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# Country report Second part



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**The report part one**, which each partner had to do, concerns the Strategies and Policies for Garbage Collection and Waste Treatment of the country or municipality in which they are located. The summary report is ready and here will present a very brief summary for each country. It turned out that there are similarities with the synchronization of local legislation with European directives and regulations. There are also specific measures.



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**Bulgaria** - The waste management policy in Bulgaria is carried out by the Ministry of Environment and Water, assisted by the Waste Management and Soil Protection Directorate, and Regional environment and water inspections. It is in accordance with the legislation of the European Community and national legislation - Law on Environmental Protection, Law on waste management, regulations, national planning and strategic documents: National Waste Management Plan 2021-2028, and the Circular Economy Transition Strategy 2022-2027 and the Circular Economy Transition Strategy 2022-2027.



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**Bulgaria** - Municipal policy - The mayor of a municipality develops and implements a waste management program for the territory of the respective municipality. The program is an integral part of the municipal environmental program. The program is developed and adopted for a period that should coincide with the period of operation of the National Waste Management Plan.

The waste management program is one of the most important instruments for the implementation of national waste legislation on the territory of the municipality of Beloslav. The program includes: Analysis of the situation and forecast of the type, quantities and sources of waste generated on the territory of the municipality; Measures to promote recycling by introducing separate waste collection schemes and etc.



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**Malta** - The Long Term Waste Management Plan for Malta 2021-2030, published by the Ministry for the Environment, Climate Change and Planning (MECP). These measures have been categorized based on the timeframe during which they will be implemented, that is in the short term, medium term or the long term, spanning between 2021 and 2030.

Two Legal Notices (LNs) with the aim of introducing mandatory separation at source requirements within national legislation, namely:

1. The Waste (Amendment) Regulations, and
2. The Abandonment, Dumping and Disposal of Waste in Streets and Public Places of Areas (Amendment) Regulations.



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**Poland** - National Waste Management Plan, established by a decision of the Council of Ministers. The main acts of local legislation regulating waste management in a given municipality are resolutions of the Municipal Council, such as:

- decision establishing rules for maintaining cleanliness and order in a given municipality;
- decision determining the manner and scope of providing services in the field of collection of household waste from property owners and management of such waste against a fee for household waste management;



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**Poland** - The municipal council may introduce fee reductions or partial exemptions, e.g. for low-income households - entitled to cash benefits from social assistance, or for owners of real estate built up with single-family residential buildings composting biowaste.

The Act on Maintaining Cleanliness and Order in Municipalities specifies the amounts of fees that may be set by the municipal council.



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**Greece** - Circular Economy – The New National Action Plan of Greece The national strategy for circular economy has been updated taking into consideration the New Plan of the European Commission for Circular Economy (2019) and the European Green Deal. This guide has been designed for the implementation period 2021-2025. The eligible actors (government departments, regional and local authorities, industries, public sector services, businesses, citizens) and the coordinating/accelerating authorities per type of action are specified and the implementation time frames are compatible with the respective EU initiatives.





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**Greece** - Local Waste Management Plan (LWMP) of Galatsi Municipality (2020). The plan has been prepared in accordance with the updated legislation 2020-2030. The first sections of the document depict the services, infrastructure, equipment and the available network that supports the collection and transport of waste in the Municipality of Galatsi. The collection programs for mixed waste and recyclable packaging materials are described and the waste management costs are reported. All contracts with alternative management systems for the disposal of different streams of recyclable materials are also reported.



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**Belgium** - Cooperation Agreement on the Prevention and Management of Packaging Waste, Decree on Capital Waste in the Brussels Region:

- The decree recognises the obligation to take back goods or waste, stating that the government will determine the rules and regulations and the factors involved in relation to the objectives, management methods, information, conditions and procedures.
- The decree recognises the obligation to take back goods or waste, stating that the government will determine the rules and regulations and the factors involved in relation to the objectives, management methods, information, conditions and procedures. Early Warning Assessment linked to the 2025 targets for municipal and packaging waste - Belgium (2022) EEA.



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**Belgium** - Plastics  
Implementation Plan 2020-2025  
– Flanders The Plastics Action  
Plan includes activities on food,  
product design, micro plastics,  
pellets, governance, research,  
recycling, legal barriers, several  
studies and reports. Finally, the  
monitoring of the actions  
includes provisions on the  
stakeholder platform, budgeting  
and evaluation.





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**The second part** of the report, which each partner had to do, concerns the Presentation of good practices for waste collection and treatment of the country or municipality they are located in. The summary report is ready and the collected good practices will be briefly presented here.



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**Partner's name: ITTI**

**Country: Bulgaria**

At the moment, there is separate collection of waste in 207 of the total of 266 Bulgarian municipalities.

The municipality of **Svilengrad** is already on the map of Zero Waste Europe - European network for zero waste. The reason is that it is the first Bulgarian municipality to adopt the Zero Waste approach in order to move towards a circular economy. The city stands out as an innovator in environmental protection through various methods and projects.



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In 2021, a pilot implementation of a "door-to-door" separate waste collection system began in the Municipality of Veliki Preslav.

Beloslav Municipality ranks among the top Bulgarian municipalities that have implemented projects:

“Demonstration model for prevention and recycling of household waste in Beloslav Municipality,,;

Project “Introduction of an innovative model for reducing the amount of plastic waste in the marine environment from land-based sources”;

Project “Closing and reclamation of a municipal landfill for non-hazardous waste”.



