



# Revision of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive



# UWWTD - Evaluation

## The Directive

**Collection**

**Treatment**

**Monitoring & Reporting**

## Lessons learnt

Effective tool –  
Tangible impacts

Simple and  
targeted instrument

Carrot and stick

Benefits >>> costs

## Room for improvement

Remaining pollution

Eutrophication

Energy use, sludge  
management

Governance –  
transparency/reporting

Coherence with other  
legislation

# What is new? - Water Quality

## Rain waters (Art 5/Annex 5)

Integrated management

Indicative objective

Hierarchy of actions

## Smaller cities (Art. 3 and 4)

From 2.000 to 1.000 inhabitants

EU standards + more control for small individual treatment plants

## Nutrients (Art. 7)

Reinforced standards for N/P removal

Applied in more areas

And for all facilities above 100.000 pe

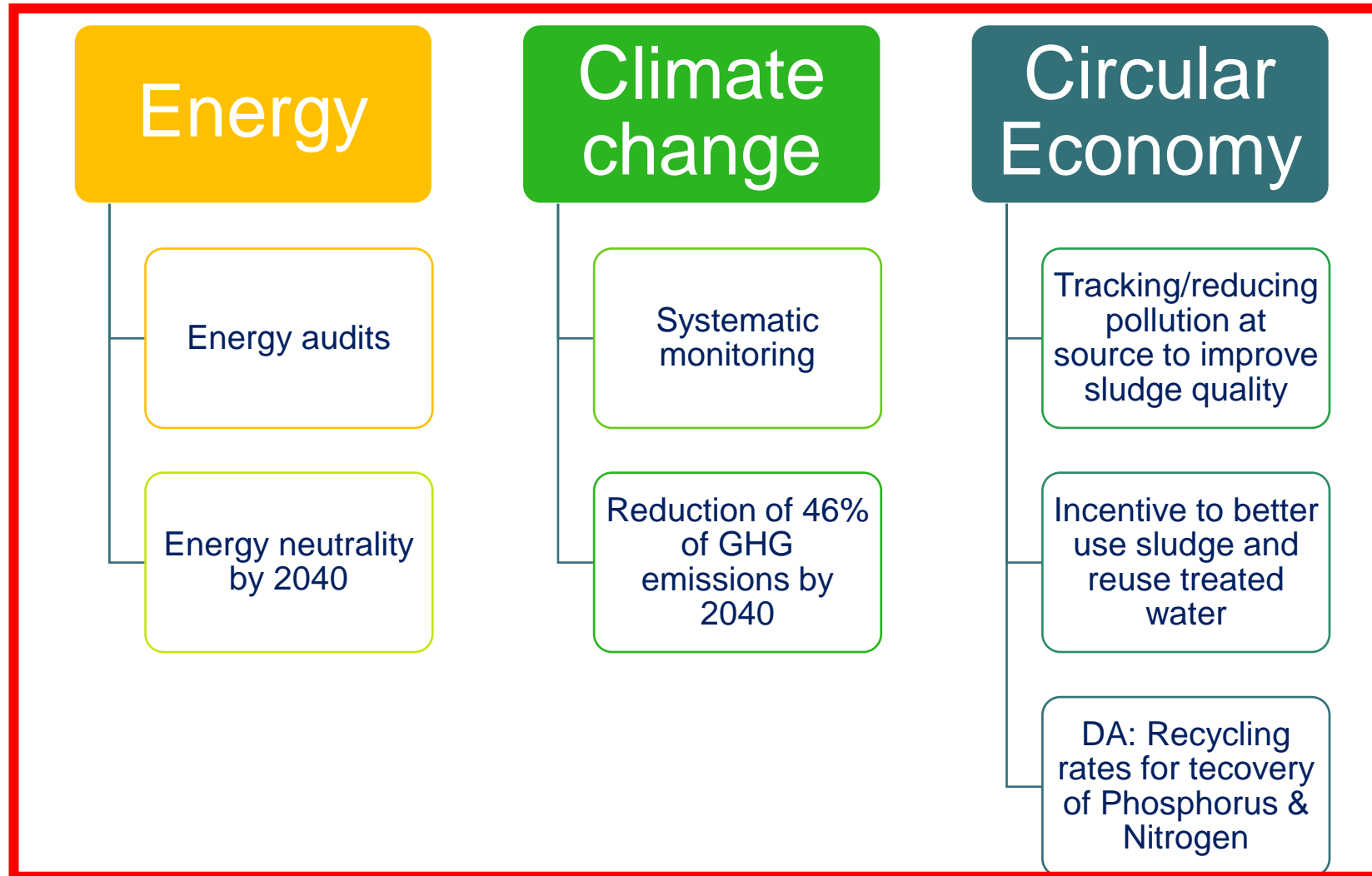
## Micropollutants (Art. 8)

