



ACTIVITY REPORT 2015

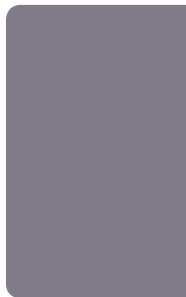


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Message from the Chair and Director



Martine Gillet, Chair



Marc Adams, Acting Director

2015 was a very busy year for the Interregional Packaging Commission (IRPC).

Essential activities in 2014 included translating the provisions of the new Fost Plus accreditation into concrete measures and, in particular, approving a new standard contract between Fost Plus and the intermunicipalities, as well as making the prior arrangements necessary to set up pilot projects relating to the expansion of selective collection of household plastics.

In 2015 a number of key aspects set out in the Fost Plus accreditation had to be implemented.

With regard to the expansion of selective collection of household plastics, everything is now ready to launch the pilot projects early in 2016. Three scenarios will be tested both in Wallonia and in Flanders: (1) expansion of PMD collection to include all plastics, (2) expansion of PMD collection to include hard plastics only and (3) expansion of PMD collection to include hard plastics, combined with separate collection of plastic films. We expect to have the

results of the various pilot projects and their assessment by the end of 2017. The Interregional Packaging Commission would like to thank the municipalities and intermunicipalities taking part, which have taken up this challenge together with the IRPC and Fost Plus.

Turning to out-of-home collection of household packaging waste, from sports centres or the workplace for example, we are coming to the end of long discussions with Fost Plus on this topic. There is still a long way to go and the results so far have been mixed, but we are confident in the knowledge that all parties share the same goals and want to achieve tangible initiatives that will translate into a more ambitious basic programme in the future.

In 2015 the IRPC also reviewed the implementation of the Val-I-Pac accreditation, as we expect this body to apply for accreditation again in mid-2016. As part of its preparation for the new application for accreditation, Val-I-Pac has already made some improvements, for instance as regards the procedure for auditing recycled quantities, which we see as a step in the right direction.

After 18 years based in Avenue des Arts, Saint-Josse-ten-Noode, the IRPC has decided to move to new premises in rue Gaucheret, Schaerbeek, very close to the Gare du Nord railway station, and will be moving in on 12 July 2016. The new lease was signed at the end of 2015. We hope that these new, more suitable, premises will give the Permanent Secretariat a new lease of life and help it work more effectively.

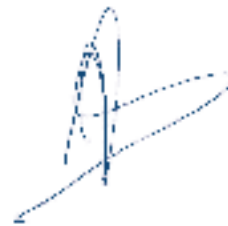
Finally, following the most recent constitutional reform, the IRPC took over the role of Belgian waste transit authority on 1 January 2015. Fortunately, we were quickly able to recruit two people, one from the Federal Public Service (FPS) Environment. We also managed to transfer the existing database from the FPS without too many problems, and should like to thank the FPS for this. All this meant that by



Martine Gillet, Chair

the end of 2015 we had made up the lost time caused by this transfer of powers. We are currently operating at full capacity and are easily able to meet deadlines. However, the challenge now will be to fully integrate the “transit” database into the IRPC’s modular database. In doing so, we will have to pay particular attention to ensuring that the official inspectors of the three Belgian regions have access to this data.

This example illustrates the future challenge facing the Interregional Packaging Commission of maintaining an interregional vision for waste management, even though regional differences may exist on some issues in order to reflect more local aspects and sensitivities, particularly as regards cleanliness.



Marc Adams, Acting Director

1 THE OPERATION OF THE INTERREGIONAL PACKAGING COMMISSION (IRPC)

1.1 THE COMPOSITION OF THE IRPC

The Interregional Packaging Commission is made up of a decision-making body, whose members are appointed by the regional governments, and a Permanent Secretariat comprising officials from the three Belgian Regions.

The decision-making body meets once a month and takes the policy decisions. The chairmanship of the IRPC changes every year on 5 March and rotates among the Belgian Regions. Mr Francis Radermaker of the Brussels-Capital Region served as chairman in the first part of 2015, with Ms Martine Gillet of the Walloon Region taking over the helm in the second part of the year, from 5 March.

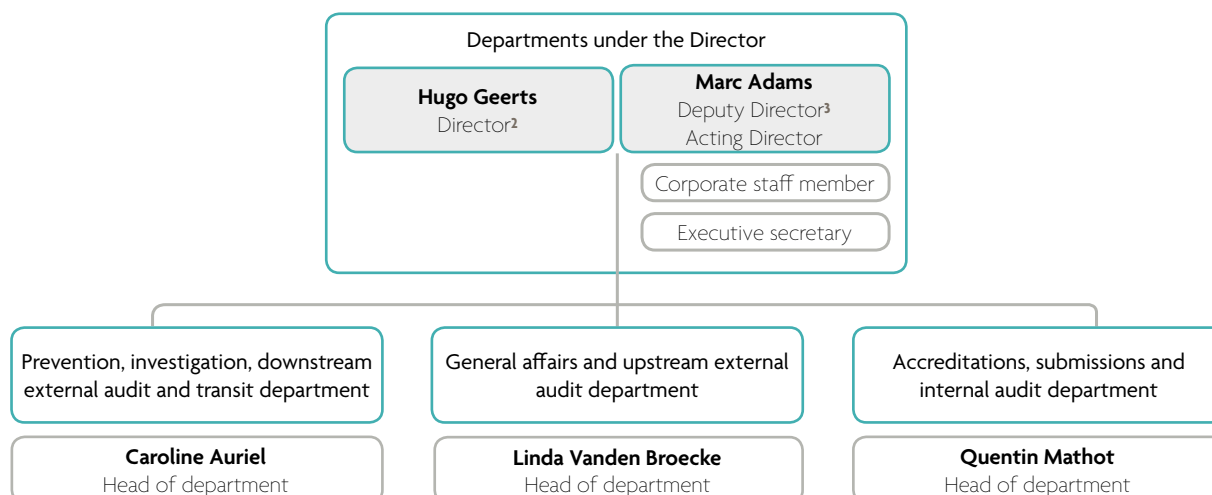
The director of the IRPC organises the work of the Permanent Secretariat in preparing the policy decisions and in supervising the implementation of the Cooperation Agreement and the accreditations. Mr Marc Adams is acting director of the IRPC. Mr Hugo Geerts is the titular director.



The composition of the decision-making body in 2015 was as follows:

FLEMISH REGION	BRUSSELS-CAPITAL REGION	WALLOON REGION
Full members Els DE PICKER Hugo GEERTS Danny WILLE	Full members Julien DUMONT Francis RADERMAKER Olivier BOSTEELS	Full members Sylvie MEEKERS Ingrid GABRIEL Martine GILLET
Alternate members Anne VANDEPUTTE Anneleen DE WACHTER Roeland BRACKE	Alternate members Valérie VERBRUGGE Céline SCHAAR Noémie ROGER	Alternate members Brieuc QUEVY / Anne DUMONT¹ Ludivine GAUTHIER Jean-Yves MERCIER

The organisational structure of the Permanent Secretariat remained unchanged in 2015



Since 6 November 2014 the IRPC's organisational structure shows it as having a total of 28 members of staff, two of whom work solely on waste transit.

