



# GOING FOR A RESOURCE EFFICIENT ECONOMY - SOME POLICY GUIDANCE

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Green Talks  
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# Outline

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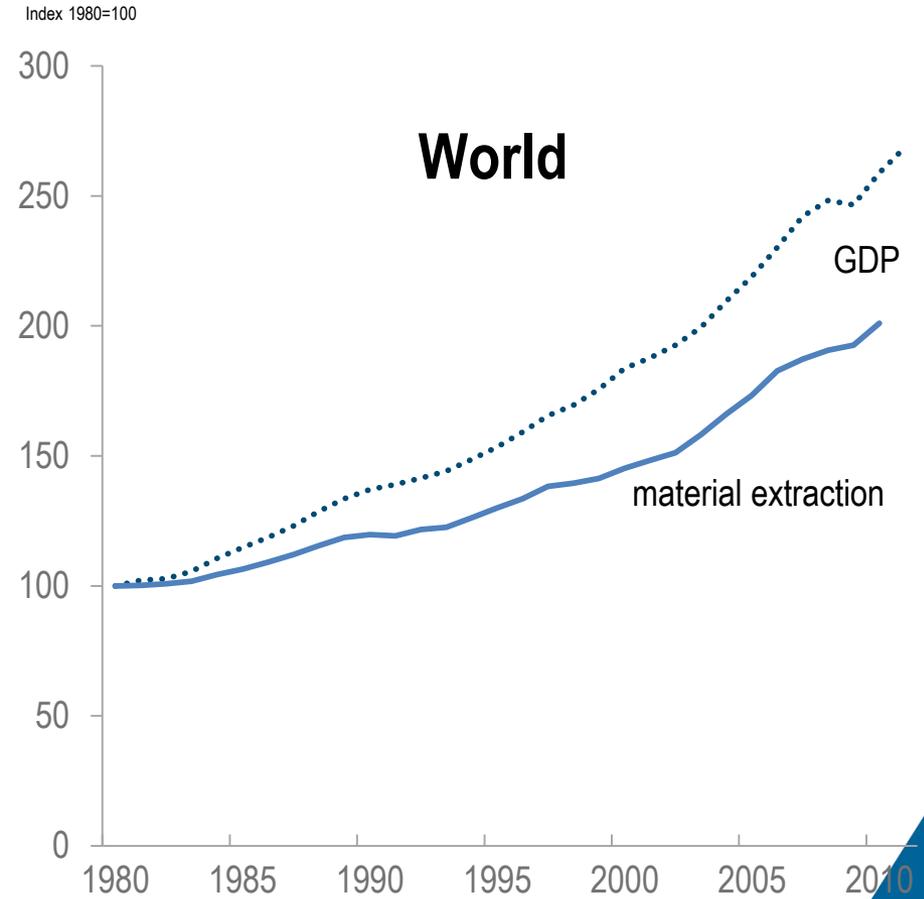
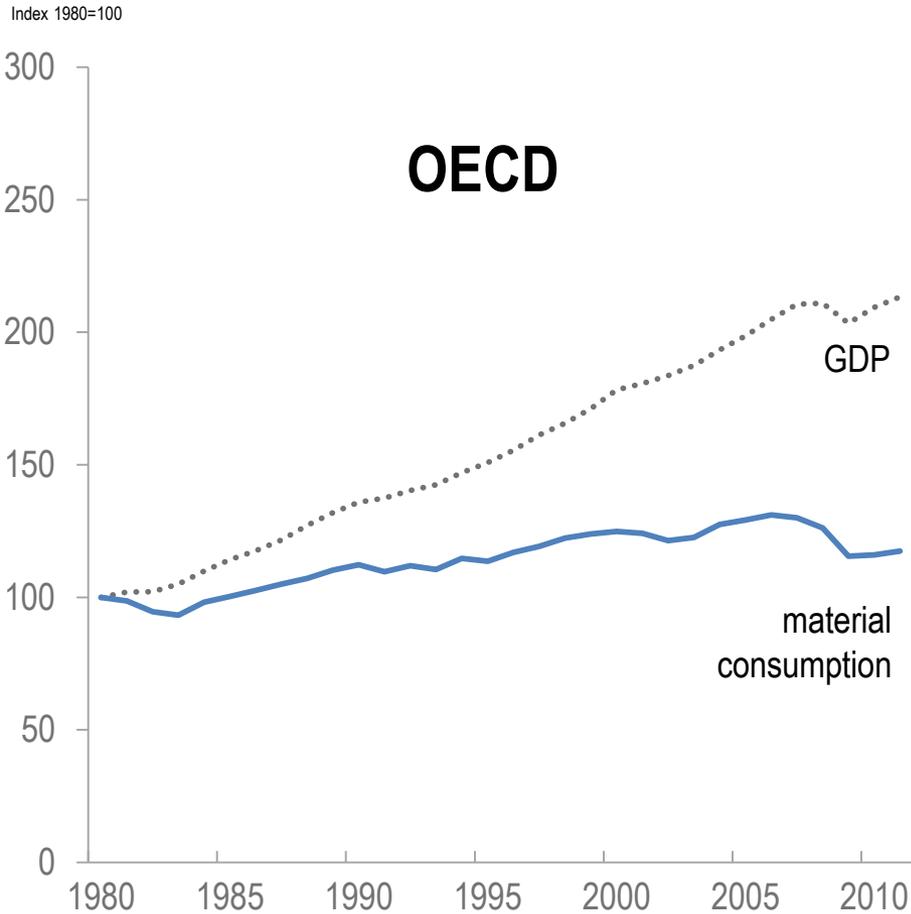
- Some key trends in resource efficiency
- Key policy trends
- Policy guidance
  - Mixes of policy instruments
  - Product lifecycle approaches
  - Policy integration
- Some conclusions



