

Quick-start guide for the Green Best Practice Community

Tips and instructions on using the Green Best Practice Community:

- 1. Access the best practices of your interest*
- 2. Suggest new content*
- 3. Provide comments and ask questions*

A tool to discover, showcase and collaborate on green best practices

Welcome to the Green Best Practice Community!

Browse best practices that can help you make your organisation greener.

Share your experience and showcase your achievements.

Work with other practitioners and experts at identifying further best practices.

Feeling lost? Read the [About](#) page or contact us through the [Helpdesk](#).



Waste management sector



Food and beverage manufacturing sector



Public administration sector

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Quick start guide

This guide will show you how to get familiar with all the functionalities of this website. Download the guide from the link just below!

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Launch of the Green Best Practice Community for Waste Management

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ARTICLES

How well is waste segregated in your municipality? Can you increase the separate waste collection rates? Take some inspiration from the tips below!

How well is your waste segregated? Are the waste collection bins or containers the right sizes? Can they be accessed easily? Which waste fractions should be disposed of where? These questions are usually asked by citizens or are issues that impact them directly and they seek answers from

Helpdesk >

Wondering where to start to make your organisation greener? Looking for information on how to improve on a specific environmental issue? Ask the Helpdesk and we will guide you directly to the best practices or case studies that can be of help or inspiration in your specific case.

First step: log-in; if it is the first time, create an EU Login account first

Once you login, you can experience all the functionalities of the Green Best Practice Community.

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3 ways to access the best practices of your interest



English EN

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European Commission > Green Best Practice Community

Green Best Practice Community

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1. Through the menu: By clicking on the waste management sector, you go to the page of the best practices for the waste management sector.



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The screenshot shows the 'Waste management sector' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Sectors', 'News', and 'About'. Below this is a 'PAGE CONTENTS' section with a list of best practices: 'Best practices for waste management strategy', 'Best practices for waste collection', 'Best practices for waste prevention and reuse', and 'Best practices for waste treatment'. To the right of this list is a 'Waste management sector' header with a 'PDF' icon and a 'Propose new...' button. Below the header is a paragraph of text: 'Looking for information on how to improve municipal waste management at the local level? Browse the best practices below for inspiration and guidance. Know about a good action worth sharing? Submit your proposal and help keep the knowledge base relevant and updated.' Below this text is a list of links: 'Best practices for waste management strategy', 'Integrated waste management strategies', 'Life-cycle assessment of waste management options', 'Use of economic instruments', 'Link to other relevant reference documents for best practices', 'Common indicators for municipal waste management', and 'Cost benchmarking'.

European Commission > Green Best Practice Community (beta) > How well is waste segregated in your municipality? Can you increase the separate waste collection rates? Take some inspiration from the tips below!

Green Best Practice Community (beta)

View Edit Delete Revisions

How well is waste segregated in your municipality? Can you increase the separate waste collection rates? Take some inspiration from the tips below!

How well is your waste segregated? Are the waste collection bins or containers the right sizes? Can they be accessed easily? Which waste fractions should be disposed of where? These questions are usually asked by citizens or are issues that impact them directly and they seek answers from the waste organisations in charge of waste management.

The first step for your municipality is to understand if the separate waste collection system that you have in place works well – and, if not, to identify its weaknesses and how it could be improved. This is the starting point to define an effective waste collection strategy. The first measure could be to improve the labelling of bins and containers so the citizens are better aware of what waste fraction goes where. A visual check of the condition of the waste containers and how full they are during collection rounds can also provide useful information to improve the efficiency. This is applicable both to kerbside/door-to-door collection as well as street containers. The next step is to conduct a composition analysis of the mixed waste stream, i.e. the stream that is supposed to include all waste that is not separately collected in the other recyclables fractions. The composition analysis allows to ascertain the exact amounts of recyclables and organic waste in the total waste that are not captured by the separate collection system. If these amounts are significant, it means that the separate collection system is not working effectively. For instance, if

2. Through the articles: Within the different articles, links to the corresponding best practices have been introduced.

European Commission | English EN | Search

European Commission > Green Best Practice Community > Waste management sector > Waste collection strategy

Green Best Practice Community

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Waste collection strategy Propose new...

Waste collection is a fundamental element of a municipal solid waste management system. The main goal of a waste collection strategy is to collect in a timely and economical manner, as much correctly source separate waste as possible, in order to ease the subsequent waste sorting and/or treatment stage with the aim to maximise re-use and recycling.

Waste authorities design and implement waste collection strategies that depend on the characteristics of the collection zone (e.g. population density, types of buildings) and public acceptability of different collection methods. They also need to consider the optimal number of the separately collected waste fractions for their case, the targets set in the local waste management strategy and set by national or European legislation, environmental attitudes and perception of inhabitants as well as, when relevant, seasonal variations.

Best practices municipal solid waste collections are typically implemented via door-to-door or kerbside collection rounds from household and businesses, when appropriate within a pay-as-you-throw system, or at municipal waste collection centres. The collection rounds are typically provided for the most voluminous MSW fractions, with municipal waste collection centres that accept a wider range of waste streams, e.g. including waste of electrical and electronic equipment. For other waste fractions, complementary systems can be used e.g. bring systems that target specific waste fractions such as glass.

