

Presentation at 2016 Aarhus Centres Annual Meeting

Vienna, 22 November 2016

More from less – material resource efficiency in Europe

2015 overview of policies, instruments and targets in 32 countries



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About the European Environment Agency



- Specialized EU agency
- Located in Copenhagen
- 39 member and cooperating countries
- Eionet network in the countries

‘The EEA aims to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe’s environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy makers and the public’

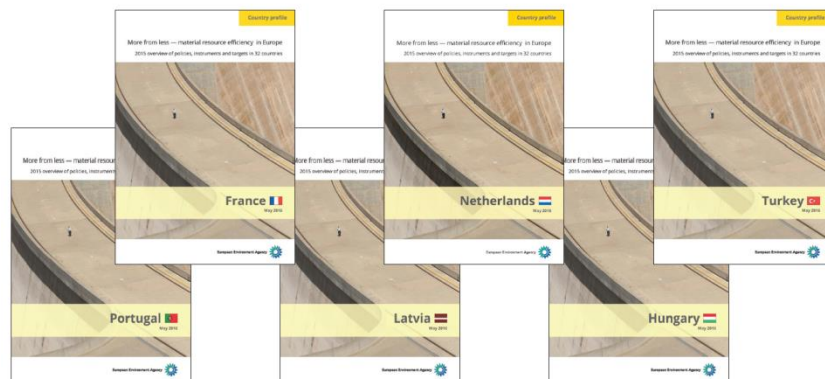
Context for the 2015 overview of resource efficiency policies



Main goal is to encourage **information sharing** and **capacity building** within EEA's Eionet network

Insights and knowledge to support the **implementation of EU policies**, e.g., Resource efficiency roadmap, Circular economy action plan

An integral part of the report are **32 country profiles**, self-assessments prepared by countries. Information is current as of end 2015



The analysis builds on the earlier EEA review **“Resource efficiency in Europe”** published in 2011



Coverage and scope



Focus on **material resources across the lifecycle**, corresponding to the scope of MFA

EU regulatory framework and **trends in EU material use** are discussed in the report, to provide context for national information

However, the exercise was **not intended** as a review of compliance

Showcasing **examples of good practice** / innovative approaches taken in the countries



Some noteworthy examples



Albania

- National Energy Efficiency Action Plan, 2011-2018
- Law on Integrated Waste Management



Belgium

- Plan C, Transition Network for Sustainable Materials Management (Flanders)
- Marshall Plan 4.0-circular economy (Wallonia)



Croatia

- Act on Sustainable Waste Management (2013)
- Act on Mining (2013)



Denmark

- Circular economy policy toolkit
- Indicators of resource efficiency at the sector level



Finland

- National Material Efficiency Programme (2014)
- By 2017, all new public buildings should be near-zero-energy



France

- Law on Consumption (2014), addressing lifespan of products
- National Council for Ecological Transition



Hungary

- National Environmental Technology Innovation Strategy
- Set of 2020 targets for resource management and efficiency



Austria

- Resource Efficiency Action Plan (2012)
- Food is Precious Initiative



Bulgaria

- National Development Programme Bulgaria 2020
- Operational Programme on Innovation and Competitiveness 2014-2020



Czech Republic

- Secondary Raw Materials Policy (2014) and Action Plan
- Vision 2024 and a 'decatalogue' for a circular economy



Estonia

- Estonia 2020 National Reform Programme
- Good Practice of Involvement



Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

- Strategy for Sustainable Development (2010)
- Ecolabel scheme for tourism facilities



Germany

- ProGress Resource Efficiency Programme
- Closed Cycle Management Act



Iceland

- The Icelandic Recycling Fund
- Waste Prevention Policy



Ireland

- Towards a Resource Efficient Ireland 2014-2020 strategy
- Stop Food Waste Challenge



Latvia

- Targets in the Sustainable Development Strategy Latvia 2030
- Interim targets in mid-term sectoral strategies



Netherlands

- Circular economy programme From Waste to Resource (2014)
- Research studies on materials critical for the Dutch economy