# KEY TRENDS IN RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

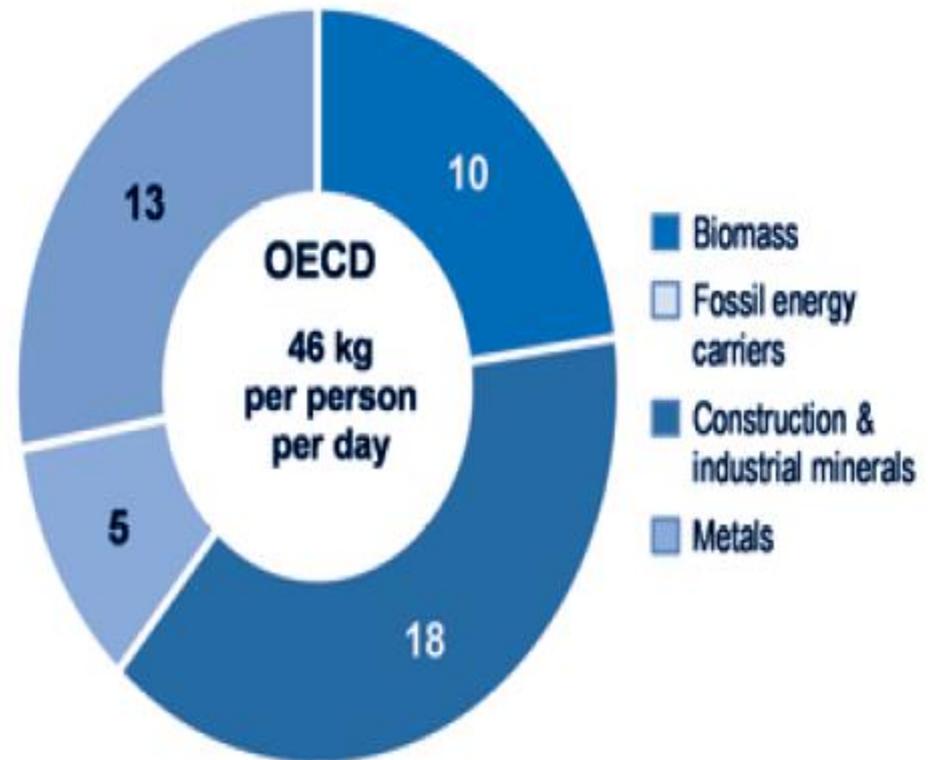
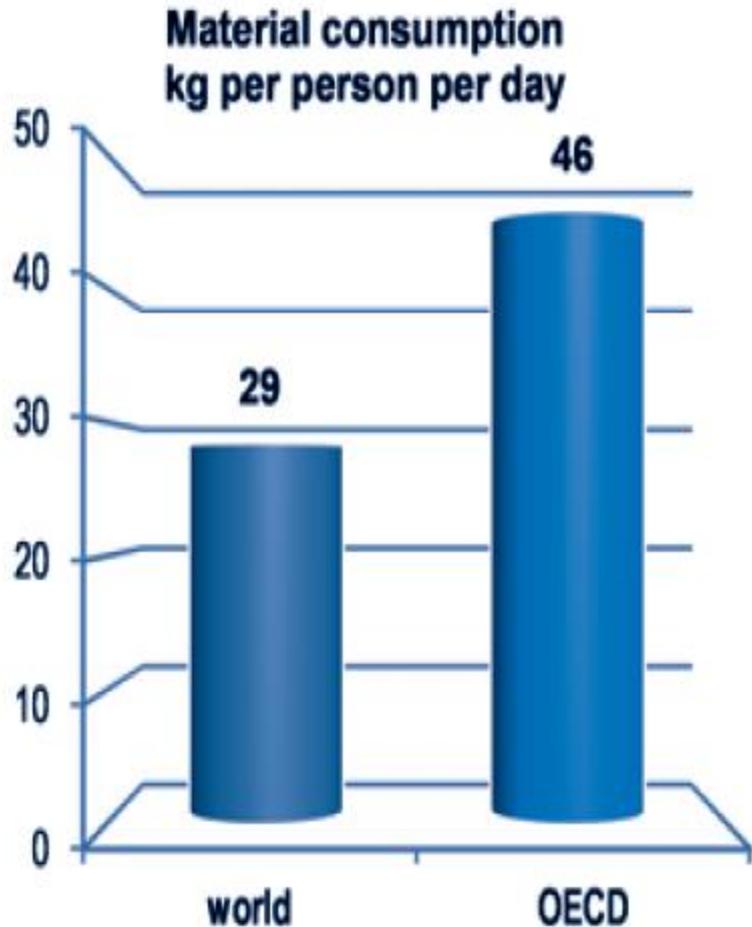