The Permanent Secretariat had a total of 21 members of staff in 2015, which is one more than in the previous year. This new recruit is responsible for dealing with waste transit issues.

Nevertheless, the Permanent Secretariat is still structurally understaffed.

¹ Mr Quévy was replaced as alternate member by Ms Dumont on 19 March 2015

² Mr Geert's term of office will run until he either retires or voluntarily relinquishes it, at which time the office will automatically pass to the Deputy Director.

³ Mr Adams is designated as Deputy Director. The post of Deputy Director will cease to exist when the Deputy Director takes up office as Director.

1.2. THE IRPC BUDGET FOR 2015

The IRPC's budget for the 2015 operating year was spent as follows,

	Actual expenditure (in EUR)
COST OF PREMISES This includes the cost of office maintenance and cleaning, electricity bills and shared costs for building maintenance.	131,353.03
OFFICE COSTS These include office supplies, photocopying costs, landline and mobile phone costs, switchboard operation, postal expenses and the costs of IT support.	112,723.45
TRAVEL AND REPRESENTATION EXPENSES These include reimbursement of train tickets and flat-rate payments for travel and accommodation.	10,602.60
CAR FLEET RUNNING COSTS These include lease payments, fuel costs, vehicle maintenance (other than as provided for in the lease contract).	36,767.02
OTHER GENERAL OPERATING COSTS These include the costs of vocational training and study leave, magazine inserts and the printing of publications.	22,672.91
RENT OF BUILDINGS This is the annual cost of renting IRPC's offices.	290,855.44
EXPERT SUPPORT AND CONSULTANCY This item includes the fees of lawyers and experts, as well as the costs of translations into German and English.	38,303.37
AWARENESS-RAISING AND COMMUNICATIONS This includes the cost of having information published in various trade magazines and the insertion of banners on specialist websites.	49,532.56
INVESTMENTS These include the purchase of furniture, office machinery and hardware.	17,957.19
GENERAL TOTAL EXPENDITURE	710,767.57

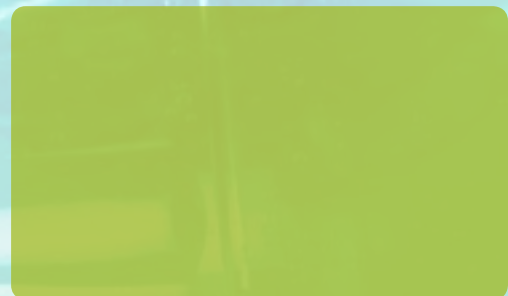
The IRPC's budget is financed by the Belgian Regions according to the allocation key set out in the Cooperation Agreement. The proportion of the required sum paid by each Region is,

- 60.9% by the Flemish Region.
- 31.5% by the Walloon Region.
- 7.6% by the Brussels-Capital Region.

2 FOST PLUS

2.1. THE EXPANSION OF PLASTICS COLLECTION

The P+ advisory group, made up of the IRPC, Fost Plus and representatives of the intermunicipalities and the three Belgian Regions met several times in 2015 to prepare for the launch of the P+ trial projects.



Various Flemish and Walloon intermunicipalities submitted project proposals, which were examined and assessed by the Regions. It was eventually decided that the following three scenarios would be tested in six municipalities, three in Flanders and three in Wallonia:

- Scenario 1 (Frameries and Aalter): PMD collection expanded to include all plastic packaging (hard and soft).
- Scenario 2 (Hannut and Waregem): PMD collection expanded only to other hard plastic packaging, with separate collection of soft plastic packaging in another bag.
- Scenario 3 (Marchin and Wervik): PMD collection expanded only to other hard plastic packaging.

Considerable preparatory work is required when launching projects of this kind. Appropriate collection tools need to be developed (different bags for separate collection), as well as suitable messages (trial aspect, temporary nature, etc.).

Five of the six trial projects were launched in the field on 1 January 2016, and the final one will start on 1 March 2016.

The various pilot project scenarios will be assessed by the advisory committee. The composition of the waste collected will be evaluated, as will the quality of the material sorted and the options for its sustainable recycling. Other aspects to be considered are levels of public participation, how well people understand the new sorting rules, and public satisfaction..

2.2. OUT-OF-HOME PACKAGING COLLECTION

In order to support out-of-home collection of PMD and other materials, article 44 of the Fost Plus accreditation states that Fost Plus shall undertake activities to support out-of-home collection of PMD, supplemented, if necessary, by collection of glass and/or paper/cardboard. For this purpose, Fost Plus draws up a basic programme each year and submits it to the IRPC for approval.

The activities in the basic programme and the corresponding budget were approved by the IRPC in 2015. The basic programme now includes the out-of-home activities common to all three Belgian regions. These need to be balanced among the Regions, both in terms of the overall approach and for each project, and may be supplemented by specific activities undertaken by an individual Region, as defined in article 13(1)(12) of the Cooperation Agreement (for example, if a region wishes to supplement or step up a basic activity). In order to assess the results of the basic programme, Fost Plus has started to monitor out-of-home projects and has drawn up an inventory of what has been distributed and set up on the ground.

2.3. REFERENCE COSTS AND VALUES

The 2015 reference costs are the average costs of the tenders awarded for the selective collection of glass, paper/cardboard and PMD, and for the sorting of PMD, indexed to 2015.

This fixed payment is calculated for the conventional Fost Plus streams (glass, paper/cardboard, PMD collection and PMD sorting), and is the average of the total of the payments for the collection scenarios, which, in accordance with the Fost Plus accreditation, have been paid out in the previous year based on the full cost, indexed to the year in which the reference cost has to be applied.

Under the accreditation, the IRPC determines the reference costs each year for the current year. The IRPC does this on the basis of the figures that Fost Plus submits to it each year and that are checked by the IRPC.

