



Waste-Free Ontario and Circular Economy

Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

May 5, 2017

Purpose

Provide an overview of Ontario's new Waste-Free Ontario framework

- Context
- Circular economy
- Waste-Free Ontario Framework
- Implementation timelines

Context for Action

Ontario needs actions to shift from a linear economy to a circular economy.

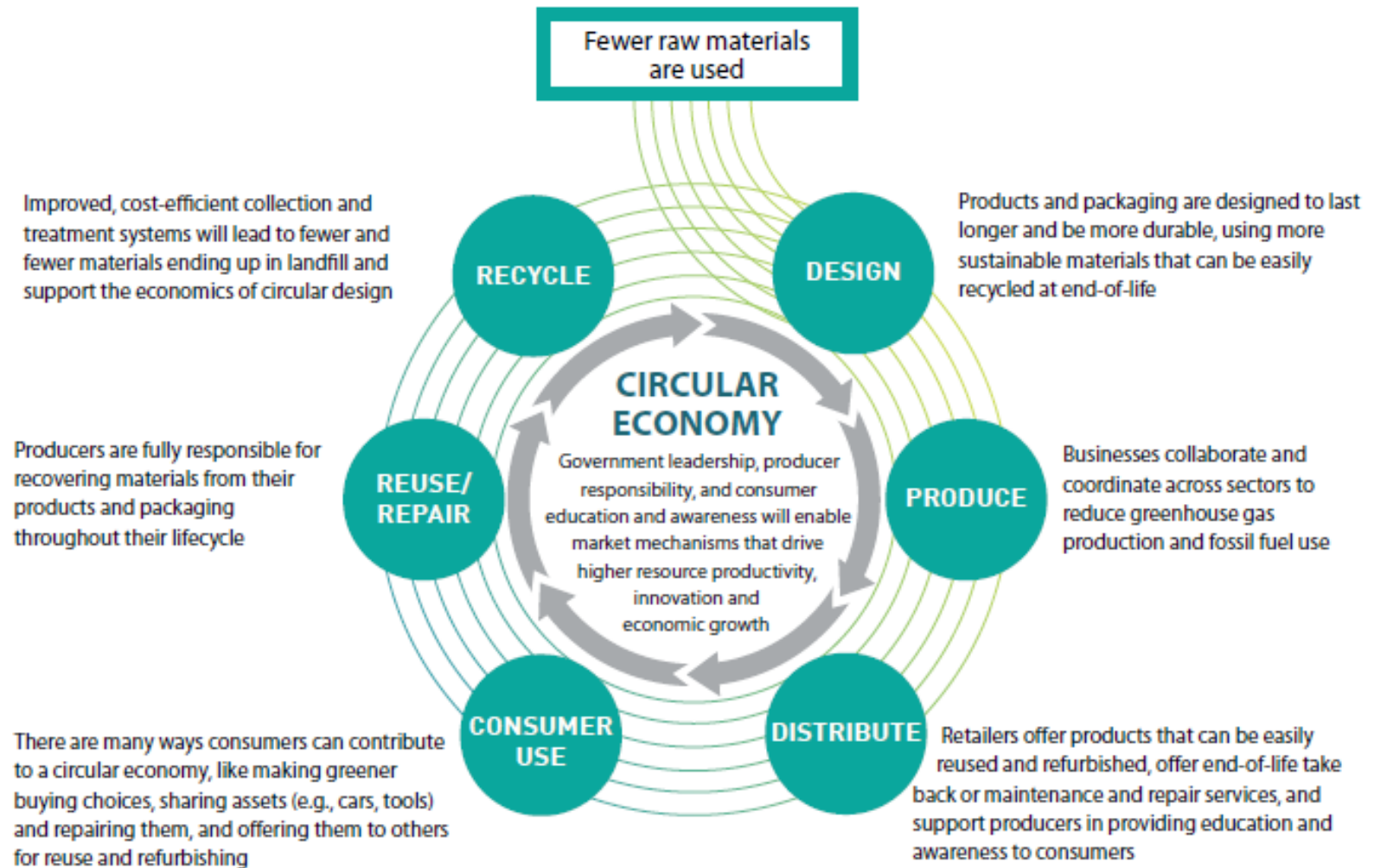
CHALLENGES

- ✓ Ontarians generate a significant amount of waste
- ✓ Ontario's diversion rates have stalled at 25% for last decade.
- ✓ Only focusing on end-of-life management of waste is costly
- ✓ Ontario's landfill capacity is less than 20 years
- ✓ Greenhouse gas emissions have significantly increased
- ✓ Shifting away from a linear economy needs a change to Ontarians' mindset and views about waste

