

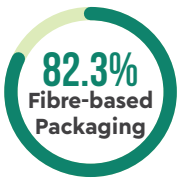
RECYCLABILITY: TOWARDS 2030 AND BEYOND



The 4evergreen alliance is creating a tool box, in stages, which when complete will provide a comprehensive overview of how to improve the recycling of fibre-based packaging. We pay particular attention to packaging with a lower circularity performance today, namely the types used for household, out-of-home and on-the-go consumption. Innovation stands at the heart of our alliance as we work to accelerate the development of novel technologies to address targeted sorting or recycling challenges, specifically for barrier paper and board.

> FIBRE – STILL THE BEST, AND GETTING BETTER

Already boasting the highest recycling rate for packaging materials in Europe, the industry is pooling its expertise and spurring innovation to reach an ambitious 90% target by 2030.



Source: Eurostat, 2019

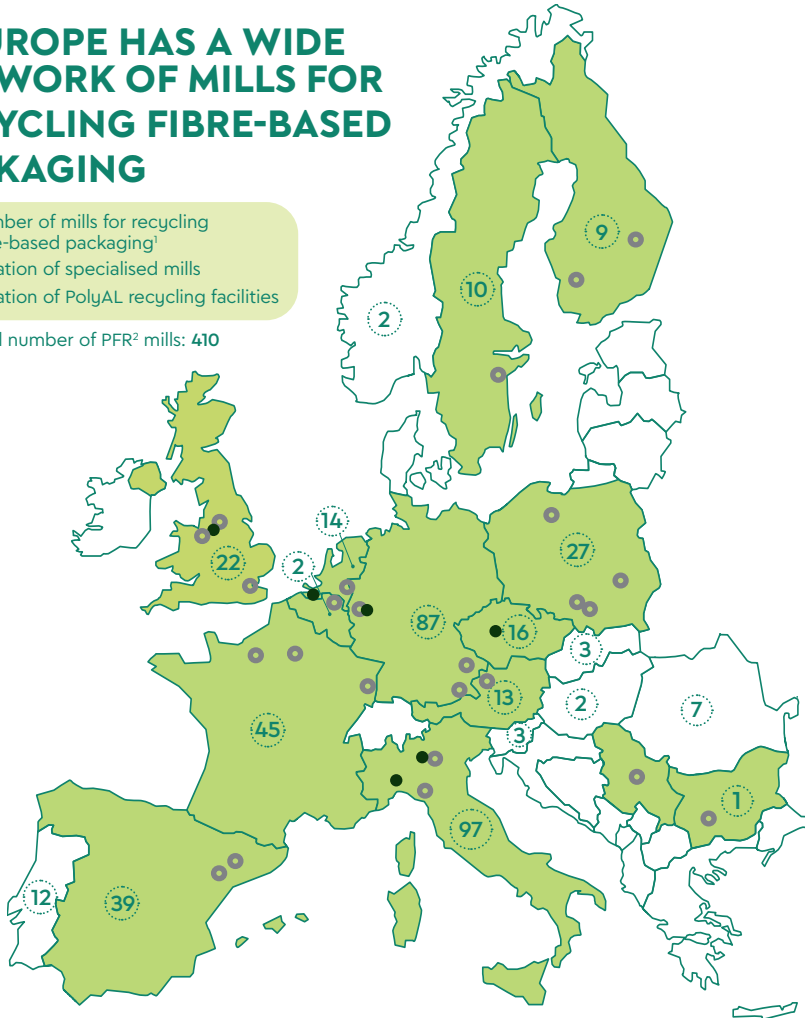


> INNOVATION – THE KEY TO ACCELERATING IMPROVEMENTS

Innovation will help us to achieve a 90% recycling rate of collected fibre-based packaging. New technologies already exist which enhance recycling capability, supplementing existing efforts.

> EUROPE HAS A WIDE NETWORK OF MILLS FOR RECYCLING FIBRE-BASED PACKAGING

- Number of mills for recycling fibre-based packaging¹
 - Location of specialised mills
 - Location of PolyAL recycling facilities
- Total number of PFR² mills: 410



Composite fibre-based packaging is already successfully recycled across the EU. The 4evergreen recyclability evaluation protocol will be a tool for the industry to assess if a specific type of fibre-based packaging is considered recyclable at standard mills or if it would be more efficiently recycled using an alternative technology or process.³

> THREE DIFFERENT PATHWAYS FOR RECYCLING FIBRE BASED PACKAGING⁴



Standard Mills:

These mills serve to recycle a number of simple packaging: corrugated boxes and many folding cartons with or without barriers (such as some cereal boxes, frozen food cartons, and even certain coffee cups). Standard mills today process the majority of fibre-based packaging.



Deinking Mills:

These mills have been designed for pulping, cleaning and deinking of graphic paper grades, typically pharmaceutical boxes, newspapers and magazines and other grades intended for deinking. Flotation deinking processes are most common in Europe.



Specialised Mills:

These mills treat composite fibre-based packaging such as beverage cartons and other materials with enhanced barrier properties. These mills have the capacity to separate fibres from other materials to enable recycling of all components.

¹ Source: Cefi 2022. The list might be non-exhaustive.

² Paper For Recycling

³ Please note that not all countries have the same processing capacity. Investments are already underway across the EU to increase even further the processing capacity.

⁴ All packaging needs to be tested according to the 4evergreen Recyclability Evaluation Protocol to determine the most efficient recycling process. The Alliance For Beverage Cartons And The Environment (ACE) released its Design For Recyclability Guidelines in October 2022 as input to part III on specialised mills in 4evergreen's next guideline update.