

## Waste prevention country profile

# Belgium

April 2023



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European Environment Agency



## Country profile: Belgium

### WASTE GENERATION

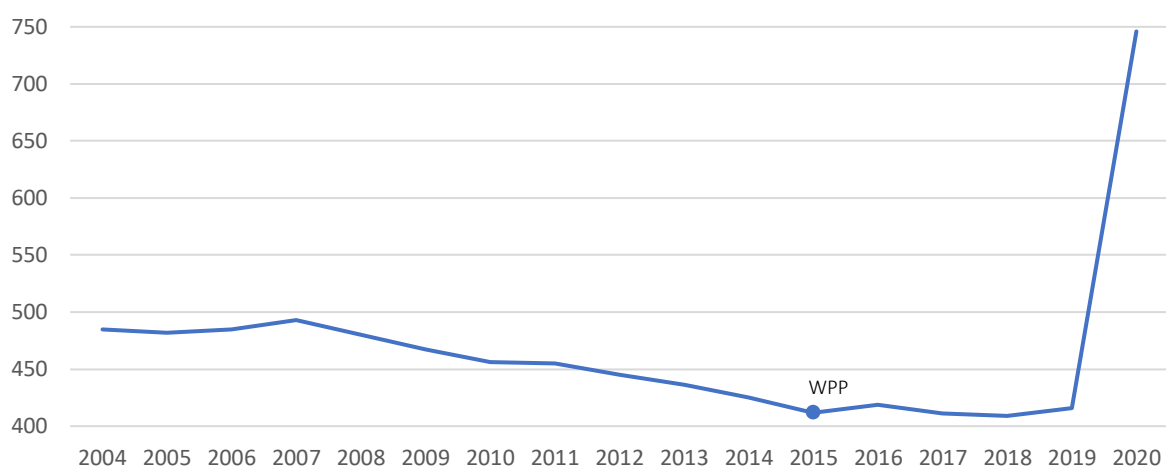
The following figures illustrate the progress towards waste prevention and decoupling of waste generation from economic growth in Belgium.

#### MSW

- Between 2004 and 2019, the generation of municipal waste per capita<sup>1</sup> (see Figure 1) decreased steadily from 485 kg to 416 kg to increase to 746 kg per capita in 2020.
- The lowest level of waste generation was reached in 2018 (409 kg per capita).
- A steep decreasing trend can be observed between 2011 and 2013, which might be influenced by the global financial crisis that developed shortly before this period.
- Overall, the Belgian MSW generation of 746 kg per capita in 2020 is above the European average of 517 kg<sup>2</sup> per capita in 2020.

*It should be noted that the increase to 746 kg per capita in 2020 is caused by the new calculation method as described in the Commission implementing decision 2019/1004, and not a real increase. Before 2020 Belgium reported waste collected by or on behalf of the municipality. The 746 kg per capita also includes similar waste from other origins than households. If the old calculation method is used, the amount for 2020 is 417 kg per capita, which is 1 kg per capita more than in 2019.*

Figure 1: Municipal waste generation in Belgium (kg per capita), 2004-2020



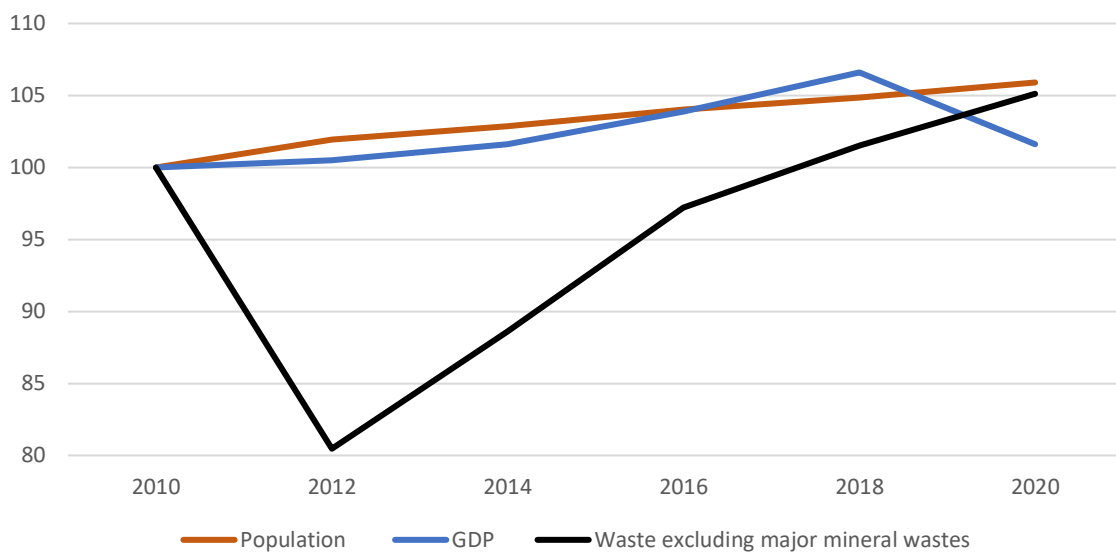
Source: Eurostat [ENV\_WASMUN]

#### Total waste

- Total waste generation in Belgium followed a decreasing trend until 2012 and an increasing trend within the following years (see Figure 2).
- Belgium's economic growth in terms of GDP increased throughout that time, particularly between 2012 and 2018.

- Although a longer time series is needed to solidify a decoupling conclusion, Belgium does not seem to be on track to decouple total waste generation from economic growth. This is the same between waste generation and population growth.

Figure 2: Growth rate of waste (excluding major mineral wastes), GDP (main GDP aggregates, chain linked), and population, 2010-2020, (2010=100).



Source: Eurostat [ENV\_WASGEN\_NAMA\_10\_PC, DEMO\_GIND]

## **STRUCTURE OF THE COUNTRY PROFILE**

The waste prevention country profile of Belgium is categorized into three subnational parts:  
1) Brussels, 2) Flanders and 3) Wallonia.

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## Country profile: Belgium - Brussels

### General information:

Name of the country/ region	Brussels
Coverage of the waste prevention programme (national/ regional)	Regional
Type of programme (stand alone or integrated into waste management plan)	Integrated into waste management plan
Title of programme and link to programme	<p>Plan de Gestion des Ressources et des Déchets (PGRD): Pour une consommation durable, sobre, locale et circulaire</p> <p>Pour une société zéro déchet (<a href="https://environnement.brussels/sites/default/files/user_files/pgrd_181122_fr.pdf">https://environnement.brussels/sites/default/files/user_files/pgrd_181122_fr.pdf</a>)</p> <p>La stratégie Good Food (the Good Food strategy)</p> <p>Website: <a href="https://www.goodfood.brussels/fr/content/la-strategie-good-food">https://www.goodfood.brussels/fr/content/la-strategie-good-food</a></p>
Duration of programme	<p>PGRD: 2018-2023</p> <p>The programme was adopted on 22 November 2018.</p> <p>The Good Food strategy: 2016-2020.</p> <p>The strategy was adopted in December 2015.</p>
Language	French/Dutch
Contact person in the country/region	<p>PGRD: Méлина Vallier Peeters (<a href="mailto:mvallier@environnement.brussels">mvallier@environnement.brussels</a>)</p> <p>The Good Food strategy: Sandrine Vokaer (<a href="mailto:svokaer@environnement.brussels">svokaer@environnement.brussels</a>)</p>
Development process of the programme/ revision	
Foreseen budget for implementation of the project	No specific budget for the implementation of the programme is included in the programme.



