

Financing (Sectorial) Circularity: Basic Principles of Extended Producer Responsibility

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GIZ / PREVENT Waste Alliance



PREVENT Waste Alliance



- International 'think and do tank' for circular economy practitioners
- 650+ members from the private sector, academia, civil society and public institutions
- Launched in 2019 by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- Working groups on three material streams:
 - [Plastics](#) (incl. sub-topics such as EPR and Plastic Credits)
 - [E-Waste and Batteries](#)
 - [Organic Waste](#)
- Working groups on cross-cutting issues: Financing Circular Economy; Digitalisation and Circular Economy; Awareness Raising/Behaviour Change
- Pilot projects and innovation programmes



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01



Knowledge sharing

We share our knowledge around the topic of circular economy.

03



International partnerships

We connect different perspectives and act in international cross-sectoral partnerships.

02



Guidelines and standards

We contribute to shaping international guidelines and standards for circular economy solutions.

04



Circular solutions

We incubate and pilot scalable circular economy solutions worldwide.

Together for a Circular Economy

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The EPR set-up shapes roles

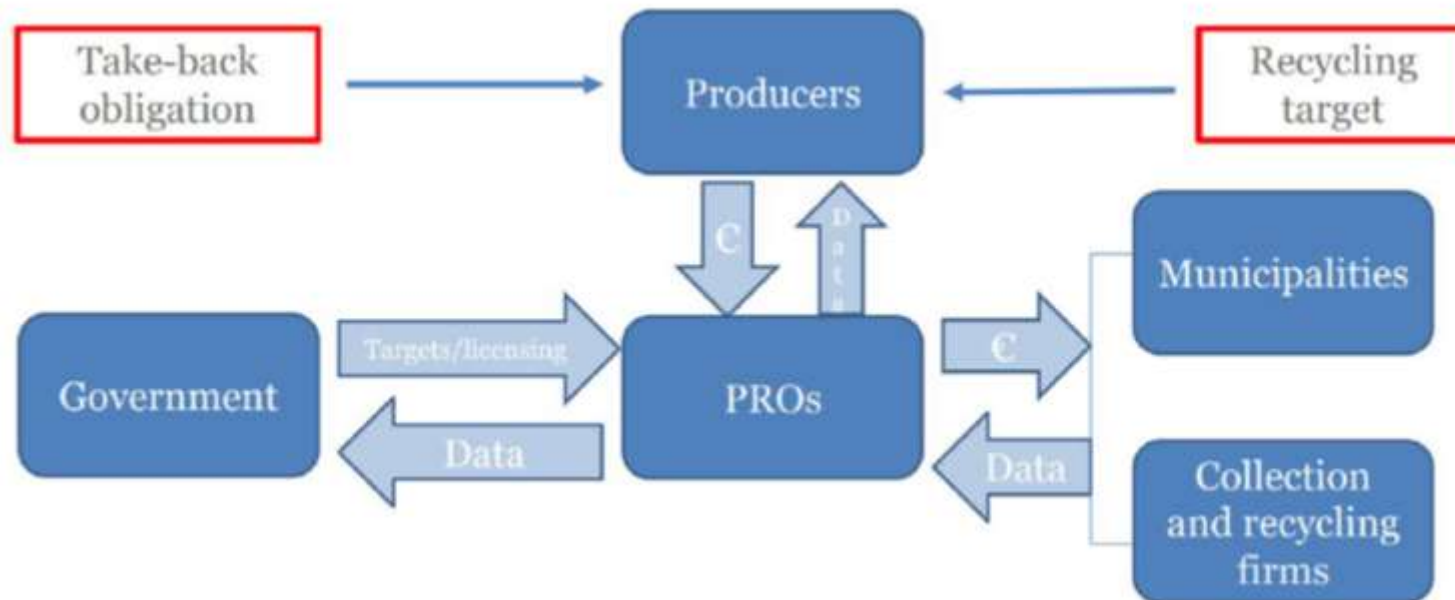
- EPR is a policy approach that makes producers responsible for their products along the lifecycle, including at the post-consumer stage.
- The set-up of an EPR system varies from country to country – impacting also the roles and responsibilities of different actors.
- **Mandatory EPR** shows better monitoring and enforcement, lower levels of free riding and a broader scope of covered wastes compared with voluntary schemes. Therefore, both producers and governments play a **critical role** for successful EPR implementation.
- Differentiation between **Financial EPR schemes** and **Operational EPR schemes**
- Differentiation between **Individual responsibility** and **Collective responsibility**



