

Experience with the introduction of a mandatory deposit system in Germany

PRO EUROPE Deposit Workshop
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Political goals of the mandatory deposit system in Germany



Roland Berger has been involved in the discussion around a mandatory deposit system in Germany since the very first beginning

Time line and milestones **AGV**U **DEUTSCHE PFANDSYSTEM GMBH** HDE BVE Study on **PHASES** mandatory **Preparation of Preparation for** Support after deposits security labels System design implementation system launch 12/2000 07/2003 09/2004 04/2005 01/2006 04/2006 02/2007 Study of the Introduction of Launch of DPG Finalization of Support following efficiency and security labels Design of modular DPG's work. launch May 2006, **ACTIVITY PROGRAM** Three-phase project impact of service strategy focusing on focusing on - Investigation of · Creation of three Technical issues compulsory Contracts deposits for technologies focus groups for Integrated field Clearing Short list of technology, legal disposable drinks testing Managing Accreditation conflicts/ packaging technologies and issues and • Findings: procedural Quality units arbitration suppliers

organization -

defined in all

22 work modules

Final selection of

contest.

contractual

negotiations

suppliers, beauty

Source: Roland Berger, DPG

Compulsory

serve the in-

and ecological

purpose

deposits do not

tended economic

Income statement

Updating DPG

contracts

Public relations

Special issues



The major political goal of the German Packaging Ordinance is to stabilize and increase the share of refillable packaging

Political goals of the German Packaging Ordinance in respect of drinks

Goal	Intended impact	Description
Refillable packaging quota		To stabilize and increase the refillable packaging quota
Littering	9	To reduce litter from disposable drinks packaging thrown away in public spaces
Recovery/ recycling	2	To increase recycling of materials from which disposable drinks packaging are made of



Since May 2005, a uniform deposit of 25ct has been compulsory, e.g. for beer, water and soft drinks sold in disposable packaging

Compulsory deposit regulation in Germany

A compulsory deposit ...

... of 25 cents applies only to certain types of drinks ...

... sold in certain types of packaging (type and size)

Compulsory deposits

- Deposit is levied initially by the bottler and then passed down through every link in the retail chain
- Consumers pay the deposit when they buy

25 cents

- Beer, mixed drinks containing beer and nonalcoholic beer
- Water
 - Carbonated or not
 - Flavored or not
- Soft drinks
 - Carbonated or not
- **Energy drinks**
- Fruit juice drinks
- Mixed alcohol drinks
- Exception: Diet & sugar free drinks

From 0

- Ruling applies to volumes from 0.1 liter through 3 liters
- Materials covered:
 - Metal
 - Glass
 - Plastics

Obligation to accept returns

- Retailers must take back empty packaging ...
 - ... in return for the deposit
 - ... free of charge
 - ... in the vicinity of the place of sale

Uniform compulsory deposit of 25 cents regardless of the type of drink and size of the container

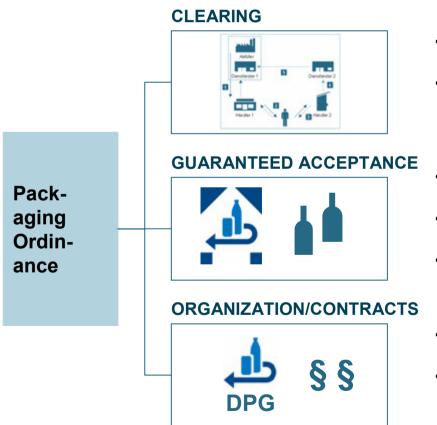


Set up of the system and organizational implications for B. stakeholders



Clearing, guaranteed acceptance and organizational set up were the main requirements arising from the Packaging Ordinance

