



# Global Advocacy Plan for Circularity of Aluminum Beverage Containers

New York Climate Week






September 2024

Roland  
Berger

# Aluminum can recycling matters as consumption is expected to exceed 600 bn units by 2030 – recycling can avoid 60 m t CO<sub>2e</sub> emissions

Aluminum cans global overview

	2020	2030
 Cans consumed globally	420 bn	630 bn
 Waste generated	5-6 m t	8-9 m t
 CO <sub>2e</sub> theoretically saved with 100% recycling rate	~40 m t	~60 m t

4%

CAGR,  
driven by:

- 1

A shift from tinplate to aluminum in Europe
- 2

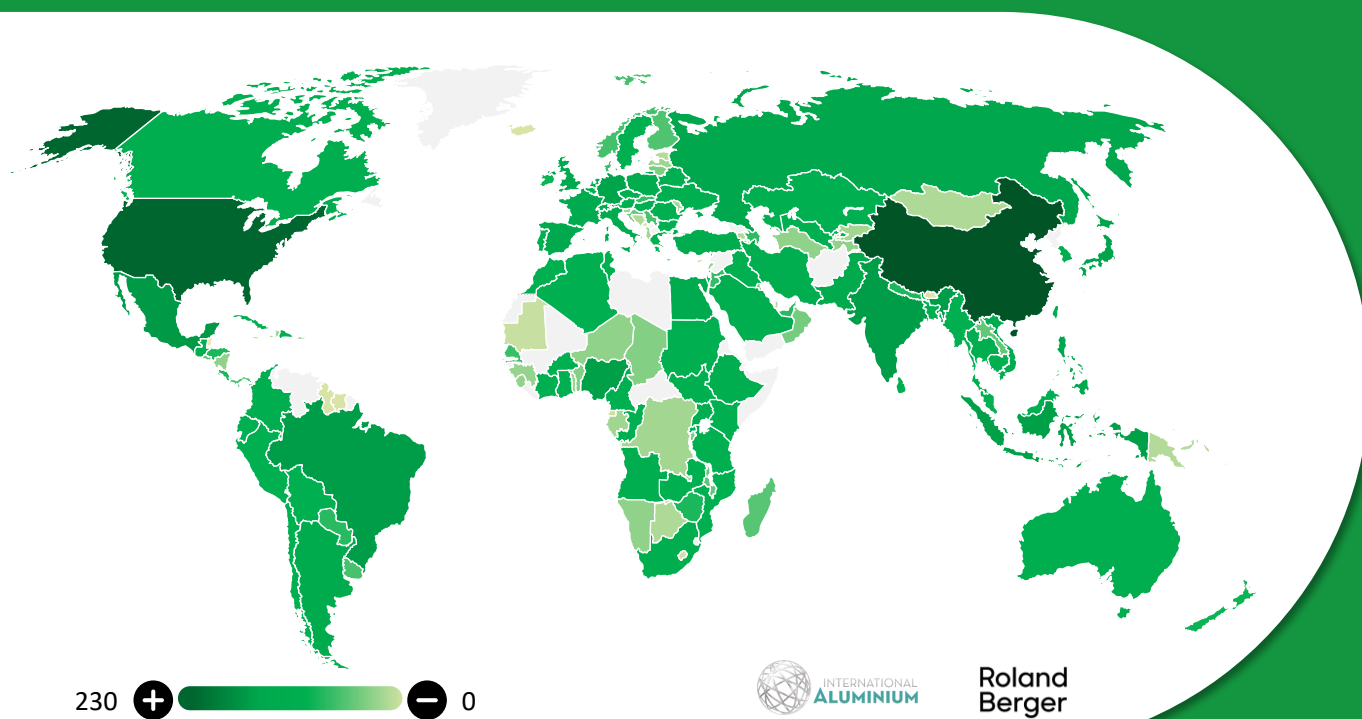
New beverages in the US |(mixed drinks)
- 3

Canned water in North America
- 4

Increased production in developing markets

## The Global Beverage Can Circularity Alliance & Roland Berger have developed a global plan to achieve can circularity

Global packaged beverage consumption [bn litres]



