


Good Practice in Selective Collection of Waste in Heritage City Centres

Nº.	Section	Description
0.	Title of the practice	<i>Deposit packaging refund system</i>
1.	Photograph	 <p>Figure 1. Deposit-packaging collection point.</p> <p>Figure 2. Deposit-packaging collection point,</p>

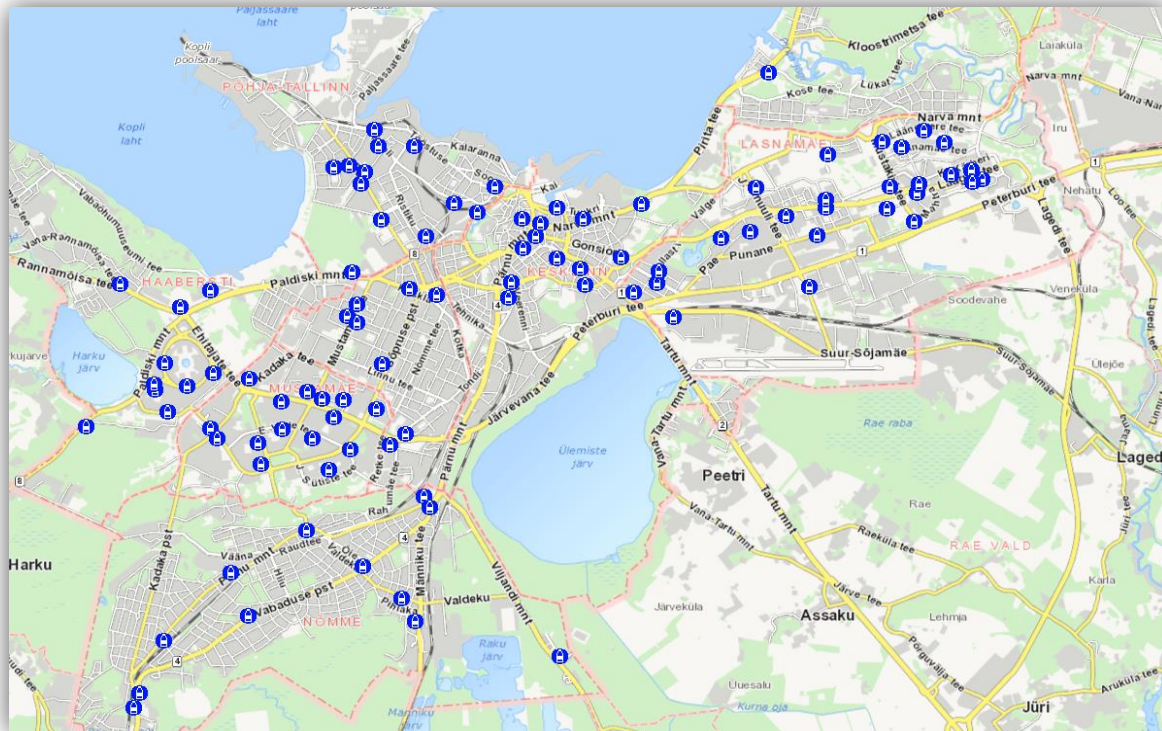


Figure 3. Map of deposit-packaging collection points in Municipality of Tallinn.

2.	<b>Proposers</b> Ministry of the Environment
3.	<b>Contacts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eesti Pandipakend, <a href="mailto:info@eestipandipakend.ee">info@eestipandipakend.ee</a></li> <li>• Ministry of the Environment, <a href="mailto:keskkonnaministerium@envir.ee">keskkonnaministerium@envir.ee</a></li> <li>• Tallinn Environment Department, <a href="mailto:keskkonnaamet@tallinnlv.ee">keskkonnaamet@tallinnlv.ee</a></li> </ul>
4.	<b>Useful links</b> <a href="http://eestipandipakend.ee/en/">http://eestipandipakend.ee/en/</a> <a href="http://www.envir.ee/en/">http://www.envir.ee/en/</a>
5.	<b>Start date</b> Year 2005
6.	<b>Activities' state of the art</b> <u>Ongoing</u>
7.	<b>Location</b> Republic of Estonia
8.	<b>Inhabitants in the area</b> 1 317 800
9.	<b>Description of the practice</b>
<p><u>Origin:</u></p> <p>The deposit packaging collection system is organised at the level of the state. All retailers of soft drinks and low-alcohol beverages such as (beer bottles, soft drink bottles, bottles for beverages with low concentration of ethanol) whose POS has an area of &gt;200 m<sup>2</sup> are obliged to accept deposit packaging at their POS or on its service land.</p> <p>In Estonia producer responsibility organisation Eesti Pandipakend, is being active in organizing the recycling of packaging's marketed by producers, importers and traders. Their task is the administrating and organizing of collection, transport, sorting, counting and recycling of deposit-subjected packaging's in all of Estonia, i.e. they deal with the plastic, glass and metal packaging's of water, carbonized drinks, beer and low-alcohol beverages.</p> <p>Eesti Pandipakend is acting under accreditation by the Ministry of the Environment (issued on 11.03.2005).</p>	