Portugal

- Green Growth Commitment
- Set of targets for material use and resource efficiency



Slovenia

- Operational programme for the EU Cohesion policy 2014-2020
- Draft framework programme for green growth



Italy

- National Plan to Prevent Food Waste (2014)
- Green public procurement Action Plan to promote recycled materials



Liechtenstein

- Action Plan for Use of Recycled Materials in Public Construction



Norway

- By 2020, 67.5% of total energy use to come from renewables
- Extended producer responsibility agreements on packaging waste



Serbia

- National Strategy for Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Goods (2012)
- Network of Energy Managers



Spain

- National Plan on Waste 2015-2020
- National strategy 'More Food Less Waste'



Kosovo*

- *Under the UN Security Council Resolution 1244/99
- Mining Strategy of the Republic of Kosovo 2012-2025
- Funds for environmental protection



Lithuania

- National Environmental Protection Strategy 2015
- National Forestry Sector Development Programme



Poland

- Strategy for Innovation and Efficiency of the Economy
- Action Plan for Security of Supply of non-energy raw materials



Slovakia

- Raw Materials Policy
- Methodological guide for green public procurement



Sweden

- Generational goal and environmental quality objectives
- Centre for Resource Efficiency CERISE



Switzerland

- Green Economy Dialogue
- LCA-based analysis to identify priority sectors (R'eFF report)



Turkey

- 10th Development Plan and its Priority Transformation Programs
- Valuation of natural resources and ecosystem services



United Kingdom

- Resource Security Action Plan and Pilot Resources Dashboard
- Safeguarding Scotland's Resources 2013



