

# *Waste Management Planning - Ireland Experience*

EEA Workshop on waste policy  
implementation in the West Balkan  
countries – Copenhagen May 2013



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# Introduction



- **About me**
- **About Irish Environmental Protection Agency**
- **About Ireland and its waste**

# National Waste Indicators



Indicator		Current Position
Municipal Waste Managed	▼	21% decrease since 2007
Household Waste Recovery	▲	350% increase in recovery rate since 2002
Kerbside collection of household organic waste	▲	218% increase since 2004
Municipal Waste per person	▼	25% decrease since 2006
Commercial Waste Generated	▼	26% decrease since 2007
Landfill Rate for Municipal Waste	▼	33% decrease in disposal rate since 1995
Industrial Manufacturing Waste	▼	1% decrease between 2006 and 2008
Construction & Demolition Waste Managed	▼	81% decrease since 2007
Number of Municipal Landfills	▼	65% decrease since 1998

# Progress to EU targets

- Packaging Directive
- WEEE Directive
- End of Life Vehicles
- Landfill Directive
- Batteries Directive
- Waste Framework Directive



# ALL Waste Generation



European\*  
Average  
per person  
**5.4 t**



Ireland Average  
per person  
**c.4.3 t**

19.8Mt

\* incl. Norway, Turkey & Croatia

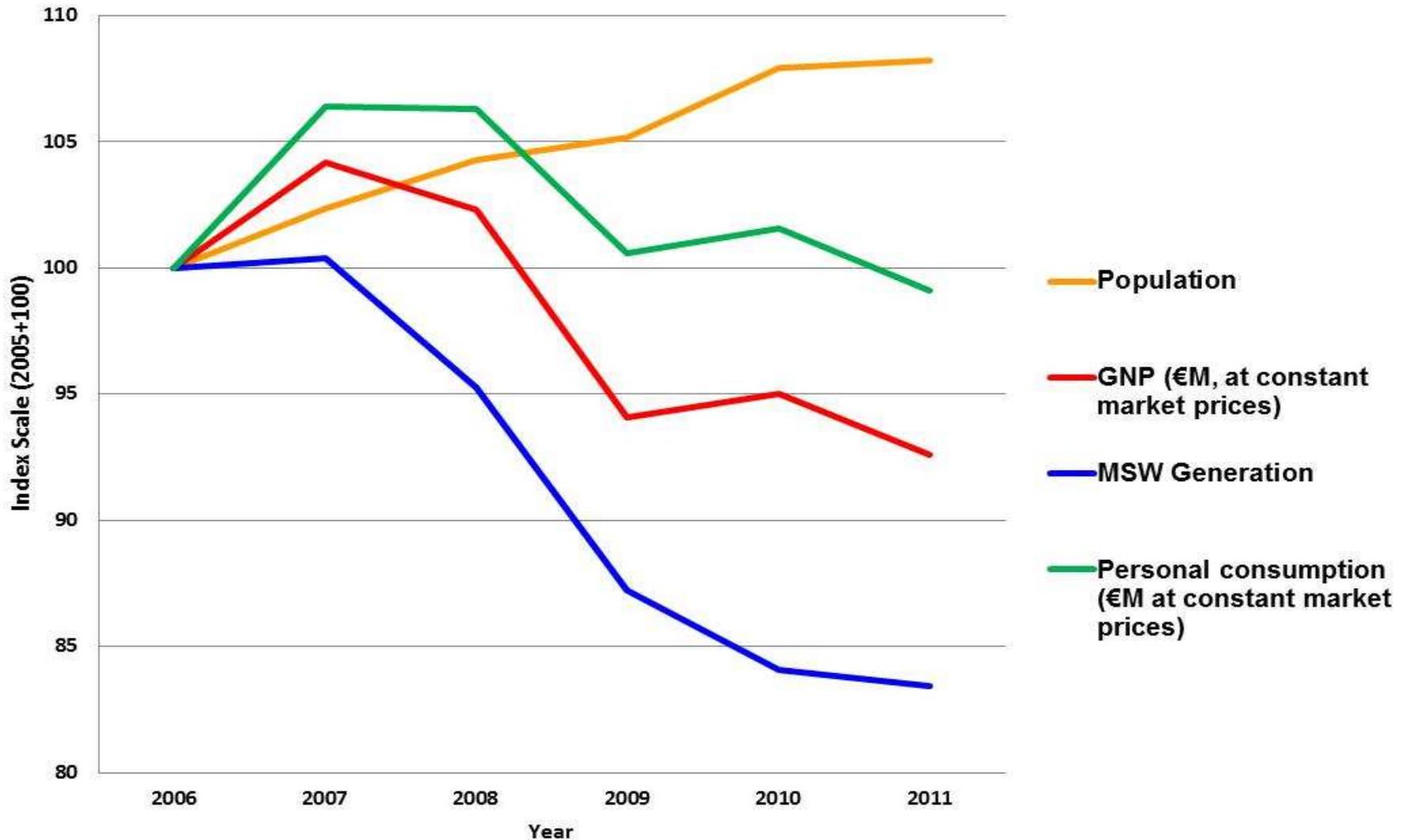
# Household Waste



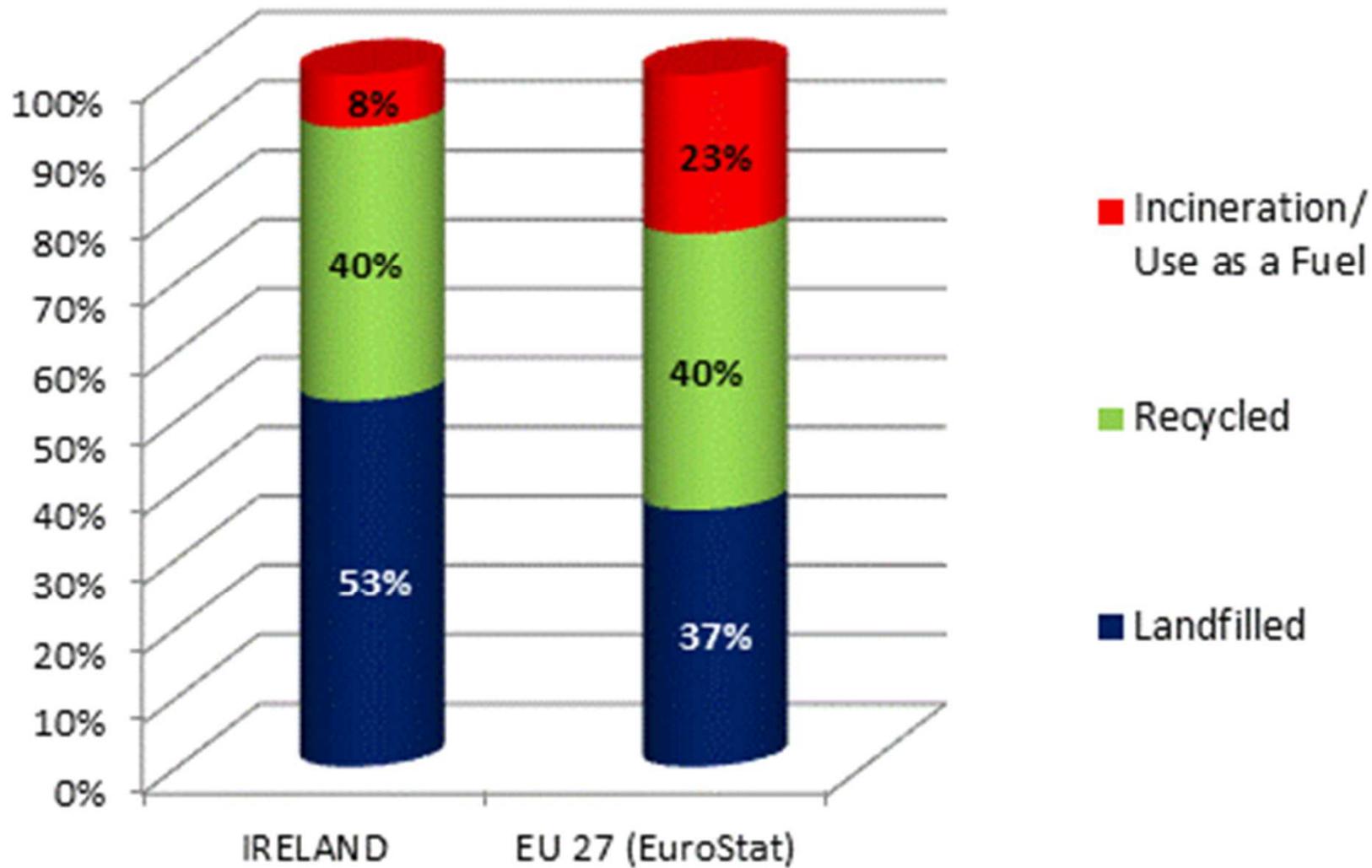
1.6Mt

438 kg

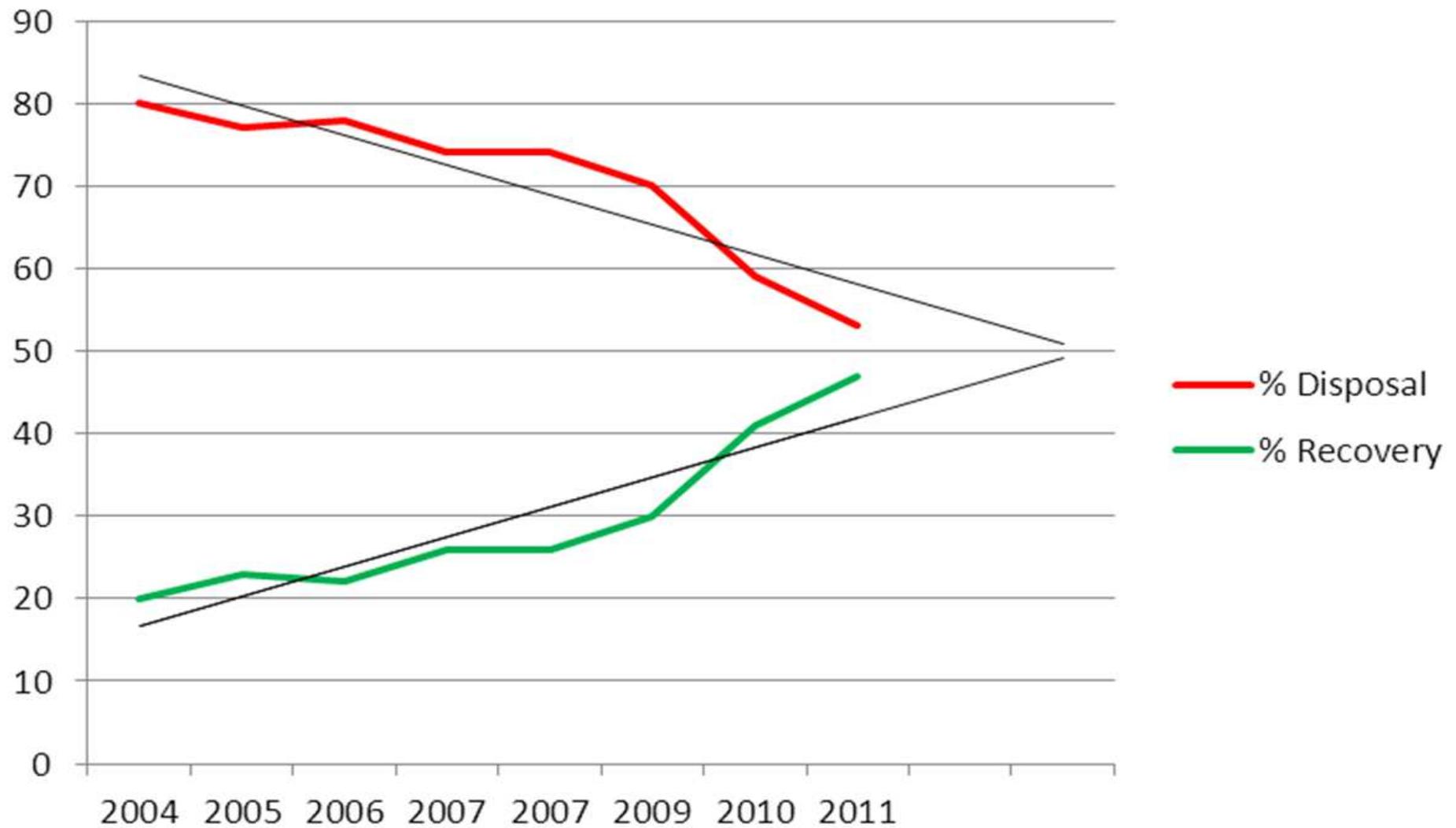
# MSW Trends



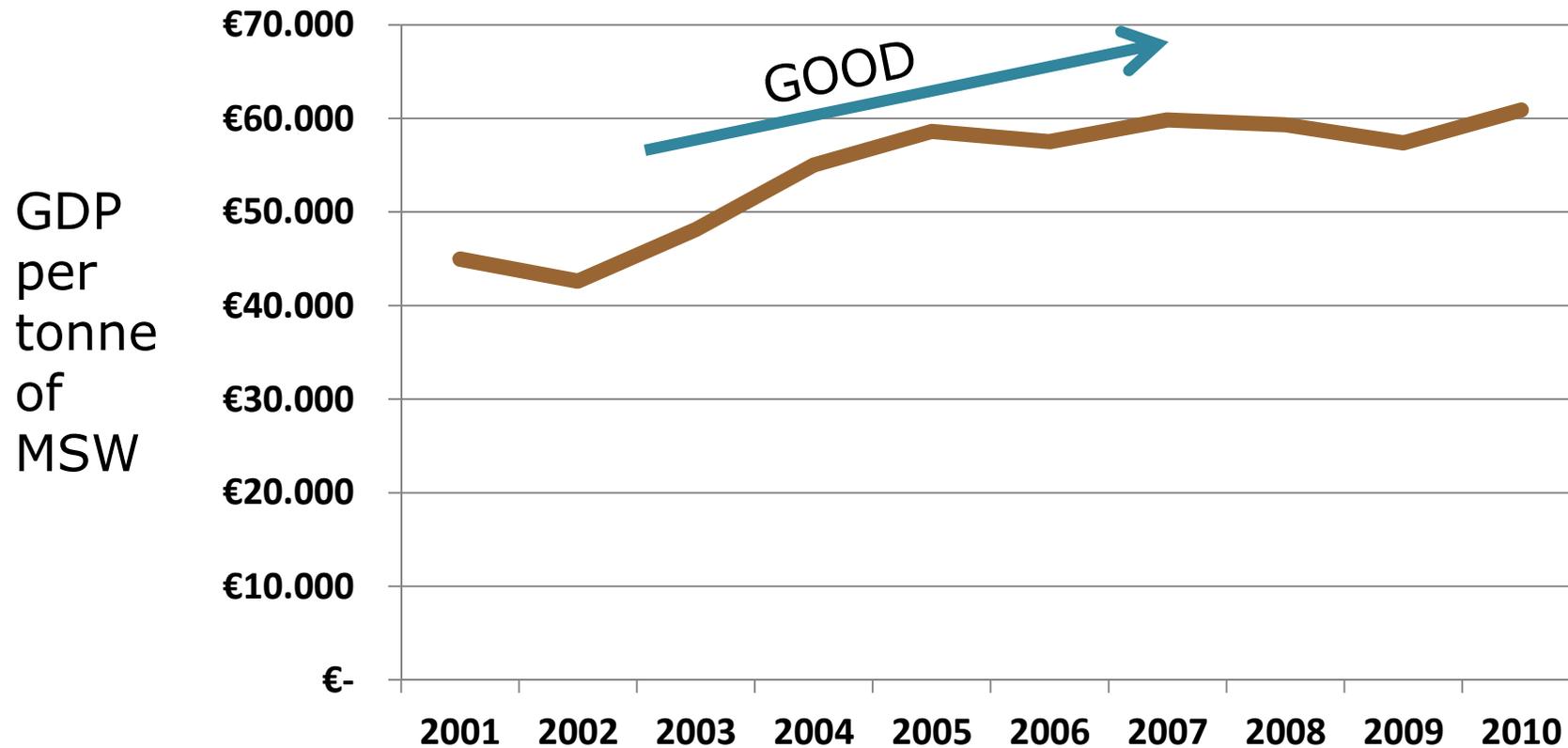
# MSW Performance



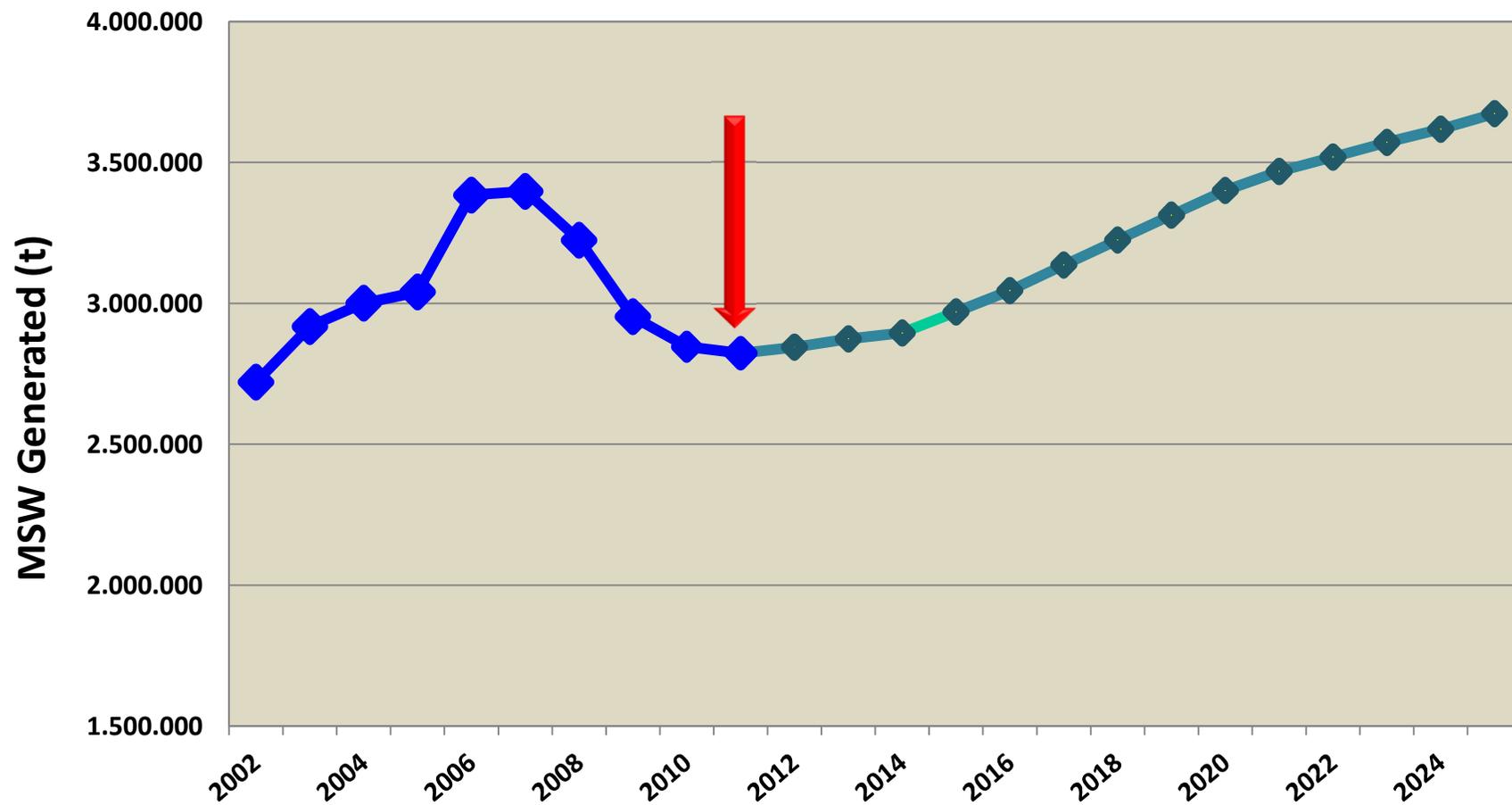
# Household Waste



# MSW 'Productivity' (€ GDP / tonne MSW)



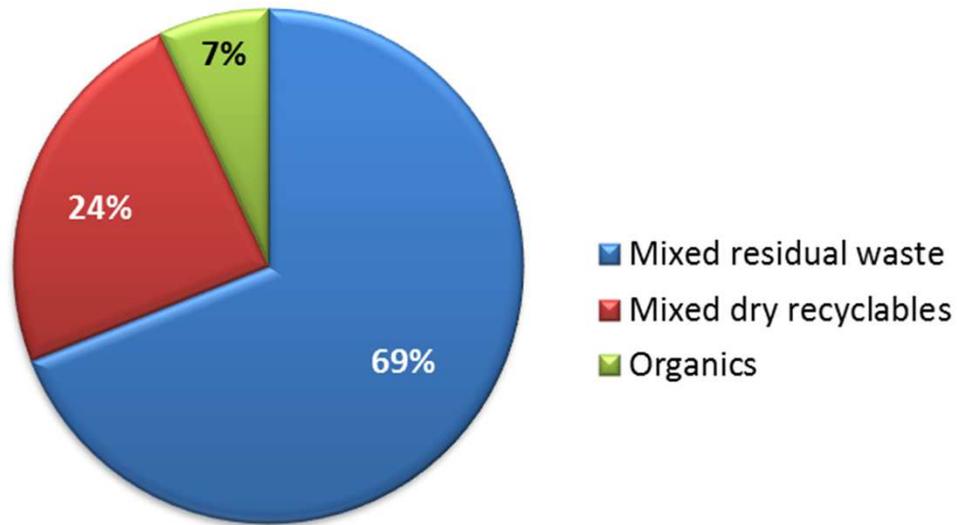
