



EU Commission

Towards a Circular Economy: A zero waste programme for Europe

On the 2 July 2014 the Commission adopted proposals to turn Europe into a more circular economy and boost recycling in the Member States. The proposals ask Europeans to recycle 70 % of municipal waste and 80 % of packaging waste by 2030, and ban burying recyclable waste in landfill as of 2025. A target is also included for reducing marine litter along with food waste reduction objectives. Separate collection of bio-waste shall become mandatory in all Member States by 2025!

The European Commission adopted the Communication ["Towards a circular economy: a zero waste programme for Europe"](#) and [annex](#) to establish a common and coherent EU framework to promote the circular economy. Turning Europe into a more circular economy means:

- boosting recycling and preventing the loss of valuable materials;
- creating jobs and economic growth;
- showing how new business models, eco-design and industrial symbiosis can move us towards zero-waste;
- reducing greenhouse emissions and environmental impacts.

Proposal for the revision of waste related targets

As part of the circular economy package, the Commission also adopted a [legislative proposal to review recycling and other waste-related targets](#) in the EU and [annex](#).

The legislative proposal refer mainly to review recycling and other waste-related

targets in the EU Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC, the Landfill Directive 1999//31/EC and the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive 94/62/EC.

The main elements of the proposal include:

- **Recycling** and preparing for re-use of **municipal waste** to be increased to **70 % by 2030**;
- **Recycling** and preparing for re-use of **packaging waste** to be increased to 80 % by 2030, with material-specific targets set to gradually increase between 2020 and 2030 (to reach 90 % for paper by 2025 and 60% for plastics, 80% for wood, 90% of ferrous metal, aluminium and glass by the end of 2030);
- **Phasing out landfilling by 2025 for recyclable** (including plastics, paper, metals, glass and **bio-waste**) waste in non hazardous waste landfills – corresponding to a maximum

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landfilling rate of 25% by 2025;

- **Measures** aimed at **reducing food waste generation by 30 % by 2025;**
- **Introducing** an **early warning system** to anticipate and avoid possible compliance difficulties in Member States;
- **Promoting the dissemination of best practices in all Member States**, such as better use of economic instruments (e.g. landfill/incineration taxes, pay-as-you-throw schemes, incentives for municipalities) and **improved separate collection;**
- Improving **traceability of hazardous waste;**
- Increasing the **cost-effectiveness of Extended Producer Responsibility schemes** by defining minimum conditions for their operation;
- **Simplifying reporting obligations** and alleviating burdens faced by SMEs;
- Improving the reliability of key statistics through **harmonised and streamlined calculation of targets;**
- **Improving** the overall coherence of **waste legislation by aligning definitions** and removing obsolete legal requirements.

Obligation for separate collection of biowaste

Besides phasing out landfilling of biodegradable waste the main impact for the bio-waste sector is the proposed change in **Article 22 Bio-waste** of the Waste Framework Directive (WFD). All member Member States are obliged to implementing separate collection of bio-waste by 2015.

New Proposal for Article 22 (WFD)
"In order to minimize contamination of waste materials, Member States shall ensure separate collection of bio-waste by 2025."



Further it is also remarkable that in **Article 6 (WFD) End-of-waste status** the paragraph 2 is changed by including bio-waste as specific waste stream for end-of-waste criteria.

New Proposal for Article 6(WFD)
"End-of-waste specific criteria should be considered, among others, at least for aggregates, paper, glass, metal, tyres, textiles and bio-waste."

In addition to the targets review, waste legislation will be simplified, and co-operation between the Commission and Member States will be stepped up to ensure better implementation. Minimum operating conditions for extended producer responsibility schemes will be laid down. Tailor-made approaches will be implemented for specific waste streams, such as marine litter, phosphorus, construction and demolition, food, hazardous and plastic wastes.

Further initiatives adopted

To help the circular economy become reality, the Commission adopted other initiatives, such as proposals for sustainable buildings, green employment and green action for SMEs.

These initiatives are adopted simultaneously with complementary Communications on

- A Green Employment Initiative,
- A Green Action Plan for SMEs,
- Resource Efficiency Opportunities in the Building Sector.

