



Just over eight out of ten people say that they avoid food waste by buying exactly what they need, whilst four out of ten claim to compost at home. These are the results of a European-wide survey carried out on behalf of the European Commission and published in June.

Euro Barometer 388 'Attitudes of Europeans towards Waste Management and Resource Efficiency' was carried out across all 28 Member States by TNS Political & Social. It sought to understand citizens' perceptions, attitudes and practices relating to the generation and management of waste, efficient use of resources and the 'circular economy'. The survey is published as both a detailed and summary report, and is also accompanied by 28 separate 'Euro Barometers' summarising the results for each Member State and comparing them against those of the EU as a whole.

Euro Barometer 388

The report provides an overview of the attitude of European citizens towards:

- European resource management: how important is it that Europe uses its resources more efficiently?
- Waste generation and waste management
- Plastics and littering, and
- The 'circular economy'

"Four out of ten respondents claimed to compost at home"

Food waste

Approximately 84% of respondents estimated that they waste no more than 15% of the food they buy, a substantial increase from the 71% of respondents who gave this answer in 2011. This response was particularly marked in four Member States, where 95% or more of respondents in the Czech Republic, Estonia, Spain and Malta wasted less than 15% of their food. Trend analyses suggested that in all Member States except Slovakia, less food was wasted compared with the 2011 survey.

Freezing food and re-using leftovers were cited as the main ways of preventing food waste, whilst over half of respondents thought that the availability of smaller portion sizes in shops (55%), better estimation of portion sizes (53%), and better and clearer information on food product labels (51%) would be of help to reduce household food waste.

Sorting waste

Approximately nine out of ten respondents claimed to sort paper/cardboard/beverage cartons (90%), plastics (90%) and glass (88%). About

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three quarters say they sort household hazardous waste (79%), metal cans (78%), electrical waste (76%) and kitchen waste (74%).

On a country level, differences between Member States were observed, with at least 70% of respondents sorting all eight types of waste in Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Austria, Slovenia and the UK. Conversely, respondents in Romania, Bulgaria, Latvia and Cyprus were the least likely to sort their household waste.

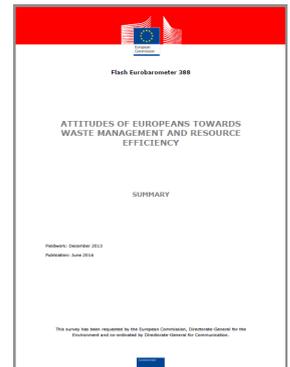
Of those respondents who claimed to sort their waste at least occasionally, 74% stated they sorted kitchen waste, with only 57% sorting garden waste; this compares with 90% for paper / card and plastics.

Initiatives to separate more waste

Seven out of ten respondents (71%) say that reassurance that their waste is effectively recycled would persuade them to separate more of their waste. A majority of people also say that more

and better waste recycling and composting facilities in their area (59%), financial incentives (59%), and more convenient separate waste collection at their home (51%) would convince them to do more.

Clearly, a lack of appropriate infrastructure in both collection and treatment capacity for household bio-wastes is limiting the ability of some European citizens to effectively recycle this valuable resource – a situation ECN is working to address.



Further information

A copy of the Eurobarometer document and press release can be accessed: [here](#).



European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform



DEUTSCHE
PHOSPHOR
PLATTFORM

Call For Papers

2nd European Sustainable Phosphorus Conference

The European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform (ESPP) is organising its second conference, to be held on the 5-6 March 2015 in Berlin, Germany, in conjunction with the German Phosphorus Platform.

The two days will focus on topics such as The Phosphorus Challenge: European and National Actions, and International Developments and Co-operation.

The organisers have issued a call for posters, oral presentations and success stories. Submissions are invited before the **15th November 2014** and should be emailed to: info@phosphorusplatform.eu

Further information, including programme updates, the call for posters and contributions can be accessed: [here](#)

Parliament elects New Commission

MEPs approved the new college of 27 Commissioners, as presented by its President-elect Jean-Claude Juncker on Wednesday (23 Oct.), with 423 votes in favour, 209 against and 67 abstentions. The new Commission now needs to be formally appointed by EU heads of state or government to enable it to take up duty on 1 November for a five-year term.

