

Recast of the Directive on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)

Asian Electrical and Electronic Green Society International Conference Bangkok, 7-9 October 2009

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Background on WEEE



WHY A WEEE DIRECTIVE ?

- **Fastest growing waste stream**
- **Use of hazardous materials**
- **Before the WEEE Directive, 90% was landfilled, incinerated or recovered without pre-treatment**
- **RoHS and WEEE Directives created to solve this situation**

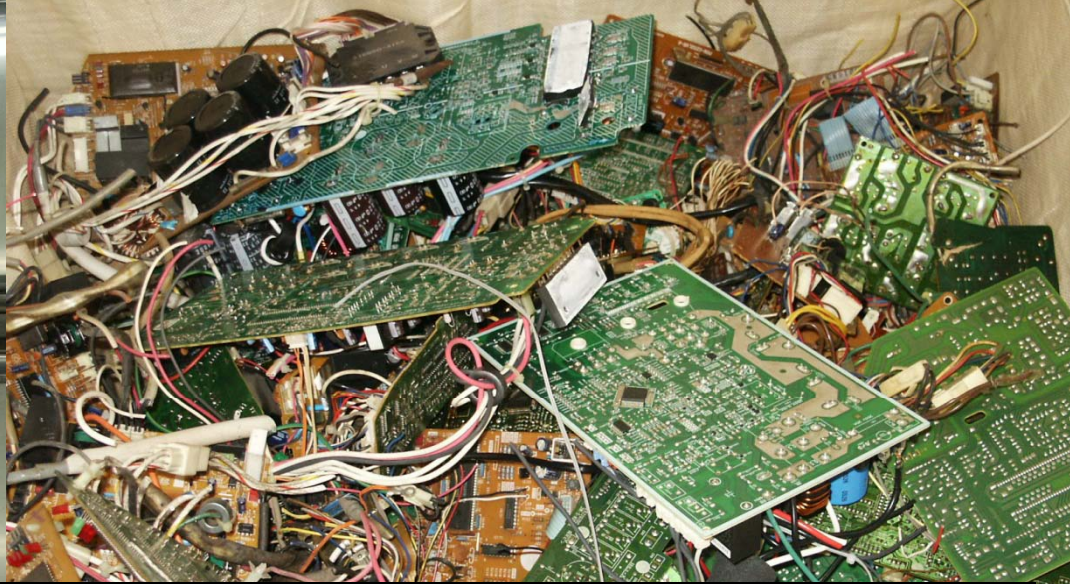


WEEE FACTS AND FIGURES

- **Yearly 10.3 million tonnes of electrical and electronic equipment are placed on the market in the EU-27**
- **WEEE generation: up to 9 mn tonnes per year**
- **Forecast: 12.3 million tonnes of WEEE by 2020**

THE PRESENT WEEE DIRECTIVE

- **Collection of waste (collection target: 4kg/ person yearly)**
- **Collected waste should go under specific treatment – requirements in the Directive**
 - ex: printed circuit board to be removed from mobile phones
- **Reuse/recycling and recovery targets for WEEE**
 - ex: for IT and telecommunications equipment : substance reuse/recycling target is 65%, recovery target is 75%.
- **Producer responsibility – financing the waste management**
- **Situation changed since WEEE and RoHS - but still not optimal**



