

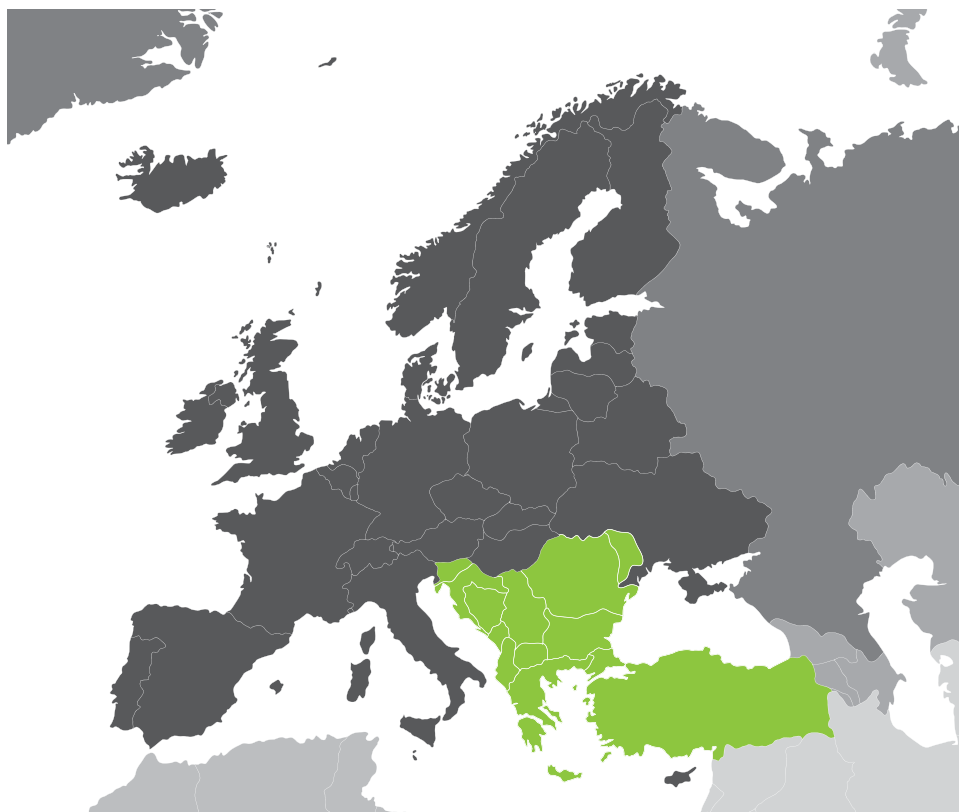
Challenges of inclusive street collection- Macedonia case

Istanbul 21-22.05.2015



Existing situation South East Europe (SEE)

Map of counties with most informal collectors in Europe



The number of street collectors is higher in **countries with lower GDP.**

Existing situation SEE

Street collectors are present in the most of the countries in South-East Europe: Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, Kosovo, Albania, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Street collectors are **perceived as “parallel” collection system** for valuable waste vs. Public Waste Companies (PWC) that collect all communal waste.

In general, **perception is negative**, both by PWC and society.

Street collectors are also called:

- Informal collectors
- Waste pickers

Existing situation SEE

At average, in SEE, ONE street collector comes on 250-500 inhabitants.

Country	Inhabitants (mill.)	est. Street Collectors *	nr.inh/st.c oll
Romania	20.0	45,000	444
Serbia	7.2	20,000	360
Macedonia	2.1	5,000	420
Bulgaria	7.3	30,000	243
Turkey	78	no estimation	

*no official data available, estimated by EPR schemes

Most of them **earn 7-15 USD per day**, mainly depending on the price of PET and cardboard.

Usually daily quantities they collect are in a range of 20-40 kg PET or 100-300 kg cardboard.