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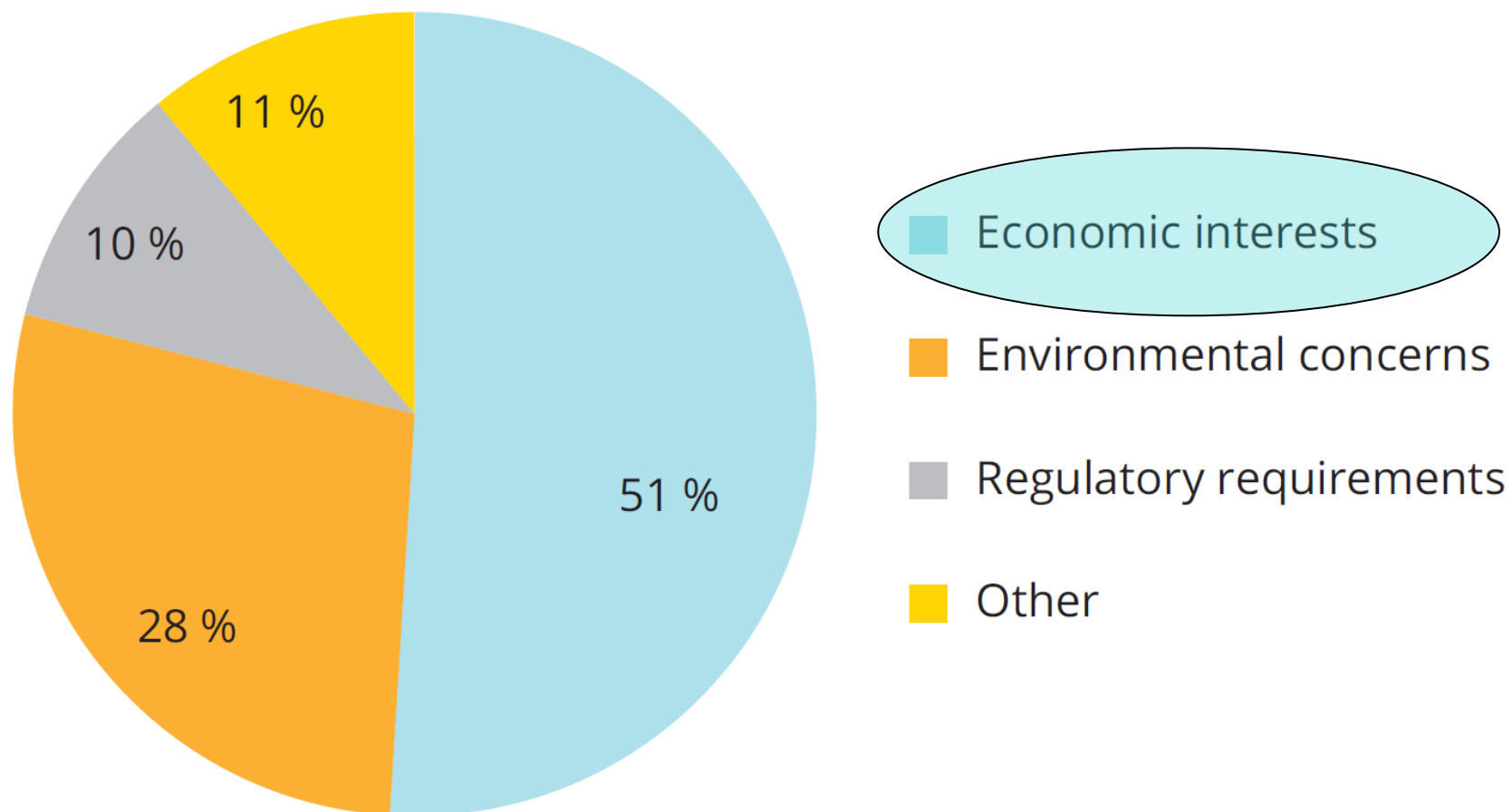