The election in Parliament marks the last step in the process leading up to the new European Commission. On 15 July, Mr Juncker was elected by the European Parliament by a strong majority of 422 votes (he needed a majority of 376 votes), on the basis of the Political Guidelines *'A new start for Europe: My agenda for Jobs, Growth, Fairness and Democratic Change'* he presented to the Parliament.

Following this election and an interview process of candidates for Commissioners, the President-elect selected the other members of the Commission. The final list of Commissioners-designate was then agreed between the President-elect and the Council on 5 September. President-elect Juncker [presented his team and the allocation of portfolios](#) on 10 September which was followed by individual [hearings](#) of the Commissioners-designate in front of the relevant European Parliament committees.

On this basis, and following some adjustments in Mr. Juncker's team (see [IP/14/1163](#) and [SPEECH/14/705](#)), the European Parliament gave its consent to the entire College with 423 votes in favour (out of 699 votes).

[Political Guidelines for the new elected European Commission](#)



**Who's who
New European Commission**

Jean-Claude Juncker
President

Frans Timmermans
Better Regulation, Inter-institutional Relations, Sustainable development, Rule of Law and Charter of Fundamental Rights - First Vice-President of the Commission

Federica Mogherini
High Representative of the Union for Foreign Policy and Security Policy - Vice-President

Andrus Ansip
Digital Single Market - Vice-President

Valdis Dombrovskis
Euro and Social Dialogue - Vice-President

Kristalina Georgieva
Budget and Human Resources - Vice-President

Jyrki Katainen
Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness - Vice-President

Maroš Šefčovič
Energy Union - Vice-President

Vytienis Andriukaitis
Health, Food, medicines and pharmaceutical products

Miguel Arias Cañete
Climate Action and Energy

Dimitris Avramopoulos
Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship

Elżbieta Bieńkowska
Internal Market, Industry, Space, medicines and pharmaceutical products, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Violeta Bulc
Transport

Corina Crețu
Regional Policy

Johannes Hahn
European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations

Jonathan Hill
Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union

Phil Hogan
Agriculture and Rural Development

Věra Jourová
Justice and Consumers

Cecilia Malmström
Trade

Neven Mimica
International Cooperation and Development

Carlos Moedas
Research, Science and Innovation

Pierre Moscovici
Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs Union

Tibor Navrácsics
Education, Culture and Youth

Günther Oettinger
Digital Economy and Society

Christos Stylianides
Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management

Marianne Thyssen
Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility

Karmenu Vella
Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Margrethe Vestager
Competition

Sources
European Parliament and European Commission



Mr Karmenu Vella

Karmenu Vella Named as New Environment Commissioner

The Maltese Labour politician, Karmenu Vella, has been elected Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, replacing Janez Potočnik, who recently completed his four year term of office. Vella's nomination has been made amid criticism from a number of environmental NGOs.

Karmenu Vella originally graduated in architecture before entering the Maltese parliament in 1976, where he has served as a Minister for Public Works, Minister for Industry, and, latterly, as Minister for Tourism. Although gaining a master's degree in Tourism in 2000, he has scant environmental credentials – a point that is of concern to many in the environmental sector.

The Commissioner's Portfolio

Mr Vella's remit includes the merging of two important policy areas: Environment and Maritime Affairs & Fisheries, both of which were headed by separate commissioners in the previous Commission. However, both policy areas will retain their separate directorate generals for Environment (DG ENV) and Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE).

In his [mission letter to Mr Vella](#), the President-elect of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, made clear that the Commissioner would need to have: 'Respect for the principles of subsidiarity, proportionality and better regulation' which will be at the core of the work of the new Commission. He added, 'We will concentrate our efforts on those areas where only joint action at European level can deliver the desired results'.

Mr Vella has been asked to focus on continuing to overhaul the existing environmental legislative framework to make it fit for purpose. Specifically, he's been requested to assess 'the state of play of the Circular Economy package in the light of the first reactions of the European Parliament and Council to see

whether and how it is consistent with our jobs and growth agenda and our broader environmental objectives'.

This is a large portfolio with a clear emphasis on jobs, growth, investment and competitiveness.

