

From waste policy to a circular economy in Flanders

Flanders Materials Program

ERF November 2016

Lieze Cloots
Public Waste Agency of Flanders - OVAM

TOGETHER WE
MAKE TOMORROW
MORE BEAUTIFUL

OVAM

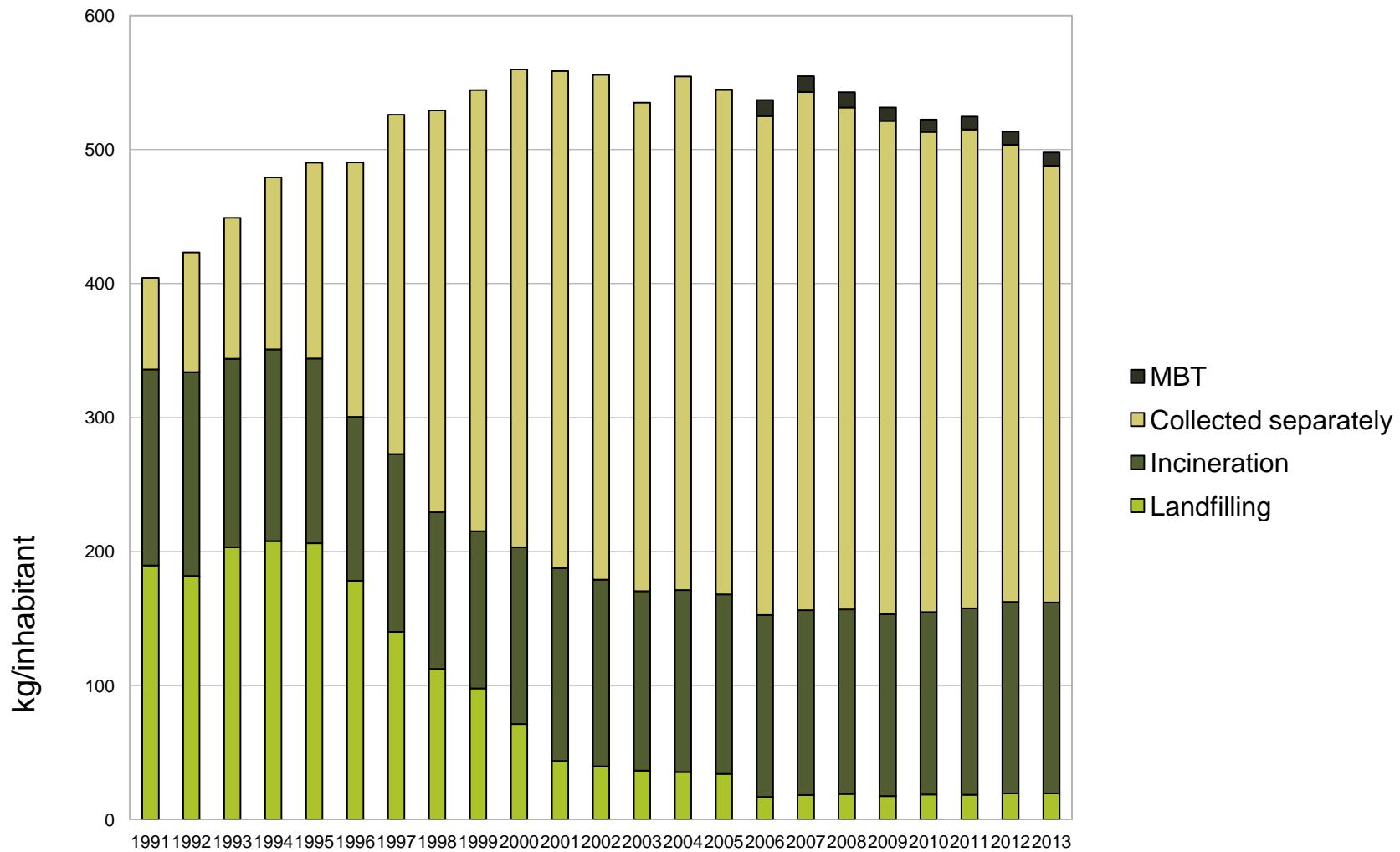
Flanders in the '80-ies



public demand for waste legislation, as landfilling becomes a backyard problem in the compact Flemish region.

- ▶ **Legally binding instruments:**
 - Ban on landfill and incineration
 - Mandatory separate collection
 - Extended Producer Responsibility
- ▶ **Economic instruments:**
 - Fees on landfill and incineration
 - Pay As You Throw
 - Investment in waste parks, reuse centres
- ▶ **Awareness raising & communication**