Source figure: PREVENT Waste Alliance (2020) EPR Toolbox

Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders I

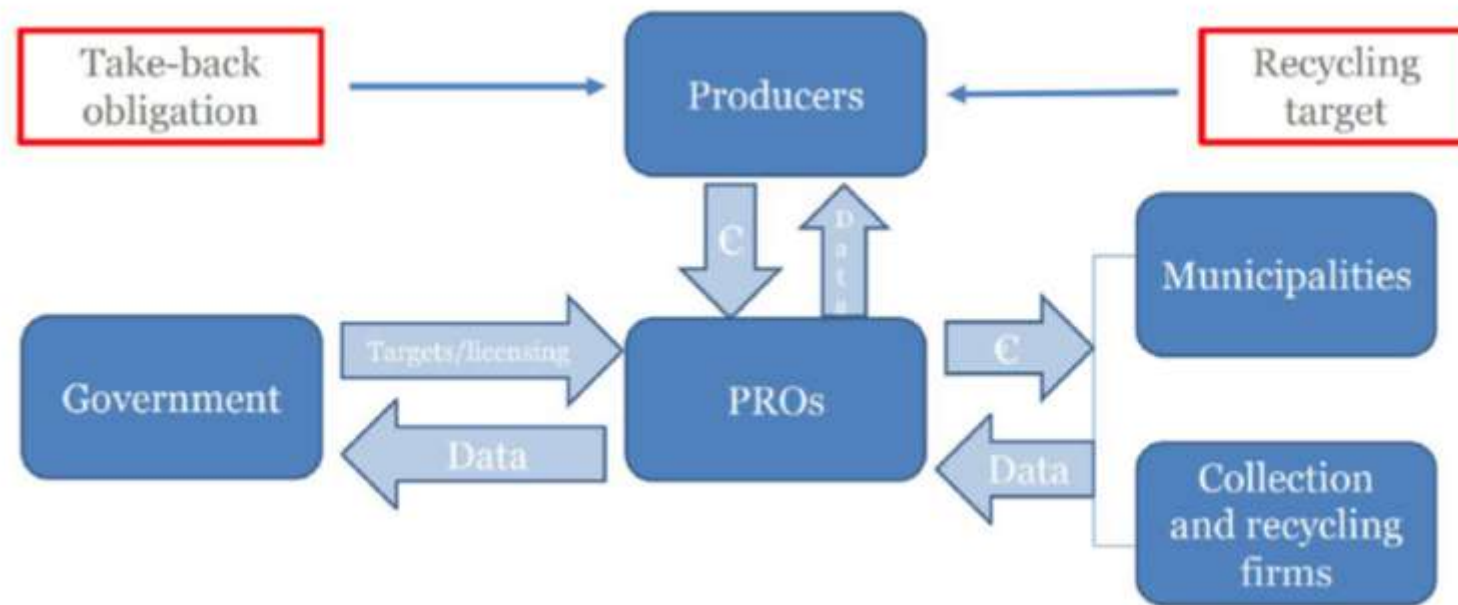
- **Governments:** Develop EPR policy incl. targets; law enforcement and monitoring of the EPR system
- **Obliged companies (producers and importers):** Ensure collection, sorting and recycling of their packaging waste; influence packaging design
- **Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO):** Fulfil obligations of the obliged companies in a collective EPR system; operate the system