New emission standards

### Risk based approach

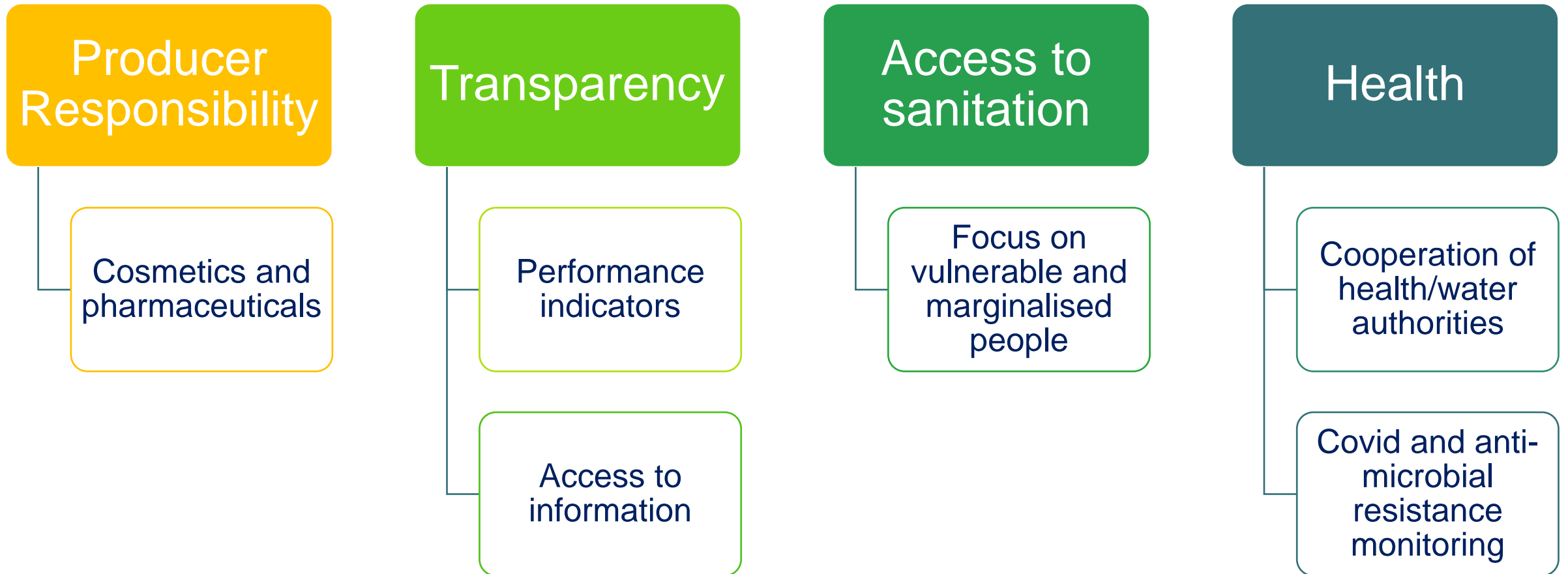
- Large aggro / facilities first
- Smaller (above 10.000 pe)- only where there is a risk