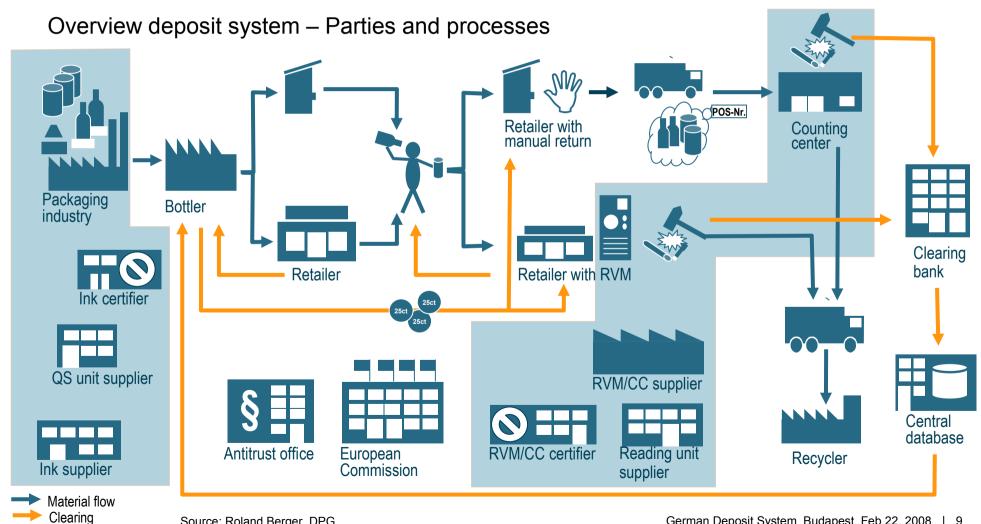
Requirements arising from the Packaging Ordinance for a deposit system



- Settlement of disparities in deposits arising from sale and return via different outlets
- Establishment of a uniform clearing system between around 100,000 POS that sell disposable packages
- **High deposits** in absolute terms, **potential for fraud** in neighboring countries, EAN alone easy to copy
- Security solution needed to verify deposit authorization on return
- **DPG logo printed** in **security colors** straight onto containers/labels
- Entire value chain involved, including a large number of companies with no legal relationships to each other
- · Organizational anchor is the DPG (Deutsche Pfandsystem GmbH) and a network of contractual relationships



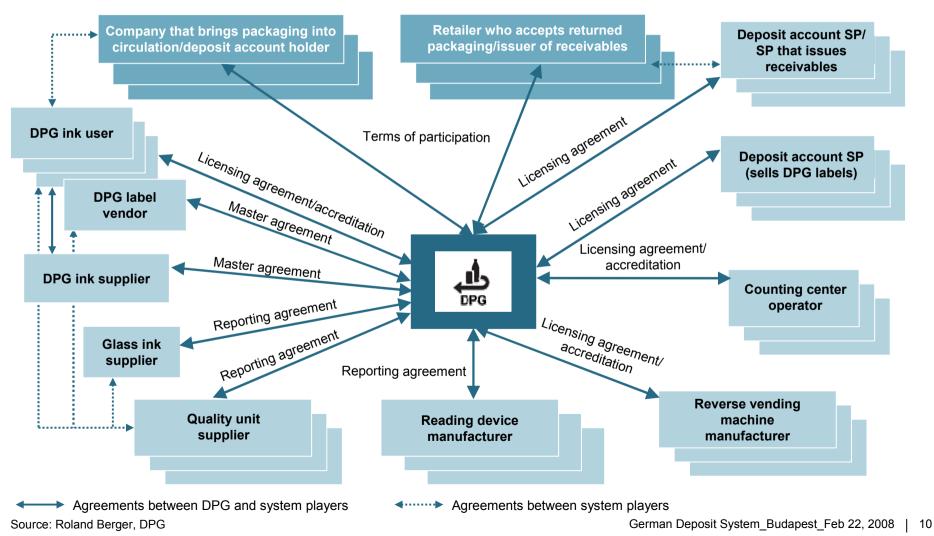
After fulfilling all requirements an extremely complex process came into being involving retail, industry and many other parties



Source: Roland Berger, DPG



All participating parties had to be legally involved into the system – a highly complex contractual framework was established





All involved stakeholders are facing major changes – adaptation of production, warehouse and logistics processes necessary

Implications for stakeholders

Packaging industry



- Certification needed for production plants
 - Initial certification
 - Annual re-certification
- Alignment of production processes according to certification guidelines
- Set up quality control system for DPG-symbol
- Investment for in-line or offline inspection systems

Bottlers



- Redesign of labels / decors on cans in order to show DPG-symbol
- Use of **new** and separate **EAN** for products under mandatory deposit
- Identify certified label printer / can manufacturer for production of packaging
- Build secure warehouse for storage of empty cans / labels (danger of theft)

