

# Overview of national waste prevention programmes in Europe



**Estonia** 

October 2016

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# Waste prevention programme

This **country fact sheet** was produced in the context of reviewing national and regional waste prevention programmes across Europe. The [Waste Framework Directive](#) (Directive 2008/98/EC), Article 29, requires that Member States adopt their **waste prevention programmes** by 12 December 2013. Article 30(2) of the Directive invites the European Environment Agency (EEA) to carry out an annual review of progress in the completion and implementation of the programmes. Within the waste hierarchy, the overarching principle behind EU and national waste policies, waste prevention is considered the most desirable option.

## ESTONIA FACT SHEET

	<p><b>GDP</b> EUR 20 billion (0.1 % of EU-28 total in 2014)</p>
	<p><b>Per person GDP</b> EUR 20 900 (in purchasing power standard) (76 % of EU-28 average per person in 2014)</p> <p><b>Use of materials</b> 39 million tonnes DMC (0.6 % of EU-28 total in 2014) 29.3 tonnes DMC/person (224 % of EU-28 average in 2014) Resource productivity 0.45 EUR/kg (23 % of EU-28 average in 2014)</p> <p><b>Structure of the economy</b> Agriculture: 3.6 % Industry: 29.2 % Services: 67.2 % (2014 est.)</p>
<p><i>Source: Eurostat</i></p>	<p><b>Surface area</b> 45 200 square kilometres (1.0 % of EU-28 total)</p> <p><b>Population</b> 1.3 million (0.3 % of EU-28 total)</p>

## Waste prevention programme

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1.	Coverage	National
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2.	Type of programme	Part of waste management plan
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3.	Title of programme and link to programme	Riigi Jäätmekava 2014–2020 (National Waste Management Plan 2014-2020) <a href="http://www.envir.ee/sites/default/files/riigi_jaatmekava_2014-2020.pdf">http://www.envir.ee/sites/default/files/riigi_jaatmekava_2014-2020.pdf</a>
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4.	Duration of programme	2014–2020
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5.	Languages	Estonian
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6.	Contact person	Raul Kurrista, <a href="mailto:Raul.Kurrista@envir.ee">Raul.Kurrista@envir.ee</a> Waste Department, Ministry of the Environment of Estonia
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7.	Waste prevention objectives of the programme	<p>The waste prevention programme's strategic goal is to prevent and reduce the generation of waste, and to prevent and reduce the toxicity of waste generated. The aim is to reduce use of natural resources and the impact of waste on the environment and human health. In addition, the prevention measures are intended to result in a decoupling of economic growth from waste generation.</p> <p>The activities of the waste prevention programme are designed to achieve successful implementation of the following results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Estonian entrepreneurs have the resources and competence required for resource efficiency and waste prevention policies are widely applied;</li><li>• Estonian consumers are aware of the possibilities for prevention and are willing and able to contribute to waste prevention and reuse;</li><li>• the Estonian legal environment favours the prevention of waste, including reuse (p.13).</li></ul>
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8.	The means used to break the link between economic growth and the environmental impacts associated with the generation of waste	<p><b>Are the measures/means specifically mentioned in the waste prevention programme?</b></p> <p>Decoupling economic growth from waste generation is mentioned as one of the strategic goals of the waste prevention programme (p. 4).</p>
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9.	Sectors covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mining, raw material processing;</li><li>• construction and infrastructure;</li><li>• manufacturing;</li><li>• sale, retail, transport;</li><li>• households;</li><li>• private service activities/hospitality;</li><li>• public services.</li></ul>
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10. Prevention of waste types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food/organic;</li> <li>• construction and demolition waste;</li> <li>• hazardous waste;</li> <li>• household/municipal waste;</li> <li>• paper;</li> <li>• packaging;</li> <li>• waste electrical and electronic equipment /batteries;</li> <li>• manufacturing waste;</li> <li>• bulky waste;</li> <li>• other.</li> </ul>
11. Quantitative targets	<p>The programme aims to keep the generation of municipal waste stable from 2020 onwards and until then to keep the growth rate at less than half that of gross domestic product (GDP). Assuming that in coming years GDP will continue to grow at a rate of 3 %, the generation of municipal waste should grow by no more than 1.5 % per annum. During the same period, the growth rate of packaging waste generation should be less than two thirds that of gross domestic product (GDP) (p. 13).</p>
12. Measures on quantitative prevention	<p>Activities for quantitative waste prevention mentioned in the Estonian programme can generally be divided into three broad groups.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supporting measures that are directly related to resource efficiency but that also indirectly affect the production of waste and contribute to prevention and reduction (p. 5).</li> <li>2. Regulatory measures aimed at encouraging waste reduction by legal or economic means (p. 6).</li> <li>3. Awareness-raising activities targeting governments, businesses and consumers; public education and awareness campaigns (p. 6).</li> </ol> <p>Specific measures are described in point 14.</p>
13. Measures on qualitative prevention	<p>The strategic goals of the Estonian waste prevention programme include the reduction of hazardous substance usage and the prevention of hazardous waste (p. 14).</p>
14. Prevention measures covered as referred to in Directive 2008/98, Annex IV: Examples of waste prevention measures referred to in Article 29 (1–16)	<p>10. and 11. Support for resource-oriented auditing and investments (p. 14).</p> <p>5. and 8. Support for resource management knowledge and awareness training and information in enterprises (p. 14).</p> <p>15. Development of reuse centres and other prevention initiatives (e.g. a food bank and collections of used clothing).</p> <p>12. Consistent consumer notification and appropriate long-term campaigns (e.g. in schools, daycare centres, hospitals and nursing homes) to discourage food waste and promote reuse (p. 14).</p> <p>2. Further economic analysis: new ways of reducing the use of packaging, paper and plastic bags or expanding the use of reusable packaging should be analysed (p. 15).</p> <p>1. and 2. Analysis of regulatory actions to promote waste prevention and reuse (p. 15).</p> <p>5. and 7. It should be ensured by the regulatory environment that the environmental permit system and the best available techniques (BAT) are implemented by the Environmental Board (p. 15).</p> <p>10., 7. and 5. Resource management systems (including for waste prevention) using BAT, aimed at supporting research and development (p. 5).</p>