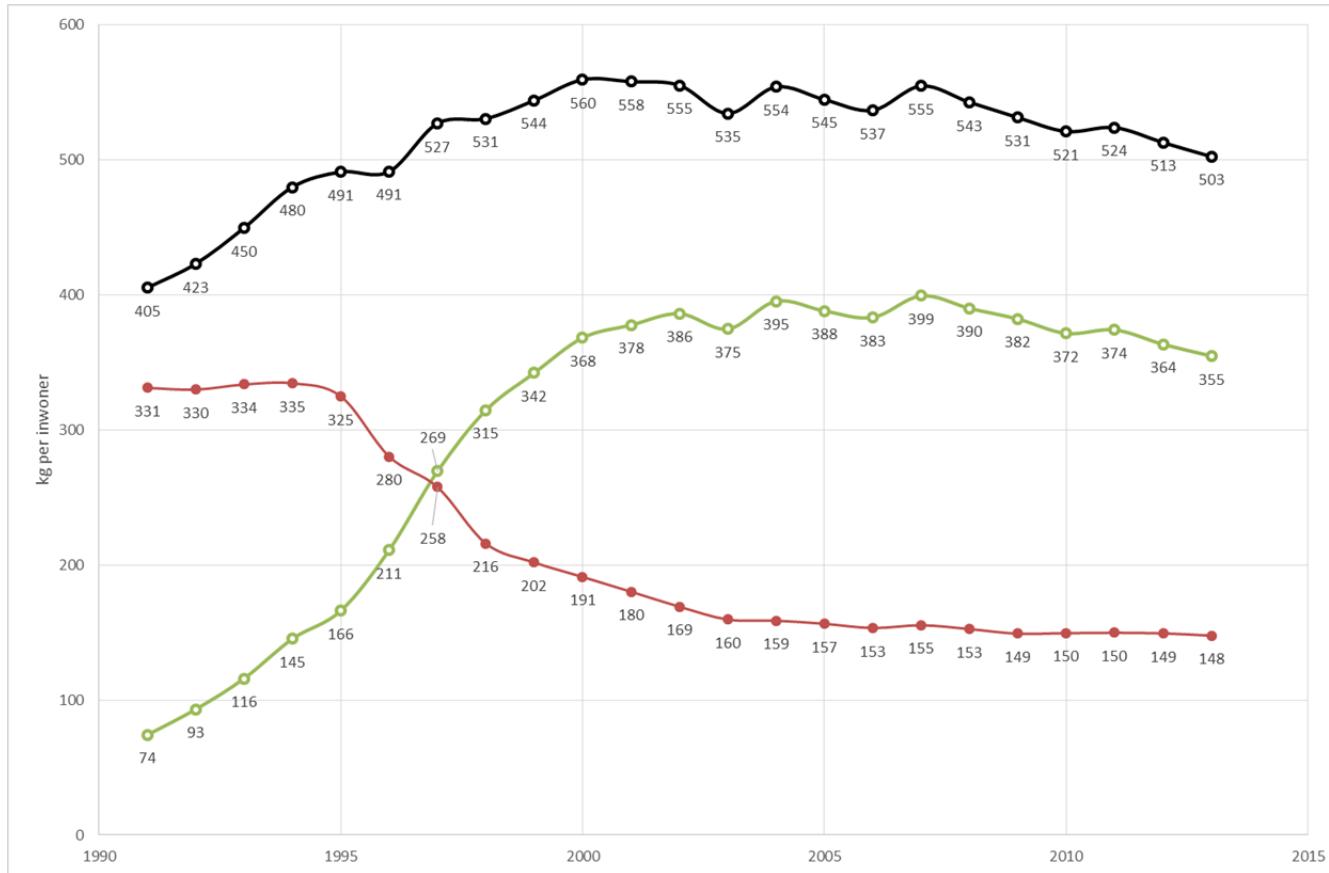
MIX
of
INSTRUMENTS
=
CRUCIAL



Flanders toprecycling region: economic benefits

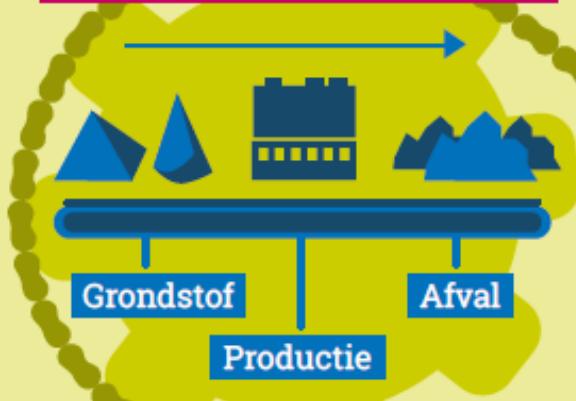
- The waste management and recycling sector has grown by more than **5% per year** in recent decades.
- The waste management and recycling sector employs **12.000 people** in Flanders. This is 0,5% of Flemish employment.
- Every direct job creates **1,3 indirect jobs** elsewhere in the economy.