Retailers



- Extensive investments in reverse vending machines
 - Acquisition of new machines
 - Adaptation of existing machines
- Use of shop space for reverse vending machines and storage for returned containers
- Set up of separate logistics for returned containers



Technical details of security system



High deposits and considerable potential for fraud necessitate the use of security technologies – EANs alone insufficient

Details of the need for security technology

Deposit amount and manufacturing costs

- At 25 cents, deposit is high in absolute terms
- It is also very high relative to the price of the drink and the container





- EAN code is easy to copy if it is the only security feature
- Weight and form recognition systems for disposable



packaging are unsuitable

Numerous neighboring countries

- Neighboring countries
 - Sell drinks without levying deposits
 - Have varying income levels

Need for secure technology

 Use of reverse vending machines creates an anonymous environment,

which significantly lowers the threshold for fraud relative to manual, face-to-face returns



Existing recognition methods unsuitable

Containers returned anonymously at machines



From five fundamentally different security solutions the direct marking for labels and cans was chosen

Technology security solutions

Existing markings





- Additional markings
 - Top engraving
 - UV-strip

Value label



Visible and invisible security markings

Code-Label



· Unique code for each container

Transponder



 Micro wire produced from a special material composition

Direct marking

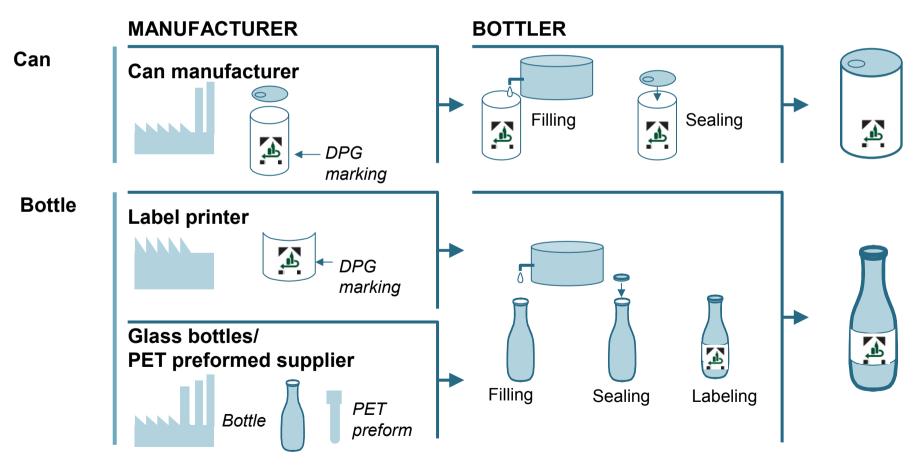


Direct application of security ink on label / can



Production of packaging is heavily affected by introduction of DPG marking with special DPG-Ink – bottling process remains the same

Production process



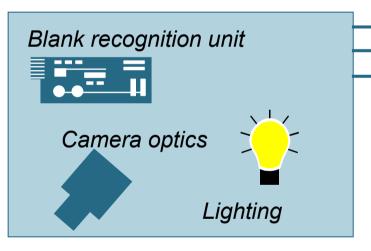


Reading units had to be integrated into RVMs for recognition of DPGmarking – retrofitting RVMs possible – high investment for retailers

Retrofitting reading technology

Reading unit

Reverse vending machine



 Production of reading units is possible by use of operating descriptions distributed by the DPG with the use of available standard components