A typical waste collection strategy implemented by frontrunner waste authorities would include:

- frequent door-to-door separate collection of food waste (e.g.

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3. Through the Helpdesk: You can ask us where to find the best practices that are most relevant for your case.

Please use this function also if you need assistance for technical issues.

PAGE CONTENTS

[Best practices for waste management strategy](#)[Best practices for waste collection](#)[Best practices for waste prevention and reuse](#)[Best practices for waste treatment](#)

Waste management sector

[Propose new...](#)

Looking for information on how to improve municipal waste management at the local level? Browse the best practices below for inspiration and guidance. Know about a good action worth sharing? Submit your proposal and help keep the knowledge base relevant and updated.

Best practices for waste management strategy

[Integrated waste management strategies](#)[Life-cycle assessment of waste management options](#)[Use of economic instruments](#)[Link to other relevant reference documents for best practices](#)[Common indicators for municipal waste management](#)[Cost benchmarking](#)

In any page, you can click on "Propose new" and be able to propose new ideas for best practices, indicators, benchmarks of excellence or case studies.

Proposal

Your name

Your email address

Organisation

I would like to propose a new *

Associated to the following best practice

Brief summary of the proposal

Relevant link with further information (if applicable)

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PAGE

Gene [Propose new...](#)

Full content

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The establishment of a network of waste advisers is about relying on person-to-person interaction for effective awareness-raising on waste management at local level. Waste advisers are employees or volunteers trained in waste prevention and management who support residents and/or local businesses in reducing and correctly separating at source the waste generated at the very local level down to even individual buildings or households. The use of waste advisers is especially relevant to address specific issues by targeting a specific territory or audience with a poor separate collection rate or high contamination in separately collected fractions in order to deliver an adapted answer, as waste advisers can interact face to face. Frontrunner waste authorities have put in place a dense network of waste advisers where there is up to one waste adviser per 20 000 inhabitants.

Waste advisers can perform a broad range of activities targeted to residents and small businesses delivering their waste to the local waste management system, such as:

- make residents and small businesses aware of the environmental issues related to waste generation and management;
- inform residents and small businesses about the waste collection rules and how the different fractions are treated and recycled;
- provide residents and small businesses with guidance to identify possibilities to reduce or better manage (e.g. better source separation) their waste;
- work with residents and small businesses on specific waste streams that are considered more problematic (food waste, textiles, nappies, etc.);
- carry out engagement actions targeted to specific audiences (e.g. children/teenagers, pensioners, businesses, foreign-language speakers);
- gain a better understanding of what happens on the ground (drivers, reasons, shortfalls).

For each best practice, you can find the indicators, benchmarks of excellence and case studies in the side navigation menu.

Full content

Establishment of a network of waste advisers.pdf
English (712,51 KB - pdf) [Download](#)

Indicators

Common indicators for municipal waste management

Number of waste advisers per 100 000 residents

Share of population in the waste management catchment area advised by waste advisers over a given time period (e.g. % of population per month)

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ssion

Case studies

Comments

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Indicators

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Benchmarks

A network of waste advisers is in place with at least one waste adviser per 20 000 residents

Case Studies

Brussels capital region (Belgium)

North London (United Kingdom)

Nuremberg (Germany)

Styria (Austria)

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[I also do this!](#) [Propose a change](#) [Other comments](#)

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On top of the brief summary provided in the web page, for each best practice, you can download a much more extensive version as a .pdf file under the heading "Full content".

Full content

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Comments

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Organisation

For how long have you implemented this?

What results have you achieved?

What challenges did you face?

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Have you been doing this best practice? If so, please share with us your experience, describe the results achieved and the challenges you faced by clicking on the button "I also do this".

Full content

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Case studies

Comments

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Brussels capital region (Belgium)

In view of the observation that businesses do not necessarily have the time or knowledge required to opti

North London (United Kingdom)

The North London Waste Authority (NLWA) comprises seven North London districts (boroughs) covering a popu

Nuremberg (Germany)

A network of waste advisers is present across the whole of Germany.

Styria (Austria)

In Austria, municipal waste advisers are seen as one of the biggest success stories in public waste manag

Add new comment

I also do this! >

Propose a change >

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Organisation

I think this best practice should be

- None -



Because

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Do you think a best practice needs to be updated/modified or even removed? Please explain us why by clicking on "Propose a change".

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- Indicators
- Benchmarks
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- I also do this! >
- Propose a change >
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Organisation

Your comment

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Give us your comments on each best practice or ask questions to which other practitioners may answer.

Share page



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Other comments >

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Share page



Have you found a best practice particularly interesting? You can share it in social media by clicking on the relevant button.

The information submitted through the commenting function will be published on the website.

The information you will share with the "propose new..." functionality will be further assessed by the members of the Technical Working Group, and will be published if accepted (in case of case studies) and/or form the basis for updating the content of best practices, indicators, benchmarks.