Competency Concerns

His lack of environmental credentials, coupled with the Maltese government's stance on hunting and failure to protect migratory birds, has led many to question his suitability. At the hearing on the 29 September, in which MEPs questioned Mr Vella, his performance was critiqued by a number of environmental NGOs. According to the European Environment Bureau, Mr Vella showed 'poor understanding about the very concept of sustainable development'. This, in part, stems from his brief by Jean-Claude Juncker, which has also been heavily criticised for its lack of vision and a perceived 'dumbing down' of environmental issues.

The Potočnik legacy

Mr Vella's predecessor, the outgoing Commissioner, Janez Potočnik, oversaw a number of key policy developments, including the waste targets review and the Circular Economy Package. Despite these notable achievements, ECN still believes that there is much to be done in strengthening European policies and legislation concerning bio-waste, including finalising and enshrining End-of-Waste criteria into the Fertilisers Regulation. ECN will be communicating this to Mr Vella when he takes up his post.

Download mission letter: [here](#)

The Green Economy and EU Policies

A report published in June by the European Environment Agency, describes a macro-economic analysis of European policies. [Resource Efficient Green Economy and EU Policies](#) highlights how economic and technological changes are needed to move Europe towards green economy objectives.

The authors reviewed the overall EU policy landscape, then investigated the extent to which environment and climate policies were meeting their stated aims. They specifically reviewed the changing structure of the EU economy, which is moving from manufacturing to the service sector.

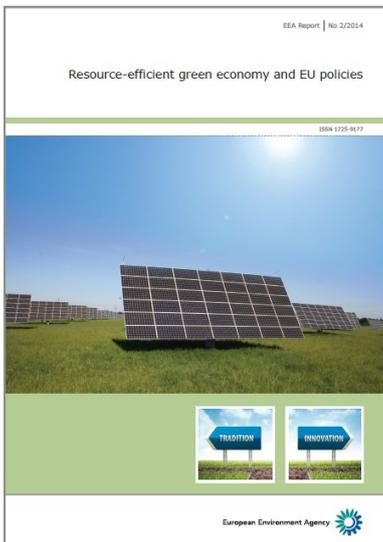
Economic and technological change was found to be too slow, with the authors noting that: 'what is required is a much bigger, deeper, and more permanent change in the EU economy and society'.

They suggested that there is a need for 'stronger interaction and greater coherence between ... environmental and climate policies and ... major EU

policies, including fiscal and financial, innovation and industrial policies'.

Overall, they concluded that 'achieving a green economy requires long term thinking and actions' as well as 'the widespread application of a coherent framework that drives profound changes in dominant structures and thinking'. 'Coherent integration of objectives across all policy areas is required, treating economic, social and environmental performance objectives as equal'.

A copy of the report can be accessed: [here](#)



Call For Abstracts

RAMIRAN

16th International Conference Rural-Urban Symbiosis, 8-10 Sept 2015, Hamburg (DE)
RAMIRAN 2015 is focusing on closing the cycle linking rural production and urban consumption systems and on the development of more sustainable solutions.

Agriculture produces bioresources for food and increasingly also for material and energy provision. The majority of agro-products are used in urban areas where they are connected with waste and wastewater generation. On the one hand, these residues are actually disposed or inefficiently treated, on the other they have value for agricultural production.

Thematic areas

- Quality fertilizers from residues sustainable soils
- Advances in emission prevention
- The bioresource challenge
- Agro-products for the biobased economy
- Smart concepts for rural development

- Towards zero waste settlements
- Rural-urban sustainability cases studies world wide

Deadline for abstract submission:
15 December 2014

For more information:
www.ramiran2015.de

Contact/Information

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Call for Further Action on Phosphorus

Phosphorus is essential to all life on earth, meaning that its supply and use is an important factor affecting sustainability and long-term global food security. Recognising that phosphorus (P) is a finite resource, the European Commission published its '[Consultative Communication on the Sustainable Use of Phosphorus](#)' in July 2013, seeking views from stakeholders on possible policy initiatives. The results of this consultation were finally published at the beginning of August, and support many of the recommendations made by ECN in our submission.

Consultation overview

The aim of the consultation was to draw attention to the sustainability of phosphorus use as well as launch a debate on the state of play of P usage and possible areas for action. It posed eleven questions, covering topics such as P security, mining, contamination and recycling. Overall, 125 responses were submitted from across the EU, covering 150 separate organisations.