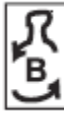

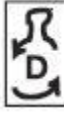

Deposit emblem	Package type	Volume	Deposit in euros
	Non-refillable plastic package	Up to 0.5 l (incl. 0.5 l)	0,10
	Non-refillable plastic package	Above 0.5 l (excl. 0.5 l)	0,10
	Non-refillable metal package	All volumes	0,10
	Non-refillable glass package	All volumes	0,10
	Refillable glass package	All volumes	0,10

Figure 4. All beverage packaging in the system of Eesti Pandipakend bear the emblem shown in the table. These packaging's can be returned to deposit packaging collection points

Packaging is collected by the retail seller. Transport of the collected packaging's to the counting and sorting centre is organised by the Eesti Pandipakend. Packaging's without the Eesti Pandipakend marking cannot be accepted for return and are not refunded with a deposit-these packaging can be taken to public packaging containers. Those are bottles from strong alcoholic beverages, glass jars, salad boxes, foodstuff packaging's, Tetrapak beverage packaging's, etc.

#### Development and Timescale:

The packaging deposit was established by the Minister of the Environment for glass and plastic bottles in year 2005. Deposit packaging refund system has been working in Estonia 12 years and until today there have been collected total of 3,2 billion deposit packages.

#### Actors involved:

- Ministry of Environment
- Producer responsibility organisation Eesti Pandipakend

#### Legal framework:

Deposit-packaging is one type of overall packaging and it is regulated at the level of state with different laws such as Packaging Excise Duty Act, Packaging Act, Consumer Protection Act and Waste Act.

#### Financial framework:

According to the Packaging Act a packaging undertaking shall collect and recover the packaging of packaged goods placed on the market and the packaging waste resulting therefrom in such a way that the recovery targets are complied with, and bear the resulting costs.

Collection costs of deposit packaging are covered also from deposit not returned.

**10. Results**

Proven results (through indicators):

The quantity of returned deposit packaging is very high. Thanks to financial stimulus residents gather a large number of packages and return them to the collection points. The return percentage of reusable packaging is especially important in order to ensure the greatest possible lifetime of the package.

Especially good results gives deposit-packaging refund system in lower environmental awareness countries or in sparse population areas, where it is not possible to develop an adequate density of public packaging collection container network.

Deposit packaging	Actual rate		Rate required by law	
	2007	2013	2007	2013
Sales, unit (million)	298	330		
Returned, unit (million)	204	241		
Rate of plastic bottles returned	90%	87%	65%	85%
Rate of cans returned	48%	64%	40%	50%
Rate of glass bottles returned	72%	89%	65%	85%

Figure 5. Deposit packaging recovery rates in Estonia in 2007 and 2013. No separate data is collected for Tallinn

Possible success factors:

The more soft drinks and low-alcohol beverages such as (beer bottles, soft drink bottles, bottles for beverages with low concentration of ethanol) are included with deposit-packaging refund system the more packaging is collected, reused and recycled.

Main difficulties encountered:

It is quite big expense to companies, who are obliged to accept deposit packaging at their POS or on its service land. The main costs are associated with the buying and maintenance of packaging vending machines.

Deposit-packaging is only one part of packages and this system does not affect the overall collection and recycling of other packages.

<p><b>11. Main lessons learnt from the practice</b></p>	<p>Deposit-packaging refund system is very effective and helps the packaging waste not to end up in the environment. Deposit-packaging collection rate is very high up to 90 % due to fact that people pay deposit while buying beverage which automatically motivates them to return these packages to collection point to get refund. Vending machine used in deposit- packaging collection points gives the opportunity to compress the plastic and metal cans on site to minimize the transportation usage and also CO2 emissions.</p>
<p><b>12. Additional information</b></p>	<p><a href="http://eestipandipakend.ee/en/">http://eestipandipakend.ee/en/</a>  <a href="http://www.envir.ee/en/">http://www.envir.ee/en/</a></p>