# MSW Waste Growth



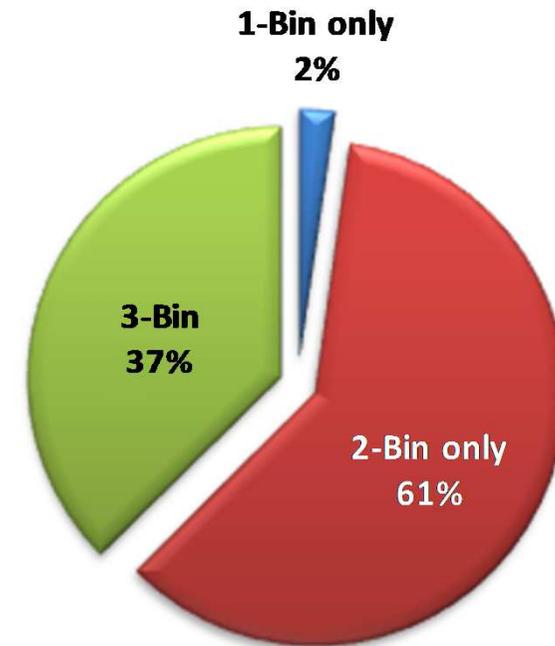
# Infrastructure & Collection

- No Merchant Hazardous Waste Incineration
- No Hazardous Waste Landfill
- Landfill Capacity 12 years at current rates
- **15 of current 28 MSW landfills will close in 3 years**
- **Merchant WtE capacity of 543,000tpa**
- Biological Treatment 550,000 tpa
- One Civic Amenity Site per 43,000 population (107)
- 1,922 bring banks
- **Cannot account for waste from over ¼ Million homes**
- Only 1 on 3 houses on a collection scheme have a 3<sup>rd</sup> bin