# Decoupling trends, 2000 to 2011



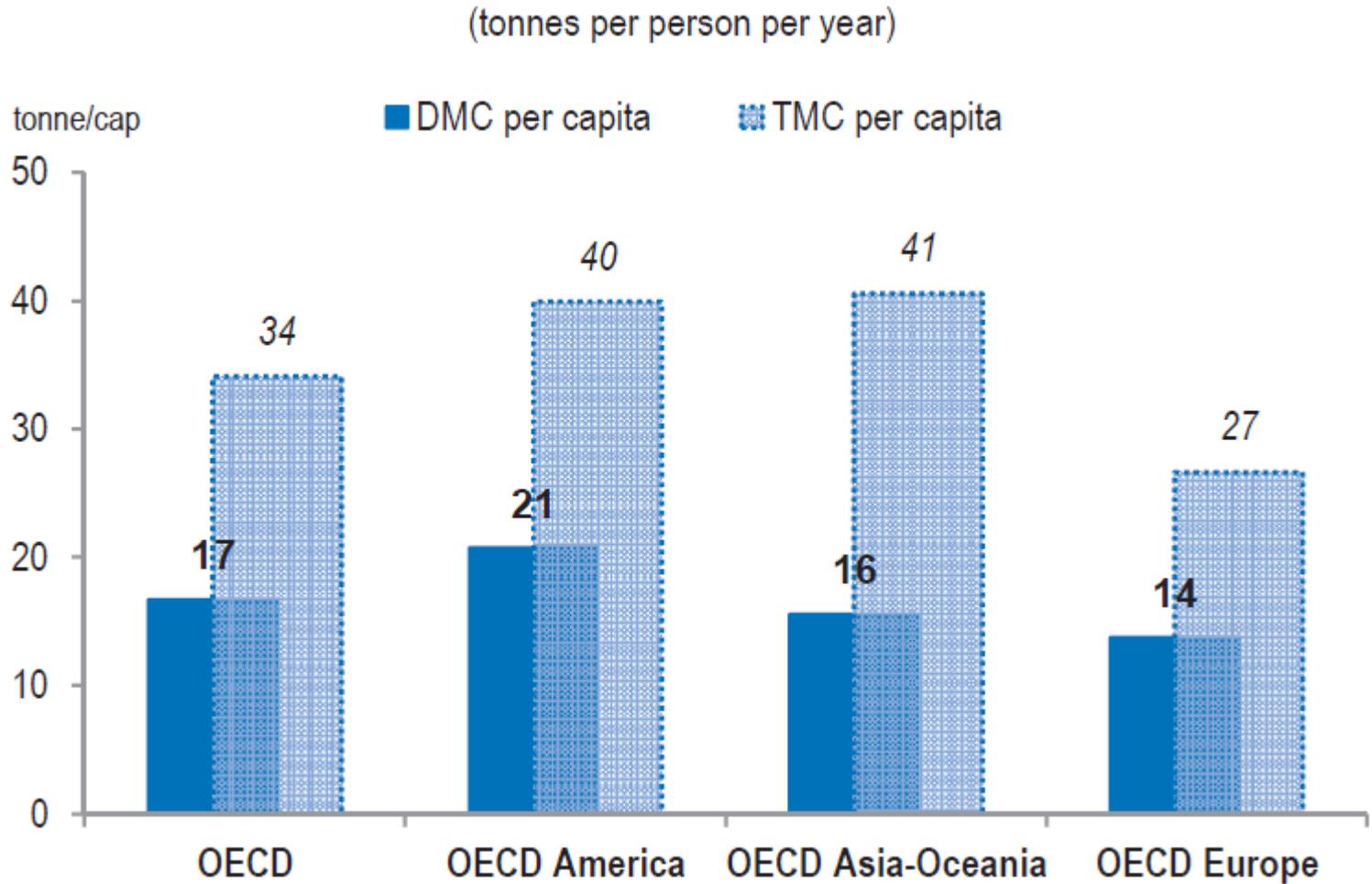


# But overall very high levels of per capita material consumption in OECD





# And Hidden material flows alter the picture

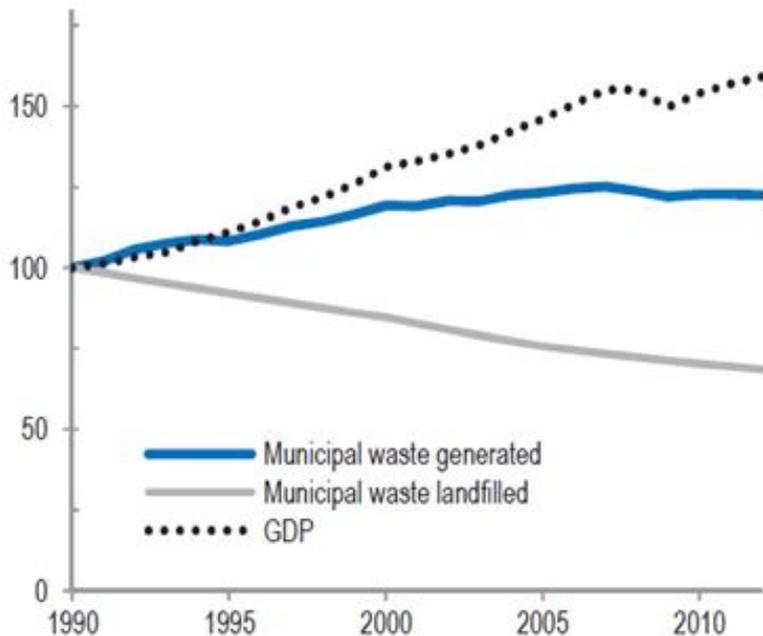




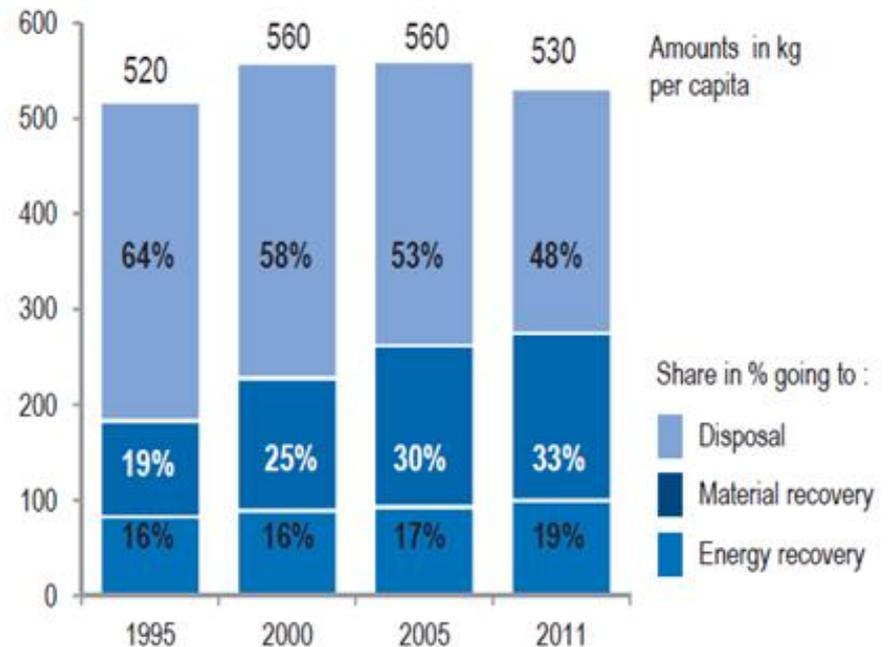
# Decoupling downstream

## Trends in municipal waste, OECD

Decoupling trends, municipal waste generation versus GDP, OECD, 1990-2012



Municipal waste management, recovery and disposal rates, OECD, 1995-2011





# POLICY TRENDS



# Implementation of resource efficiency policies in the OECD

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- Evolution in RE strategies:
  - Resource efficiency as part of green growth / circular economy / sustainable development strategies
  - Emphasis on downstream policies rather than upstream policies
- Evolution in use of economic instruments for a richer policy mix:
  - Landfill and incineration taxes
  - Extended producer responsibility policies
  - Pay-as-you-throw charging of households



## Persistent challenges

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- ***Fragmented*** policy landscape to address specific materials / products / lifecycle stages / market players
  - Risk of ***shifting*** environmental burden from one location, or one medium, or one phase of the lifecycle to another
  - Need for a ***carefully-designed policy mix*** to pursue a variety of objectives and target different materials and actors
- Challenge of ***integration and coherence*** between policies