Macedonia case



Population: 2,1 mil., 25.000 km²

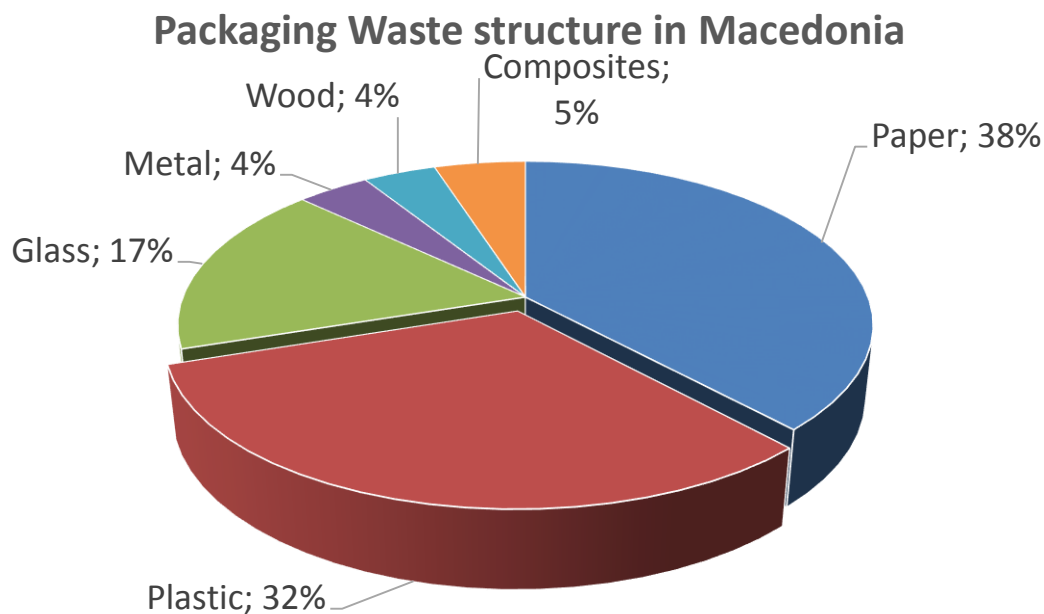
GDP per capita: 4.800 USD

Average salary: 380 USD

Minimal salary: 165 USD

Macedonia case

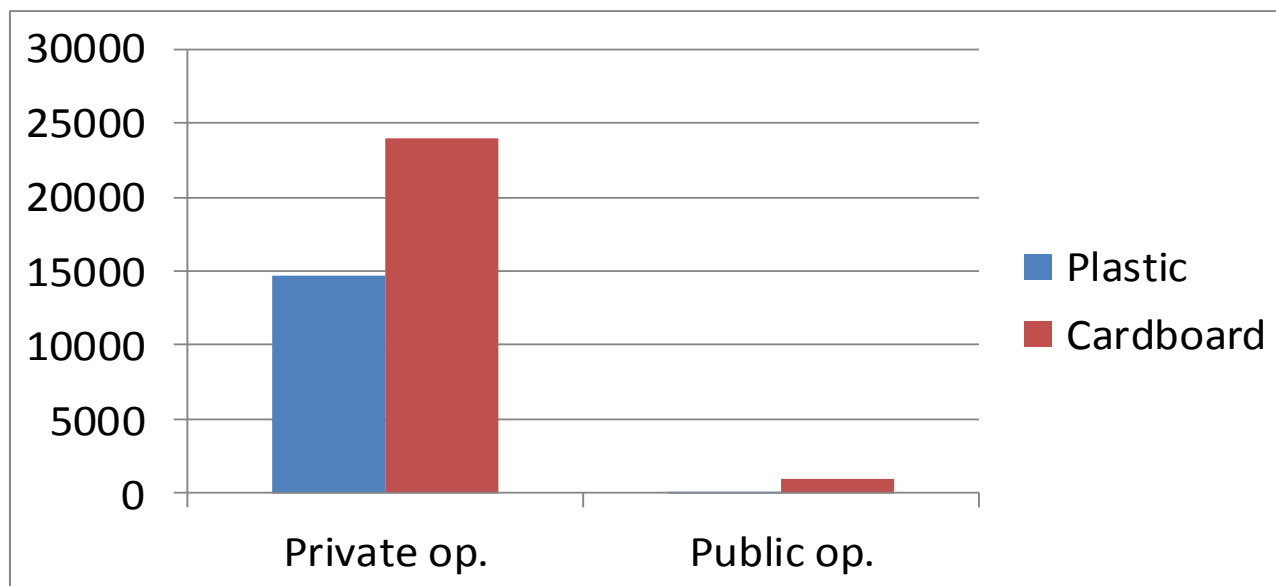
Annual generation of Packaging Waste is estimated at **50 kg/capita/year**, the average in SE Europe is between 70-100 kg/capita/year



At average, **packaging waste is 15-20% of total communal waste** in weight.