# WASTE PREVENTION PROGRAMME

## Objectives and priorities

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| 1. Waste prevention objectives of the Programme - quantitative objectives (waste reduction) - qualitative objectives (reduction of hazardous substances/ environmental impacts) | <p>The general objectives of the PGRD are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to promote the transformation towards more sustainable and circular consumer practices;</li><li>• to maximise resource conservation and valorisation, if possible locally;</li><li>• to lead the economic sector towards circular practices.</li></ul> <p>In addition, seven strategic objectives have been proposed (p. 35):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ensure structured framework of resource and waste policy;</li><li>• transform household consumption practices and encourage zero waste practices (consumer behaviour change);</li><li>• prepare future generations;</li><li>• transform the consumption practices of professional activities and encourage zero waste;</li><li>• encourage the transition of the construction sector towards circular resource and waste management;</li><li>• develop sustainable resource management;</li><li>• plan and supervise actions of the public and private waste sectors to meet the needs of the Brussels region.</li></ul> <p>The strategic objectives have been structured according to their target audience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• all audiences;</li><li>• households;</li><li>• schools (pupils, teachers of compulsory education as well as higher and vocational education);</li><li>• companies, public authorities, associations, retail and trade, the Horeca sector (hotels, restaurants and cafes), etc.</li><li>• construction sector;</li><li>• sustainable resource management (bulk, reuse, repair, the sharing economy, etc.).</li><li>• professionals in the traditional waste sector who practise conventional collection, sorting and recycling.</li></ul> <p>The general objectives of the Good Food strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to increase local and sustainable food production;</li><li>• to accompany the relocation and transition of a sustainable offer for all;</li><li>• to accompany the transition of demand for all;</li><li>• to develop a sustainable and desirable ‘good food’ culture;</li><li>• to reduce food waste;</li><li>• to think about and promote the food systems of tomorrow;</li><li>• to ensure governance of the implementation of the strategy.</li></ul> <p>The strategy’s priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the development of local food production (in Brussels and its periphery) in an ecological and innovative approach, to reach 30 % self-sufficiency in fruits and vegetables by 2035;</li><li>• awareness and involvement of citizens from an early age;</li><li>• reducing food waste by 30 % by 2020;</li><li>• taking into account the social and multicultural specificities of our capital in the development of actions.</li></ul> |
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- to increase local and sustainable food production;
- to accompany the relocation and transition of a sustainable offer for all;
- to accompany the transition of demand for all;
- to develop a sustainable and desirable ‘good food’ culture;
- to reduce food waste;
- to think about and promote the food systems of tomorrow;
- to ensure governance of the implementation of the strategy.

The strategy’s priorities include:

- the development of local food production (in Brussels and its periphery) in an ecological and innovative approach, to reach 30 % self-sufficiency in fruits and vegetables by 2035;
- awareness and involvement of citizens from an early age;
- reducing food waste by 30 % by 2020;
- taking into account the social and multicultural specificities of our capital in the development of actions.

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2. Sectors covered

- agriculture;
- food sector
- construction and infrastructure;
- manufacturing;
- sale,
- retail,
- transport;
- households;
- private service activities,
- hospitality;
- public services.

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3. Priority waste types

- food/organic;
- construction and demolition waste;
- hazardous waste;
- household/municipal waste;
- paper;
- packaging;
- waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)/batteries;
- manufacturing waste;
- other (e.g. textiles, plastics other than packaging, animal by-products from the processing of meat and fish) (p. 10).

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4. Target groups

Within the legislative framework Brudalex<sup>3</sup>, four target groups have been distinguished (p. 23): waste management operators, producers, retailers and non-household waste generators (companies, public bodies, non-profit organisations).

Section 19 lists all the members of the Steering Committee and the Coordination Committee.

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<sup>3</sup> Arrêté du Gouvernement de la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale du 1<sup>er</sup> décembre 2016 relatif à la gestion des déchets, [MB 13/01/2017](#).

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General society — including households and the education sector — is also a target group.

The Good Food strategy:

The target groups include households, the distribution sector, the food sector, the agriculture sector, and the public and private sectors.

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## Targets, indicators and monitoring

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| 1. Indicators proposed | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Quantity of household waste</li><li>2. Quantity of non-household waste (excluding construction and demolition waste)</li><li>3. Household waste rate of preparation for reuse and recycling</li><li>4. Quantity of household WEEE collected</li><li>5. Quantity of used household WEEE leaving the preparation chain for reuse purposes</li><li>6. Quantity of household bio-waste recycled</li><li>7. Quantity of non-household bio-waste recycled</li><li>8. Quantity of plastic packaging recycled</li><li>9. Non-household waste rate of preparation for reuse and recycling (excluding construction and demolition waste)</li><li>10. Construction and demolition waste rate of preparation for reuse and recycling</li><li>11. Percentage of households always following at least 15 of the 31 zero waste practices</li><li>12. Percentage of Brussels schools where concrete actions have taken place in regard to the resources and waste topic</li><li>13. Number of construction sites practicing selective demolition and the reuse of building materials on Brussels construction sites</li><li>14. Adaptation of the regulatory and legislative framework modernizing the EPR</li><li>15. Adoption of a roadmap for bio-waste recovery</li><li>16. Rate of adoption of the "Stop ads" sticker</li><li>17. Implement measures (legislative or other types of measures) aimed to reinforce the public authorities exemplarity</li><li>18. Number of events in Brussels that have benefited from a waste management support</li><li>19. Introduction of a bio-waste selective collection</li><li>20. Introduction of a household textile waste selective collection</li><li>21. Introduction of a hazardous household waste selective collection</li></ol> |
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2. Quantitative targets    Quantitative targets (p. 38):

- Reduce household waste per capita:
  - by 5% by 2023;
  - by 20% by 2030.
- Reduce non-household waste (excluding construction and demolition waste) per employee:
  - by 5% by 2023;
  - by 20% by 2030.
- Achieve the European targets in preparation for reuse and recycling of household waste:
  - 50 % (by weight) by 2020;
  - 55 % (by weight) by 2025;
  - 60 % (by weight) by 2030;
  - 65 % (by weight) by 2035.
- Sub-objectives for the year 2023 include:
  - at least a 50 % increase in the amount (weight) of WEEE reported and collected in Brussels (in comparison with the amount in 2017);
  - a 50 % increase in the amount (weight) of household WEEE collected to be treated as waste, or prepared for repair or reuse (in comparison with the amount in 2017);
  - double the amount of biowaste that is being recycled;
  - a 50 % increase in the rate of collecting plastic packaging, in comparison with 2016.
- Achieve the objective of preparing for reuse and recycling on non-household waste (excluding construction and demolition waste):
  - 55 % (by weight) by 2020
  - 70 % (by weight) by 2030.
- Achieve European targets for reuse and recycling of construction and demolition waste:
  - 90 % (by weight) in 2020.

As written in the plan, separate targets for the reuse of specific materials will be determined 24 months after the adoption of the plan in 2019 and in 2020 (p. 40). As a result of regional activities, the following objectives will have to be achieved by 2023 (p. 40):

The quantified objectives to be achieved in the Brussels-Capital Region at the end of the agreement (2025) consist in particular of a minimum increase of 50% in the quantities of used household electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) leaving the preparation for reuse sector, compared to the tonnage in 2017.

As of 2022, only a general objective of re-use of 5kg/hab/year has been defined as well as a specific target for mattresses: from

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1/01/2023, at least 200 mattresses shall be reused by year after preparation for reuse by the social economy operators, from 1/01/2025, 300 mattresses and from 01/01/2030, 500 mattresses.

Other specific materials targets (e.g., textile, furniture...) have yet to be defined.

- 30 % of households in Brussels are aware of the issues related to consumption and are taking actions (e.g. second-hand shopping, do it yourself, etc.).
- 30 % of schools in Brussels have become aware of the food waste and resource problems and have taken concrete actions to tackle the problem.
- The number of construction sites engaged in the demolition and reuse of construction materials have increased by 50%.
- 100 retail stores in Brussels have transitioned to bulk shops.
- 100 restaurants in Brussels have developed new alternatives regarding beverage packaging, disposable tableware and reusable food packaging.
- Sustainable events will be organised.

For the Good Food strategy, the targets are still being developed and will be aligned with the European objectives (defined in 2023 following the European monitoring of 2022)

In the meantime, general objective:

reduction of food waste by 30% by 2025 and 50% by 2030.

Professional training institutions in the catering industry have integrated practices to fight against food waste.

In 2030, 500 tons of surplus / unsold food are recovered via the supported projects (between 2016 and 2020: 91 tons).

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3. Monitoring of programme

The Strategic Steering Committee monitors the implementation of the programme. The Strategic Steering Committee has the following role:

to steer, guide and support the implementation of the Government's programme;

- ensure that the vision, objectives, priorities and guiding principles of the RWMP are respected during implementation;
  - Note the monitoring reports produced by the Coordinating Committee;
  - validate proposals for reorientation or new actions;
  - Report to the Government on the progress of the implementation of the programme.
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	<p>The Steering Committee meets at least once every six months. However, it can be called upon at any time to intervene in order to resolve a blockage or to give an opinion on cross-cutting issues (p.41)</p>
4. Evaluation of the programme	<p>Every 30 months, an evaluation report on the implementation of the Resources and Waste Management Plan (RWMP) will be produced by the Coordination Committee and presented for discussion/advice to the Steering Committee before transmission to the Government.</p> <p>The first mid-term evaluation per strategic objective, was performed in 2021, and considered the qualitative progress, the actions to come as well as the key indicators of the RWMP. The evaluation was the result of an in-depth analysis of the pilots of each of the strategic objectives, enriched by a consultation with the Strategic Steering Committee. It was concluded that the RWMP broadly respected its commitments since its publication, despite the radical change in circumstances brought about by the health crisis. The evaluation made it possible to analyze the concrete mid-term results, and to consult and collect the opinion of Brussels stakeholders, in order to draw up a series of recommendations to be implemented over the next 30 months.</p> <p>Special attention was given to the clarification of some of the many RWMP objectives since it was observed that not all of them were clearly defined or measurable. A first clarification was made during the interim evaluation, whereas in the second half of the implementation of the RWMP, the refinement of objectives for the next planning period will be addressed directly. The main challenge was found to propose and use so-called “SMART” objectives, that is to say specific, measurable, achievable and acceptable, realistic and relevant, as well as time-bound.</p> <p>The next evaluation report will be produced by the end of 2023 and for each objective, indicators and associated, relevant data will be clarified and shared directly with the various collaborating actors to ensure their relevance and adequacy with the reality on the ground.</p>