Impacts of Circular Economy Package

Achieving the new waste targets would create **580 000 new jobs** compared to today's performance, while making Europe more competitive and reducing demand for costly scarce resources. The proposals also mean **lower environmental impacts and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.**

The implementation of the Circular Economy Package will lead to satisfying between 10-40 % of the raw materials demand. In addition this proposal will contribute to achieving the 2030 EU target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 %. **By this, in 2030 62 Mt of CO₂eq per year will be saved.**

"Research and innovation are the keys to success for the Circular Economy, which is why we are proposing a joined-up approach today. Alongside a supportive regulatory framework, our new Horizon 2020 programme will contribute the know-how necessary to shape a resource-efficient, green and competitive low-carbon economy in the EU."

Máire Geoghegan-Quinn,
 European Commissioner for Research,
 Innovation and Science

Towards a 'Zero Waste Society'

The review to strengthen waste targets in existing directives is put in the context of an ambitious drive towards fundamental transition from a linear to a more circular economy. Instead of extracting raw materials, using them once and throwing them away, the new vision is for a different economic model. In a circular economy, re-use, repair and recycling become the norm, and waste is a thing of the past.

This approach is set out in the [Communication on Circular Economy](#) which explains how innovation in markets for recycled materials, new business models, eco-design and industrial symbiosis can move us towards a zero-waste economy and society.

"Moving to a circular economy is not only possible, it is profitable, but that does not mean it will happen without the right policies. The 2030 targets that we propose are about taking action today to accelerate the transition to a circular economy and exploiting the business and job opportunities it offers."

Janez Potočnik,

Further funding for Research and Development

The package that accompanies the Communication aims to create a framework to help the circular economy become a reality, with policies that are better inter-linked, smart regulation and active support from research and innovation.

The package also suggests that resource productivity should be measured on the basis of GDP/Raw Material Consumption, and that a, improvement of 30 % by 2030 could be considered as a possible candidate for a headline target in the forthcoming review of the Europe 2020 Strategy.

Next Steps

The legislative proposals will now pass to the **Council** and the **European Parliament**. Progress on achieving the resource productivity target will be monitored in the European Semester of economic governance. Such a target is to be considered in the context of the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 Strategy. Research and innovation efforts in the area of circular economy will be stepped-up. The policy framework for promoting the circular economy will be further developed over the coming years.

The **European Compost Network ECN** appreciates the new proposal 'Towards a circular economy' and the legislative proposals. ECN will follow up the discussion in the next months.



ORBIT2014, Gödöllő

New Challenges and New Responses in the 21st Century

The 9th International Scientific Conference ORBIT 2014, “New challenges, new responses in the 21st Century” was held successfully in Gödöllő, Hungary on the 26-28, June, 2014. 190 participants around the world joined this great scientific event on the management of organic resources.

The conference was organised by Szent István University (Gödöllő) and the Hungarian Quality Compost Association in co-operation with ECN. Around 100 scientific presentation in 18 sessions were presented during the two-days conference. An additional poster session with 30 scientific posters was included.

The ORBIT2014 was opened by **Prof Dr György Füleky** followed by **Dr Csaba Gyuricza**, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (Szent István University) and the State Secretary of the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture, **Mr Németh Zsolt**.

Dr Mait Kriipsalu, Vice-Chair of ECN welcomed the participants and thanked the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Science and **Dr Laszlo Aleksza** of the Hungarian Compost Quality Assurance Organisation for organising this conference.

Key role of bio-waste

Prof Dr Nicola Senesi, University of Bari ‘Aldo Moro’, introduced the scientific programme by highlighting the benefits of amending compost to agricultural soils. Based on his long-years experiences and scientific knowledge on ‘humus substances’ he stressed that applying compost to soils, is the best option to maintain and improve the organic matter content in soils. Analyses of the organic matter in compost shows comparable pattern to the organic fractions of natural soils.

Dr Enzo Favoino, Scuola Agraria del Parco die Monza, well-known as European expert in the field of separate collection of bio-waste, presented the new approach ‘towards zero waste’. Bio-waste plays a key role in this approach towards a zero waste society. 30-40% of municipal solid waste is bio-waste.

Improving separate collection of bio-waste with the aim to produce high quality compost though composting is one of the most important tasks in the coming years. With the Circular Economy proposal 'A zero waste programme' for Europe and the new legislative proposals to oblige Member States to introduce separate collection of bio-waste by 2025, the direction for a sustainable and resource-efficient waste policy in Europe is set.

