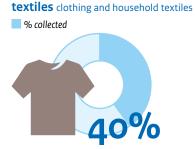
# The path to a circulair economy

The Dutch government aims for a fully circular economy by 2050, and secondary raw materials have an important role to play in attaining this target. Large environmental benefits are still to be gained from improved recycling practices









Four policy instruments to make the secondary market work better

#### **EPR**

Well-designed extended producer responsibility (EPR). **Producers** who design their products to be easy to recycle or to be more environmentally friendly, **pay lower** collection and recycling tariffs.



- + increased and improved quality supply
- + stimulates innovation



### **Exports**

The Netherlands export a lot of waste, but it is not always clear what ultimately happens to it. Prohibiting or levying a tax on the exports of plastic packaging waste to countries where waste is commonly dumped can prevent environmental leakage.



- + less 'invisible'
- + more supply of waste
- higher costs



## Inform

Better information is important to enable people to properly separate waste and know the environmental impact of their choices. A pizza box, for example, cannot be disposed of with waste paper. A shredded T-shirt can be placed in the clothing container, but a wet one cannot.



- + increased and improved quality supply
- + fewer sorting costs
- + relatively cheap



# **Deposit-refund**

A deposit-refund system on plastic bottles has proven to work. It is expected that the system will be extended to include small bottles.
We do recommend researching

#### effects



expansion into other

disposable items.

- + less litter
- + increased and improved supply
- expensive to implement

© CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis, The Hague 2020