## Prevention measures

Implemented prevention measures according to Article 9

Table 1: Specific waste prevention measures structured according to Art 9 WFD

Promote and support <a href="#">sustainable consumption</a> models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support sustainable production and consumption patterns (p.11)</li> <li>• modernize the EPR operating framework (p.46)</li> </ul> <p>Strategic objective 2: Transforming household</p>
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	<p>consumption practices and encouraging them to move towards zero waste waste addresses households in particular by pointing to three specific areas for action: awareness of the impacts of consumption, changing consumption practices and improving selective sorting.</p> <p>The aim is to support changes in the consumption behaviour of citizens, including disadvantaged households, by targeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understanding the issues and the role that each person can play in meeting their needs;</li> <li>• learning how to do it yourself, self-production, repair;</li> <li>• second-hand purchases, collective purchases, sharing and exchanging goods;</li> <li>• the practice of buying in bulk, without unnecessary packaging, without disposable bags. (p.36)</li> </ul> <p>Strategic Objective 4: Transforming business consumption practices and encouraging them towards zero waste aims to improve the circular management of resources and non-household waste and to make public authorities exemplary.</p> <p>The aim is to change the demand for goods and services and the management of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• companies and other professional activities in a circular fashion:</li> <li>• significant implementation of the waste separation obligation for professional activities;</li> <li>• Stimulation of innovative voluntary practice of eco-management within professional activities, in particular on the issue of purchasing of products and services;</li> <li>• guidance and support for the Public Authorities present in Brussels to open the way to exemplarity, in particular by creating, via public markets, sufficient innovative demand that consumes little new material and is capable of accelerating the transformation of the offer on a regional scale in terms of sorting and recovery of material. (p.36)</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage the design, manufacturing and use of products that are <b>resource-efficient, durable</b> (including in terms of life span and absence of planned obsolescence), <b>reparable, reusable</b> and <b>upgradable</b>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• modernising the eco-design of products to promote sustainability, reparability and recyclability of products, in addition to energy efficiency (p.10);</li> <li>• encourage products that are resource efficient, sustainable (including in terms of life span and lack of planned obsolescence), reparable, reusable and evolutionary in design; (p.11)</li> <li>• In progress : <a href="#">Roadmap Circular Economy in Renovation</a> (buildings sustainable renovation program) : encourage the transition of the</li> </ul>

	<p>construction sector towards circular resource and waste management</p>
<p>Target products containing <b>critical raw materials</b> to prevent that those materials become waste.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priorities for the Brussels-Capital Region to reach a better circularity of organic resources</li> <li>• The educational themes will be the scarcity/preservation of resources/raw materials, waste prevention, awareness of over-consumption, waste reduction and sorting, including composting (activities for pupils, training for teachers, implementation of the project in line with education and management) (p.60).</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage the re-use of products and the setting up of systems promoting <b>repair and re-use activities</b>, including in particular for electrical and electronic equipment, textiles and furniture, as well as packaging and construction materials and products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• concrete measures to promote re-use and to stimulate industrial symbiosis, i.e. the transformation of the by-products of one sector into raw materials for another sector (p.10);</li> <li>• modernising the eco-design of products to promote sustainability, repairability and recyclability of products, in addition to energy efficiency; (p.10);</li> <li>• encourage products that are resource efficient, sustainable (including in terms of life span and lack of planned obsolescence), repairable, reusable and evolutionary in design; (p.11)</li> <li>• facilitate innovation in collection, sorting, repair, reuse, reclassification and recycling (p.46)</li> <li>• Operational objective 6.2: Develop repair, reuse and preparation for reuse activities for equipment serving household demand (p.73)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Roadmap for Reuse - Priorities for the Brussels-Capital Region up to 2025</a></li> <li>• Operational objective 6.3. Develop repair, reuse and preparation for reuse activities for equipment serving the demand of professional activities (p.74)</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage, as appropriate and without prejudice to intellectual property rights , the <b>availability of spare parts, instruction manuals, technical information</b>, or other instruments, equipment or software enabling the repair and re-use of products without compromising their quality and safety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• encourage the availability of spare parts, operating instructions (p.11)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reduce waste generation</b> in processes related to industrial production, extraction of minerals, manufacturing, construction and demolition, taking into account <b>best available techniques</b>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic objective 5: Continue the transition of the construction sector towards circular management of resources and construction waste addresses the construction sector and targets design, renovation, construction, selective demolition, reuse and material recycling operations.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The aim is to make the Brussels construction sector an example of sustainable construction and renovation from a circular perspective:</li> <li>• Develop the eco-design of buildings and materials to allow their adaptability, extend their life span and promote their dismantlability and recyclability at the end of their first life;</li> <li>• to develop the practices of selective deconstruction, reuse and recycling of materials in Brussels. (p.37)</li> <li>• experiment and then generalize the eco-design of materials and buildings to increase their lifespan;</li> <li>• Encourage the maintenance and adaptation of existing buildings, through intelligent initial design and renovation approaches that allow for sound material management. Well-designed materials, elements and components can last longer and be dismantled and reused or recycled more easily (building for deconstruction). Well-designed buildings can be used for longer periods of time because they have versatile volumes (building for change);</li> <li>• Experimenting and then generalising the reuse of materials: better reuse of materials would make it possible to reduce environmental impacts and create economic activity and local jobs. Pioneering activities exist in Brussels and could spread to the whole sector (p.66).</li> <li>• Operational objective 5.1: Develop eco-design and eco-renovation of buildings and materials to enable their adaptability, extend their life span and promote their dismantlability and recyclability.</li> <li>• Operational objective 5.2: Experiment with and develop the practice of selective deconstruction with a view to reusing materials in construction (p.67).</li> </ul>
<p>Reduce the generation of food waste in primary production, in processing and manufacturing, in retail and other distribution of food, in restaurants and food services as well as in households as a contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to reduce by 50 % per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and to reduce food losses along production and supply chains by 2030.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• move towards the generalized obligation to sort food waste; (p.46)</li> <li>• achieve an indicative EU-wide food waste reduction target of 30% by 2025 and 50% by 2030, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals; (p.11)</li> <li>• the GoodFood Strategy - "towards a sustainable food system in the Brussels-Capital Region" (p.33) intends to reduce food waste</li> </ul>



<p>Encourage <a href="#">food donation</a> and other redistribution for human consumption, prioritising human use over animal feed and the reprocessing into non-food products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the GoodFood Strategy - "towards a sustainable food system in the Brussels-Capital Region" encourages food donation (p.33)</li> </ul>
<p>Promote the <a href="#">reduction of the content of hazardous substances</a> in materials and products, without prejudice to harmonised legal requirements concerning those materials and products laid down at Union level, and ensure that any supplier of an article as defined in point 33 of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council provides the information pursuant to article 33(1) of that regulation to the European Chemicals Agency as from 5 January 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop a strategy on plastics in the circular economy, addressing issues such as recyclability, biodegradability, the presence of hazardous substances in certain plastics and marine litter, the drastic reduction of which is the subject of the UN Sustainable Development Goals; (p.10)</li> <li>• promote the reduction of hazardous substances in materials and products (p.11);</li> <li>• Operational objective 5.4: Provide adequate collection possibilities for hazardous waste and ensure a management plan for asbestos from the Brussels building stock.</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Reduce</a> the generation of <a href="#">waste</a>, in particular waste <a href="#">that is not suitable for preparing for re-use or recycling</a>.</p>	
<p><a href="#">Identify</a> products that are <a href="#">the main sources of littering</a>, notably in natural and marine environments, and <a href="#">take appropriate measures to prevent and reduce litter</a> from such products, where Member States decide to implement this obligation through market restrictions, they shall ensure that such restrictions are proportionate and non-discriminatory.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop a strategy on plastics in the circular economy, addressing issues such as recyclability, biodegradability, the presence of hazardous substances in certain plastics and marine litter, the drastic reduction of which is the subject of the UN Sustainable Development Goals; (p.10)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Aim to halt the generation of marine litter</a> as a contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop a strategy on plastics in the circular economy, addressing issues such as recyclability, biodegradability, the presence of hazardous substances in certain plastics and marine litter, the drastic reduction of which is the subject of the UN Sustainable Development Goals; (p.10)</li> </ul>
<p>Develop and support <a href="#">information campaigns to raise awareness</a> about waste prevention and littering.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational objective 2.2: To support individual and collective initiatives by citizens aimed at putting into practice changes in consumption towards greater sustainability</li> <li>• a positive and supportive communication environment (communication campaign, test households, etc.); (p.54)</li> <li>• Operational objective 3.2: To support the integration of environmental education and</li> </ul>