RVM - Reverse Vending Machine



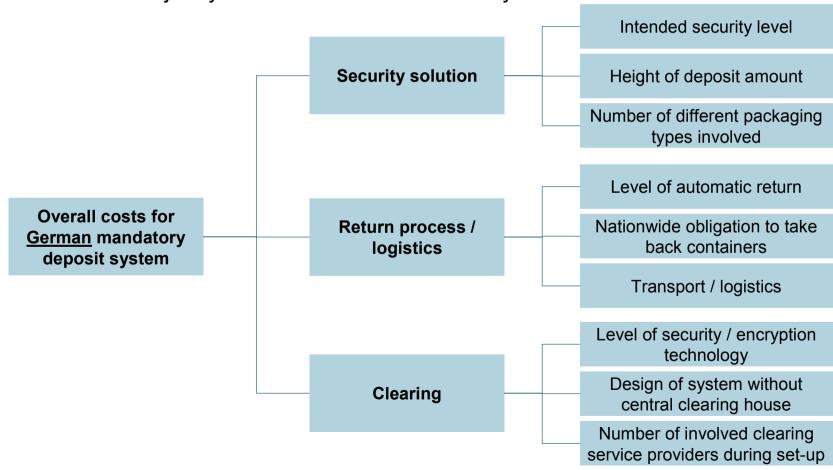
Financial implications for stakeholders D.



The overall costs for the deposit system depend on numerous system specific variables

Selection of major system cost variables Germany

Source: DPG, Roland Berger





The various stakeholders involved in the system in Germany have to shoulder high investments and significant ongoing annual costs

Overview system costs

Stakeholders

Retail

- Industry
- Bottlers
- Packaging manufacturers
 - Label printers
 - Can manufacturers

Parameters analyzed

Investment to develop the deposit system

- Assumption: Replacement investment is effected in each period
- Depreciation is based on useful life and is factored into the annual cost

Annual cost to operate and maintain the deposit system1)

 Assumption: Market volume of 14 billion disposable containers p.a.

Costs

Initial investment:

EUR 726 m Retail 702 m Industry 24 m

Annual cost: EUR 793 m Retail 699 m Industry 94 m

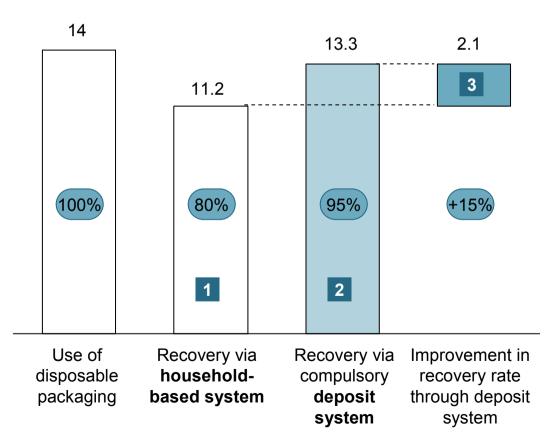
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¹⁾ Annual costs calculated for market in steady state



In comparison to the existing household-based collecting system the deposit system can only slightly increase the recycling rate

Recovery volumes by collection system [billion units]



Comments

- Recovering disposable containers via household-based systems leads to a recycling rate of ca. 80%
 - DSD's container recovery rate stood at around 80% before compulsory deposit was introduced
- Compulsory deposit systems can achieve around 95%
- Increase of 15% is realized thanks to superior return levels
 - Deposit creates incentive to return containers
 - Containers that consumers throw away are mainly returned via other collectors



For this slight increase in recycling rate a second complex and costly system had to be organized – marginal cost of 22ct for each container

Marginal cost analysis: household-based recovery versus compulsory deposit

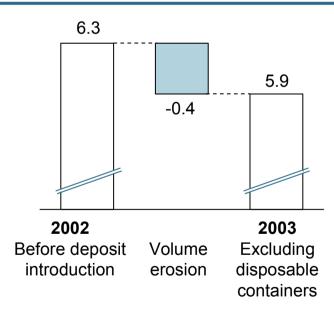
Volume [billion units] Annual cost [EUR m] Per con-22.0 5.3 2.2 tainer [ct] 14 793 13.3 2.1 Revenue of material sale 82 461 11.2 711 100% 80% 95% +15% 250 Disposable Household-Recovery ∆ between **DSD License** Cost of ∆ between packaging via deposit fees from based two deposit two recovery systems systems household system systems system German Deposit System Budapest Feb 22, 2008 | 21



Compulsory deposits have deprived DSD of 400,000 t of recyclable materials – Licensing revenues thus down by EUR 250 million p.a.