# POLICY GUIDANCE ON RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

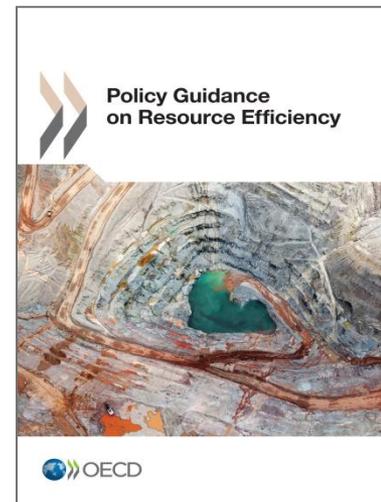
## HIGHLIGHTS



# Background – Policy Guidance on Resource Efficiency

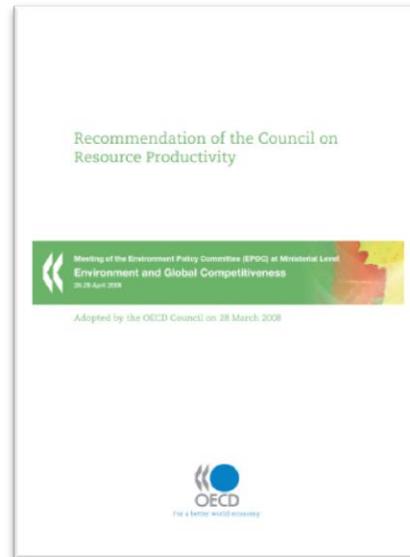
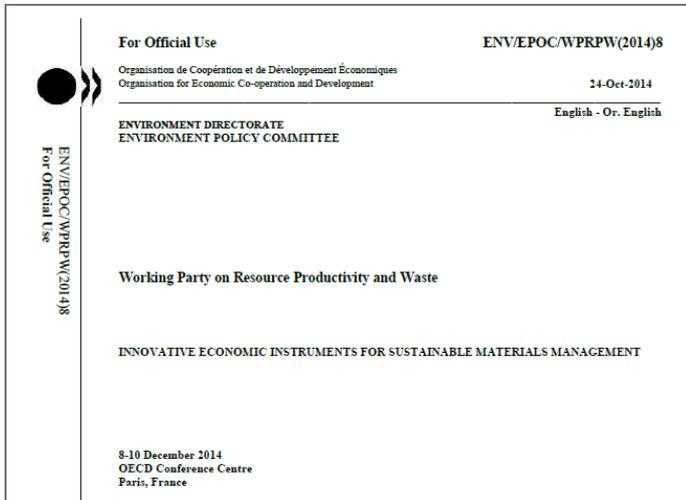
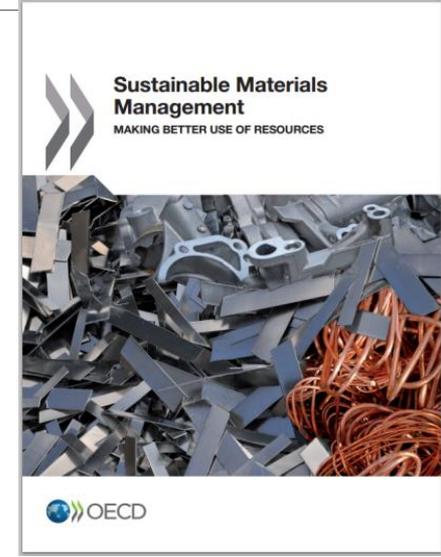
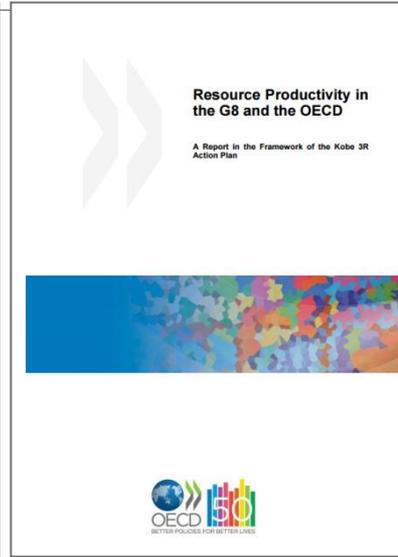
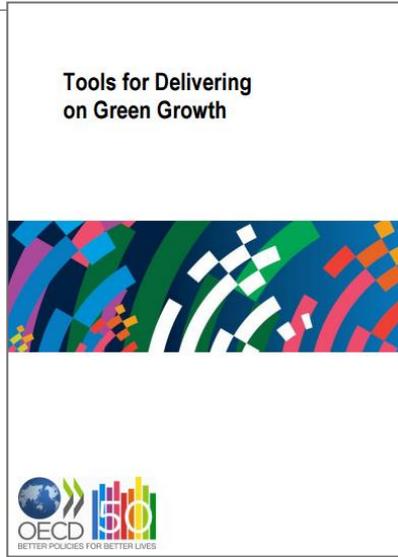
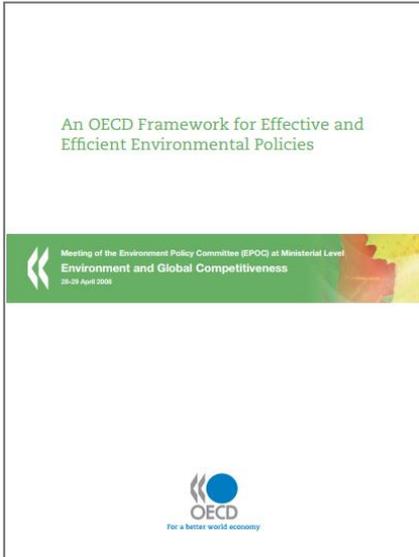
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- Schloss Elmau G7 Leaders' Declaration, June 2015
- Invited OECD to develop policy guidance on resource efficiency
- Presented at Toyama G7 Environment **Ministers'** Meeting, May 2016