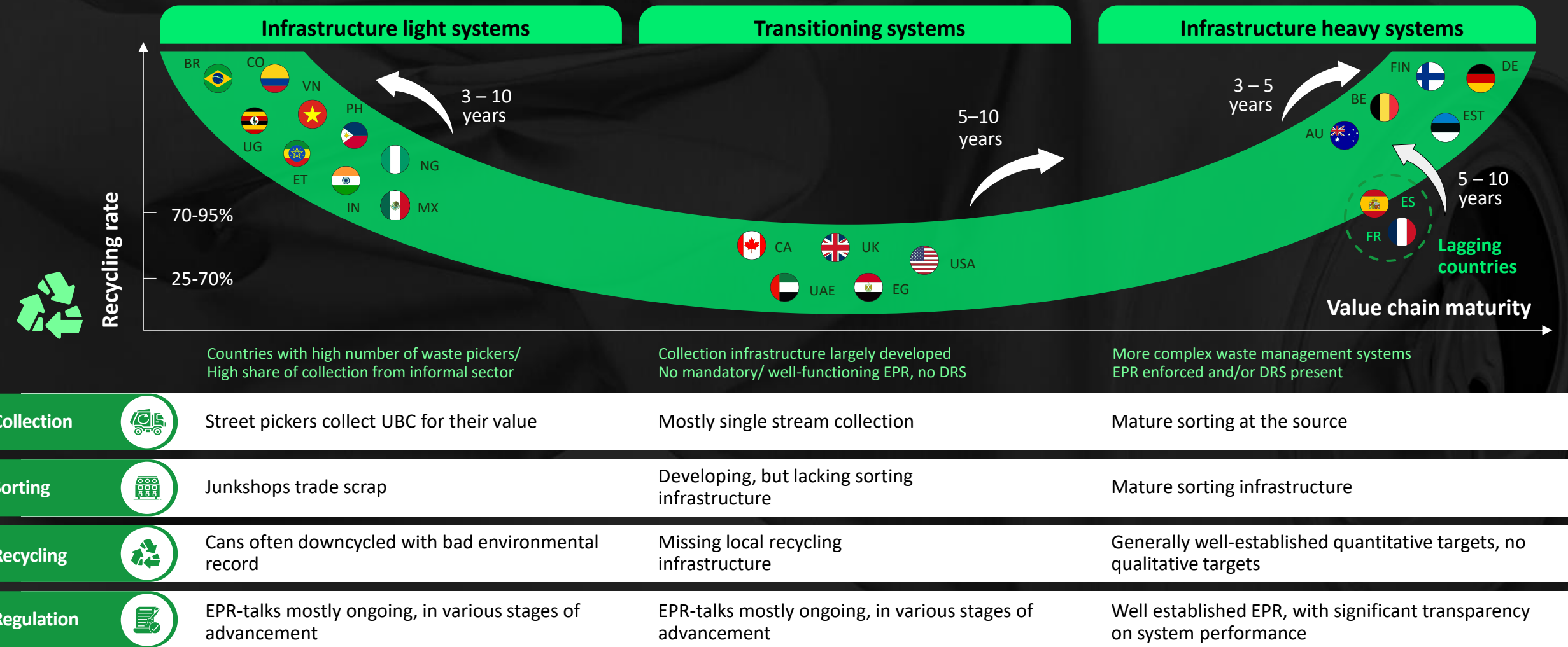
1. An overall target of 80% recycling rate by 2030 and 100% by 2050 is widely shared in the industry
2. The plan sets specific tailored actions for each country (all 200+ countries considered) & defines a blueprint
3. High-level examples for solutions and their impact have been developed to illustrate the potential required recycling effort in Florida, UAE & Vietnam





These action areas will be tailored to consider the global differences in maturity (infrastructure & legislation) and resulting recycling rates across different countries

Global typical country characteristics by system type for UBC recycling



# Within each action area, we defined a blueprint of actions & levers tailored to the specific conditions in each of the three system types

