness to pay for decreased litter.[1] The discussion document for the DRS decision stated that "by providing a reward, [DRSs] create a disincentive to litter and an incentive to pick up littered items."[2] Similarly, Queensland's DRS legislation includes in its objectives to "reduce the number of empty beverage containers that are littered or disposed to landfill."[3] The Tasmanian government's recent decision to implement a DRS (planned for 2022) was also influenced by its effectiveness at reducing littering behaviour; Environment Minister Elise Archer has stated that "this scheme will encourage positive, incentivised recycling and re-use behaviours that will help reach our target of becoming the tidiest state by 2023."[4]

The effectiveness of DRS at reducing litter has also been recognized by the European Union. In 2019, the European Parliament and Council passed the Single-Use Plastic Directive, which introduced a wide range of measures to tackle commonly littered plastic that includes a requirement for member states to collect at least 90% of plastic bottles by 2029. The Directive specifically references DRS as one way to achieve this.

We wanted to see what evidence there was for the impact of DRS on litter reduction, so we set off on a task to compile all of the research we could find on the subject. What we found was compelling and offers substantial proof that deposit systems are effective at decreasing litter. The following table summarizes the evidence we found. Despite the methodological issues associated

Microsoft Word - DRS-Litter Fact Sheet (Summary)-14June2021.docx (reloopplatform.org)

Material fractions – single use

	**Denmark, Finland, Germany, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Malta, Iceland** (Romania, Hungary)
	Sweden, Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia (Ireland, Austria)

	Croatia	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	Germany	Island	Lithuania	Netherlands	Norway	Sweden
water (still, sparkling)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Soft drinks	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Juices and nectars	•		•	•		•	•		•	
beer	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•
cider	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Alcohol beverages	•	<10%	<6%	•	•	•	•		•	•
wines	•			•		•	in PET		•	In PET, can
liquers	•			•		•			•	
Spirits				•						In PET, can
milk	<0,2l									

Deposit systems in Europe

Centralized clearing	Island	Croatia	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark	Netherlands	Germany	**Decentralized**
System management by producers	Island	Holland	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark[1]	Croatia		**State operator**
Return to retail	Germany	Croatia	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark	Holland	Island	**Redemption center**
Bar code[2]	Island	Germany	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark	Netherlands[3]	Croatia	Tonnage
Obligatory by law	Island	Germany	Sweden	Croatia	Holland	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark	Finland	Norway	**Fee[4]**

1 upon public procurement
2 reporting on put to market and information on collected packages are based on EAN code identification
3 in border areas
4 fee for uncollected packaging (Norway) or fee applied if the producer has not joined the deposit system (Finland)

Centralized clearing	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Romania
System management by producers	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Romania and the State
Return to retail	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Romania
Bar code[2]	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Romania
Obligatory by law	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Romania

Governance and role of retail

Producers and retailers have played an important role in the collection activities and as co-founders of the system operator's entity.

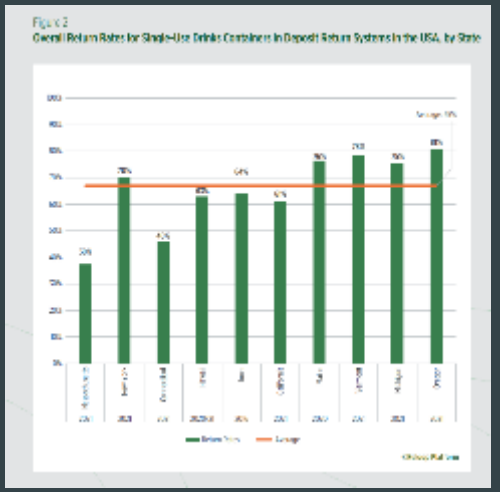
BEVERAGE INDUSTRY

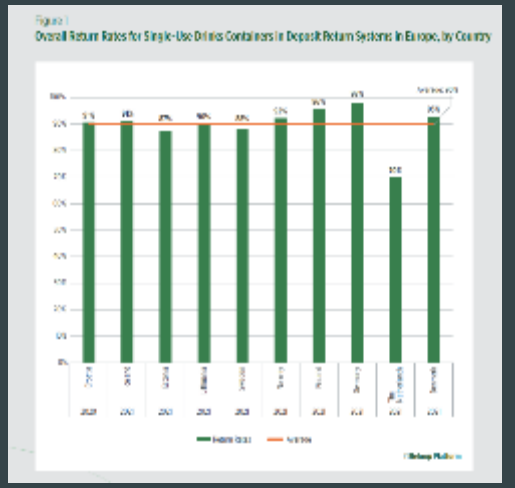
TRADE

Participation of the retailers has important positive impact on collection rates as well as climate footprint of a deposit system.

Europe*

90%





65%

USA*

**RELOOP_Factsheet_Performance_12I2022.pdf (reloopplatform.org)

Global circularity

How many resources are recirculated?

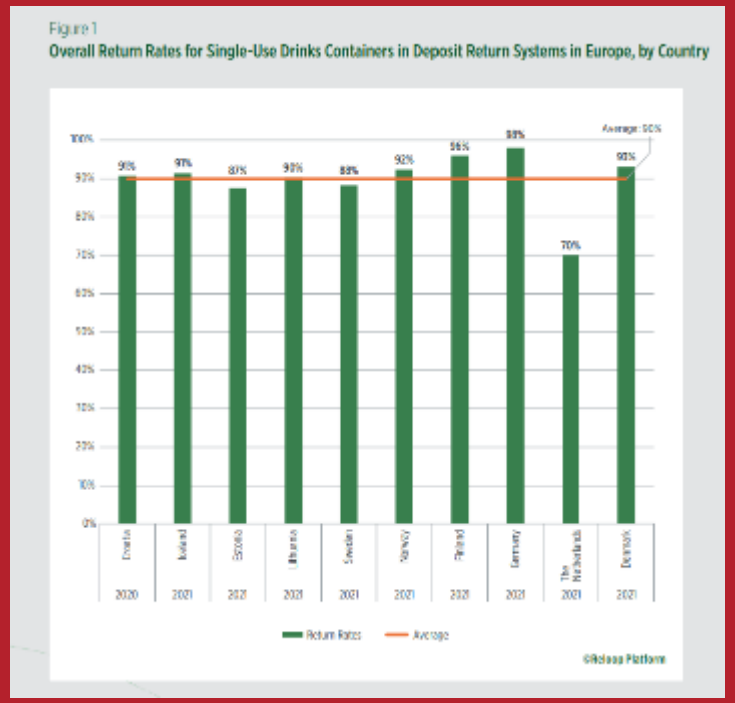
9,1%	8,6%	**7,2%**
2018	2020	2023

DRS based circularity

reloop

80-90%

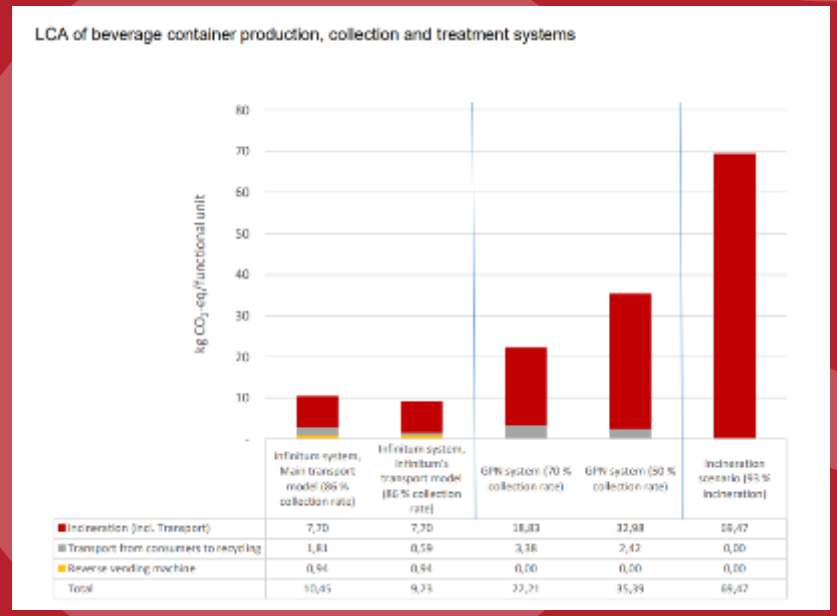
DRS – Circular Economy Best Practice:



Deposit systems result with **high collection rates exceeding 85%**

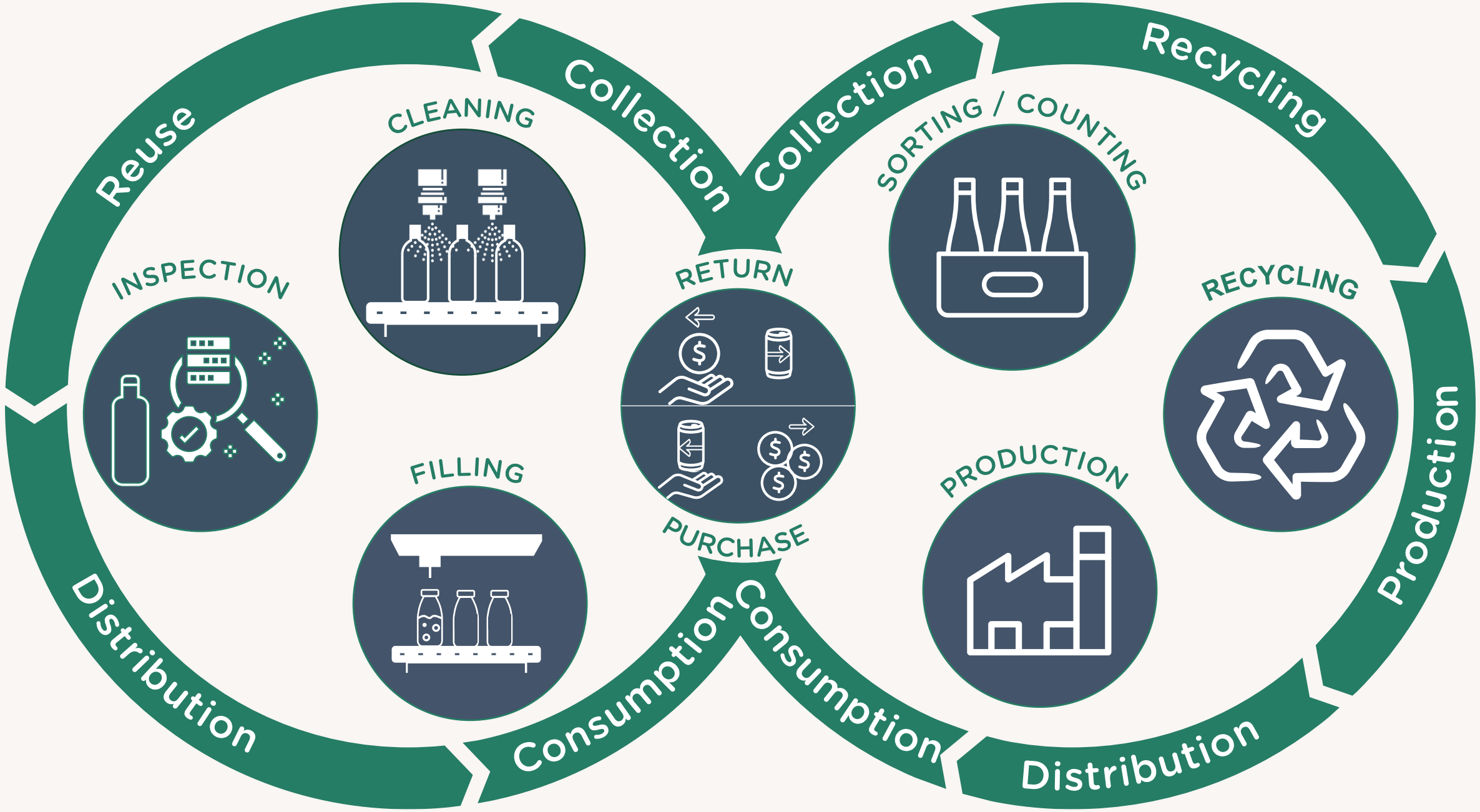
"Return me to the DRS collection point. I am made out of recycled plastic. Produced in Sweden."