Recast of the WEEE Directive



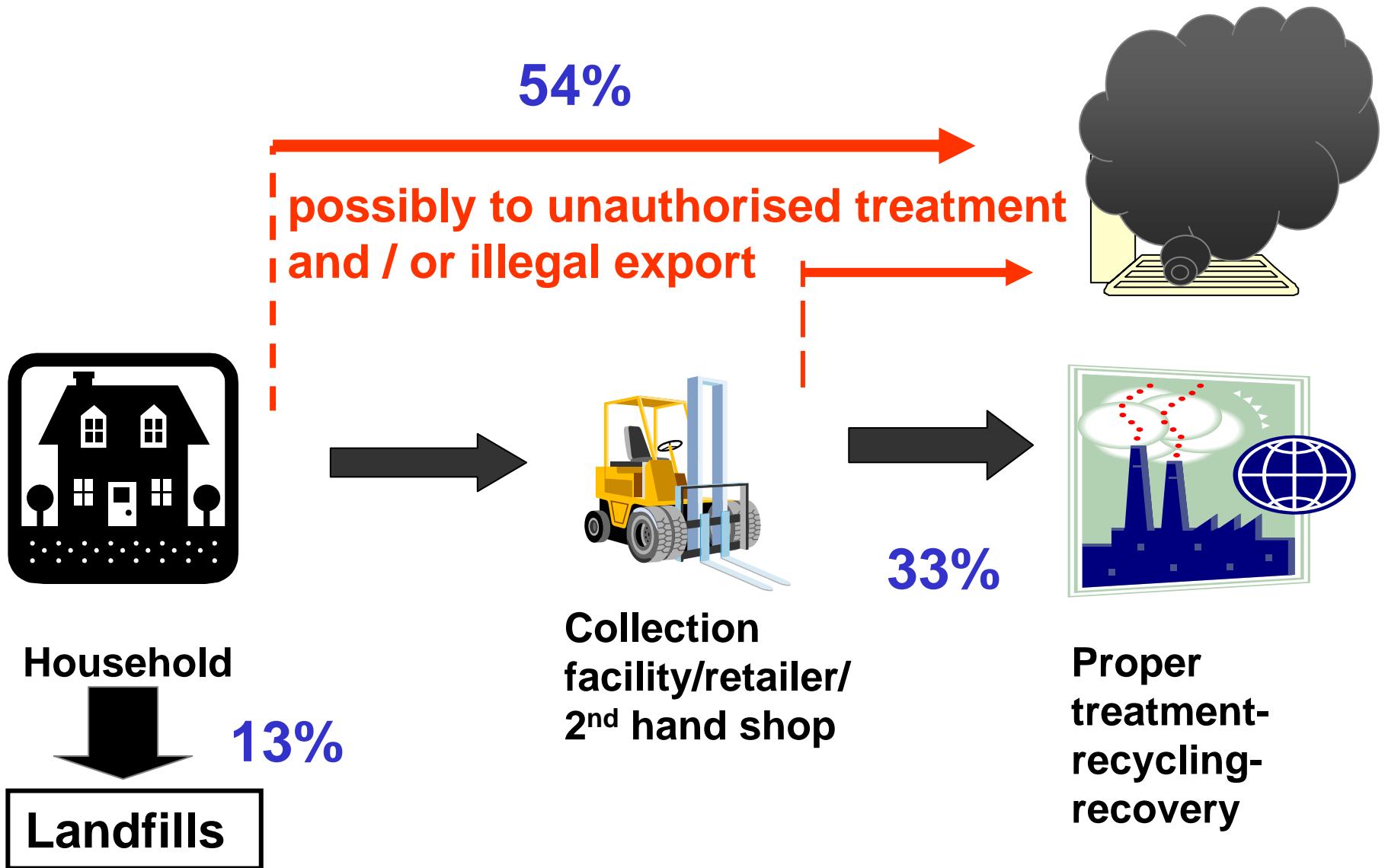
OBJECTIVES OF THE RECAST

- **Reduced impacts on the environment from the collection, treatment and recovery of WEEE at the levels where the greatest net benefit to society results**
- **Reduced administrative costs through the removal of all unnecessary administrative burdens, without lowering the level of environmental protection**
- **Improved effectiveness and implementation of the Directive through increased compliance and reduced free-riding**