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**Partner's name: CRETHIDEV**

**Country: Greece**

**Circular Greece** (Circular Economy Implementation in Greece LIFE-IP CEI-Greece - LIFE18 IPE/GR/000013)

The LIFE-IP CEI-Greece project is designed to support Greece's National Waste Management Plan, National Waste Prevention Plan, and Circular Economy Strategy. It introduces a new waste management model based on circular economy principles, aiming to encourage behavioral changes, extend product lifecycles, turn waste into valuable resources, and ensure the effective implementation of waste management legislation.

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### **DIADYMA S.A.:** Waste Management of Western Macedonia

The main goal of DIADYMA S.A. is the design, implementation, and operation of the regional Integrated Waste Management System IWMS using sustainable management methods to meet national and European legislative requirements while minimizing costs for citizens. Today, the company's shareholders include the 13 municipalities of the Western Macedonia region: Amynteo, Argos Orestiko, Velvento, Voio, Grevena, Deskati, Eordaia, Kastoria, Kozani, Nestorio, Prespa, Serbia, and Florina.





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### **Go Zero / Tilos**

Just Go Zero Tilos is an initiative to make Tilos the first Zero Waste Island. The program, in partnership with Polygreen, focuses on eliminating landfills and encouraging circular waste management through door-to-door collection, sorting, composting, and recycling. With support from modern technology, the initiative engages residents, businesses, and visitors in reducing waste and increasing recycling efforts. Tilos' transformation sets an example for sustainable tourism and can be adapted for other regions to promote a circular economy.



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**Partner's name: STOWARZYSZENIE AKTYWNA  
INTEGRACJA RURZYCA - SAIR**

**Country: POLAND**

### **Clothes to donate**

Clothes to donate - redefines the concept of second circulation on the textile market, proving that circularity is attractive and profitable. In 2018, Zofia Zochniak and Tomasz Bociana initially created a portal based on the idea of closed circulation, which allowed to get rid of accumulated clothing and protect the planet by reducing pollution. Then they started running a fundraising platform combining collections of used clothes with financial support for charities supporting, among others: sick children, animal shelters, educational and psychological institutions, ecological foundations, etc.



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## Ecological Education Centre on a reclaimed landfill

In 2023 in Gliwice, on the premises of the local Waste Management Company, in the immediate vicinity of the reclaimed waste disposal area, which is now a hill covered with greenery, an Ecological Education Centre was established.



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## **Foods**

Foods is a Polish mobile application that connects customers with restaurants, convenience stores, bakeries and cafes that have a surplus of food, allowing its users to buy the surplus at a reduced price. The service launched in 2019 in Warsaw and has expanded to other major cities in Poland.

In 2023, a new feature was introduced in the app, allowing users to buy packages not only with self-pickup but also with delivery. The products range has also been expanded to include unsold magazines, cosmetics or plants.



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**Partner's name: Leiedal**  
**Country: BELGIUM**

### **Compacting Bins, in Ghent, Belgium**

The Bodies responsible for this initiative are the City of Ghent, Belgium, OVAM (Flemish waste association, it sets the waste management policy), Heritage Department and IVAGO (intercommunal association for waste management in Ghent and surrounding area). The project began in 2017 and it is still ongoing. The end user is a population of 257,000 habitants.

A compacting bin may hold up to seven times more volume in the city centre. This results in less bins needed and less times demanded for emptying the bins. Furthermore, remote monitoring is feasible.



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## **Food waste reduction in health care institutions in Bruges, Belgium**

This pilot activity was proposed by the City of Bruges, on where it took place. The project began in 2017 and it is still ongoing. The stakeholders involved are FoodWIN, Bruges Food Lab, public waste agency of Flanders, which provided 50% of the funding, the department of Welfare, Public Health and Family of the Flanders region, which transferred over region, the knowledge developed during the project.

The problem that was tackled is the food waste in health care institutions. The approach was both innovative and participatory, it was based on international tools and methods and targeted at the reduction of food waste.



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### **Pay As You Throw, in Flanders, Belgium**

Project “Pay As You Throw” or PAYT is based on the well-known principle “the polluter pays”. In the case of Flanders, this principle is applied as differentiated Tariffs (DifTar) to make residual and bulky waste more expensive than selective collected waste streams.

The overall system focuses on the financial incentives for households, in order to reduce the volume of their waste. The imposition of different tariffs for the separate collection of waste streams that can be recycled, re-used or composted is a motivation for the least waste that ends up on the landfill site or in the incinerators.



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**Partner's name: Genista research foundation**  
**Country: Malta**

## **Mandatory Waste Separation**

Waste separation is mandatory in Malta and Gozo as from 14 April 2023. Everyone must properly separate their waste and dispose of it in the right bins, including business, governmental and non-governmental entities as well as private homes.

By separating your waste, you are reducing the need for new landfills, increasing recycling of materials and helping to generate renewable energy, for a greener, cleaner environment and a better quality of life in Malta and Gozo.





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## WasteServ's Reuse Centres

Reuse Centres offer used and 'pre-loved' items that still hold value and can be given another 'life'. These are located within WasteServ's Civic Amenity Sites of Luqa, Hal Far, Mrieħel and Tal-Kus in Xewkija, Gozo. These are open Monday to Sunday, including public holidays, between 07:30 and 17:30 (excluding Christmas Day and New Year's Day).

Access to the Reuse Centres is possible on foot. There are passageways having a separate entrance from that of the Civic Amenity Site to make the Reuse Centres safe and accessible to prams, strollers and people with mobility issues, including wheelchairs.



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### National Waste Collection Schedule

A new national waste collection schedule has been drawn up to streamline door-to-door waste collection around Malta and Gozo in line with what was established in the National Plan on Waste Management.



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