

RREUSE – USING EPR TO MOVE WASTE UP THE WASTE HIERARCHY

Waste Prevention Exchange | 04/03/2021

Mathieu Rama | Senior Policy Officer



1 million tonnes of material diverted from landfill through re-use, repair and recycling included:

TEXTILES



**257.000
TONNES
COLLECTED**



of which
90.000
tonnes
re-used

ELECTRICALS



**305.000
TONNES
COLLECTED**



of which
20.000
tonnes
re-used

FURNITURE



**215.000
TONNES
COLLECTED**



of which
85.000
tonnes
re-used

BOOKS & RECORDS



**16.000
TONNES
COLLECTED**



of which
5.500
tonnes
re-used

BRIC-A-BRAC



**32.000
TONNES
COLLECTED**



of which
14.000
tonnes
re-used



1.000.000

tonnes of material
diverted from landfill
through re-use,
repair and
recycling

This is equivalent to the
weight of **137 Eiffel towers!**



105.000
employees,
volunteers and
trainees



850
social enterprises
in the wider
RREUSE network



2.200
SHOPS



39 MILLION
CUSTOMERS



1.125 BILLION
TURNOVER

Awareness raising campaigns, international projects, exchange of best practice and business support



Integration of disadvantaged groups on the job market

SANS ABRI GERANT

Quête à de gros soucis d'argent, il se cherche un logement et son travail. Les Petits Riens ont un grand défi : mettre en scène une équipe modèle. Aujourd'hui, voilà 30 ans que se la gare de A. & Z. CLAUDE

LES PETITS RIENS SPULLEN HULP

700 PERSONNES APPRENNENT UN MÉTIER CHAQUE ANNÉE CHEZ LES PETITS RIENS
• BE33-0000-1902-6346 • petitsriens.be

INVALIDE VERKOOPSTER

De twee bij Spullenhulp herverkoopsters na een nieuw ongeval. Ze had geen toekomst-plaatsen meer. Da bene die begroeten als vrijwilliger in de herverkoop. Vandaag heeft zijje leven weer aan. CHRISTAL