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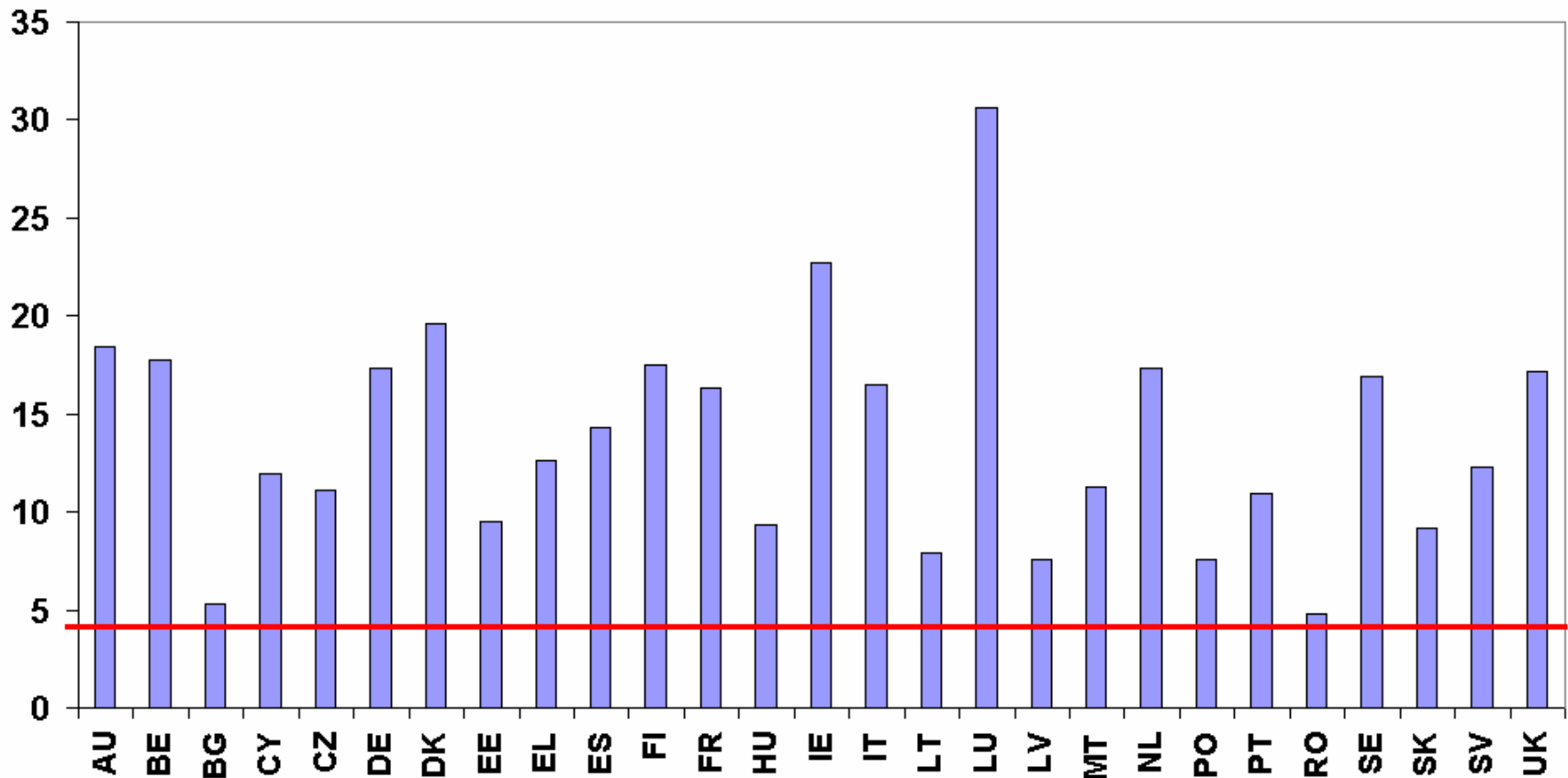
- **Reduce impacts on the environment**
- **Reduce administrative costs without lowering the level of environmental protection**
- **Improved effectiveness and implementation**

LEAKAGE OF WEEE IS A PROBLEM TODAY



4 KG COLLECTION TARGET PER CAPITA IMPLIES VERY DIFFERENT AMBITIONS FOR DIFFERENT MS

Estimated WEEE arising per year per capita in each MS versus 4 kg target
(Data source: UNU study table 40 method 1, MS reports to Eurostat)