Dr Laszlo Aleksza, Director of the Institute of Environmental Sciences, Szent István University Gödöllő, introduced the topic of the conference 'New challenges, new responses in the 21st century' based on the waste management situation in Hungary. In 2004 Hungary joined the European Union and since then Hungary has to follow the EU waste legislation. But the situation today shows that still 74% of municipal solid waste goes to landfills. There is a need to improve bio-waste management in Hungary. The potential market for the sustainable use of compost is given. 2/3 of the Hungarian area is agricultural land, which could be benefit from the application of quality compost.

The plenary session was followed up by a well-balanced scientific programme about biological waste management, waste prevention and separate collection, the fate of organic matter and the use of compost, digestate, biochar and alternative products in agriculture and horticulture. In total, 18 sessions with more than 100 presentations were hold during the two days.

ECN Working Group Meetings

Two working group meetings of the European Compost Network were incorporated in the conference.

WG3 '**Integrated Waste Management**' is working on finalising an issue paper on mechanical biological treatment and on preparing an info sheet on bioplastics. WG5 '**Eastern and Starting Countries in Bio-waste Management**' hold on its

started discussion and information collection on problems and questions, how to set up bio-waste management in countries lacking of a comprehensive waste management today.

The ORBIT2014 was highlighted by the **Gala Dinner in the Royal Palace** of Gödöllő.



Further information on ORBIT 2014 is available on the website:

www.orbit2014.com

Further information about the work of ECN is available on the website:

www.compostnetwork.info

ANNOUNCEMENT

ORBIT2016

The next ORBIT is planned to be hold in June 2016.

The ORBIT 2016 will be organised by Dr Katia Lasaridi, Associate Professor of the Department of Geography at the Harokopio University in Athens in cooperation with Dr Thrassyvoulos Manios, Associate Professor of the School of Agricultural at the Technology Technological Education Institute of Crete.

ECN-QAS

BGK passed successfully Conformity Assessment of BGK in ECN-QAS

According to the 'Rules for awarding the ECN-QAS Conformity and Quality labels' the German Quality Assurance Organisation of Compost (BGK - Bundesgütegemeinschaft Kompost) renewed its conformity assessment for participating in the European Quality Assurance Scheme of ECN in May 2014.

The Bundesgütegemeinschaft Kompost BGK is one of the first national quality assurance organisations which passed the conformity assessment in ECN-QAS successfully. A renewal took place in spring 2014.

Since more than 20 years the Quality Assurance Scheme (QAS) for Compost of BGK is in place. Today 468 composting plants take part in the German QAS. More than 6 million tons are treated in these composting plants per year and are labelled with the RAL-GZ 251.

With the conformity assessment in ECN-QAS BGK demonstrate that their QAS is working in line with the requirements of ECN-QAS. The ECN-QAS requirements are laid down in the ECN-QAS Quality.

It includes requirements for national quality assurance organisations based on EN 45011 and describes a European quality standard for compost.

The ECN-QAS is under revision with the aim to set up an European-wide quality standard for digestate as well.



The Chair of the ECN-QAS Quality Committee, Wim Vanden Auweele overhand the certificate on conformity to Maria Thelen-Jüngling, Quality manager for Compost of BGK.

The revised ECN-QAS Quality Manual will be published in autumn 2014.

Further information about ECN-QAS is available [here](#).

The presentation and activity report of BGK can be downloaded [here](#).



John van Haeff, new Chair and Kristel Vandenbroek new Treasurer of ECN at the Annual Meeting 2014 in Gödöllő.

ECN Annual Meeting 2014

John van Haeff appointed as New Chair

The Annual Meeting 2014 of the European Compost Network took place on the 27th June 2014 in Gödöllő (HUN).

Aloys Oechtering, Chair of ECN, stood down from the chairmanship due to new opportunities in this company. John van Haeff, representing the Dutch Waste Management Association and long lasting member of the ECN Board, took over the chairmanship for this election period. Dr Irmgard Leifert from Reterra Service GmbH (DE) was co-opted as new member in the Board. Kristal Vandenbroek, Vlaco (BE) took over the responsibility of the ECN Treasurer.

Exploring the Benefits of Biochar

Scientists from across Europe met in June at the University of Leeds (UK), to discuss research findings and options for using biochar and compost. The seminar called 'Closing Nutrient Cycles via Integration of Biochar and Compost' formed part of a European funded FP7 project called FertiPlus. Dr Jane Gilbert presented on behalf of ECN and reports on some of the key issues discussed during the day.