Source figure: OECD

Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders I

- **Consumers:** Reduce amount of packaging; correct disposal of packaging waste
- **Waste management operators** (including waste banks): Collect, sort and recycle packaging waste, involving the informal sector
- **Municipalities:** Link between consumers and waste management operators; potentially organise the collection



Source figure: OECD

Stakeholder interests and coordination

Typical interest structures:

Stakeholder group	Typical interests	Expectations towards the EPR system
Citizens & consumers	• Affordable product prices	• Clear communication on EPR-based financing • Tangible improvements
	• No increase of taxes and municipal fees	
	• A clean and healthy environment	
Municipalities	• Sound municipal services with reasonable efforts & costs	• EPR system must fit into municipal structures
Waste managers & recyclers	• More business & value addition	• Benefits from the EPR system
(Informal) collectors	• Stay in business	• Must have a role in an EPR structure
	• Improve situation	
Producers	• Fair competition (no disadvantages compared to their competitors)	• Mandatory for all producers • Clear rules & responsibilities • Enforcement focus on free-riders
	• Have a reliable action corridor (no back-and-forth in rules and policies)	

→ Stakeholder consultation and repeated organized exchange on EPR-related decisions is necessary



Know-how to enable
Extended Producer Responsibility
created by PREVENT Waste Alliance



Credit design cover photo: creative republic Frankfurt

EPR Toolbox

Know-how to enable Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging

STRUCTURE

MODULE 1 GENERAL ASPECTS OF EPR SCHEMES FOR PACKAGING



Factsheet 00: Preface, introduction, glossary and key readings

Factsheet 01: How can roles and responsibilities in packaging value chains be defined?

Factsheet 02: How can a PRO be established?

Factsheet 03: How can financial flows be managed, and fees and payments be set?

Factsheet 04: How can a register of obliged companies be established?

Factsheet 05: How can a regulatory framework be designed?

MODULE 2 COLLECTION AND SORTING OF PACKAGING WASTE



Factsheet 06: How can the collection of packaging waste be organised?

Factsheet 07: How can sorting procedures for packaging waste be organised?

Factsheet 08: How can the informal sector get involved in the system?

Factsheet 09: How can citizens be incentivised to separate packaging waste at source?

Factsheet 10: How can deposit refund systems be set up?

MODULE 3 RECYCLING OF PACKAGING WASTE



Factsheet 11: How can high-quality recycling be ensured?

Factsheet 12: How can the recyclability of packaging be increased?

Factsheet 13: How can the market demand for recycled plastics be increased?

BACKGROUND

COMPLEMENTARY APPROACHES



COUNTRY REPORTS



Germany

Chile

South Africa

Republic of Korea

Tunisia

FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



CONTENT

Central document: interactive PDF, including

- 14 factsheets on different aspects, for example roles and responsibilities, finance, informal sector, recyclability.
- Background document: *How can different approaches complement EPR schemes?*
- Country reports from 5 countries: Chile, Germany, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Tunisia
- FAQs
- Available in 10 languages, incl. English, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese

Training materials

- Exercises and role plays for each factsheet
- Presentations

Video series: interviews with 14 experts

Public materials available for download here:
<https://prevent-waste.net/en/epr-toolbox/>

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- Launched in October 2023
- Working on three pillars:
 - **Library:** We strive for a common understanding of EPR
 - **Helpdesk:** We provide coordinated and tailored technical support
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Download the Policy Paper here

EN:



[Extended Producer Responsibility : Basic facts and key principles | OECD Environment Policy Papers | OECD iLibrary \(oecd-ilibrary.org\)](https://oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/extended-producer-responsibility-basic-facts-and-key-principles/9789264271111)

ES:



[Documento de política – Responsabilidad Extendida del Productor \(REP\): datos básicos y principios fundamentales](https://oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/documento-de-politica-responsabilidad-extendida-del-productor-rep-datos-basicos-y-principios-fundamentales/9789264271111)

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[La responsabilité élargie des producteurs | OCDE](https://oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/la-responsabilite-elargie-des-producteurs/9789264271111)

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