LES PETITS RIENS SPULLEN HULP

700 MENSEN LEREN EEN VAK ELK JAAR BIJ SPULLENHULP
• BE71-0000-1437-2669 • spullenhulp.be

Integration of disadvantaged groups on the job market

JOB CREATION POTENTIAL 10,000 TONNES OF USED GOODS



1

Incineration



6

Land fill



36

Recycling



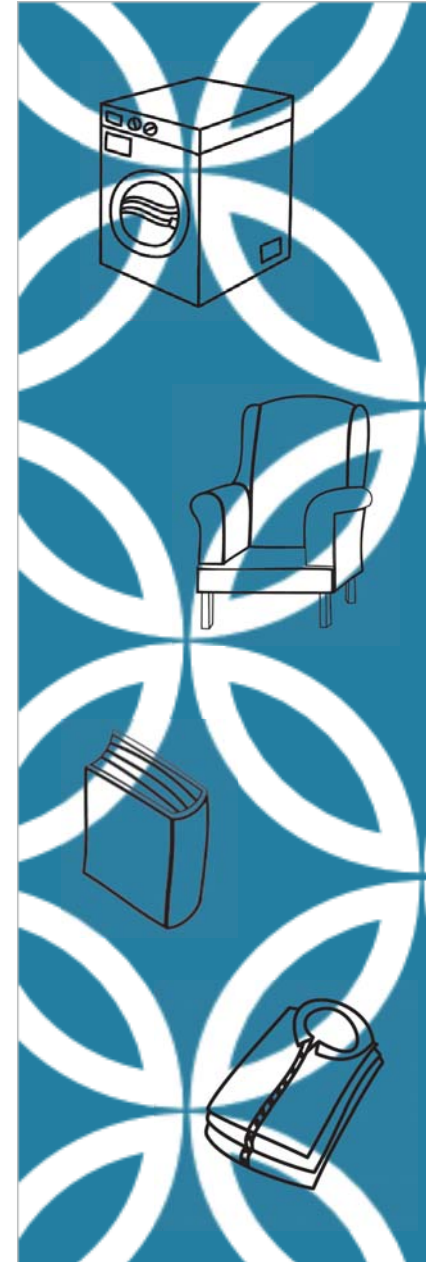
296

Re-use

Source: US EPA (2002) and the Institute for Local Self Reliance

Implementation of EPR in the EU

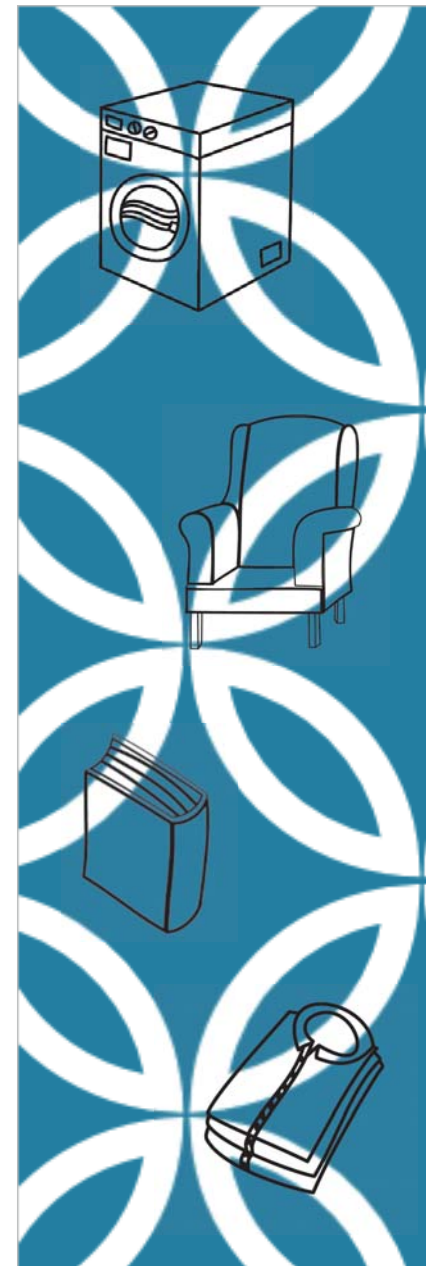
- ❁ **Various EPR models** have developed organically
- ❁ Waste streams such as **WEEE have mandatory EPR**
- ❁ **EU wide minimum requirements for EPR** have been included within the updated Waste Framework Directive (WFD) published in 2018
- ❁ The **new Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP)** indicates that mandatory **EPR for textiles** should be considered at EU level
- ❁ Often, the practical implementation of **EPR conflicts with the waste hierarchy** because prioritising recycling over re-use



Using EPR to move up the waste hierarchy

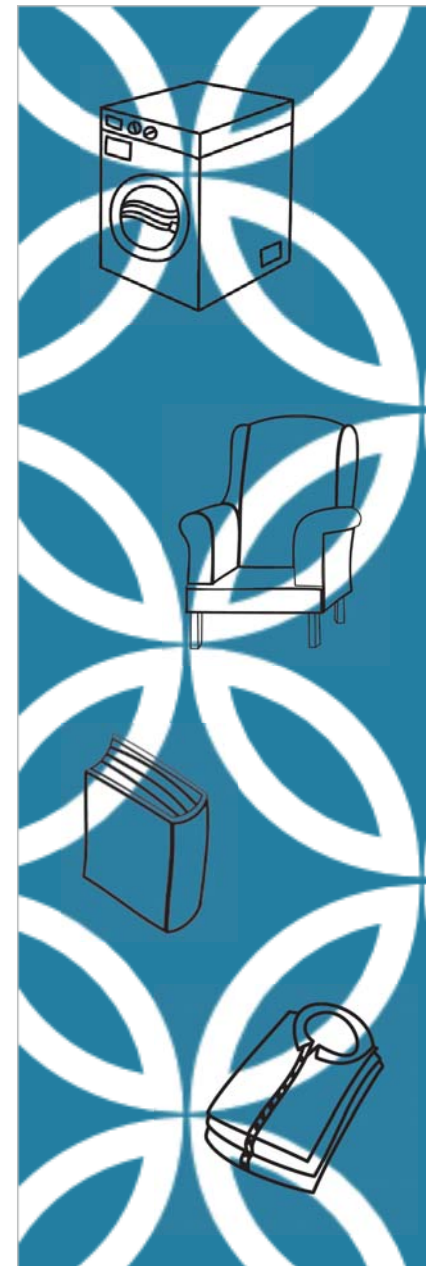
How can **EPR create and preserve local and green jobs** by involving **social economy enterprises** in the implementation of **waste prevention and management** policies?