# The report builds on a number of OECD reports, including





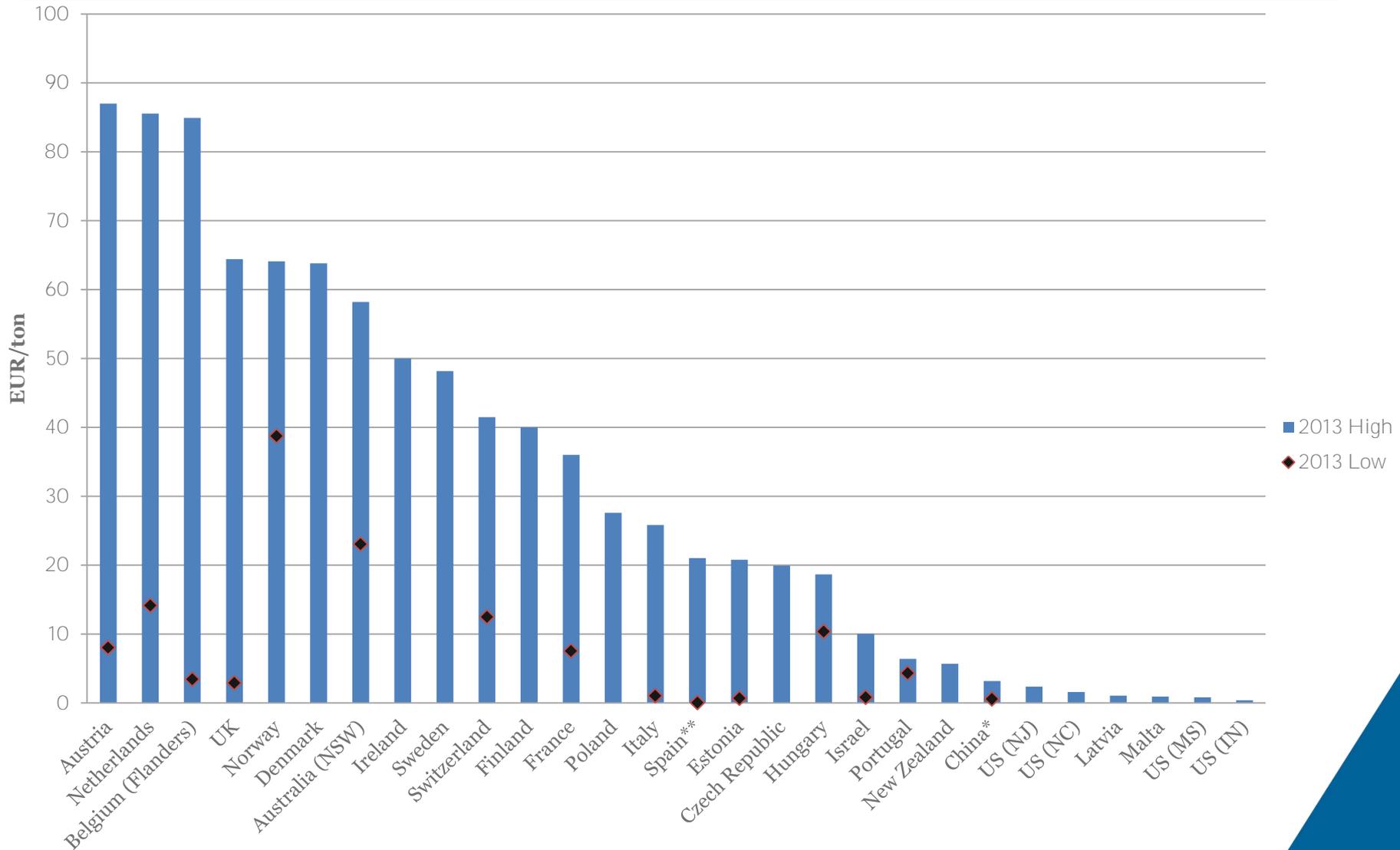
## **Key messages**

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1. Apply mixes of policy instruments
2. Across the product lifecycle
3. Integrate RE into sectoral and cross-cutting policies
4. Strengthen monitoring, evaluation and data