The FertiPlus project is a collaboration of fourteen partners whose overall aim is to identify innovative processing technologies and strategies to convert urban and farm organic waste to valuable and safe products for agriculture. Part of the project is investigating the sustainable and efficient production of compost and biochar, the agronomical and environmental evaluation of biochar, compost and biochar-blended compost, as well as a life-cycle analysis of composts and biochar products. **Dr Peter Kuikman**, a research scientist at ALTEERRA in the Netherlands, is the lead co-ordinator. He opened the day's proceedings by introducing the aims of the Fertiplus project, as well as highlighting some of the challenges biochar faces, which include how to more accurately describe biochar's characteristics and how to modify it in order to improve soil functionality.

What is biochar?

Biochar is charcoal that is used as a soil amendment, where it is thought to provide a number of biological, chemical and physical benefits. It is made from biomass through the process of pyrolysis.

The benefits of co-composting food / green wastes with 10% biochar were presented by **Claudio Mondini** of the Italian Agricultural Research Agency, CRA. Research trials indicated that adding biochar during the composting process helped to increase decomposition rates, reduce nitrogen losses as well as reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses, especially methane. Biochar was also thought reduce nitrate concentrations and enhance the ability of compost to absorb water soluble ammonium. He concluded that biochar may be a useful composting amendment, especially with nitrogen-rich feedstocks.

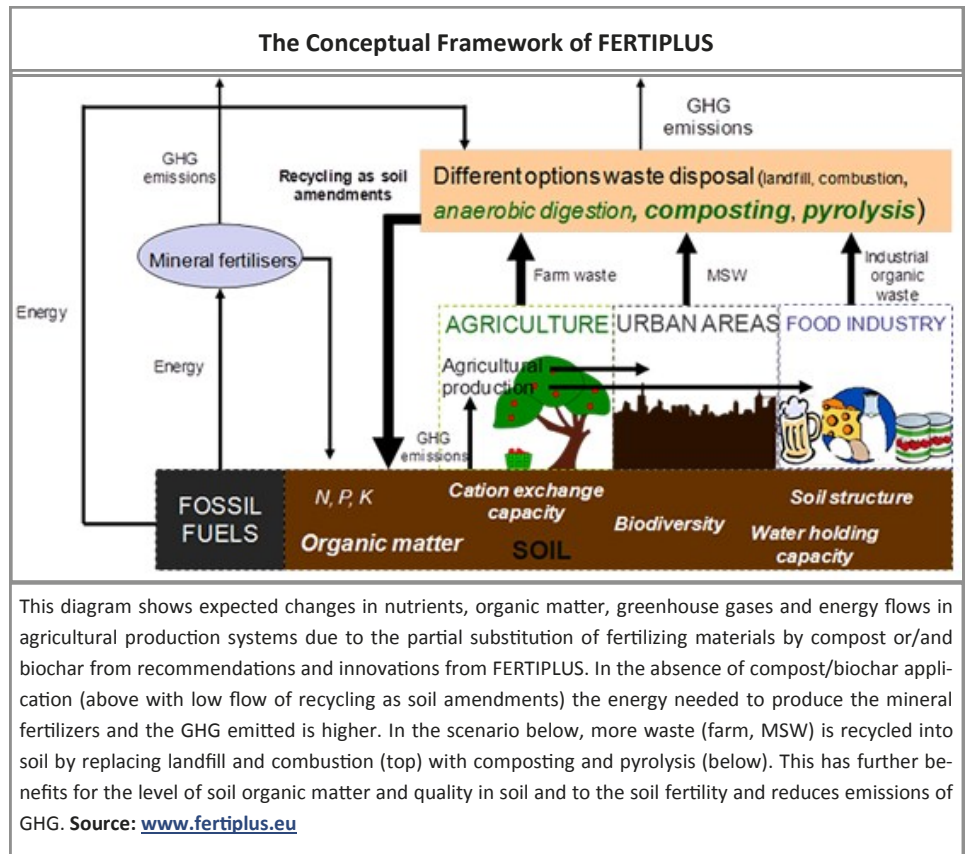


www.fertiplus.eu

Hans-Peter Schmidt of the Ithaka Institute for Carbon Intelligence also presented data on co-composting trials, which suggested that windrow temperatures and oxygen concentrations were higher in composting materials to which biochar had been added when compared with the compost-only control. He hypothesised that this may be because biochar enhances biological activity, provides a level of insulation and improves micro-aeration. During the composting process the cation exchange capacity was also shown to increase, therefore it seems that biochar is able to act as an electron buffer. Overall, Dr Schmidt concluded that as a rough 'rule of thumb' biochar reduces carbon losses during the composting process by between 20–25%, whilst also reducing nitrogen losses.