- ❁ **EPR to prioritise and finance re-use and preparing for re-use** activities through further incentives including **quantitative targets**
- ❁ **Modulation of EPR** fee to take into account **ecodesign** measures
- ❁ **Priority access** to discarded re-usable products to be granted to preparing for reuse operators
- ❁ Thorough **impact assessment** needed of EPR impacts on re-use and preparing for re-use sectors
- ❁ **Social economy re-use operators to be included** in development and governance of EPR schemes



EPR to prioritise and finance re-use and preparing for re-use activities through further incentives including quantitative targets

- ❁ Waste Framework Directive mandates Member States to **report preparing for re-use rates separately from recycling rates and monitor data on re-use**
- ❁ By end of 2024, European Commission must look into **feasibility of setting separate quantitative targets** for re-use and preparation for re-use rates
- ❁ **Enhances cooperation** between all actors of the re-use value chain (preparing for re-use and re-use operators, municipalities, waste management operators, producers, PROs and retailers)
- ❁ Examples can be found in Spain, Flanders and France
- ❁ France has recently earmarked a **5% share of the EPR fee** for social economy re-use operators



Priority access to discarded re-usable products to be granted to preparing for reuse operators

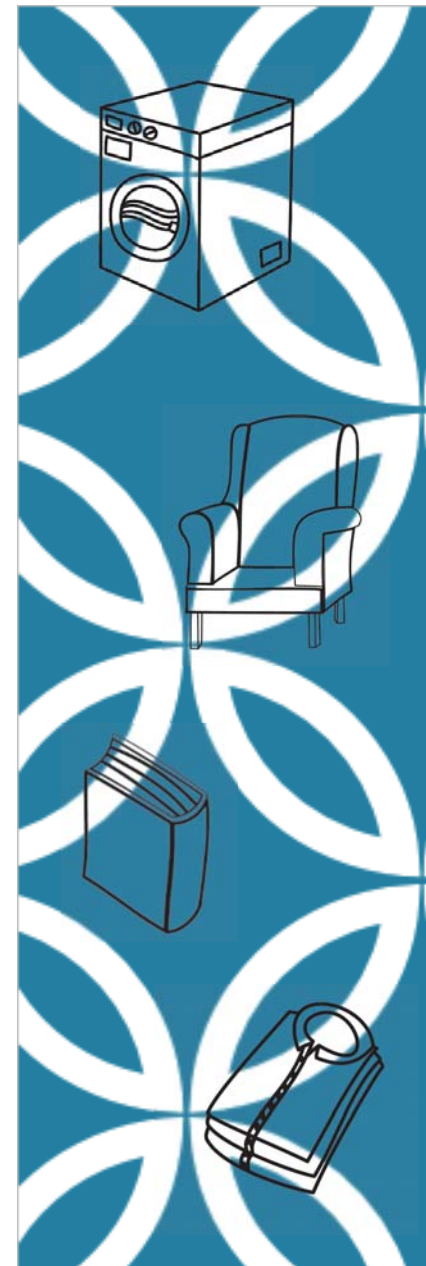
- ❁ **Article 11 of Waste Framework Directive:** Collection schemes and facilities must set up systems safeguarding the re-usability of waste items during collection, transportation and storage
- ❁ **Pre-selection of re-usable goods** must happen at the earliest stage possible
- ❁ **End-users should be informed** about this preselection upon entry at waste collection points
- ❁ **Social economy re-use operators**, because prioritising local re-use over recycling or exportation, should be given priority access and receive sufficient funding for their preparation for re-use activities
- ❁ The **EPR fee should cover improvements** to the collection, transport, storage, documentation and quality management of re-usable waste items