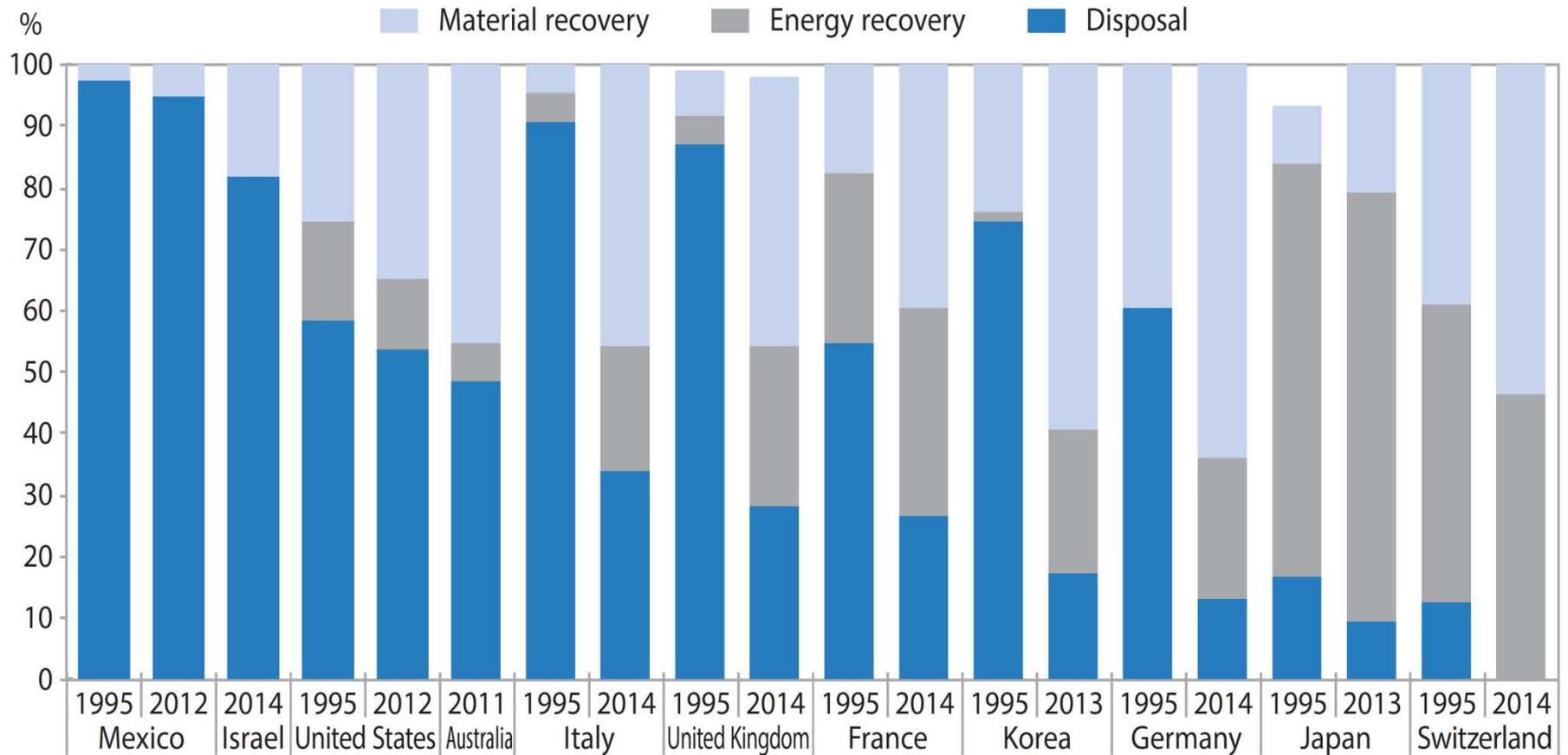


# 1. Policy instruments: Landfill tax rates





# 1. Impacts: Trends in municipal solid waste management by country

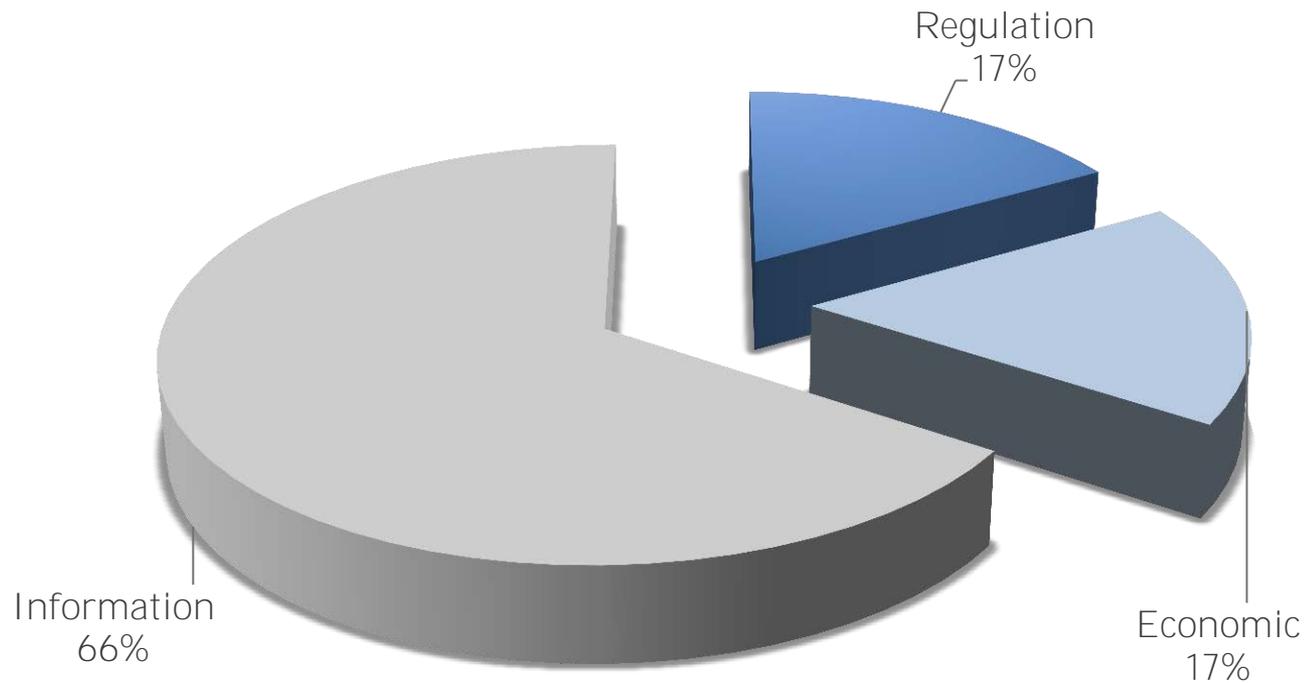




