

EUROPEAN COMPOST NETWORK ECN e.V.

Network for Organic Resources and Biological Treatment

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ECN Position Paper on EU Circular Economy

A unique opportunity to use the untapped potential of biowaste

The European Compost Network (ECN) welcomes the legislative proposals presented in the 'Circular Economy Package', released by the European Commission on 2 December 2015, as a key milestone for resource efficiency and the achievement of a truly circular economy in Europe.

ECN generally agrees with the ambitions set out in the proposal. In particular, we welcome Article 22, which emphasizes the need for separate collection and recycling of biowaste. Biowaste comprises of up to 50% of municipal solid waste (MSW) produced in Member States: separate collection and recycling of biowaste is crucial to meet the overall MSW recycling rates specified in Article 11(2).



The proposals for amendments to the Waste Framework and the Landfill Directives will in our view contribute to better sorting and recycling of biowaste. However, the following aspects should be considered carefully by co-legislators, in order to reap the full benefits of biowaste recycling:

- The limitations introduced in the provisions on the separate collection and recycling of biowaste should be removed, to ensure that the separate collection and recycling remains the rule.
- A specific recycling target of 65% by 2025 should be introduced for biowaste, along with a residual waste minimization target and appropriate incentives.
- A separate collection target should be introduced for biowaste from industries.
- Waste codes should be introduced for biowaste.
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The ECN Position paper is available [here](#).

Floralies 2016, Ghent, Belgium

Closed Loop Gardening at the Ghent Floralies, with ECN-partner Vlaco

Visit a vibrant city festival in Ghent's Arts Quarter in the spring of 2016 (22th of April – 1st of May). Come and be surprised and inspired by a world full of flowers and plants, fascinating gardens, breathtaking art installations, and unexpected garden techniques.

This year you can discover Closed Loop Gardening presented by the Flemish Compost Association (VLACO vzw). In addition to inspirational gardens you can also admire the superior ECN qualified compost **Vlaco-compost** at all locations of the Ghent Floralies as a protective layer between the plants.



Visit the Floralies website [here](#).

International Event 1-7 May 2016

International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW)

The Composting Councils of Australia, Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom have declared the first week of May to be annual International Composting Awareness Week (ICAW).

ICAW is a publicity and education initiative to showcase compost production and demonstrate compost use. This year's theme, Compost—the Soil and Water Connection, was selected to highlight the importance of compost in clean, plentiful water and healthy soil.



Further information [here](#).

Conference

GORC 2016, 3-4 May, Dublin (IE)



The Global Organic Resource Conference (GORC) 2016 organised by Cré (Composting & Anaerobic Digestion Association of Ireland), in cooperation with ECN (European Compost Network) will examine the opportunities in the organic waste sector, composting and anaerobic digestion sector, with a strong focus directed on the emerging bioeconomy sector.

Apart from the interesting events during the Conference, there are several well-known speakers presenting their speeches. Amongst others:

- Mairead McGuinness MEP - Vice-President of the European Parliament
- David Newman - Biobased and Biodegradable Industries Association
- Dr Jane Gilbert - International Solid Waste Association
- Phil Hogan - European Commissioner for Agriculture & Rural Development
- Eric Liégeois - DG GROW, European Commission

Please visit the website for the latest information [here](#).

Conference

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.

Further information and registration [here](#).

Press Release

Renewable Matter - Second Edition 2016

The second release 2016 of the bimonthly magazine has been published recently. Please follow the link [here](#) to visit the magazines website and to register for free download.

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