Waste electrical goods need to be protected from rain or they can't be re-used

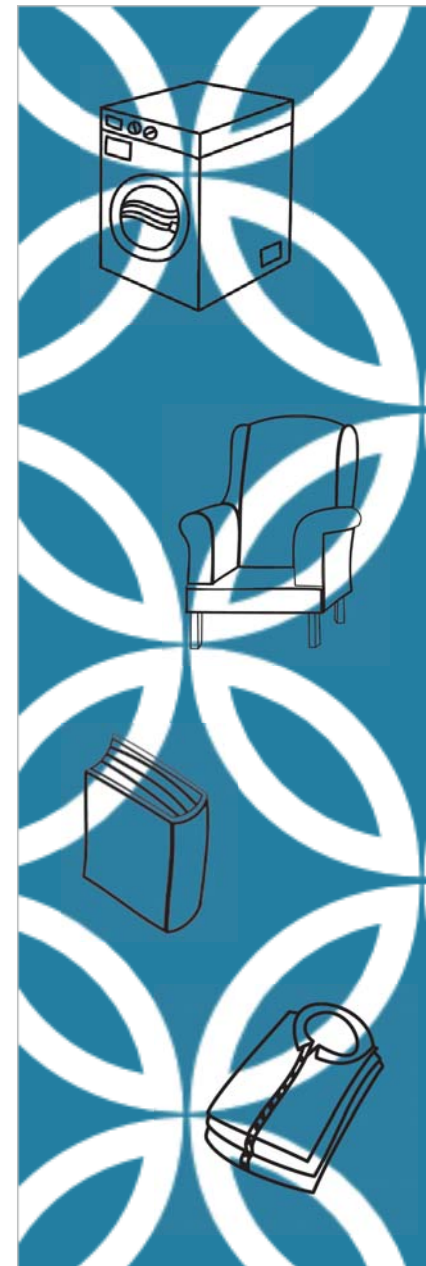


#WEEELove



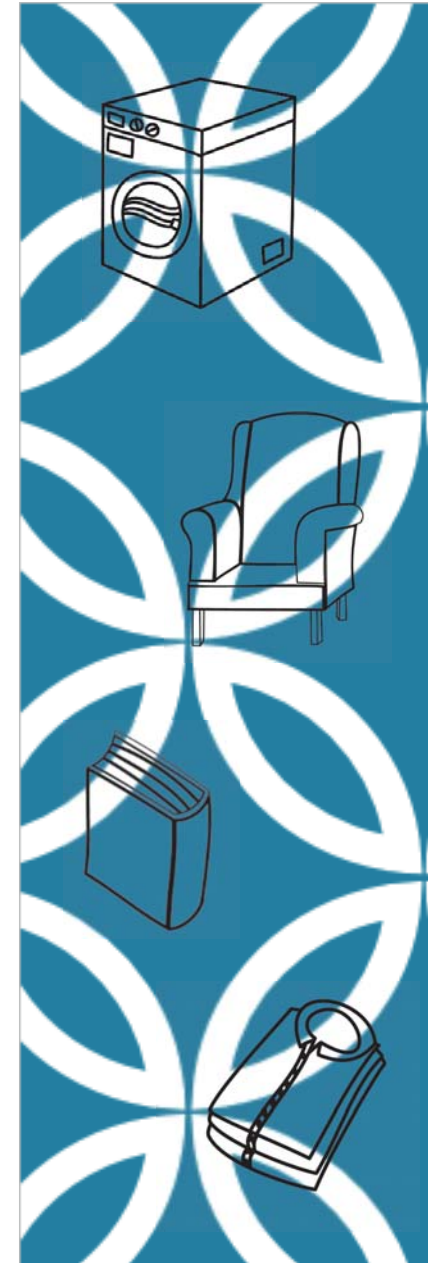
Modulation of EPR fee to take into account ecodesign measures

- ❁ Article 8a.4b of the WFD states that **EPR fees must be “modulated**, where possible, for individual products or groups of similar products, notably by taking into account their **durability, reparability, re-usability and recyclability and the presence of hazardous substances”**
- ❁ The concept of « **necessary costs** » limits the level of the fee and risks making it too low to actually discourage consumers to buy the less sustainable products
- ❁ Modulation of EPR fee should be **added to strong measures on ecodesign**, and not replace them !!!



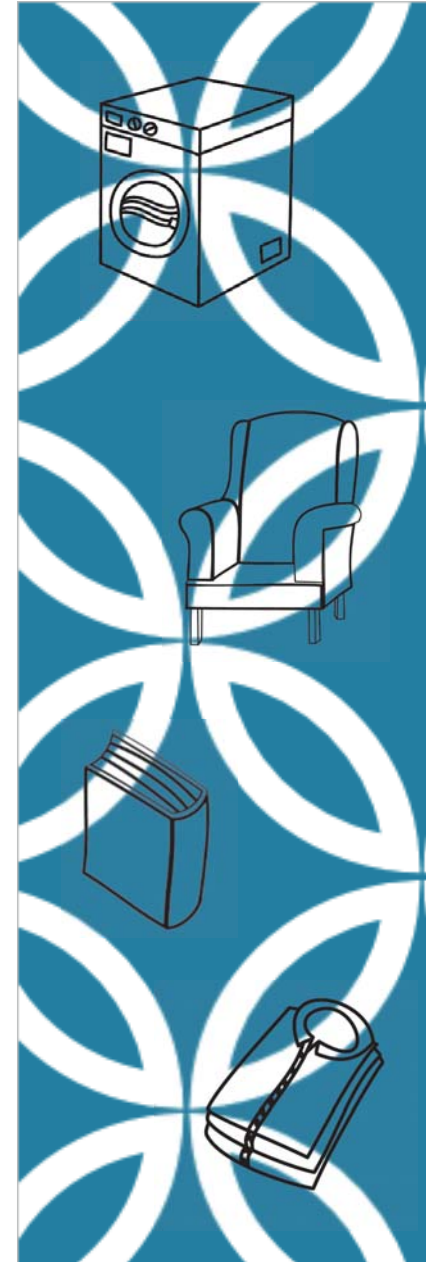
Thorough impact assessment needed of EPR impacts on re-use and preparing for re-use sectors

- ❁ **EPR schemes encourage PROs to increase their collection rates**, thereby collecting products which might have been collected and reused outside the waste regime
- ❁ Member States should ensure that **all actors** of the re-use and preparing for re-use sectors **benefit from the implementation of an EPR scheme**.
- ❁ Conducting **impact assessments** on the re-use and preparing for re-use sectors before the creation of EPR schemes would allow to prevent new collection models from competing with re-use and ensure that re-use social economy enterprises are seen as allies, and not as competitors.