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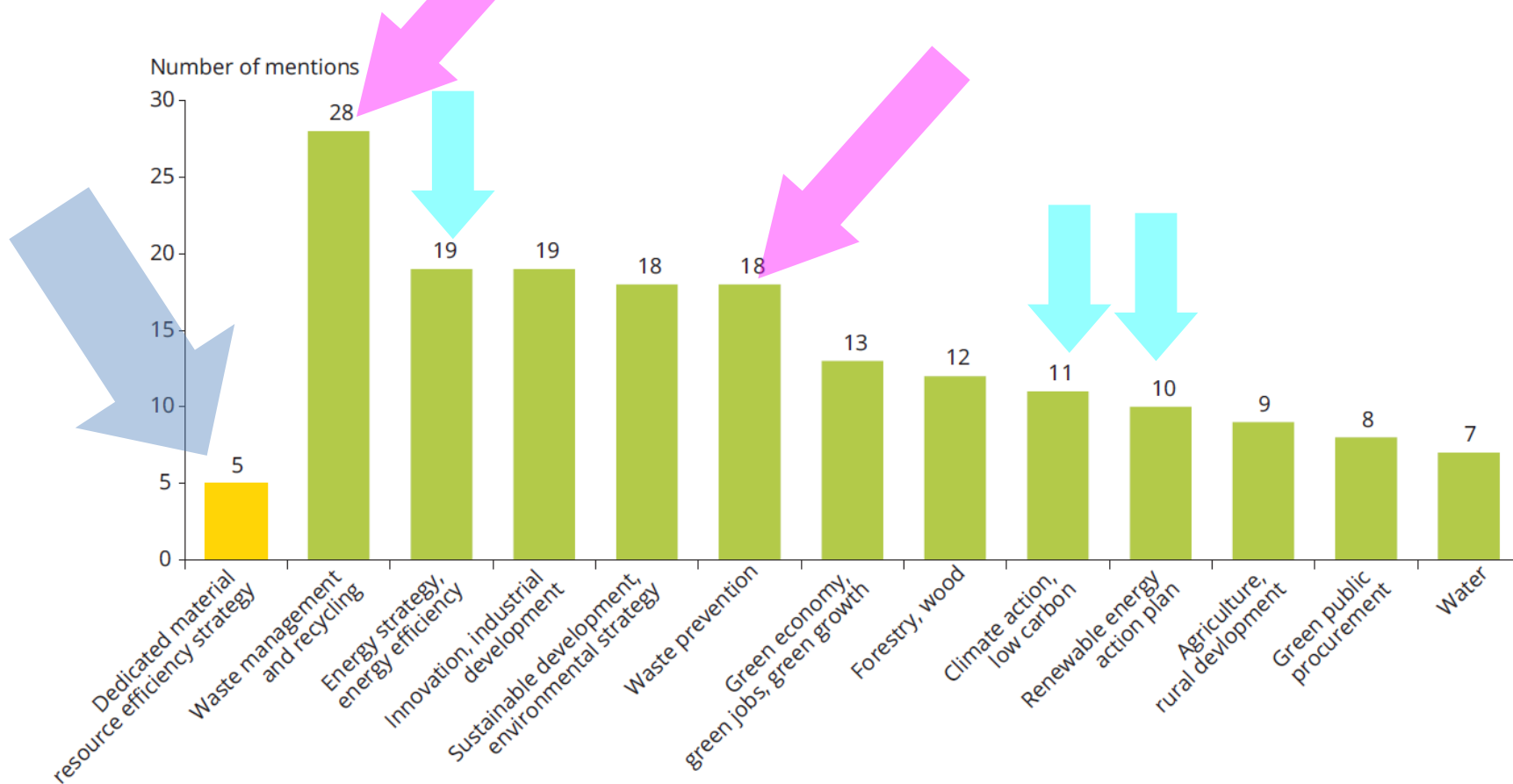


