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Towards effective EPR-schemes in the Nordic-Baltic region

Nordic Council of Ministers' Office in Latvia

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About me and status on EPR in Norway



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Schemes and extended producer responsibility in Norway

Electrical and electronic waste (EE waste)	>
Batteries	>
Beverage containers	>
PCB-containing insulating glass	>
Vehicles	>
Packaging and packaging waste	>
Tyres	>



1993 / 1995: EPR for **batteries** by regulation / EPR for **packaging** by industry agreements. Norway was among the first countries in the world with producer responsibility schemes.

2021 - 2025: "Wasted Textiles" SIFO/Oslo Met Research Project, funded by The Research Council of Norway and the Norwegian Retailers' Environmental Fund

Sept 2022- sept 2023: Government-appointed working group evaluating EPR for textiles

May, 2025: Stakeholder consultation on EPR from the Norwegian Environment Agency (EPA)

August, 2025: Major textile retail chains in cooperation with the Federation of Norwegian Trade and Service Industries, Virke, establishes a PRO-organisation.

Myths:

1. EPR is something new ("extended")
2. EPR will solve the environmental problems of the (fast) fashion industry



Key questions:

Can EPR-fees take into consideration **usetime** (lifespan)? How should we **assess the fees** and in particular **eco-modulation**?



TPR-pilot 2023 - report



It starts with assessing year of production



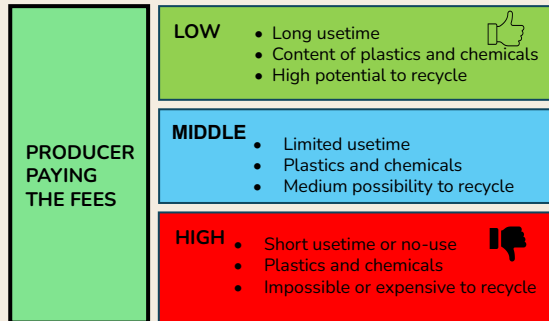
Method for picking analyses of textiles
REdu Wasted Textiles Project

Figure 4.3: Name it care label with production year presented.

PROPOSAL FOR A “TPR FEE MODULATION”

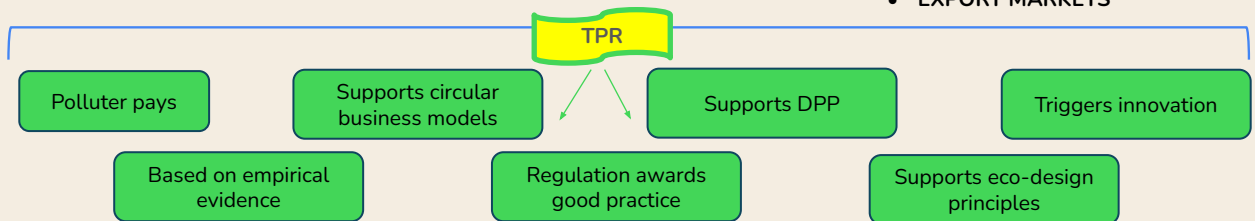


FEE LEVEL



FEE ALLOCATION

- WASTE PREVENTION Collection
- PREPARATION FOR REUSE (incl. social enterprises)
 - Sorting
 - Repair
 - Renewal
 - Refurbishment
- REUSE (incl. social enterprises)
- RECYCLING
- MICROFIBER REDUCTION
- EXPORT MARKETS



EPR can become a real solution



- EPR can be used as an **effective environmental policy instrument**
- **But:** What is the **legal / political room for maneuver** in the revised *Waste Framework Directive* scheduled for approval in plenary October 6?
- **Key questions:** **What cost** can be covered? **Who assesses** the cost, other than the textile (+recycling) industry? **What** can be **eco-modulated** and **how?**

The devil is in the details...

WFD, page 21: "The purpose of the extended producer responsibility for textile, textile-related and footwear products is to ensure a high level of environmental and health protection in the Union, **create an economy for collection, sorting, re-use, preparing for re-use and recycling**, in particular, fibre-to-fibre recycling, as well as incentives for producers to ensure that their products are designed in respect of circularity principles. **The producers of textiles and footwear should finance the costs of collection, sorting for re-use, preparing for re-use and recycling, and of the recycling and other treatment of collected used and waste textile, textile-related and footwear products**, including unsold consumer products considered waste that were supplied on the territory of the Member States after the entry into force of this amending Directive to ensure that the extended producer responsibility obligations do not apply retroactively and comply with the principle of legal certainty. **These producers should also finance the costs of carrying out compositional surveys of mixed collected municipal waste**, support to research and development in eco-design of textiles that do not contain substances of concern, sorting and recycling technologies, reporting on separate collection, re-use and other treatment and of **providing information to end users about the impact and sustainable management of textiles**."

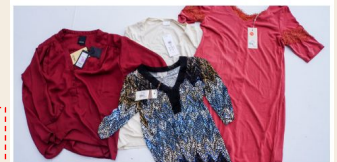
"WFD, Art 22a, #4 and #6: (4) "Member States shall ensure that the producers of textile, textile-related or footwear products listed in Annex IVc cover the costs of the following..."
(6): "The costs to be covered referred to in paragraph 4 shall not exceed the costs that are necessary to provide the services referred to in that paragraph in a cost-efficient way and shall be established in a transparent way between the actors concerned."

WFD, page 23: "It is essential that the producers making available on the market for the first time certain textile, textile-related and footwear products **take responsibility for their management at their end-of-life as well as extending their lifetime through making used textile, textile-related and footwear products assessed a fit for re-use available on the market for re-use**."

WFD, page 26: "the introduction of extended producer responsibility schemes **should maintain and support the activities of social economy entities involved in used textiles management**. These entities therefore should be regarded as partners in the separate collection systems **supporting the scale-up of re-use and repair** and creating quality jobs for all and in particular for vulnerable groups."

How to make sure Extended Producer Responsibility becomes a silver bullet

Liabek Lavbak Berg on 24. October 2022



This is a letter sent to commissioners and members of the European Commission in October 2022, from 4 participants in the Wasted Textiles project that explains their suggestions for a way of developing an EPR scheme that addresses volumes. They suggest an Eco-modulation based on volumes in the waste and therefore include the growing online trade.

Knowledge base

