



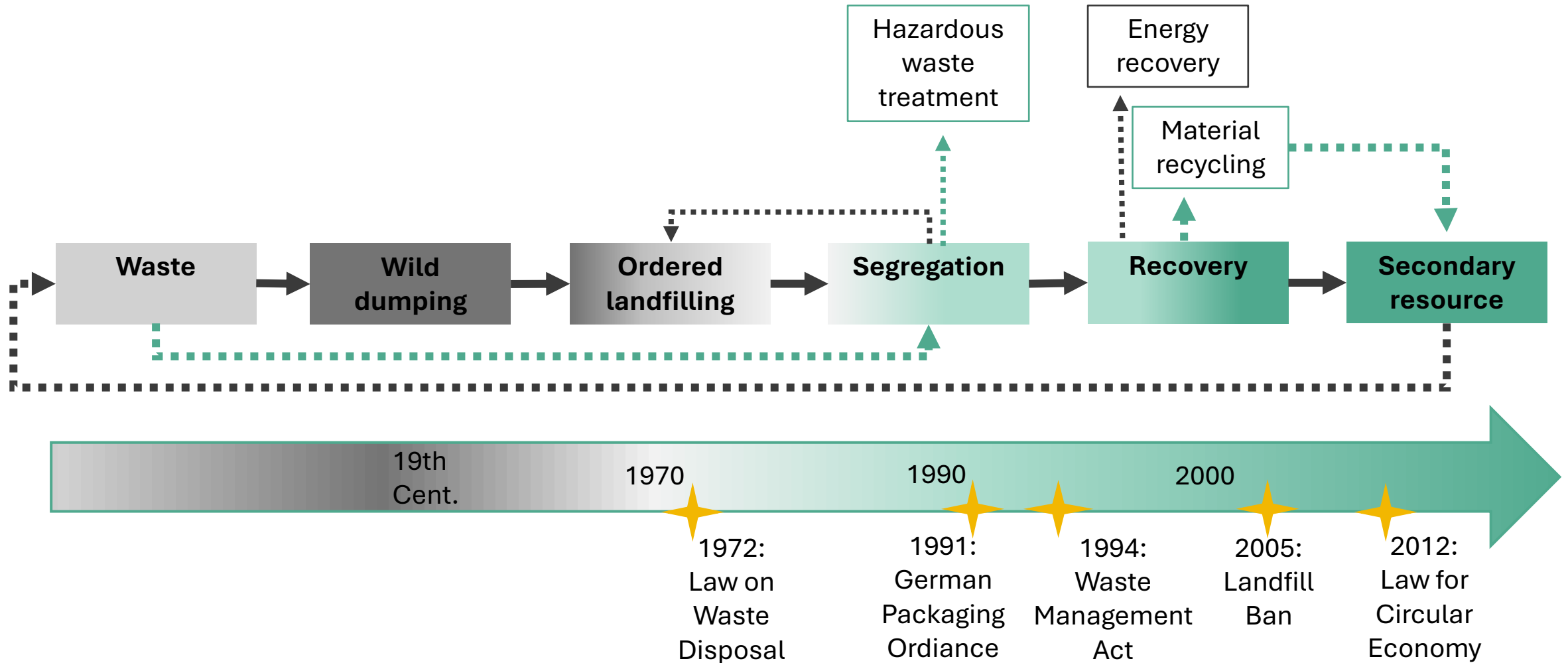
German RETech
Partnership

The **Export Network** for **Circular Economy Solutions**

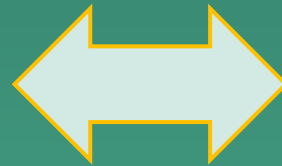
Germany's Waste Sector: Capabilities and Global Partnerships