# 1. Policy instruments for waste prevention

## Production phase

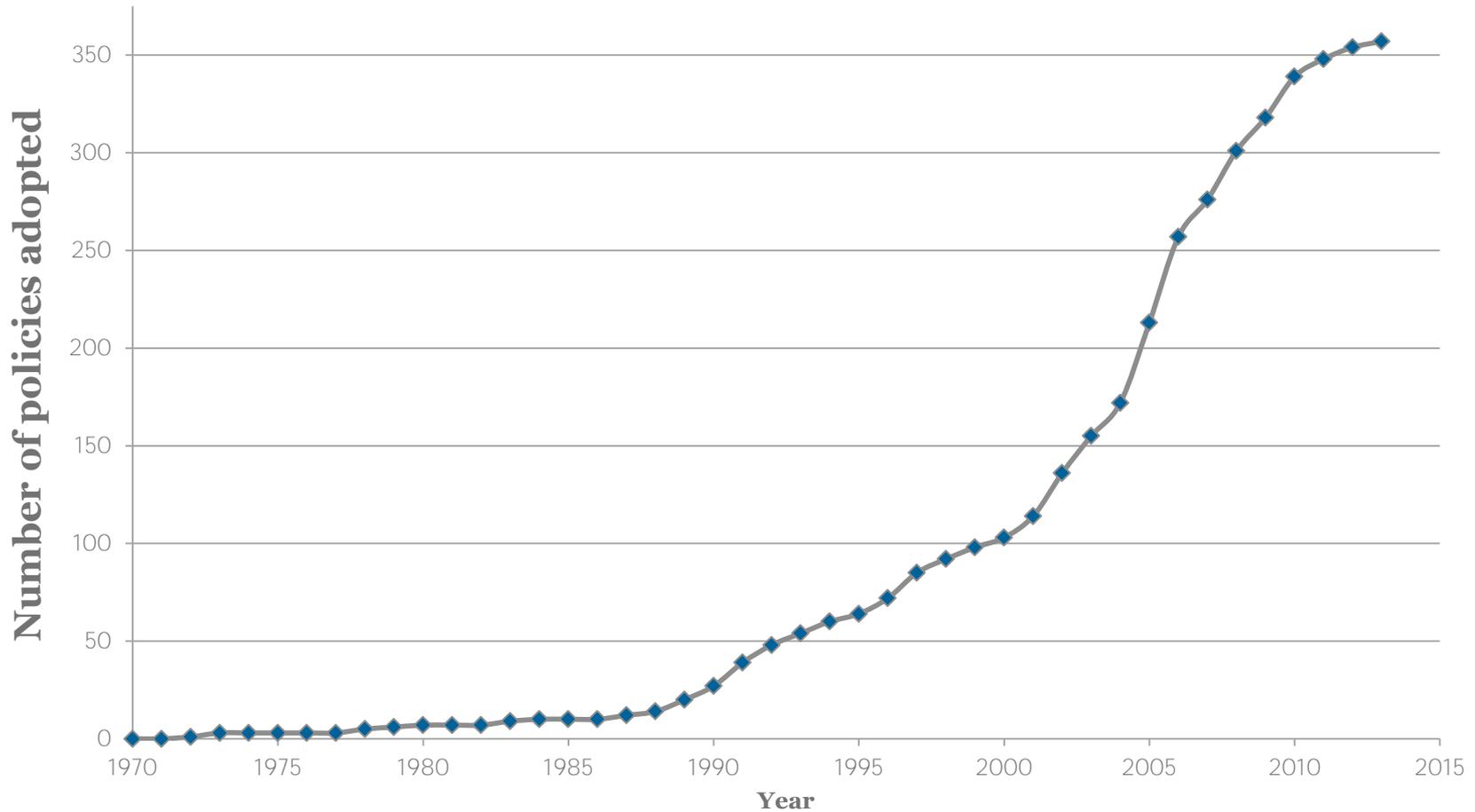
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## 2. Lifecycle approach: Extended Producer Responsibility