# The Value of Data in Planning



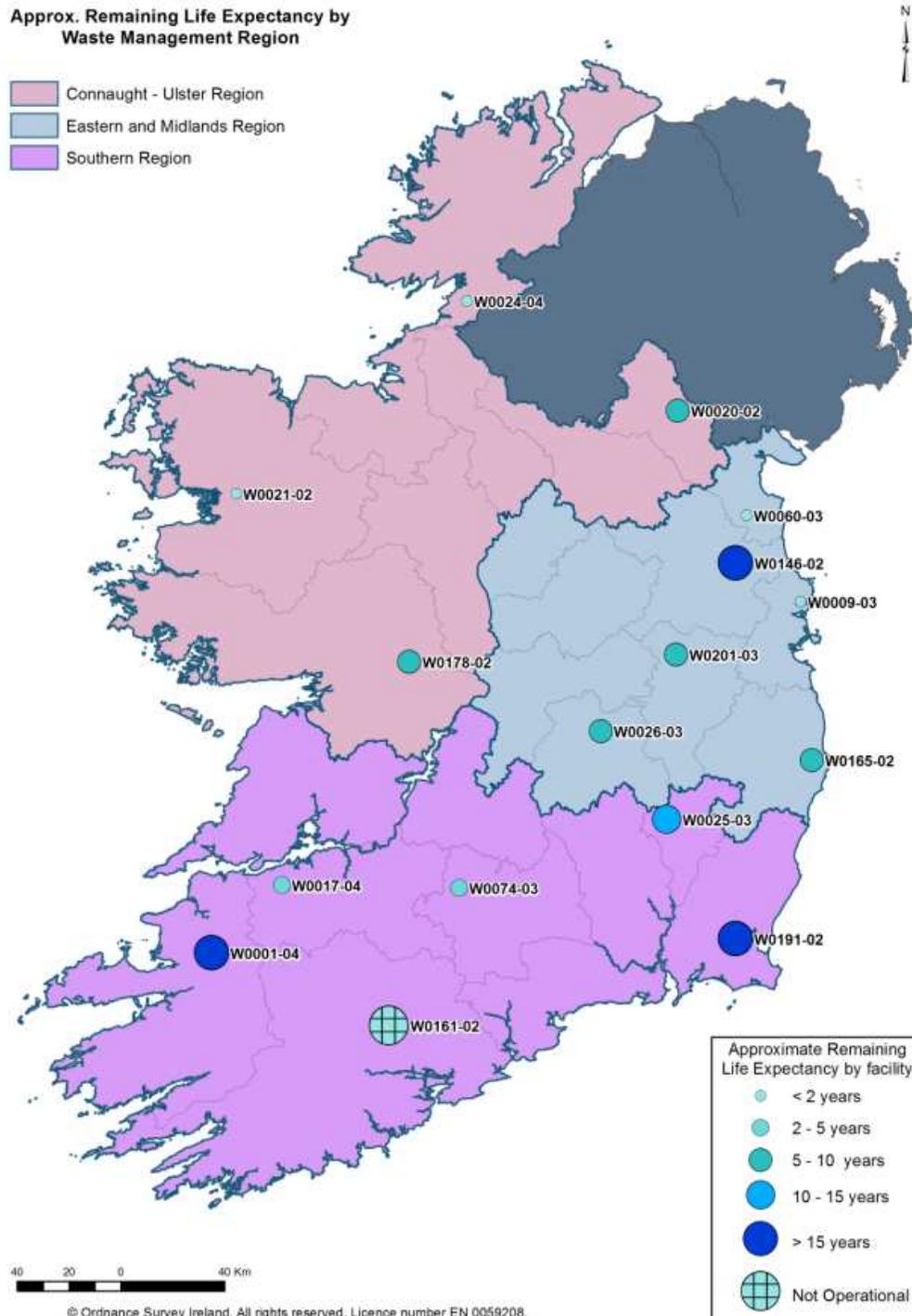
Proportion (in tonnes) collected at kerbside



Nature of kerbside service

**Approx. Remaining Life Expectancy by Waste Management Region**

- Connaught - Ulster Region
- Eastern and Midlands Region
- Southern Region



# Remaining Landfill Life Expectancy & Distribution

# What Makes a Plan Work ?



- OBJECTIVES
- Monitoring & Evaluation

# Plan Partners



# Planning Integration



- Hazardous Waste Planning
- Biodegradable Waste Planning
- Producer Responsibility Initiatives
- All Other waste
- Waste Prevention Programme
- National Raw Materials Strategy
- National Energy Strategy
- National Renewables Strategy
- National Spatial Planning

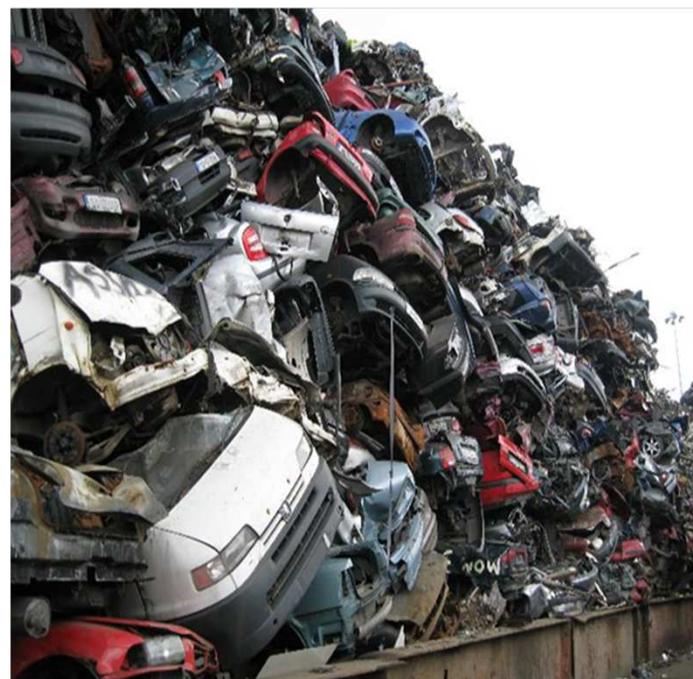
# Importance of good Data



- **Waste Statistics**
- **Waste characterisation**
- **National registers of collectors**
- **National register of waste facilities**
- **Waste Flows dataset**
- **Collaboration with national statistical body**
- **National & regional reporting obligations**
- **Imports / Exports**