Actionable blueprint for each system type



## Infrastructure light models

Category	Potential actions
1 Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase awareness for HH &amp; business</li> </ul>
8 Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transparency on volumes and recycling</li> </ul>
7 Set C2C targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for establishing <b>recycling targets</b></li> </ul>
2 Source separation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recognition</b> of informal worker</li> <li>Increase their <b>social inclusion</b></li> <li>Improve <b>working conditions</b></li> </ul>
3 Sorting infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Basic equipment</b> for higher productivity</li> <li><b>Eddy current separators</b></li> </ul>
5 Recycling infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Can shipped in best conditions</b> to recycling</li> <li><b>Invest in can-to-can recycling infrastructure</b></li> </ul>

## Transitioning systems

Category	Potential actions
1 Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase awareness for HH &amp; business</li> </ul>
8 Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transparency on volumes and recycling</li> </ul>
7 Set C2C targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for establishing <b>recycling targets</b></li> </ul>
4 Source separation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-stream collection (pilots/ voluntary)</li> <li><b>Implement DRS</b> (voluntary pilots first)</li> <li><b>Drive separate source collection</b></li> </ul>
3 Sorting infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eddy current separators</li> <li>Advanced sorting (AI, marking)</li> </ul>
5 Recycling infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Can shipped in best conditions</b> to recycling</li> <li>Improve <b>existing</b> recycling facilities</li> <li><b>Can shredding, remelting &amp; rolling capacity</b></li> </ul>
6 Support for higher landfilling fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Landfill diversion legislation/ incentives</b></li> <li><b>Revenue from waste management infrastructure</b></li> </ul>
9 Mandatory EPR legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mandatory EPR + enforcement</b> (penalties for freeriding)</li> </ul>
10 Support mandatory DRS legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Support DRS (where govt. and Brand Owner support)</b></li> </ul>

## Infrastructure heavy systems

Category	Potential actions
1 Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycling education at all levels</li> </ul>
8 Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digitalization of waste data</li> </ul>
7 Set C2C targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Granular targets and enforcement (beyond recycling only, e.g. on separate collection)</li> </ul>
10 Support mandatory DRS legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mandatory DRS for beverage containers</b></li> </ul>
4 Maximize advanced source separation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mandatory separate source collection (multi-stream)</b></li> </ul>

- Advocacy levers
- Independent capacity levers
- ◆ Advocacy with action opportunity





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# We have prioritized the key countries for focus and investment in the next decade to roll-out the industry's action plan

Focus countries by system category and action area

	Informal sector collection & sorting	Can-to-can recycling
Infrastructure light models	India	South Africa
	Colombia	Philippines
	Philippines	Ethiopia
	Angola	
	Uganda	India
	Ethiopia	Vietnam
	Kenya	
	Nigeria	
	Source separation & advanced sorting	Can-to-can recycling
Transitioning	United States	Canada
	Malaysia	UAE
	UAE	Turkey
	China	Malaysia
	Turkey	Kazakhstan
	DRS implementation	Source separation & advanced sorting
Infrastructure heavy models	UK	Italy
	Spain	Poland
	Portugal	France
	South Korea	Romania
		Netherlands

## Country prioritization methodology

To make GBCCA’s mission a reality, efforts can be directed towards countries where investments will:

- Impact a large number of cans
- The likelihood of successful implementation is high

As such, for each major investment, a top 5 (country focus) was established based on a systematic analysis of 16 data points for all 200+ countries - the metrics cover:

- Maturity of the waste & packaging recycling regulation (e.g. presence of EPR, DRS, etc.)
- Consumption patterns (e.g. packaged drinks consumption (total & per capita)
- Maturity of the waste management system
- Overall socio-economic characteristics of the country



For each targeted action, the level of involvement & impact of stakeholders engaged varies – Government, brand owners and retail are the ones with highest leverage