	<p>sustainable waste management into school lessons, activities and projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Brussels Region will continue to provide educational support to compulsory French- and Dutch-speaking schools, in consultation with the communities. This support will take the form of pedagogical support (animation, call for projects, campaigns, etc.), a training component for teachers and the provision of teaching materials. Particular attention will be paid to the vocational, technical and artistic sections of secondary schools. (p.59)</li> <li>• Neighbourhood campaigns will be organised with a large number of companies checked in the same neighbourhood. Businesses will be pre-selected on the basis of their environmental permit, the absence of a waste collection contract with the Brussels Cleanliness Agency or a private collector, or the absence of an already active inspection file. The focus is on retail sales in these neighbourhood campaigns.(p.63)</li> </ul>
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Additional implemented prevention measures, not covered by Article 9

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## FOOD WASTE PREVENTION

### Food waste generation

- If we take into account the emissions generated along the cycle (production, processing, distribution, etc.), food waste represents 24% to 37%<sup>4</sup> of the global food GHG footprint (FAO, n.d.). Halving food waste would reduce of food waste would reduce global emissions by about 5%.
- In 2018, an estimated 131,469 tons<sup>5</sup> of biofuel waste was produced in the Brussels Capital Region. By way of comparison with the figures available and put forward at the start of SGF1 in 2016 (134,000 tonnes<sup>6</sup>), the situation had not clearly changed.
- Households throw away 11% of their food. Food services are responsible for 5% of the waste and retail outlets for 5% and retail outlets 2%<sup>7</sup>. According to the latest Good Food survey<sup>8</sup>, reducing food waste is again cited as the most important behavior people consider to limit

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<sup>4</sup> Politiques alimentaires et climat : une revue de littérature - I4CE - 2019

<sup>5</sup> LoUISÉ- Potentiel des biodéchets collectables en Région de Bruxelles-Capitale – 2018 – Etude commanditée par Bruxelles Environnement

<sup>6</sup> In Stratégie Good Food « Vers un système alimentaire durable en Région de Bruxelles-Capitale » - 2016, p.78, Chiffres obtenus en additionnant les déchets organiques des ménages (analyses poubelles ABP), les collectes sélective de biométhanisation (collecté par l'ABP), et les résultats de l'étude d'évaluation des quantités de déchets alimentaires en RBC » RDC-Environnement pour l'Horeca, les cantines, les grossistes, les petits commerces, et des marchés datant de 2006.

<sup>7</sup> PNUE, Indice du gaspillage alimentaire, 2021, in <https://www.unep.org/fr/resources/rapport/rapport-2021-du-pnue-sur-lindice-du-gaspillage-alimentaire>

<sup>8</sup> Sondage Good Food, AQRATE, 2020

their environmental impact (61%). However, a major obstacle lies in the difference between the perception of waste and the actual behaviour of households.

### Measures to prevent food waste

#### **Legislative measure:**

The Brussels Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Quality of Life and the Brussels Regional Public Service's Agriculture Unit developed the "Good Food Strategy - Towards a sustainable food system in the Brussels-Capital Region" for the period 2016-2020. The Good Food Strategy made the fight against food waste one of its priority objectives. The objectives and measures were jointly developed in Brussels in a participatory process and include more than 100 measures from producer to consumer.<sup>9</sup>

#### **Initiatives:**

GoodFood.brussels is an initiative of the Brussels Ministry of Environment. The website provides information and actions on how to grow food in the city, eat better and avoid food waste. Moreover GoodFood.brussels presents ideas for seasonal cooking (Recette 4 Saisons) and lists sales points, restaurants and canteens that are Good Food certified and meet defined criteria.

## **REUSE OF PRODUCTS**

### Data

With regard to the Commission Implementing Decision ([https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L\\_.2021.010.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2021%3A010%3ATOC](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2021.010.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2021%3A010%3ATOC)), this section will be updated by the EEA accordingly.

### Measures to support reuse

In 2022, the Brussels Ministry of Environment published a Reuse Roadmap with the priorities for 2025 for the Brussels-Capital Region. The roadmap is intended to be a strategic document for the Region with, for the first time, a specific focus on the preparation for reuse and reuse sectors. It aims for a coordinated implementation of the recommendations concerning reuse as identified in the Resource and Waste Management Plan (RWMP), the Regional Circular Economy Program (RCEP) and the Regional Policy Declaration (RPD). It was also coordinated with the Regional Economic Transition Strategy (Shifting Economy) in preparation.

The purpose of the roadmap is to identify the priority measures to be developed to overcome the challenges and meet the environmental, social, economic and regulatory ambitions related to the management of waste-resources. It brings together the measures to be taken by 2025, with the participation and support of the various stakeholders. Its implementation will be adapted periodically, based on the lessons learned on the field. The document also aims to provide the basis of the next regional multi-actor reuse strategy for 2030. It contains a series of measures currently being implemented and those planned for 2025, which together form the action plan of the reuse roadmap. The roadmap was submitted for consultation and benefited from the expertise of many players thanks to the organization of a Working Group on Reuse, organized within the framework of the RWMP, in which 20 representatives of the preparation for reuse and reuse participated.

- Brussels Environment will examine the principles for positive discrimination towards circular players for access to the waste-resource deposit.

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<sup>9</sup> [https://document.environnement.brussels/opac\\_css/elecfile/BRO\\_GoodFood\\_Strategy\\_ENGL.pdf](https://document.environnement.brussels/opac_css/elecfile/BRO_GoodFood_Strategy_ENGL.pdf)

- The Region will extend the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) mechanism to new flows:
  - mattresses and furniture
  - textiles
- The Region will continue its actions for the establishment of partnerships with the social economy for access to certain sources of reusable equipment: launch of Working Group for bikes.
- The Region will analyze the necessary conditions to facilitate the donation of equipment from public administrations.
- The Region will continue to stimulate municipalities to create local re-use centers via the Zero Waste thematic section of the 'Climate' call for projects aimed at municipalities and Public Social Services Centres (CPAS).
- The Region will work to put in place a favorable legal and tax framework within the limits of its powers.
- The subsidy system for social economy enterprises active in the reuse and recycling sectors will be modernized and a new decree on this matter will be put in place.
- The Region, Brussels Training and Resources will continue to develop the profession of 'Valorizer'. The Region will analyze the possibility of including a value-added module in all technical and professional training.
- The Region will facilitate access to information on the repair and second-hand supply.
- The Region will continue to stimulate economic players for repair and second-hand services via the 'beCircular' call for projects.
- The Agency Bruxelles Propreté (Brussels Agency for Waste Collection & Cleanliness) and Brussels Environment will work together to multiply collections for reuse in the Region.
- Establishment of an online and physical material lending service.
- The Region will examine the potential for revalorizing company equipment.
- Brussels Environment will carry out research/action on the lifetime extension potential of the different models of tool lending services.

## Best practice examples

### Food waste prevention: 'Rest-o-Pack' initiative

In the Brussels-Capital Region, the 'Rest-o-Pack' initiative allows customers in restaurants to take their leftovers home. For those who are interested, the region provides restaurants with a starter pack containing 100 cardboard boxes, awareness-raising material and window sticker to signal to customers that they are participating in the initiative.<sup>10</sup>

### Reuse of products: Repair Together

Belgium was one of the first countries to adopt the Repair Café concept from the Netherlands. After the first Belgian Repair Café opened in Ixelles in 2012, Repair Together was founded in 2013 and now represents the network of Repair Cafés in Brussels and Wallonia. Repair Together is part of a broader movement that aims to transition to a circular economy, fight planned obsolescence and support the right to repair. Workshops are held at regular intervals in Repair Cafés where people can learn how to repair broken items instead of throwing them away. Repair Cafés are a place where neighbours can meet and share their knowledge and experiences. All kinds of items can be repaired in Repair Cafés, from small broken electrical appliances to trousers with holes.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>10</sup> <https://environnement.brussels/forms/inscription-rest-o-pack>

<sup>11</sup> [Our association - Repair Together](#)

## Links to circular economy

Waste prevention is an integral part of the comprehensive transformation towards a circular economy. It reduces the input of natural resources into the economy as well as the necessary efforts to collect and recycle waste.

Approaches for improving circularity are often highly interlinked with successful waste prevention. The following table shows which circular strategies are explicitly integrated into the waste prevention programme of Brussels.