The benefits of applying biochar to land are being researched by **Dr Miguel Sanchez Monedero** at the National Council of Scientific Research, CSIC, in Spain. He noted that the efficacy of biochar depended upon soil conditions, with low pH and sandy soils benefitting the most. He described four field trials set up in Spain and Belgium, which tested biochar with different organic amendments, and investigated its effect on soil nutrient dynamics

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and crop yield. Overall the research found that there were synergistic effects, which were thought to be due to an impact on microbially mediated processes.

tonne in NW Europe. When taking into account increases in crop yields at an application rate of 10 tonnes / hectare, biochar only became cost effective after a 25 year period.

Daniel Meyer-Kohlstock of the University of Weimar in Germany presented estimates of potential sources of biomass to convert into biochar. An estimated 827 tonnes of biochar was produced globally in 2013, which pales into insignificance when compared with the millions of tonnes of charcoal used in European barbeques annually, the majority of which is imported from countries such as Paraguay, Nigeria, Argentina and Indonesia. Ideally biomass sources for conversion into biochar need to be carbonaceous, low in moisture and contaminants. Potential sources across the EU include manures, wood residues, straw, green waste and pulp & paper. The theoretical potential is massive, although this isn't being realised at present.

Future of Biochar
 Challenges to better define biochar's positive effects, as well as more favourable economics were two of the major take home messages of the seminar. The delegates concluded that the future of biochar may well fall outside of agriculture, instead finding a use in niche product sectors that are able to attract higher sales premiums. Similarly, current and evolving European legislation may well dictate its future, especially in the field of quality standards.

Further information about the FertiPlus project can be accessed: [here](#)

Despite this potential oversupply of biomass, the costs of producing biochar appear to be, at present, prohibitive. **Jaroen Buysse** of Ghent University in Belgium described an analysis of the economic potential of biochar when used on cereal crops. It was estimated that the costs of making biochar were in the region of USD 207 /

EU Commission calls for project proposals in waste and resource management

LIFE 2014 - 2020



On the 18 June 2014 the European Commission has launched the first [Calls for Proposals](#) under the new LIFE Programme 2014 to 2020. For the current call, the Programme has been divided into two sub-programmes, LIFE Environment and for the first time, LIFE Climate Action.

The [LIFE multiannual work programme](#) for 2014-2017 sets the framework for the next four years for the management of the new [LIFE Programme 2014-2020](#). It contains an indicative budget, explains the selection methodology for projects and for operating grants and establishes outcome indicators for the two LIFE sub-programmes – for **Environment** and for **Climate Action**.

The total budget for project action grants for this call is EUR 283 122 966. Of this, EUR 238 862 966 is foreseen for the sub-programme for Environment and EUR 44 260 000 for the sub-programme for Climate Action.

For the **sub-programme for Environment**, this call will cover action grants 'Traditional' projects, Preparatory projects, Integrated projects, Technical Assistance projects and Capacity Building projects.

For the **sub-programme for Climate Action**, this call will cover action grants only for 'Traditional' projects and Capacity Building projects (the other types will be covered from 2015 onwards).

Projects on waste and resource management

According to the 'Priority area Environment and Resource Efficiency' of the 'Commission Implementing Decision on the adoption of the Life multiannual work programme for 2014-17' (2014/203/EU) the Commission is interested on funding proposals in respect to following waste management aspects:

1. Projects using innovative methods, technologies. and actions primarily at the waste source for waste prevention, reuse, and separate collection of municipal waste.
2. Projects using innovative methods, technologies, and actions primarily at the waste source for waste prevention, reuse, and separate collection of the following waste streams:

- *waste electric and electronic equipment (WEEE), batteries and accumulators, end of life vehicles (ELV's), packaging, construction, demolition, and medical waste;*
- **Bio-waste, including food waste throughout the food chain**

3. Integrated plastic management projects that are set up to lead to increased recyclability, sorting and high quality recycling, eco-design, management of non-packaging plastics, prevention of single-use plastic items, or reduction and remediation of littering.
4. Projects that are set up to improve household hazardous waste management.