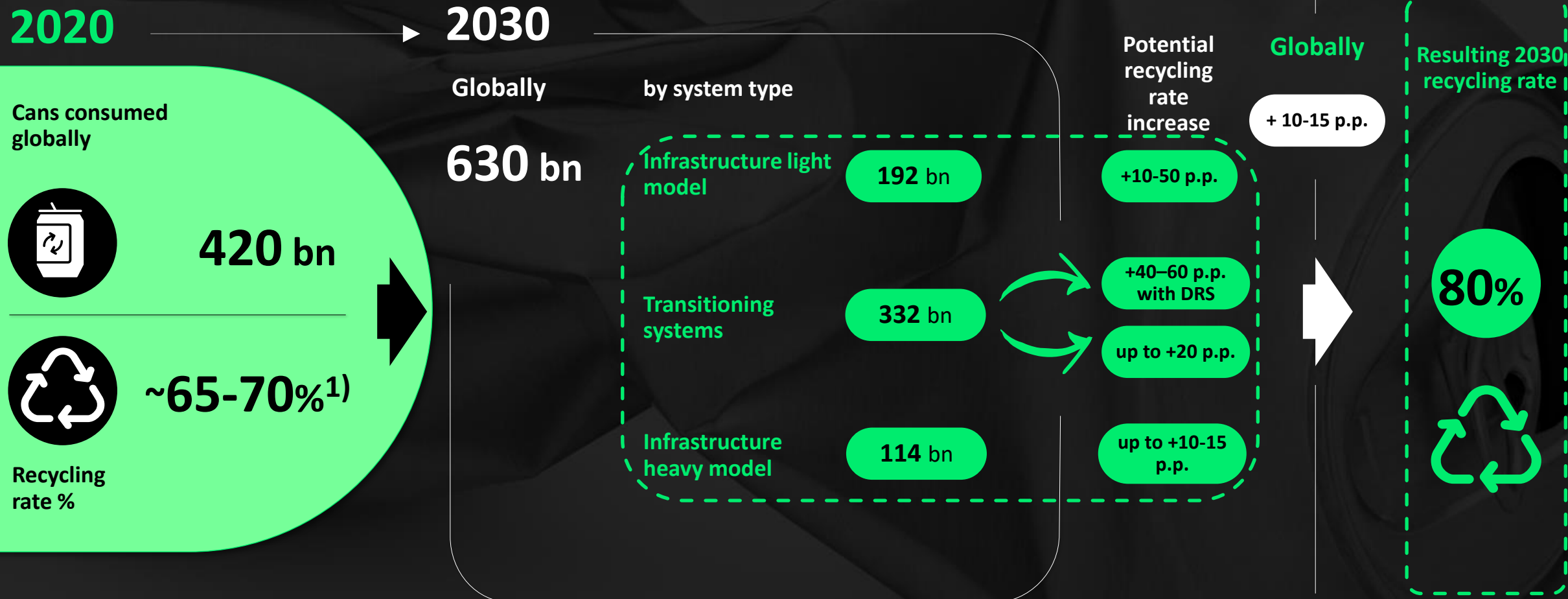
Overview of stakeholder engagement level/ importance for key actions selected – High level assessment

Stakeholders →			Govt.	Brand owners	Retailers	Municipalities	WM companies	ALU industry	Can makers	General public
↑ Actions ↓	Increase awareness & education	1								
	Co-invest in waste pickers	2								
	Co-invest in sorting infrastructure	3								
	Co-invest in source separation	4								
	Invest in recycling infra. &/ or redirect streams of materials	5								
	Support advocacy efforts in higher landfill fees	6								
	Set recycling and can-to-can targets	7								
	Data collection & targets	8								
	Advocate for mandatory EPR	9								
	Support DRS legislation	10								

Recycling success requires engaging with a broad range of stakeholders

# Global recycling rates can increase to the ambition level of 80%, with DRS introduction in large transitioning countries as most important lever

