

A futureproof Waste Framework Directive

Setting the scene

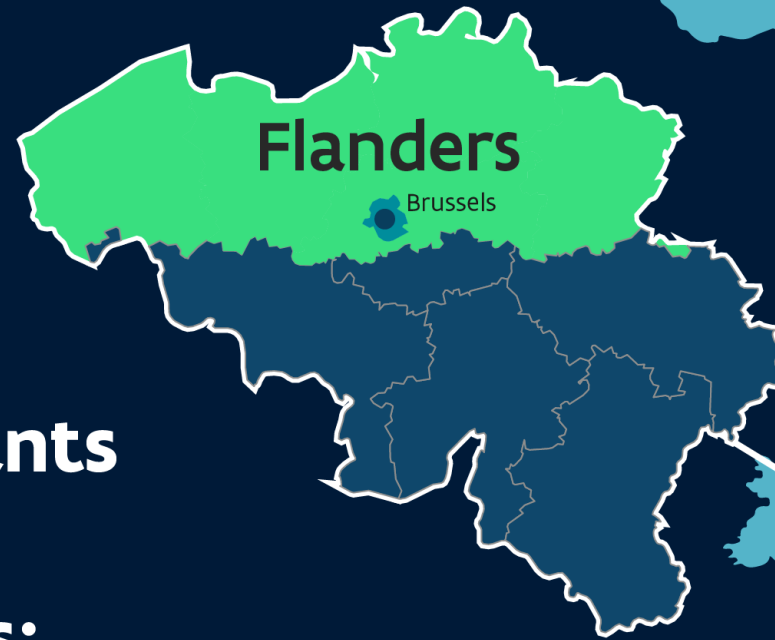
Werner Annaert, CEO OVAM

June 14th, 2024

MECHELEN - BELGIUM



WE MAKE
TOMORROW
BEAUTIFUL
OVAM



Flanders

Brussels

6,2 million inhabitants

Economic strengths:

Logistics and ports

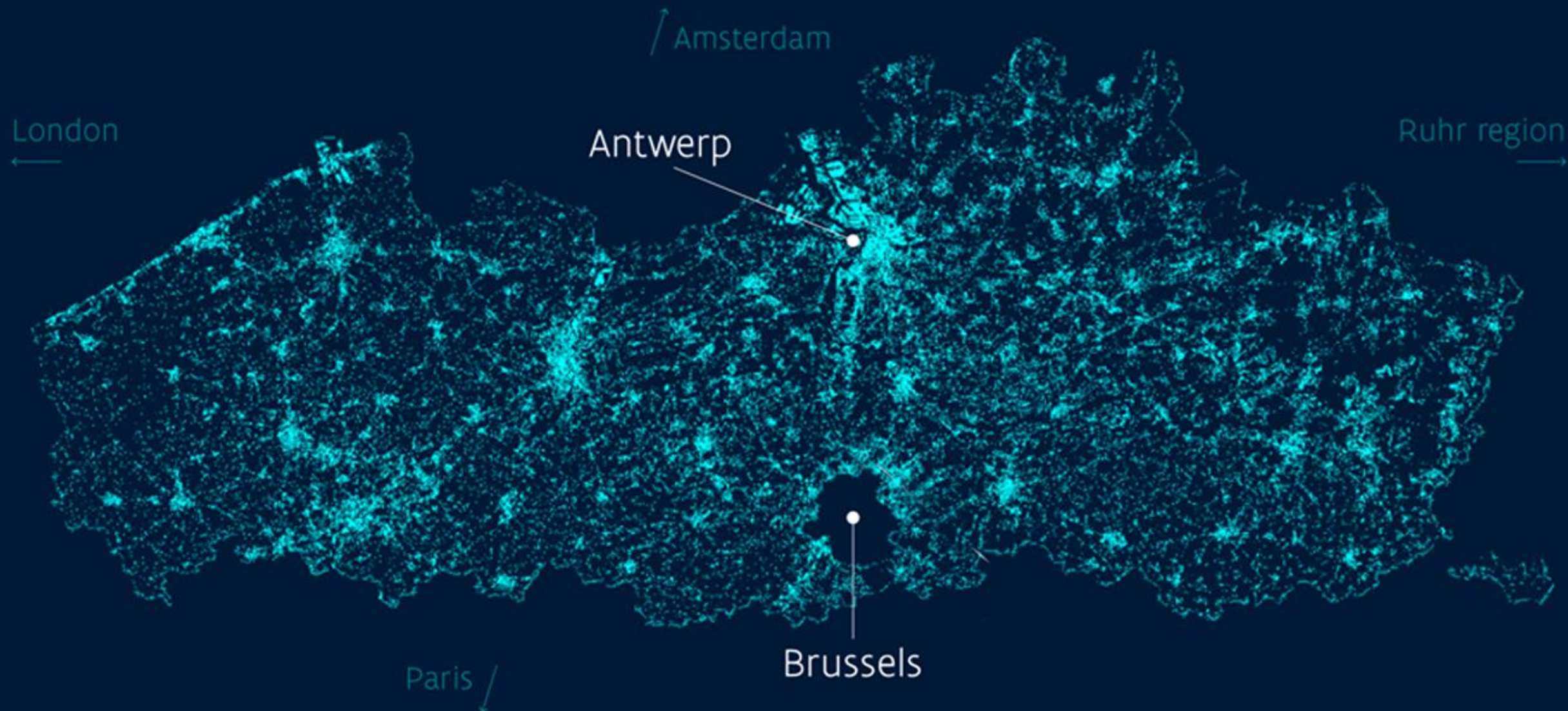
Chemical industry

Food industry

Engineering

Health

FLANDERS: NO SPACE TO/ FOR WASTE



A CIRCULAR ECONOMY TRACK RECORD



Dealing with waste



Preventing waste



Rethinking production

Flanders as a frontrunner

household waste **collected selectively**

69%

household waste **materials recovered**

61%

recycling

42%

composting

19%

incinerated with energy recovery

37%

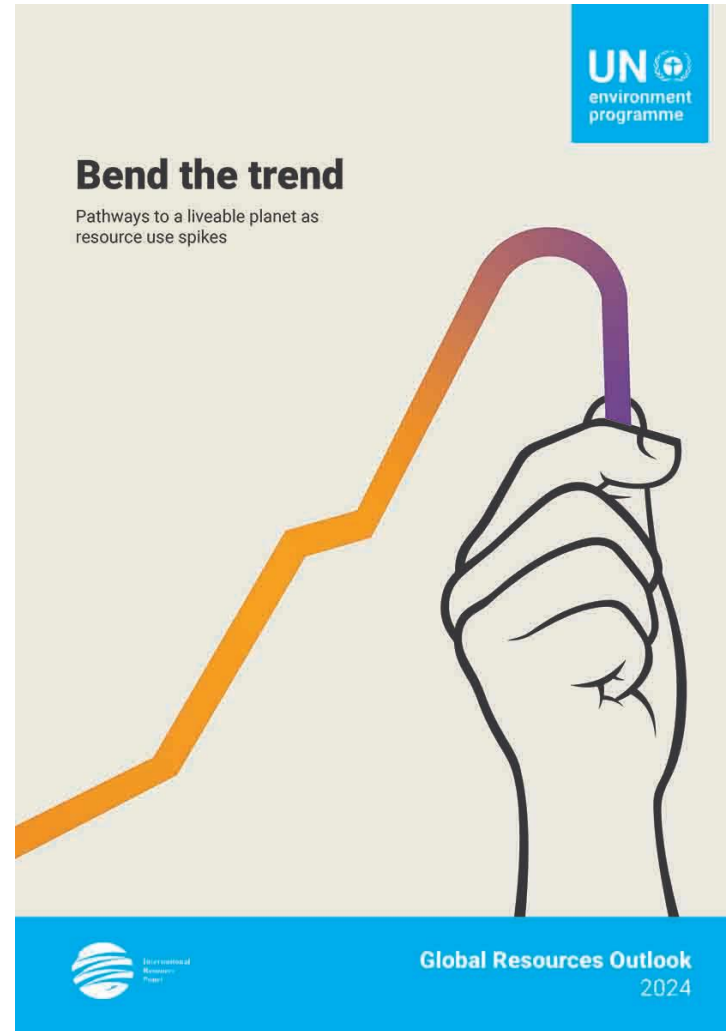
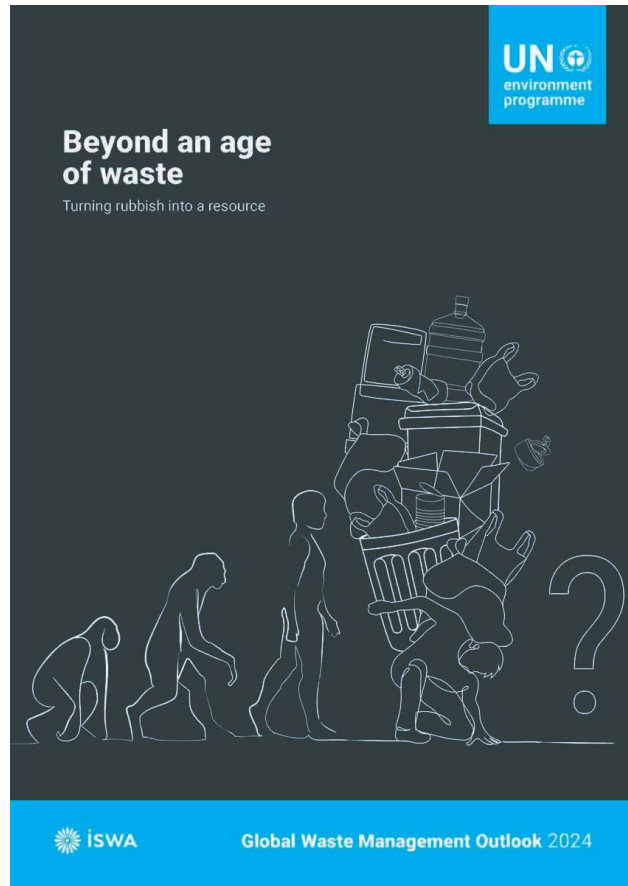
landfill

2%

The current EU Waste Framework Directive as an important cornerstone of EU waste policy

- ▶ **Waste hierarchy as guiding principle with prevention at the top**
- ▶ **Extended Producer Responsibility as a key economic instrument**
- ▶ **Facilitating the circular economy with end-of-waste criteria**
- ▶ **Waste management targets**

BUT recent reports show that more is needed



Recent reports show that more is needed

“Municipal solid waste generation is predicted to grow from 2.1 billion tonnes in 2023 to 3.8 billion tonnes by 2050”

“without urgent and concerted action, by 2060 resource extraction could rise by 60% from 2020 levels”

“Rich countries use six times more resources, generate 10 times the climate impacts than low-income ones”

“With a circularity rate of 11.5% in 2022, Europe consumes a higher proportion of recycled materials than other world regions. However, progress in the EU has been slow and we are still far from the ambition to double the Union’s circularity rate by 2030”

A futureproof Waste Framework Directive

- ▶ **Strengthening prevention**
- ▶ **Stimulating reuse**
- ▶ **Dealing with emerging challenges, ensuring safe material loops**
- ▶ **Ensuring that we collectively reduce waste generation and further the transition to a circular economy**



A Waste Framework Directive that contributes to a broader vision on sustainable resource management

- ▶ **An EU Resources Law could set the long term vision and target/objective regarding the sustainable management of resources (like the Climate Law)**
- ▶ **Existing legislation, like the WFD, ESPR etc and new legal initiatives should contribute to this long term vision and target/objective**
- ▶ **Reducing the material footprint of our consumption goes hand in hand with waste prevention**