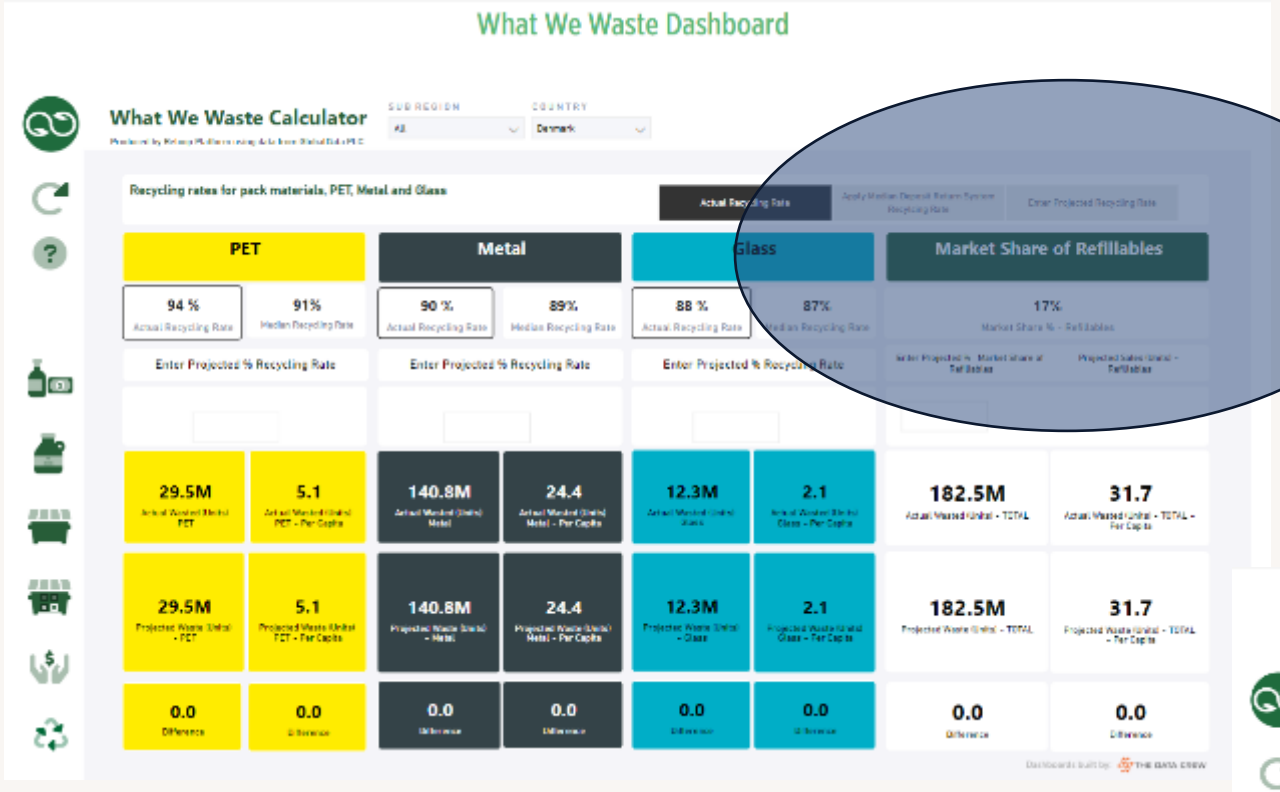
CIRCULAR ECONOMY AT SCALE

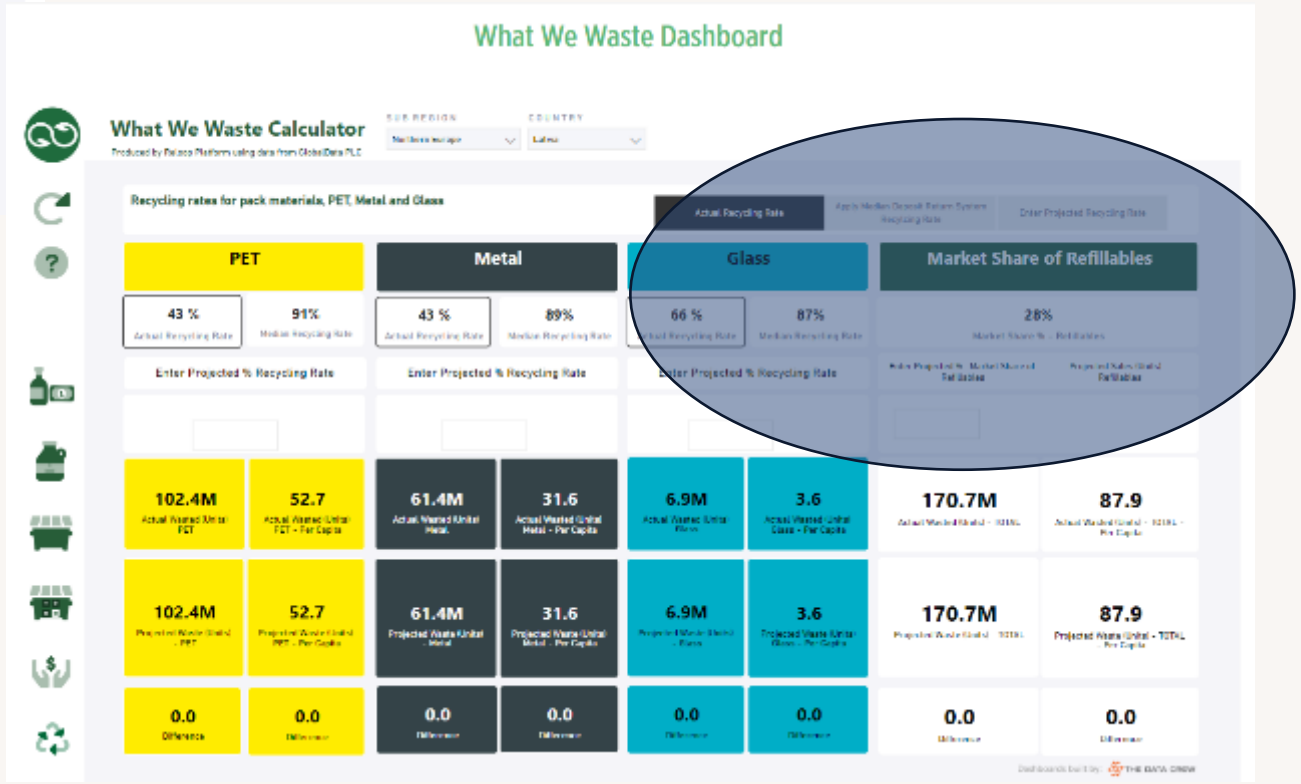


Collection of beverage containers through deposit system results with ca **30% lower carbon footprint** than traditional curbside system.

Source: LCA for existing deposit system in Norway and LCA calculated for Czech Republic


Reuse
Collection
Collection
Recycling
CLEANING
SORTING / COUNTING
INSPECTION
RETURN
RECYCLING
Production
FILLING
PRODUCTION
PURCHASE
Distribution
Consumption
Consumption
Distribution


What We Waste Dashboard
What We Waste Calculator
SUB REGION
COUNTRY
Denmark
Recycling rates for pack materials, PET, Metal and Glass
Actual Recycling Rate
PET
Metal
Glass
Market Share of Refillables
94 %
91%
90 %
89%
88 %
87%
17%
Enter Projected % Recycling Rate
29.5M
5.1
140.8M
24.4
12.3M
2.1
182.5M
31.7
0.0
THE DATA CREW


What We Waste Dashboard
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SUB REGION
COUNTRY
Recycling rates for pack materials, PET, Metal and Glass
Actual Recycling Rate
PET
Metal
Glass
Market Share of Refillables
43 %
91%
43 %
89%
66 %
87%
28%
Enter Projected % Recycling Rate
102.4M
52.7
61.4M
31.6
6.9M
3.6
170.7M
87.9
0.0
THE DATA CREW

Single use and refillable container - units

Crates

DRS for refillables

Country	Reporting p o m/collected	Deposit clearing/ handling fee	Collection
Estonia	System operator (joint with SO for single use)	Filler individually	Filler individually
Lithuania, Finland	System operator (A separate entity)	Filler individually	Filler individually
Latvia – individual shapes	System operator (joint with SO for single use)	Filler individually	Filler individually
Latvia – standard shapes	System operator (joint with SO for single use)	System operator	System operator
Denmark	System operator (joint with SO for single use)	System operator (joint with SO for single use)	Filler individually
Germany*	Filler individually	Filler individually	Filler individually

Additional pooling systems

reloop

resources
remain
resources

www.reloopplatform.org

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Q&A

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Under the auspices of

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Republic of Latvia

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Reuse and Recycling through Deposit Systems

September 25-26, 2023 Riga, Latvia

Laura Anteina

Deputy Director General, the State Environmental Service, Republic of Latvia

Establishment and monitoring of the deposit system in Latvia

Laura Anteina
Deputy Director General
State Environmental Service
The Republic of Latvia

26.09.2023

Why do we need a deposit system?

National Waste Management Plan 2021 - 2028

Achievable goals:

- By 2035 – only 10% of household waste is buried in landfills
- By December 31, 2025 – recycled 65% of annual used packaging
- By December 31, 2030 – progress towards the target of recycling 70% of annual used packaging
- By 2025 - 77% collection rate of used single-use plastic beverage packaging based on the respective year's mass of beverages sold in the market
- By 2029 - 90% collection rate of used single-use plastic beverage packaging based on the respective year's mass of beverages sold in the market

Why do we need a deposit system?