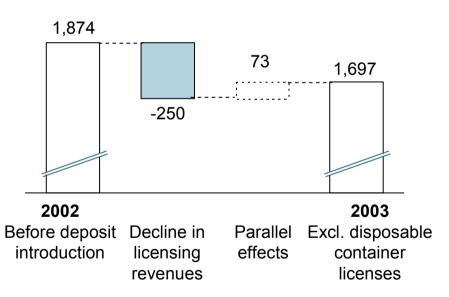
Household-based collection, 2002-2003

Collected volume [million t]



- Since compulsory deposits were introduced in 2003, disposable containers were no longer collected via household-based systems
- Dual systems are thus losing around 400.000 t of good recyclable material per year

Sales [EUR m]

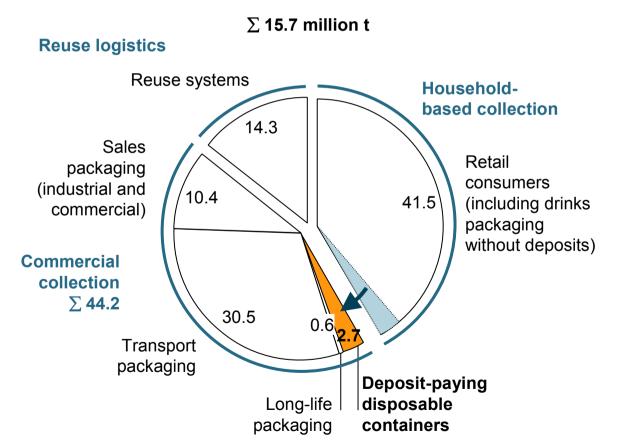


- DSD sales hit EUR 1.9 bn p.a. before deposits
- Since deposits were introduced, licensing revenues have declined by around EUR 250 million p.a.
- Positive business development has provided little compensation



Disposable drinks packaging account for only a small fraction of the total packaging waste volume – 2.7% in 2005

Packaging consumption by form of collection in 2005 [%]



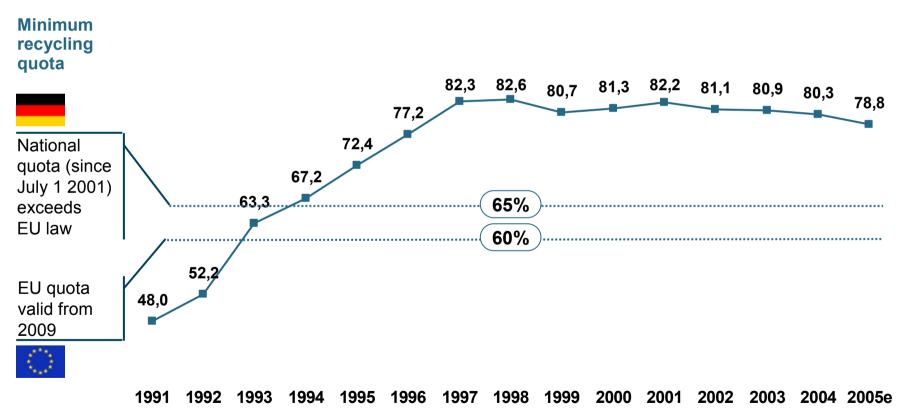
Notes

- The market defined by the Packaging Ordinance consists of three parts:
 - Household-based collection
 - Commercial collection
 - Reuse logistics
- Introduction of compulsory deposits took disposable drinks packaging out of the household-based collection segment and fed it into a separate collection system



Germany already meets the minimum national recycling quota (Packaging Ordinance) and the EU standards valid as of 2009

Recycling quotas for selected materials¹⁾ in Germany, 1991-2005 [%]



¹⁾ Glass, tinplate, aluminum, plastics, paper and liquid packaging board account for around 82% of total packaging consumption



E. Market development since introduction of the system



Mandatory deposit has not reached its goal of stabilizing share of refillable packaging – inefficiencies due to parallel collection systems

Overview market impacts of deposit system

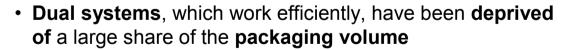


Impact on retail and industry



- Refillable packaging quota not stabilized
- Drivers for disposable drink packaging remain intact
- Investments necessary in systems to accept returned packaging and in a clearing system

Impact on the recycling market



- Efficiency of dual systems has been eroded Remaining licensees may face price increases
- A separate collection system for disposable drinks packaging had to be set up and operated at considerable expense