		<p>5. and 8. Resource management and waste prevention training and counselling in enterprises (p. 5).</p> <p>5. and 8. Projects on waste prevention and recycling (including preparation for reuse), promoting and supporting collaborative platforms (so-called industrial symbiosis, where one company uses another's waste or by-products as a resource) (p. 5).</p> <p>1. and 11. Economic instruments to encourage the development of waste prevention and reuse activities (p. 6).</p> <p>15. Amendments to GPP policies such as greater use of waste prevention criteria (p. 6).</p> <p>12. Information campaigns, organising training and ongoing consumer information (p. 6).</p> <p>8. and 12. Preparation of instructional materials, and creation and management of online information portals. Examples would include food waste prevention guides for businesses and information for consumers regarding used equipment and clothing for reuse (p. 6).</p> <p>7. Environmental permits for users of BAT (p. 6).</p>
15.	Other prevention measures not covered by Annex IV	None.
16.	Indicators proposed	<p><b>Does the programme define indicators for waste prevention?</b></p> <p>The Waste Prevention Programme suggests using the following indicators (p. 14):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduction of waste generation through specific measures (indicators measured before and after the implementation of the measure);</li> <li>• reduction of the amount of waste per unit of product;</li> <li>• quantity of waste prepared for reuse.</li> </ul>
17.	Evaluation and monitoring of the programme	<p><b>Is the programme evaluated (midterm, etc.)?</b></p> <p>The programme does not include any specific information on a monitoring system. An evaluation of the programme beyond the requirements of the Waste Framework Directive is not provided for in the programme.</p>
18.	Target groups	The Estonian waste prevention programme focuses on measures targeting businesses, consumers and legal authorities (pp. 14–15).
19.	Involvement of stakeholders	<p><b>Does the waste prevention programme describe the involvement of stakeholders in the development of the programme?</b></p> <p><b>Does the waste prevention programme describe the involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of the programme?</b></p> <p>The programme describes in detail general stakeholder involvement activities and responsibilities (pp. 20–21), but not specifically with regard to waste prevention.</p>
20.	Other comments	<p><b>Are the costs/savings of waste prevention measures stated in the programme?</b></p> <p>No specific information on costs or savings is included in the programme. The programme states that waste awareness campaigns and training will take place largely on a project basis and be financed under the European Social Fund (p. 22).</p>