Key messages

Most respondents agreed on the need for EU action to address the risk of soil contamination, particularly from cadmium in rock phosphate. Standards, based on scientific evidence, were suggested as a means of addressing this issue. Whilst recycling phosphorus can help prevent the introduction of new cadmium into the environment, the Commission notes that 'attention should also be paid to other unwanted substances that could be contained in the recycled products'.

Preventing and reducing losses from food waste and other bio-degradable waste were suggested. Drivers or incentives were called for in order to encourage more phosphorus recovery and loss prevention, including separate waste collection and treatment.

Recycling phosphorus from waste water by developing appropriate market conditions was also suggested by many stakeholders.

Improving the sustainable use of P

Producing environmentally safe plant-available P fertilisers from wastes, sewage and manure were mentioned, alongside using precision farming

ECN's Proposals

- Threshold values for cadmium in mineral fertilisers should be set
- A European Directive on Soil should be developed
- Identical contaminant threshold values should be set for both organic and inorganic fertilisers
- Long-term field trials on the use of organic fertilisers and soil improvers should be carried out
- A specific separate collection target for bio-waste (50 % by 2025) should be set to improve P recovery from food and biodegradable wastes
- End-of-waste criteria for compost and digestate need to be established
- An indicator that tracks the recycling of organic carbon into humus (compost) and essential plant nutrients from organic soil improvers and organic fertilisers needs to be developed

techniques, such as increasing P uptake through crop modification. Notably anaerobic digestion and composting were cited as being suitable technologies that could be used to increase P recovery from waste streams, such as sewage, food, domestic and industrial waste, and waste waters.

It was noted that manure processing can result in the manufacture of concentrated products that are more efficient, easier and cheaper to transport than the raw material.

Measures to prevent pollution at source should also be in place to control environmental pressures, in particular co-operation between sectors (notably livestock and arable farming).

Potential policy instruments

Revision of the Fertilisers Regulation was deemed to be the preferred instrument to create better market conditions for recycled P products and to address other environmental issues associated with the use of P fertilisers.

Environmental legislation was also recognised as being important in driving the sustainable use of phosphorus and its implementation is crucial in reducing P losses into the environment. Further action should begin with ‘mainstreaming’ phosphorus sustainability into revisions implementation of existing legislation.

Further information

A copy of the consultation response can be accessed: [here](#).

FAO Food Losses and Waste Report

Food Losses and Waste in the Context of Sustainable Food Systems is the eighth report published by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE); a group established in 2010 to act as the science-policy interface of the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS), which is part of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The report explores the definitions of food losses, waste and sustainable food systems, then describes the causes and drivers of food losses and waste, splitting them into three tiers: micro-, meso- and macro-causes. Options to reduce food losses and waste are discussed including investment and behavioural change.

The experts conclude by stating that policies and strategies need better co-ordination in order to reduce food loss waste. A number of recommendations are made, including suggesting that states should: ‘Set targets and introduce enabling economic policies and incentives to reduce FLW,

through a “food use-not-waste” hierarchy (i.e. prevention, reallocation of food for feed, recycle for energy

through anaerobic digestion, recover for compost, disposal, and ultimately, if no other solution is available, in landfills)’.

The report has been translated into a number of languages including French, Spanish and Russian.

Further information about the HLPE can be found: [here](#), including links to translated versions of the report.

The English report can be accessed: [here](#)



UK Report

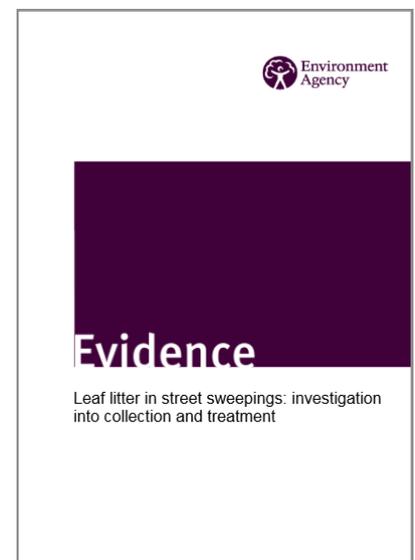
Contamination in Street Sweepings

As Europe is now well and truly into autumn, the problem of how to deal with seasonal leaf fall is one faced by many municipalities across the EU. A report by the English environmental regulator, the Environment Agency, sheds light on the quality of seasonal street sweeping waste and its suitability for composting. Its aim was to 'identify generic circumstances whereby seasonal street leaf sweepings could be collected and composted without compromising existing compost quality and environmental protection'.