Topic	Addressed in the programme	Comments
Eco-design	Yes	e.g. Extended producer responsibility
Repair, refurbishment and remanufacture	Yes	e.g. modernising the eco-design of products to promote sustainability, repairability and recyclability of products, in addition to energy efficiency; (p.10)
Recycling	Yes	e.g. develop the practices of selective deconstruction, reuse and recycling of materials in Brussels. (p.37)
Economic incentives and finance	Yes	e.g. Incentive pricing on the part of private collectors
Circular business models	Yes	e.g. Ecodynamic Company Label
Eco-innovation	Yes	e.g. Facilitating innovation in collection, sorting, repair, re-use, re-qualification and recycling
Governance, skills and knowledge	Yes	e.g. Developing effective governance

## Country profile: Belgium - FLANDERS

### General information:

Name of the country/ region	Flanders
Coverage of the waste prevention programme (national/ regional)	Regional
Type of programme (stand alone or integrated into waste management plan)	'Uitvoeringsplan huishoudelijk afval en gelijkaardig bedrijfsafval' is an integrated plan, while e.g., circular construction policy is a standalone programme.
Title of programme and link to programme	<p>The following programmes make up the waste prevention programme (WPP) of Flanders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uitvoeringsplan huishoudelijk afval en gelijkaardig bedrijfsafval (<b>Implementation plan for household waste and similar industrial waste</b>) <a href="https://ovam.vlaanderen.be/uitvoeringsplan-huishoudelijk-gelijkaardig-bedrijfsafval">https://ovam.vlaanderen.be/uitvoeringsplan-huishoudelijk-gelijkaardig-bedrijfsafval</a></li><li>- A new plan is begin finalized 'Lokaal Materialenplan' for the period 2023-2030. This new plan is in the final stage in the procedure. A concept of the plan has been published for public consultation: <a href="https://ovam.vlaanderen.be/ontwerp-lokaal-materialenplan-2023-2030">Ontwerp Lokaal Materialenplan 2023 - 2030 (vlaanderen.be)</a></li><li>- Flanders: Action Plan Circular Food Loss and Biomass (Residual) Flows 2021-2025, hereinafter referred to as “<b>Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass</b>” (Actieplan Voedselverlies en biomassa(rest)stromen circulair 2021-2025): <a href="https://emis.vito.be/sites/emis/files/articles/91/2021/VR%2020210423%20Actieplan%20voedselverlies%20en%20biomassa%202021-2025.pdf">https://emis.vito.be/sites/emis/files/articles/91/2021/VR%2020210423%20Actieplan%20voedselverlies%20en%20biomassa%202021-2025.pdf</a></li><li>- <b>Implementation Plan Plastics 2020-2025</b> (Uitvoeringsplan kunststoffen 2020-2025): <a href="https://www.vlaanderen.be/publicaties/uitvoeringsplan-kunststoffen-2020-2025">https://www.vlaanderen.be/publicaties/uitvoeringsplan-kunststoffen-2020-2025</a></li><li>- <b>Towards Circular Construction Policy Program 2022-2030</b> (Op weg naar Circulair Bouwen. Beleidsprogramma 2022-2030): <a href="https://ovam.vlaanderen.be/beleidskeuzes">https://ovam.vlaanderen.be/beleidskeuzes</a></li></ul>
Duration of programme	Implementation plan for household waste and similar industrial waste: 2016-2022. This will soon be replaced by Lokaal Materialenplan 2023-2030



	<p>Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass: 2021-2025</p> <p>Implementation Plan Plastics: 2020-2025</p> <p>Towards Circular Construction Policy Program: 2022-2030</p>
Language	<p>A summary of the Implementation plan for household waste and similar industrial waste 2016-2022 is available in English: <a href="#">Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Comparable Industrial Waste (vlaanderen.be)</a></p> <p>The Implementation Plan Plastics 2020-2025 is also available in English</p> <p>Some chapters of The Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass: 2021-2025 have been translated in English: <a href="#">Action Plan for Circular food loss and biomass (residual) flows 2021-2025 (vlaanderen.be)</a></p>
Contact person in the country/region	<p><a href="mailto:Sofie.Bouteligier@ovam.be">Sofie.Bouteligier@ovam.be</a>  <a href="mailto:Elizabeth.Cazaerck@ovam.be">Elizabeth.Cazaerck@ovam.be</a>  Public Waste Agency of Flanders (OVAM)</p>
Development process of the programme/ revision	<p>The Implementation plan for household waste and similar industrial waste (Uitvoeringsplan huishoudelijk afval en gelijkaardig bedrijfsafval) was published in September 2016 and modified in May 2019.</p>
Foreseen budget for implementation of the project	<p>For the most part, no specific budget for the implementation of the individual programs is included.</p> <p>For the Implementation Plan Plastics, budget is discussed but a specific figure covering all actions is not included. Nonetheless, it states that an annual budget of EUR 150,000 will be reserved for outsourcing studies for which OVAM is designated as the initiator, as part of the programme <i>Applied Scientific Research into the Environment</i>.</p> <p>Funding via Life Integrated Project Cmartlife: <a href="#">Closing loops for less plastic waste (vlaanderen.be)</a>.  OVAM is the coordinator of the Life Integrated Project Cmartlife. This LIFE-IP Cmartlife project implements Flemish Waste Management policy, with a specific focus on accelerating and reinforcing the Plastics Action Plan. It holds a total eligible budget of 18,040,744 €, with an EU Contribution of 10,824,447 €.</p>

## WASTE PREVENTION PROGRAMME

### Objectives and priorities

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5. Waste prevention objectives of the Programme - quantitative objectives (waste reduction) - qualitative objectives (reduction of hazardous substances/ environmental impacts)	<p>Within the Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste, the Flanders Region focuses more on waste prevention, reuse and material cycles. Therefore, the main objective is to reduce incineration and landfilling of household and industrial waste as much as possible. The prevention and reuse of waste are priority fields in the region's waste management.</p> <p>The objectives of the Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- To harmonize the various policy objectives and initiatives that have an impact on the use of and biomass (residual) flows;</li><li>- To clarify the coordinated vision and policy on food loss and biomass (residual) flows; clarify the possible and desired destinations of food loss and biomass (residual) flows, as well as the material hierarchy and the cascade principle that guide those choices;</li><li>- To provide an integrated working framework and action programs for all parties involved to jointly implement the sustainable management of food loss and biomass (residual) flows in Flanders.</li></ul>
	<p>The purpose of the Implementation Plan Plastics 2020-2025 is to reduce the amount of plastic waste and stimulate the reuse of plastics. The plan applies to all types of plastics and has five objectives, each of which is to be achieved via 37, specific actions. These range from prevention measures and stimulating reuse, to research and investment in a sustainable recycling market, to the deployment of recyclate as a fully-fledged raw material, including a focus on knowledge and data gathering and the exemplary role of governments through circular procurement policies.</p>
	<p>The objectives of the Towards Circular Construction Policy Program are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- transition the construction sector towards the circular economy</li><li>- by 2050, only build with materials with the smallest possible environmental impact, and recover materials as much as possible from the existing built patrimony.</li><li>- By 2050, for new or renovated buildings to be change-oriented in function of changing needs and to have a minimal environmental impact. To have a complete digital overview of the material stock in the built heritage.</li></ul>
6. Sectors covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Agriculture</li><li>- construction and infrastructure</li><li>- manufacturing</li><li>- sale, retail, transport</li></ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- households</li> <li>- private service activities, hospitality</li> <li>- public services</li> <li>- food value chain</li> </ul>
7. Priority 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>- plastic;</li> <li>- waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)/batteries;</li> <li>- manufacturing waste (similar to household waste);</li> <li>- other (e.g. textiles, plastics other than packaging, bulky waste).</li> </ul>
8. Target groups	Value chain actors including producers, NGOs, authorities, industry associations, municipalities, households and other stakeholders.

## Targets, indicators and monitoring

5. Indicators proposed	<p>The Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste proposes several indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Flemish cleanliness index;</li> <li>• the amount and costs of littering and illegal dumping in Flanders;</li> <li>• the fraction count of litter, the sorting analysis of illegal dumping;</li> <li>• the share of waste sorted incorrectly.</li> <li>• visits to the campaign website.</li> <li>• further decoupling of waste production and consumption levels, keeping the total amount of household waste the same. (i.e. decrease in kg/inw due to population growth), In addition to target for commercial residual waste which is further stated also targets around less household residual waste</li> </ul> <p>The Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass includes the following indicators (non-exhaustive):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AP1.1: number of implemented cooperation projects per product chain with a positive impact on pure prevention, redistribution/reprocessing, valorisation</li> <li>- AP1.2: number of participating companies and % food loss reduction per sector-specific program</li> <li>- AP1.3: Number of promising interventions per sector (min. 3 in planning period)</li> <li>- AP 1.4: Amount of distributed and/or processed food surpluses</li> <li>- AP 1.5: Number of impactful projects</li> <li>- AP 1.6: Number of local authorities that set up actions or develop/implement food strategy.</li> <li>- AP 1.7: % of the population doing home composting/cycling of food waste and garden waste</li> </ul>
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- AP 1.8: % increase in participation in selective collection and amount of selective collection
  - AP 1.9: Realization of actions through implementation of projects
  - AP 1.10: Amount of compost and digestate sold in the different market segments
  - Number of research or pilot projects on specific residual flows from open space that were started during the planning period.

