

# Save Organics in Soil –



## Biological Cycle and Sustainable Agriculture

13th October 2020 | 09:00 am to 10:30 am (CET)

### Bio-Waste and compost status update

European Compost Network ECN e.V.

Marco Giacomazzi



renew europe.

A NEW BEGINNING  
FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE

#EUGreenWeek  
19-22 OCTOBER 2020



EUGreenWeek 2020 PARTNER EVENT



@compostnetwork



@ECNnetwork

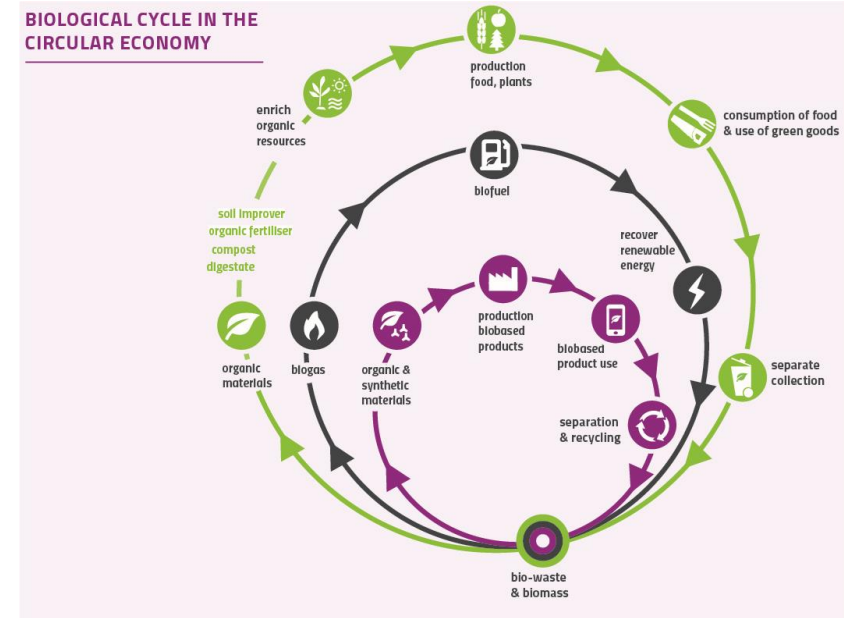
# European Compost Network



## ECN's Vision

*“Living well within the limited resources of the planet respecting the organic cycle”*

- ECN is the leading European membership organization
- Promoting sustainable recycling practices of organic resources: composting, anaerobic digestion...



64 members from 27 European countries

48 M tpa treatment capacities

4.500 treatment plants (composting & AD)

**ECN STATUS REPORT 2019**  
**EUROPEAN BIO-WASTE MANAGEMENT**  
 Overview of Bio-Waste Collection, Treatment & Markets Across Europe

**ECN**  
 European Compost Network e.V.

- Published by ECN, supported by ISWA WG BTW
- Data reporting results from 18 European countries