Driving forces for resource efficiency



Policies and strategies which include resource efficiency

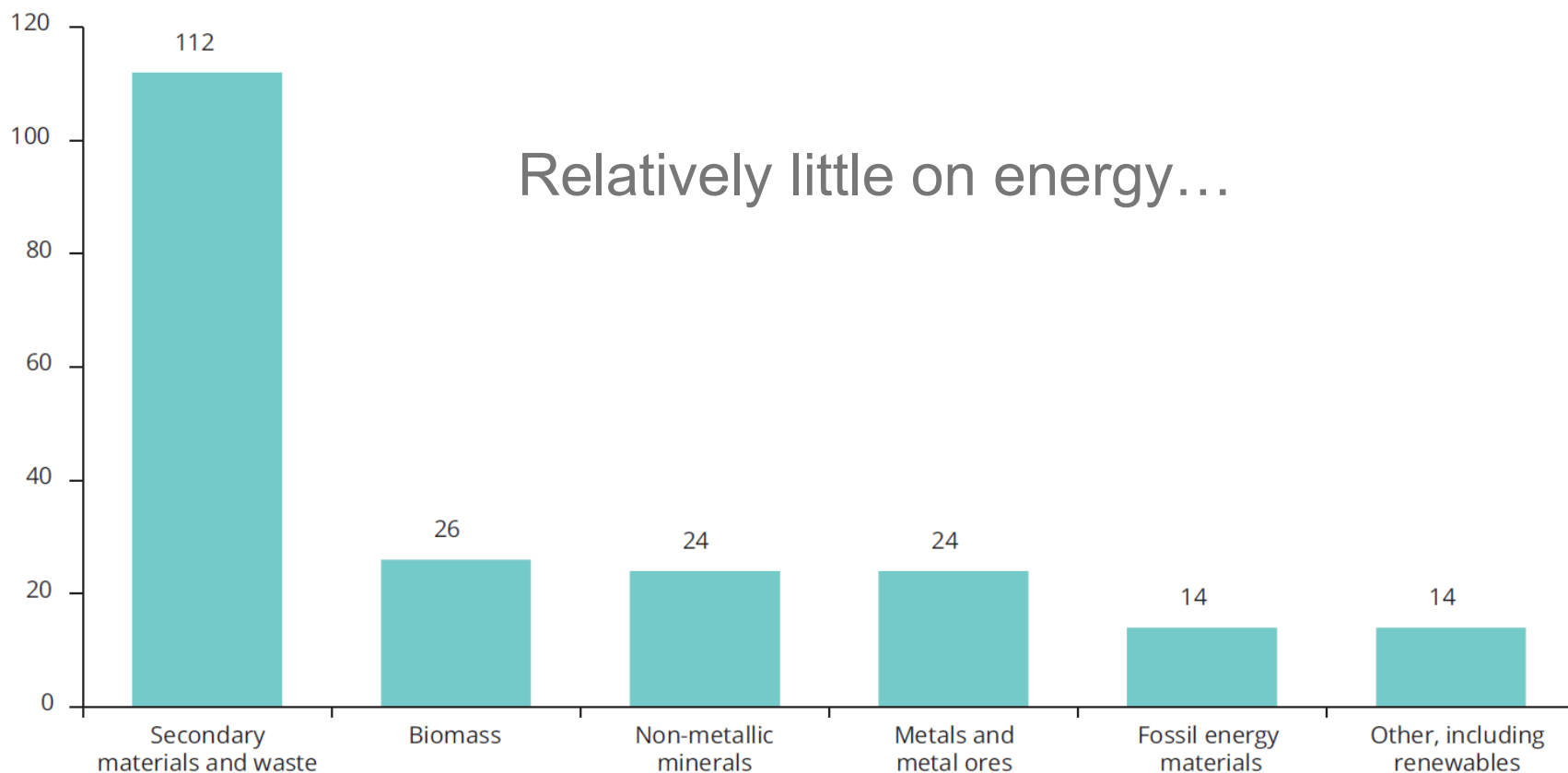
Figure 3.1 Overview of policies and strategies addressing material resource efficiency among various topics (*) (seven or more mentions)



