



EREK European
Resource Efficiency
Knowledge Centre

EREK Workshop - Katowice, Poland



1. Background

Event name:	Making recycling of packaging waste a profitable business for SMEs
Date:	26 th March 2019
Venue:	Katowice, Poland
Hosts:	Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas in cooperation with Waste Management and Recycling Cluster – Polish National Key Cluster

Resource efficiency in waste management sector has a double meaning. On the one hand, it refers to the operation of enterprises, mainly SMEs, involved in this system, while on the other, to the outputs of the system as a whole, which goal, according to circular economy, is to maximise the recovery of resources from waste. Both these aspects are strictly interlinked and translate directly into the quantity and quality of the secondary raw materials, as well as profitability of operations of the involved entities.

It requires flexibility in performance of the enterprises, adequate organisation and well-conceived investments, which are often limited by economic, technical and organisational factors.

In that sense recycling of packaging waste from selective collection poses a serious challenge for the SMEs involved in its collection, sorting and processing. As business entities they struggle with the constantly changing market conditions and the ability to respond to the demand for increasing quality of the secondary raw materials. To make their operations cost effective, SMEs must demonstrate flexibility, have adequate management and organisation practices in place and well-conceived investments, which are often limited by economic, technical and organisational factors.

The European Resource Efficiency Knowledge Centre (EREK)—offers SMEs operating in the field of waste management, information and examples of good practices regarding logistics, technology and organisation solutions that allow companies to reduce the operating costs by savings in energy, water and materials consumption while improving their efficiency, performance and cost-effectiveness.

The workshop will provide a forum for exchange of ideas, learnings and opportunities to problem-solve issues related to improving the overall resource efficiency performance of the packaging waste recycling entities taking into account:

- current policies on EU and national level and future trends related to packaging waste recycling that have a direct impact on the current operation of the enterprises in this sector and their future developments,
- organisational, legal and economic factors that have an effect on the performance and profitability of collection, sorting, processing and recycling of packaging waste, including the extended producer responsibility (EPR),
- technical solutions for enterprises contributing to the improvement of their production and resource efficiency.

2. Objectives:

- ✓ To raise awareness of the entrepreneurs on the relevance and possibilities of improving the resource efficiency in waste management operations and their impact on the profitability of operations;
- ✓ To highlight the opportunities and good practices, share knowledge and experiences among participants to build capacity for improvements in organizational and technical operations related to collection, sorting and processing of packaging waste in order to increase the efficiency and profitability of operations as well as the quantity and quality of the recovered materials.
- ✓ To identify and discuss the key issues and systemic solutions (e.g. EPR) relevant for resource efficient operation of SMEs involved in the collection, sorting and processing of packaging waste recycling, as well as the entire system, taking into account economic feasibility, technical viability, market drivers and regulatory conditions of Poland and Central Europe.
- ✓ To identify the information needs of the collection, sorting and processing entities concerning measures to optimize their performance in line with the market trends.

In addition, during the workshops, the entrepreneurs will be provided with an opportunity for personalized coaching sessions to get familiarised with the tools offered by EREK.

3. Workshop Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker
9:30 - 10:00	Arrival and registration	
10:00 - 10:30	Welcome address and the workshop introduction	Jan Skowronek , Director of IETU Joanna Kulczycka , Waste Management and Recycling Cluster
	The European Resource Efficiency Knowledge Centre (EREK)– benefits and tools to achieve SME’s resource efficiency potential	Sinead Murphy , WRAP, EREK Project Team
Session I: Legal and economic aspects of packaging waste recycling		
10:30-11:30	The EU landscape of policies and trends in the management of packaging waste	Maja Desgrees du Lou , Policy Officer, DG ENV, European Commission
	Bridging the gap between targets, aims and implementation on the ground: The Green Best Practice Community for Municipal Waste Management	Paolo Canfora , Circular Economy and Industrial Leadership Unit, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
	Discussion: - <i>What are the key drivers and obstacles for the market of packaging waste secondary raw materials in the EU and CE region?</i> - <i>How do they impact the performance of SMEs along the value chain?</i>	Moderator : Arkadiusz Primus , InvestEko
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break	

Session II: Systemic approaches facilitating optimal operations of packaging waste recycling towards better production efficiency		
12:00 – 13:30	The role of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in improving the efficiency of packaging waste recycling	Hanna Żakowska, Packaging Research Institute, Poland
	Operation of the packaging waste recycling system in Poland: needs and challenges for improvements	Jerzy Ziaja, National Chamber of Packaging Recovery and Recycling
	Discussion: - <i>Identification of the ways to improve the productivity of the system towards better recovery and quality of the secondary raw materials</i>	Moderator: Joanna Kulczycka, Waste Management and Recycling Cluster
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch break <i>Personalised coaching sessions for participants on how best to support SMEs using EREK</i>	
Session III: Technological solutions for improving the efficiency and productivity of packaging waste recycling		
14:30-16:30	Solutions for optimizing collection methods: motivating collection system	Łukasz Waksmundzki, EcoTech System
	Solutions for improving the efficiency of sorting	Michał Bula, TOMRA Sorting Sp z o.o
	Solutions for reducing energy efficiency of plastic sorting	Leszek Kuta, K&K Recycling System
Concluding session		
16:30 – 17:00	Discussion : - What knowledge and good practices do SMEs involved in recycling of packaging waste need to improve their efficiency, cost-effectiveness and technical capabilities while reducing the use of resources?	Moderator: Izabela Ratman-Kłosińska, IETU