The IRPC determined the reference costs for 2015 as follows:

Reference costs 2015 [*]	Total for collection and sorting				House-to-house and bottle bank collection				Container park collection			
	100% fixed (€/inh.)	100% variable (€/tonne)	60% fixed (€/inh.)	40% variable (€/tonne)	100% fixed (€/inh.)	100% variable (€/tonne)	60% fixed (€/inh.)	40% variable (€/tonne)	100% fixed (€/inh.)	100% variable (€/tonne)	60% fixed (€/inh.)	40% variable (€/tonne)
GLASS Total	1.6193	52.22	0.9716	20.89	1.4424	54.55	0.8654	21.82	0.1769	39.27	0.1061	15.71
>200	1.5346	50.28	0.9208	20.11	1.3887	52.21	0.8332	20.88	0.1458	37.94	0.0875	15.18
<200 inhabitants per km ²	2.0886	61.76	1.2531	24.70	1.7360	67.47	1.0416	26.99	0.3525	43.68	0.2115	17.47
PAPER / CARDBOARD Total	4.2042	63.75	2.5225	25.50	3.5871	71.93	2.1523	28.77	0.6170	38.96	0.3702	15.59
>200	4.1144	61.44	2.4687	24.58	3.6526	68.88	2.1916	27.55	0.4618	33.85	0.2771	13.54
<200 inhabitants per km ²	4.8205	79.32	2.8923	31.73	3.2011	103.53	1.9207	41.41	1.6194	54.06	0.9716	21.62
PMD - COLLECTION Total	3.5518	228.08	2.1311	91.23	3.2257	232.90	1.9354	93.16	0.3261	186.58	0.1956	74.63
>200	3.3324	222.05	1.9994	88.82	3.1715	228.97	1.9029	91.59	0.1608	133.69	0.0965	53.48
<200 inhabitants per km ²	5.1881	267.14	3.1129	106.85	3.7098	266.12	2.2259	106.45	1.4783	269.68	0.8870	107.87
PMD - SORTING	2.3138	155.35	1.3883	62.14								

* (1) weighted average of 2010 (10%), 2011 (15%), 2012 (20%), 2013 (25%) and 2014 (30%), updated to 2015 prices

⁴ The second subparagraph of article 10(1) of the accreditation text contains the following provision on the application of the reference values: "If a tender for the purchase of a particular material is not awarded in accordance with the standard tender specifications drawn up by the 'joint tendering committee' and this deviation has a significant effect on the sale value of the material, the difference shall be received or borne by the municipality or intermunicipality. The average sale value of the materials referred to in the previous subparagraph, the 'reference value', shall then be deducted from the payment for the costs of collection and sorting."

The 2014 reference values are the average sale values of the material collected and sorted in 2014.

The IRPC approved the 2014 reference values in mid-2015. These values were used as the basis for the payments in 2015⁴. An adjustment will be applied in 2016, however, once the IRPC has approved the 2015 reference values.

The 2014 reference values approved by the IRPC are :

Material (selectively collected and sorted)	Paper/card-board	Glass	Steel	Aluminium	Drink cartons	HDPE	PET blue	PET clear	PET green	PET (average)	Plastics (PET + HDPE)
Gemiddelde prijs (€/ton)	95.03	19.38	168.79	627.01	17.32	409.66	454.61	494.08	378.42	475.48	460.48

2.4. CHECKING AND MONITORING FOST PLUS

One of the main tasks of the Interregional Packaging Commission is to check the results achieved by the accredited compliance organisation Fost Plus. This exercise once again took place in a spirit of consultation and cooperation.

Data in the system was selected at random to ascertain the existence of checked recycling certificates for the waste streams included in the Profost system.

Only the “article 8” streams, named after article 8 of the Fost Plus accreditation, are not currently included in the Profost system.

In the case of these “article 8” streams, checks are carried out in the course of the year, and Fost Plus and the IRPC hold meetings to discuss them. The quality of the data supplied by the intermunicipalities concerned remains good. As regards the streams reported under article 8, 97% were already correct when the data was submitted. No additional audit was needed for these streams for 2014, as had also been the case in previous years. The data collected in previous years, supplemented with a number of simple checks with the competent administrations, demonstrated the recycling of these streams to a sufficient degree of certainty.

The table below includes a brief summary of the various “article 8” streams:

2014	Kunststoffen*	Metalen	Andere**	Total
Total quantity accepted (in tonnes)	13,521	2,269	33	15,823

* The plastics comprise primarily film, plant pots, EPS and mixed plastics.

** Only cork.

A monitoring committee was set up to enable the Interregional Packaging Commission to monitor the operation of Fost Plus in a structured manner. Its members are drawn from Fost Plus and the IRPC's Permanent Secretariat.

The Fost Plus monitoring committee met four times in 2015, with a very full agenda each time.

Some of the topics discussed several times in 2015 were:

- The implementation of the 2014-2018 accreditation, paying particular attention to the following points:
 - ➔ Collection and sorting of PMD from companies and via other non-household channels (“out-of-home”); the annual basic programme of Fost Plus for out-of-home collection of PMD;
 - ➔ The standard contracts with the intermunicipalities, the standard tender specifications (contract award criteria) for the collection, sorting and recycling of household packaging waste;
 - ➔ The action plan for the collection of EPS;
 - ➔ Possible expansion of the sorting message regarding plastics;
 - ➔ The problem of parallel collections of paper/ cardboard and PMD;
 - ➔ Possible update of the allocation key for paper/ cardboard;
 - ➔ The installation of underground bottle banks;
 - ➔ The pros and cons of introducing a sorting logo on packaging;
- The contribution of EUR 0.50 per capita per year to the Belgian Regions’ policy (article 13(1)(12) of the Cooperation Agreement);
- Renewal of contracts with the intermunicipalities;
- The results of recycling and recovery (for 2014) and the checks of these results;
- The Fost Plus budget for 2015 and the changes made in calculating the Green Dot tariffs for 2015;
- The various amendments (definite and planned) to Directive 94/62/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on packaging and packaging waste, and the revision of the Cooperation Agreement; in this context, the changes to and update of the Belgian
 - packaging/not packaging list and the grey list (distinction between household and industrial/commercial packaging);
 - Various other initiatives originating from the European Commission, such as the “Circular Economy Package (CEP)” and the “Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP)” Regulation;
 - The analysis by Fost Plus of the total household packaging market; the estimate of the packaging generated by internet sales (e-commerce);
 - Deposit on returnable packaging and the litter problem.

3 VAL-I-PAC

3.1. CHANGES TO THE AUDIT PROTOCOL

Several discussions were held between the IRPC and Val-I-Pac in 2015 on the changes to be made to the audit protocol used by Val-I-Pac in inspecting its operators. Following a number of field observations, the IRPC asked for various aspects of this protocol to be changed, particularly with regard to reusable packaging inspections. Without these minor changes, the audit protocol could no longer be applied. Val-I-Pac has now introduced an amended version of the audit protocol, which can be used for the inspections carried out in 2016.



3.2. CHECKING AND MONITORING VAL-I-PAC

Checking the results obtained by the accredited compliance organisation Val-I-Pac is a key task of the Interregional Packaging Commission.

The process of checking the results submitted by Val-I-Pac in 2015 for the 2014 operating year was completed in December 2015, and the figures for 2014 were then approved in January 2016.

A monitoring committee was set up to enable the Interregional Packaging Commission to monitor the operation of Val-I-Pac in a structured manner. Its members are drawn from Val-I-Pac and the IRPC's Permanent Secretariat.