These project priorities are based on the [Roadmap for a Resource-Efficient Europe](#) and the [7th Environmental Action Programme](#) (EAP) covering the aim to reach following overall goal by 2020:

- To reduce waste generated;
- To maximise recycling and reuse;
- To limit incineration to non-recyclable materials;
- To limit landfilling to non-recyclable and non-recoverable waste.

Submission of proposals

Proposals may be submitted by legal persons (entities) registered in the EU. Applicants may fall into three types of beneficiaries: (1) public bodies, (2) private commercial organisations and (3) private non-commercial organisations (including NGOs).

Applicants must use the [LIFE 2014 application packages](#) (in English only) for the preparation of their proposals.

Deadline for submission of 'Capacity building' project proposals: **30 September 2014**

Deadline for submission of 'Traditional project proposals: **16 October 2014**

Successful Conference on Sustainable Solid Waste Management held in Athens

The Unit of Environmental Science & Technology (www.uest.gr) of the National Technical University of Athens in collaboration with the Association of Municipalities in the Attica Region – Solid Waste Management, the City of Athens, the Municipality of Kifissia, EPTA SA and the European Compost Network organized successfully the ATHENS 2014 2nd International Conference on Sustainable Solid Waste Management from 12th to 14th June 2014 within the framework of the LIFE+ ATHENS-BIOWASTE project (www.biowaste.gr & www.facebook.com/athensbiowaste) dealing with the separate collection and composting of biowaste in Athens and Kifissia.

The Conference was under the auspices of the Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the EU and the Greek Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change. About 800 participants from 40 countries attended the Conference that included 130 presentations in 12 different Sessions. 100 participants also took part in the study tour at the MBT facility at Ano Liosia on 14th June in order to see the successful example of the treatment of the biowaste collected from the City of Athens and the Municipality of Kifissia in a separate channel within the ATHENS-BIOWASTE project producing high-quality compost and, generally, how the MSW waste is managed in Athens. The majority of the participants in the site visit were from abroad, as well as representatives of Municipalities and Regions from all over Greece.

The ATHENS2014 Conference focused mainly on biowaste. It stimulated the interest of scientists & professionals from government departments, Municipalities, private institutions, research & education institutions and informed them about the latest developments in the field of municipal solid waste management. Biological treatment (both composting & anaerobic digestion), the treatment at central facilities, waste prevention & separation at source were also constituted priority subjects of the conference agenda. Special attention was drawn on compost and its quality, as well as recycling. A special workshop in Greek focused on biowaste management from Local Authorities & Municipalities and the available funds and opportunities at municipality

level for biowaste separation at source and management. Last but not least, the Conference intended to further promote the European Commission efforts for effective waste management.



Participants of the study tour of the MBT facility

It is noted that that the ATHENS 2014 presentations are available at: <http://www.athens2014.biowaste.gr>, while indicative photos are available [here](#).

The ATHENS2014 Scientific Committee headed by Prof. Maria Loizidou will announce within the following days the best ATHENS2014 papers that will be submitted for review in two journals, namely Waste Management & Research and a Special Issue of Waste & Biomass Valorization.

For more information, you can contact the ATHENS2014 Scientific Secretariat:

Dr. Konstantinos Moustakas

Email konmoust@central.ntua.gr

Internet: www.athens2014.biowaste.gr.

ECN Supports New Member States establishing modern European Biowaste Policy and Strategy on National Level

Bulgaria joined the European Union on 1st January 2007. Since then Bulgaria, puts a lot of efforts to establish new legal framework on environment fully in compliance with European legislation and best practices. During the last 3 years significant progress has been achieved in the area of biowaste management.

The Ministry of Environment and Water of Bulgaria became a member of European Compost Network in 2010 and since that time the waste management expert and policy decision makers have the opportunity to cooperate with leading organisations and experts from most of the Member States in sustainable waste management.

ECN, as a leading network on biowaste management and composting on European level, provides all the knowledge and experience on establishing biowaste management policy and quality assurance scheme for compost in Bulgaria.

Starting more or less from zero few years ago through this cooperation, Bulgaria had set up a comprehensive biowaste management policy. This policy is fully in compliance with the development in the most advanced European Countries in waste management. With this policy Bulgaria has implemented **ambitious targets for separate collection and recycling of biowaste**.

