

# Findings of POLFREE on policy mixes: approaches, results and recommendations

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and Resource Management

# Outline



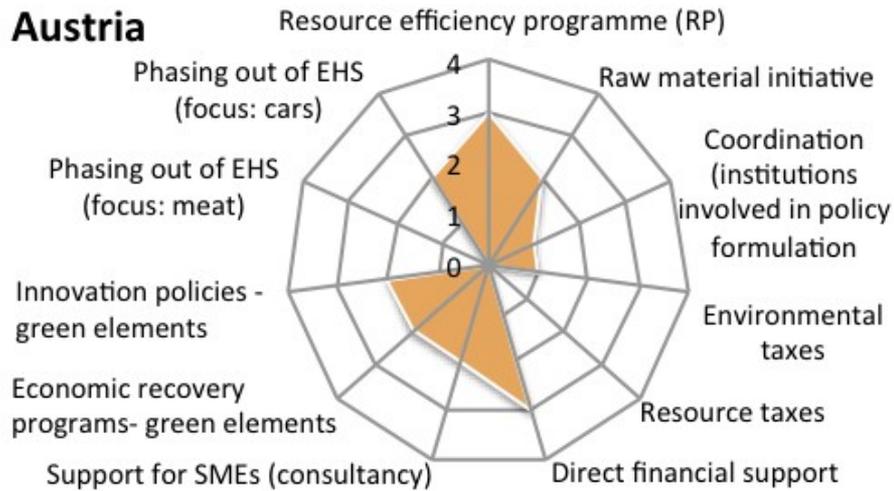
1. What kind of policy framework is needed to boost resource efficiency in Europe and leads to total reduction of both primary resource use and global environmental burdens?
  2. How can such a policy framework be formulated and implemented?
- POLFREE approach
  - Analytical results with regard to policy mixes
  - Conclusions

