



# Screening the efficiency of packaging EPR in Europe

**Bocconi University study  
commissioned by CONAI**



# FROM THE PRINCIPLE OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY TO THE EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY



**Definition** from the EU study by Deloitte (2014)

# DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE ON EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)



## **Polluter Pays Principle (PPP)**

The polluter-pays principle is a guiding principle at European and international levels, which stipulates that the waste producer and the waste holder should bear the costs of waste management in a way that guarantees a high level of protection of the environment and human health.

## **EPR (Extended producer responsibility)**

An environmental policy approach in which a producer's responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product's life cycle (OECD definition).

In EU the Member States and their respective legislation are responsible for the implementation of EPR, including regulating the operational aspects of EPR.

## **EPR scheme or EPR compliance scheme**

Any system or scheme set up by one or several producers to implement the EPR principle.

## **PRO (Producer Responsibility Organisation)**

A collective entity set up by producers or through legislation, which becomes responsible for meeting the recovery and recycling obligations of the individual producers.

## **Eco-design**

Any production process that takes into account environmental considerations (e.g. raw material use, recyclability, end-of-life waste management requirements) at the product design stage.

# DEFINITIONS WITH THE **DIRECTIVE EU 2018/851**



## **EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility)**

The definition of 'extended producer responsibility' refers to a series of measures, adopted by the Member States, aimed at ensuring that product manufacturers have financial or financial and operational responsibility in managing the life cycle of a product, including operations like separate collection, sorting and treatment. This obligation may also include organizational responsibility and a contribution to the prevention of waste and the reusability and recyclability of products.

## **EPR Scheme**

Extended producer responsibility scheme means a set of measures taken by Member States to ensure that producers of products bear financial responsibility or financial and organisational responsibility for the management of the waste stage of a product's life cycle.

## **PRO (Producer Responsibility Organisation)**

Organisations implementing extended producer responsibility obligations on behalf of producers of product.

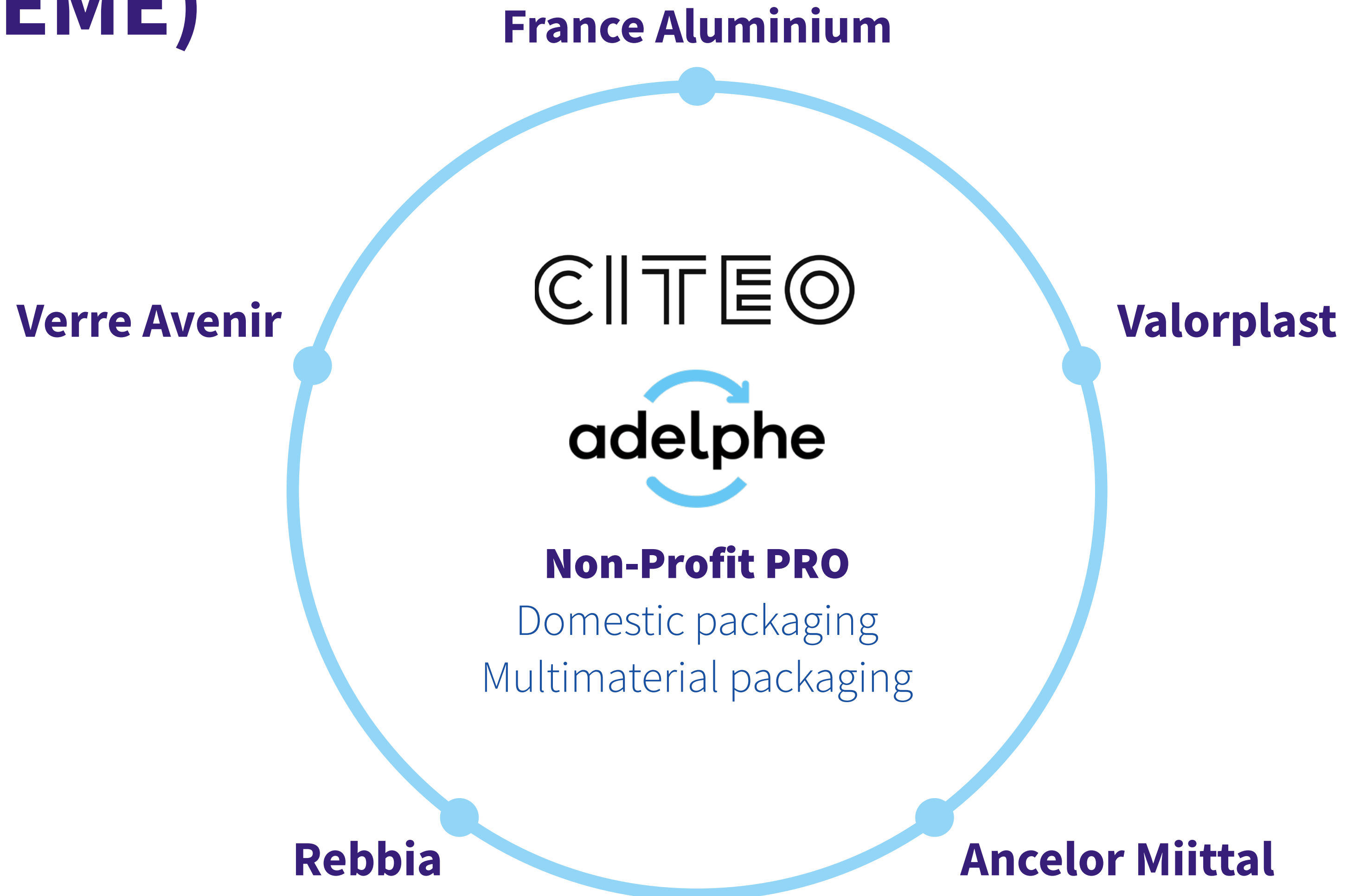
## **Prevention**

Measures taken before a substance, material or product has become waste, that reduce:

- the quantity of waste, including through the re-use of products or the extension of the life span of products;
  - the adverse impacts of the generated waste on the environment and human health;
- or
- the content of harmful substances in materials and products.

# CITEO (PRO) IN FRANCE (EPR SCHEME)

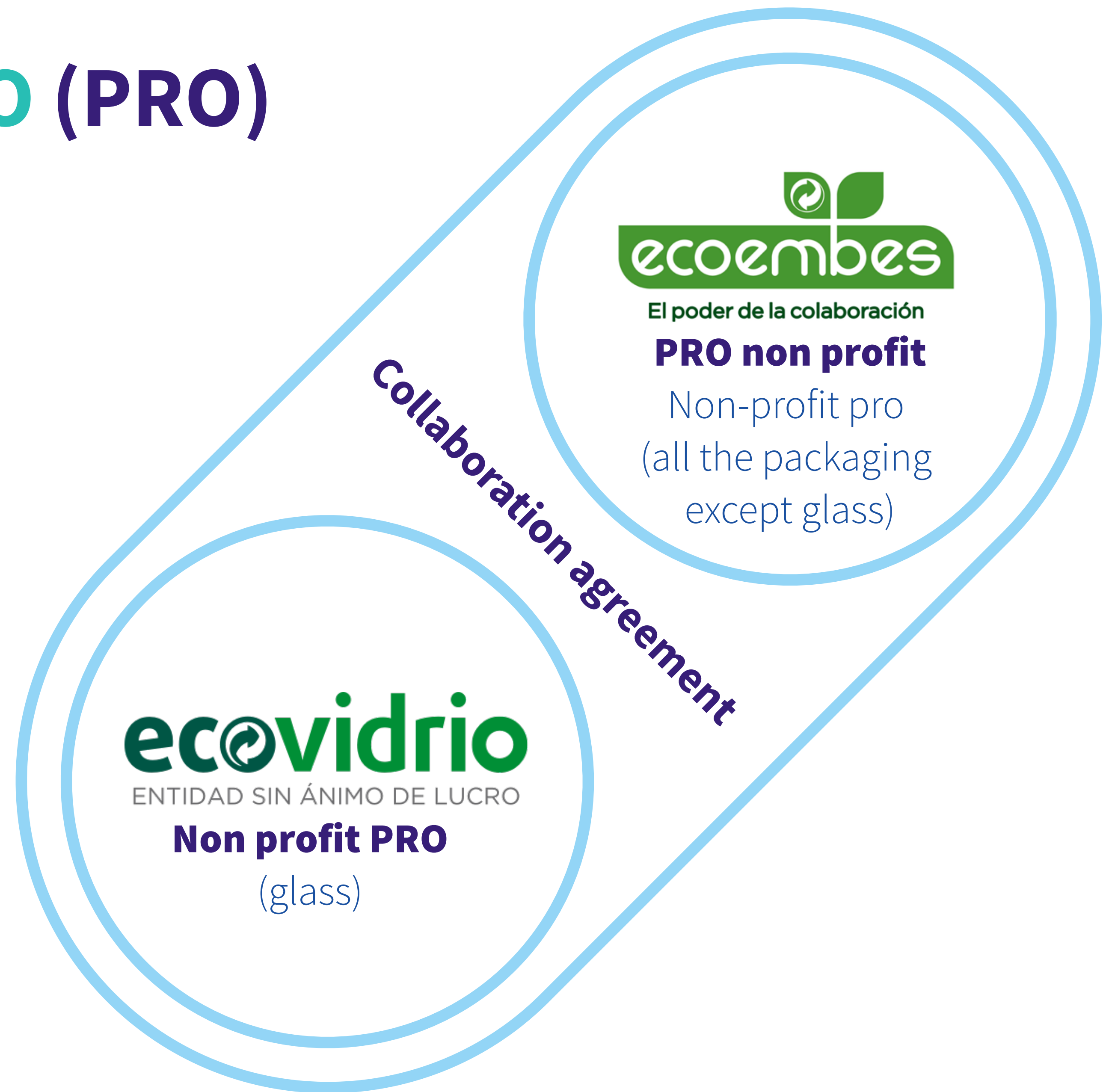
Example of a **SINGLE PRO\***  
in a **NON-COMPETITIVE EPR SCHEME.**



\*Single PRO: a PRO that holds more than 90% of the share of a non-competitive EPR scheme.

