

# ARA – PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY PUT INTO PRACTICE

DEVELOPMENT OF THE EPR SYSTEM  
ON PACKAGING WASTE IN AUSTRIA

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Webinar “Management of Plastic Packaging and Single-Use-Plastics  
in the EU and Croatia: Legislation, policies and best practices”

13.09.2022

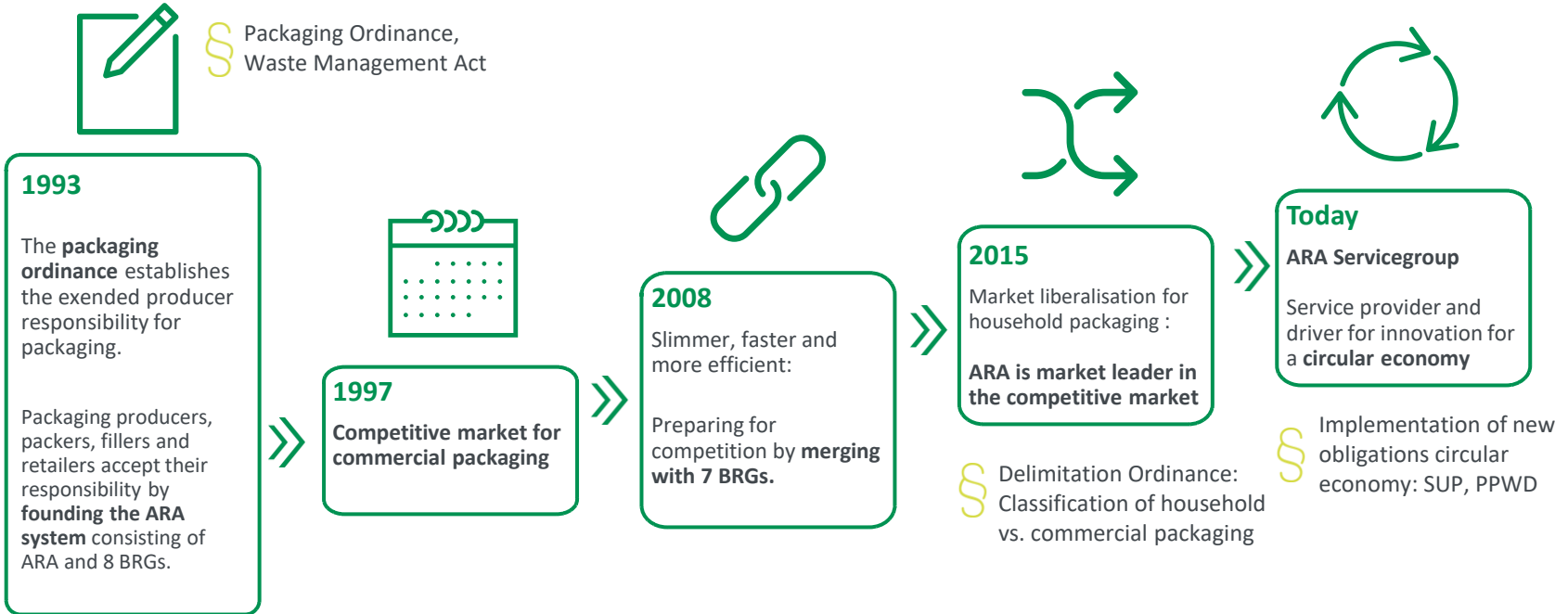
**SHAPING THE CIRCULAR FUTURE.**



**ARA**  
Altstoff Recycling Austria

# NOT FOR PROFIT – FOR PURPOSE:

## FROM A DE FACTO-MONOPOLY TO A CUSTOMER ORIENTED MARKET LEADER IN A COMPETITIVE MARKET



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# PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL PACKAGING MATERIALS IN AUSTRIA

Producer responsibility for total costs has been in place since 1993.