Social economy re-use operators to be included in development and governance of EPR schemes

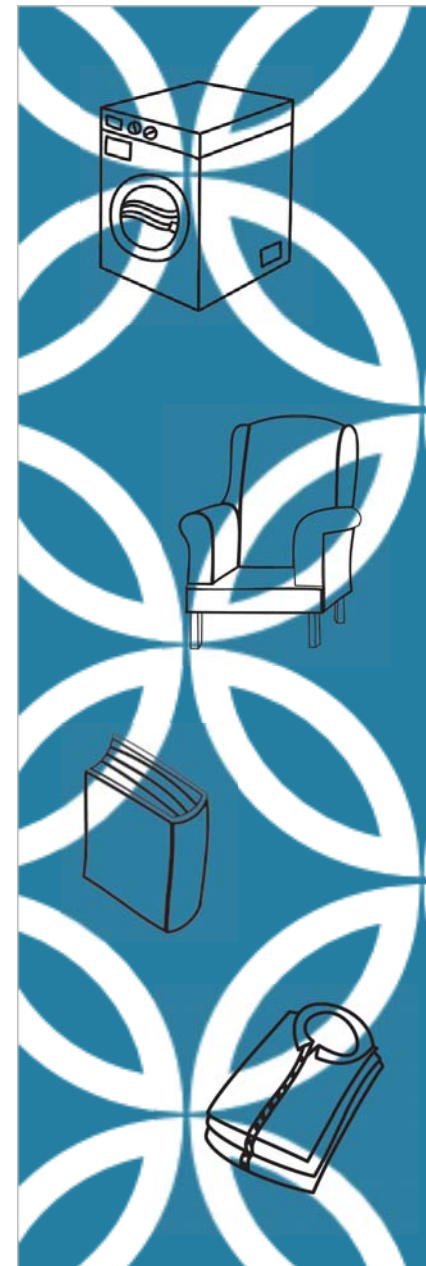
- ❁ Article 8a.1 a of the WFD states that “where extended producer responsibility schemes are established, (...) Member States shall (...) define in a clear way the roles and responsibilities of all relevant actors involved, including (...), where appropriate, re-use and preparing for re-use operators and social economy enterprises”
- ❁ Article 8a.6 requests Member States to “ensure a regular dialogue between relevant stakeholders involved in the implementation of extended producer responsibility schemes, including (...), where applicable, social economy actors, re-use and repair networks and preparing for re-use operators”
- ❁ In France, article L541-10 of the Environment Code provides that EPR schemes must “support preparing for reuse, re-use and repair networks such as those managed by social and solidarity economy structures or those promoting integration through employment”, as well as “create a stakeholders' committee, composed [among others] of waste prevention and management operators, including those from the social and solidarity economy”



The example of France

According to the [French National Institute for Circular Economy](#) (Institut National de l'Economie Circulaire), and based on the WFD transposition law that is currently implemented, the EPR sector must:

- ❁ Adopt an **eco-design approach to products**
- ❁ Promote the **extension of the lifespan of the said products** by ensuring, as far as possible, for all professional repairers and private individuals concerned, the availability of the means indispensable for efficient maintenance
- ❁ **Supporting preparing for re-use, re-use and repair networks** such as those run by the structures of the social and solidarity economy or promoting integration through employment
- ❁ Contribute to **development aid projects** for the collection and processing of their waste
- ❁ Develop the **recycling** of waste from products





KEEP IN TOUCH!

RREUSE is on social media...



...and we do have a newsletter!
sign up at www.rreuse.org





CONTACT US:



EU Waste Framework Directive, Ecodesign, Repair, Standards, Waste Electricals (WEEE):

Mathieu Rama: mathieu.rama@rreuse.org



EU Social Affairs, Public Procurement, VAT:

Elaine Hanlon: elaine.hanlon@rreuse.org



Potential memberships and partnerships, Textiles:

Jana Zurkova: jana.zurkova@rreuse.org