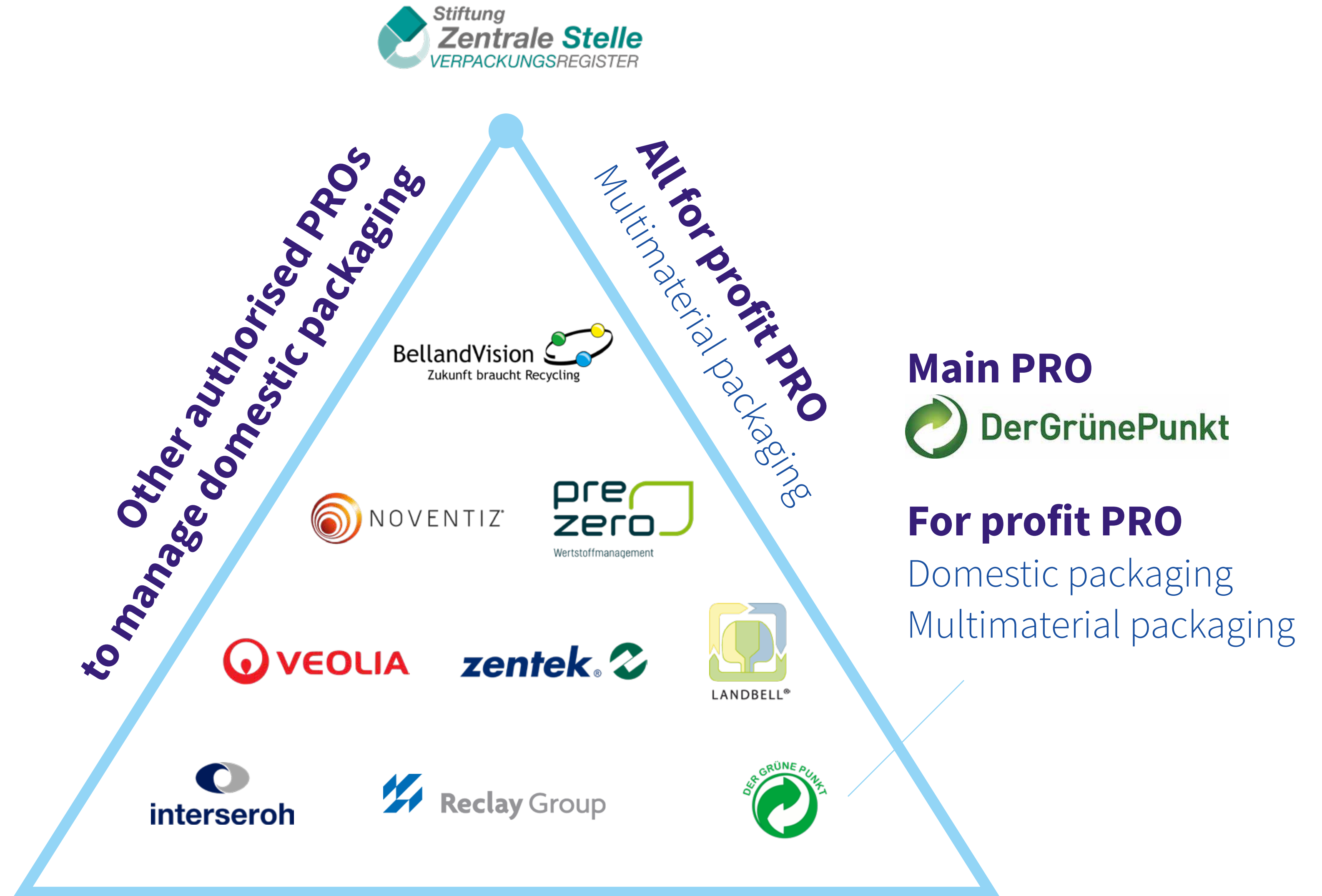
# ECOEMBES & ECOVIDRIO (PRO) IN SPAIN (EPR SCHEME)

Example of **MULTIPLE PRO**  
in a **NON-COMPETITIVE EPR SCHEME**.



# PRO IN GERMANY (EPR SCHEME)

Example of **MULTIPLE PRO**  
in a **COMPETITIVE EPR SCHEME**.



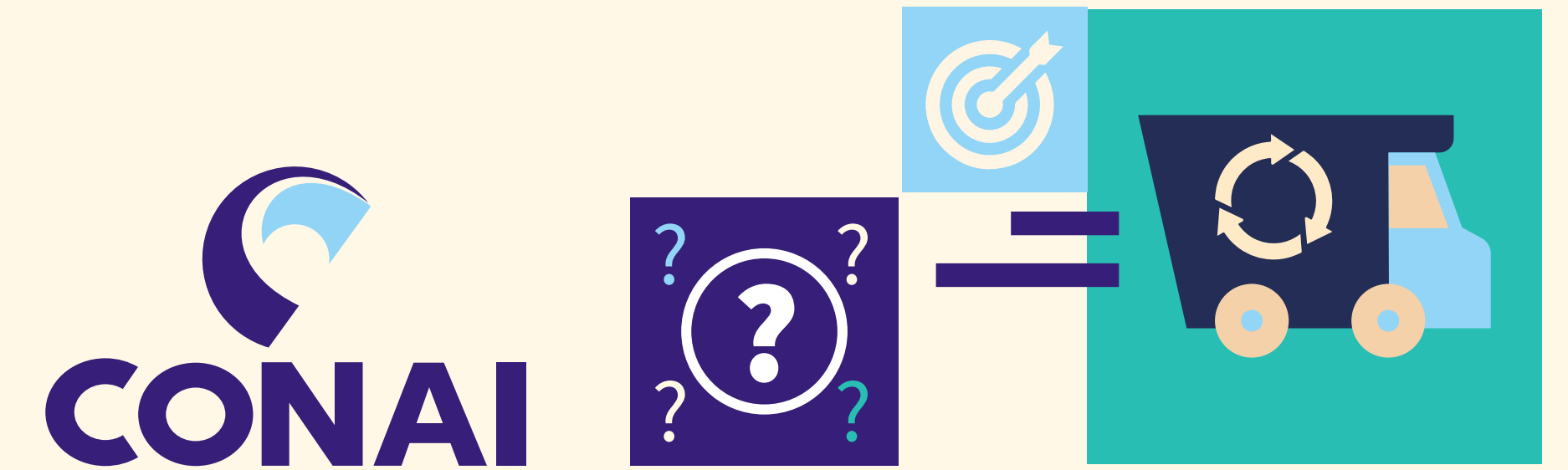
# FIRST RESEARCH

**Different packaging waste management models** were born in Europe over the years.

The present research aims at assessing their **performance** in terms of:

- **ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY**
- **RECYCLING EFFECTIVENESS**

In order to identify the positioning of **CONAI**, especially in the purpose of the ongoing national and European regulatory implementation.

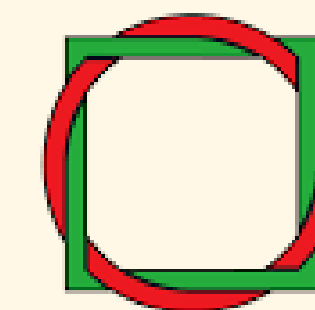


**First research on assessment study** of the topic, commissioned by:



**Università  
Bocconi**

**GREEN**  
Centre for Geography,  
Resources, Environment,  
Energy and Networks



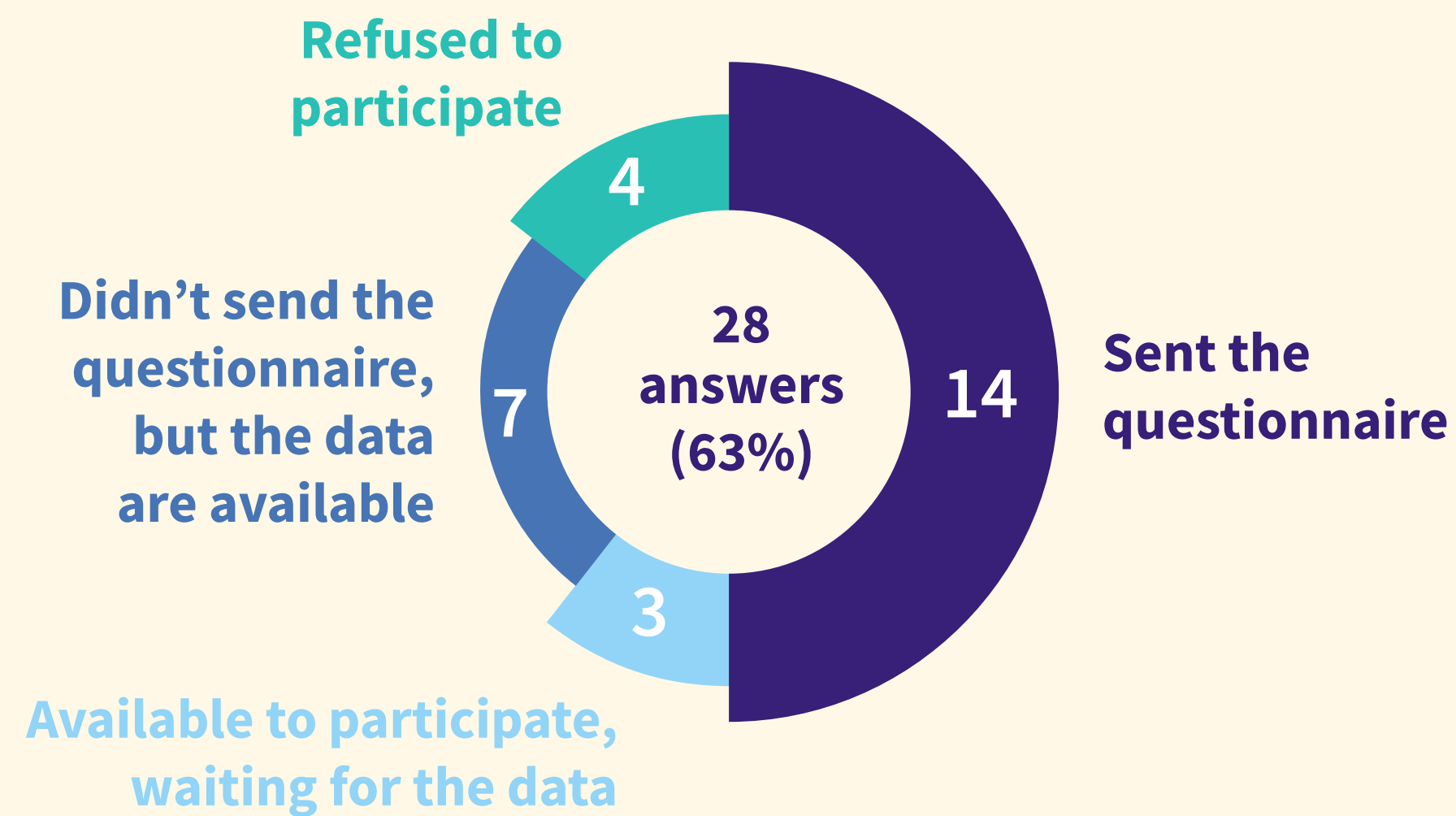
**Wuppertal Institut**  
für Klima, Umwelt, Energie  
GmbH



# LIMITED TRANSPARENCY



**28 EUROPEAN PROs  
OUT OF 44 CONTACTED  
CONTRIBUTED TO THE SURVEY.**



Some of them, because of privacy and competition issues, have preferred not to share their operational and financial results.