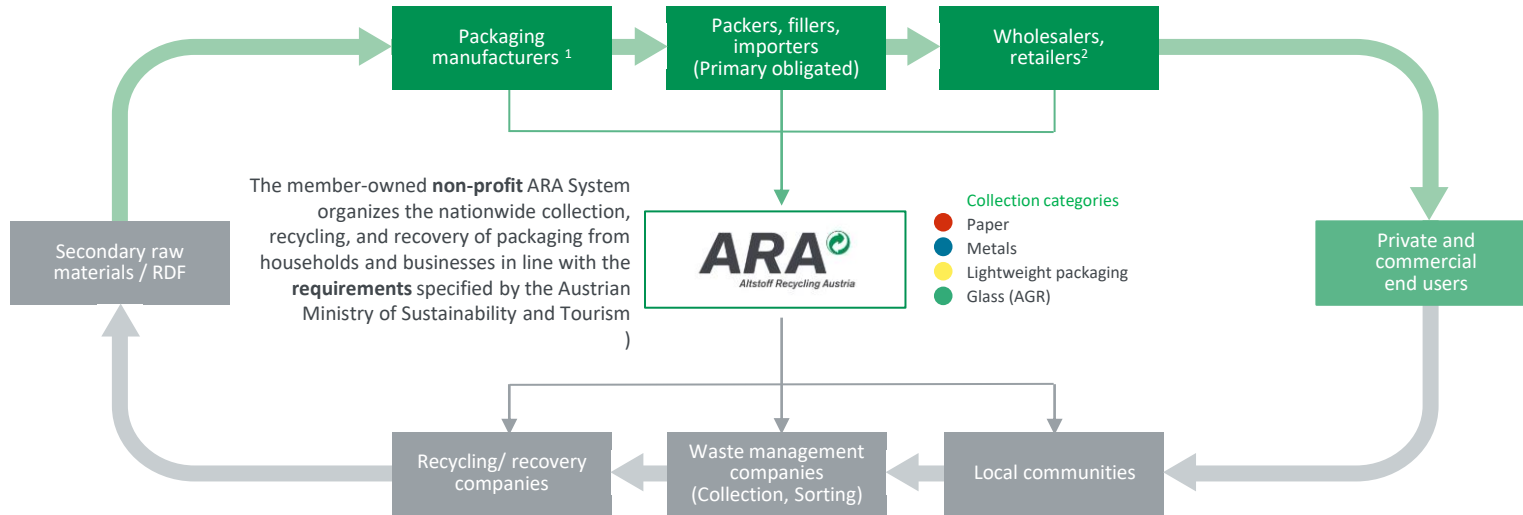
Responsibility for “primary obligated” companies according to §13g Waste Management Act:

- **Packers** and **fillers**: primary distribution of packaging
- **Importers**: packaging of the goods they import
- **Producers** and **importers** of service packaging

# PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR PACKAGING

## HOW DOES THE ARA SYSTEM WORK?

Companies obligated under the **Packaging Ordinance** transfer to **ARA AG** their obligation to take back used packaging.



Cities, municipalities, and more than 200 waste management/ recycling companies perform collection, sorting, recovery and communication activities in 94 collection regions.

1) Primary obligated for service packaging

2) Primary obligated für online/mail order selling

# KEY ELEMENTS OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

## Obligated companies:

- **Classification ordinance:** A clear, practical and legally binding definition of household and commercial packaging for all obligated companies
- **Mandatory participation** in a compliance scheme for household packaging
- Auditing by **Packaging Coordination Office (VKS)**

## Compliance schemes/PROs:

- Mandatory **equal treatment** of all customers
- No duplication of collection infrastructure, instead: **shared use** with sharing of monthly collected packaging and cost based on the respective market shares
- **Centralized services** for all compliance schemes provided by an independent Packaging Coordination Office (VKS), financed by compliance schemes

WMA amendment 2013

Packaging Ord. 2014

Compensation Ord. 2015

Delimitation Ord. 2014/15






# RECYCLING EFFECTIV UND EFFICIENT: COLLECTION +35%, COSTS -54%



Source: ARA

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# COLLECTION AND RECOVERY 2021

PACKAGING MATERIAL	COLLECTION CONTAINERS	CONTAINERS PER 1,000 RESIDENTS	COLLECTION [t]	RECOVERY <sup>1</sup> [t]
Paper, cardboard	 1,575,000	176	305,000	299,000
Glass	 64,000	7	209,000	209,000
Plastics and lightweight packaging <sup>3)</sup> (container collection)	 303,000	68	191,000	171,000
Households serviced by curbside (bag) collection	 1,865,000	884 <sup>2</sup> (bag sets)		
Metals	 41,000	8	31,000	25,000
<b>TOTAL (CONTAINERS)</b>	<b>1,983,000</b>		<b>736,000</b>	<b>704,000</b>

1) Net amount of packaging sent for recovery (excluding non-packaging waste), including stocks.