Priority materials by broad category

Figure 6.1 Priority materials by broad category and number of times reported as a priority

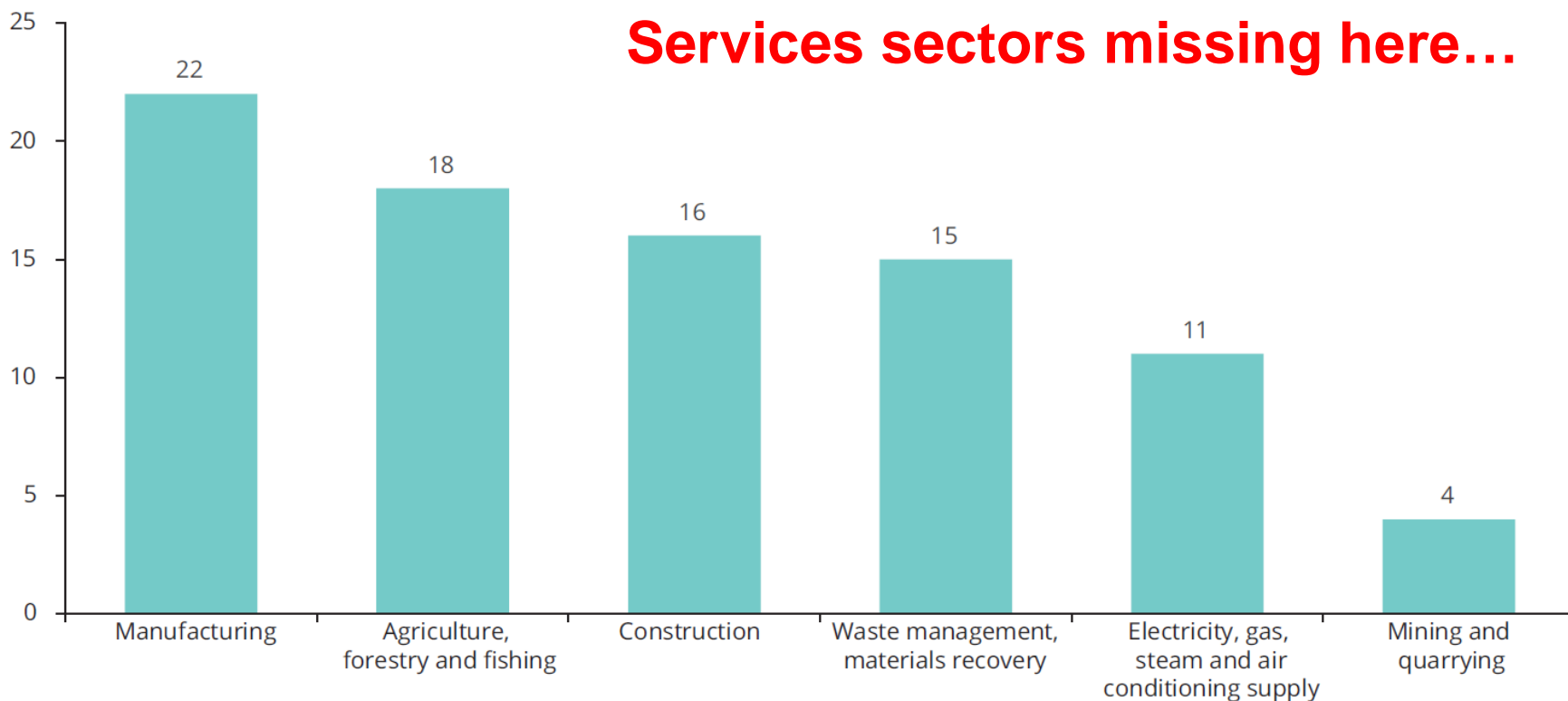
Number of times reported as a priority



Priority industries and economic sectors

Figure 6.2 Priority industries and economic sectors (reported by four or more countries), grouped by NACE (*) classification