**CONAI** is one of the few PROs that have shared all the **detailed information** through **public reports**.

**PROs**

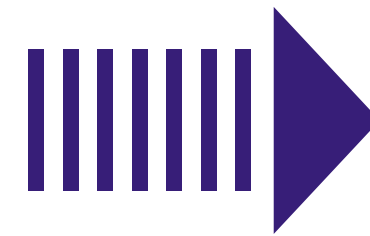
**ASSESSMENT**

# KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

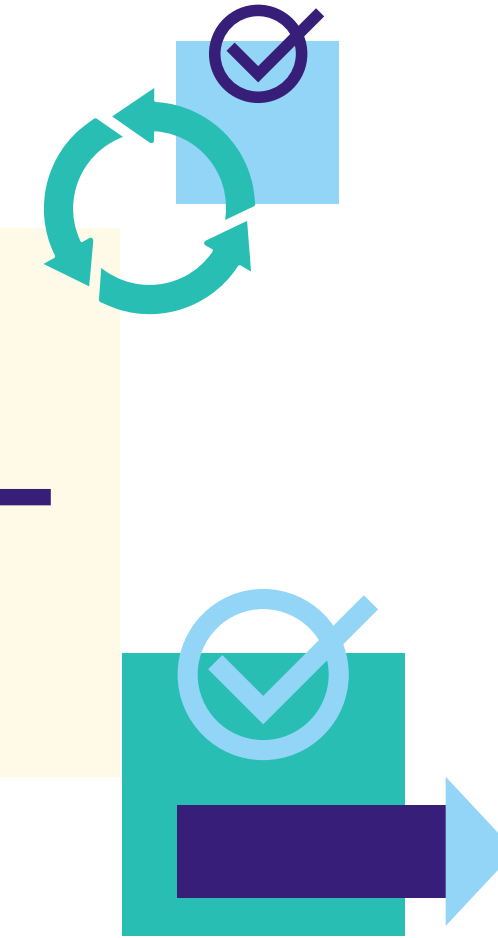
# ASSESSING COSTS AND RECYCLE



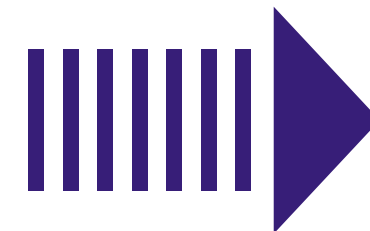
RECYCLING RATE



Q.OF RECYCLED MATERIAL  
Q. OF MATERIAL PUT ON MARKET



COSTS



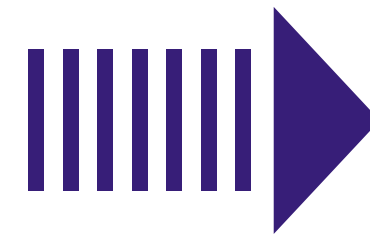
€ x PUT-ON-MARKET PACKAGING IN TONNES  
RECYCLED PACKAGING IN TONNES



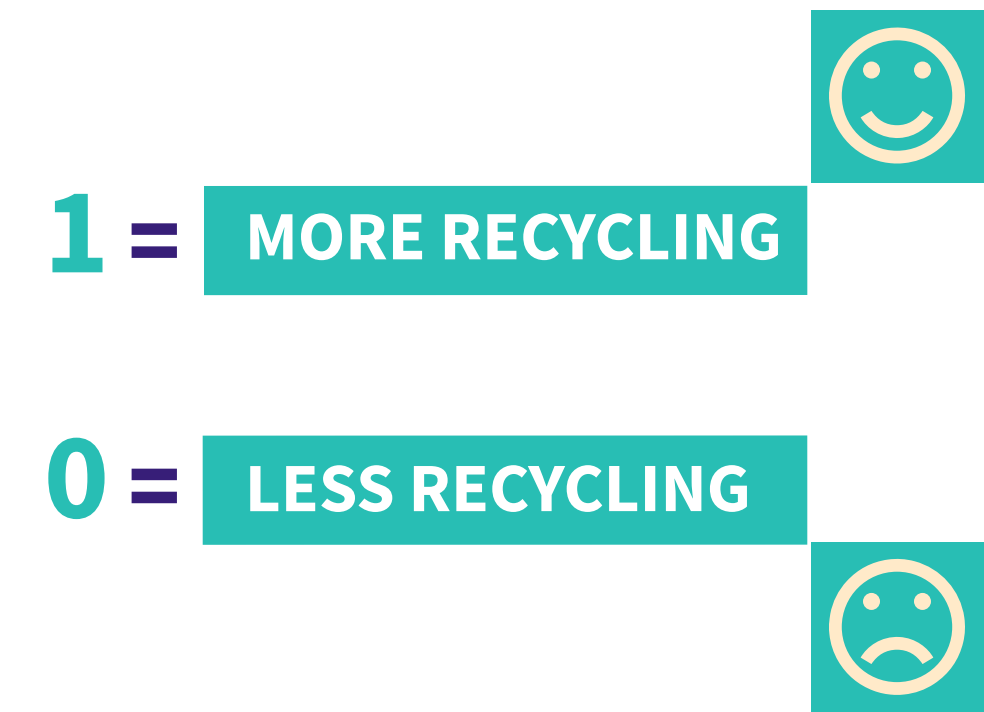
# 2 KPIs



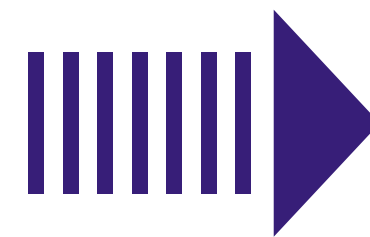
**RECYCLING RATE**



**RECYCLING EFFECTIVENESS**



**COSTS**



**ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY**



**ANALYSIS**

**and**

**RESULTS**

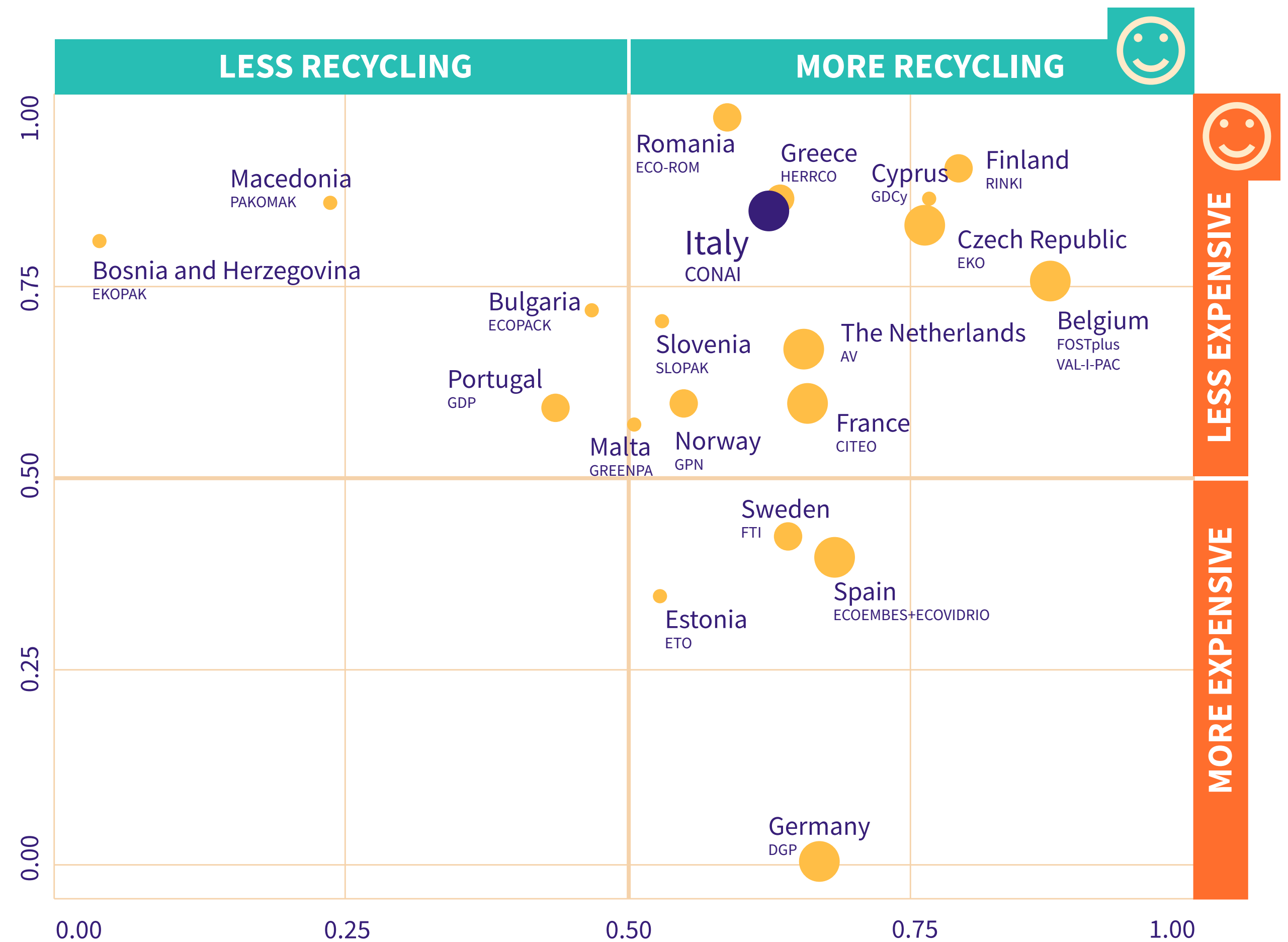
# PROs' DIMENSIONS ARE INDEPENDENT IN RESPECT OF THEIR EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

CONAI is **efficient** and **effective**.