Implementation Plan Plastics: no specific indicators proposed

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| 6. Quantitative targets | <p>Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce residual waste by 15% by 2022, in comparison with 2013 (p. 28). As mentioned in the plan, this objective should be achieved through the prevention of waste and through better sorting at source.</li> <li>• In 2022 the maximum industrial waste generated should not exceed 707 000 tonnes (p. 29).</li> <li>• In the household and similar industrial waste plan 2016-2022: absolute stabilization of the household waste + relative decrease of household waste compared to consumption.</li> <li>• In the new 'Lokaal Materialenplan' 2023-2030: absolute stabilization of both household waste and similar industrial waste (this means also reduction per capita and reduction/euro gdp as both Flemsih population and economy are expected to grow in coming years)</li> <li>• Reach the reuse target of 7 kg per inhabitant by 2022. By 2022, reuse centres should have realised the effective reuse target of 7 kg of waste per inhabitant with a reuse percentage (the ratio between sold and collected) of at least 50% (p. 54).</li> <li>• Significantly reduce the amount of littering (p. 106). The cleanliness index for the three worst target locations (i.e. motorway car parks, public transport car parks and waste collection points) has to increase by at least 10%, in comparison to 2014. The total amount of litter on the ground has to decrease by 20% (on a weight basis), in comparison to 2013. This means that the total amount of waste on the ground may not exceed 14 000 tonnes by 2022 (p. 106).</li> </ul> |
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The Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass includes the following sections, under each of which objectives are set:

- Food loss and food waste from producer to consumer
    - o By 2023:
      - Every food retailer (specialty and non-specialty retail), every food wholesaler and every food distribution center contributes to food donations and/or some other form of redistribution of food products for human consumption
      - Companies selectively collect food waste.
    - o By 2025:
      - The entire chain strives to prevent 30% of food losses, reprocessing them as food or to be valorised at a higher level 21 compared to 2015.
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- Residual waste from companies (hospitality, catering, retail) decreases by 20% compared to 2019
        - Optimal valorisation of food waste; where this is not already happening, and it is possible and legal permitted, the aim is to valorise it higher in the cascade (higher cascade index compared to 2015).
      - By 2030:
        - With actions to reduce food waste in primary production, the horticultural cooperatives, the food industry, in the retail and distribution of food, in restaurants, catering and households, Flanders contributes to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 12.3). This SDG 12.3 aims to halve food waste per capita worldwide by 2030, at retail and consumer levels; SDG 12.3 also aims to reduce food losses throughout our food production and supply chain.
        - Contribution to the following objective of the European Waste Framework Directive: At least 60% of the urban waste is reused or recycled.
    - Biomass (residual) streams from greenery, nature, forestry and landscape management
      - By 2025:
        - Optimum mobilization and high-quality valorisation of residual flows from greenery, nature, forestry and landscape management, with respect for the main functions of each area and on the condition that the biodiversity objectives and the maintenance of the organic matter content/carbon stock of the soil are guaranteed.
        - In the period 2020-2025, at least eight research or pilot projects on specific residual flows from the open space started up. In addition, one experimental room was started up that can produce fiber samples for testing at potential customers.
        - In 2025, at least one installation will be active in Flanders that can process specific management residues into high-quality raw materials.
        - In 2025, at least 30,000 tons of natural clippings (fresh material, weighed wet) will be treated for use in material applications (in addition to composting).
        - By 2022 at the latest, a digital platform will be active that will make the supply of Flemish biomass residual flows from greenery, nature, forestry and landscape management visible.
    - Wood (residual) flows from industry and households
      - By 2025:
        - Flemish post-consumer wood waste is no longer sold for energy applications without prior (source) sorting.
        - The chipboards produced in Flanders consist of at least 85% recycled material post-consumer

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wood waste; an increase of 15% compared to 2020.

- By 2030:
  - Contribution to European target: 50% of the recyclable fraction of household and industrial waste is additionally recycled.

#### Implementation Plan Plastics

- Contribution to the EU target to reduce consumption of light plastic carrier bags in Belgium to a maximum of 90 bags per inhabitant in 2019 to 40 in 2025.
- The Implementation Plan Plastics provides the framework and overview of actions that contribute to the sustainable management of the plastics cycle. It is also intended to contribute to the established quantitative targets in other policy plans.

#### Towards Circular Construction Policy Program

- Contribution to the new Waste Framework Directive target whereby at least 70% of all material fractions during construction and demolition works must be recycled or reused
- By 2030:
  - To reuse or recycle 95% of stony and 70% of non-stony materials from construction works and reuse at least half of this in a high-quality manner.
  - 25% of construction works (new or renovated) are designed or re(built) according to the principles of circular construction

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7. Monitoring of programme	For the Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, each action program identifies specific leader organizations and participating partners. It is stated that these organizations are responsible for coordinating the implementation, monitoring of progress and reporting.
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For the Implementation Plan Plastics 2020-2025, a new consultation platform with all leading partners was formed to monitor the actions during the planning period. The OVAM provides the secretariat (agenda and reporting) and chair the consultation platform.

The implementation plan also has a consultation platform with 3 working groups. There is also a central working group for construction that monitors both the policy plan and the work agenda. A mid-term evaluation is also foreseen in the construction policy plan.

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8. Evaluation of the programme	For the Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste, an evaluation of the previous plan 'Environmentally responsible management of household waste for 2008-2015' was carried out in 2014 (p. 6). A mid term evaluation of the implementation plan was carried out in 2020 which is published on our website. A final evaluation will be performed in
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2023. [Uitvoeringsplan huishoudelijk en gelijkaardig bedrijfsafval \(vlaanderen.be\)](https://www.vlaanderen.be)

The conclusions of the previous plan include the following:

- Objectives must be clearly formulated and communicated to initiate action in the field.
- Objectives at local level are important for making municipalities accountable.
- Actions may be broadly formulated to allow adjustments on the basis of current events or local situations during the planning period.
- Actions that are not ambitious and are vaguely formulated must be avoided.
- To follow the plan, it is necessary to work with a limited set of clearly defined indicators.
- Only indicators for which data are available should be included in the indicator data set.
- Coordination with other policy plans in terms of objectives, actions and indicators is crucial.

OVAM has started discussions with the parties involved and has carried out an investigation into which household and industrial waste streams are important to work on in the future (p. 6).

For the Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, it is stated that halfway through the program period, an interim progress and evaluation will be carried out by OVAM (Public Waste Agency of Flanders). If necessary, the actions are adjusted or new actions are introduced. At the end of the plan period, after the realization of the actions and in function of the final evaluation of this plan, a SWOT analysis will test to what extent bottlenecks have been resolved. It will also show which new actions must be taken in order to achieve the objectives towards 2030

For the Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, it is stated that halfway through the program period, an interim progress and evaluation will be carried out by OVAM (Public Waste Agency of Flanders). If necessary, the actions are adjusted or new actions are introduced. At the end of the plan period, after the realization of the actions and in function of the final evaluation of this plan, a SWOT analysis will test to what extent bottlenecks have been resolved. It will also show which new actions must be taken in order to achieve the objectives towards 2030

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## Prevention measures

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Implemented prevention measures according to Article 9

The Public Waste Agency of Flanders, OVAM, is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the implementation process of the waste prevention measures in Flanders: <https://www.ovam.be/De-OVAM-streeft-samen-met-u-naar-een-duurzaam-afval-en-materialenbeheer-en-een-propere-bodem-in-Vlaanderen>.

The strategies included in this WPP country profile contains numerous measures, a selection of which are included in Table 1 to illustrate the types of actions being taken. As such Table 1 is not exhaustive of the measures taken in the WPPs of Flaners.