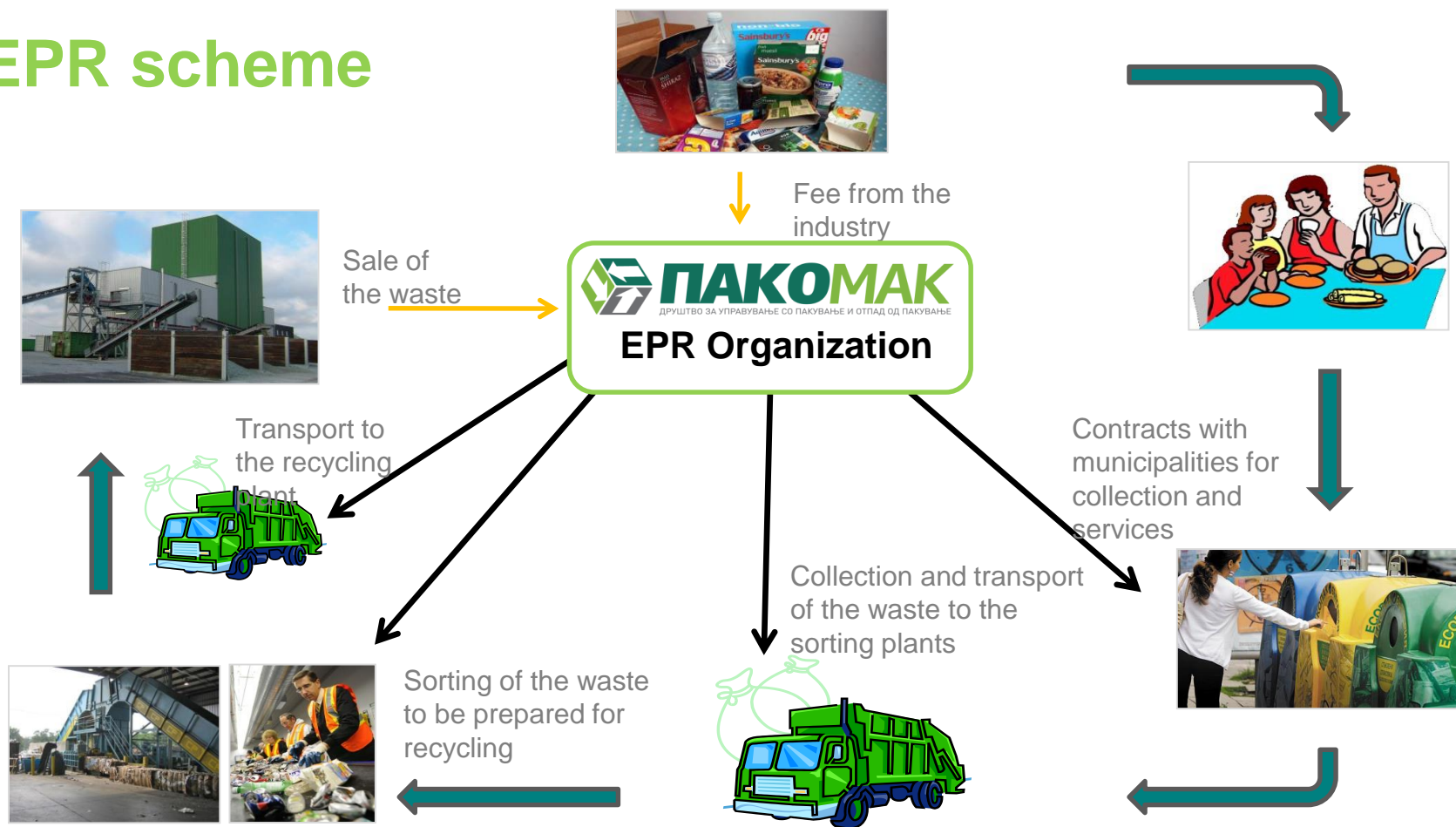
Macedonia case

Beside the formal established primary collection system by Local Authorities and EPR schemes, **street collectors collect 80-85%** of TOTAL annual collection of packaging waste in the country (paper, plastic, PET, cans), ending at Private Waste Operators