2) 6 bags per set (standard), excluding additional distribution

3) Including wood

Source: ARA, 2021

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# UNIFIED APPEARANCE FOR BETTER RECOGNITION AND SEPARATE COLLECTION

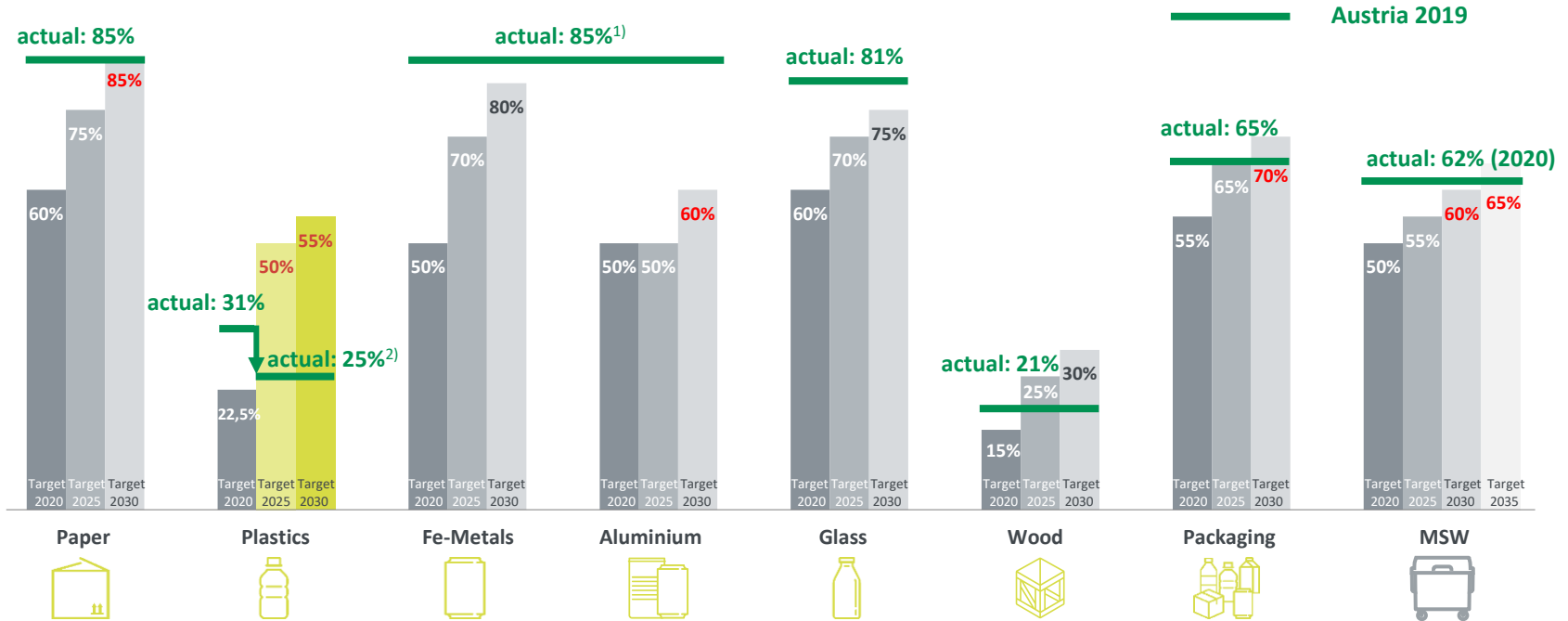
**2.0 MILLION**  
BINS FOR CONSUMERS  
AND BUSINESSES  
TO SORT THEIR  
WASTE



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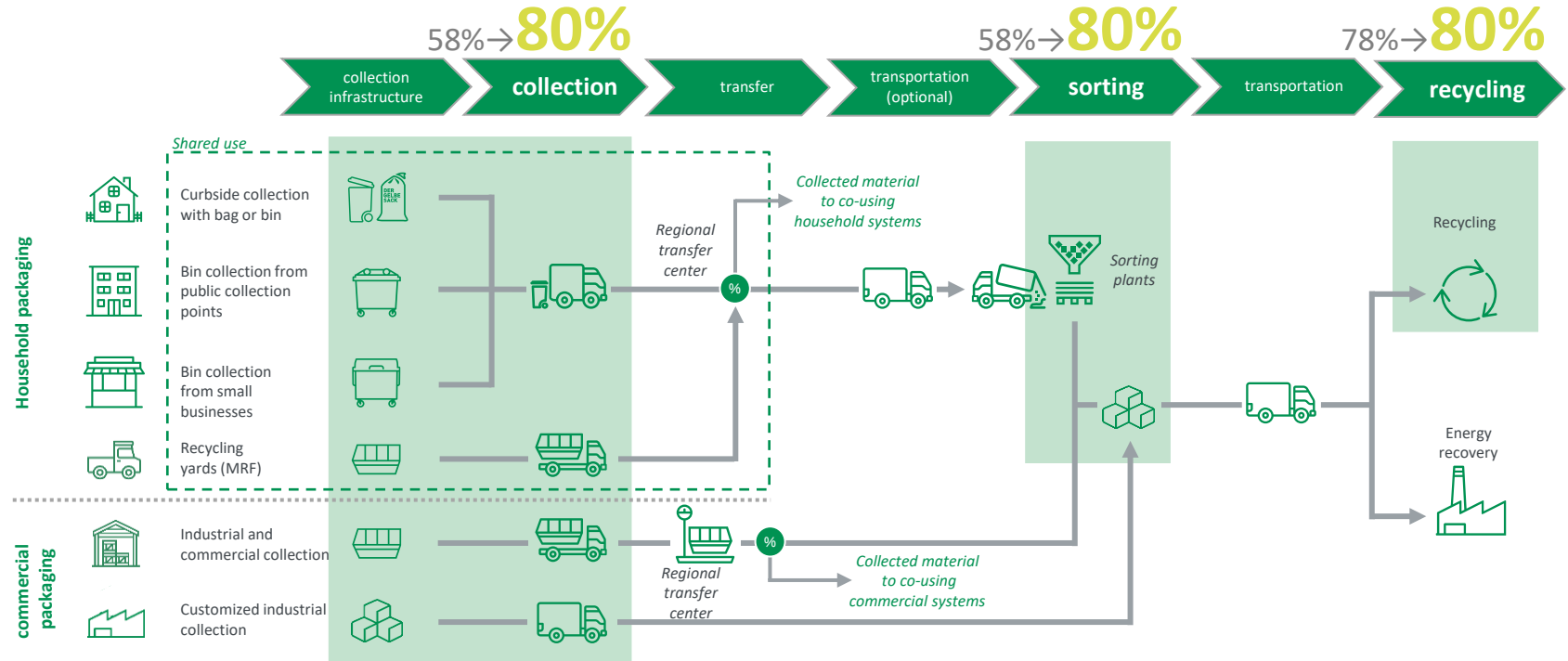
# EU RECYCLING TARGETS 2020/2025/2030



1) Quota for total of metal packaging  
 2) New calculation method „output recycling“

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# HOW WILL WE REACH A RECYCLING TARGET OF 50% FOR PLASTIC PACKAGING?



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±0€

MEMBER-OWNED NON-PROFIT  
ARA, AUSTRIA GLAS  
RECYCLING, ERA



736,000 t  