Application of the deposit system to beverage packaging

- ✓contributes to the reduction of the amount of used packaging that is buried in a landfill
- ✓makes Latvia cleaner, reducing environmental littering
- ✓ensures the efficient use of natural resources by diverting plastic, glass and metal beverage packages for recycling
- ✓encourages public involvement in packaging management

Mandatory, unified beverage packaging deposit system from 01.02.2022

Amendments in the Packaging Law to introduce deposit system — 20.11.2019

Submission of applications for competition — 30.09.2020

Implementation agreement with Ltd. Depozīta Sistēmas Operators for 7 years (until 31.01.2029) — 14.01.2021

System starts to operate — 01.02.2022

Transition period — 31.07.2022

System expansion with new products — 01.01.2023

Transition period — 30.06.2023

Framework for deposit system operation

Amendments in the Packaging Law

https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/57207

Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Regarding the Operation of the Deposit System

https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/316731

Waste Management Law

A waste transport permit is not required for the transport of used beverage deposit packaging to the deposit packaging sorting center

https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/221378-waste-management-law

Scope of the deposit system

Non-alcoholic drinks and syrups	All types of beer	Alcoholic cocktails (alcohol content up to 15%)	All types of alcoholic drinks
Except dairy products		Except wine, sparkling wine and fruit wine	For example, wine and strong alcoholic spirits
Cans	Cans	Cans	Cans
Glass bottles	Glass bottles	Glass bottles	
Plastic PET bottles	Plastic PET bottles	Plastic PET bottles	Plastic PET bottles

Volume of 0.1 to 3 l (not included)

2023 expanded to:

- **Syrups**
- **All types of alcoholic drinks in plastic (PET) bottles or cans**
- **Alcoholic cocktails** - fermented drinks or **spirits**, increasing their alcohol content from 6% **to 15%**

Funding sources of the deposit system

The deposit system operates based on the zero-profit principle and all revenue earned needs to be reinvested into operation and development of the system

The deposit system is financed by three main sources of revenue:

1. **Income from materials** collected and handed over for recycling
2. **Deposit fee** for any packaging **not returned to the system** by consumers
3. **Payments of beverage producers** for participation in the deposit system

Controlled areas by the State Environmental Service during deposit system introduction process

- Deposit acceptance network establishment – involvement of retailers
- Deposit collection infrastructure – reverse vending machine (RVM) network
- Implementation of IT solutions
- Involvement of deposit packaging (beverage) producers
- Construction of deposit sorting and counting centre
- Recycling of collected materials
- Creation of logistics system
- Implementation of public communication plan

And during deposit system implementation from 01.02.2022

- Supervision of DS implementation – monthly operator reports, supervision meetings until the end of transition period
- DS operation supervision according to the signed agreement, deposit collection, reuse and recycling rates
- Involvement of deposit packaging producers and their data credibility
- Application of natural resource tax exemption for deposit packaging
- Mandatory involvement of retailers

Obligation to participate in the system for producers

Mandatory requirement for **producers and importers** to sign a contract with the deposit packaging operator for participation in the system

313
contracts

The amount of beverage deposit packaging produced

150 kg
or more in a calendar year

~ 500 pcs.
0.5 l glass bottles
or
~ 5,000 pcs.
PET bottles
or
~ 10,000 pcs.
metal cans

Benefit for producers?

Producers and importers that join the deposit system receive **an exemption from the natural resources tax** for the containers that are managed within the deposit system

Type of material	Natural resources tax, EUR per kg	Deposit system participation fee, EUR per unit
Plastic/PET bottles: colourless, transparent	**1,22**	**0,0068**
Plastic/PET bottles: other colours	**1,22**	**0,0252**

Type of packaging	Natural resources tax, EUR	Deposit system participation fee, EUR
500 pcs. PET bottles: colourless, transparent	**183**	**3,4**
500 pcs. PET bottles: other colours	**183**	**12,6**