The main elements of the new obligations for local authorities and waste companies in Bulgaria with relevance for biowaste collection and treatment are laid down in the Ordinance on separate collection of biowaste and in the Ordinance on treatment of biowaste which could be summarised as follows:

ORDINANCE ON SEPARATE COLLECTION OF BIOWASTE

1. Obligation for local authority to establish separate collection systems for municipal biowaste;
2. Exemption from separate collection of biowaste only for households which perform on-site/home composting (up to 10 m³ heap);

3. Targets for separate collection and recycling of biowaste by means of composting/ anaerobic digestion:

- until 31.12.2016 – not less than 25% of the amount of municipal biowaste generated in the region in 2014;
- until 31.12.2020, not less than 50% of the amount of municipal biowaste generated in the region in 2014;
- until 31.12.2025, not less than 70% of the amount of municipal biowaste generated in the region in 2014.

4. Obligation for separate collection and recycling of the entire quantity (100%) of biowaste from the maintenance of public parks and gardens in the territory of each municipality.

ORDINANCE ON TREATMENT OF BIOWASTE

1. Requirements for the production and use of compost, anaerobic digestion product (digestate), organic soil amendment and stabilised MBT output

- “positive list” - the permissible materials for the production of compost and fermentation product;
- quality criteria for compost and digestate;
- “end of waste” criteria and product status for compost and anaerobic digestion product (digestate);
- requirements for application areas.

2. Requirements for controls and quality checks

- requirements for reception control of feedstock (biowaste);
- requirements for testing;
- requirements for labelling and information of end users;

(Fortsetzung auf Seite 12)



Bulgarian QAS label for compost

3. Development of technical documents (instructions) on

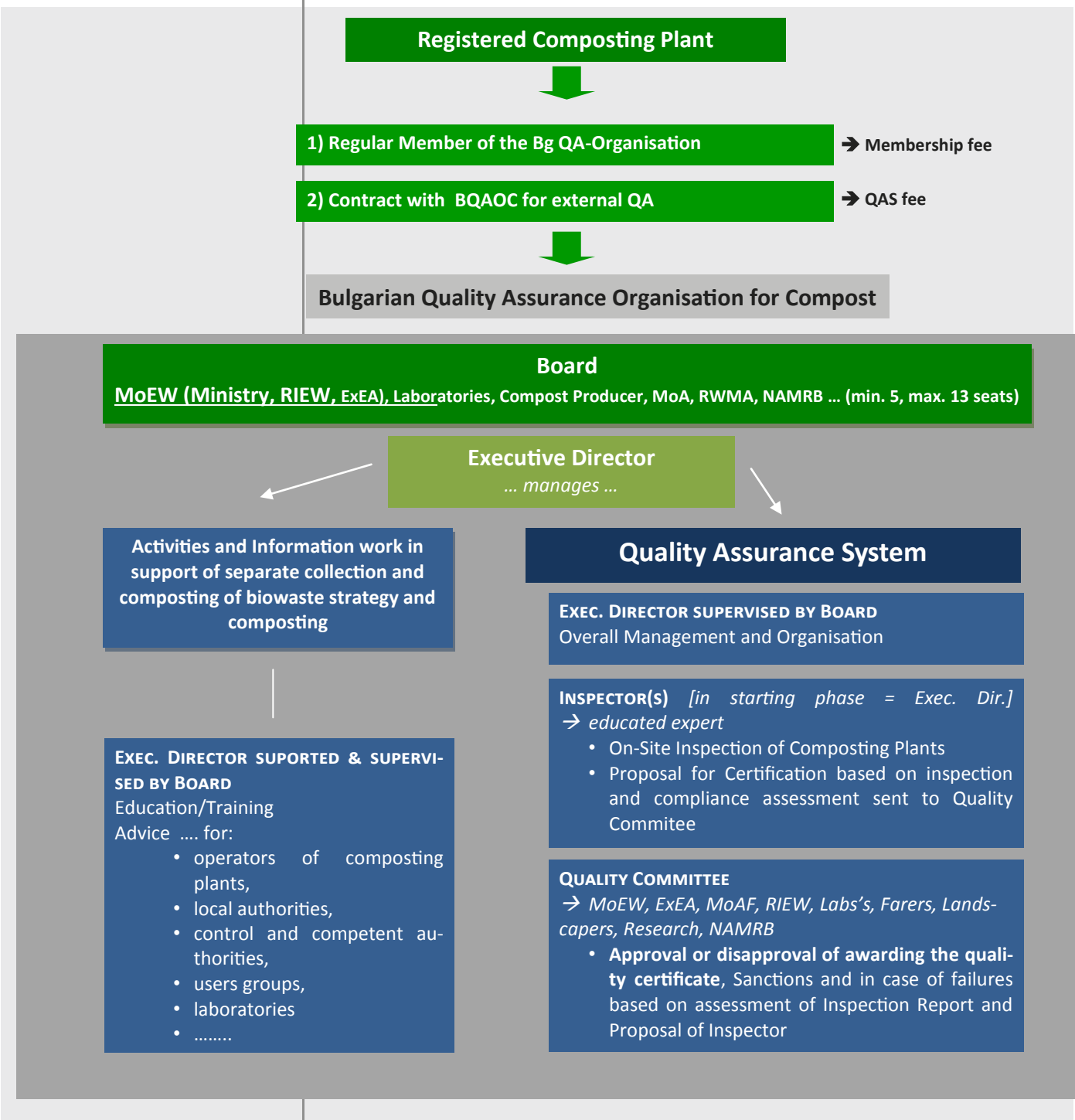
- National technical requirements (State of the Art) for bio-waste treatment facilities (composting and anaerobic digestion) that are not covered by IPPC;
- the implementation of the legal requirements relating to the management of bio-waste;
- requirements for development and management of a Quality Assurance System in compliance with ECN-QAS to