The investigators sampled and tested over 60 samples of sweepings and 30 samples of compost. They found that levels of physical and chemical contaminants varied considerably within samples of compost from source-segregated green waste and street leaf sweepings. Concentrations of potentially toxic elements (e.g. arsenic, chromium, copper, lead, nickel and zinc) were not too dissimilar to levels observed in green wastes and green and green/food composts. However, levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were found to be much higher in street leaf sweepings and the composted output than in the other materials. It was suggested that PAH contamination may

originate from a number of polluting sources including vehicle exhaust emissions, oil spills and leaks, and tyre wear.

The main conclusion from the trial was that most samples of composted street leaf sweepings are not suitable for agricultural or horticultural use but may be suitable, as a compost-like output, for less sensitive uses such as in the redevelopment or reclamation of previously developed land. Further research was recommended.



A copy of the report can be accessed: [here](#).

France

Compost Helps Urban Trees

A group of French researchers has shown that compacted urban soils improved with composts can have long-term benefits for tree growth.

The study, reported in the journal *Soil Use and Management*, amended compacted urban soils with compost and compared their physical properties (density and ability of water to permeate

through the soil) over a five year period against controls where no compost had been applied. Modelling suggested that adding compost to urban soils and will help urban planners develop suitable soils for tree planting.

The paper has been summarised by the Science for Environment Policy News Alert Service of the European Commission, and can be accessed: [here](#).



Evaluation of Anaerobic Digesters in the Netherlands

A review of anaerobic digestion systems in the Netherlands has been published by the Dutch agency for energy and climate change. Carried out by Organic Waste Systems, the report, [Evaluatie van de Vergisters in Nederland](#), describes Phase 2 of a project looking in detail at 19 anaerobic digesters in the Netherlands.

The report describes a number of operational parameters, including:

- **Input feedstocks**, showing that over 50% (by mass) of total annual input feedstock across all 19 digesters was manure
- **Technical failures**, of which the most common was the build-up of sediment within the digesters
- **Process parameters**, in which the majority of digesters operated in the mesophilic temperature range, having an average residence time of over 100 days
- **Digestate properties**, including total solids, volatile solids, pH and residual biogas generation
- **Biogas production**, showing the variation of methane and H₂S across all 19 digesters
- **Energy generation**, in which the majority of the 19 digesters used a combined heat and

power engine. Here 36% of the energy was converted into electricity (with 88% of this uploaded into the national

electrical grid system), with 40% converted into usable heat and 4% upgraded for direct injection into the national gas grid

- **Digestate**, of which just under 40% was applied to land directly as whole digestate, with the remainder being treated to separate the liquid and solid fractions. Digestate disposal costs were shown to vary widely between plants
- **Economic aspects**, which showed that over half of the plants studied made a financial loss during the survey year; this was mainly attributed to the high capital costs and the high price of substrates

Although the main report is in Dutch, it contains a comprehensive summary in English (pp. 23-36), including diagrams and tables.

A copy can be accessed: [here](#).



New editions of HuMuss published

The German Association for Humus and Substrate Industry (VHE) has recently published two new information brochures of its edition 'HuMuss'. 'HuMuss' is the title of a series of publications which provides information for the practical use of compost in agriculture, horticulture, landscape and hobby gardening.

The new edition of *'HuMuss LAND'* reports about the benefits of applying compost as soil improver to maintain organic matter in soils, the recycling of phosphorus from organic fertilisers and the potential of liquid digestate to fertilise soils.

The new edition of *'HuMuss GARDEN'* presents information how compost can improve soils degraded by construction purposes, how hobby gardeners can produce their own potting soils, and how compost can be used for planting herbage.

The two editions are published in German and can be downloaded from the website of VHE www.vhe.de.