The Val-I-Pac monitoring committee met four times in 2015 to discuss a number of topics, including:

- Checking the recycling and recovery results for the 2014 operating year;
- The direct payment of container and recycling incentives via the new platform "My Certificate";
- The SME plan and its implementation;
- The feasibility of registering packaging in mixed scrap metal;
- The pilot project for collection of industrial and commercial EPS waste;
- The 2015 edition of the trading study (focusing on plastic recycling in China);
- Trends in the value of materials.

4

THE RECYCLING AND RECOVERY FIGURES FOR 2014

4.1. THE FOST PLUS RESULTS

The recycling and recovery targets for 2014 for household packaging waste were 80% for recycling and 90% for total recovery (i.e. the sum of recycling and recovery or incineration with energy recovery).



Fost Plus once again exceeded 100% recycling for glass and metals in 2014, but for the second consecutive year it did not do so for paper/cardboard. The explanation for this figure of over 100% is the same as in previous years. In the case of glass, parallel imports from abroad go some way towards explaining the results. For metals, the reason is that Fost Plus does not cover the whole of the Belgian market for this material .

The IRPC never accepts more than the quantities reported to the accredited compliance organisation by its members for recycling. The recycling percentage for glass and metals is therefore reduced to 100%. The quantities thus rejected are added to the results for total recovery.

The table below shows the figures established as the final results obtained by Fost Plus for the year 2014.

	Quantities from members (in tonnes)	Recycling (in tonnes)	Quantities recovered with energy recovery (in tonnes)	Recycling (as %)
Paper/cardboard	176,194	174,307		98.9
Glass	306,704	306,704		100.0
Plastics	206,682	80,156		38.8
Metals	74,105	74,105		100.0
Drink cartons	18,533	16,854		90.9
Other	4,173	33		0.8
Total	786,390	652,160		82.9
Glass from non-members		29,717		
Metals from non-members		2,007		
Incineration of PMD residues			22,997	
Overall total recovery		683,884	22,997	

82.9%

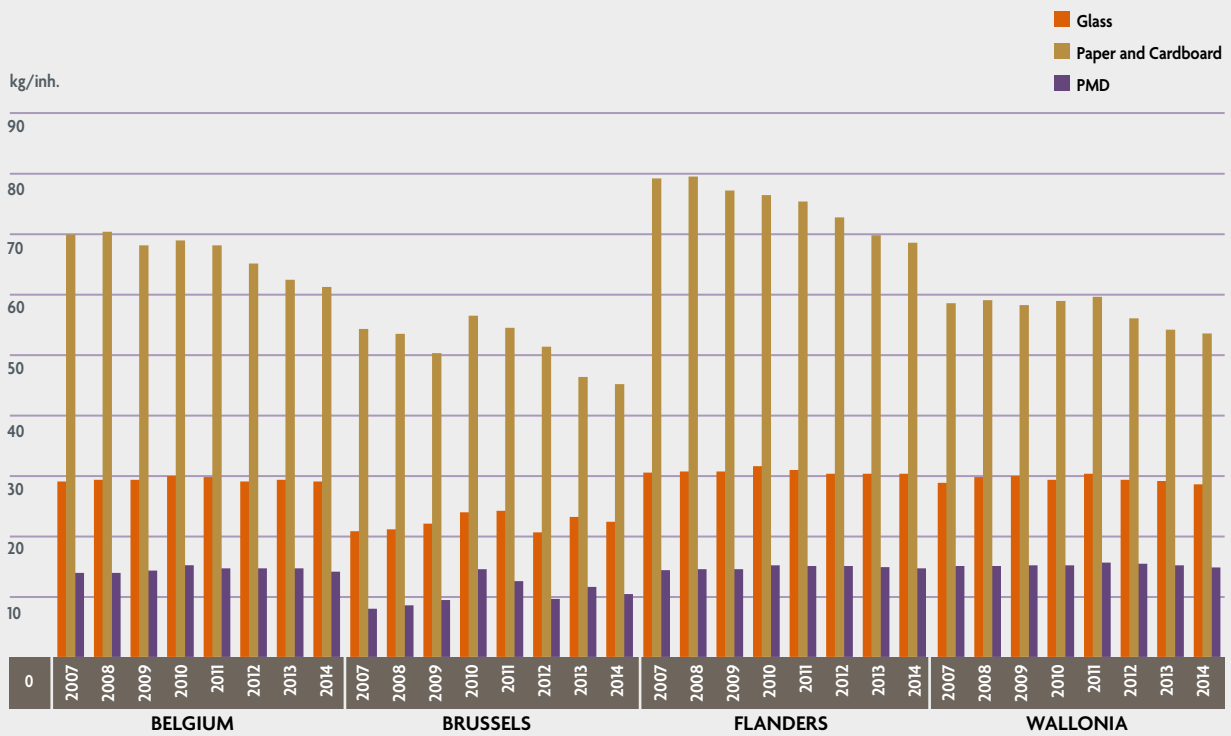
The recycling rate Fost Plus achieved for the 2014 reporting year.

⁵ The clause in the accreditation text relating to billing metals from the various treatment facilities, which aims to ensure that metal packaging waste that is not selectively collected can be billed more accurately, takes account of the fact that Fost Plus does not cover the whole of the Belgian market. The figures for packaging placed on the market therefore relate only to Fost Plus members and not to all packaging placed on the market. On the other hand, all metals originating from household packaging that is collected either selectively or non-selectively (with domestic refuse) are billed, after applying a correction factor for loss of material in incinerators.

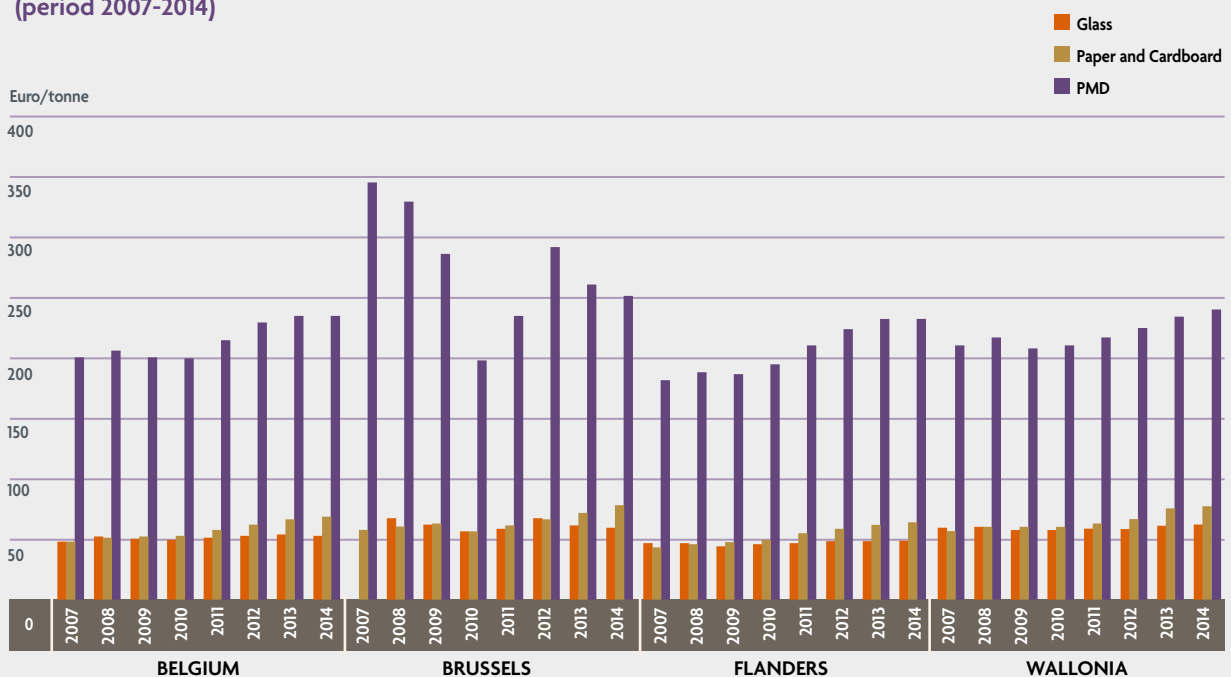
Intermunicipalities' reporting obligation