Definition of the target needs to be adjusted to WEEE arising in each MS

WEEE ARISING APPEARS TO STATISTICALLY BE ~80% OF EEE PLACED ON THE MARKET IN EU15

Estimates of WEEE arising vary greatly
(~14-24 kg/capita in EU15, ~6-12 in EU12)

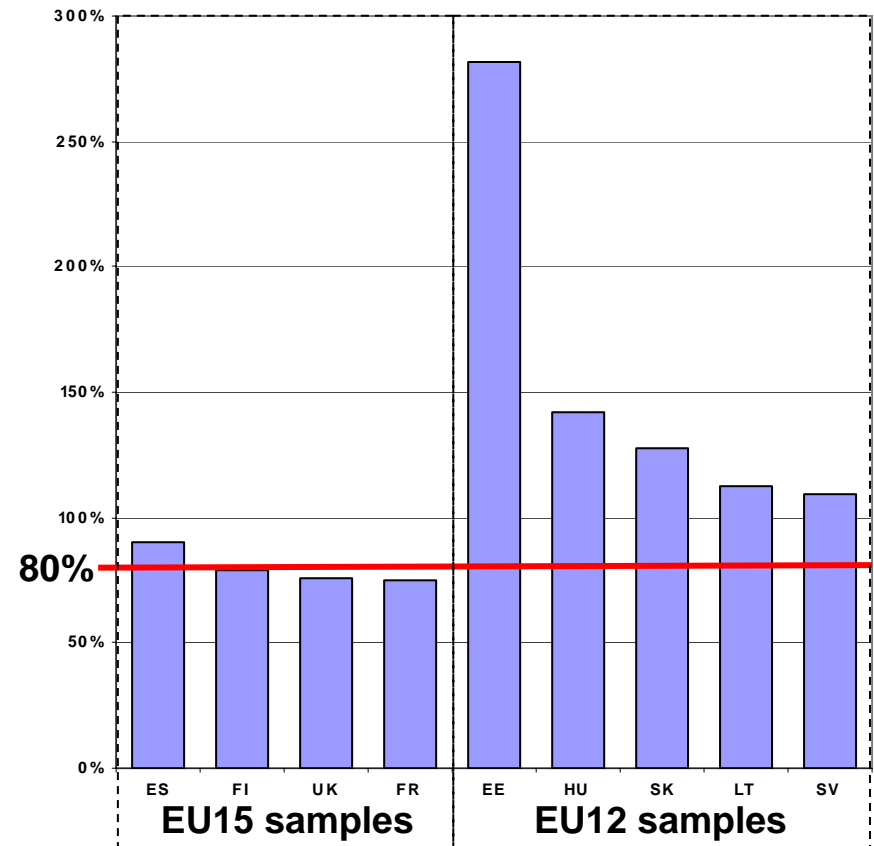
For EU15, weight placed on the market,
reported by MS registers, seems the most
stable indicator for WEEE arising

For EU12, relation between EEE placed on
the market and WEEE arising expected to
stabilise in the coming years.

Necessary flexibility:

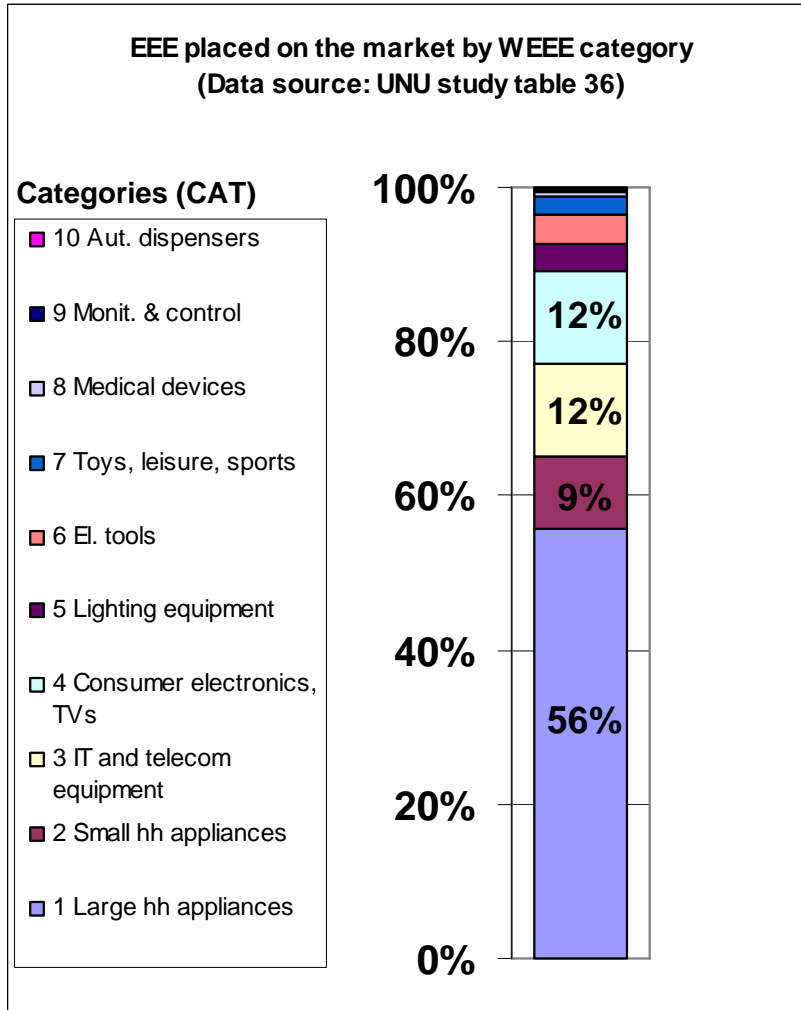
- Applicable starting 2016
- Transitional arrangement
- Re-examination by 2012

Estimated WEEE arising as % of EEE placed on the market
(Data Source: UNU study table 35, table 40 method 2)



Common method to calculate EEE placed on MS market to be established

STRONG INDICATIONS THAT SEPARATE COLLECTION IS ALREADY CLOSE TO ~85% OF WEEE ARISING (1)...



Where there is economic value in WEEE, there often is informal collection

EU15 example (Study Witteveen & Bos):

CAT 1:

24% collected and reported
76% collected but not reported

CAT 2 + 4:

34% collected and reported
43% collected but not reported

CAT 3:

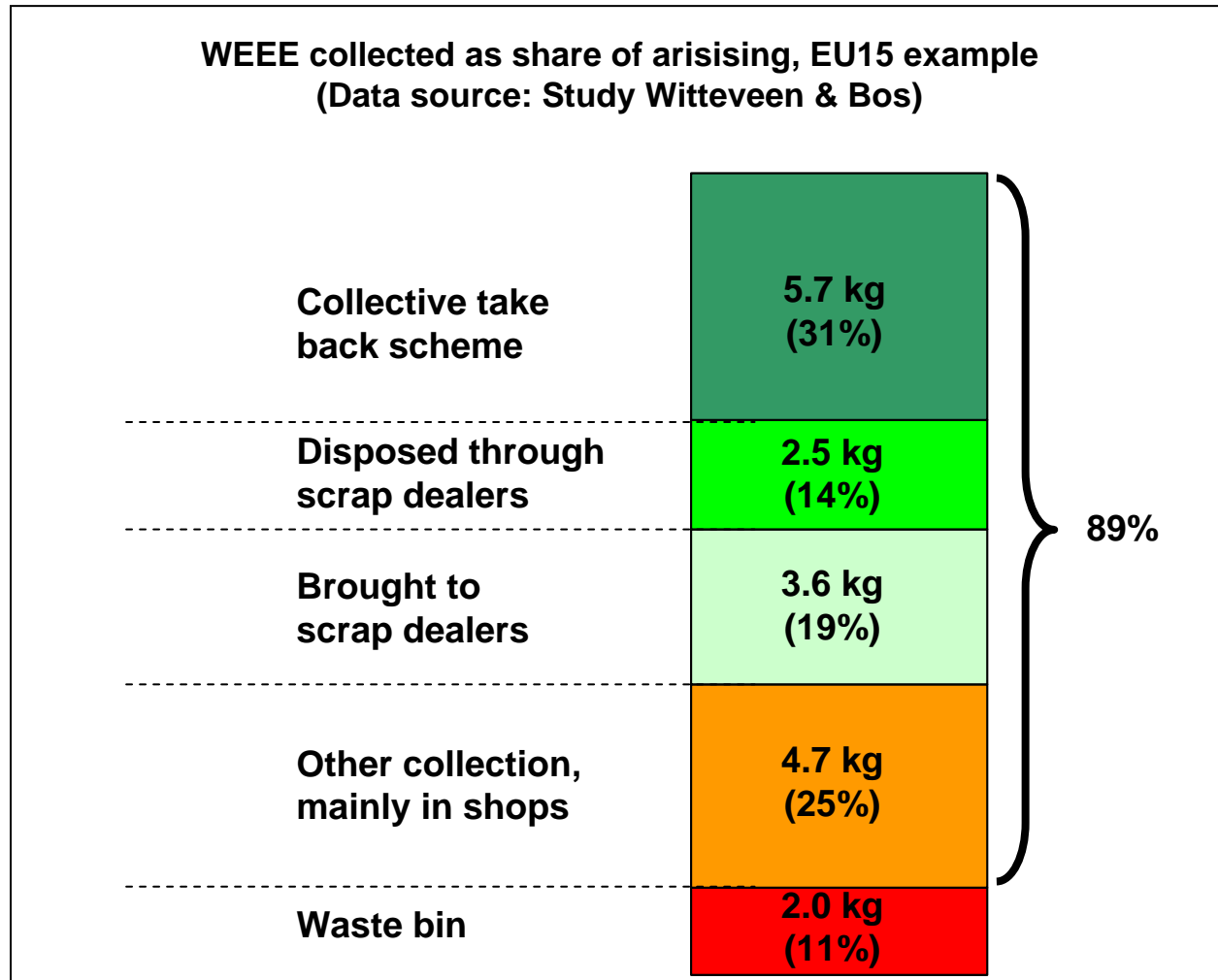
46% collected and reported
42% collected but not reported

Indicative calculation:

$56\% \times 100\% + 21\% \times 77\% + 12\% \times 88\%$
= 83% collected in 4 categories