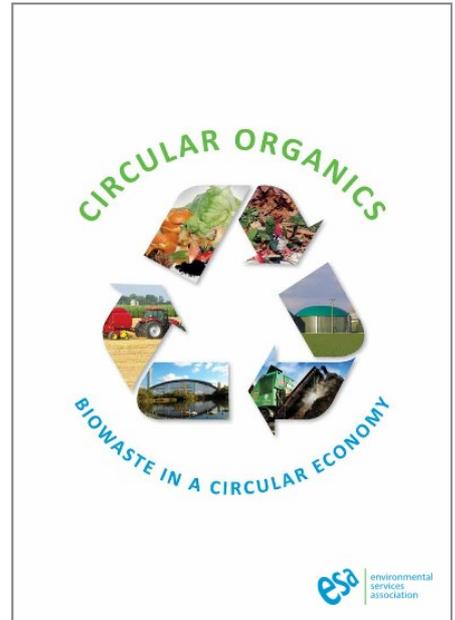
UK Organics Biotreatment Strategy Needed

The UK's trade body for the waste and resource management industry, the Environmental Services Association (ESA), has called for a biowaste strategy to be developed. In its report, [Circular Organics: Biowaste in a Circular Economy](#), the ESA recognises the 'clear benefits from using organic matter and nutrients in supporting ecosystem services and benefiting sustainable farming'.

The report reviewed the key challenges faced by the UK's organics recycling industry, identifying five main barriers:

- Failure to identify the full potential of biowaste
- Uncertainty over feedstock security
- Inadequate feedstock quality drivers
- Unclear waste hierarchy for biowaste
- Increasingly complex and onerous policies and regulations

The strategy sets out proposed action on how these barriers might be tackled, involving stakeholders across the supply chain.



In moving towards a more circular economy, the ESA concludes that: *'Quality and confidence are the key words in this new, product-driven phase, one which can only be achieved by all partners in the supply chain working together'*.

A copy of the strategy can be accessed: [here](#).

Brown Bins in Ireland

Brown bins are used in Ireland to collect food waste for composting. [Brownbin.ie](#) has produced a short, two minute cartoon on how to recycle food waste in Ireland using brown bins.

The cartoon was funded by the Department of Environment, Community



and Local Government in partnership with Cré, the Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Association of Ireland.

The video can be viewed at the Brown Bin website, which also contains other useful information on how to recycle food waste: www.brownbin.ie

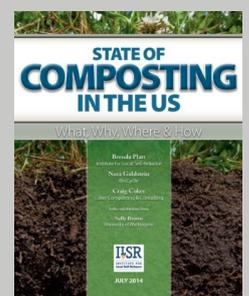
Composting in the USA

Two reports have recently been published by the Institute for Local Self-Reliance (ILSR).

One sets out the State of Composting in the U.S.: [What, Why, Where & How](#), whilst the second [Growing Local Fertility: A Guide to Community Composting](#) describes successful initiatives and their benefits.



Both reports can be downloaded from the ILSR's website: [here](#)



Biowaste Management in Sweden

Recycling of organic waste is a key element of Sweden's waste policy. Since 2002 it is not allowed to landfill combustible waste and since 2005 it is not allowed to landfill organic waste in Sweden. Until today the capacity of biological treatment is still increasing.

About 60 percent of the Swedish municipalities have separate collection of food waste. Food waste is household waste and therefore comparable with households, restaurants, food stores, schools and similar businesses with central treatment. It doesn't include waste from the food industry, slaughterhouses etc..

711 450 t of organic household waste (370 070 t foodwaste + 341 380 t greenwaste) was recovered in 2013. Most composting plants (appr. 60) are rather small (<5000 t/a), while only about 20 composting plants are considered to be large. 25 anaerobic digestion plants treating waste, manure, etc. are working and several new large scale AD plants are planned. The latter development is very much encouraged by government and society, especially when the generated biogas is used as a fuel for vehicles.

Legal framework for the organic waste stream

Biowaste in Sweden consists nearly by 100 % of waste from households with only a small amount of organic material from gardens. Park and garden waste is mainly vegetable waste resulting from the management of parks and large gardens. Sweden allows to use animal manure for composting and anaerobic digestion, if the plant manages to fulfil the requirements of the European Animal By-Products Regulation.