Natural resources tax exemption granted for 2022

EUR 16 million

Obligation to participate in the system for retailers

For retailers depending on their store size

in state cities

if the area of the store is equal to $300m^2$ **or larger**

in other administrative territories

if the area of the store is equal to $60m^2$ **or larger**

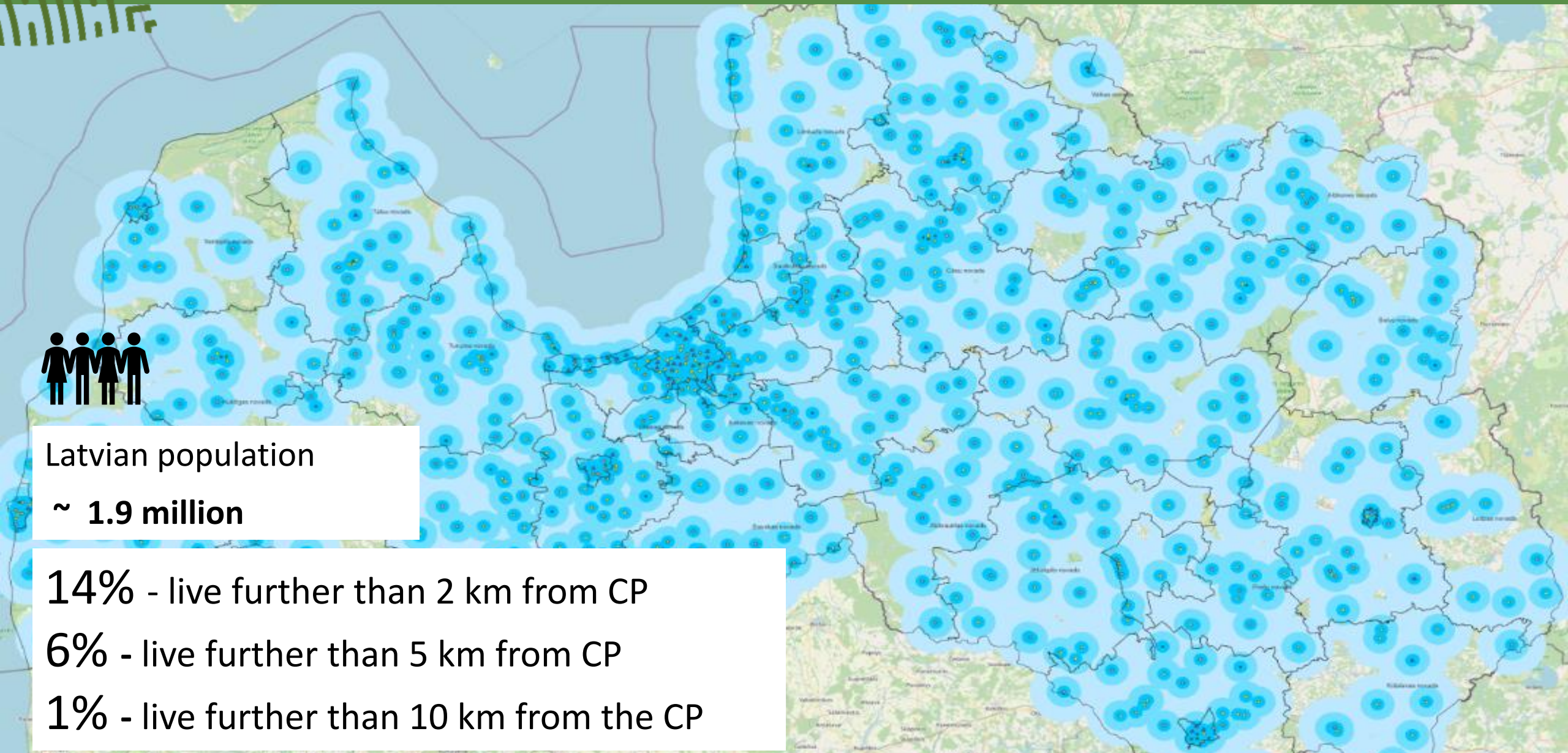
Deposit collection points

1409 collection points established

- ✓1014 - automated
- ✓395 - manual

210 common collection points

Deposit system availability



Latvian population

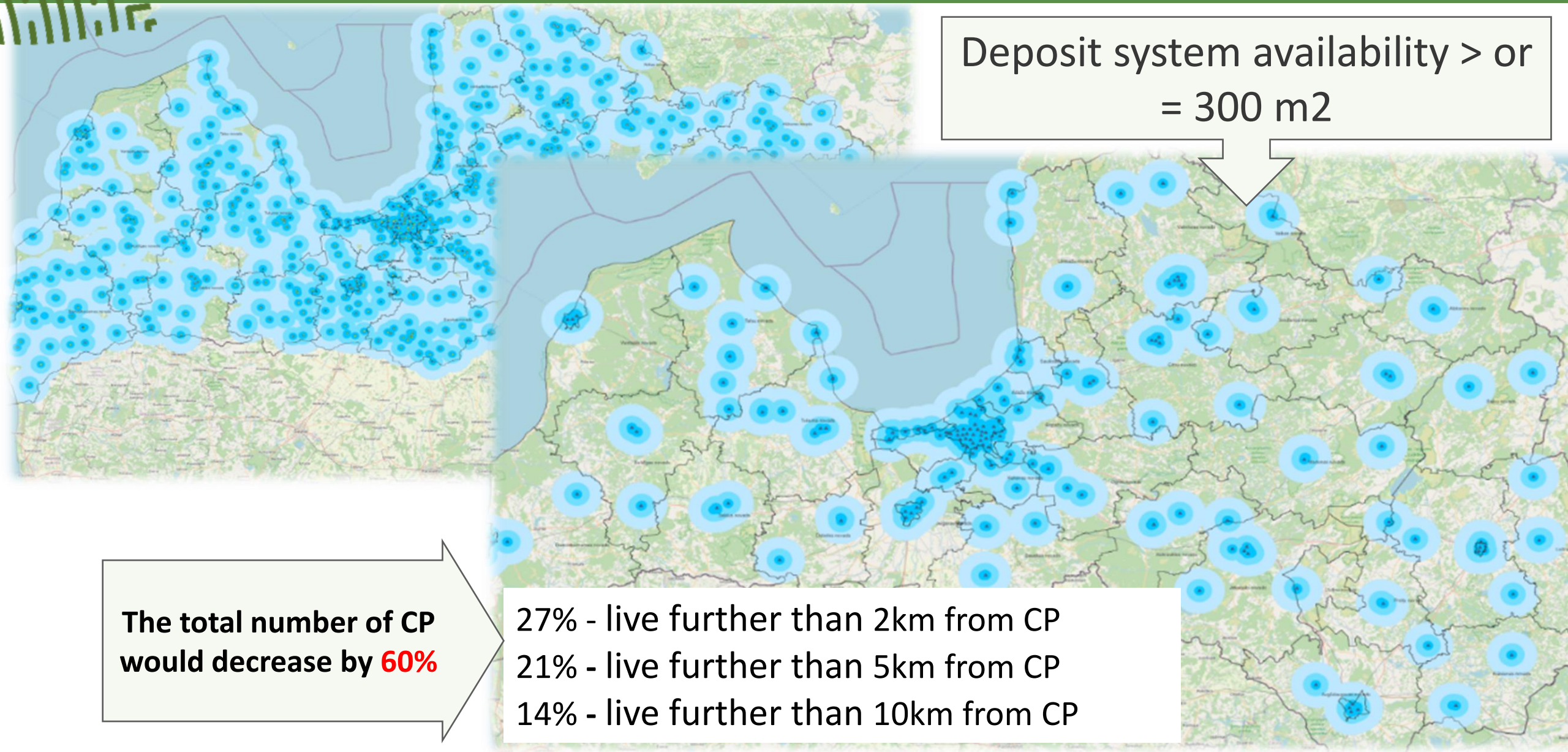
~ 1.9 million

14% - live further than 2 km from CP

6% - live further than 5 km from CP

1% - live further than 10 km from the CP

Deposit system availability



Deposit system availability > or = 300 m2

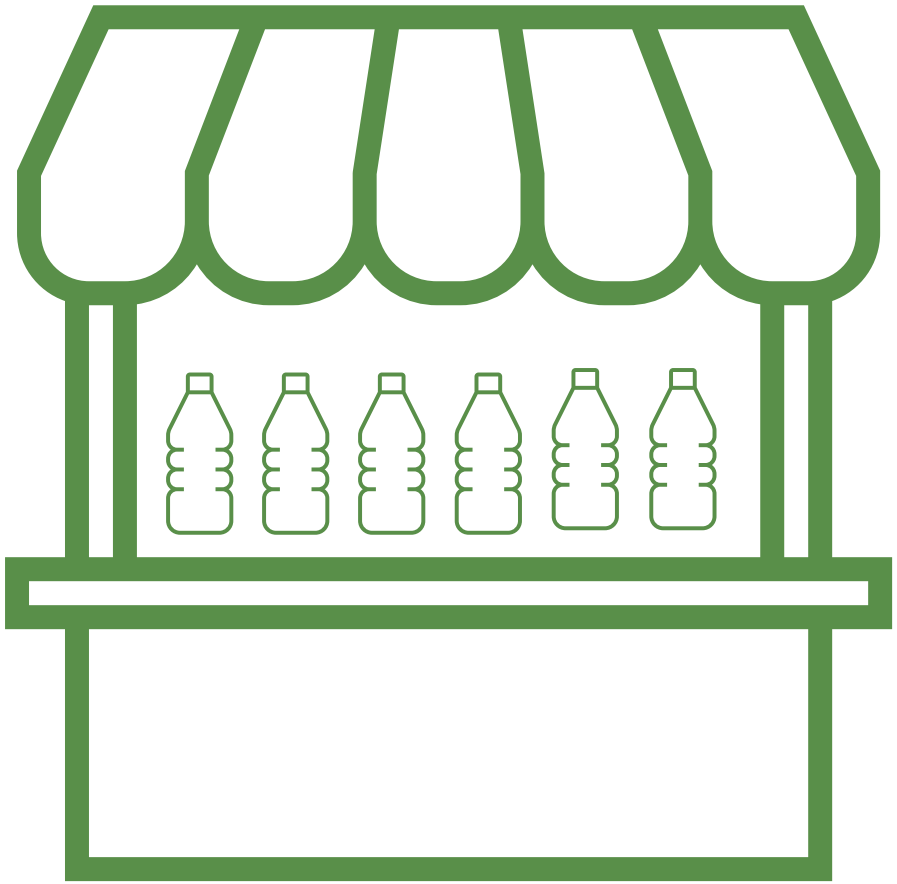
The total number of CP would decrease by 60%

27% - live further than 2km from CP
21% - live further than 5km from CP
14% - live further than 10km from CP

Challenges with participation of retailers

1.02.2022	1.02.2023	1.09.2023
80 retailers 144 stores	12 retailers 47 stores	3 retailers 4 stores

- **«Consult first» principle -** SES has sent informative letters to 80 retailers
- **SES issued 53 decisions** on actions to be taken to prevent inconsistencies
- **SES issued 31 executive orders** on fines applying a total of **29 thousand EUR**



Challenges for retailers

- Ensuring hygiene requirements
- Lack of storage facilities to store accepted packaging until collection by operator
- Additional workload for employees

- Employee resistance to the new duties
- Low priority of environmental sustainability in the value scale of business owners

Management fee (or benefit?) for retailers

The approved **deposit packaging management fee** for the first operating year of the deposit system (2022):

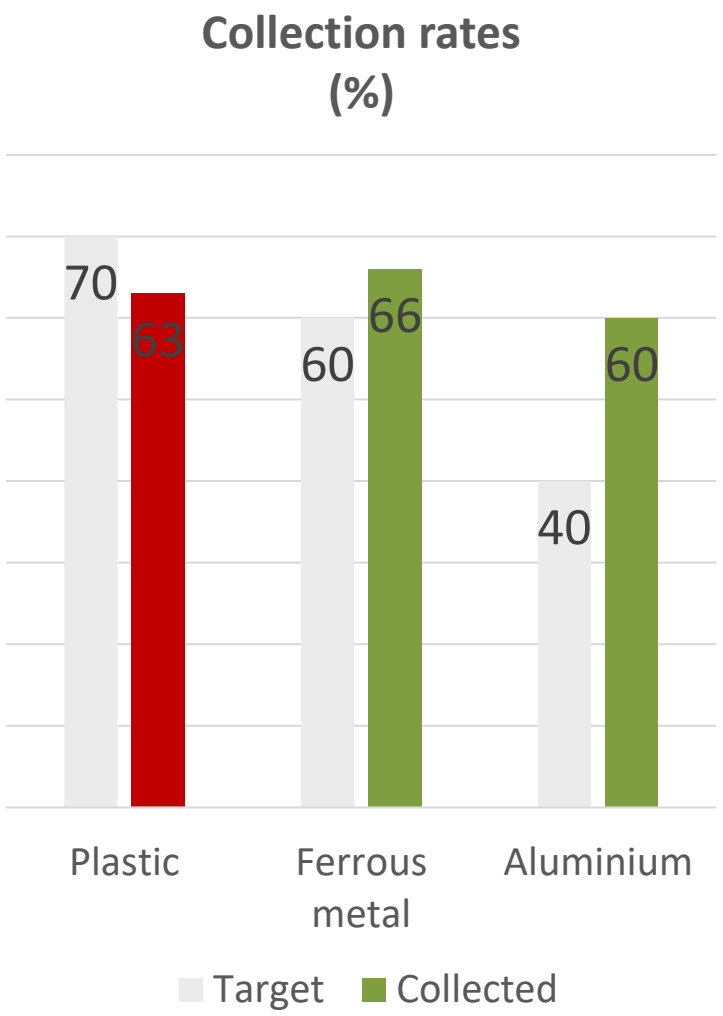
- Manual, per item: EUR 0.0203
- RVM with compaction, per item: EUR 0.0223
- RVM without compaction, per item: EUR 0.0195

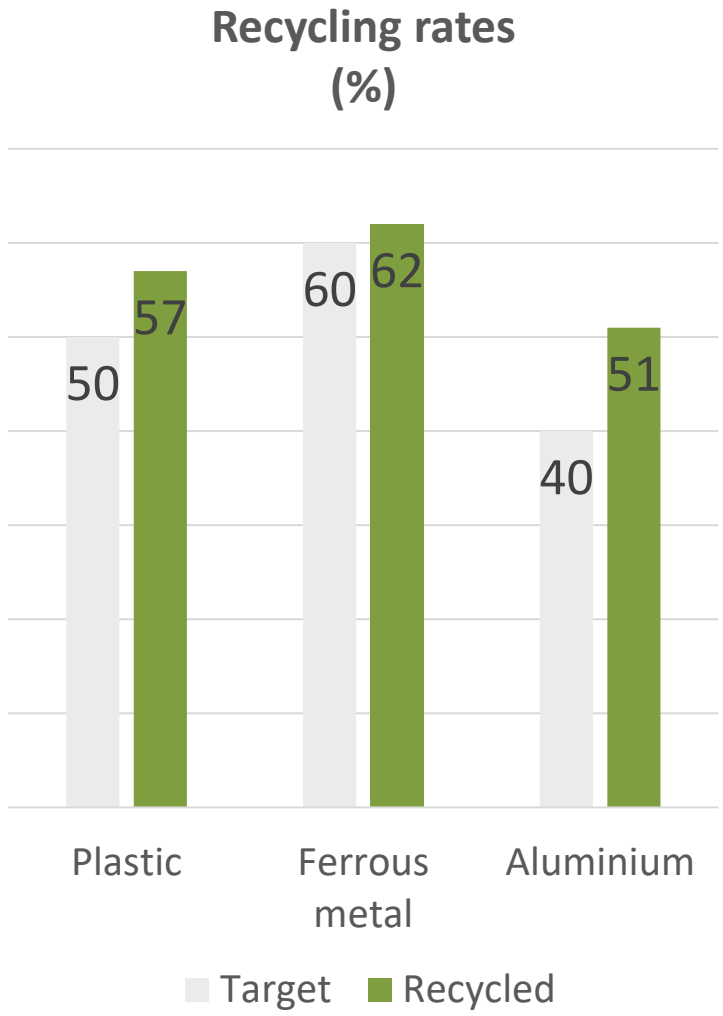
Management fee, paid in 2022

EUR 4,8 million

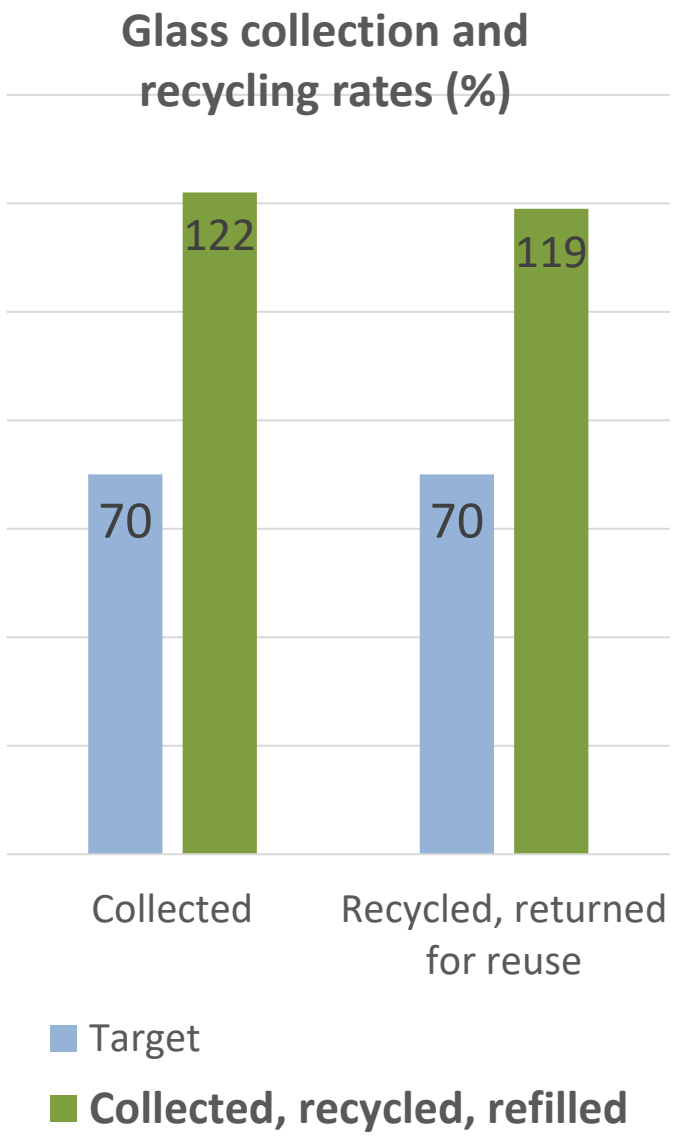
After assessing the results of the first year of operation, the management fee for 2023 has been set by type of packaging material