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Table 1: Specific waste prevention measures structured according to Art 9 WFD

<p>Promote and support sustainable consumption models</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Together with other stakeholders, OVAM will continue its efforts to stimulate initiatives on the sharing economy (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Evaluation of the ban on lightweight carrier plastic bags and explore whether more ecological alternatives to lightweight carrier plastic bags can be found (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> <li>• Creating space for experimentation and innovation in the construction and demolition sector (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage the design, manufacturing and use of products that are resource-efficient, durable (including in terms of life span and absence of planned obsolescence), repairable, re-usable and upgradable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OVAM reviews the financing of the reuse sector and searches for alternatives to include reuse in the product chain (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Together with other stakeholders, OVAM will investigate the opportunities and obstacles of new concepts for reusable baby nappies and for closing the material chain regarding disposable nappies (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Promote reuse and distribution methods that lead to less consumption of packaging (including e-commerce) (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> <li>• support the roll-out of the 'food packaging of the future' roadmap, which includes innovative projects and R&amp;D for circular food packaging, concerning both household and industrial packaging. Links to the Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> <li>• Focus on ecodesign and development of circular indicators for products – building on and coordinating existing sub-indicators (e.g. recyclability benefit, material circularity, product environmental footprint) to ‘circularity test’ against products before they are placed on market (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> <li>• continue to weigh in on the international ecodesign policy for EEE, automotive products and packaging (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> <li>• clarify the role of new materials in a circular economy. Bio-based and/or biodegradable plastics are considered a research priority (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> <li>• The Flemish innovation policy supports new developments towards plastics with a low environmental impact through higher recycling, innovative design, improved processes, different raw materials (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> <li>• Identify barriers in current product standards and quality standards to use plastic recycle as a raw material for end products (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> </ul>
<p>Target products containing critical raw materials to prevent that those materials become waste.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring building materials from outside the chain for use as building materials including a quality assurance system to monitor the environmental and hygienic quality of the materials (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)</li> </ul>

<p>Encourage the re-use of products and the setting up of systems promoting <b>repair and re-use activities</b>, including in particular for electrical and electronic equipment, textiles and furniture, as well as packaging and construction materials and products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To strengthen existing sale channels, it is necessary to work alongside other reuse and recovery initiatives (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• During the planning period, more emphasis will be placed on reuse initiatives to gain a higher acceptance of reuse (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- communication with companies and organisations to raise awareness of the benefits of reuse and services provided by reuse initiatives;</li> <li>- activities to collect reusable goods.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Developing a framework for reuse of building materials (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)</li> <li>• Improved use of soil materials as a construction material given the significant amount of excavated soil during excavation work (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage, as appropriate and without prejudice to intellectual property rights, the <b>availability of spare parts, instruction manuals, technical information</b>, or other instruments, equipment or software enabling the repair and re-use of products without compromising their quality and safety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The feasibility of establishing a permanent digital data exchange via a common platform will be investigated during the planning period. That way, it is possible to coordinate policy with collection results at a faster rate (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Introduce new and innovative solutions for collecting waste in growing neighbourhoods (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Provide tools and support to organisers to make events more sustainable (e.g. through websites — <a href="http://www.groenevent.be">www.groenevent.be</a>) (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Providing a digital link between demand and supply for circular construction solutions (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)</li> <li>• Clarifying concepts and drawing guidelines for a circular construction market (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reduce waste generation</b> in processes related to industrial production, extraction of minerals, manufacturing, construction and demolition, taking into account <b>best available techniques</b>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regarding food loss reduction (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish a consultation platform at a local level, where various stakeholders can get to know each other and work together.</li> <li>- Organise round-table discussions at Flemish and local levels to find good practice examples.</li> <li>- Create a practical guide for local authorities about good practices and existing measures. The above-mentioned activities for action number 30 are carried out in line with the Ketenroadmap Voedselverlies 2015-2020.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• During the planning period, specific attention will be paid to municipalities and neighbourhoods where the amounts of separately collected vegetable, fruit and garden waste (GFT) are below expectations. Local authorities will look into the causes and will set up additional initiatives for separate collection of this type of waste (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Specific attention is paid to the following issues (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste):</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Raising consumer awareness of the importance of collecting organic waste separately, especially in those locations where the results are lower than expected;</li> <li>- An evaluation of waste collection efficiency (e.g. costs);</li> <li>- The amount of green waste and domestic residual waste collected;</li> <li>• An evaluation of the difference in pricing of separate waste collection and residual waste collection (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste)</li> <li>• To further improve the collection of industrial residual waste, OVAM investigates the feasibility of establishing a quality assurance system for waste collectors (collecting similar industrial waste) (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Approach the greenery, nature, forestry and landscape management chain at regional level, focusing on collecting specific material or product streams with higher added value and other actions (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP2.1)</li> <li>• Promoting the visibility of the supply of biomass waste streams and valorization of high-quality wood and other biomass products (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP2.3)</li> <li>• Manage sorted construction and demolition material - working on a substantiated solution by developing a specific framework at sites where source separation is difficult for the separate collection of fractions of construction and demolition material at the source, which takes into account the required quality assurance of the post-sorting (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program).</li> <li>• Develop an agreement framework for value chain cooperation and defining roles and responsibilities in extended responsibility (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)</li> <li>• Analyze the costs and benefits throughout the entire value chain for construction and demolition to assess profitability models in the circular construction economy (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)</li> </ul>
<p>Reduce the generation of food waste in primary production, in processing and manufacturing, in retail and other distribution of food, in restaurants and food services as well as in households as a contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to reduce by 50 % per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and to reduce food losses along production and supply chains by 2030.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stimulating cooperation within various food product chains, including fruits and vegetables, bread, dairy, potatoes, meat, fisheries (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.1)</li> <li>• Establish industry specific programs to reduce food loss in horticulture (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.2)</li> <li>• Minimizing and reducing food loss in retail, industrial kitchens and restaurants (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.3)</li> <li>• Setting up interventions from the food industry, retail, hospitality, catering and local authorities to the consumer (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass)</li> <li>• Creating a food waste incubator to provide guidance and support for innovative start-ups on food waste (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.4)</li> <li>• Working with local authorities to set up actions; facilitate exchanges to establish, follow up and evaluate actions; integrate social and circular businesses in local authorities to promote food loss strategies (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.6)</li> <li>• Stimulating home cycles regarding reducing food loss and</li> </ul>

	<p>garden waste, composting, reducing organic or biological waste in residual waste bins and climate adaptation in cities (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on correct collection and sorting rules, and adjust the collection frequency (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.8)</li> <li>• Increasing the circularity and sustainability of the recycling market (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.9)</li> <li>• Investigate the feasibility to recycle and compost in horticulture (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.9)</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage <a href="#">food donation</a> and other redistribution for human consumption, prioritising human use over animal feed and the reprocessing into non-food products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening networks of regional distribution platforms (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.4)</li> <li>• Promoting the processing of food surpluses by setting up food hubs (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.4)</li> <li>• Using digital platforms to coordinate donations and redistribution (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.4)</li> <li>• Examining the policy framework for giving food (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass, AP1.6)</li> </ul>
<p>Promote the <a href="#">reduction of the content of hazardous substances</a> in materials and products, without prejudice to harmonised legal requirements concerning those materials and products laid down at Union level, and ensure that any supplier of an article as defined in point 33 of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council provides the information pursuant to article 33(1) of that regulation to the European Chemicals Agency as from 5 January 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update the list of small hazardous waste (in Dutch: klein gevaarlijk afval) (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>- Support phasing out and/or banning microplastics that are intentionally used in various products (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> <li>- Remove ambiguities and obstacles in REACH, resource declarations and product legislation regarding the use of recycled plastics, mainly for plastics from WEEE and the automotive and construction sectors (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Reduce</a> the generation of <a href="#">waste</a>, in particular waste <a href="#">that is not suitable for preparing for re-use or recycling</a>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of mandatory selective collection of hard plastics at recycling centres to prevent the incineration of hard plastics and to stimulate recycling (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Research on companies that dispose of large quantities of paper and cardboard waste as residual waste (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>• Ensure that the separate sorting of worn clothing, shoes, towels, sheets, etc., is carried out in a clear, correct and transparent way (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> </ul>