# UWWTD: What is new? - Energy/climate/circular economy



For further information on the revision: [Urban wastewater \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)

# UWWTD: What is new? - Governance



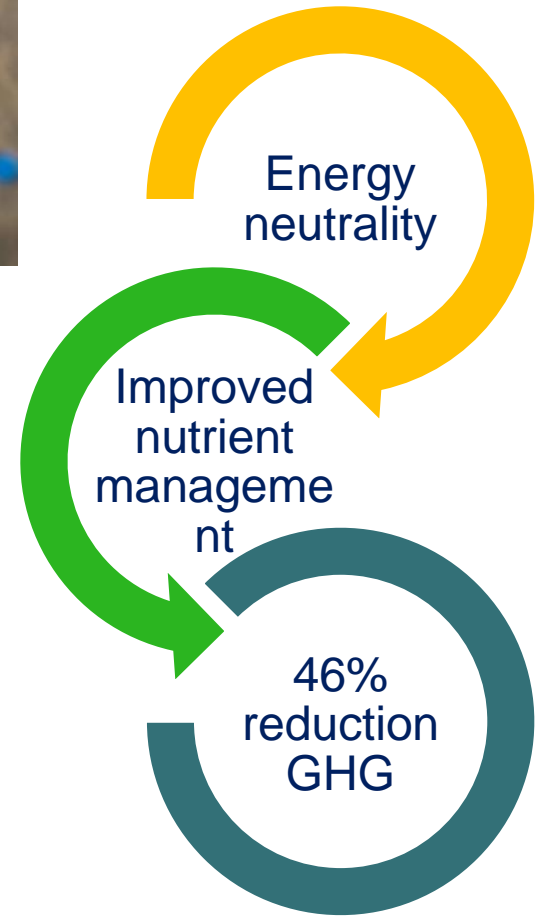
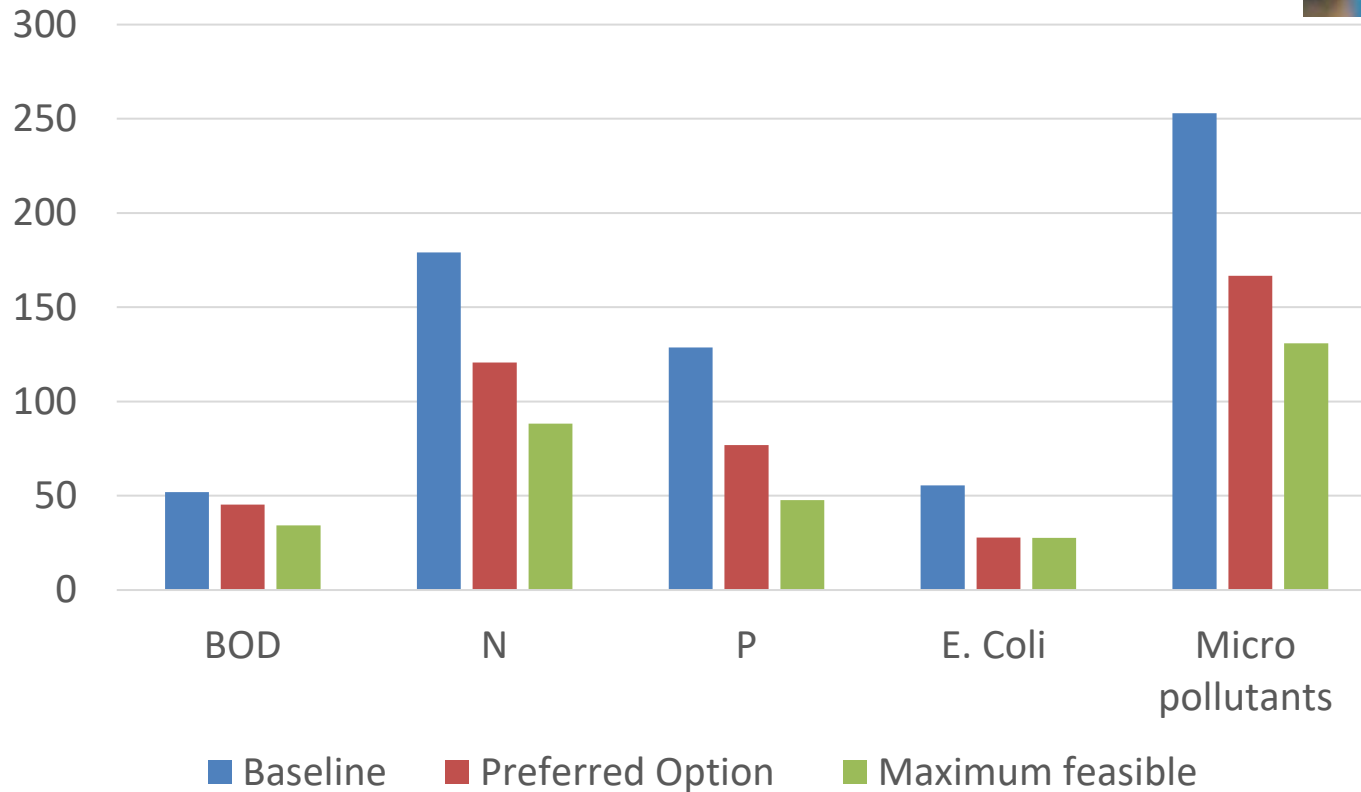
For further information on the revision: [Urban wastewater \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)