Results of the first operational year





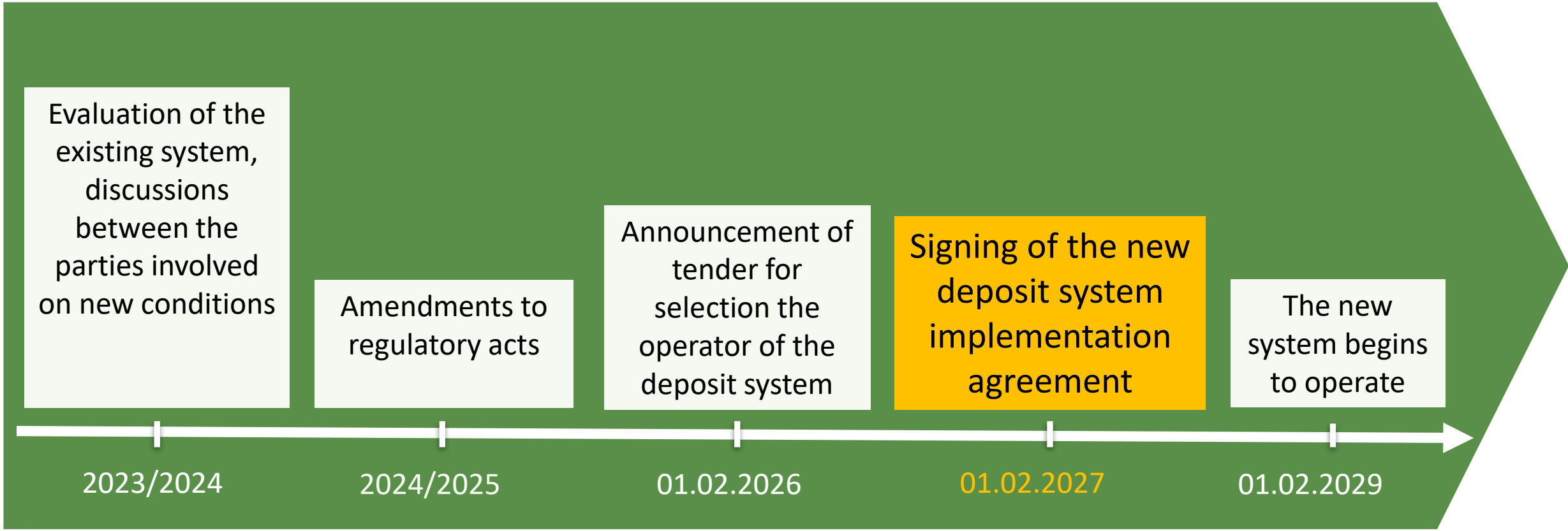
Results of the first operational year



Material	Packaging placed on the market for the first time		Rotations per year
	All packaging (kg)	Reusable packaging (kg)	Reusable sales packaging (kg)
Glass	15 666 720,43	8 447 100,59	21 935 373,20

New period of the deposit system starting from 01.02.2029

Timescale for the implementation of the measures to be taken



Thank you!

International Conference and Study Tour

Reuse and Recycling through Deposit Systems

September 25-26, 2023 Riga, Latvia

Miks Stūrītis

CEO, DIO

Deposit system and refillables in Latvia

Reuse and Recycling through Deposit Systems

conference in Riga, 26.09.2023

Miks Stūrītis,
SIA Depozīta Iepakojuma Operators
Chairman of the Board

Facts about Latvia

Population:

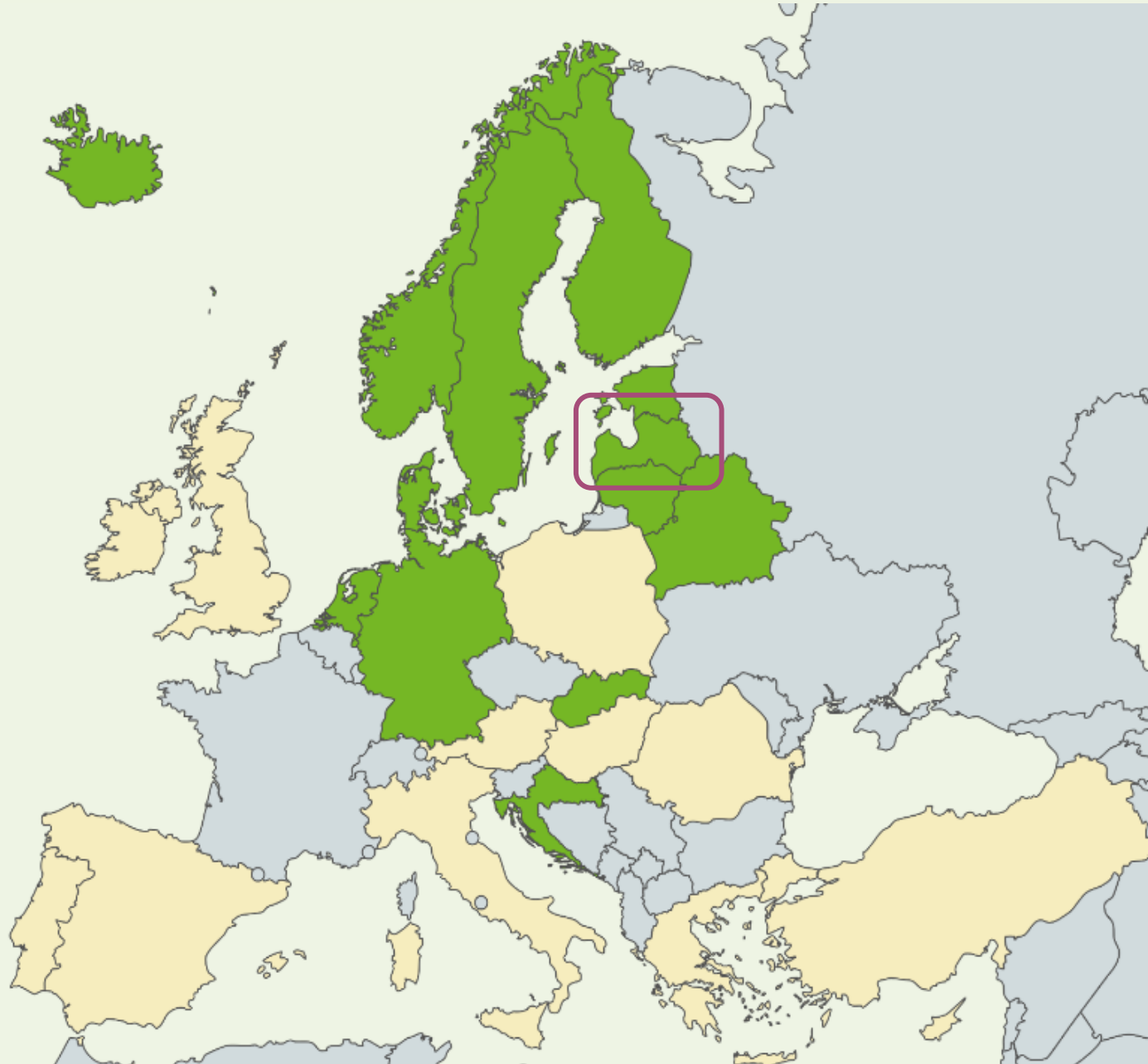
~1 884 000

Area:

64 594 km²

Annual deposit packaging volume:

500 million



Latvian deposit system

Infrastructure

- **1118** RVM’s installed
- **174** outdoor kiosks installed
- **395** manual deposit points
- **590** HoReCa collection points

Partners

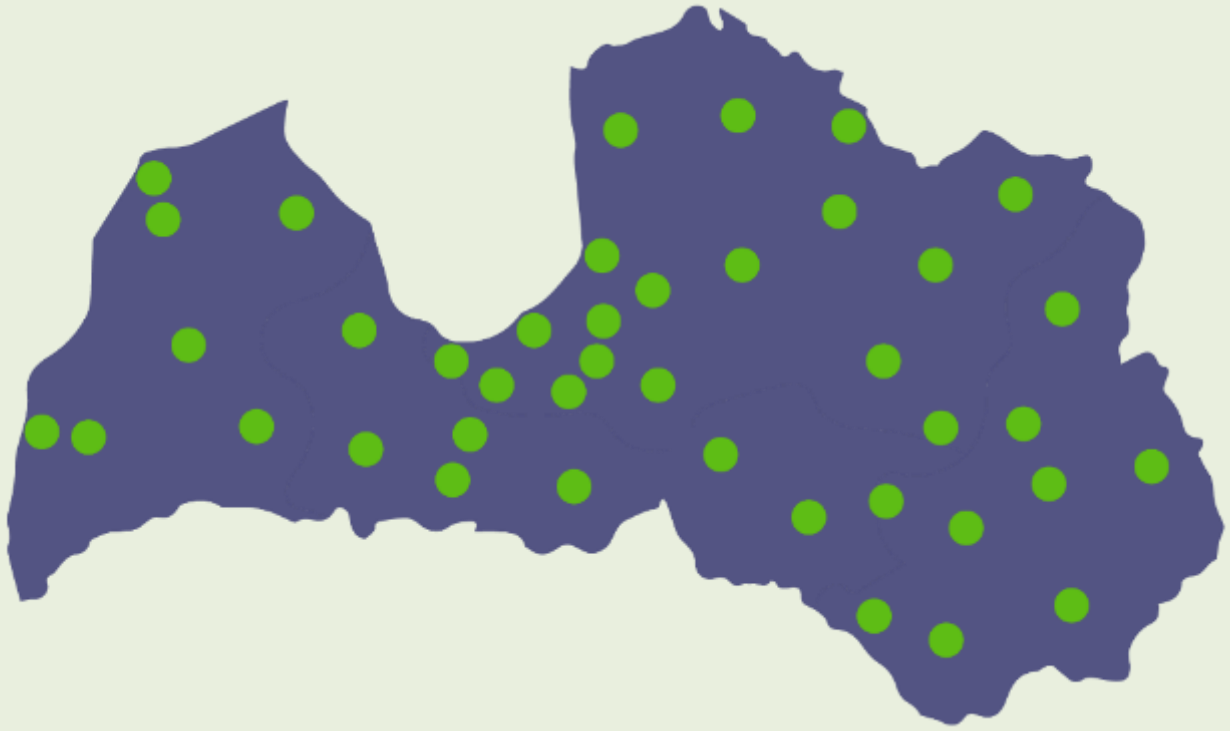
- Contracts with >**400** retailers
- Contracts with >**300** producers and importers

DIO team

- **20** employees

Packaging register

- **> 8500** deposit products packagings registered



Latvian deposit system

Supervising authorities:

- The State Environmental Service of the Republic of Latvia
- Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia
- The Public Utilities Commission