# Institutions and actors of resource markets: polycentric and multi-level governance

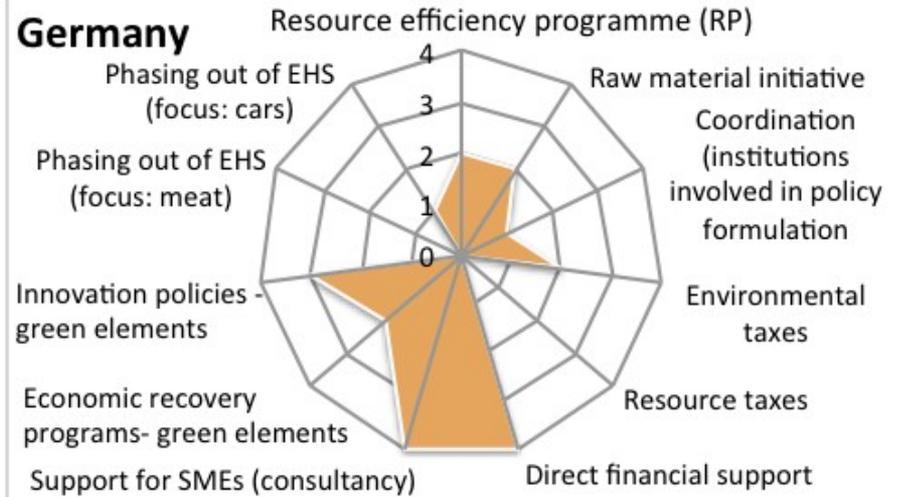


# National contexts for RE policy mixes

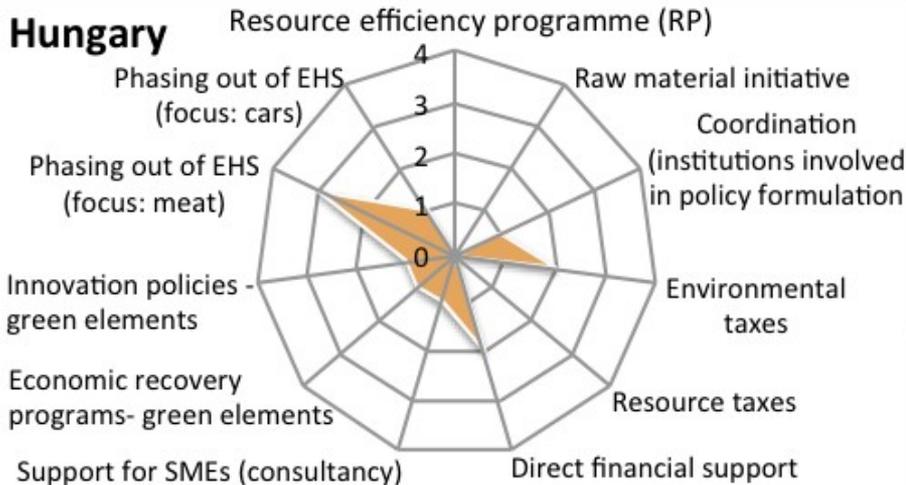
## Austria



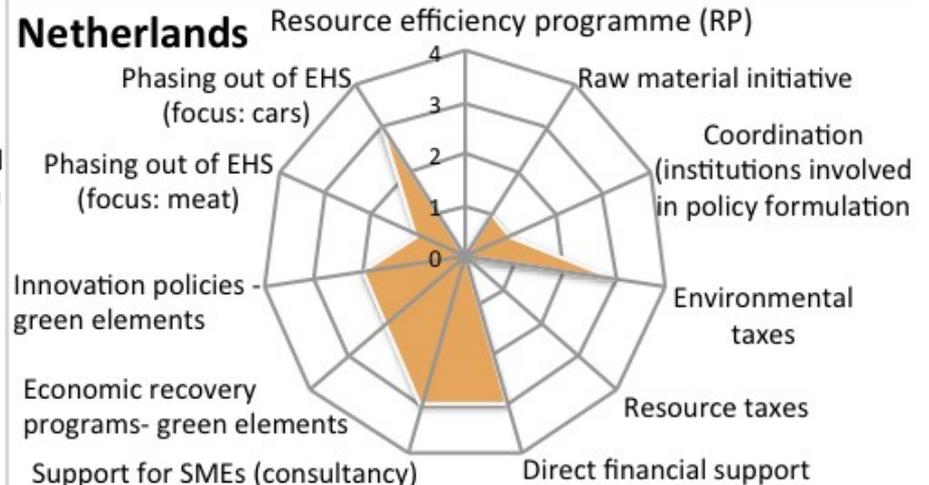
## Germany



## Hungary



## Netherlands



# National contexts for RE policy mixes

## The “web of constraints” as crucial starting point for policy mixes

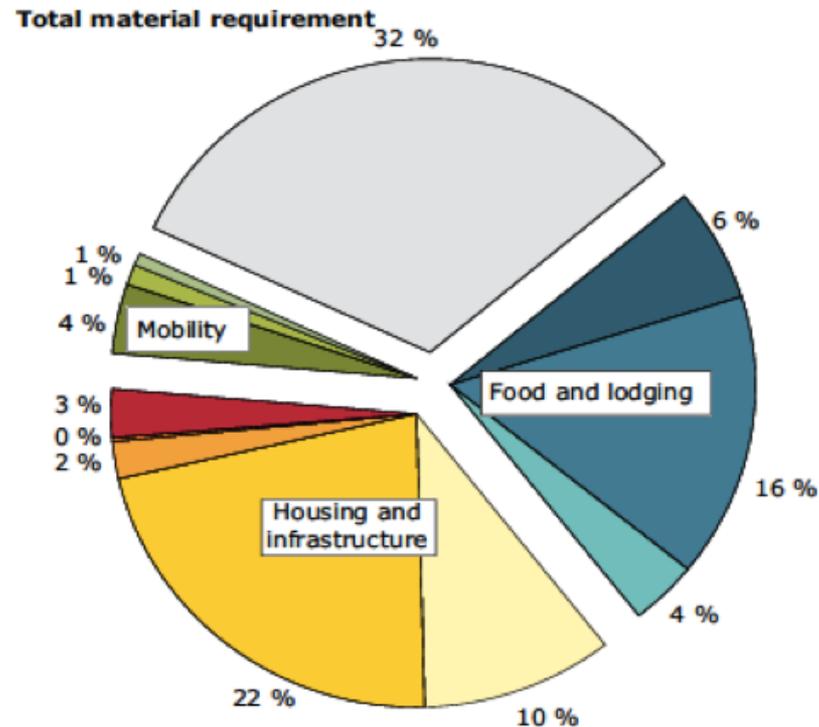
- Largely unexploited potentials especially with regard to eco-innovation and related investments.
- Lack of ambitious goals and a general uncertainty what a focused and targeted transformation to an improved resource management could mean.
- Role of national key sectors and their quantitative and qualitative contribution to path dependencies widely not transparent and unexplored