# Regulation

- Collectors
- Transfer
- Processors
- Final Disposal / Recovery
- Imports / Exports
- Enforcement
  - Illegal activities
  - Closure of inferior facilities

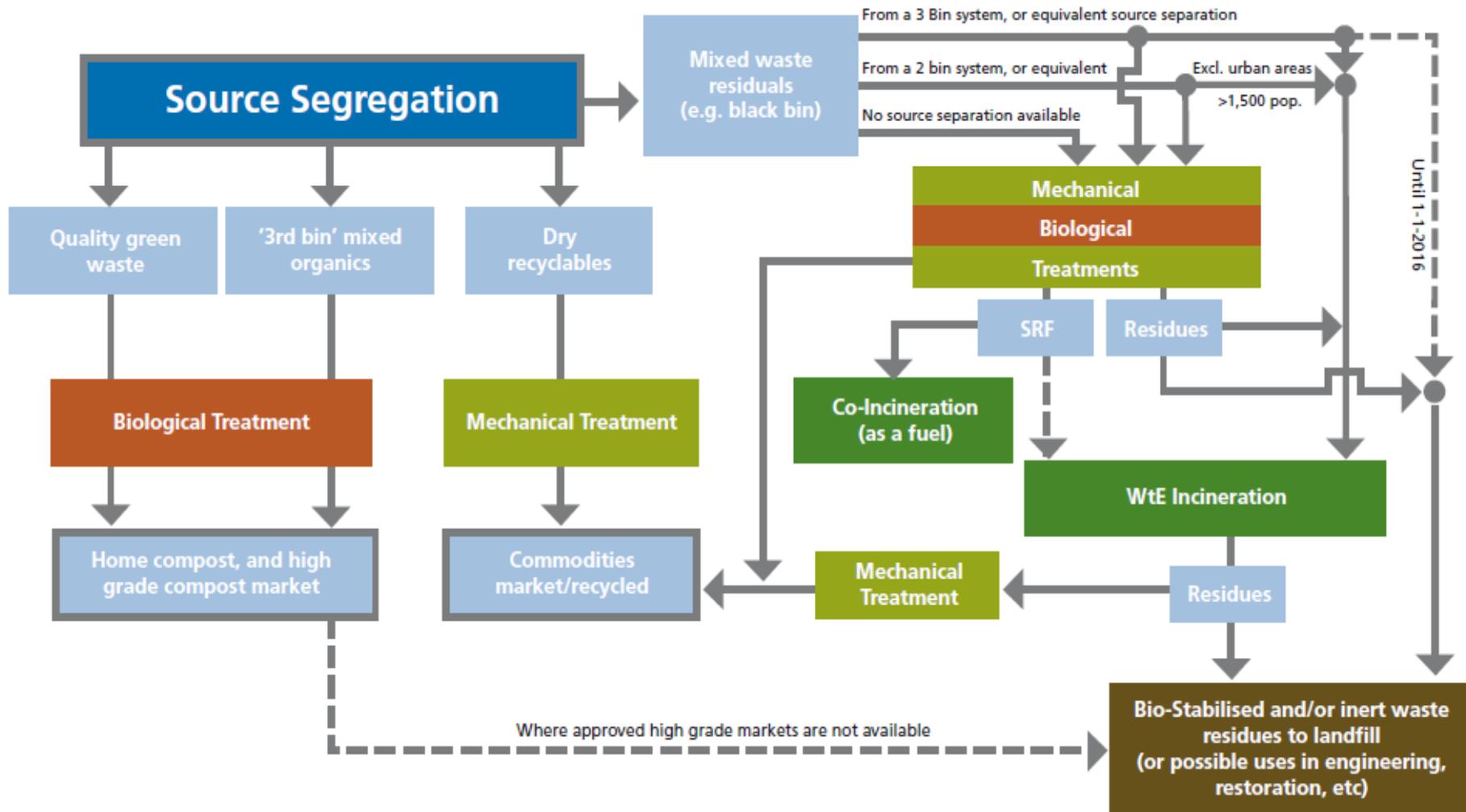


# Obligations

- **Obligation to participate**
- **Obligation to segregate**
- **Obligation to recover**
  
- **Obligations to pre-treat**



# Obligations to Pre-Treat



# Clarity



- **Ownership**
- **Roles**
- **Definitions**
- **Obligations**

# Market



- **Public / Private**
- **Competition ‘for’ and Competition ‘in’ the market**
- **Ownership**
- **‘Cherry Picking’**
- **Pricing**
- **Financing**
- **What waste can you control?**
- **Non-merchant waste management facilities**

# Infrastructure

- Waste Flows
- Range
- Capacities
- Life expectancy
- Gaps
- Public or Private
- Non-Merchant



