FROM WASTE DISPOSAL TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

OBJECTIVES AND RATIONALE FOR THE POLICY MIX
Main Goal: to favour the transition to the circular economy to deliver the resource efficiency agenda, by preventing waste and using waste as a resource through closed-loop systems
Milestone from the RE roadmap: “by 2020 waste is managed as a resource, waste generated per capita is in absolute decline”
From the POLFREE vision: in 2050 the EU reduces the scale of imports of materials such as metals as a result of closed-loop design and changes in the products and technologies to make them more durable, repairable and recyclable.

KEY FEATURES OF THE POLICY MIX
- Expand and improve extended producer responsibility schemes. Focus on individual responsibility
- Specific eco-design requirements to make reuse, repair and remanufacturing viable options, but also enhance recyclability
- Waste targets that focus on production of high-quality secondary products

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES
IPR
Different ways of implementing IPR, from financial to physical responsibility
Essential criteria needs to be laid down at the EU level
Clearing houses can establish fee based on return share
Administrative costs may be high but reduced with tagging technologies
Orphan products, introduction of financial guarantees
A few examples of applications of IPR- based on individual financial responsibility or physical responsibility. Different models of fee modulation based on return share, market share

Eco-design requirements
Implementing measures need to be defined at the EU level, but in a more dynamic way
Market surveillance need to be improved
Defining adequate parameters for reusability and reusability
Reuse networks and quality management and assurance of reused products

waste targets
- waste prevention target
- Resource intensity based recycling target
- Mandatory recycled content target