The Swedish Parliament has established 16 environmental quality objectives, such as 'Clean air' and 'Good-quality groundwater' to guide Sweden towards a sustainable society. The 16 environmental objectives will function as benchmarks for all environment-related developments in Sweden. The overriding aim is to solve all the major environmental problems within one generation. One of the environmental quality objectives is 'Better resource management in the food chain'.

Better resource management

Measures are to be taken that resource management in the food chain is improved through separation and biological treatment of

at least 50 % of food waste from households, catering services, shops and restaurants, with the aim of recovering plant nutrients, with at least 40 % treated in such a way that energy is also recovered by 2018.

Waste Management Action Plan

In the *Waste Management Action Plan* (Aktionsplan Avfall) it is suggested that the waste should be separated at source. The strategy of the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) is mainly to divert the waste streams from landfilling. SEPA prescribed that from the year 2002 combustible waste has to be collected separately and may not be landfilled. From the year 2005 no organic waste is allowed to be landfilled. The landfill tax will make the economical figures of biological waste treatment techniques competitive to landfilling.

Quality Assurance Scheme for compost and digestate

In 1999 the Swedish Waste Management Association (Avfall Sverige) and the Swedish EPA initiated a project in order to develop voluntary quality assurance systems for compost and digestate from organic wastes. The project was financed by Swedish Association of Waste Management RVF and the Swedish EPA. This system demands that input material should be of clean organic origin and source separated. The system, called 'SPCR', is quite similar to the 'European Quality Assurance Scheme for Compost and Digestate - ECN-QAS' and the proposal for End-Of-Waste criteria's for compost and digestate. Today there are 15 anaerobic digestion- and two composting plants who are certified in the 'SPCR'.

Further information: The Country Report of Sweden can be downloaded from the ECN website: www.compostnetwork.info
Info about Avfall Sverige [here](#)



Quality Label for Compost and Digestate of the Swedish QAS 'SPCR'



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](#)

20 November 2014, Cologne (DE)

'Humustag' of BGK

The workshop language is German. The Humusday is focussing on biowaste and fertiliser policies in Germany.

Further information: [here](#)

27 November 2014, Straßbourg, (F)

13° RITTMO professional workshop on European Harmonisation of fertilisers & growing media

The workshop language is French.

Further information: [here](#)

20-23 Januar 2015 Austin, Texas (USA)

USCC Conference and Tradeshow

Join the world's largest composting conference and exhibition for the organics management industry. Hear the latest from industry leaders about solving challenges in collecting organics, manufacturing and using compost, and producing renewable energy from organics.

Further information: [here](#)

27-29 January 2015, Bremen (DE)

24th BIOGAS International Convention

Manufacturers of biogas plants and plant components show their broad product spectrum, which in times of the energy turnaround is devoted to the German Renewable Energy Act and the production and provision of green power through biomass and energy crops. Service providers, scientists, plant operators and plant manufacturers meet here to discuss the latest market trends and technology

Further information: [here](#)

11-13 March 2015, Sofia (BG)

'Save the Planet'

South-East European Exhibition and Eco Forum on Waste Management & Recycling

'Save the Planet' is a timely B2B initiative in the sector that responds to the necessity of drawing on global experience and accelerated implementation of the new sustainable solutions in the Region. The format 'exhibition – conference' and the high international level create better interaction between participants from across Europe.

The organizer **Via Expo** invites keynote speakers. ENEP will organize a session 'Towards a Circular Economy'. Experts from VDMA, PlasticsEurope and EDA will attend the conference.

Further information: [here](#)

20-24 April 2015, Murcia (E)

III. International Symposium on Organic Matter Management and Compost Use in Horticulture

The present edition will cover different aspects including nutritional issues and the implication on global food security, different environmental and health issues associated to the use of compost in agriculture, and also a reflection on novel organic amendments and future needs to ensure its safe use and commercialisation. A specific session will be devoted to the interaction of biochar and organic matter.

Further information: [here](#)

7-9 September 2015, Antwerpen (BE)

ISWA 2015 - World Congress

ISWA 2015 Antwerp will guarantee a balanced mix of internationally renowned keynote speakers, representatives of institutions and agencies worldwide that determine waste and materials policy, interesting insights into the latest scientific and technological developments in the sector.

Further information: [here](#)



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