OPPORTUNITIES

- ✓ Circular economy helps fight climate change by reducing GHG emissions from product life-cycle
- ✓ Circular economy protects the environment by reducing reliance on raw materials and minimizing materials going to landfills
- ✓ Circular economy drives innovation by encouraging businesses to design long lasting, reusable, and recyclable products
- ✓ Circular economy helps Ontario stay competitive by attracting investment and creating jobs
- ✓ Stakeholders called for a fundamental policy reform to transform Ontario to a circular economy

What is the Circular Economy?



Waste-Free Ontario Framework

❑ WASTE-FREE ONTARIO ACT, 2016

RESOURCE RECOVERY AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY ACT

- Establishes the Provincial Interest
- Establishes producer responsibility regime

WASTE DIVERSION TRANSITION ACT

- Governs the transition of existing waste diversion programs

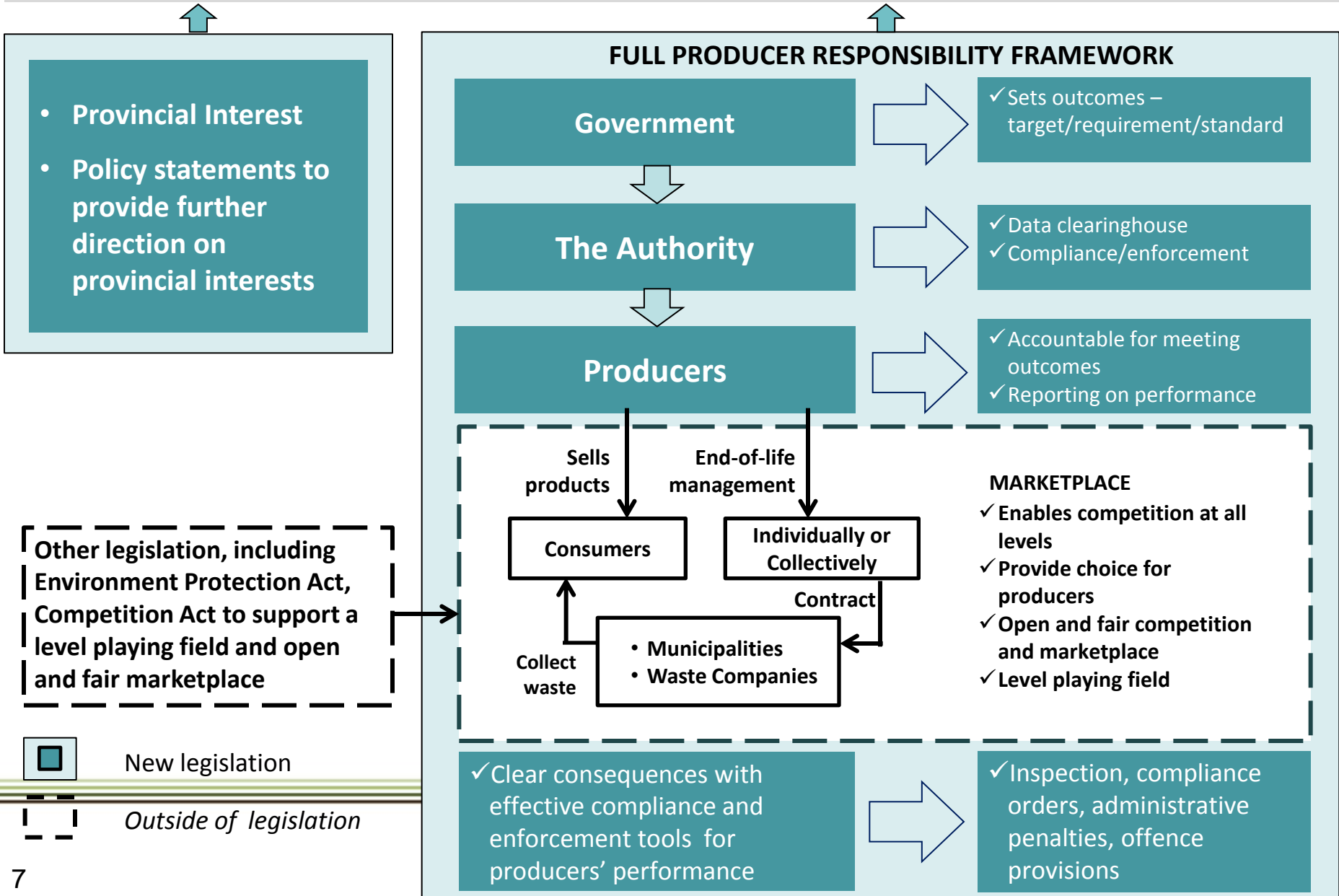
❑ WASTE-FREE ONTARIO STRATEGY

- Road map to support circular economy

Waste-Free Ontario Act, 2016

- **Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016:**
 - Establish an overarching provincial interest and enable the government to issue policy statements to provide further direction;
 - Establish a new outcomes-based regime that holds producers accountable for their products and packaging;
 - Empower a non-crown and not-for-profit oversight body to oversee the producer responsibility regime; and,
 - Require the development of a Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario: Building the Circular Economy.
- **Waste Diversion Transition Act, 2016**, which replaces the *Waste Diversion Act, 2002*, ensures the smooth transition to the new producer responsibility regime:
 - Governs operation of programs and their wind-up; and,
 - Governs wind-up of Industry Funding Organizations

Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act



Provincial Interest and Policy Statement

- The provincial interest:
 - foster the continued growth and development of the circular economy
 - minimize greenhouse gas emissions and the generation of waste