## LEGEND:

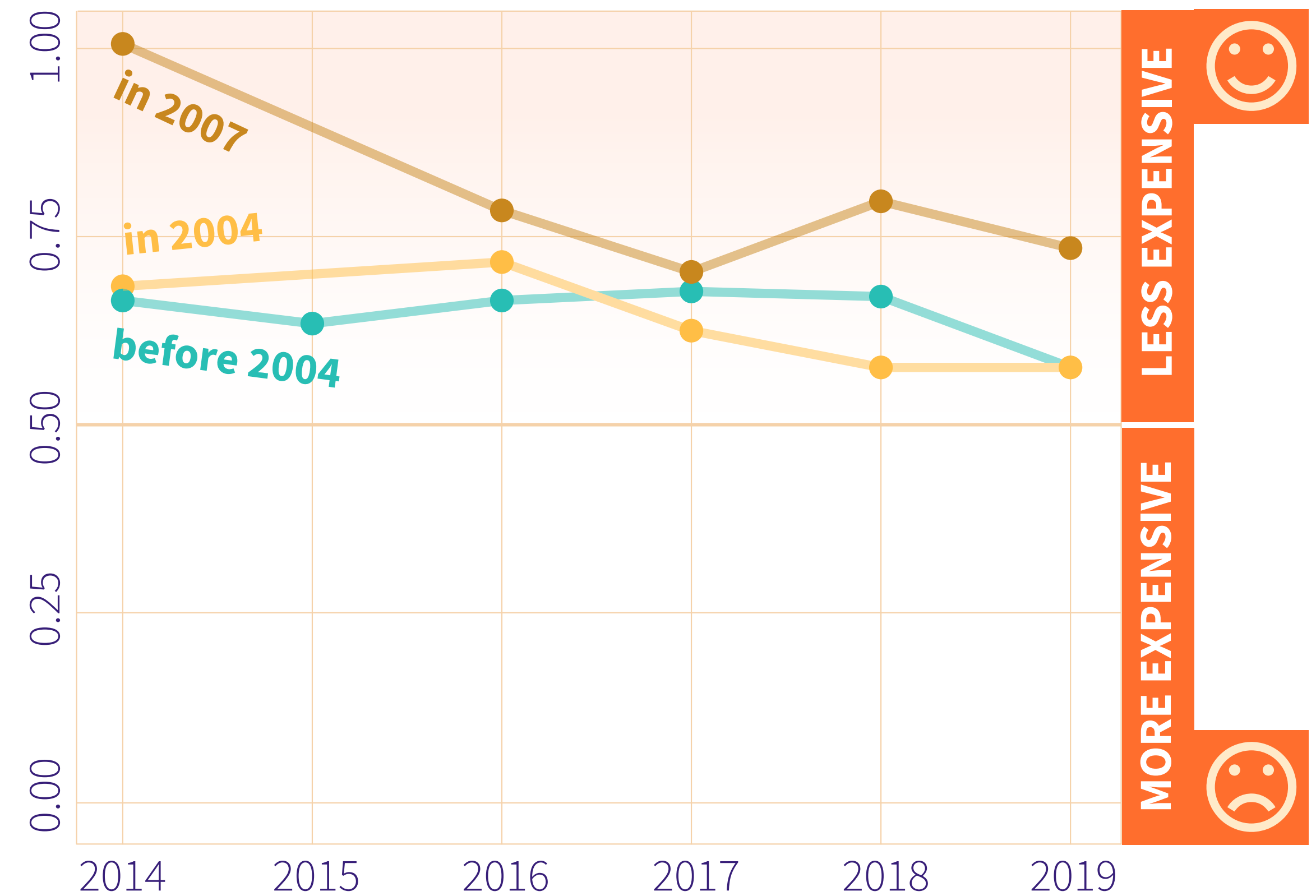
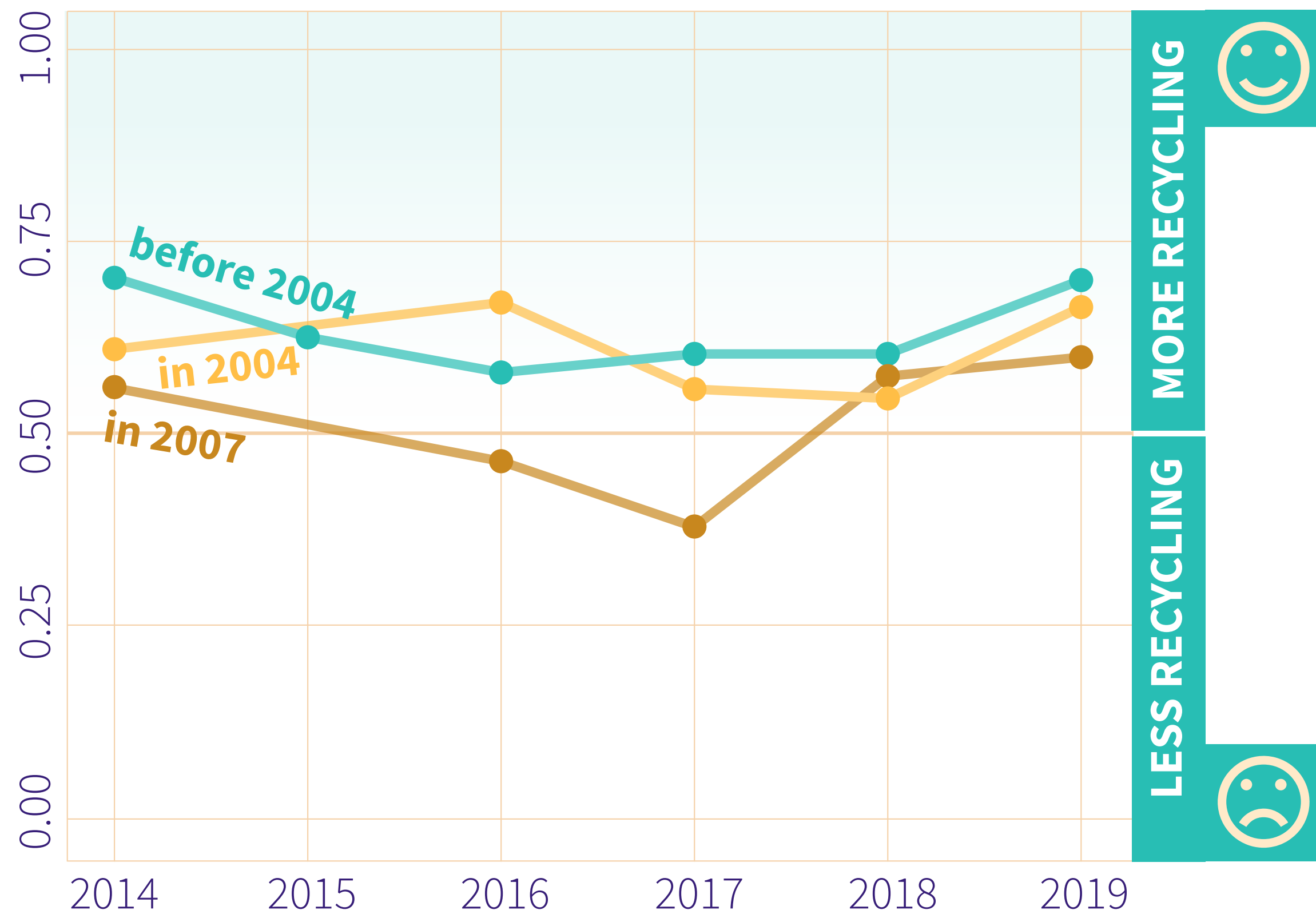
According to number inhabitant served:

● **small PRO** ● **medium PRO** ● **big PRO**



# CONSOLIDATED PROs ARE MORE EFFECTIVE, NEW PROs ARE MORE EFFICIENT

Countries in UE



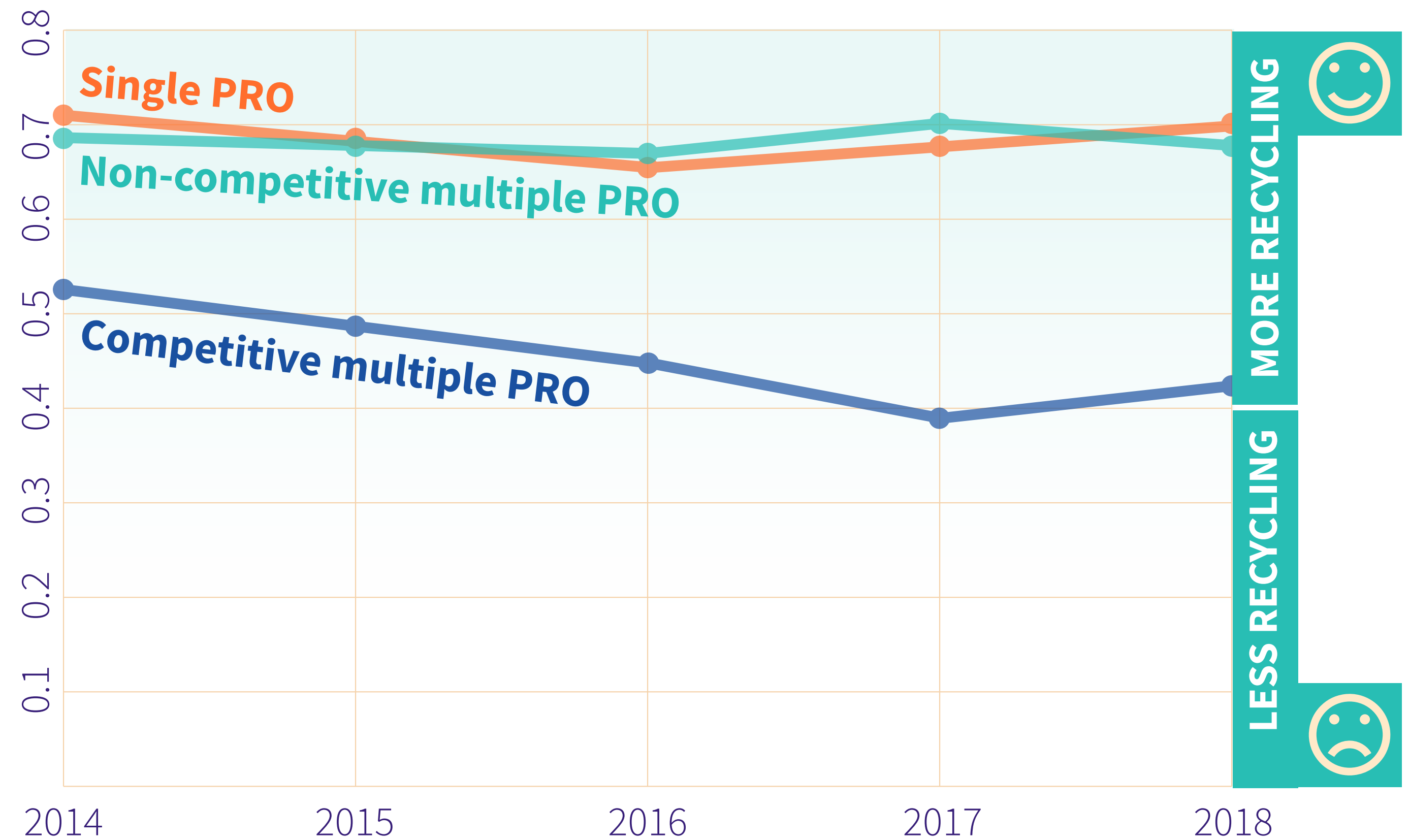


# SINGLE PROs IN A NON-COMPETITIVE EPR SCHEME ARE MORE EFFECTIVE OVER TIME

## RECYCLING EFFECTIVENESS over 5 years.

Average comparison of **SINGLE\*/ MULTIPLE PROs** operating in **COMPETITIVE/ NON COMPETITIVE EPR schemes**.

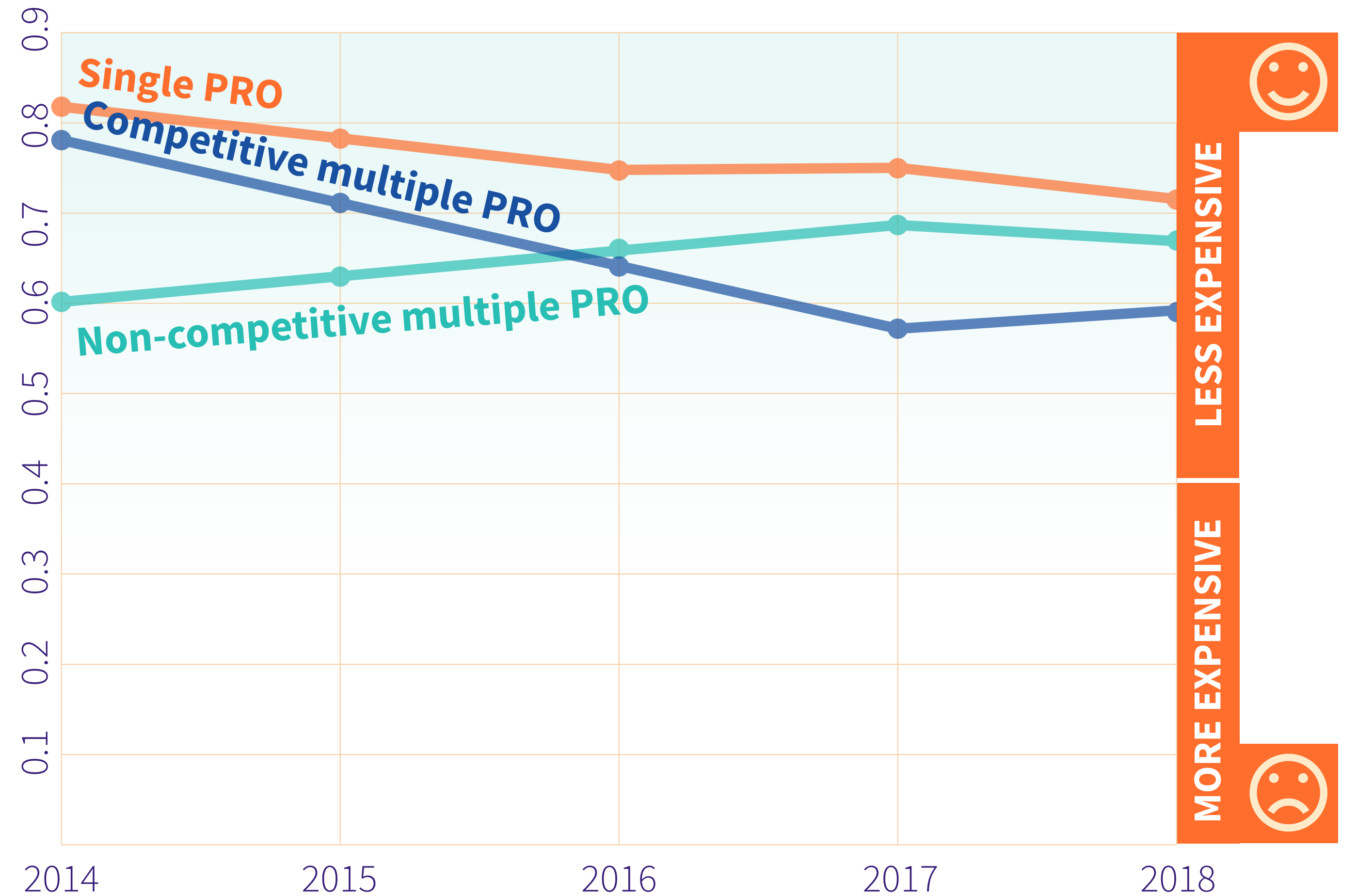
\*Single PRO: a PRO that holds more than 90% of the share of a non-competitive EPR scheme.



# SINGLE PROs IN A NON-COMPETITIVE EPR SCHEME ARE MORE EFFICIENT OVER TIME

**ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY**  
over 5 years.

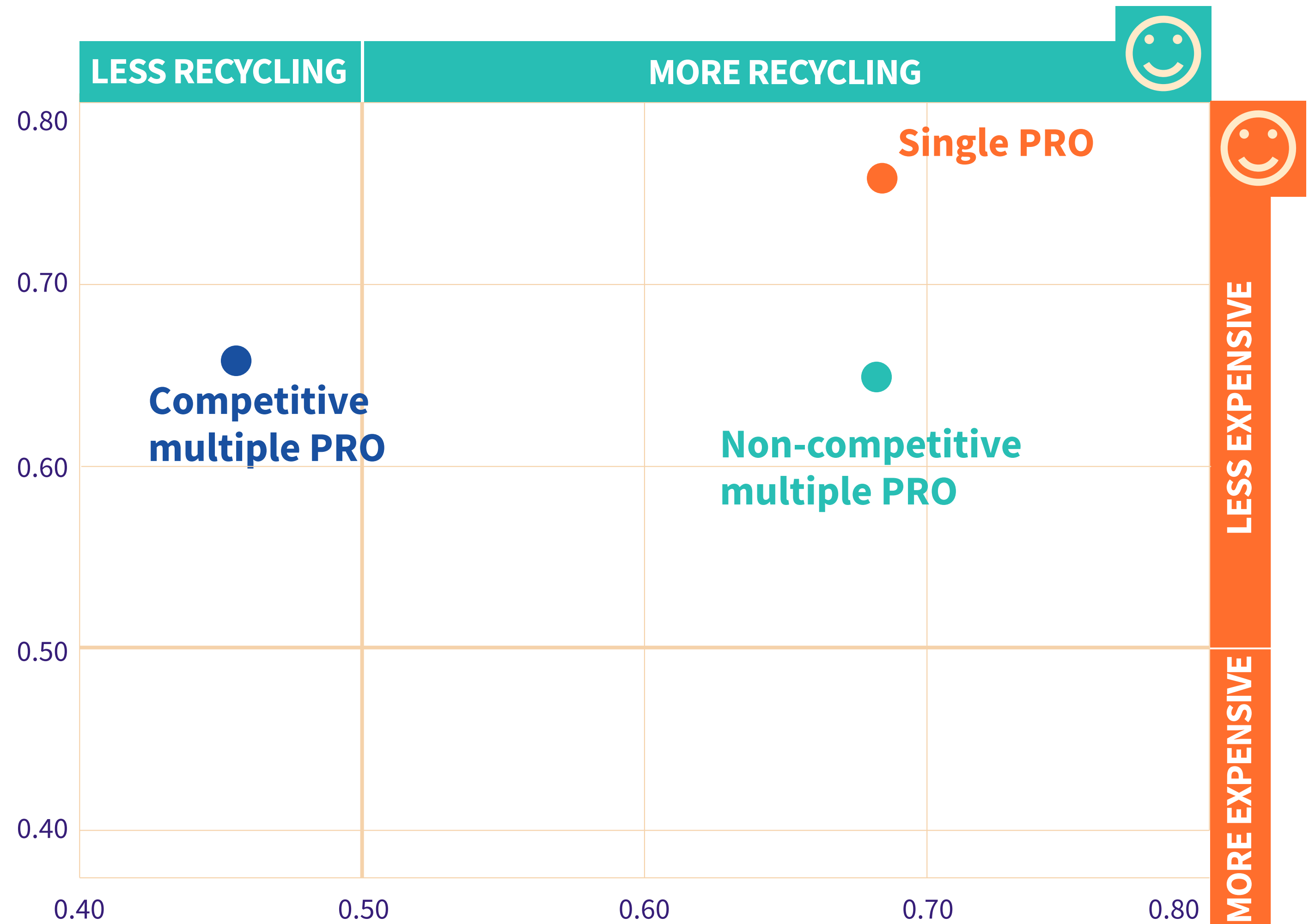
Average comparison of  
**SINGLE/ MULTIPLE PROs**  
operating in  
**COMPETITIVE/ NON COMPETITIVE**  
**EPR schemes.**