Every year the Interregional Packaging Commission examines the information submitted by the intermunicipalities in accordance with article 18(5) of the Cooperation Agreement and compiles statistics on the basis of this information.

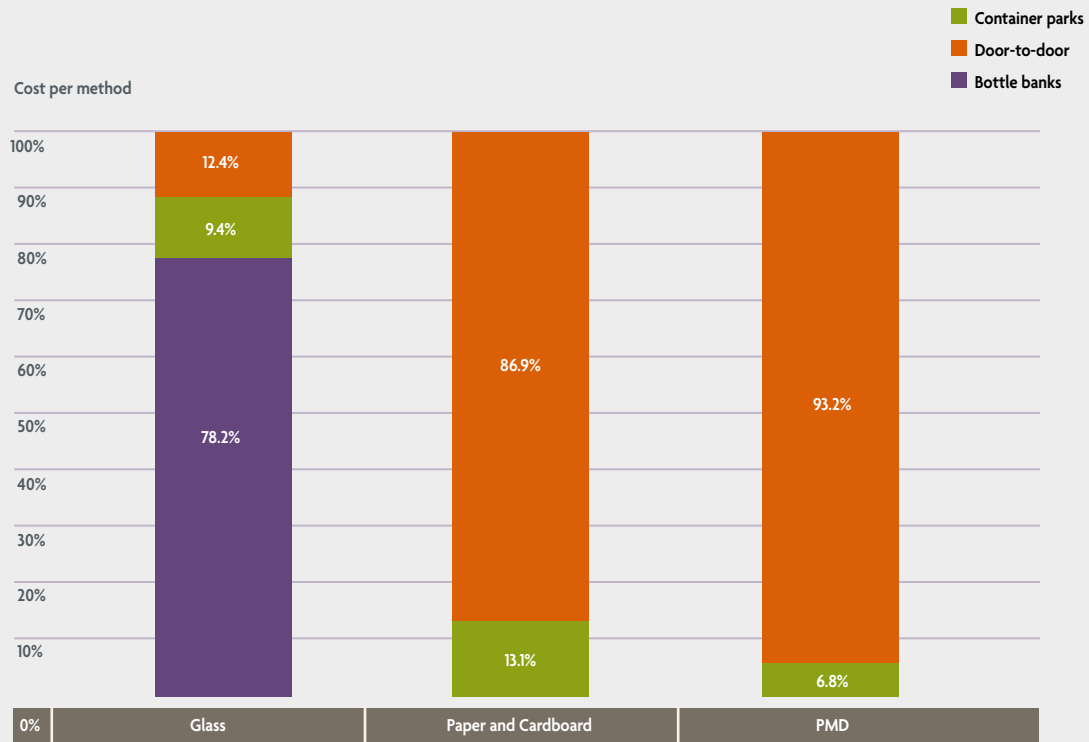
Evolution of the collection results per material, per Region and for Belgium as a whole (period 2007-2014)



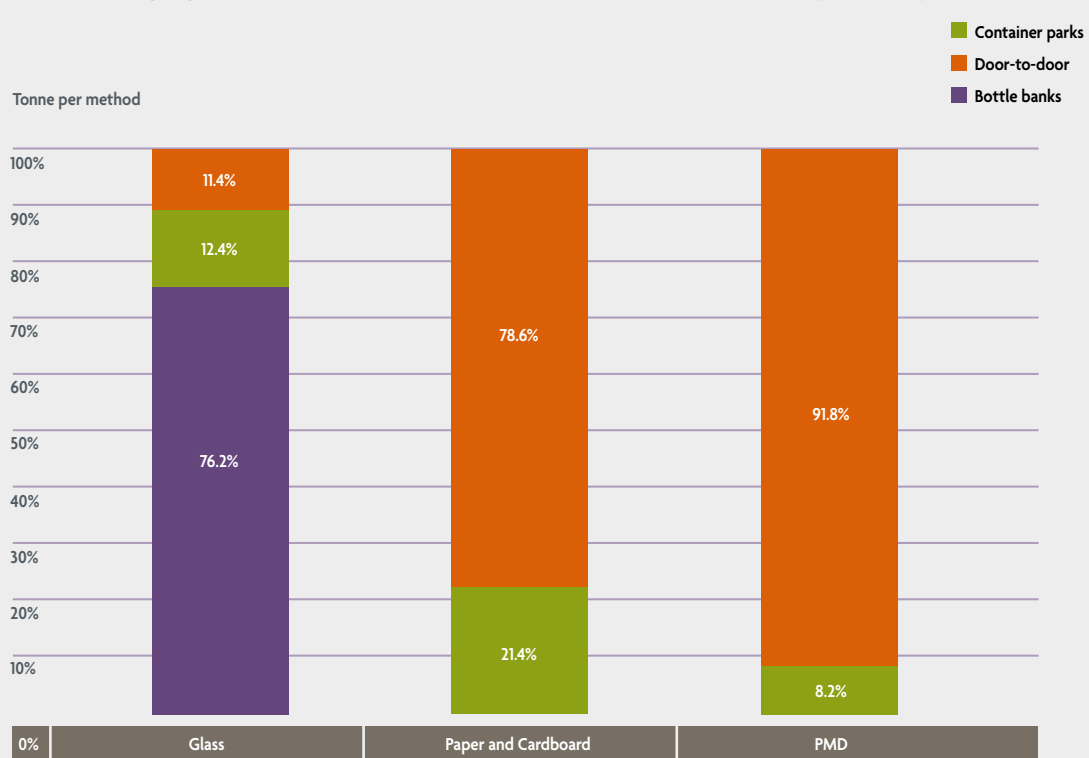
Evolution of the collection cost per material, per Region and for Belgium as a whole expressed in euro/tonne (period 2007-2014)



Per fraction, proportion of the collection method on the collection costs (year 2014)



Per fraction, proportion of the collection method on the collection costs (year 2014)



4.2. THE VAL-I-PAC RESULTS

The recycling and recovery targets for 2014 for industrial and commercial packaging waste were 80% for recycling and 85% for total recovery (i.e. the sum of recycling and recovery or incineration with energy recovery).