 - increase the durability, reusability and recyclability of products and packaging
 - hold persons who designs products and packaging responsible for their end of life management
 - provide efficient, effective, convenient and reliable services related to resource recovery
 - increase the reuse and recycling of waste across all sectors
 - increase opportunities and markets for recovered resources
 - promote public education and awareness
- Policy statements:
 - Providing further direction to build a circular economy across product life cycle
 - Increasing accountabilities across all sectors of the economy
 - Coordinating efforts on resource recovery and waste reduction decisions – in both the public and private sectors
- Responsible parties (e.g. province, municipalities, producers, waste management industry)
 - *have regard to* the provincial interest and
 - *be consistent with* applicable policy statements

Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario: Vision and Goals

Vision

A circular economy

Goals

- Zero waste
- Zero GHG emissions from waste sector

Objectives:

- Enhance provincial direction and oversight
- Increase resource productivity and reduce waste
- Enable efficient and effective recycling systems
- Support sustainable end-markets

To mark our progress and keep on track, we have set three interim goals:



30% diversion rate by 2020



50% diversion rate by 2030



80% diversion rate by 2050

Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario: Key Actions

Enhance Provincial Direction and Oversight

1. Empower the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority
2. Issue policy statements to provide clear direction on the provincial interest
3. Establish a registry and build data capacity to provide for evidence based decisions

Create Conditions to Support Sustainable End-Markets

13. Improve and establish environmental standards to provide for a level playing field and a strong foundation for markets
14. Use green procurement practices to build market demand for recovered materials
15. Implement disposal bans to direct materials to end-markets