Name: Alena Scholze
GAB Croatia | Zagreb | 21.10.2025

The long transition from Linear to Circular Economy



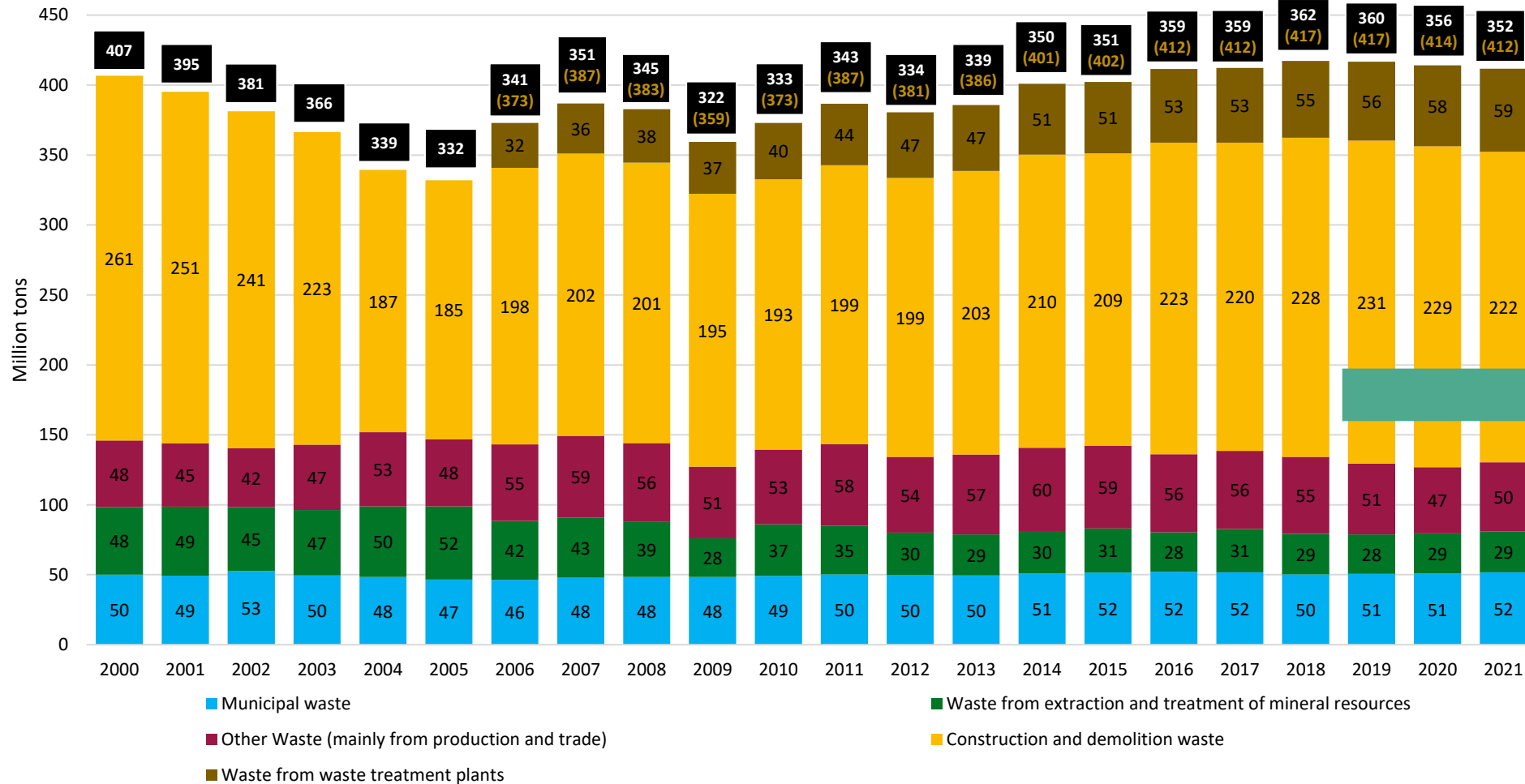
Fundamentals for a Circular Economy



Source: <https://medium.com/@lokeshbhora/circular-economy-the-pathway-to-sustainable-consumption-80b234b385f9>; Image by Freepik

Generating Value out of Waste – Waste Generation

Waste Generation (including hazardous waste)