# Topics for the Case Studies

List based on the policy mix workshop, stakeholder workshops, the POLFREE vision and draft pathways, WP 2.1 and extensive literature review

- 1) Minimization of food waste losses alongside the value chain
- 2) Zero energy and material efficient buildings
- 3) Mobility
- 4) Electricity production and distribution
- 5) Industrial symbiosis network
- 6) Product Service Systems
- 7) Ecodesign Product Standards for a Circular Economy
- 8) Phasing out EHS
- 9) Internalization of costs

# Topics for the Case Studies



- Other products and services
- Agriculture products,
- Food products and beverages
- Hotel and restaurant service
- Electrical energy, gas, hot water
- Construction work
- Real estate services
- Private households (heating + others)
- Sewage and sanitation services
- Coke, refined petroleum products,
- Motor vehicles and trailers
- Trade and maintenance of motor vehicles
- Land transport
- Private households (transport)

# Methodological approach

Analysis of innovative policy mixes based on

- analysis of the existing framework for RE policies in ten countries,
- the description and analysis of specific instruments for an innovative waste policy mix and
- the analysis of the impacts, the effectiveness and potential barriers of the instruments

# Key trade-offs for RE policy mixes

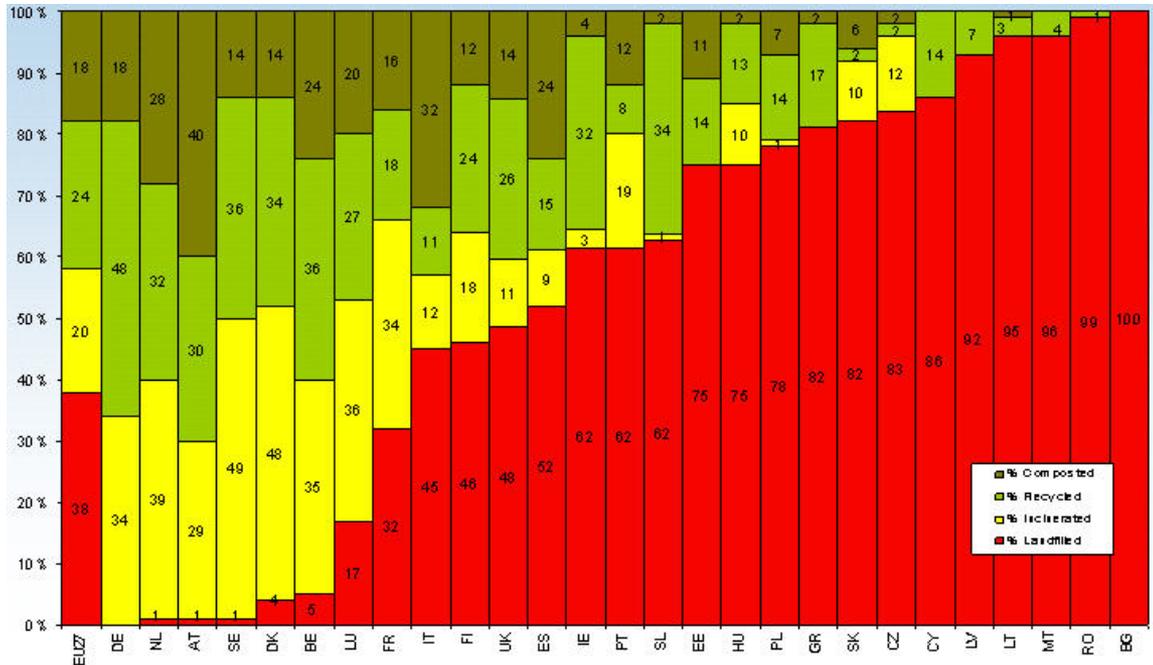
**If resource efficiency and the circular economy are win-win concepts, why don't we see faster progress?**