# SINGLE PROs IN A NON-COMPETITIVE EPR SCHEME ARE MORE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT

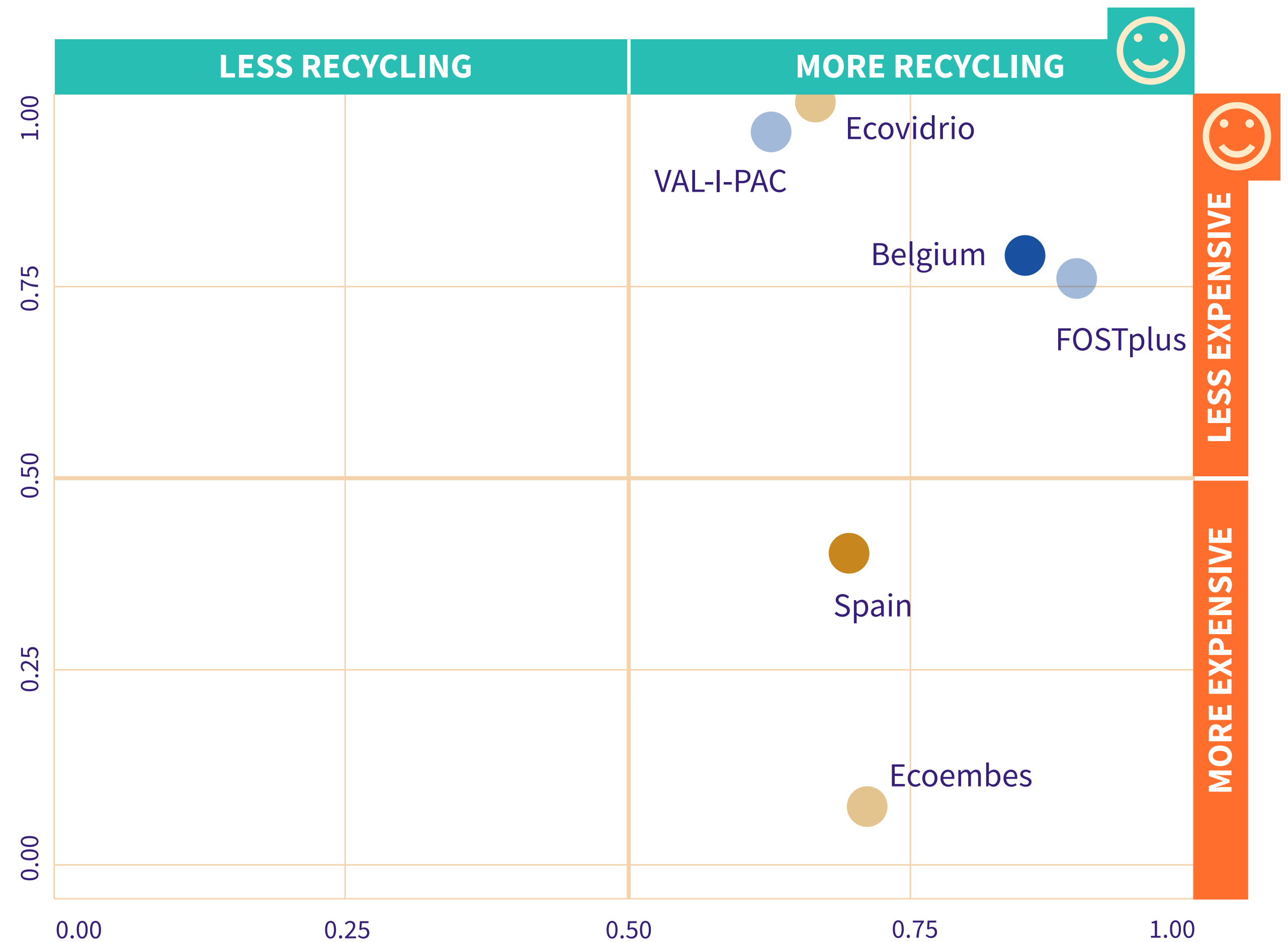
## RECYCLING EFFECTIVENESS ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY

Average comparison of  
**SINGLE/ MULTIPLE PROs**  
operating in  
**COMPETITIVE/ NON COMPETITIVE**  
**EPR schemes.**



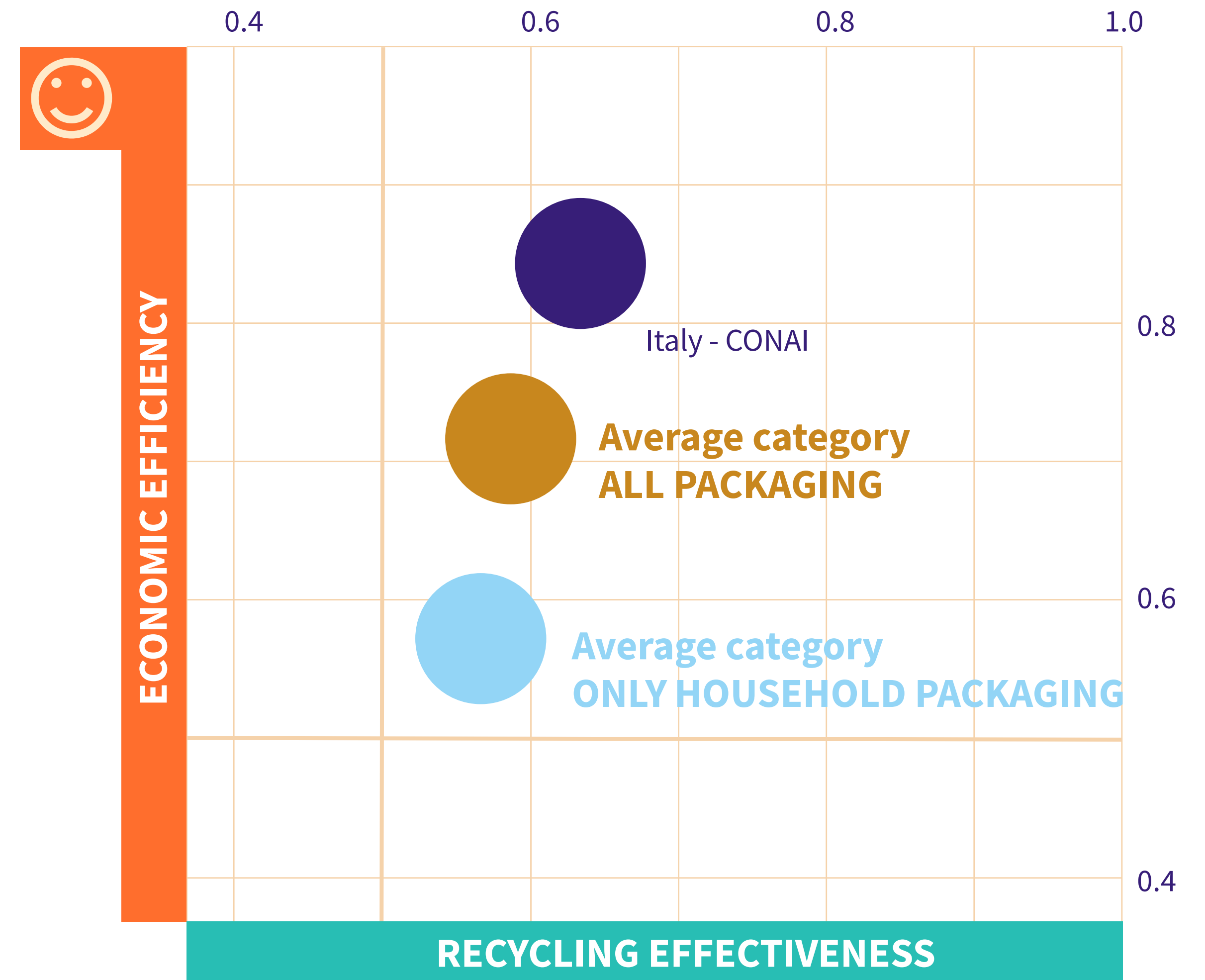
# EXAMPLES OF MULTIPLE PROs IN A NON-COMPETITIVE EPR SCHEME: SPAIN AND BELGIUM

Examples of **Multiple PRO**:  
**Spain** (Ecoembes + Ecovidrio)  
and **Belgium** (Fostplus + Valipac).



# CONAI IS MORE EFFICIENT, IN AVERAGE, IN RESPECT OF THE ALL PACKAGING CATEGORY

**PROs** that manage only **household packaging waste** have, on average, **higher unit costs** than PROs which also include the commercial and industrial channel.