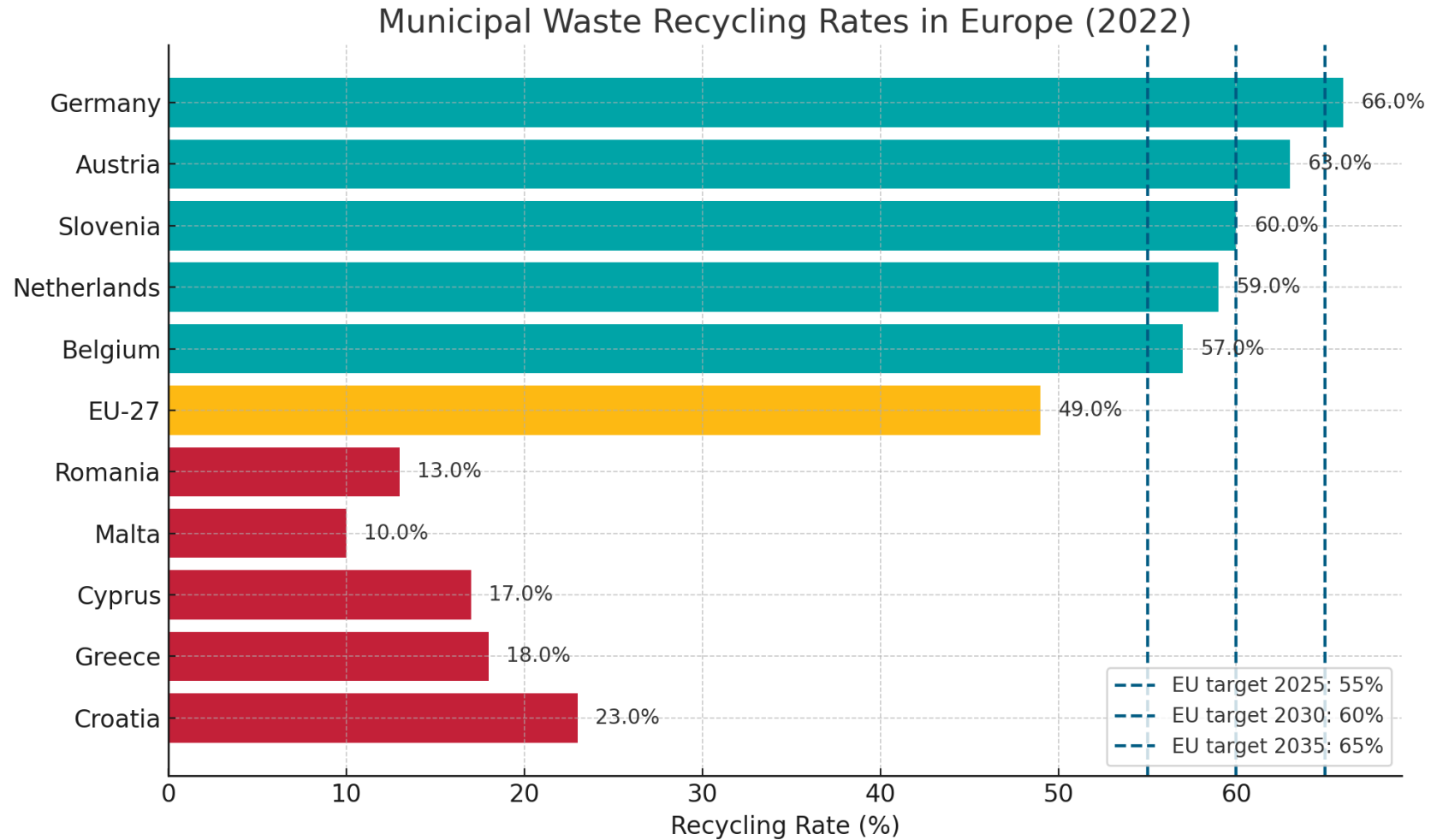


For 10 years - stagnation at a high and constant level

Source: <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/daten/ressourcen-abfall/abfallaufkommen#deutschlands-abfall>

Quelle: Statistisches Bundesamt, Abfallbilanz, Wiesbaden, verschiedene Jahrgänge

Generating Value out of Waste - Recovery & Recycling Rates



Source: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/analysis/indicators/waste-recycling-in-europe>