# Impacts



**- 9 %  
micro  
plastics**

## Pollution reduction (million pe)



# Cost coverage, affordability

**Now:** 70% water tariffs and 30% public budget  
**Proposal:** 3 sources of financing

Total Costs: EUR 3,8 billion/year in 2040

Total monetized benefits: EUR 6,6 bn/year in 2040

**Water tariffs**  
 (EUR 1,8 bn/year by 2040)

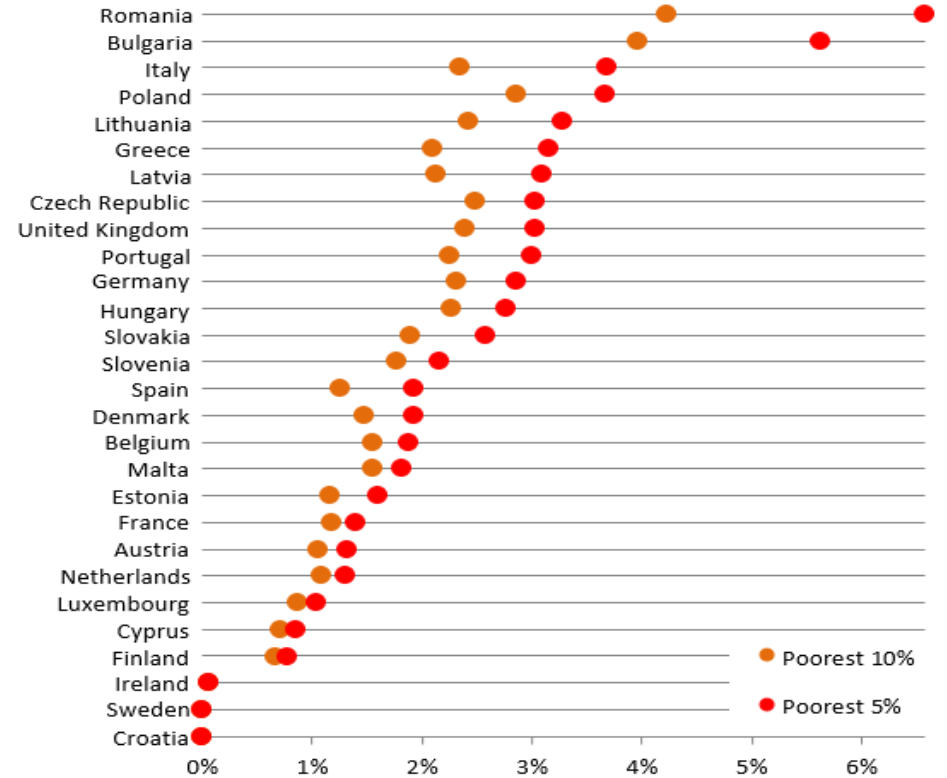
- Average increase **2,3% in 2040**
- **Affordability not endangered**