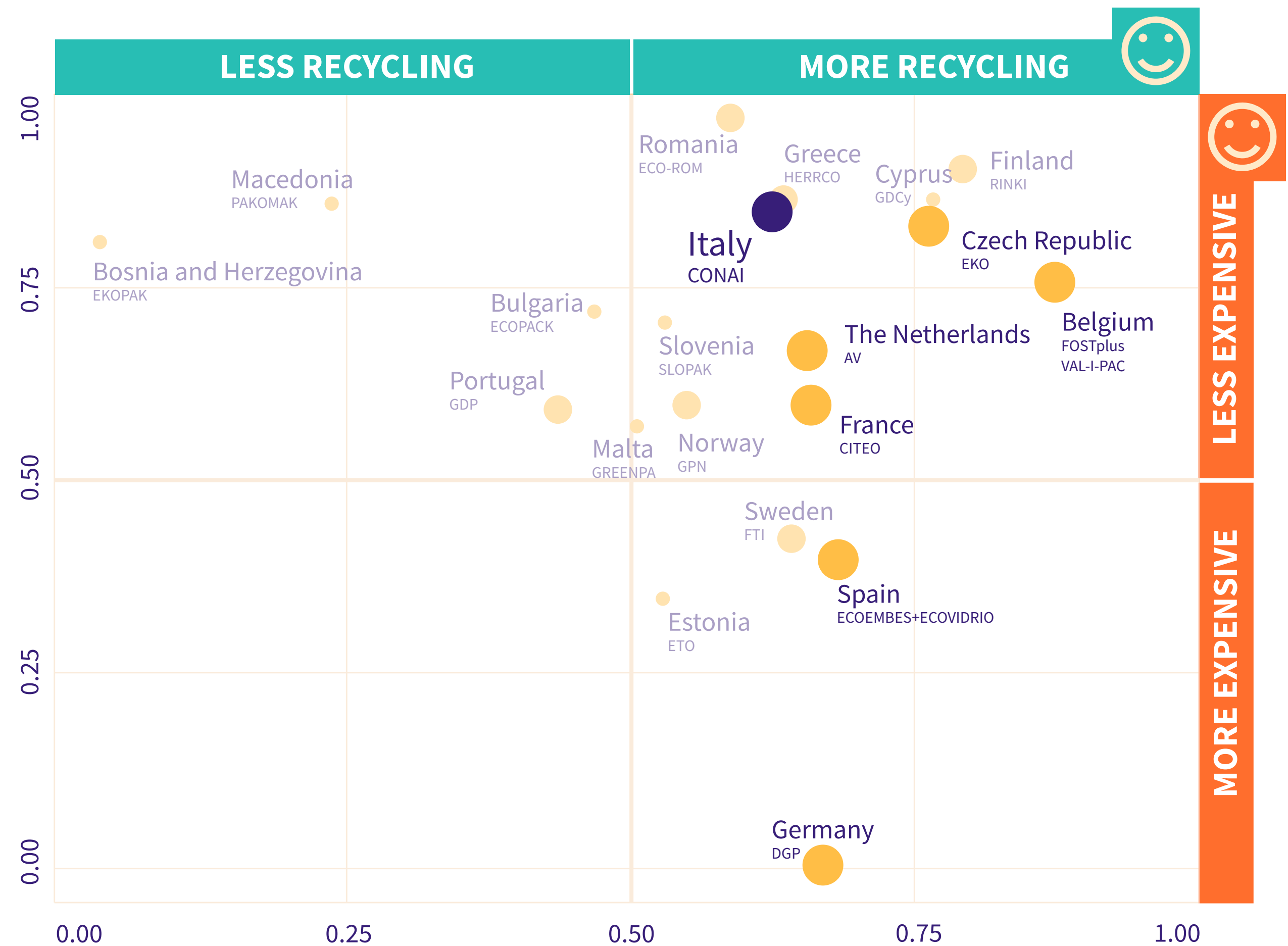
# CONAI IS MORE EFFICIENT AMONG THE PROs OF THE MOST POPULOUS COUNTRIES

CONAI is the **least expensive** among the PROs of the **countries with more than 10 million inhabitants.**

## LEGEND:

According to number inhabitant served:

- small PRO
- medium PRO
- big PRO

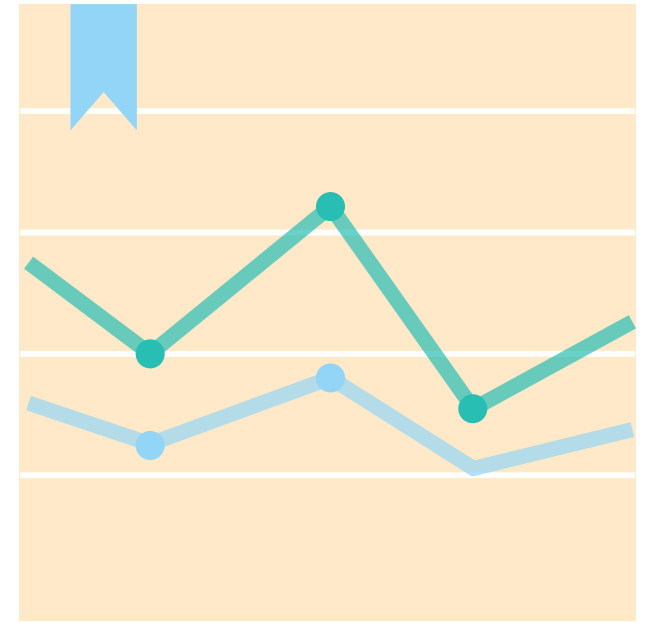




**COUNTRIES**

**ASSESSMENT**

# REGRESSION MODEL



$$y_{it} = \alpha + \beta \text{cost}_{i,t} + \gamma \text{EPR}_{i,t} + \delta \text{Waste}_{i,t} + \theta \text{Macro}_{i,t} + \varepsilon$$

The regression model evaluates the impact on the performances of the characteristics of the EPR systems, taking into account of different specific elements in each country.

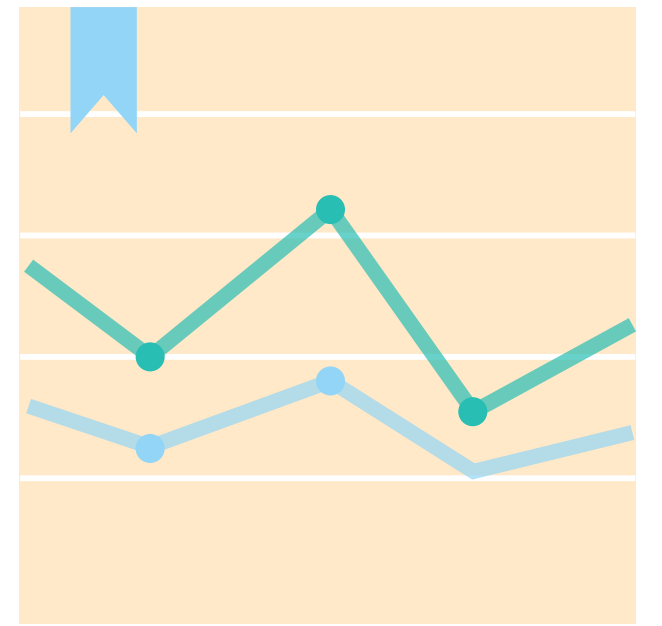
The regression combine the annual data (t) for all 27 Member states in EU (i), from 2010 to 2020.

The recycling rate value of each material is associated with several explanatory variables relating to the following characteristics:

- EPR system organization (EPR variables vector)
- National waste management (Waste variables vector)
- Macroeconomic Environment (Macro variables vector)
- Per capita cost of the EPR system (cost)



# REGRESSION MODEL VARIABLES



## Organization of the EPR system (EPR's variables vector)

- Competition
- EPR funding mechanism
- Operationally responsible entity for the collection
- Operationally responsible entity for recycling
- Type of collection (container, door-to-door, combined)
- Systems coexisting with PRO operations (DRS)
- System activity channel (domestic, industrial, both)

## National waste management (Waste variables vector)

- Share of waste exported abroad
- Public expenditure on municipal waste management per ton
- Overall production of municipal waste

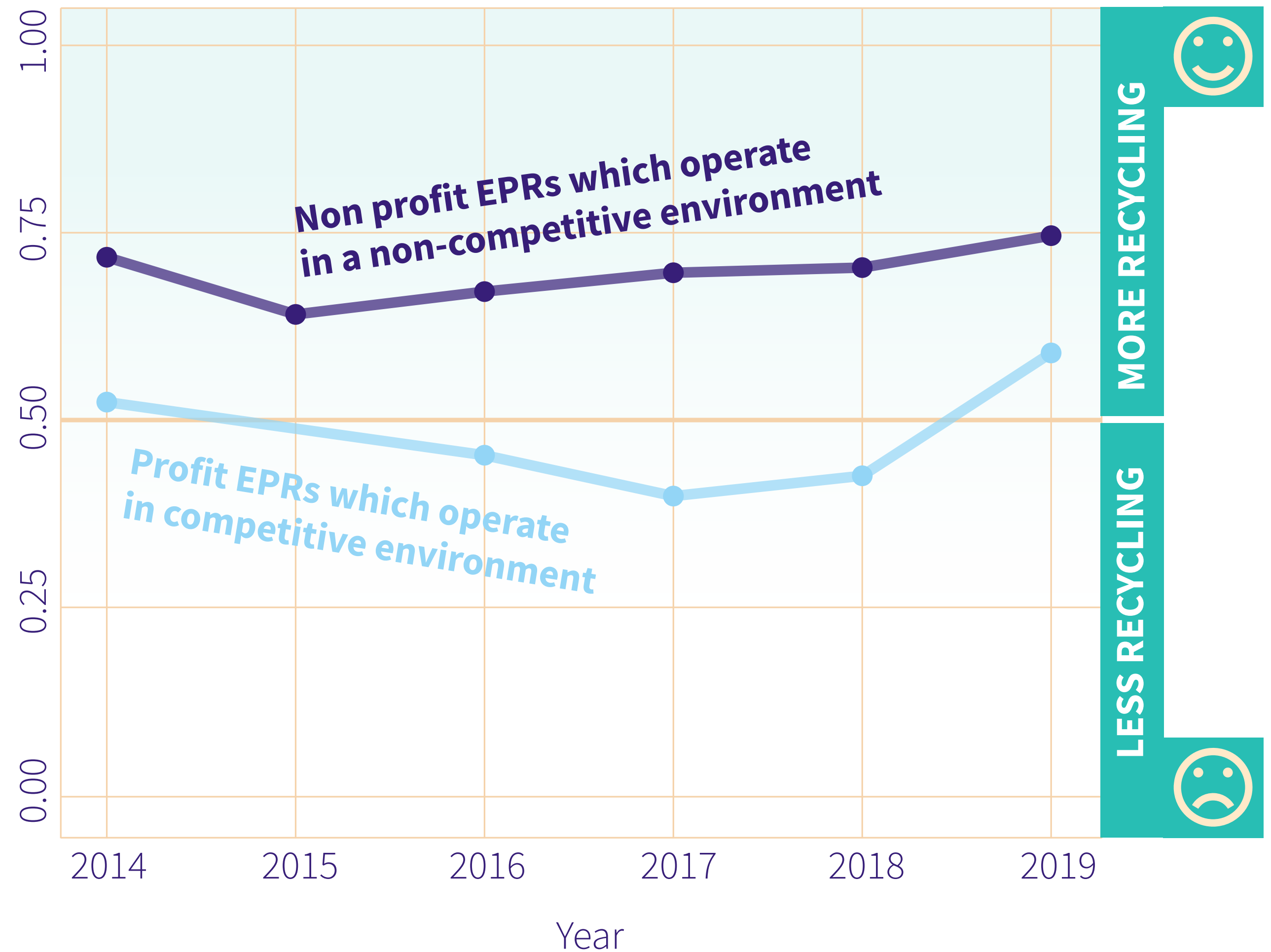
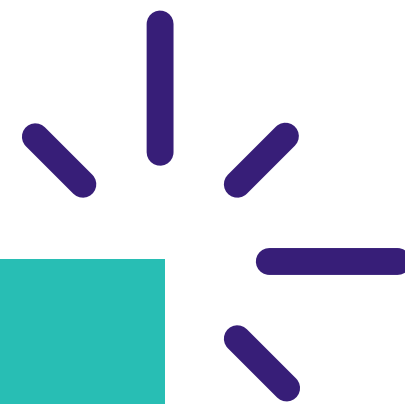
## Macroeconomic Environment (Vector of Macro Variables)