Generating Value out of Waste - The Infrastructure it needs

Collection

Logistics

Segregation

Treatment

Recycling

Marketing

Locations of the sorting and processing plants

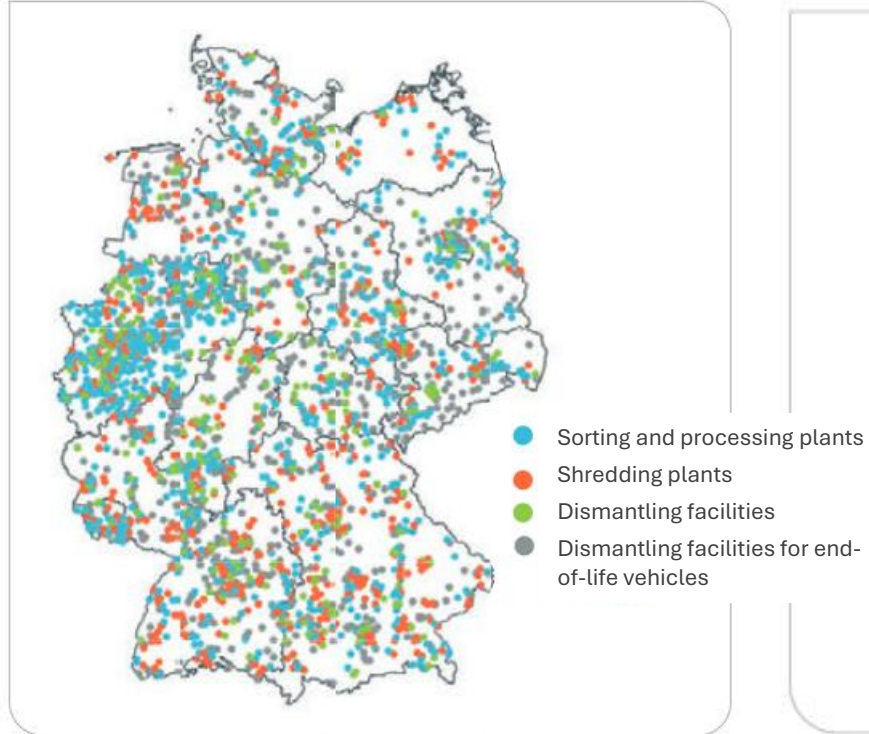


Abb. 10, Quelle: Entsorgungsfachbetriebsregister, Zusatzrecherchen Prognos AG; Kartengrundlage GfK GeoMarketing

Locations of fermentation plants



Abb. 14, Quelle: ASA, Kartengrundlage: GfK GeoMarketing

Locations of WtE and RDF power plants



Abb. 17, Quelle: ITAD, Zusatzrecherchen Prognos AG; Kartengrundlage GfK GeoMarketing

Collection, treatment and disposal of waste and recovery of recyclable materials → 14.300 Facilities

Generating Value out of Waste - The Infrastructure it needs

Collection

Logistics

Segregation

Treatment

Recycling

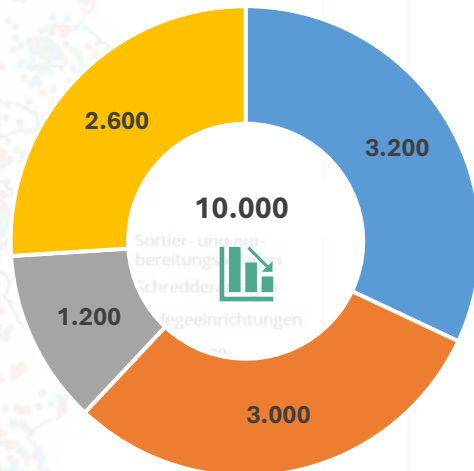
Marketing

Locations of the sorting and processing plants

Locations of fermentation plants

Locations of WtE and RDF power plants

 **Number of companies**



 **Employed persons**

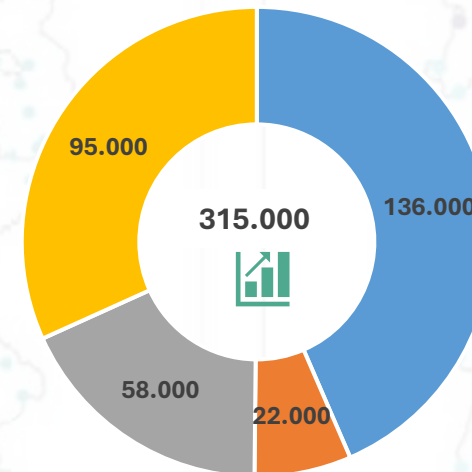


Abb. 10, Quelle: Entsorgungsfachbetriebsregister, Zusatzrecherchen Prognos AG; Kartengrundlage GfK GeoMarketing

Abb. 14, Quelle: ASA, Kartengrundlage: GfK GeoMarketing

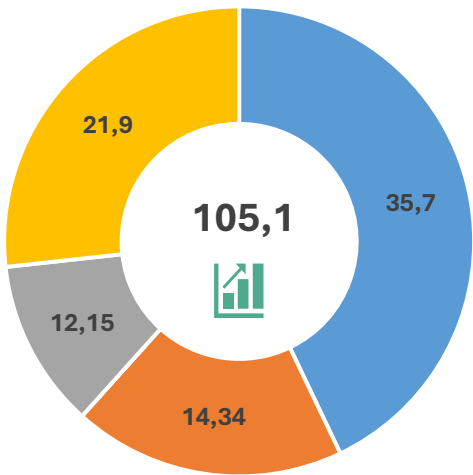
Abb. 17, Quelle: ITAD, Zusatzrecherchen Prognos AG; Kartengrundlage GfK GeoMarketing

■ Waste collection, transport, street cleaning ■ Waste treatment and recycling ■ Wholesale of waste materials ■ Technology for waste management