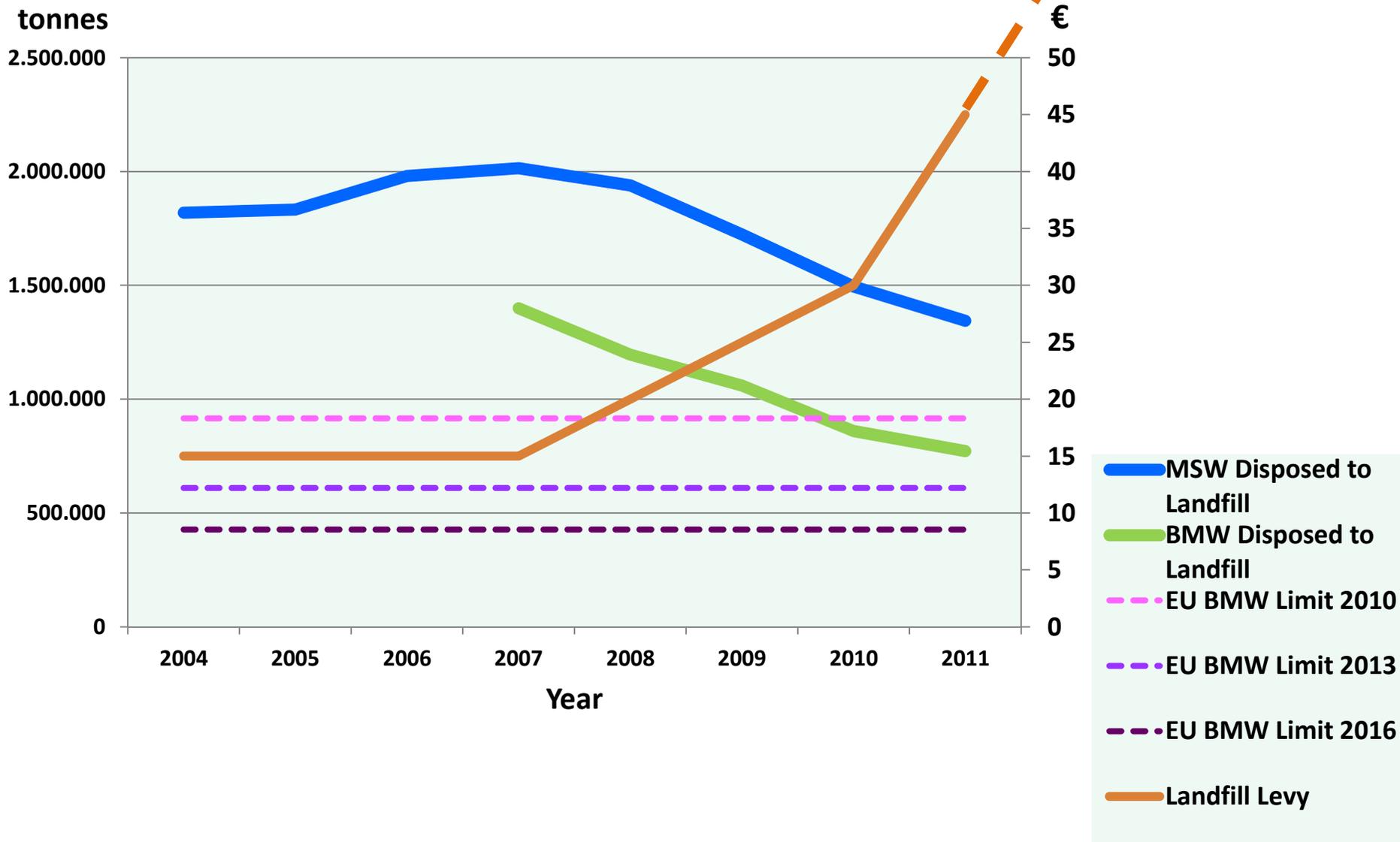
# Securing Infrastructure

- **Planning**
- **Waste Hierarchy**
- **Ownership of waste**
- **Pricing** (*pay by weight – pay to use – pay by lift*)
- **Taxation**
- **Community Gain**
- **Cannot direct waste**
- **Investment risk**

# Legislation

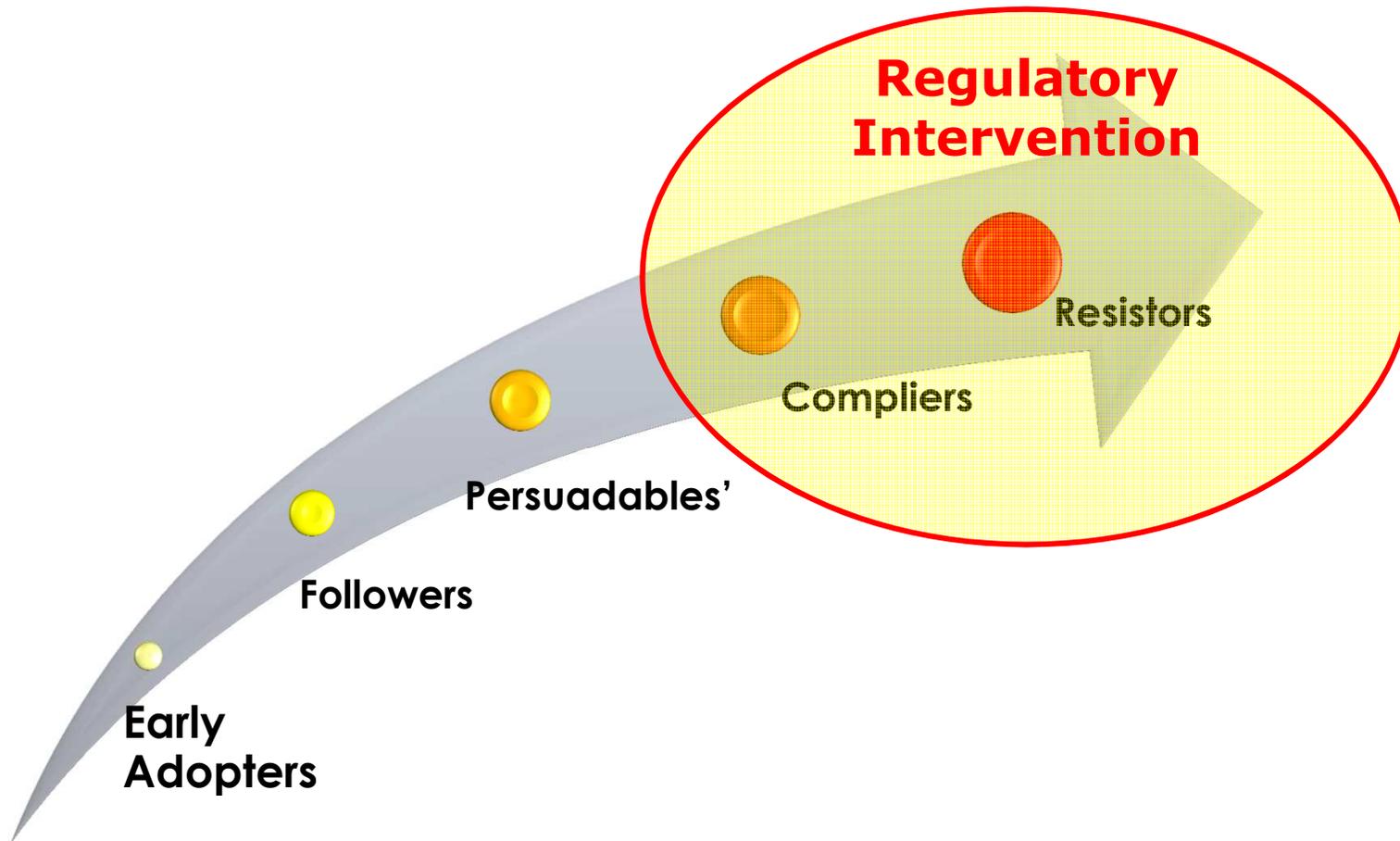
- **Landfill Levy**
- **Producer Responsibility Initiatives**
- **Commercial Food Waste**
- **Household biowaste obligations**
- **Obligation for households to participate**
- **Collection Permitting**
- **Facility Certificates, Permits and Licences**
- **Waste pre-treatment obligations (landfill & WtE)**
- **Hazardous waste tracking documentation**