Despite the introduction of the mandatory deposit system, the drivers for disposable drinks packaging remain intact

Drivers for disposable drinks packaging

Drivers

Bottlers

- **Innovation** in the design and functionality of packaging
- Disposable packaging permits superior brandspecific differentiation
- **Innovative products** tested using disposable packaging
- Bottlers want to recoup their investments
- Disposable containers less complex to handle

Retailers

- Efficient returns
 - Economies of scale
- Less retail space needed than for refillables
- Revenues from raw materials in some cases
- Product diversity
- **Discounter** business model not suitable for refillable packaging
- Low barriers to entry for private labels
- Increasing automation

Consumers

- Price-driven shopping
- Availability
- **Distinction** between disposable and refillable becoming blurred -Deposits levied on both
- Consumers choose functional packaging that suits their situation
- Disposable packaging can be returned anywhere
- Little space needed at home

Effect on disposable packaging



Source: Roland Berger

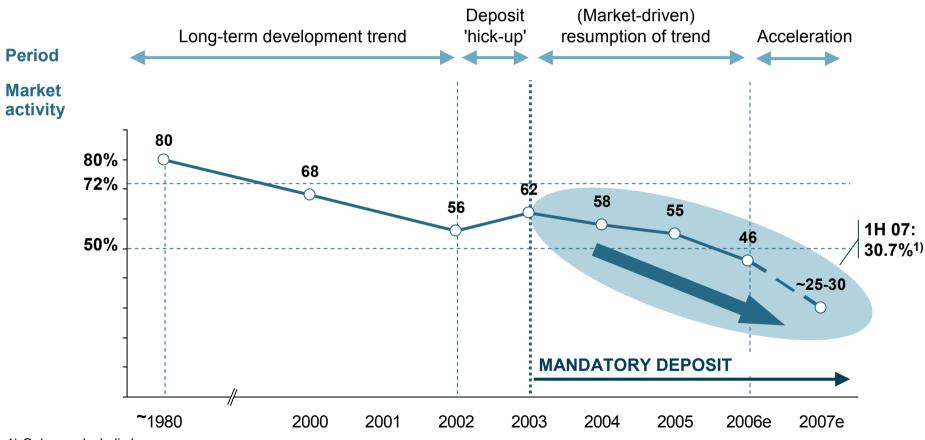






As drivers for one-way packaging are intact the share of refillable packaging keeps on declining

Trend in the proportion of refillable packaging in Germany, 1980-2007 [%]

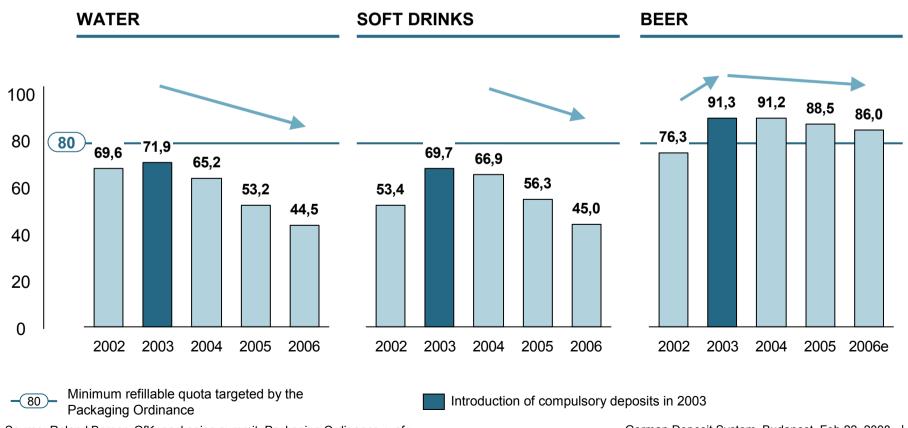


¹⁾ Only nonalcoholic beverages



Brief improvement in share of refillable packaging only directly after introduction of deposit in 2003 – since then decline in all categories