ensure the quality of the final products (compost and fermentation product) and the operation of composting and biogas plants;

- on control and inspection of facilities for treatment of biowaste (check list).

4. Establishment of National Quality Assurance Organisation for compost with the following main functions and objectives.

Further information: The Country Report of Bulgaria can be downloaded from the ECN website www.compostnetwork.info.





18-29 August 2014, Cluj -Napoca (RO)

ISWA - ARS Summer School

The focus of this Summer School is on material and energy recovery issues in developing economies.

Further information: [here](#)

8-11 September 2014, São Paulo (BR)

ISWA 2014 Solid Waste World Congress

Discovering a New World: Sustainable Solutions for a healthy future". This event will provide a great opportunity for the international community to exchange ideas, integrate solutions and develop a common vision for the future of a sustainable and healthy world. Participation at the Congress will be possible through scientific papers, round tables and forums, posters and vision papers.

Further information: [here](#)

22-24 September 2014, Halifax (Canada)

24th Annual National Compost Conference

The Compost Council of Canada is currently accepting submissions of papers for their 24th National Compost Conference to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The conference annually provides some of the most extensive opportunities for learning and networking available nationally for those engaged in organics recycling and compost marketing and utilization, providing a national forum. Participants include representatives from all levels of government (particularly with interests in Environment, Agriculture, and Economic Development), industry (organic waste generators, compost system manufacturers and designers, facility operators, consultants and others) and academia.

Further information: [here](#)

30 Sep - 2 Oct 2014, Alkmaar region (NL)

Conference of the European Biogas Association

The biannual European Biogas

Conference covers a broad range of topics related to biogas, from production to utilisation, with plenty of room for networking between representatives from research, industry and production. Topics include European policy issues, biomethane, digestate use, sustainability of biogas and bioeconomy.

Further information: [here](#)

14-17 October 2014, Poznan (PL)

POLEKO - International Trade for Environmental Protection

This is the largest and most important in the country and in Central and Eastern Europe exhibition of advanced solutions for environmental protection.

Further information: [here](#)

5-8 November 2014, Rimini (IT)

ECOMONDO

This expo event is dedicated to major European and international strategies on eco-innovation and transforming waste into a resource.

Further information: [here](#)

12 November 2014 Venice (IT)

Venice Symposium 2014

The aim of the Venice 2014 Symposium is to focus on the advances made in the application of technologies for energy recovery from biomass and waste and to encourage discussion in these fields.

Further information: [here](#)

20 November 2014, Cologne (DE)

'Humustag' of the Bundesgütegemeinschaft Kompost

This afternoon event provides interesting information on latest developments in politics and science concerning the biowaste and organic recycling sector in Germany.

Further information: [here](#)

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