Limits to separate collection and recycling policy



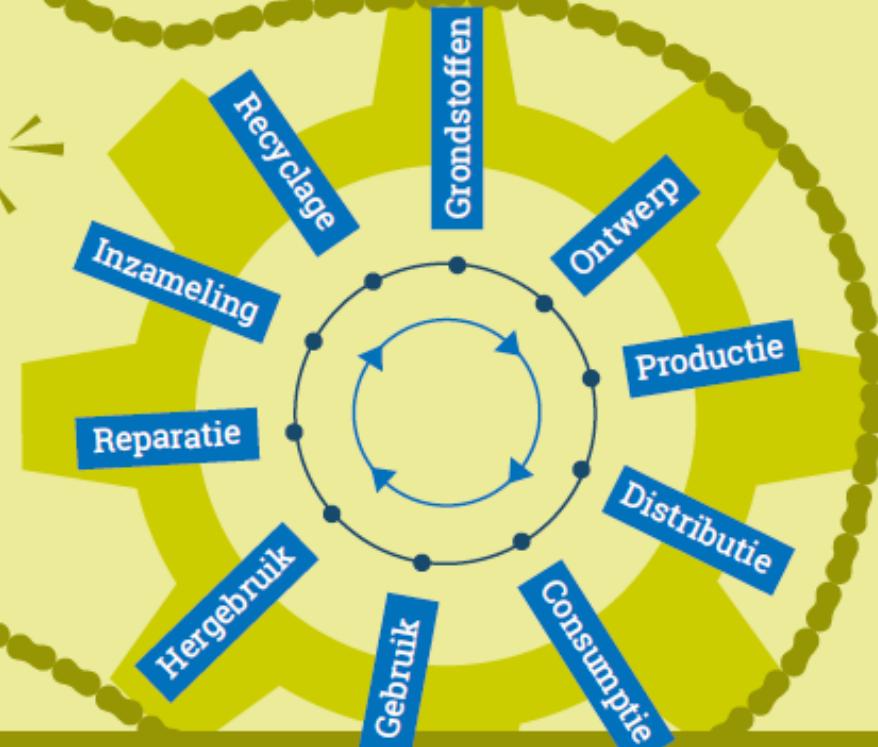
Lineaire productie:

te veel losse schakels



Een circulaire economie

versterkt Vlaanderen



Het sluiten van materiaalkringlopen leidt tot milieu-,
maatschappelijke én economische winst.

2 à 3% GDP
(3,4 billion euro) saved
in material cost by 2020

27. 000 jobs
In Flanders

SAMEN MAKEN WE
MORGEN MOOIER

OVAM



The **three pillars** of the **Flanders' Materials Programme**

In the Flanders' Materials Programme we combine ambitious long-term vision development, policy-relevant research, and concrete actions. This is done respectively in Plan C, the Policy Research Centre Sustainable Materials Management (SuMMA) and Agenda 2020; three pillars that reinforce each other.



Agentschap
Ondernemen



Federatie van Bedrijven voor Milieubeheer



**Joining forces
through the Flanders'
Materials Programme**

How does the Flanders Materials Programme work?

$$1+1=3$$

Cooperation between entrepreneurs, researchers, policy makers and civil society in the Flanders Materials Programme helps to accelerate the transition towards a circular economy.



Strategic projects of 2015-2016

Transforming Flanders into a recycling hub for Europe through our seaport



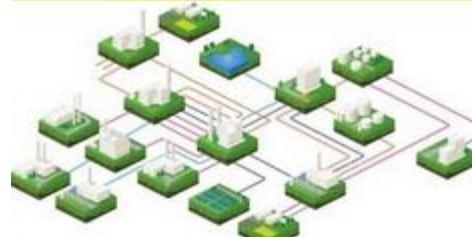
Strengthening the metal recycling industry in Flanders



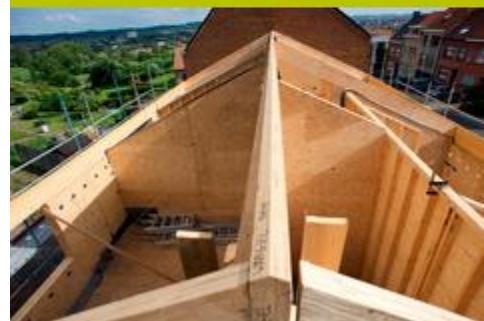
New jobs in the circular economy



Potential for a circular economy at several spatial scales (case region Genk)



Innovative building concepts for energy- and material-conscious construction



Business model innovation



2016:

- ▶ **Flanders Materials Program wins “The Circulars” an international award for the best and the most inspiring project for a circular economy.**
- ▶ **New long-term strategy of Flemish Government 2050: transition to circular economy 2.0**

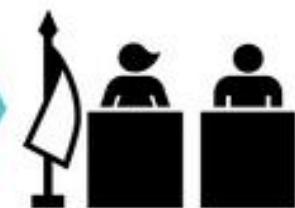


FLANDERS' MATERIALS PROGRAMME

A NEW PHASE (2017-...)



FROM THREE PILLARS TO
ONE TEAM



FROM A SINGLE MINISTER TO
SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY



FROM FOCUS ON MATERIALS TO
MULTIPLE TOPICS



FROM SECTOR-SPECIFIC TO
CROSS-CUTTING

Lieze.cloots@ovam.be

**Government of Flanders
Public Waste Agency
of Flanders
Stationsstraat 110
2800 Mechelen, Belgium
T: 015 284 284
F: 015 203 275
www.ovam.be
info@ovam.be**



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