PACKAGING  
FROM HOUSE-  
HOLDS, BUSINESS  
AND INDUSTRY



44,000 t  
WEEE AND  
BATTERIES

95%

THINK SORTING WASTE  
IS A GOOD IDEA



530,000 t

CARBON  
SAVINGS



MARKET  
LEADER

OF COMPLIANCE  
SCHEMES FOR  
PACKAGING, WEEE  
AND BATTERIES IN  
AUSTRIA



## ARA IN NUMBERS



1,98

MILLION  
BINS

FOR CONSUMERS  
AND BUSINESSES  
TO SORT  
THEIR WASTE

110kg

PER-CAPITA AMOUNT  
OF PACKAGING AND WASTE  
PAPER COLLECTED FROM  
HOUSEHOLDS

10kg

PER-CAPITA AMOUNT  
OF WEEE AND BATTERIES  
COLLECTED



1,500

CUSTOMERS,  
WEEE AND  
BATTERIES  
SERVICE



15,000

CUSTOMERS,  
PACKAGING  
SERVICE

>70%

MARKET SHARE,  
PACKAGING

>43%

MARKET SHARE,  
WEEE AND  
BATTERIES

-54%

UNIT COST REDUCTION  
FOR PACKAGING  
SINCE 1993

90%

PACKAGING RECYCLING IN AUSTRIA



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