Enable Efficient and Effective Recovery Systems

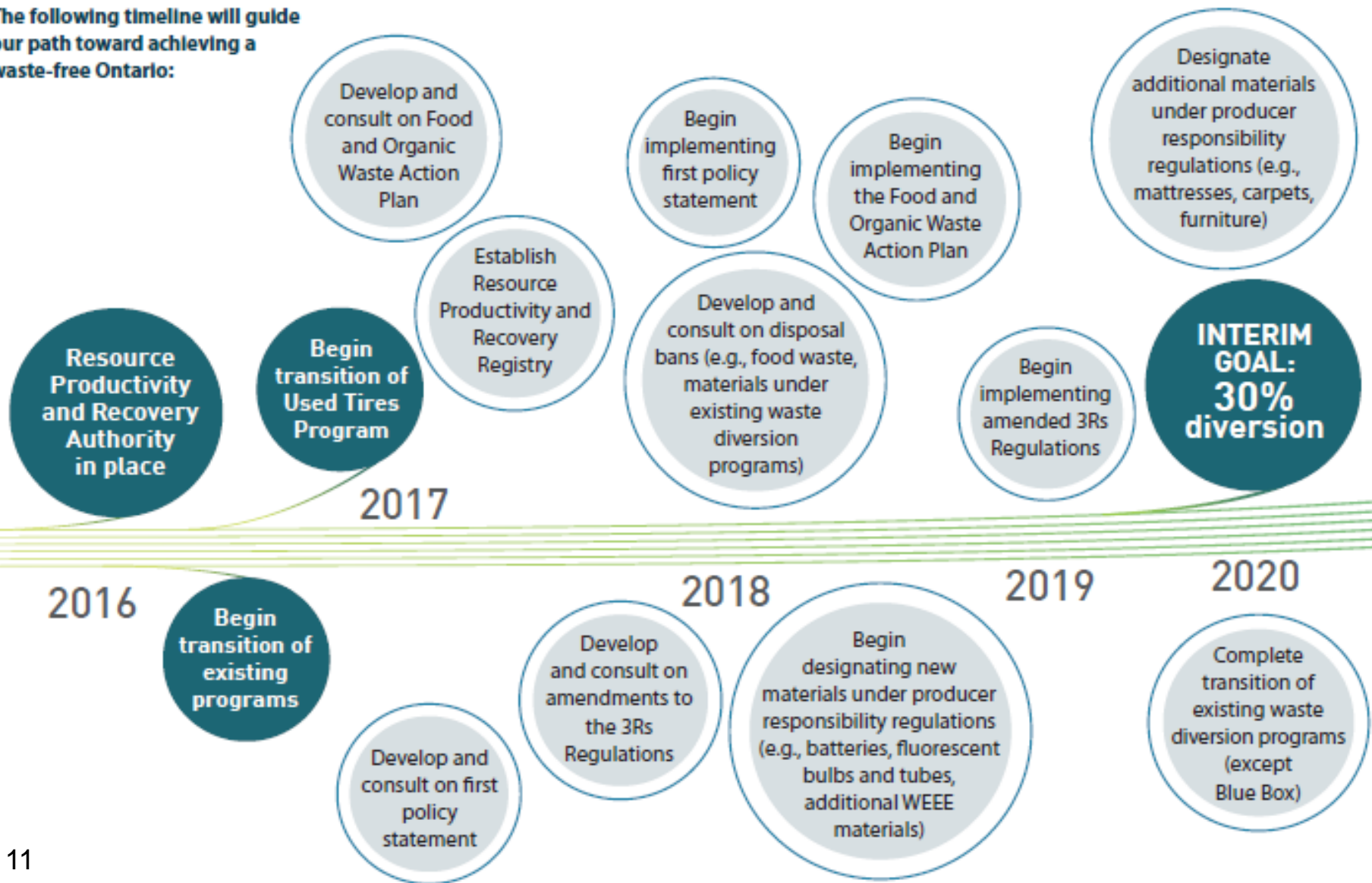
4. Transition existing waste diversion programs smoothly to new producer responsibility framework without disruption of services
5. Amend the 3Rs regulations to increase resource recovery across all sectors
6. Establish service provider requirements to protect the environment while promoting resource recovery
7. Ensure landfills are well planned and managed to minimize the need for them and reduce greenhouse gas emissions
8. Establish promotion and education requirements to support public participation in resource recovery

Increase Waste Reduction and Resource Productivity

9. Designate new materials to ensure producers are fully responsible for recovering more materials from products and packaging
10. Implement an action plan to reduce the volume of food and organic waste going to landfill
11. Implement an Excess Soil Management Policy Framework to increase the reuse of excess soil, while protecting human health and the environment
12. Adopt and implement modern regulatory approaches to build on and promote innovative best practices

Timelines

The following timeline will guide our path toward achieving a waste-free Ontario:



Timelines

