

# Towards a circular economy



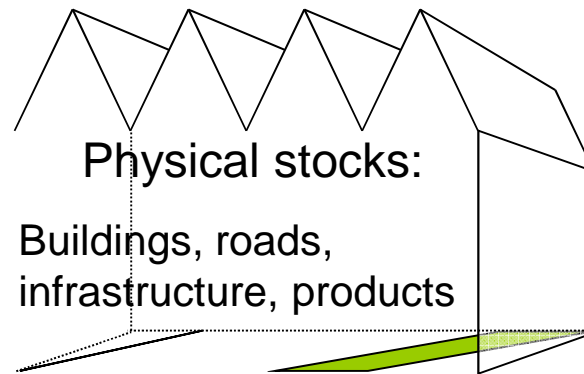
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# Current annual resource use in the EU

Input: **16 ton/capita**  $\Rightarrow$  Addition to stocks **10 t/c**  $\Rightarrow$  Output: **6 ton/capita**

- fossil fuels 4 ton,
- minerals 6.5 ton
- metals 1.5 ton
- biomass 4 ton



- carbon: 3 ton (=10 ton CO<sub>2</sub>)
- other waste: 3 ton

- Physical stocks keep growing: primary resources will continue to be needed
- Sustainable sourcing of primary resources is essential as well as more recycling, dematerialisation, increasing resource efficiency, including fertile land

# Global resource consumption

- If the whole world population is going to use 16 tons per capita we will see a tripling of resource consumption to 140 billion tons
- Supply security is at risk, price volatility will increase
- Environmental impacts will increase, due to GHG emissions, overexploitation of natural resources such as fish and land.

# EU Roadmap to a resource efficient Europe

underlines that the current resource challenges require:

“a fundamental transformation in energy, industry, agriculture, fisheries and transport systems, and in producer and consumer behavior”

➔ A sector approach is not enough: a holistic approach is necessary, including policy integration, new business models, etc.

# Main objectives Netherlands

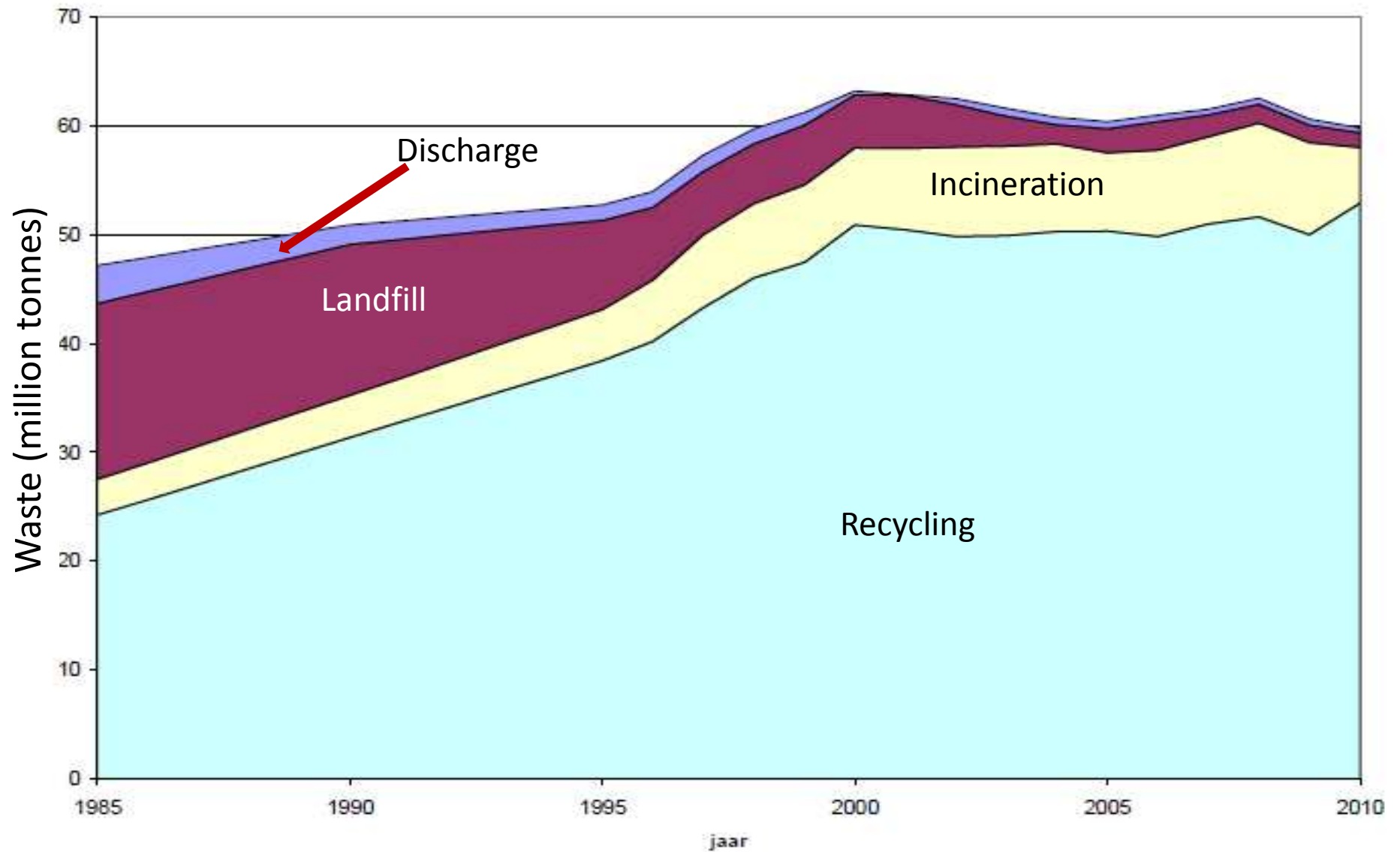
Green economy:

- Clean, fair, secure (according to Triple P)
- Sustainable sourcing and use
- Environmental limits need to be respected
- No overexploitation renewable resources
- Vast reduction of Green House Gases
- A safe environment (air, water, soil) for all
- Low-carbon, circular economy

# Targets examples

- Increase of recycling rate from 78 to 83% by 2015
- 100 % Green Public Procurement (at national level)
- 16% renewable energy by 2020, 100% by 2050
- No net loss of biodiversity
- 20% less food waste by 2015
- One million electric cars on the roads by 2025.

# Waste policy in The Netherlands 1985-2010



# Role of government

- Ministries working together towards an integrative approach
- The role of the government goes beyond command and control and makes use of the self interest of the various parties involved.
- The transition towards a green economy involves many actors, such as business, universities, NGOs and civil society.
- The government seeks to act as guardian of the public interest, to maintain a level playing field and balance conflicting interests.
- That is why we introduced the so called Green Deals.



# More than 100 Green Deals

- Timber parties commit themselves to the ambition to procure sustainable timber. The government supports the ambitions by creating a platform, and making sure that government procures sustainable timber. The market share has already grown from 13% in 2008 to 65% in 2011.
- Concrete 23 companies in the concrete supply chain have signed a green deal with the government. On the short term partners will work together to enhance recycling of concrete and to work on more sustainable designs. For the longer term a roadmap will be developed.
- Phosphate 20 parties in the food sector committed to contribute to closure of the phosphate cycle and to create a market for secondary phosphate.