Generating Value out of Waste - The Infrastructure it needs



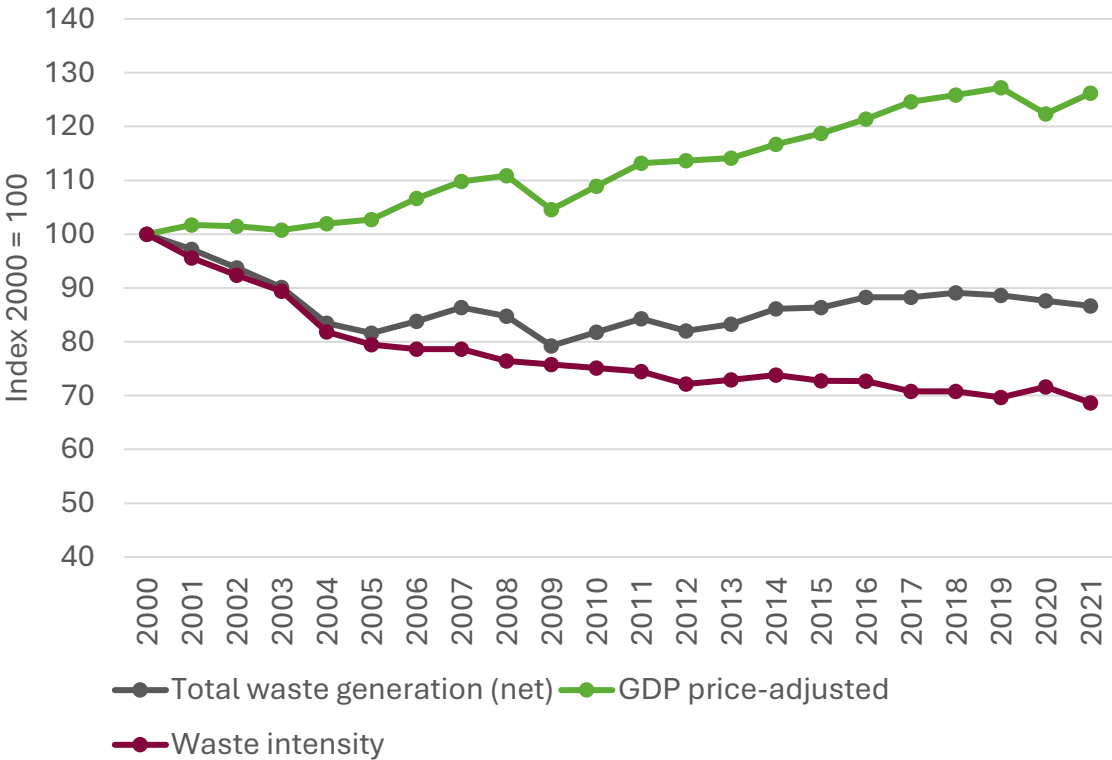
Revenue in Bn.€



- Waste collection, transport, street cleaning
- Wholesale of waste materials
- Waste treatment and recycling
- Technology for waste management

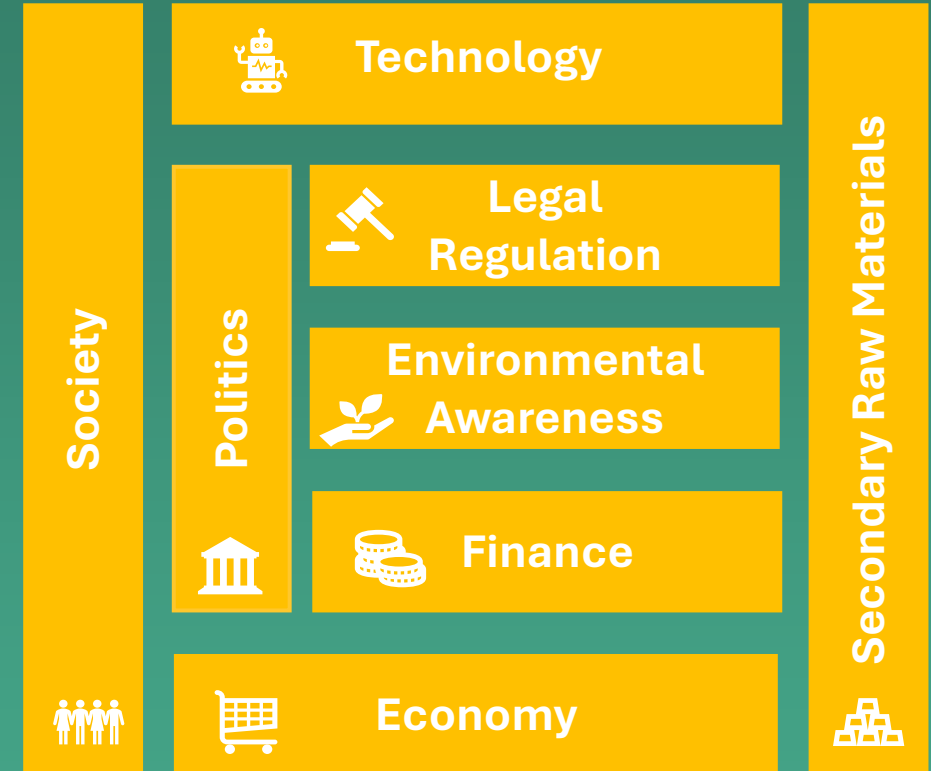
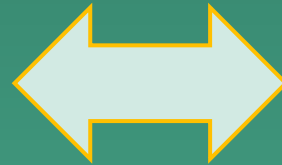
Source: https://statusbericht-kreislaufwirtschaft.de/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Statusbericht_2024_25012024_opt.pdf