- The more ambitious an instrument, the lower the immediate profitability for the actors involved
- Trade-off between the predictability of an instrument and its flexibility
- Trade-off between the level of specificity of an instrument and its depth, the level of inclusions of up- and down stream actors

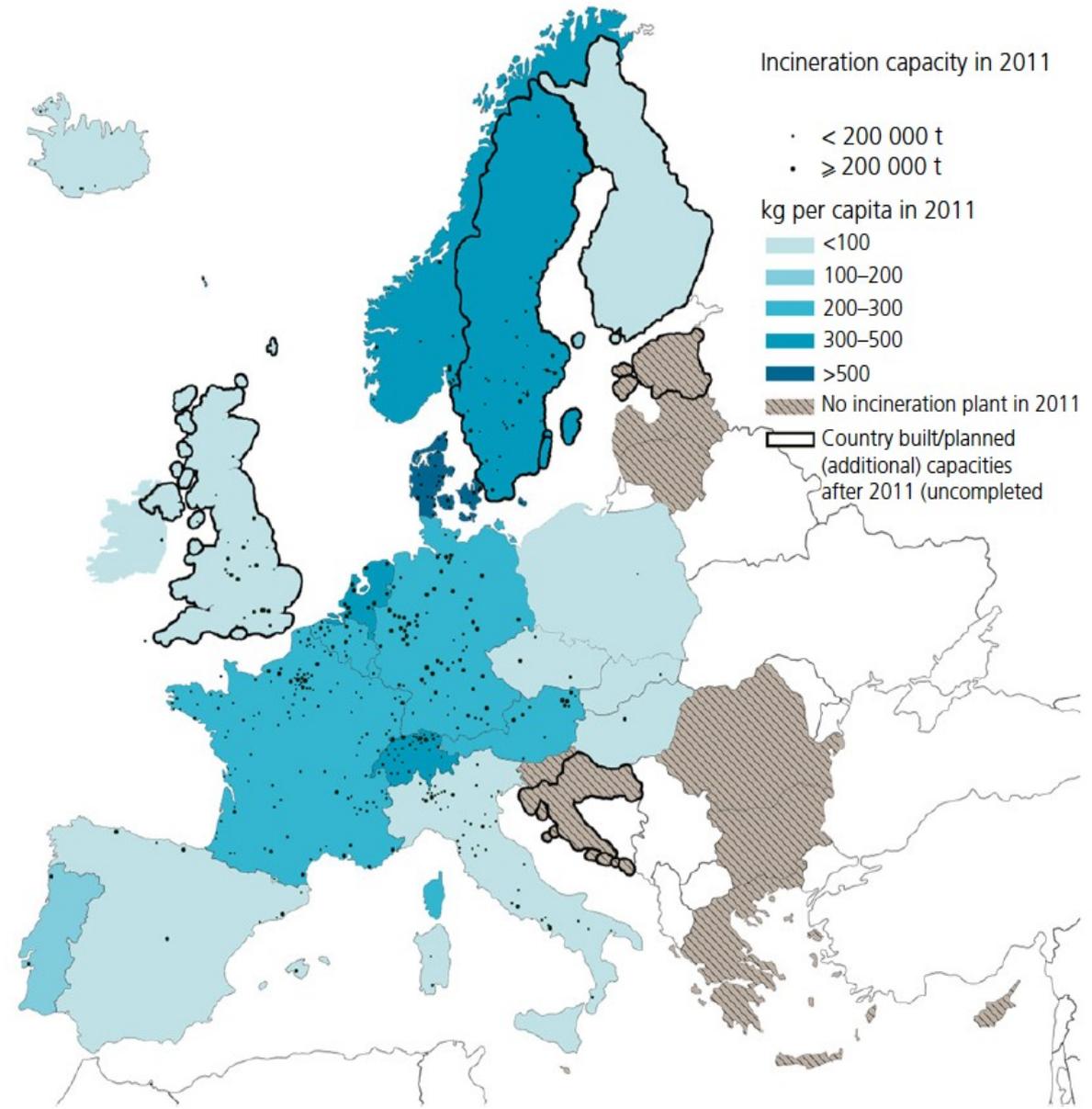
# The more ambitious an instrument, the lower the immediate profitability for the actors involved