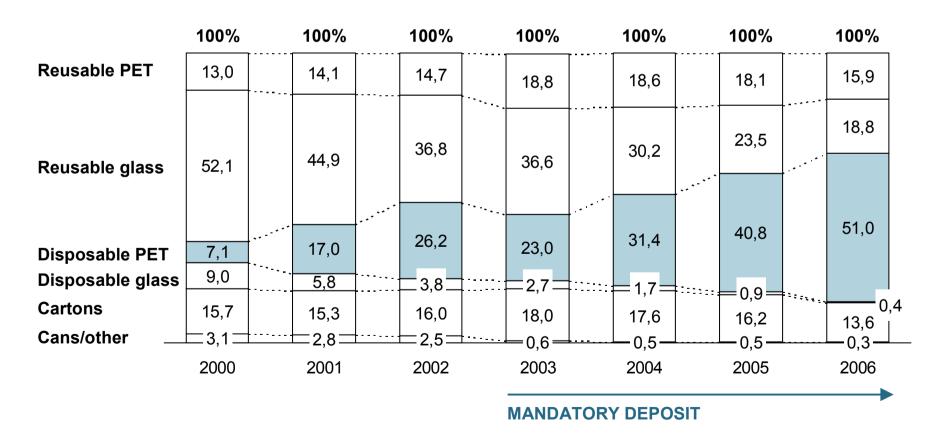
Trend in share of refillable drinks packaging





Growth in disposable PET bottles for non-alcoholic drinks halted briefly after deposit introduction – and has since doubled

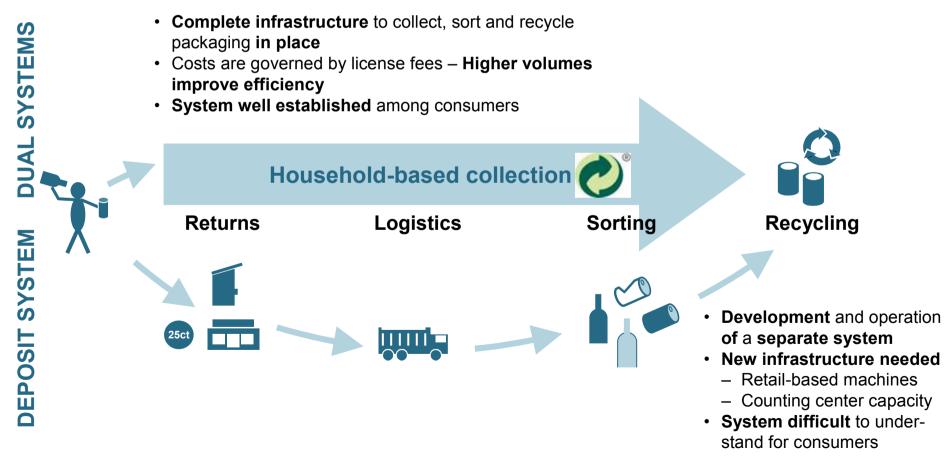
Packaging structure for non-alcoholic drinks [%]





Operating a compulsory deposit system in parallel erodes efficiency of household-based collection – existing infrastructure is not used

Collection systems





F. Concluding remarks



In terms of environmental policy, the mandatory deposit in Germany did not meet the goals of the Packaging Ordinance

Intended impact

MORE REFILLABLE PACKAGING Environmental policy **LESS LITTERING** goals for compulsory deposits MORE RECYCLING

Actual impact

- Introduction of compulsory deposits significantly accelerated the destabilization of the refillable packaging system
- Refillable quota is falling consistently
- Drinks packaging account for only 6% of littering, so hardly any material impact



• The majority of litter in the form of nonpackaging materials – film/foil, cigarettes, etc. - remains unaffected



- Drinks packaging account for only 2.7% of packaging consumption, so no material impact
- Recycling rates already high mainly thanks to dual systems



A clear definition of goals wanted from the deposit system should be prepared prior to a detailed introduction planning

Concluding remarks

When discussing the introduction of a deposit system the following questions should be answered first

What are the major goals and motivations for setting up a deposit system? What should be achieved?

Are all involved parties **aware of** the **complexity** and the **costs** for the design / set up of the system?

Are there **alternatives** for achieving the same goals and achievements in a less complex way?

Always keep an eye on the overall goal in order to prevent suboptimal solutions



G. Contacts



Please contact us with any questions or issues you would like to raise. Thank you!

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