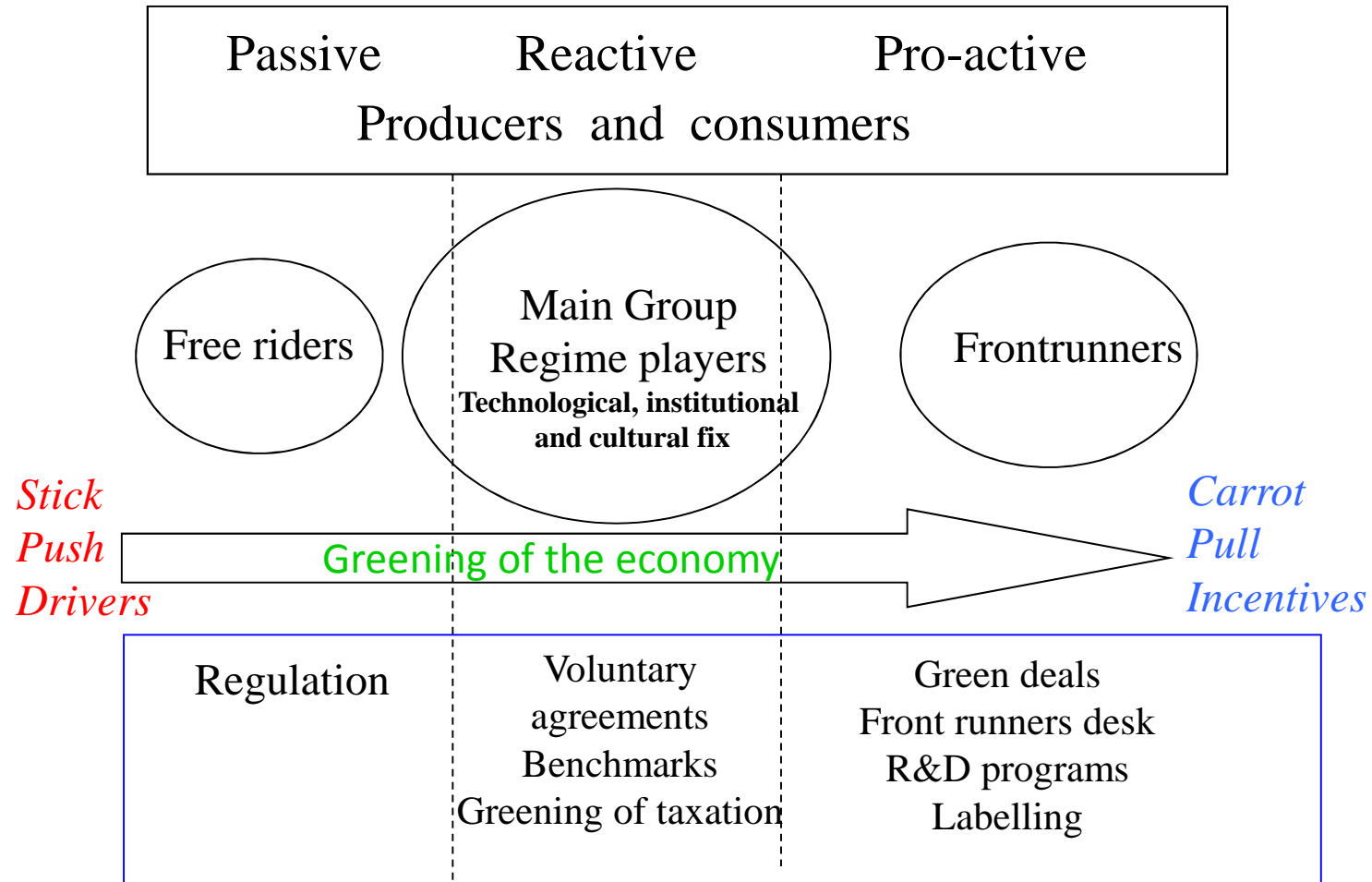
# Sustainable Trade Initiative



**STI accelerates and up-scales sustainable trade by building impact oriented coalitions of front running multinationals, civil society organizations, governments and other stakeholders. Through convening public and private interests, strengths and knowledge, STI programs help create shared value for all partners. This will help make sustainability the new norm.**

<http://www.idhsustainabletrade.com/>

# A mix of drivers and incentives is required



# Future directions

- Dynamic standards
- Value chain management
- Sustainable sourcing
- Product passport
- Priorities: biotic resources, including food
- Extension Eco-label directive
- Ecosystem restoration/ecological networks
- Natural capital accounting

# Knowledge gaps

- Indicators (e.g. beyond GDP)
- Pricing (how to create incentives for resource productivity)
- New business models (including value chain approach)
- Valuation of natural capital
- Etc.

# THANK YOU



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