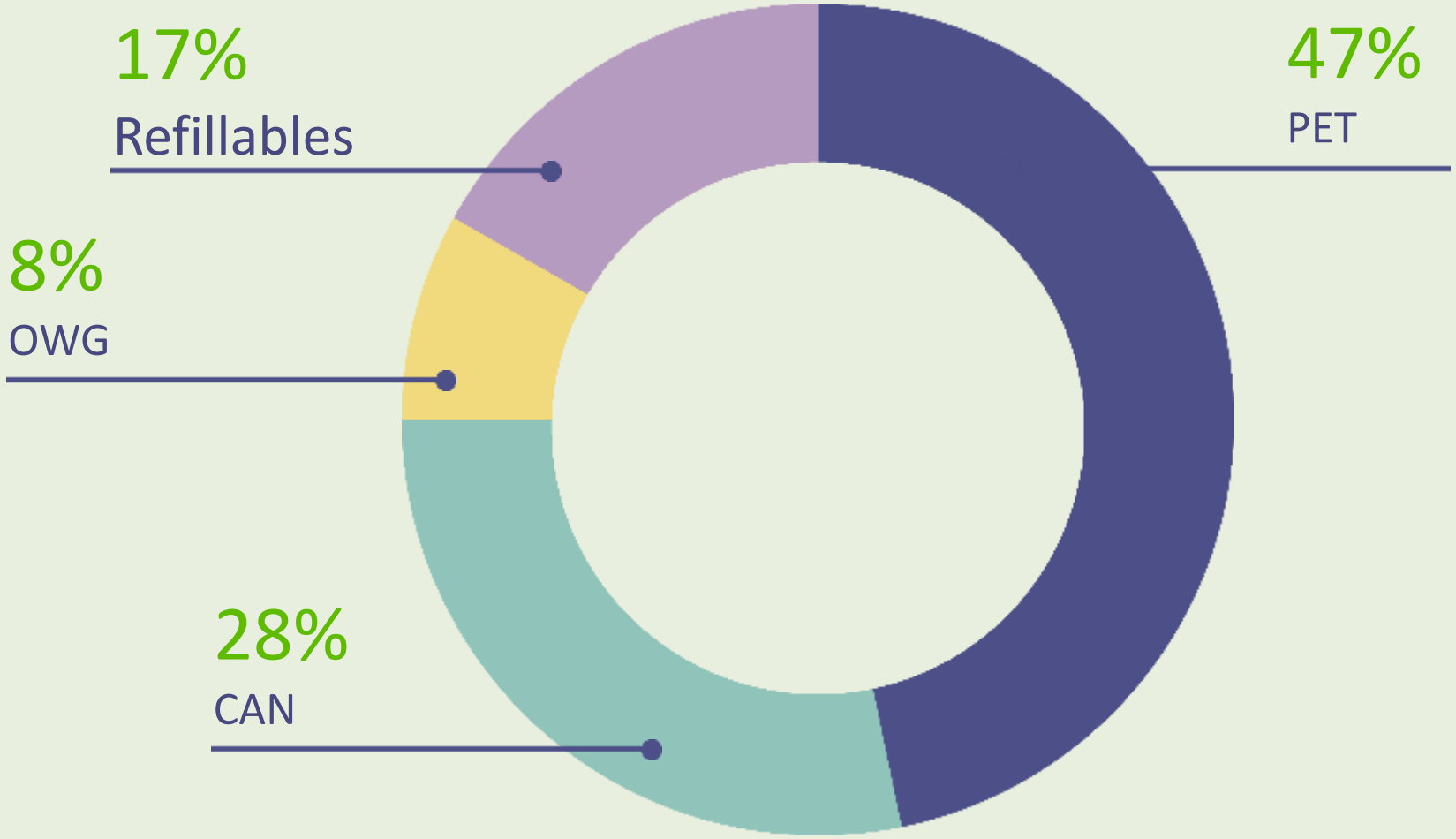
DIO keeps the system running for 7 years

Deposit fee set for 0,10 €

What kind of packaging is included in DRS?

Deposit packages put on the market

01.02.2022.-31.08.2023.



The results

Since 01.02.2022. more than

515 million

beverage packages have been returned through deposit system

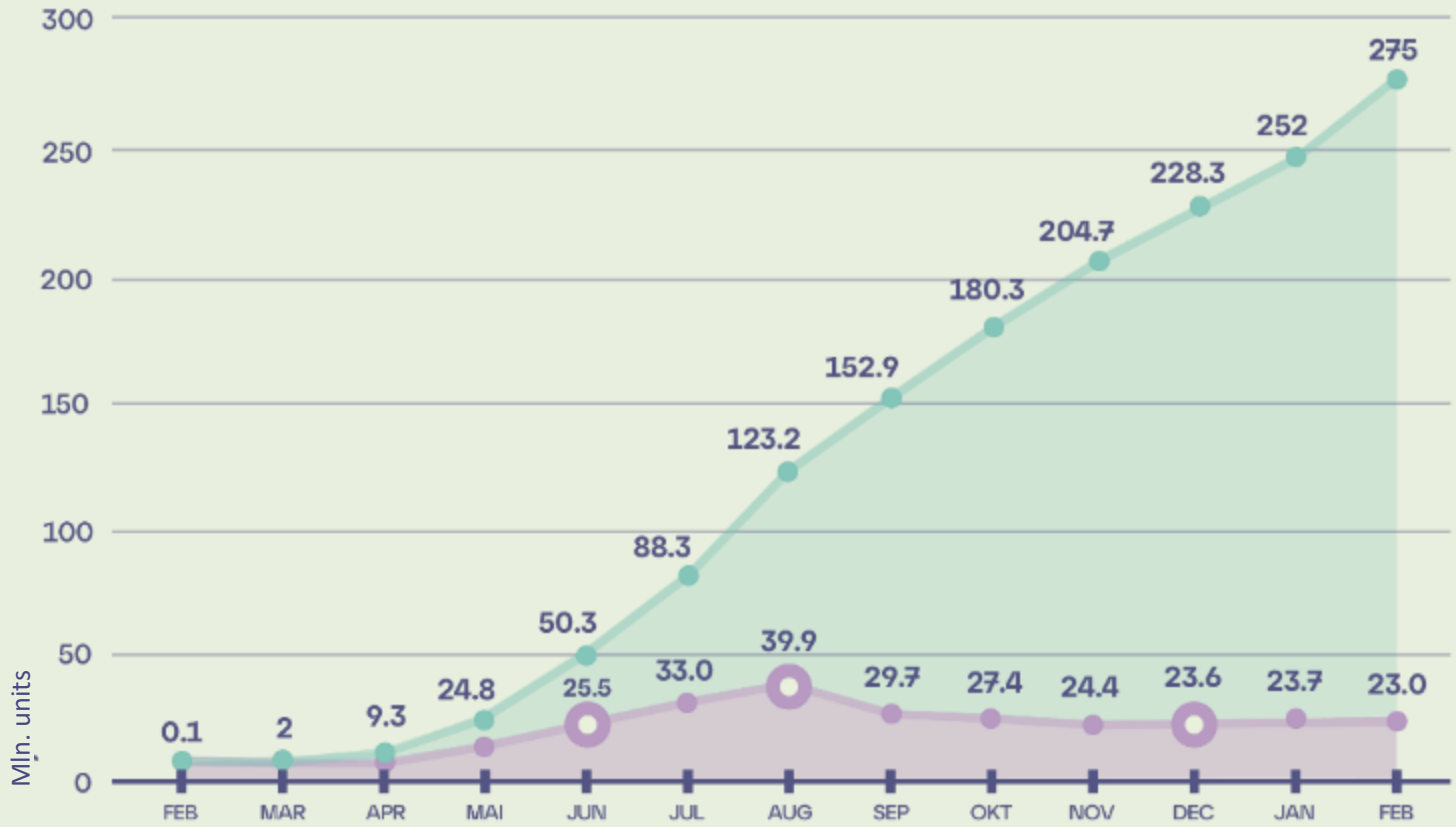
That is an average of

280

beverage packages per one Latvian resident

First year of operation

01.02.2022.-31.01.2023.



Returned per month

Returned in total

Return rate

63%

In 2023 so far

352 million

deposit packages were put on the market, but

272 million

were returned back through deposit system.

Current return rate:

77%

Collected packaging volumes

01.02.2022.-01.08.2023.

2200
tons of aluminium

30 000
tons of refillable bottles

10
tons of steel

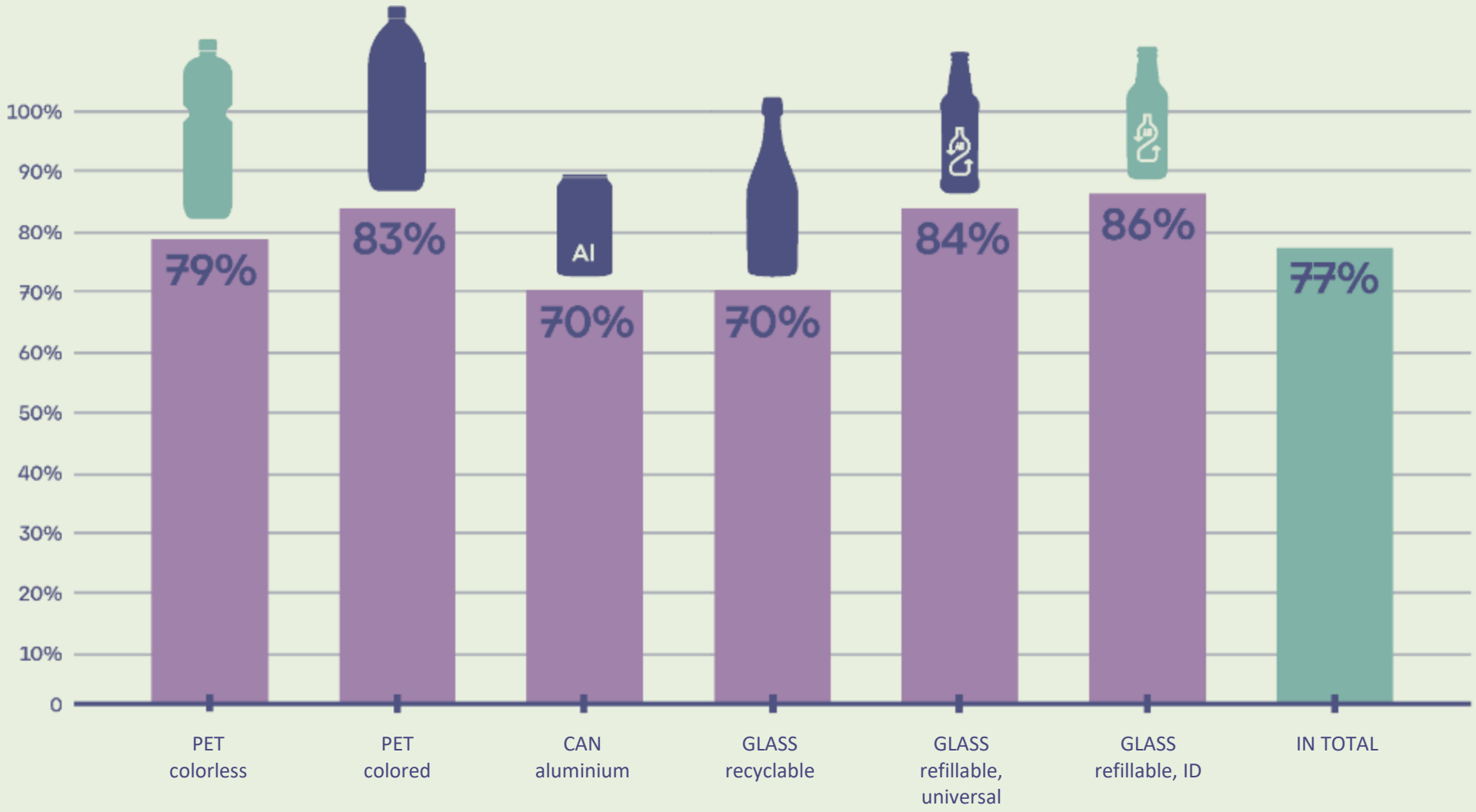
10 100
tons of glass (disposable)

