



Riga

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The evolution of waste management

- » Different phases in history of waste management
- » Market solutions as the best way to ensure correct valuation and most efficient utilisation of society's resources
- » With markets follow competition issues

The legal framework

- » Heavy influence by EU law and policy
- » However, somewhat different implementation in different countries

The structures of waste management sector

- » Waste management has historically been a matter for the municipalities
- » Municipalities free to choose how to organise
- » Extensive exclusive rights to waste

Creating and managing waste markets

- » The waste market value chain in which market conditions for each stage vary greatly
- » Efficiency of collection, treatment and disposal of waste is conditioned by a number of factors

Competition problems and distortions

- » Competition problems can arise from both organisational as well as executive decisions
- » Definition of household waste
- » Barriers to trade

Competitive neutrality

- » Municipalities' different and sometimes conflicting roles
- » Exclusive rights to waste
- » Undue advantages

- » Competition authorities' possibilities to intervene against competition neutrality problems

Extended producer responsibility schemes

- » Packaging waste & WEEE
- » Concerns about the regulatory setup and the respective roles and responsibilities of the various operators

Recommendations

- » Increased use of market solutions
- » Clarifying public roles and goals, and increasing dialogue
- » Sufficient tools to tackle competition neutrality issues
- » Better use of municipal procurement procedures
- » Improving statistics and common definitions
- » Ensuring the efficiency of EPR schemes

Recommendations 1(6)

» Increased use of market solutions

Introduction of obligation for municipalities to continuously evaluate their operations and to consider market solutions.

Recommendations 2(6)

- » Clarifying public roles and goals, and increasing dialogue

Municipalities should consult stakeholders when creating waste management plans and deciding how to organise municipal waste management.

Recommendations 3(6)

- » Sufficient tools to tackle competition neutrality issues

Regulations regarding municipal participation in markets should, as far as possible, seek to ensure competitive neutrality.

Recommendations 4(6)

» Better use of municipal procurement procedures

Relevant bodies in the Nordic area should evaluate whether their procurement regulations could be revised in order to ensure that there is sufficient scope and incentive for municipalities to create innovation friendly and cost-efficient tenders.

Recommendations 5(6)

» Improving statistics and common definitions

Sector regulators and legislators should work towards establishing EEAwide standards and definitions that are relevant to both the achievement of environmental targets and the facilitation of trade and commerce.

Recommendations 6(6)

» Ensuring the efficiency of EPR schemes

Relevant bodies should consider if there are potential efficiency benefits to be gained by increasing competition in the EPR-markets

Concluding remarks

» Moving from waste management to waste market management in a circular economy