Decoupling Waste Generation from Economic Output (waste intensity)



Source: <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/daten/ressourcen-abfall/abfallaufkommen#deutschlands-abfall>

Fundamentals for a Circular Economy



Source: <https://medium.com/@lokesbbohra/circular-economy-the-pathway-to-sustainable-consumption-80b234b385f9>; Image by Freepik

The role of RETech



The Export Network
of the German recycling and
waste management sector



2007

Founded as
RETech Initiative
by the Federal
Ministry for the
Environment



2011

Transferred
into German
RETech
Partnership e.V.



2021

Strategic partner
of the Federal
Ministry for the
Environment

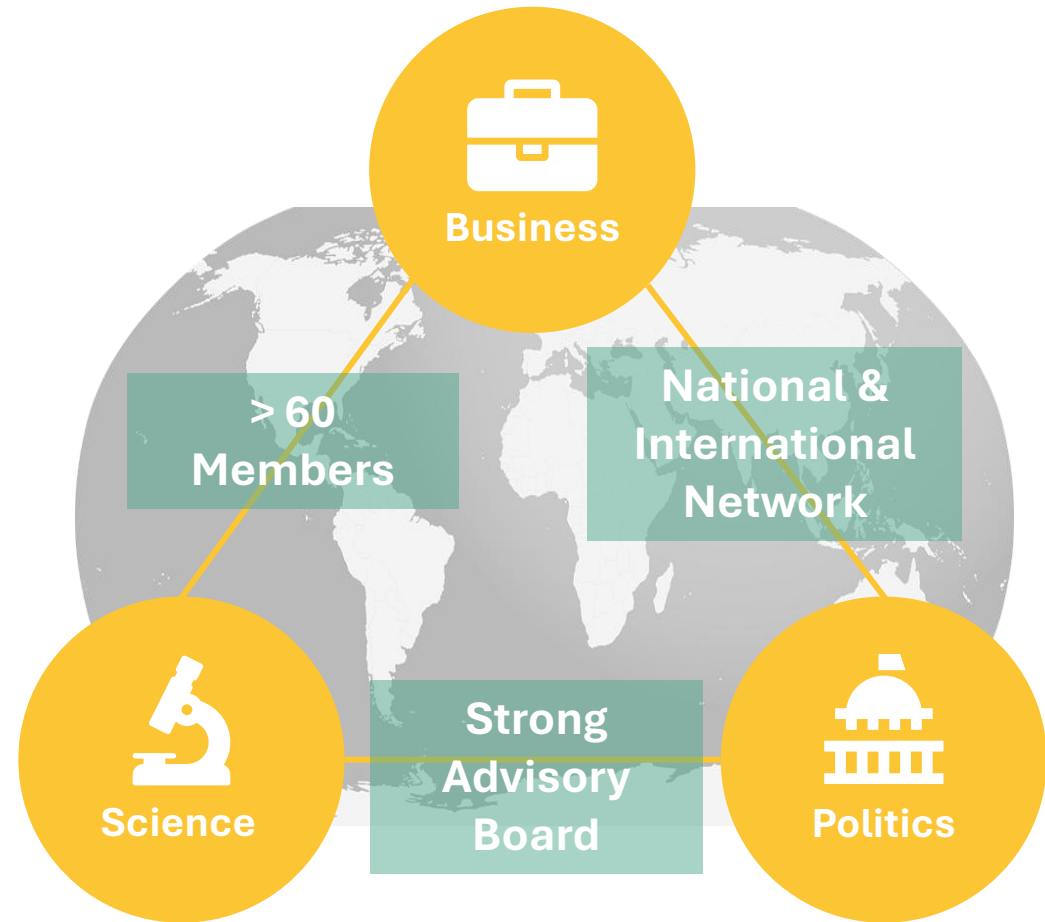
RETech as sector partner of the Market Entry Program