# Taxation Driver

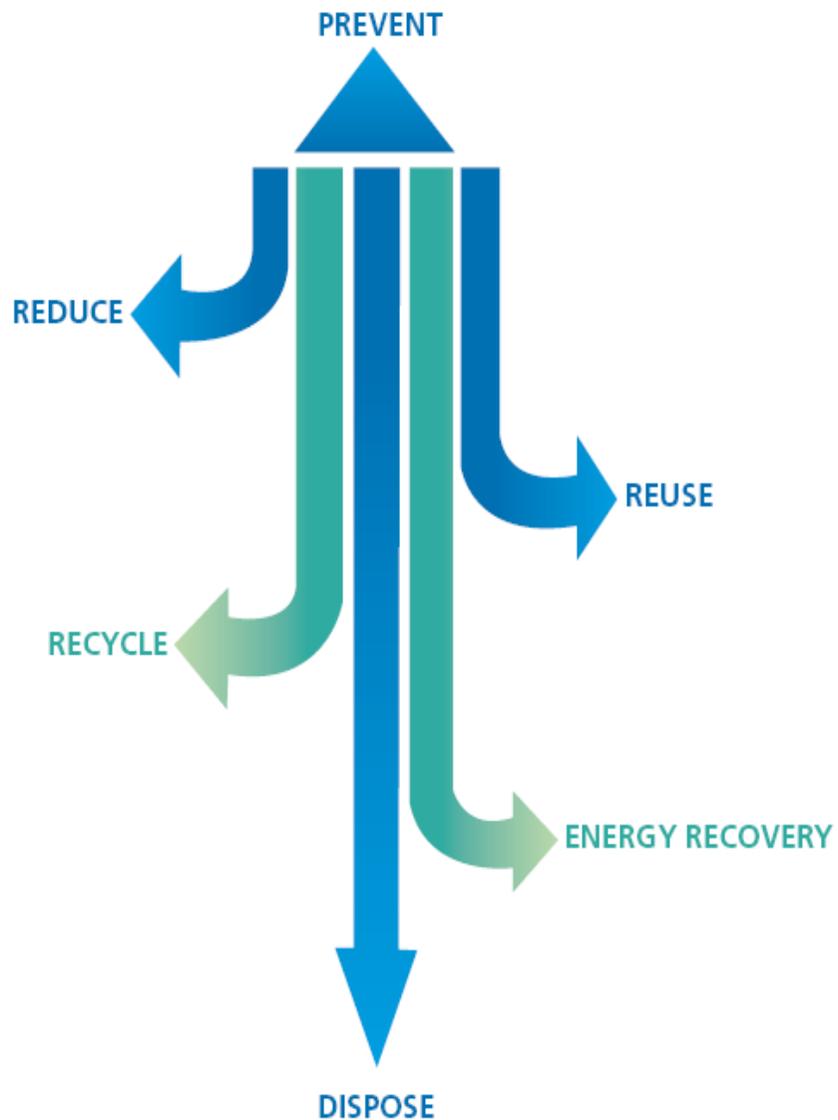


# Road to Sustainable Waste Management

- Balance of Regulation – Demonstration – Education



# Use of Hierarchy



LCA  
&  
LCT

# Research & Development

- **Behaviours**
- **Flows**
- **Material Standards**
- **End of waste**
- **Markets**
- **Unique Technologies (BAT)**
- **Waste management in urban design**



# Challenges & Regrets 1



- Multiple plans
- Ban on inter-regional movement
- Slow to deal with the issue that each plan area does not have to have it all
- Environment & Planning control lacunae
- National registers
- Waste Ownership
- Slow to react to illegal trafficking
- Political rejection of infrastructure

# Challenges & Regrets 2

- Data collection
- Some sectors inherently difficult
- Role of Taxation & PRIs initially undervalued
- ‘Build it and they will come’ – risk
- Site selection criteria
- Time taken to deliver infrastructure
- Public perceptions

# Key elements of success

- Good data
- Taxation
- Producer Responsibility Initiatives
- Good regulatory regime
- Clear roles
- Standard guidance on content of a plan
- Waste pre-treatment obligations
- Media & Awareness activities
- Collaboration/Communications

**What makes up the 'Measures' & 'Necessary Actions' & 'Sufficient Information' ?**

# Follow up (examples) ...



– [www.BeGreen.ie](http://www.BeGreen.ie) (Resource Efficiency universal landing page)

– [www.nwpp.ie](http://www.nwpp.ie) (Waste Prevention Annual Reports)

– Example of Waste Plan –

<http://www.managewaste.ie/WasteMgePlanNov2006.asp>

– Waste Statistics -

<http://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/waste/stats/>

– National Waste Policy –

<http://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/waste/plans/>

– Waste Characterisation –

<http://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/waste/wastecharacterisation/>