**Total bio-waste generated (estimation): 118 Mt**  
**Total bio-waste collected: 47,5 Mt**



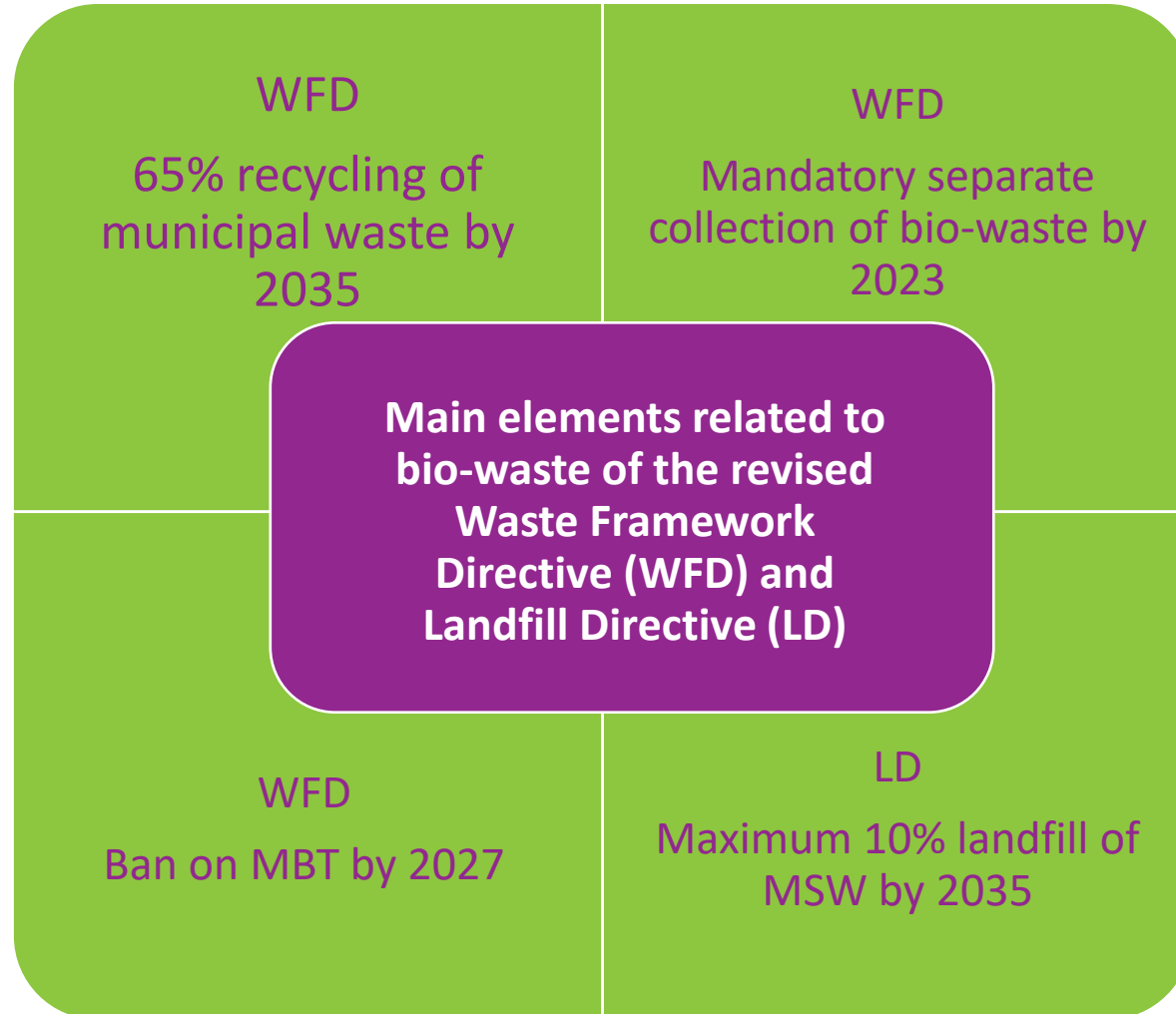
**11.7**  
 Million tonnes of compost



**4.1**  
 Million tonnes of digestate

**Share of compost & digestate in Europe**





**But how can be assessed  
the effectiveness of the bio-  
waste separate collection?**

	Germany	Austria	Italy	France	Ireland
Population (Million)	82,2	8,7	60,7	67	4,7
Municipal waste generated (Mtonnes)	52	4,9	30	34	2,7
Bio-waste separately collected (Mtonnes)	14,1	1,3	6,5	4,6	0,4
Weight of bio-waste in separate collection	27 %	26 %	21 %	13 %	13 %
Bio-waste separate collection per capita (kg/inhb)	172	151	107	69	75
Recycling rate	67 %	58 %	46 %	42 %	41 %

By weight, bio-waste represent a big share of household waste composition:

- When **collected bio-waste is 20 % less than the MSW generated**, or when **bio-waste collected is less than 100 kg/capita**, the separate collection scheme implemented is not effective
- This does not mean that countries that do not effectively collect bio-waste recycle less than the others. But it means that **countries could boost recycling rates by at least 10 % with effective separate collection of bio-waste**
- Separate collection of bio-waste is a powerful enabler of recycling targets (55% of household waste by 2025; 60% by 2030 and 65% by 2035)

IMPORTANT: National figures might be flawed. Bio-waste separate collection is an activity organized locally, that depends on