The table below shows the figures established as the final Val-I-Pac results for the year 2014.

Type materiaal	Placed on the market (in tonnes)	Recycling (in tonnes)	Recycling (as %)
Plastic	91,746	51,199	55.81
Paper/cardboard	398,971	397,894	99.73
Metal	36,159	30,079	83.19
Wood	163,171	121,343	74.37
Other	8,201	586	7.15
Total	698,248	601,101	86.09

86.09%

The recycling rate Val-I-Pac achieved for the 2014 operating year.

4.3. THE RESULTS OF INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBLE COMPANIES

A total of 184 parties responsible for packaging ("responsible companies") stated that they fulfilled the take-back obligation themselves in the 2014 reporting year.

The table below contains the aggregate data from responsible companies reporting to the IRPC that they fulfil the take-back obligation themselves, and whose results were accepted by the IRPC:

Type of material	Placed on the market (in tonnes)	Recycling (in tonnes)	Energy recovery (in tonnes)
Plastic	2,380.22	1,919.41	149.23
Paper/cardboard	30,726.95	27,824.57	60.15
Metal	1,625.10	1,402.57	0.00
Wood	9,224.39	8,091.71	68.42
Other materials*	308.97	15.26	65.02
Total	44,265.63	39,253.52	342.82

* including glass

4.4. THE OVERALL RESULTS

This section contains the results reported by Belgium to the European Commission (Eurostat) for 2014. The calculation method specified by Europe must take into account the following:

- all one-way packaging placed on the Belgian market, i.e. including quantities placed on the market by free-riders;
- all reusable packaging placed on the Belgian market for the first time;
- the recycling and recovery results for one-way packaging waste, as reported by the accredited compliance organisations Fost Plus and Val-I-Pac and by the responsible companies that fulfil the take-back obligation themselves;
- the recycling and recovery results for reusable packaging withdrawn from the market.

This specific calculation method means that the overall Belgian figures can no longer be compared with the results of the accredited compliance organisations and the individual responsible companies as shown above.

The overall recycling figures for 2014 are given in the following table:

Type of material	Glass	Plastic	Paper/ cardboard (ordinary)	Drink cartons	Total paper/ cardboard	Metals	Wood	Other	Total
Recyclage (in %)	100.0	41.79	90.63	89.17	90.59	98.18	72.19	4.70	81.34

5 MONITORING OF REUSABLE PACKAGING

Since 2000 the Permanent Secretariat of the Interregional Packaging Commission has monitored the declaration of reusable household packaging submitted by Fost Plus.

Since 2003, the IRPC has also been monitoring reusable industrial and commercial packaging statistics submitted to Val-I-Pac.

We aim to achieve a clearer picture of the trends in reusable packaging by monitoring a specific number of reference companies, i.e. those that report the largest quantities of reusable packaging.

The monitoring process does not include data from responsible companies that place only reusable packaging (i.e. no one-way packaging) on the market. We should therefore point out that this probably leads to re-use figures being slightly underestimated.

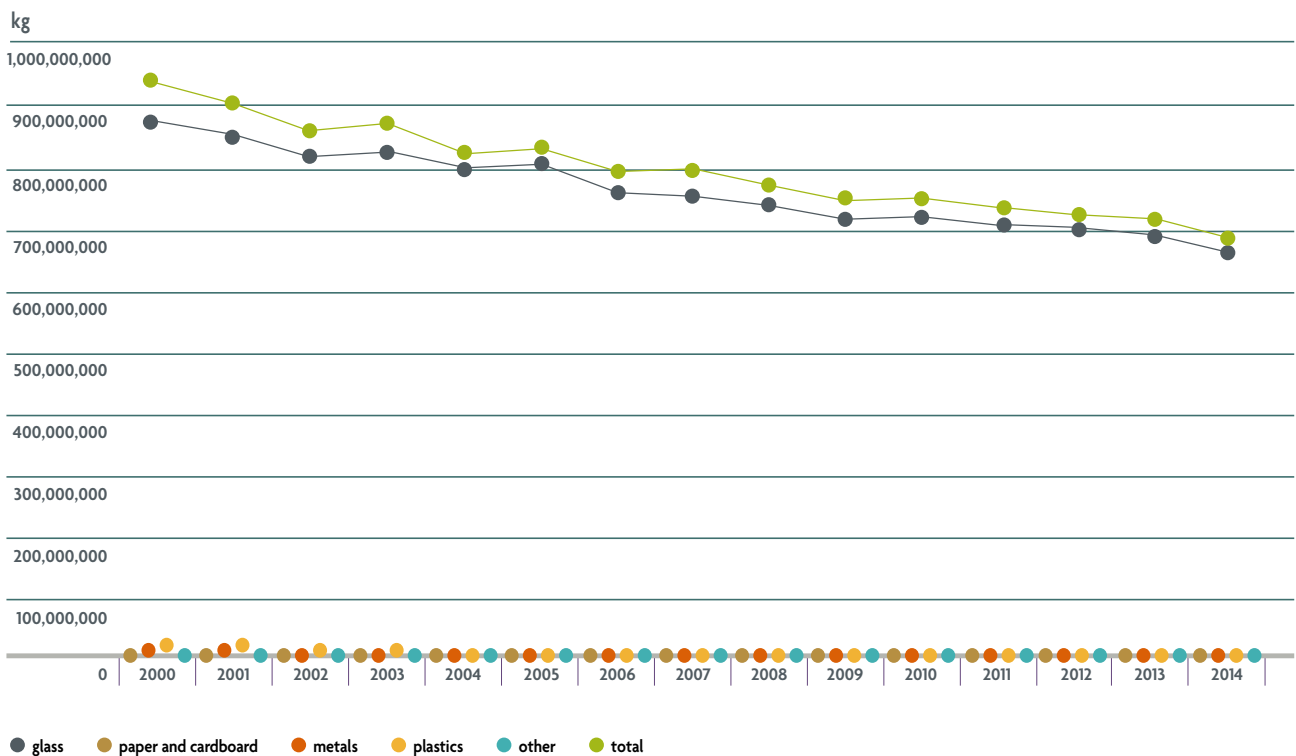
Monitoring of reusable packaging in Belgium continued for the 2014 reporting year.



5.1. OVERALL TREND IN REUSABLE HOUSEHOLD PACKAGING

The graph below shows the trend in the quantities by weight of reusable household beverage packaging, broken down by type of material, and as reported by all Fost Plus members during the period 2000-2014.