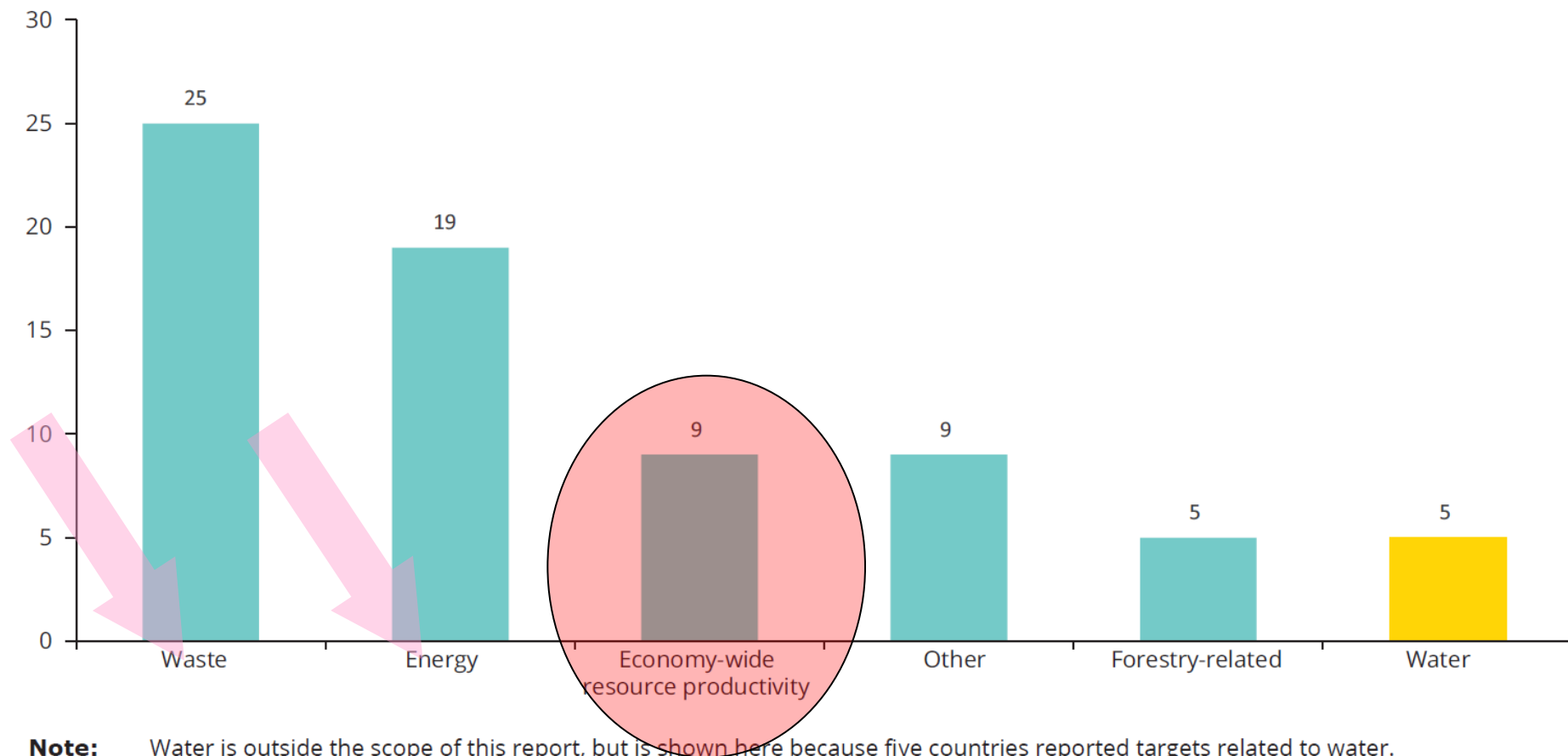
Number of times reported as a priority



Reported targets for resource efficiency

Figure 9.1 Number of countries reporting on targets, by type of target

Number of countries reporting



Note: Water is outside the scope of this report, but is shown here because five countries reported targets related to water.

Targets for economy-wide resource productivity

Nine countries reported having adopted a measurable material resource efficiency / resource productivity target...