## High expectations

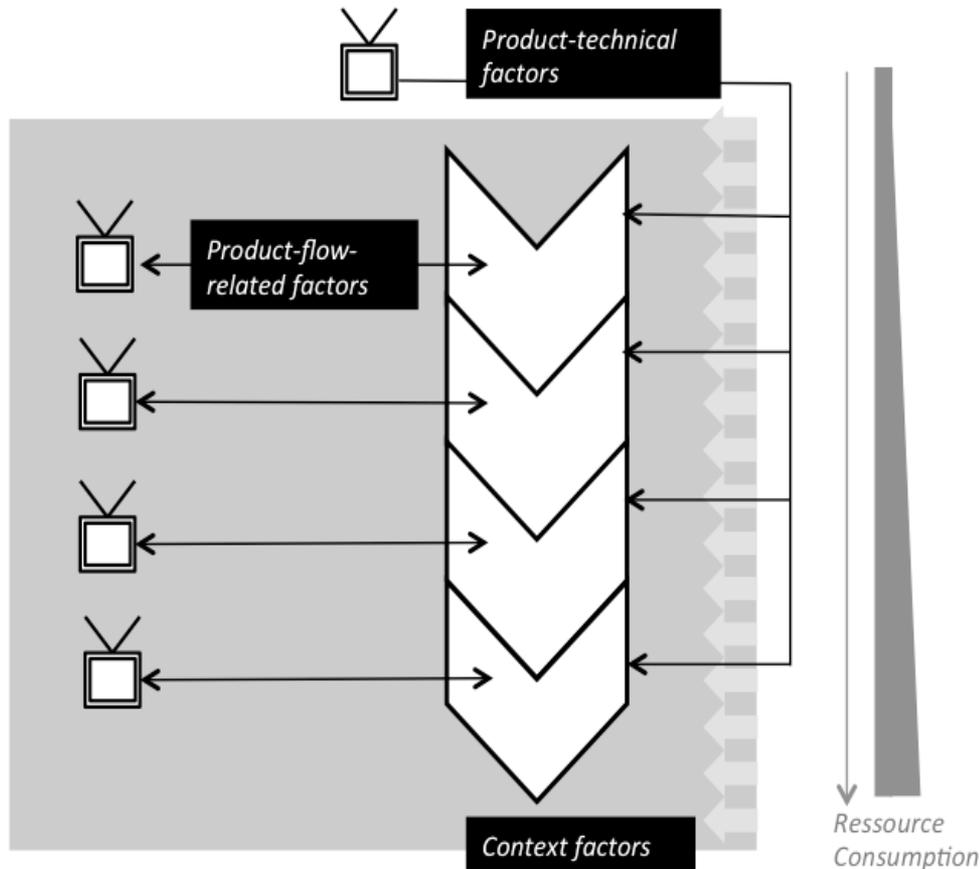
- resilient growth, reduced dependency on resource markets
- significant impact on innovation, employment, and capital productivity
- annual net material cost saving potential up to € 463 billion) in an *advanced scenario (EMF 2013)*



