# BRIEF NOTIONS ON RECYCLING AND THE BENEFITS OF THE INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR PACKAGING IN PORTUGAL



### **Recycling and Recovery**



#### **TOPICS**



- The pressure on resources
- End markets Vs. CircularEconomy
- EPR systems and contribution for a better Environment
- Performance of SPV andOutlook



THE PRESSURE ON RESOURCES



#### The Pressure on Resources



#### The need to reduce the intensity of extraction / consumption

- The pressure on earth's finite resources:
  - The rhythm of consumption societies;
  - The increase in product obsolescence;
  - Smaller families;
  - Convenience (i.e. single serving portions, in the case of packaging)
- The solution is consumer awareness for rational / sustainable consumption but also lies with prevention, reuse and recycling;
- Recycling is important as it can help close the loop, but:
  - Only makes sense when there is both an economic and environmental gain;
  - Ultimately, anything can be recycled it's all a matter of cost.
- Given the intrinsic heterogeneous nature of waste, separation at source is key for recycling as are minimum quality criteria that can ensure stable constant quality.



# END MARKETS VS. CIRCULAR ECONOMY



#### **End Markets Vs. Circular Economy**



How to promote a sustainable closing of the cycle?

- The greater the recycled amounts, the greater the pressure on the economy for proper outputs for recyclates;
- To foster a circular economy, one needs:
  - Green procurement policies (both public and private);
  - Fiscal policies that encourage the consumption of products incorporating recycled materials over others that don't;
  - Communication campaigns promoting sustainable consumption habits.
- In certain instances recyclates should decouple from virgin raw materials to avoid the volatility of these commodities, setting foot in their own (new) markets. This will allow greater prince independence for recyclates.



EXTENDED PRODUCER
RESPONSABILITY SYSTEMS AND
CONTRIBUTION TO A BETTER
ENVIRONMENT





Contribution to a better Environment/ Turning Waste into Resources!

- The OECD defines Extended Producer Responsibility as "an environmental policy approach in which a producer's responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product's life cycle. An EPR policy is characterized by:
  - the shifting of responsibility (physically and/or economically; fully or partially) upstream toward the producer and away from municipalities and;
  - 2) the provision of incentives to producers to take into account environmental considerations when designing their products";
- The concept of EPR for packaging is well present in Europe in *Green Dot* Schemes. In the case of Portugal it is Sociedade Ponto Verde.





2013 Independent Study commissioned to 3Drivers environmental consultants

Examples of Environmental Benefits of Packaging Waste Management through recovery/recycling

GHG Emissions
- 116 kt CO<sub>2</sub>eq



Electricity consumption of 124.302 portuguese families



Carbon saving equivalent to 198 km² of Pines



15.750 around the world airplane rides

Energy Consumption (inc. feedstock energy)- 12.689 TJ of primary energy





1,32% of national annual primary energy consumption



o 303 kt equivalent of oil

Water Consumption - 688.716 m<sup>3</sup>





The annual consumption of 10.812 inhabitants in Portugal



275 olympic pools





2013 Independent Study commissioned to 3Drivers environmental consultants

- Collection, sorting, take-back and recycling companies have a combined sales volume of 1.600 M€ representing 34% of all environmental services in Portugal;
- Taking the combined economic activity code indicator for all Integrated System partners and their performance, it would rank 28<sup>th</sup> in a list of 88 sectors generating a positive gross added value of 2,25 (€/€).





o 80% of sales and services of SPV in 2011



o 0,04% of Portugal's GDP



Average GDP of 4.400 inhabitants







2013 Independent Study commissioned to 3Drivers environmental consultants

Estimation of jobs based on 2008

- 7.100 jobs in SPV's partner companies
- 0.23% of jobs in non-financial companies of Portugal
- Added jobs:

	SPV	Municipal Systems			Logistics		Recyclers	Waste Managers	
		Selective Collection	Sorting	Treatment, Incineration, Landfil and other activities	MSW	T&I	MSW	T&I	Total
Workers Directly									
related to the	46	713	613	306	98	72	243	276	~2.400
Integrated System									

- ~2.400 jobs directly caused by packaging waste management in Integrated System
- Majority of added jobs is in the municipal waste flow (83%)
- ~0.08% of jobs for non-financial companies
- Impact of social responsability projects



# SPV's PERFORMANCE AND OUTLOOK





# MAIN FACTS



Over 1,000 K tons contribute financially with the green dot fee

**730 K** tons sent to recycling in 2014 (74% take back rate)

System covers 100% of the population

**100% of municipalities** are in the System through 33 Municipal Systems

Spread over 100% of the area of Portugal

75 Waste Managers / Recyclers cooperate with SPV in the MSW flow, 89 in the trade&industry flow

Almost **7 million tons of packaging waste** sent to recycling since 1998





#### **SPV's Performance**









## THANK YOU!



Edifício Infante D. Henrique, R. João Chagas, 53 – 1º Dto, Cruz Quebrada 1495-764 Dafundo



info@pontoverde.pt



www.pontoverde.pt



www.youtube.com/user/ SociedadePontoVerde



www.facebook.com/SociedadePontoVerde