As an expert partner within the Market Entry Program, RETech takes on the following tasks:

- Identifying relevant target markets for waste management and circular economy within the MEP
- Submitting proposals in close coordination with members, partner associations, and German Chambers of Commerce Abroad
- Supporting the organization and execution of the program modules
- Providing expert support and accompaniment during business delegation trips or when hosting international delegations in Germany



Structure and Network



Advisory Board



Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Energy



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



Federal Ministry
of Research, Technology
and Space



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Climate Action,
Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety



giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Abfall- und
Recyclingtechnik

GTAI GERMANY
TRADE & INVEST

**Umwelt
Bundesamt**

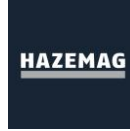
VKU
VERBAND KOMMUNALER
UNTERNEHMEN e.V.
ABFALLWIRTSCHAFT
UND STADTREINIGUNG VKS®

VAK
PARTNER FÜR EUROPA

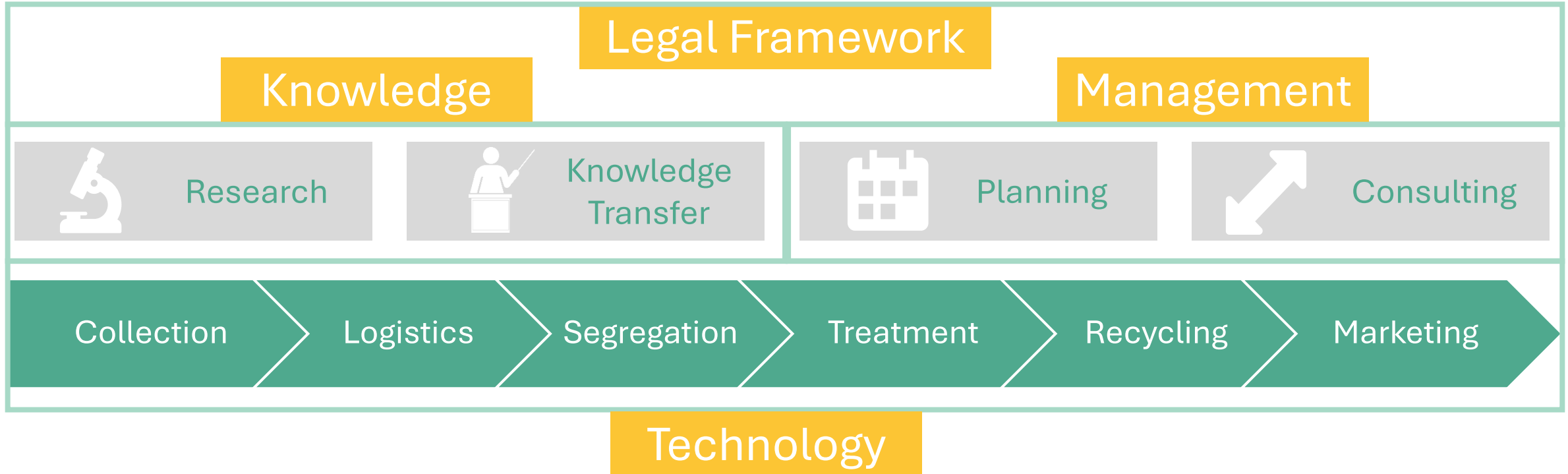
 **BDE**
Bundesverband der Deutschen Entsorgungs-,
Wasser- und Rohstoffwirtschaft e.V.
Wirtschafts- und Arbeitgeberverband

KFW

Members

Generating Value out of Waste – The Value Chain



RETech as a One Stop Shop

National Network

International Network

 ABRIMA ASSOCIAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE RESÍDUOS E MEIO AMBIENTE	 ASSOCIATION OF WASTE MANAGERS OF NIGERIA AWAMN	 Australian Government Australian Trade and Investment Commission	 BRASIL IEN BRASILIANISCHE BOTSCHAFT IN BERLIN
 IFAT Africa	 IFAT Brasil	 IFAT Eurasia	 SWANA SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA
 SWOPP Solid Waste Management Association of the Philippines	 WAMASON WASTE MANAGEMENT SOCIETY OF NIGERIA	 WMAM WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF MALAYSIA	 كريمة لكل مصري .. لكل مصرية
 UN-HABITAT  WASTE WISE CITIES	 ABES-RS	 ACEN FOUNDATION	