Cumulative EPR adoption





## 2. Extended Producer Responsibility: Issues

- Successful at generating resources to finance separate collection and increasing material recovery rates.
- But:
  - Very disparate performance in recycling rates and costs
  - Limited effects on incentivising environmental product designs
- Updated Guidance on the design of EPR available

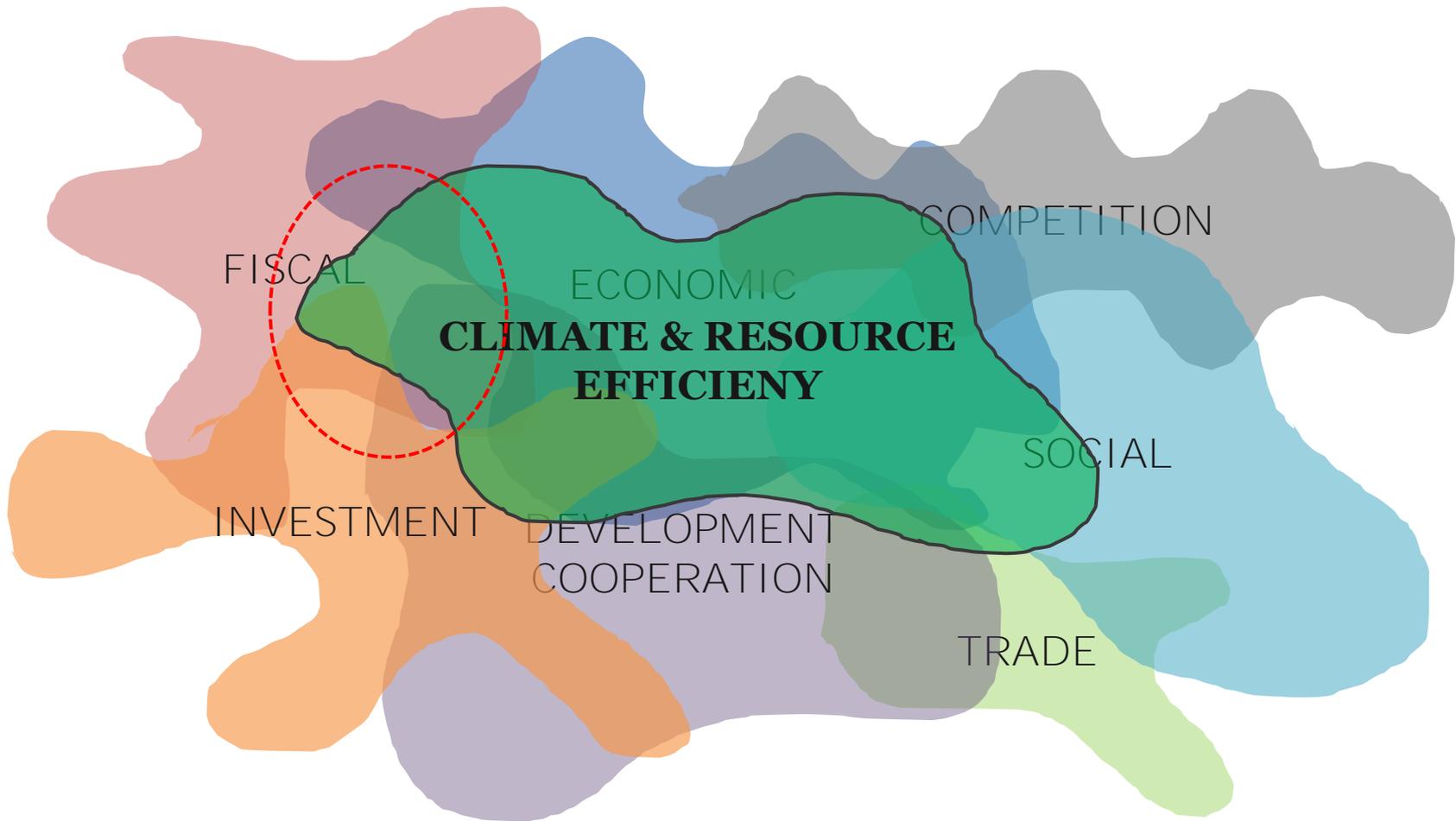




### 3. Policy alignment and integration

Correct misalignments with existing policies

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## 3. Policy integration: best practices

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- Finland, the Netherlands:
  - Overarching central body or mechanism to co-ordinate resource productivity policies.
- France
  - Circular Economy Roadmap to support better co-ordination across policy areas.
- United Kingdom
  - Far-reaching co-ordination for *climate change*: long-term objectives, independent review mechanism.



## Conclusion

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- Resource efficiency is an important challenge and a lot more needs to be done to reverse current trends;
- Need to focus efforts upstream of end-of-life
- Strengthen use of economic instruments in policy mix
- Use a whole of life-cycle approach
- Better integrate RE policies with sectoral and cross-cutting policies



Thank you for your attention