Evolution reusable beverage packaging all members Fost Plus



Once again this shows how much reusable beverage packaging was made of glass in 2014 (98.2%).

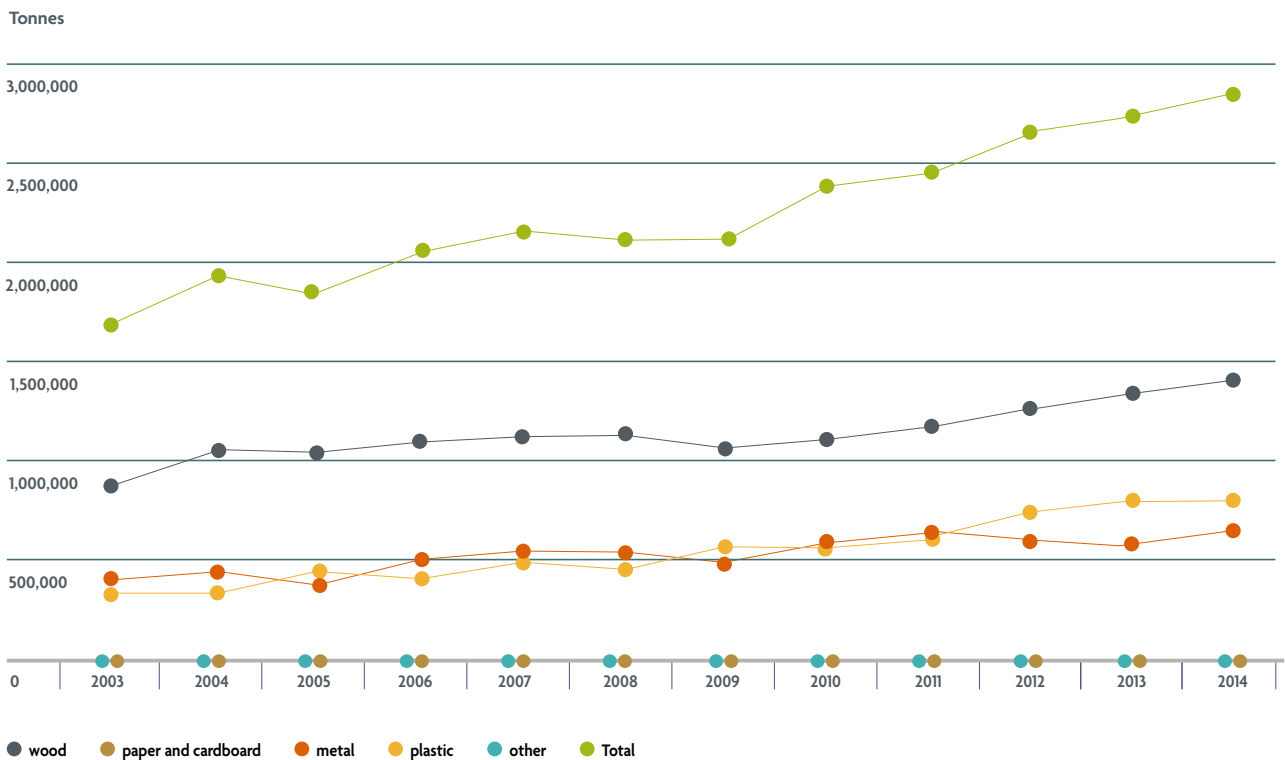
When interpreting these quantities by weight, it should, however, be borne in mind that glass is a relatively heavy material. To determine the exact percentages for each type of material, the number of sales units should, in principle, be used as the basis.

⁶ As the bulk of reusable household packaging consists of beverage packaging, the detailed analysis of reusable packaging is limited to this group.

5.2. OVERALL TREND IN REUSABLE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL PACKAGING

The graph below shows the trend in the quantities by weight of reusable industrial and commercial packaging, broken down by type of material, and as reported by all Val-I-Pac members during the period 2003-2014.

Evolution reusable packaging all members VAI-I-Pac



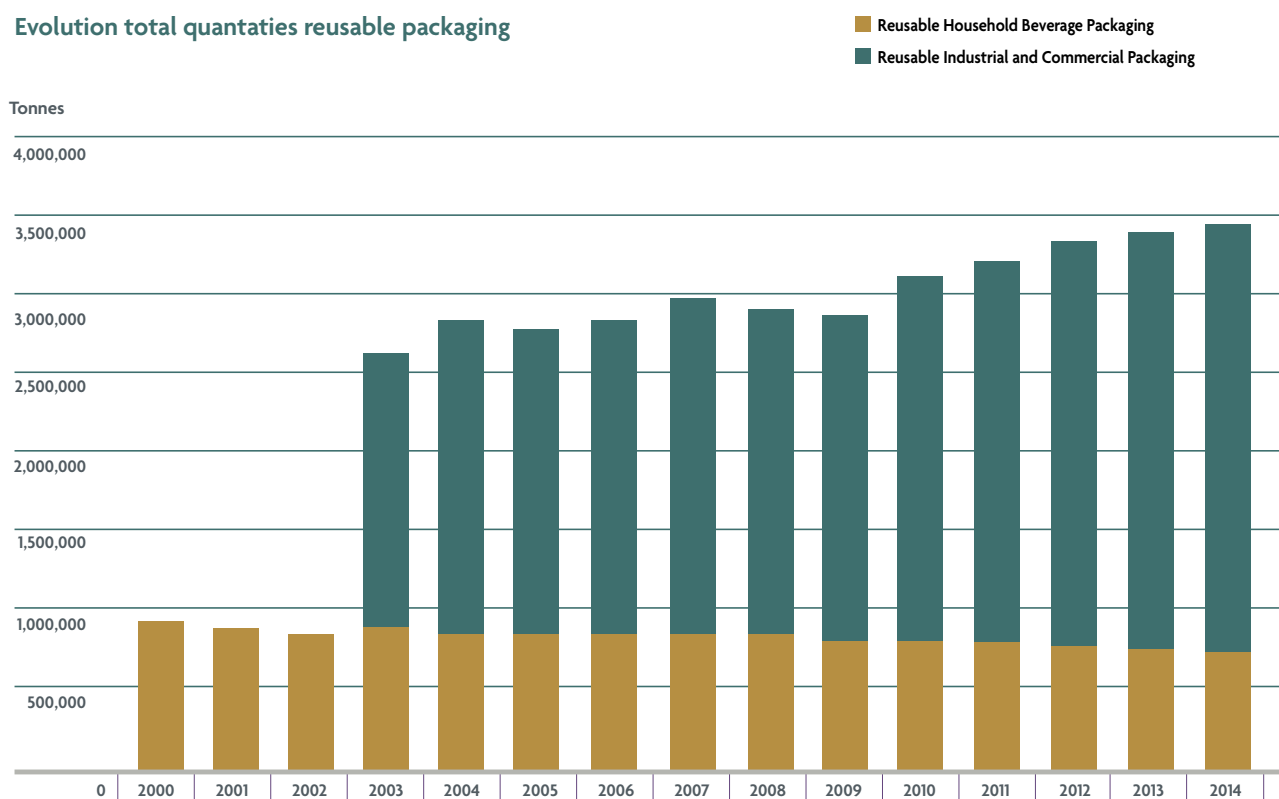
In 2014, 50.4% of the reported quantity of reusable industrial and commercial packaging was made of wood. The only other materials of significance as reusable packaging are plastics (26.1%) and metals (22.9%).