Activities

Knowledge Transfer



- Organization of topic-specific international conferences, workshops, and webinars
- Participation as a speaker or moderator at international events
- Consulting

Network & Partnerships



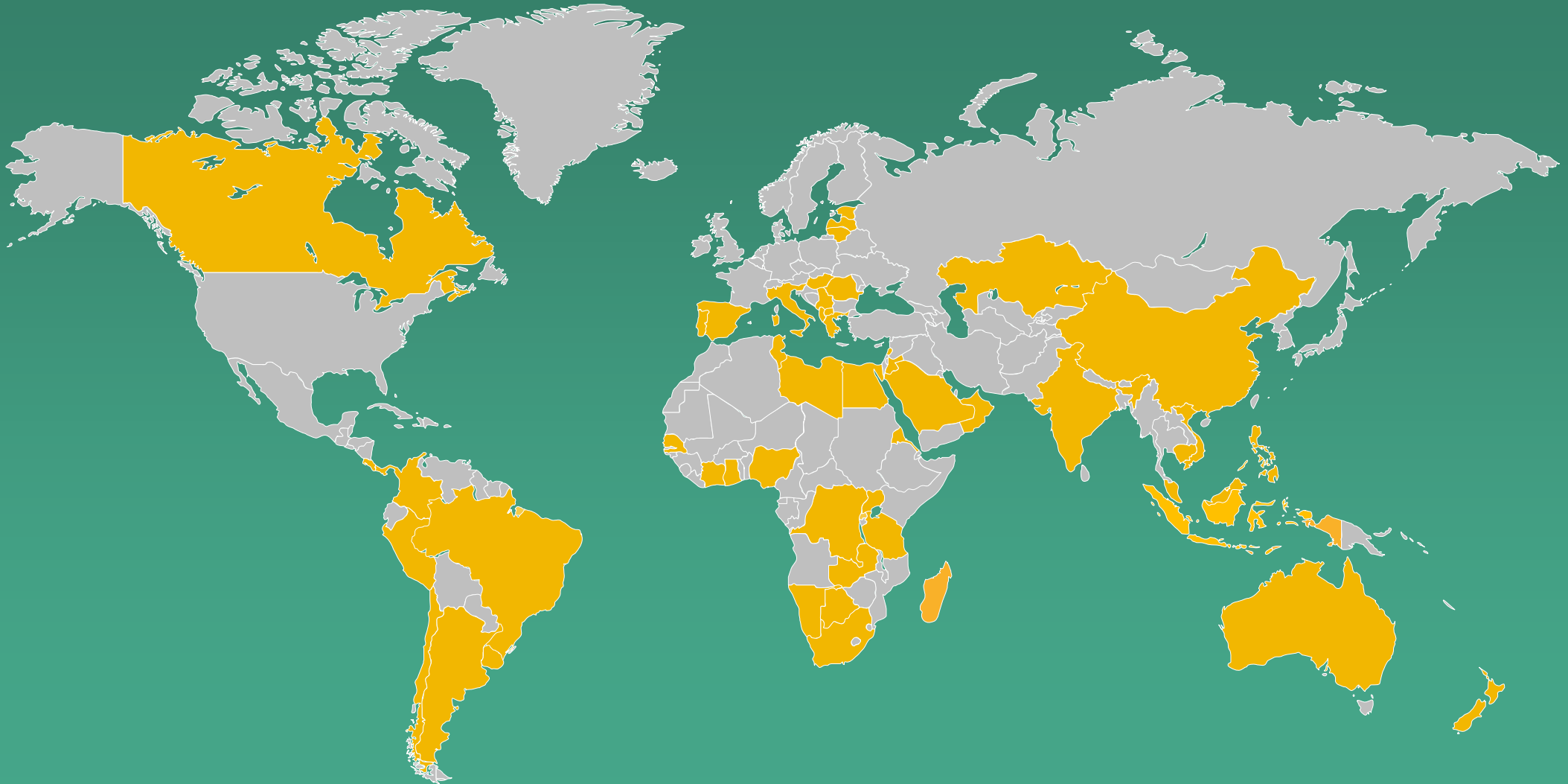
- Networking events
- Organization and support of delegation trips
- Auslandsmesseprogramm (Foreign trade fair program): German Pavilion
- ISWA Membership Activities

Project Development



- Submission of market development program (MEP)
- Submission of project proposals
- Support in project development
- Building project consortia

RETechs Activities | Worldwide



Contact



German RETech Partnership e.V.

Von-der-Heydt-Straße 2 | 10785 Berlin

info@retech-germany.net

www.retech-germany.net