

EUROPEAN COMPOST NETWORK ECN e.V.

Network for Organic Resources and Biological Treatment

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EU COMMISSION / MWE / EUROCITIES

Presentation of conference on separate collection in Europe available

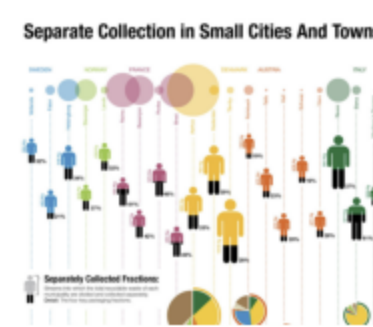
On January 29, Municipal Waste Europe together with EUROCITIES and the European Commission organised the conference "Separate Waste Collection in the Context of a Circular Economy in Europe". After a general part on Circular Economy policy with speakers from the EU Commission (Kestutis Sadauskas, Director Green Economy Directorate, DG ENV, and Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for the Environment and Fisheries) the Commission study 'Assessment of separate collection schemes in the 28 capitals of the EU' was presented. Examples for separate collection in small, medium and large towns were given in the next part, followed by an interesting debate on implementation of separate collection.

As part of the conference a brochure was presented with the key results of the benchmarking study on the separate waste collection systems in small cities and towns across Europe. The brochure includes infographics, piecharts and tables depicting the statistical data collected from members participating in the study.

The brochure can be downloaded [here](#).

The presentations from all speakers are available for download [here](#).

The full Study 'Assessment of separate collection schemes in the 28 capitals of the EU' [BIPRO GmbH and Copenhagen Research Institute (CRI)] is available for download [here](#).



Besides the final report, 28 country and 28 capital factsheets including more detailed information on country / capital level can be accessed here:

- [Annex 1: National factsheets](#)

- [Annex 2: Capital factsheets](#)

SOIL ORGANIC MATTER - VIDEO / 7 WAYS TO SAVE OUR SOILS - REPORT

Two publications suitable for promoting the idea of sustainable soil management

1. Science meets inspiration in this tale of nature's best hidden innovation: soil.

The Soil Story, created by 'Kiss the Ground', is a five-minute film that shares the importance of healthy soil for a healthy planet. Learn how we can "sequester" (store) carbon from our atmosphere, where it is harmful, and pull it back into the earth, where it belongs, through regenerative agriculture, composting, and other land management practices.



You can watch the video on YouTube [here](#).

Learn more and join the movement at <http://www.thesoilstory.com/>.

2. The SOIL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN recently issued a report on the '7 Ways to Save our Soils'.

In order to meet the target for 20% more soil organic matter (SOM) in the next 20 years in the UK, there were set out seven key areas where action is needed. The first key area is to **Increase the amount of plant and animal matter going back onto fields**. Adding **certified compost** to the soil is one of the recommended action.



The report is available [here](#).

EU COMMISSION: NEW ROADMAP PUBLICATIONS

Roadmap on Waste to Energy

The European Commission has published the roadmap on 'Exploiting the potential of waste to energy under the Energy Union Framework Strategy and the Circular Economy' in January 2016. This initiative is part of the Energy Union Framework Strategy adopted on 25.02.2015 (COM (2015) 80 final), which announced a Communication on waste to energy as part of its Roadmap. It is also one of the actions on waste management listed in the Annex to the Commission's Communication on an EU action plan for the Circular Economy adopted on 2 December 2015 (COM (2015) 614). Finally, it is supported by the 7th Environment Action Programme (Decision 1386/2013/EU of the European Parliament and Council OJ L 354/171, which requires that **measures are taken to ensure energy recovery is limited to non-recyclable waste**.

Roadmap on Delegated Regulation on rules for direct payments to farmers including greening

The European Commission has published the roadmap on 'Target reviews on rules for direct payments to farmers including greening' on 10 February 2016. This review is part of the REFIT exercise (Commission Work Programme for 2016, Annex II). It follows up on the 2014 declaration by the Commission to evaluate the experience with the implementation of the obligations on Ecological Focus Areas (EFA) as part of the 'greening' obligations, after the first year of application. The 2013 CAP reform introduced the concept of greening to enhance the environmental performance of agriculture, which enabled a better integration of natural capital objectives into the CAP.

Green direct payments account for 30% of EU countries' direct payment budgets. Farmers receiving an area-based payment have to make use of various straightforward, non-contractual practices that benefit the environment and the climate. These require action each year. They include:

- maintaining permanent grassland
- diversifying crops
- dedicating 5% of arable land to 'ecologically beneficial elements' ('ecological focus areas').

Under the new rules, farmers receiving payments help conserve the environment and contribute to addressing greenhouse emissions by:

- making soil & ecosystems more resilient by growing a greater variety of crops
- conserving soil carbon & grassland habitats associated with permanent grassland
- protecting water & habitats by establishing ecological focus areas.

ECN ANNOUNCEMENTS

ECN Annual Meeting 2016, 2 May 2016 Dublin (IE)

ECN's Annual meeting 2016 will take place in advance of the **Global Organic Resource Conference (3-4 May 2016)** on 2 May from 15:00 h to 18:00 h in the **Crowne Plaza Hotel** in Dublin (Ireland).

ECN WG/TG Meeting 'Quality Assurance for Compost and Digestate, 4 May 2016 Dublin (IE)

The next joint ECN Working group 'Quality Assurance for Compost and Digestate' and Task Group meeting 'Growing media and Horticulture' is scheduled on the 4th May from 9:00 to 12:30 h during the **Global Organic Resource Conference (3-4 May 2016)** in Dublin.

Programme online for GORC 2016, 3-4 May 2016 Dublin (IE)

We would like to announce that the programme and the website www.gorc.ie of the **Global Organic Resource Conference (GORC) 2016** organised by **Cré (Composting & Anaerobic Digestion Association of Ireland)**, in cooperation with ECN (European Compost Network) has been launched.



This event will examine the opportunities in the organic waste sector, composting and anaerobic digestion sector, with a strong focus directed on the emerging bioeconomy sector.

The bioeconomy has the potential to provide many new opportunities to manage organic resources and get high value products from waste products. The event will have a session on healthy soils, which will highlight the benefits of using quality compost/digestate in the production of sustainable food production.

Please visit the website [here](#) and use the Early Bird registration until 1 March 2016.

ORBIT 2016, 25-28 May 2016 Crete (GR)

ECN's next ORBIT conference will be held in Heraklion, Crete on 25 to 28 May 2016. Focussing on the 'Circular Economy and Organic Waste Management', it is the tenth biennial conference on Organic Resources and Biological Waste Treatment, signalling 20 years of excellence in scientific research and professional networking.



ORBIT 2016 will be organised by Harokopio University of Athens (Prof. Dr. Katia Lasaridi), the Technological Educational Institute of Crete (Associate Prof. Dr. Thrassyvoulos Manios) and ECN.

Please visit the website [here](#) and use the Early Bird registration until 29 February 2016.

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ECN-QAS Trade Mark No 011007168
Trade mark for certified quality assurance organisations, compost and digestate products according to ECN-QAS
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