Paper/cardboard and other materials are hardly ever used as reusable industrial and commercial packaging.

5.3. OVERALL TREND IN ALL REUSABLE PACKAGING

The graph below gives an overall picture of the trend in reusable packaging.

Evolution total quantities reusable packaging

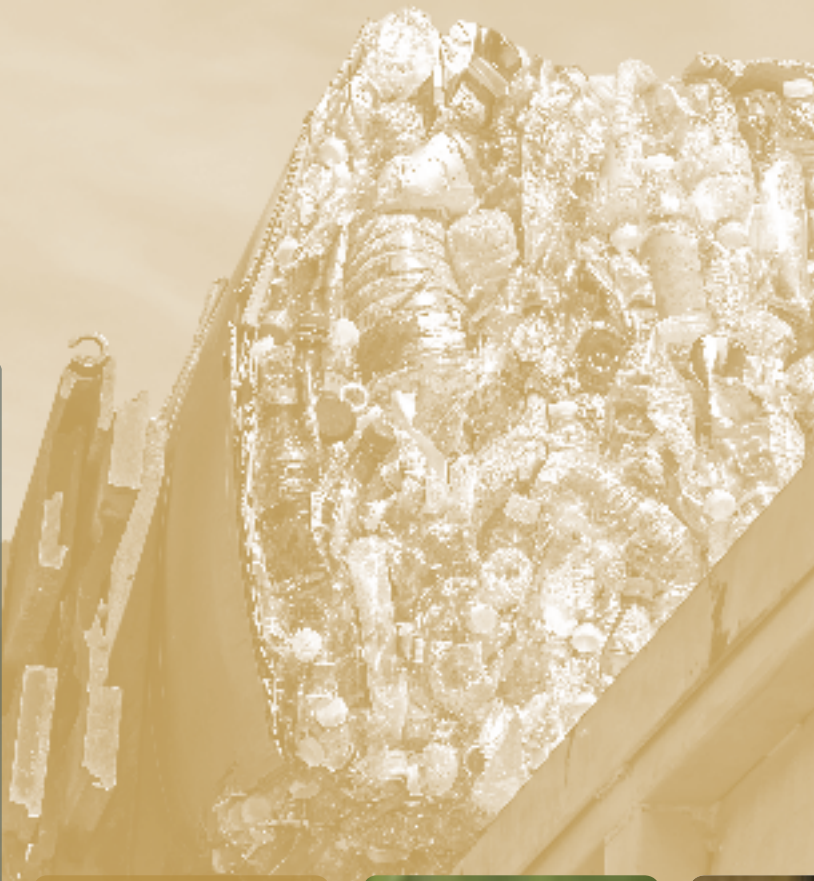


If we add up reusable household beverage packaging and reusable industrial and commercial packaging, we find that there was a net rise of 68,443 tonnes (2.0%) **in the tonnage of reusable packaging** between 2013 and 2014. This rise is entirely attributable to the success of reusable industrial and commercial packaging.

6 THE TRANSIT OF WASTE

As a result of the sixth constitutional reform, the IRPC has also been acting as the *Belgian waste transit authority* since 1 January 2015. Transit through Belgium is defined as the shipment of waste that was not produced in Belgium and will not be processed there. The IRPC is the competent authority even when transit through Belgium involves travelling through only one of the three Belgian Regions.

In the case of cross-border movements through Belgium, the IRPC must receive a copy of the notification documents. It then communicates its decision by post within the regulatory deadline. The IRPC must also receive shipping declarations of shipments involving transit through Belgium.



In 2015 the IRPC received 892 notifications and communicated its decision on 791 of these. It was not possible to reach decisions on the remaining notifications because additional information requested had not yet been received, and/or because the authorities of the destination country had not yet provided confirmation of receipt. In these cases, the documents were put on hold until 2016. Thirty-two decisions were also issued in 2015 in response to notifications received in 2014, bringing the total for 2015 to 823, of which 370 were decisions on shipments involving transit through a port (maritime transport).

With regard to shipping declarations in 2015, there were 24,182 pre-declarations, 25,492 post-declarations and 261 shipment cancellations, bringing the total number registered to 49,945.

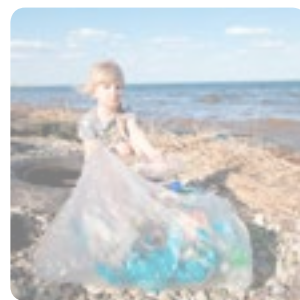
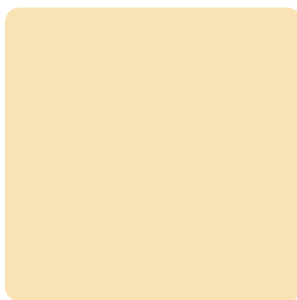
A total of 114 different routes were recorded in 2015, 50 passing through both **Flanders** and **Wallonia**, 46 only through **Flanders** and 18 only through **Wallonia** (criterion: entry point/exit point).

Below are the top five most frequently used routes:

Entry into Belgium	Exit from Belgium	Number of times
Adinkerke (E40/A18)	Postel (E34/A21)	9 966
Adinkerke (E40/A18)	Meer (E19/A1)	1 156
Hensies (E19/A7)	Eynatten (E40/A3)	1 006
Meer (E19/A1)	Rekkem (E17/A14)	893
Rekkem (E17/A14)	Meer (E19/A1)	599

The IRPC is not authorised to inspect actual cross-border movements of waste through Belgium. These inspections are carried out by the regional environmental inspectorates. However, the IRPC is involved if a notification has to be drawn up in relation to the return of waste from an illegal shipment.

In this context, the IRPC drew up and processed 21 abridged notifications in 2015, in addition to handling normal notifications. These abridged notifications were needed to deal with returns. It also processed two abridged notifications for returns submitted by a foreign authority.

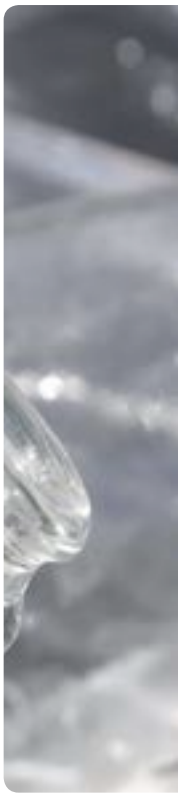


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