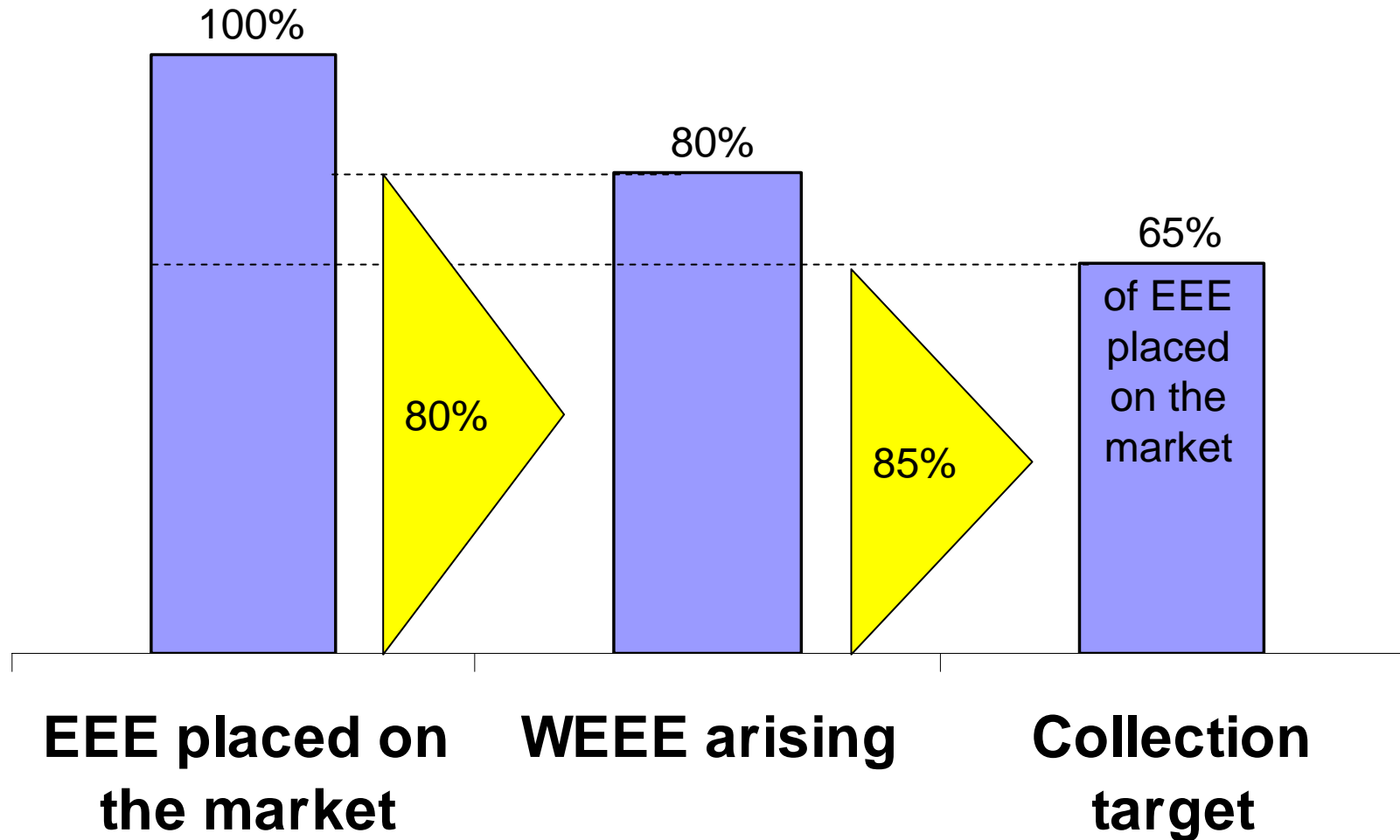
...reporting, and correctly treating, all separately collected WEEE is the issue

STRONG INDICATIONS THAT SEPARATE COLLECTION IS ALREADY CLOSE TO ~85% OF WEEE ARISING (2)...



...reporting, and correctly treating, all separately collected WEEE is the issue

PROPOSED COLLECTION TARGET OF 65% CALCULATED ON THE BASIS OF THE STEPS EXPLAINED



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- **Reduce impacts on the environment**

- **Reduce administrative costs without lowering the level of environmental protection**

- **Improved effectiveness and implementation**

PRESENT WEEE IMPLEMENTATION OFTEN REQUIRES MULTIPLE REGISTRATION AND EVEN PAYMENT

Fragmented WEEE implementation leads to a number of potential problems

- Multiple registration
- Multiple fee
- Multiple legal seat

- Legal uncertainty

- 27 registers can differ:
 - reporting formats
 - reporting frequency
 - product categories

COMMISSION PROPOSAL TACKLES THIS PROBLEM FROM TWO SIDES

- **Explicit reference to „community market“ in producer and market definitions**
 - **One registration for the community market**
 - **One fee in the community market**
 - **One legal seat in the EU**
- **Requirement for inter-operable registers**
 - **All information relevant across the community market entered into one register**
 - **Intra-community transfer of information and money**
 - **Format and frequency of reporting to be established through Comitology**

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IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DIRECTIVE

- Clarified scope definition
 - **Scope refers to RoHS (Art. 95); Exclusions clarified; Waste from private households vs. other**
- Alignment with other Community legislation
 - **Waste Framework Directive; Marketing of Products Package**
- Modification of recovery targets
 - **Recovery targets increased; Preparation for re-use included**
- Encouragement for greater producer responsibility
 - **Producers role in collection targets and financing**
- Avoid leakage of WEEE, especially to sub-treatment countries
 - **Binding inspection and monitoring requirements for shipments**

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Thank you for your attention.