Circular economy and the role of waste management  
The case of Flanders

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Vice Mayor for Culture, Economy, City Maintenance and Property Management  
City of Antwerp

Flanders

- Own government, own waste and environment policy
- Best waste prevention results in Europe, lowest residuals/capita
  - 71% of household waste collected separately at source
  - 27% incinerated in w-t-e
  - Less than 1% of household waste to landfill
Order out of Chaos

- 1981: First Waste Decree – development of regional waste plans
- 1986-1990: First Waste Plan, long before Europe

OVAM

- Public Waste Agency of Flanders:
  - Established in 1981
  - Since 1998 mandatory selective collection of waste
  - Covenants and grants
  - Checks, sanctions, awareness campaigns
  - 308 municipalities, organised in 27 inter-municipal waste management organisations
Policy instruments

- Legal instruments: bylaws that make sorting obligatory
- Economical instruments: pay-as-you throw schemes combined with financial incentives
- Social instruments: communication campaigns, raising public awareness

Focus shift
Transition towards sustainable materials management

- Produce and consume in sustainable way
- Close the loop

EU Regulations

- Ensure same framework in every single EU Country
- Increase prevention and re-use
- Better measuring procedures
Circular Economy

- First step...
- Accompanied by product legislation
- Give real responsibility to producers

Role of municipalities

- Proven track record, key to success!!
- Integrate collection and recycling in local infrastructure, make sorting easy and convenient
- Municipalities best placed to communicate with citizens
- Avoid cherry picking
Let’s be more ambitious

- Material specific targets
- Stepwise implementation
- Control and feed-back mechanisms
- Ban on landfill of recyclable waste

ISWA WORLD CONGRESS ANTWERP
7-9 September 2015

- Focus on “international”, real world congress
- Waste in broader perspective
- Technology and policy
Some keynote speakers...

- **Dambisa Moyo** – writer and economist
- **David Newman** – President ISWA
- **Achim Steiner** – Executive Director UNEP
- **Dymphna Vanderlans** – CEO Clinton Climate Foundation
- **Rachel Kyte** – Vice President World Bank
- **Pierre-Yves Cousteau** – Cousteau Foundation
- **André Kuipers** – Astronaut
- **Siek Damuzoroe** – Pole explorer
- **Thomas Leysen** – Chairman Umicore
...and VIP guests

Raquel Lejtreger – Vice Minister Environment Uruguay

Oyun Snjaasuren – presidnet UNEA (Mongolia)

Grace Fu – Minister Environment Singapore

Abdel Aal – Minister Environment Egypt

Abdul Rahman Dahlan – Minister Housing Malaysia

More info?

www.iswa2015.org
LET’S MAKE THE MOST OF OUR RESOURCES AND WASTE
Questions?