# Trade-off between the predictability of an instrument and its flexibility



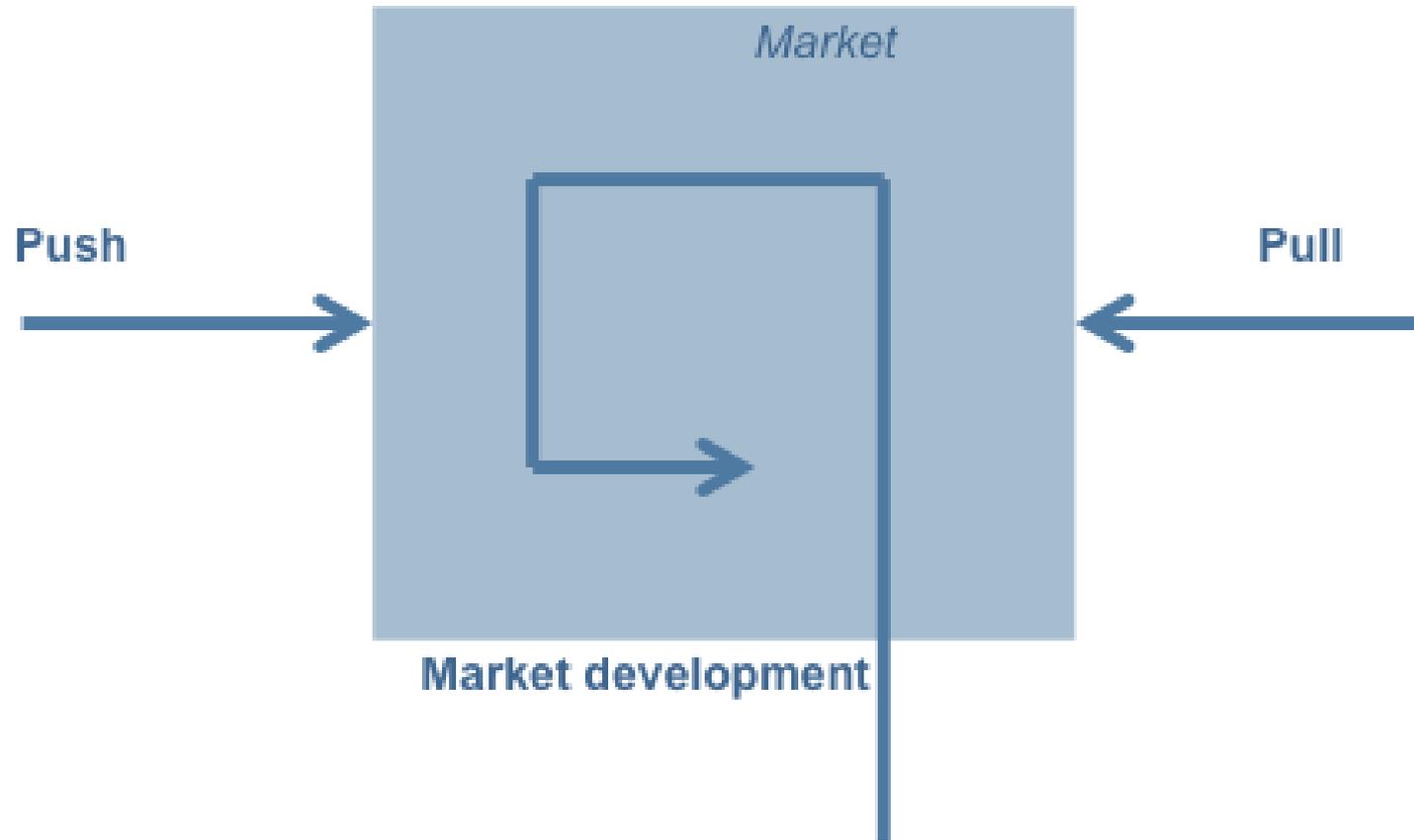
# Trade-off between the level of specificity of an instrument and its depth, the level of inclusions of up- and down stream actors



“Better design can make products more durable or easier to repair, upgrade or remanufacture.”

CE Action Plan

# Intervention points for RE policies – closing material loops



# Policy recommendations for CE policy instruments

- (1) Setting incentives for a more resource efficient product design by ***individual responsibility of producers***
- (2) Specific ***eco-design requirements*** that make reuse and repair of products economically viable
- (3) Establishment of ***waste targets that focus on the production of high quality secondary resources – recycled content quota***



**Thank you very much!**