**Public Budget -**  
 (EUR 0,8 bn/year by 2040)

- EU funds for water: EUR 2 bn/year
- Average public budget for water: EUR 30 bn/year

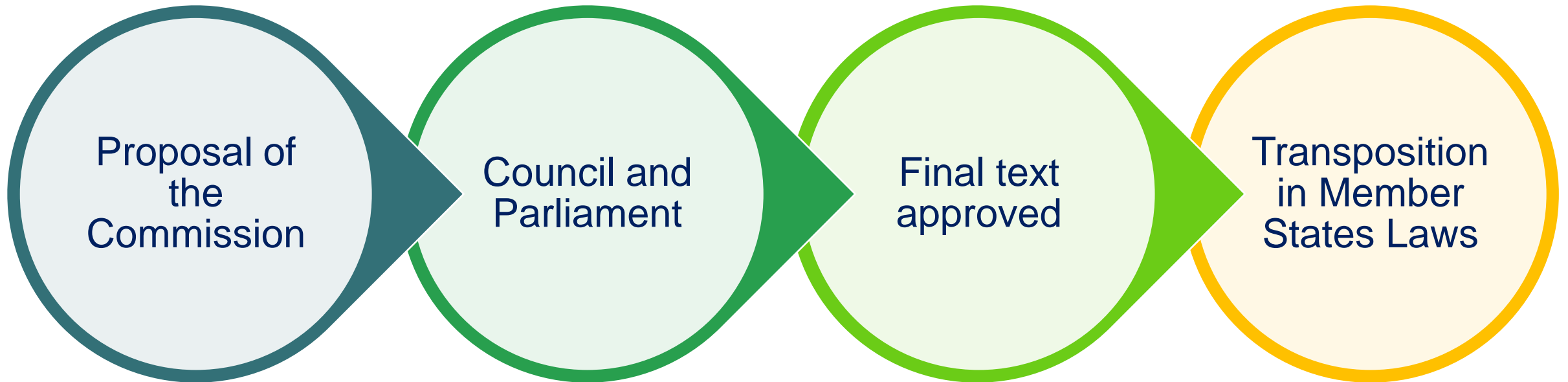
**Producer responsibility (EUR 1,2 bn/year by 2040)**

- 0,5 to 0,9% max reduction of profit margins
- Or 0,6% max of annual expenses (EUR 2,7 year/person max)



Share of water expenditures in household disposable income (2011-2015 average) Source: OECD based on Eurostat

# Next steps





# Evaluation of the Sewage Sludge Directive – main findings

## Effectiveness

- Overall effective.
- Sludge use: 40% on fields, 27% incinerated, 10% composted.
- Levels of heavy metals significantly decreased.
- → Some MS go beyond SSD standards

## Efficiency

- Sludge in agriculture is the most efficient use
- Mono-incineration is the most costly.
- Especially for phosphorus, replacing mineral fertiliser by recovered P is efficient.
- → SSD is technology neutral

## Coherence

- Aligns broadly with the objectives of the Green Deal and Zero Pollution BUT
- More could be done, e.g. microplastics, pharma, pathogens in sludge.

## EU added value

- Sole instrument to protect soil in the EU from sludge use.
- Many MS go beyond the requirements.

## Relevance

- Continues to be relevant.
- Important to stakeholders.
- More could be done regarding list of contaminants and their risk to environment and health.

Thank you for your attention