In Bulgaria and Romania street collectors collect up to 30% and in Romania

EPR scheme



Impact of street collectors on EPR schemes

Street collectors perceive EPR's separate primary selection system as the “**competition**” or **someone that wants to take their jobs away!** So, some of them devastate the containers and bins!



Impact of street collectors on EPR schemes

EPR scheme is based on assumption that **citizens has to do primary selection** in the separate containers for PET, paper and glass.



BUT, street collectors behavior highly deteriorate the primary separate collection system and public perception about its effectiveness.

HOW TO OVERCOME THE PERCEIVED CONFLICT?

Penalties or Integration?

Penalties is not efficient since these people live by selling collected packaging waste, and that is **the only income they have!**

Pushing them out of the system is practically not possible and even not desirable, since they **currently collect most of the quantities** of packaging waste (30-85% depending on country).

Even more, if even there is a way to cut this income, it could push these people in a much **more illegal activities** since they have to provide income for their families anyhow!

Win-Win relationship-Financial Options

How can **EVERYONE** earn more?

Current Performance of street collector

Material collected per month:	
Paper (kg)	1,000
Plastic, PET (kg) :	800
Monthly income from material (USD):	258.6
Social Aid:	35
Total Income (USD):	293.6

* 25 working days, no any insurance

** 50 USD/t paper, 260USD/t PET

Estimated Performance of street collector

Material collected per month:	
Paper (kg)	1,500
Plastic, PET (kg) :	1,200
Monthly income from material (USD):	387.9
Social Aid:	
Total Income (USD):	387.9

* 25 working days, health/pension insurance

** 50 USD/t paper, 260USD/t PET

Estimated Income of PW Op.

Material sorted and bailed per month:	
Paper (kg)	1,500
Plastic, PET (kg) :	1,200
Monthly income from sale of bailed material (USD):	175.9
ERP cost participation (USD / 2,7 tons):	40.5
Total Income (USD):	216.4
40% insurance costs for St.coll:	-155.2
NET INCOME FOR PWO (USD):	61.2

* no collection costs, only sorting and bailing

Win-Win relationship

Street Collectors	Municipalities	EPR systems
formal employment	clean container's location	low-cost collection
more quantites of PW collected	cost effective separate collection	functional separate primary selection
better working conditions	control over the collection system	increase of collected PW quantities
Stable and higher income	earn additional income from material	low equipment demolishing
health insurance	functional primary separate selection	
pension after retired	lower unemployment rate	

How to integrate?

Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs

- Keep social aid
- Introduce street collectors as a profession with tax obligation
- Right for pension after retired

Ministry of Environment

- Issue a Licenses for Street Collector
- Push changes in the Laws
- Coordination

Ministry of Health

- Provide Health insurance
- Annual medical checks

Ministry of Interior

- No penalties for Legal / licensed street collectors
- Protect primary selection equipment

EPR Scheme

- Sharing costs of integration
- Buy primary selection equipment
- Organize secondary selection and sorting

NGO's

- Training for the street collectors
- Out of work time support
- On work support

STREET COLLECTORS

Waste Operators & Recyclers

- Fair price for materials
- Employment of street collectors in secondary sorting

Municipalities

- Allow street collectors ne part of Public Communal Companies
- Cooperate with Private WO
- Set and Monitor the monthly quota fulfillment per collector
- Employment in sorting plants (secondary selection)
- Regular and fair Salary

Obstacles

Lack of trust between some of the stakeholders

Working mentality of street collectors- are they willing to become formal and supervised?

Loyalty – are they are going to bring material to the PWO?

Fair price by waste operators and recyclers for the material?

Are **EPR financialy strong** to partucipate in collection/sorting costs?

Contact

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Thank you for your attention!