- GDP per capita
- Population density
- Secondary raw materials price

## Per capita cost of the EPR system (based on the declared fees)

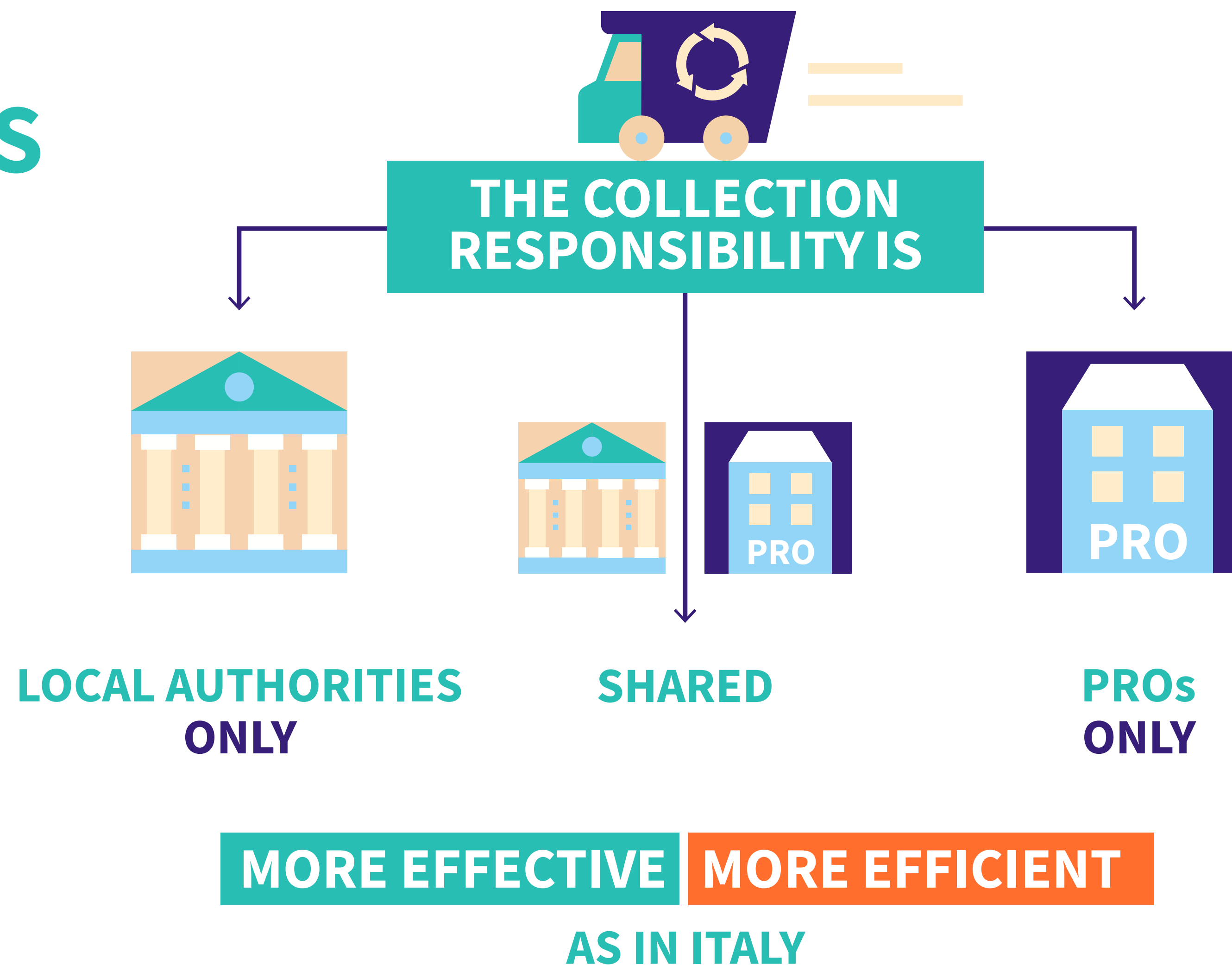
# NON PROFIT EPR SCHEMES RECYCLE MORE IN A NON-COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT.

**MORE EFFECTIVE BY 8  
PERCENTAGE POINTS**



# A HIGHER RECYCLING RATE IS EXPECTED WHEN LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE INVOLVED

Across all the packaging materials, the more effective and less expensive systems on average are the ones where local authorities are involved in the operational responsibility of collection, in respect to the systems where only the PROs are involved.





# **ECO-MODULATION CRITERIA**

# WHAT CRITERIA AFFECT THE FEES PAID BY COMPANIES?



Qualitative and operational criteria

ITALY, NETHERLANDS, FRANCE, BELGIUM AND GERMANY

Material recyclability



ITALY

Economic criteria (net cost recyclability chain)



Packaging reusability





**CONCLUSIONS**  
**of the EUROPEAN STUDY**

This study shows that in Europe  
**PROs' RECYCLING  
EFFECTIVENESS  
IS NOT NECESSARILY  
ASSOCIATED WITH  
HIGHER EPR SYSTEMS'  
COSTS.**



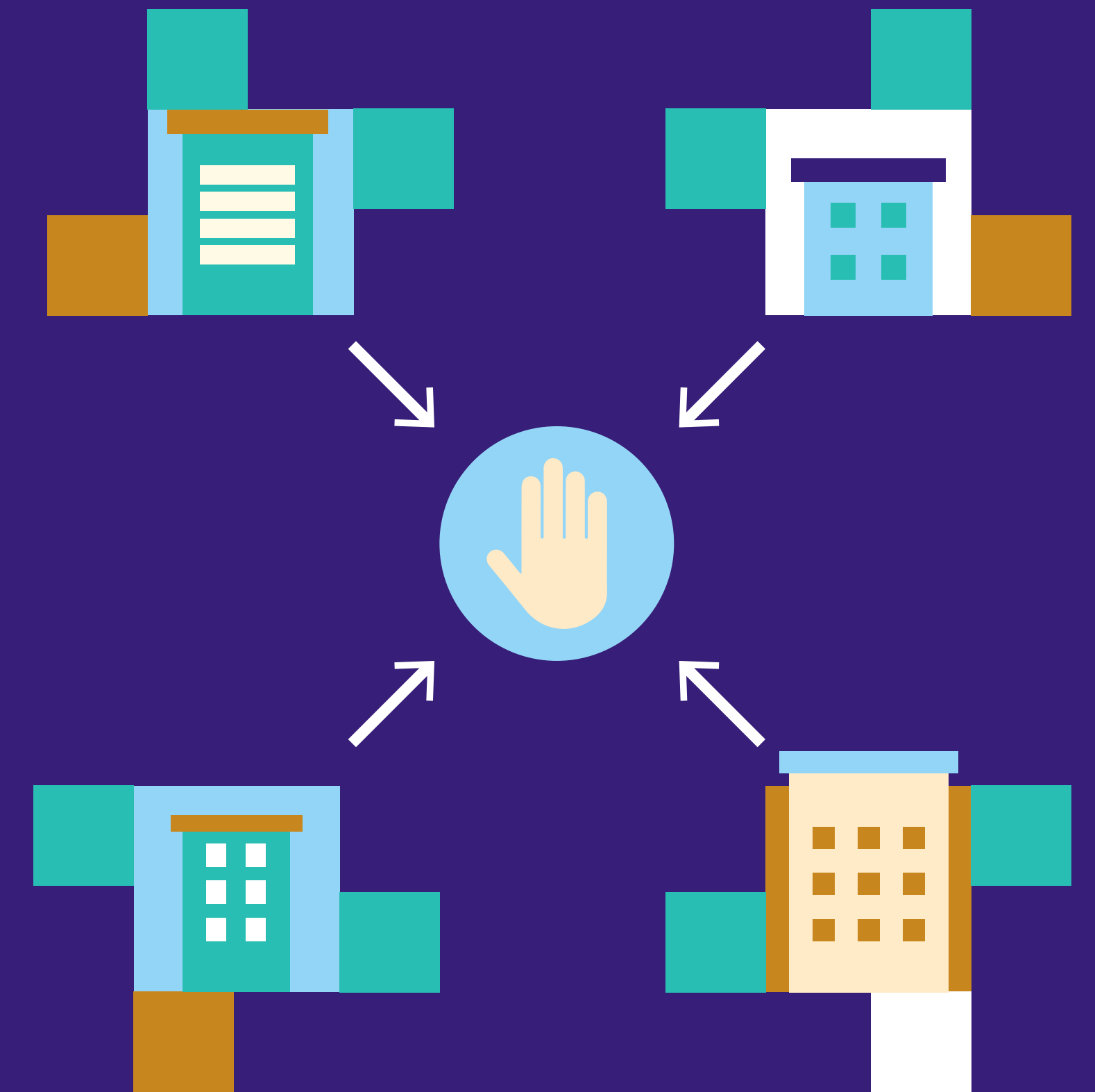
This study shows that in Europe  
**SINGLE PROs**  
**IN A NON-COMPETITIVE**  
**EPR SCHEME**  
**HAVE RESPECTIVELY**  
**HIGHER RECYCLING RATES**  
**AND LOWER COSTS.**





In addition...

**IN A COMPETITIVE EPR SCHEME  
WITH MULTIPLE PROs,  
THE PRESENCE OF  
A **CENTRAL COORDINATION**  
COULD BE A SOLUTION  
TO GUARANTEE **COMPETITION**  
**AND HOMOGENEITY**  
IN A CONTEXT WITH DIFFERENT  
PROs IN THE SAME MARKET.**





**CONAI**  
**Consorzio Nazionale Imballaggi**

Via Pompeo Litta, 5 - 20122 Milano  
Tel 02.540441 - Fax 02.54122648

*[www.conai.org](http://www.conai.org)*