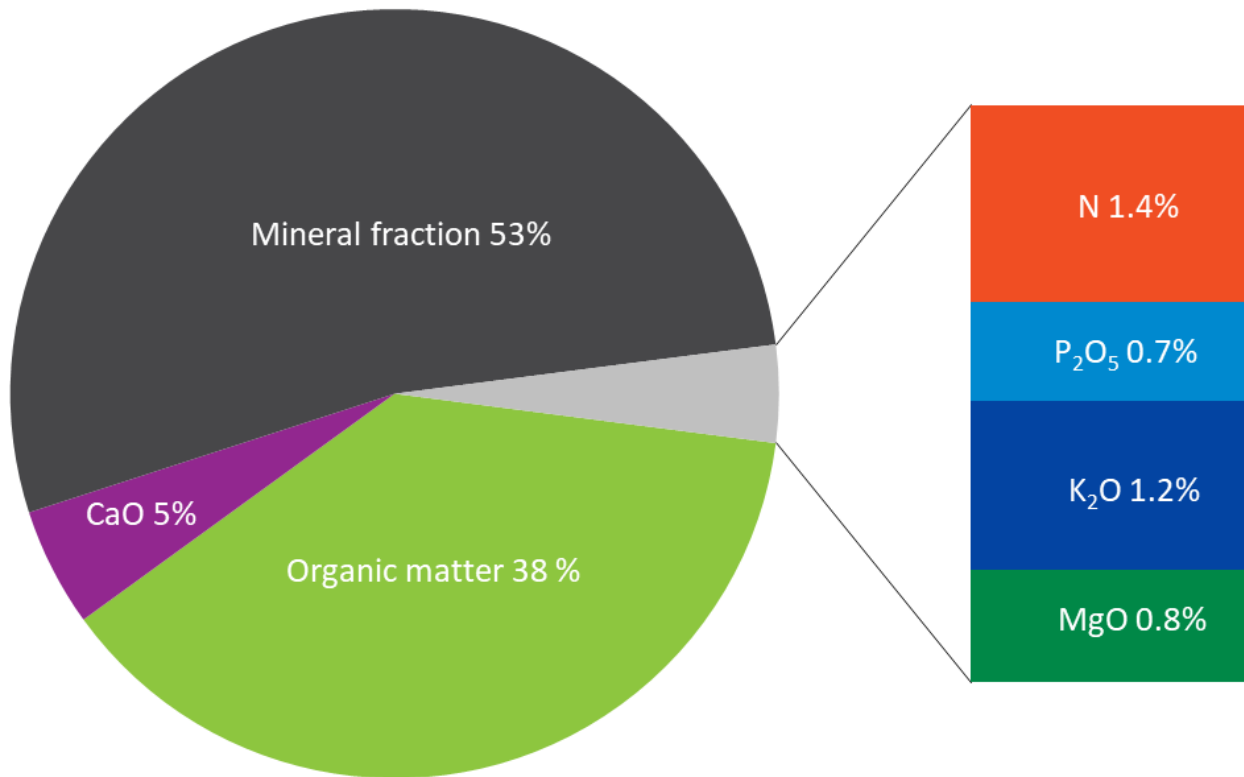
- Seasonality
- Demographics and urbanisation vs rural areas
- Engagement of the population

Source: ECN Status Report 2019, based on data from 18 European countries

\* AT, BE, CH, DE, EE, FI, FR, HU, IE, IT, LT, NL, NO, PL, PT, SE, SI, UK

# Compost status in Europe

## Compost Typical Composition (% dry matter)



1 tonne of fresh compost = 300 kg organic matter

Application of 30 tonnes of fresh compost per hectare per year

➤ 9 tonnes of organic matter is added to the soil

### Organic Soil Improver



## Europe Current

**48 MILLION**  
TONNES A YEAR OF  
BIO-WASTE



## Europe Potential

**128 MILLION**  
TONNES A YEAR OF  
BIO-WASTE



**12 MILLION**  
TONNES A YEAR OF  
COMPOST

**32 MILLION**  
TONNES A YEAR OF  
COMPOST

➤ Currently, **118 Mt of bio-waste** are generated in the EU every year, **but less than 40% recycled.**

➤ About **12 Mt of compost**

**By 2030**, 128 Mt of bio-waste could be collected and recycled

➤ It would roughly amount up to **32 Mt** of quality **compost** that can be used to restore soil health, quality and fertility

## Examples from Austria, Germany, Flanders (BE), and Italy

Information based on ECN Status report 2019 and ECN country reports:



**KBVÖ Austria**



**BGK Germany**



Meer halen uit de biologische kringloop

**VLACO Belgium**



**CIC Italy**

- All Quality Assurance Schemes are approved by the European Quality Assurance Scheme (ECN-QAS)
- **16 Countries** have national standards for **compost quality**
- 10 Countries have **quality assurance schemes** that verify compliance of compost quality standards. EE, FI, FR and IE have based their schemes on ECN\_QAS



Source: ECN website: [www.compostnetwork.info](http://www.compostnetwork.info) Country Reports

- Bio-waste separate collection allows to recycle ensured good quality organic soil improvers that are crucial to restore soil health and mitigate the climate change.
- By 2030, 120 Million tonnes of bio-waste from separate collection should be recycled generating 32 Million tonnes of clean and safe compost

# Thank you!



Source: ECN website: [www.compostnetwork.info](http://www.compostnetwork.info) Country Reports