Austria

Estonia

France

Germany

Hungary

Latvia

Poland

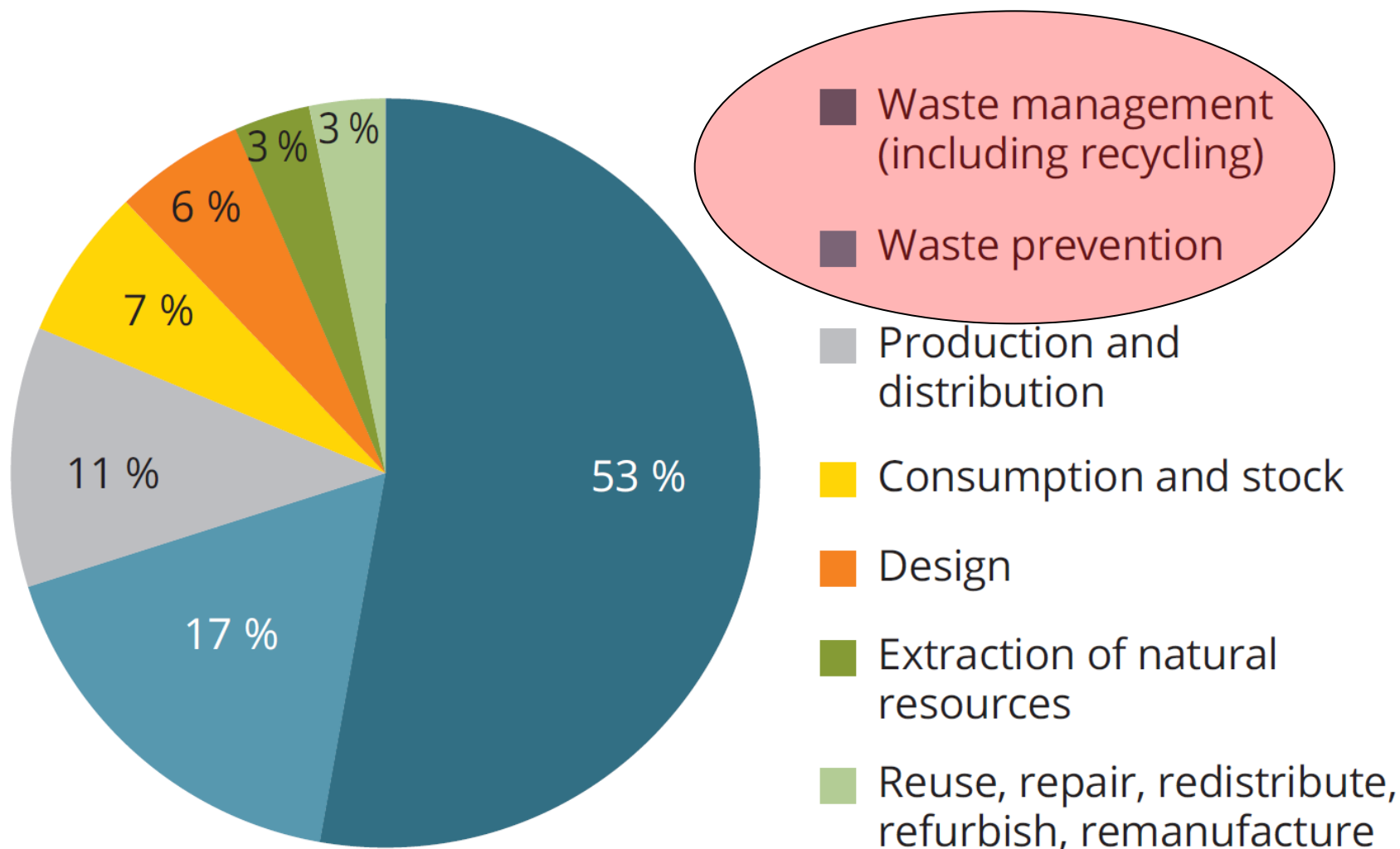
Portugal

Slovenia

**Details of all the targets are
available in Annex 8
in the “More from less” report**



Reported initiatives on circular economy



Some key findings /1

- Economic factors have become the major driving force now, compared with 2011 – the logic of doing more with less seems widely embraced
- More than half of the countries presented initiatives on secondary raw materials and on waste management and prevention as the core of their work on resource efficiency
- “Waste” and “energy” are the most frequent priorities for resource efficiency. Reported examples of good policy practice are dominated by waste prevention and recycling
- In most countries, energy use / energy efficiency policies and resource efficiency policies appear to be largely disconnected.
- Tentative initiatives to explore other areas of synergy / co-benefits



Some key findings /2

- Measuring and monitoring is a challenge, but there are examples of pioneering work in economic sectors / industry
- Limited attention paid to changing the way we live and to making consumption patterns more sustainable
- The services sector accounts for more than 70% of most economies' GDP and yet, it seems to receive limited attention
- Few countries reported to already have a circular economy strategy or an action plan; more on the way.
- Increasingly, there are examples of resource efficiency oriented initiatives at a local or regional level (i.e. province) that go beyond green public procurement

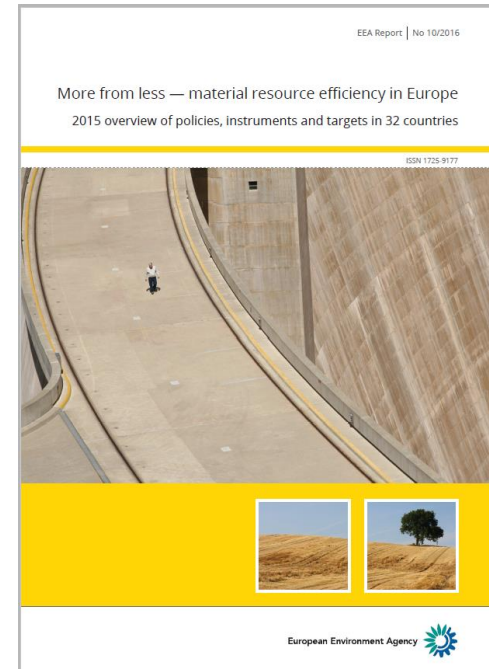
International Resource Panel

- Set up in 2007, the International Resource Panel consists of world renowned scientists.
- It is a unique science-policy interface on the sustainable management of natural resources.
- The Panel investigates critical resource issues to develop practical solutions for policymakers, industry and society.
- Topic covered include resource efficiency, decoupling, environmental impacts, trade, land and soils, water, biofuels, cities, metals, and food
- A wide range of reports and analyses for the policy-makers is available at the International Resource Panel webpage:

<http://www.unep.org/resourcepanel/KnowledgeResources/AssessmentAreasReports/tabid/133328/Default.aspx>

Thank you !

www.eea.europa.eu/resource-efficiency



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