8 500
tons of PET packaging

50 810 tons of packaging = **1200** hectares = **~1** city of Saldus or **3** NY Central parks

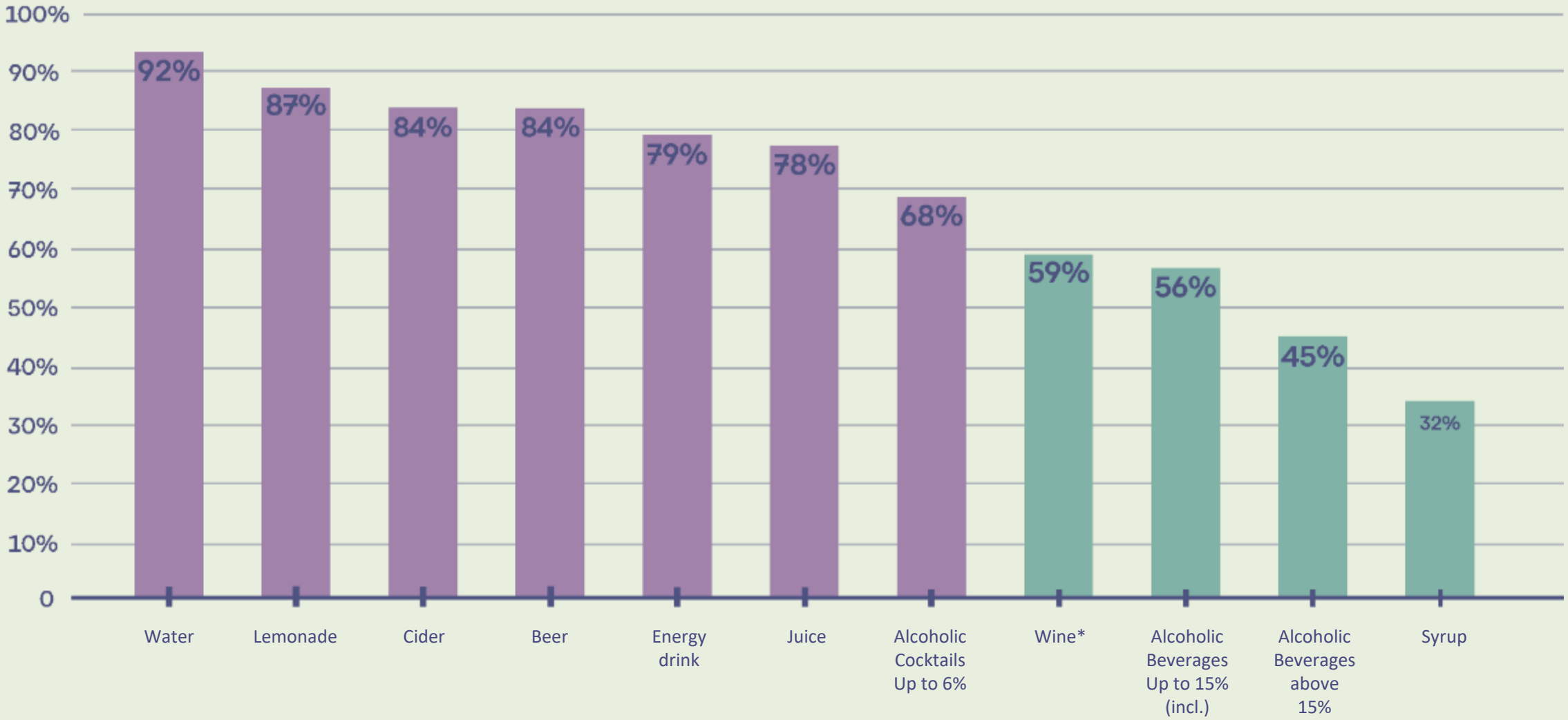
Return of packages by materials % of units

01.01.2023. - 01.09.2023.



Packaging return rates by product group

01.01.2023.-10.09.2023.



New scope of the deposit system

*incl. sparkling, wine cocktails, fortified, flavored

Glass packaging & refillables

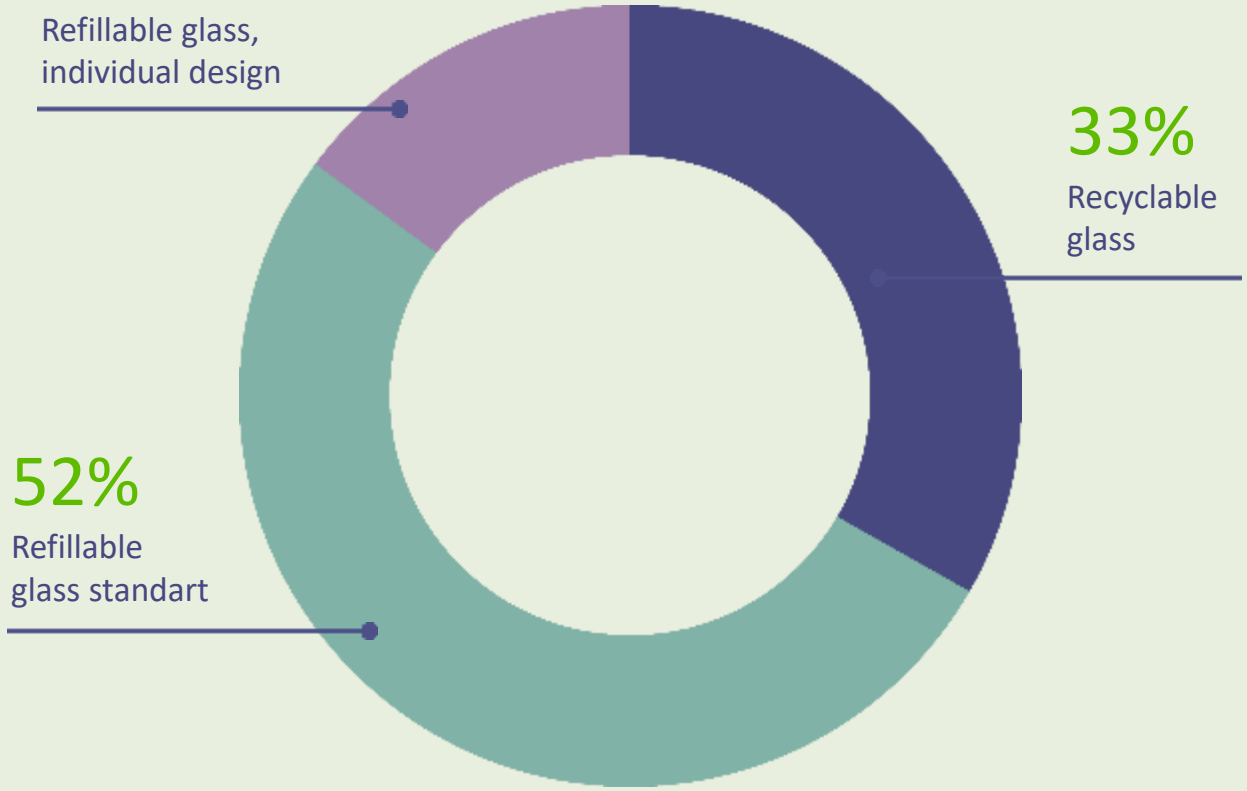
184,15 million glass bottles put to the market so far

27% of all deposit packaging

Standard refillable bottle

Individual design refillable bottle

13 shapes



Refillable results so far

Returned to breweries

95 mln.

of refillables

Reused

30 000 t

of glass

Standard refillable bottle

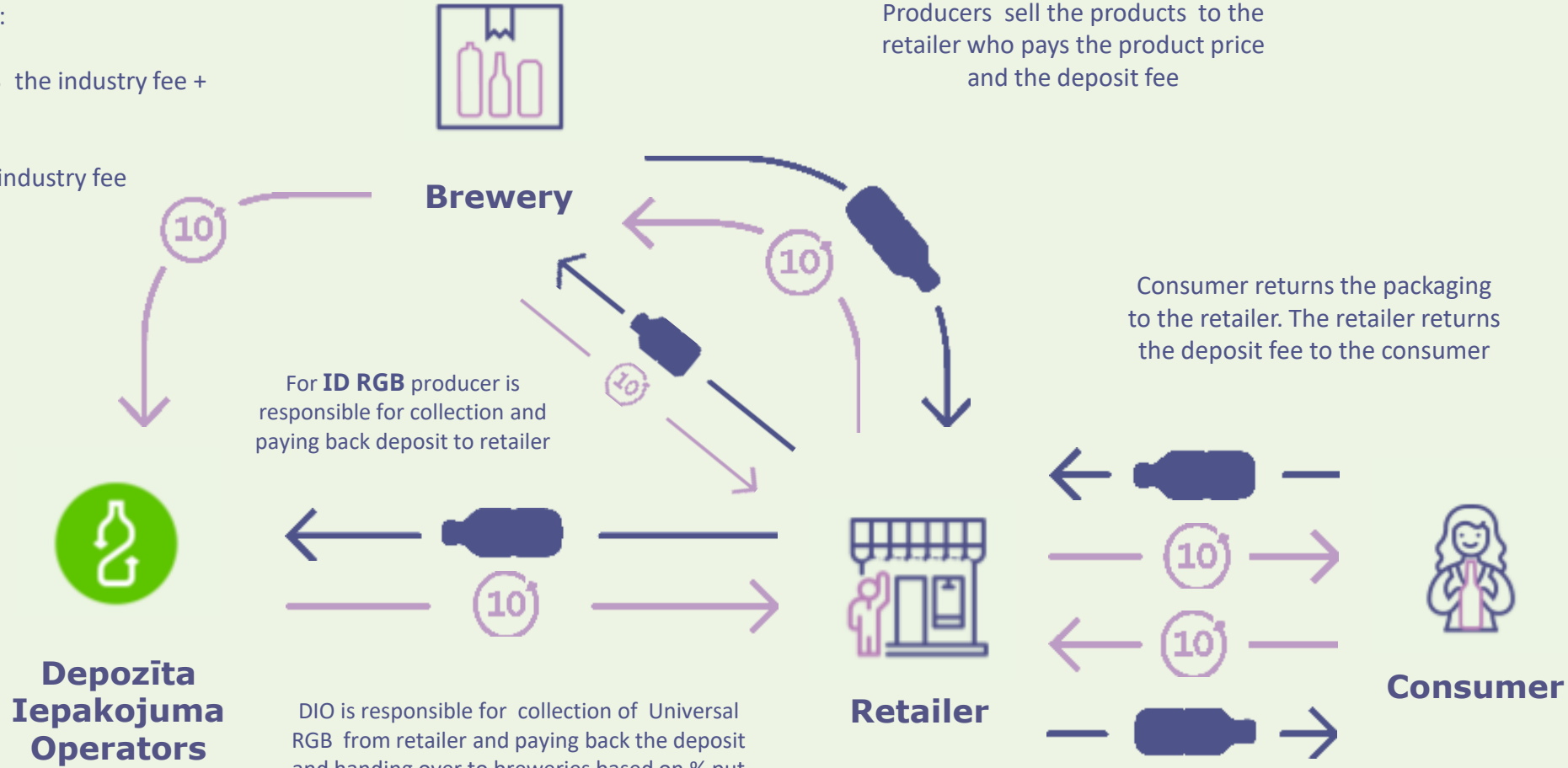
Used by 28 breweries

Responsibilities in refillable return

Producers pay to operator for quantities put to the market:

For Universal RGB the industry fee + deposit fee

For ID RGB - only industry fee



Producers sell the products to the retailer who pays the product price and the deposit fee

For **ID RGB** producer is responsible for collection and paying back deposit to retailer

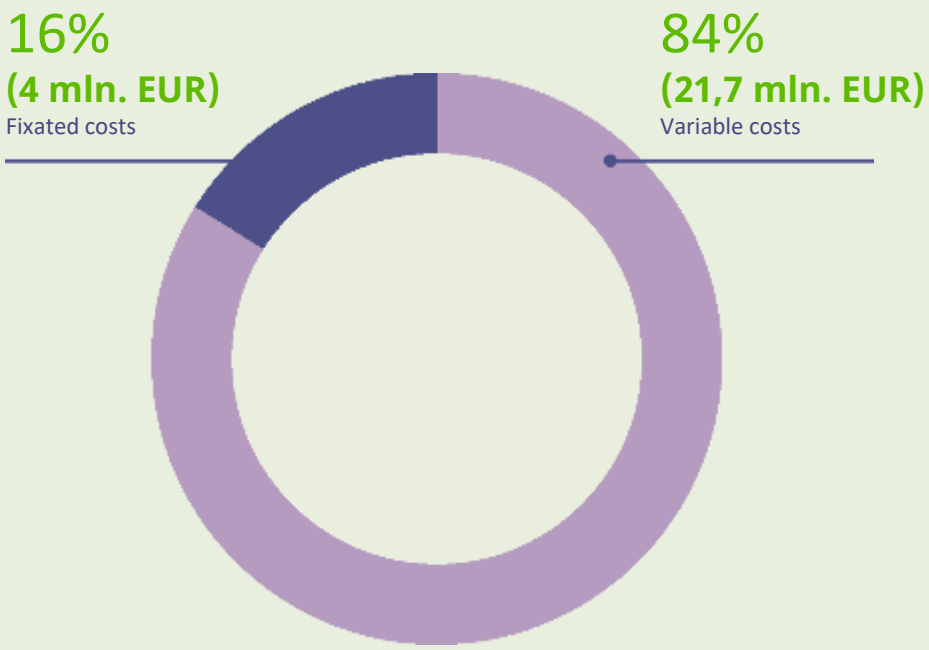
Consumer returns the packaging to the retailer. The retailer returns the deposit fee to the consumer

DIO is responsible for collection of Universal RGB from retailer and paying back the deposit and handing over to breweries based on % put to the market and return %

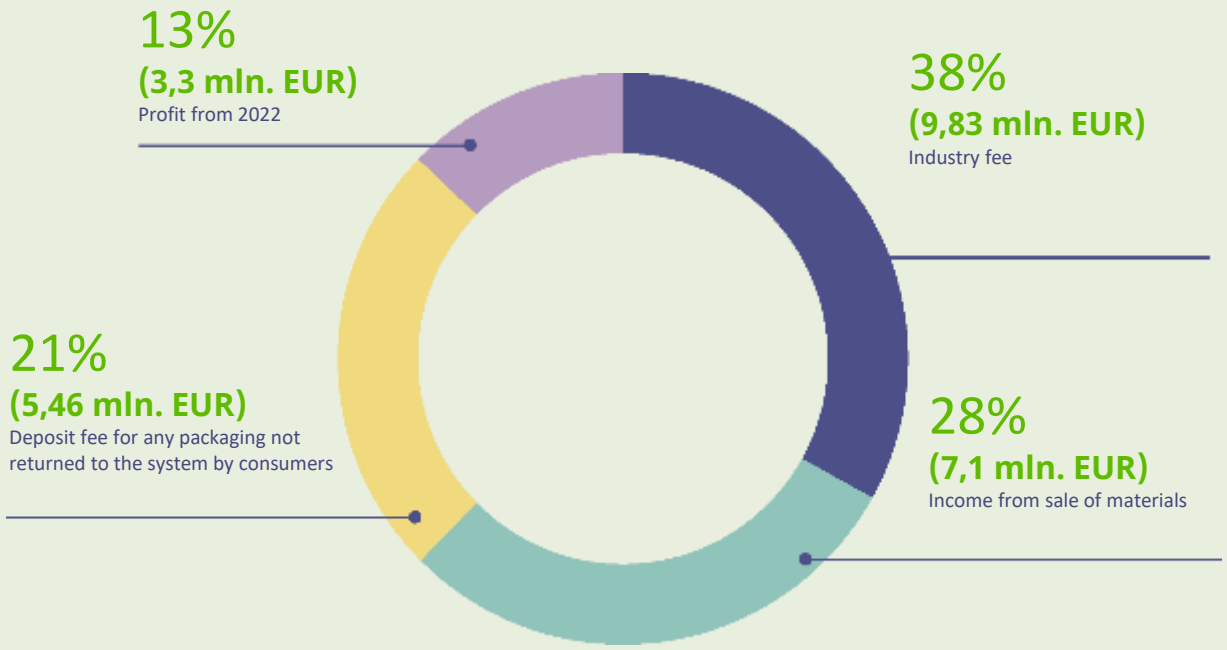
When buying the product, the consumer pays the retailer he product price and the packaging deposit fee

The deposit system operates based on the zero-profit principle.

Projected costs of deposit system operation in 2023
25,7 mln. EUR



Deposit system financing sources in 2023



Where did the previous year’s profit go?

In system development & financing of operations

202 new RVM’s installed
(by 22% more)

It is planned to install 3 bulk collection points in Riga

An additional glass counting device was installed

Investments in the improvement of packaging processing processes

Investments in the improvement of IT packaging accounting

Lessons learned – retailers

The participation of retailers in the deposit system is a key:

1. Taking responsibility for the collection;
2. Every day caring for the RVMs;
3. Deposit system is not an extra duty, but also a competitive advantage.

24%

Latvian residents’ choice of stores is influenced by how well organized the acceptance of deposit packaging is

Lessons learned

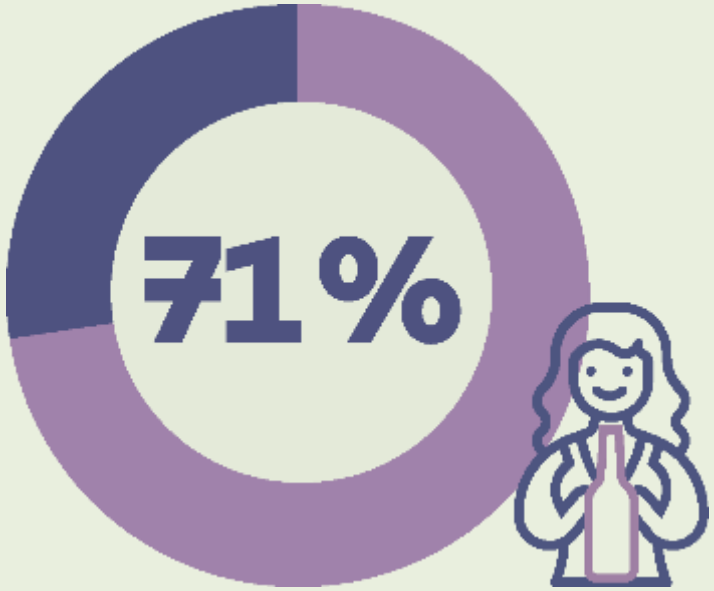
- Support from government and authorities
- The transition period should be realistic, but as short as possible
    - Suggestion: 1 month from DS start for producers, 4 months for retailers to sell out stocks
- Antifraud measures on RVMs is a must
- Deposit sign must be significantly different from the neighboring countries

Lessons learned – work with producers and importers

Faulty labels

Shape variations

Society’s habits after first 8 months of DRS operation



of Latvian residents use the deposit system regularly – at least once a month or more often

The most active users of the deposit system are:

- 40-49 years old
- Living in 8 biggest cities
- 5+ people in the household
- Managers, office workers, unqualified workers

The survey was conducted in October 2022.

Donations option in RVMs

Deposit fee donated since Dec 2022

EUR 255 083,9

- **40,58%** – for children of Ukraine refugees in Latvia
- **40,24%** – for pet shelters
- **19,18%** – for seniors in need

Depozīta punkts

Thank you!

International Conference and Study Tour

Reuse and Recycling through Deposit Systems

September 25-26, 2023 Riga, Latvia

Maija Krastiņa

Zero Waste Latvia

Environmental impact of the introduction of the deposit system in Latvia

Maija Krastiņa

2023

ZERO WASTE LATVIJA

The impact on the environment

DRS are one of the most efficient instruments to tackle plastic leakage into the oceans and the environment.

DRS can reduce drink containers in the ocean by up to 40%.

Keep the Pressure On with #BrandAudit2020

#breakfreefromplastic

THE 10 WORST PLASTIC POLLUTERS

Numbers of countries in which waste was found and pieces of waste recorded

1 Coca-Cola
51 countries
13,834 plastics

2 PEPSICO
43 countries
5,155 plastics

3 Nestlé
37 countries
8,633 plastics

4 Unilever
37 countries
5,558 plastics

5 Mondelēz International
34 countries
1,171 plastics

6 Mars
32 countries
678 plastics

7 P&G
29 countries
3,535 plastics

8 PHILIP MORRIS INTERNATIONAL
28 countries
2,593 plastics

9 COLGATE-PALMOLIVE
24 countries
5,991 plastics

10 PERFETTI van Melle
24 countries
465 plastics

+ Annual clean up “Lielā talka”

+

“Mana jurā” sea monitoring

#BrandAudit2020

#BrandAudit2023

2023

2023: Latvia still cleaning up

2023: France hasn't yet closed the tap

1dechetparjour_1pieceofrubbish
https://www.instagram.com/p/ClgM40RIfWC/?img_index=1

Impact on the environment: long lasting

Public support rates for DRS are above 80%.

Saving resources: refill

When properly implemented, DRS for refillables generate 50% less CO2 emissions than DRS for single-use items.

Thank you!

Facebook:
Zero Waste Latvija

Instagram:
@zerowastelatvija

Twitter:
@ZWLatvija

info@zerowastelatvija.lv

ZERO WASTE LATVIJA

International Conference and Study Tour

Reuse and Recycling through Deposit Systems

September 25-26, 2023 **Riga, Latvia**

Q&A

International Conference and Study Tour

Reuse and Recycling through Deposit Systems

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Organised by

Depozīta punkts

reloop resources remain resources

Under the auspices of

State Environmental Service
Republic of Latvia