Recycling rates projections for 2030

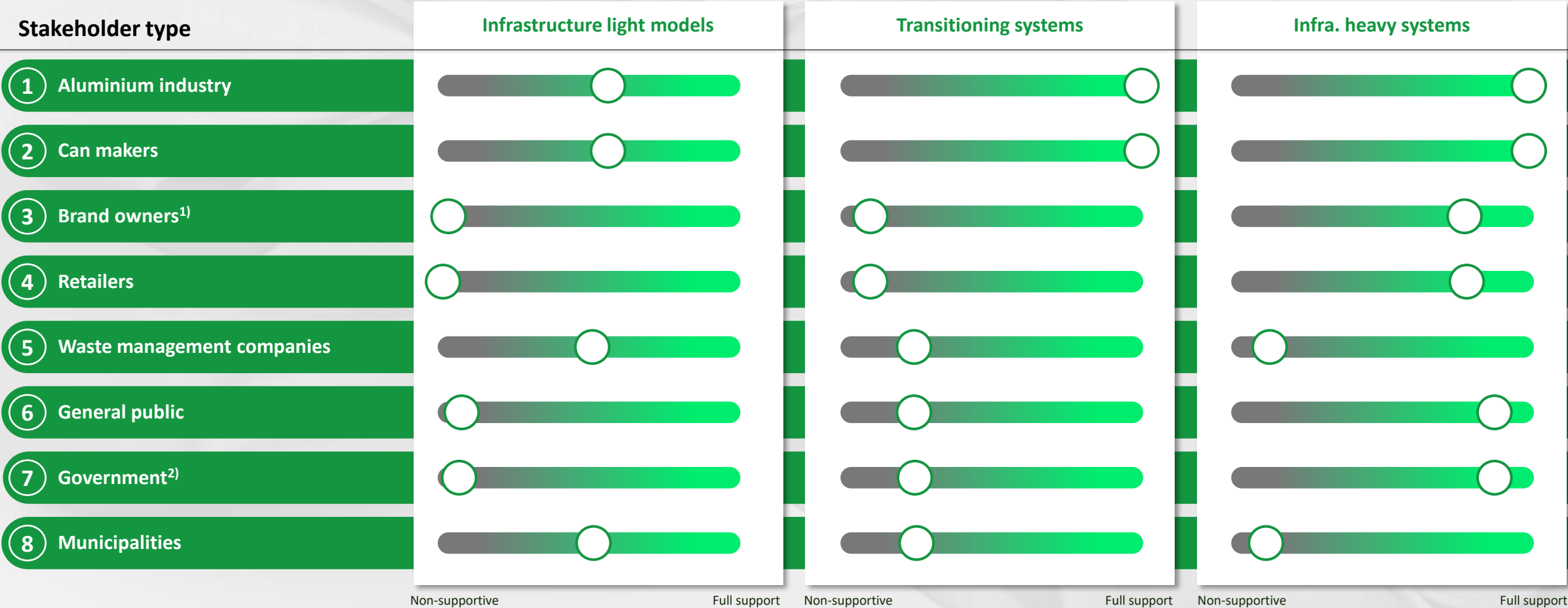


1) Considering reported figures, representing different measuring points, in countries where reliable data available

Driving DRS adoption has proven to be the most effective lever; aligning stakeholders is challenging, thus implementation unlikely in many countries

Typical stakeholder position on DRS adoption

Stakeholder Position






1) Including PRO 2) Government corresponds to national and state or regional government as applicable

Source: Stakeholder interviews



## We have simulated operations and financials for concrete solutions (beyond mandatory DRS) to boost mid-term recycling & collection rates in Vietnam, Florida, UAE

Overview of solutions and possible impact (high-level simulation) Vietnam, Florida & UAE

		Today			2030			2050	Simulated solutions
	Recovery rate	93%	➡	95-100%	➡	90-100%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Can-to-can recycling can be viable</b>, to benefit most vulnerable</li><li>• <b>Policy change (export duty)</b></li><li>• Tackling problematic exports first</li></ul>	
<b>Vietnam</b>	C2C rate	c. 1%	➡	c. 50%	➡	90-100%			
	Recovery rate	21%	➡	c. 28 - 40%	➡	90-100%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Short-term recycling rate can be improved through <b>MRF improvements &amp; collections in hotspots of consumption</b></li><li>• In 2nd stage, <b>comprehensive source separation (costly)</b></li></ul>	
<b>Florida</b>	C2C rate	16%	➡	c. 22 - 30%	➡	90-100%			
	Recovery rate	33%	➡	c. 40 – 50%	➡	90-100%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collection through <b>voluntary DRS</b> (some scenarios financially viable)</li><li>• <b>Collection at hotspots of consumption</b> (events, pubs/ clubs)</li><li>• <b>Mandatory DRS</b> long-term</li><li>• <b>Comprehensive source separation</b> also needed, will require funding</li></ul>	
<b>UAE</b>	C2C rate	20%	➡	c. 24 – 30%	➡	90-100%			

1) Timelines are indicative, based on experience. Actual implementation timelines vary and depend above all on the level of stakeholder engagement that can be reached; 2) Y: years