<p>Identify products that are the main sources of littering, notably in natural and marine environments, and take appropriate measures to prevent and reduce litter from such products, where Member States decide to implement this obligation through market restrictions, they shall ensure that such restrictions are proportionate and non-discriminatory.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare a joint programme for coastal municipalities regarding waste management and littering. The main focus will be on the following actions: innovative waste collection systems, disposal of similar industrial waste, and tackling littering (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).</li> <li>- The following measures are related to illegal littering (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The first evaluation of the litter policy will be carried out in 2018 on the basis of the implementation of the intermediate objective for 2018. If a positive trend in the reduction of litter is not established, further measures will be taken.</li> <li>o A study on the quantity, cost, composition, location and perpetrator of illegal dumping in Flanders will be carried out. A policy will be developed on the basis of this study.</li> <li>o Develop the plan ‘Operational Plan for Public Cleanliness’ (‘Operationeel Plan Openbare Netheid’).</li> </ul> </li> <li>- encourage companies to commit to Operation Clean Sweep to reduce the loss of pellets to the environment (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> <li>- examine more mandatory government measures that could help reduce pellet loss (e.g. in environmental permits) (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> <li>- implementation of the Single-Use Plastics Directive (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> <li>- implement the ban on fruit stickers through VLAREMA to monitor the quality of (home) compost (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> <li>- support the phase-out of and/or ban on microplastics used intentionally in various products (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> </ul>
<p>Aim to halt the generation of marine litter as a contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- set up an international collaboration in one of the five countries responsible for more than half of the influx of plastic waste into the oceans (links to the Flemish Integrated Marine Litter Action Plan) (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> <li>- Monitor the presence of plastic litter on the beach in the context of the OSPAR Guidelines (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> <li>- set up an international collaboration in one of the five countries responsible for more than half of the influx of plastic waste into the oceans (links to the Flemish Integrated Marine Litter Action Plan) (Implementation Plan Plastics). This has been modified into: active participation in the International Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution</li> <li>- Monitor the presence of plastic litter on the beach in the context of the OSPAR Guidelines (Implementation Plan Plastics).</li> <li>- conduct research into the distribution, effects and risks of microplastics in surface waters in Flanders (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> <li>- make sure that all ports and waterway managers in Flanders have adequate operational resources at their disposal to clean up drift debris in an effective and cost-efficient manner (Implementation Plan Plastics)</li> </ul>



Develop and support information campaigns to raise awareness about waste prevention and littering.

- Promote awareness-raising campaigns on sorting obligations for companies through various communication platforms (TV, advertisements, brochures) (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste).
- Update the study on the sustainable use and management of cups and catering materials at events (in Dutch: Duurzaam gebruik en beheer van bekers en cateringmateriaal op evenementen). Promote awareness-raising activities and campaigns for citizens about environmentally responsible consumption and waste prevention (p. 64) (Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste)
- Raising consumer awareness on food waste (Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass)
- Developing information exchange (e.g. passports) for developing and disclosing material data at construction level (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)
- Trainings and education on circular construction (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)
- Developing legal framework for data collection and exchange, ownership and use (Towards Circular Construction Policy Program)
- Encourage companies to commit to Operation Clean Sweep in order to prevent pellet loss into the environment (Implementation Plan Plastics)
- There is a marine litter action plan (which will be evaluated this year). And the actions of Mooimakers ([Home | Mooimakers.be](https://www.mooimakers.be)) focus on litter.

Additional implemented prevention measures, not covered by Article 9

Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste:

- Establish a ‘learning network’ that will help local authorities to learn and adopt good practice examples from municipalities.
- Benchmark local authorities. OVAM will investigate whether a benchmark instrument for various clusters can support local authorities to learn from each other.
- Provide guidance for local authorities that are scoring poorly on how to achieve waste targets.
- Adapt Vlarem (Flemish regulations concerning environmental permits) regulations for recycling centres to enable the establishment of small recycling centres. The reason for creating small recycling centres is that 95.8% of Flemish residents live approximately 5 km from an existing recycling centre (p. 36). For the following waste streams, separate waste collection should be provided: household waste, paper and cardboard, glass, kitchen waste, bulky waste, textiles, WEEE, metal and wood.
- Adapt Vlarem regulations to enable the collection of organic waste/household waste in small recycling centres.
- During the planning period, OVAM will investigate whether a subsidy scheme can be adjusted to support the implementation of additional separate collections of waste (e.g. organic and garden waste) by local authorities.

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- Adapt the Vlarem regulations to regulate the voluntary take-back system by distribution sectors.
  - Encourage public industrial site managers to submit applications for pilot projects through the OVAM grant scheme for innovative projects. In addition, encourage private companies and industrial associations to submit project applications on sustainable material management. This can be done through a subsidy call by the Agency for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (VLAIO) on sustainable business area management.
  - Optimise monitoring of the recycling sector.
  - OVAM is examining the feasibility of extending the sorting rules for GFT waste (including kitchen waste containing animal byproducts). The aim is to increase the amount of waste being collected separately and explain the importance of sorting to consumers. There are compostable fractions that are currently not allowed in the GFT fraction because of procedural and legal aspects, namely, meat and fish leftovers, sauces, eggshells and manure from carnivorous pets.
  - Examine the feasibility, through pilot projects, of collecting OBA separately from enterprises that are smaller than SMEs. The aim of this is to understand the costs.
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## **FOOD WASTE PREVENTION**

### Food waste generation

The total amount of food waste produced across all sectors in Flanders amounts to almost 1,3 million tons, with 71% separately collected and 29% in the residual waste. Expressed per capita, the highest production of food waste comes from the food industry (122 kg/capita) because Flanders has an important food production industry, 55% of the food produced in Flanders is for export. Households cover 61 kg/capita, this is under the EU-average of 70 kg/capita in 2020.

### Measures to prevent food waste

Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste regarding food loss reduction:

- Establish a consultation platform at a local level, where various stakeholders can get to know each other and work together.
- Organise round-table discussions at Flemish and local levels to find good practice examples.
- Action 31 on p. 70: During the planning period, specific attention will be paid to those municipalities and neighbourhoods where the collection volumes of vegetable, fruit and garden waste (GFT) that is collected separately are below expectations. Local authorities will look into the causes and will set up additional initiatives for separate collection of this type of waste. This action has been conducted.

Specific attention is paid to the following issues:

- raising consumer awareness of the importance of collecting organic waste separately, especially in those locations where the results are lower than expected;
- an evaluation of waste collection efficiency (e.g. costs);
- the amount of green waste and domestic residual waste collected;
- an evaluation of the difference in pricing of separate waste collection and residual waste collection.



Municipalities in green regions should adopt additional initiatives to collect more organic waste separately.

Food waste — which is part of industrial waste — in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) should be collected separately. From 2021, the separate collection of food waste is compulsory for MEs. Annex 6 on p. 131 lists the SMEs to which compulsory separation of food waste applies. From 2024 the separate collection of food waste is compulsory for all enterprises.

Additional measures for prevention of food waste are described in detail in the Action Plan Food Loss and Biomass. A first evaluation of the progress of this plan will be published on April 18 2023. See above for a selection of measures and the action plan document for a full list of actions.

## **REUSE OF PRODUCTS**

### Data

The Flemish Government has approved an implementation plan to focus on waste prevention and reuse in 2016. The targets are to be achieved by 2022. A reuse quota of 7kg/inh is to be implemented by 2022 to surpass the a target of 5kg/inh that was already realised.

*With regard to the Commission Implementing Decision (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L.2021.010.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2021%3A010%3ATOC>), this section will be updated by the EEA accordingly.*

In the Implementation Plan for Household Waste and Similar Industrial Waste:

Analyse differences in reuse.

Factors to be analysed:

- (1) cooperation between local authorities and recycling centres;
- (2) population density; and
- (3) distance to the recycling centres, etc.

Develop action plans to achieve more efficient reuse (better communication, awareness-raising activities, more reuse centres, cooperation with other organisations and shops, organisation of Repair Cafes, etc.).

OVAM is reviewing the financing of the reuse sector and is looking for alternatives to include reuse in the product chain.

During the planning period, more emphasis will be placed on reuse initiatives to gain a higher acceptance of reuse:

- communication with companies and organisations to raise awareness of the benefits of reuse and services provided by reuse initiatives;
- activities to collect reusable goods.

To strengthen existing sale channels, it is necessary that they work alongside other reuse and recovery initiatives.

OVAM, together with other stakeholders, will investigate the opportunities and obstacles of new concepts for reusable baby nappies and for closing the material chain regarding disposable nappies.

### **Best practice examples**

## Holistic waste prevention concepts

A holistic approach to waste management has been adopted in Flanders. It sets incentives for businesses, recommendations for local authorities, agreements with specific target groups, and legal obligations in order to make consumers and businesses aware of waste prevention issues and oblige them to act.<sup>12</sup> Flanders has taken several steps to prevent the production of waste. For instance by giving support to businesses by providing subsidies to re-use. This includes shops which encourage reselling furniture, electronics, toys, clothes, etc. Home composting is supported and to date 25% of people have their own composting unit at home. Privately owned composting units are more common in rural areas but in urban environments people are encouraged to share neighbourhood composting units.

Producer responsibility and the “polluter pays” principles are established. Producers are financially responsible for the collection and treatment of their products once they have become waste so collection via retailers makes it possible to reuse materials such as electronic waste, batteries and accumulators, ink-cartridges, pharmaceuticals and car tires. The “polluter pays”-principle is implemented so that household waste charge is based on volume or weight, and the tariffs are differentiated. In this way, the discard of mixed household waste is more expensive than selectively collected waste. All of these factors require communication campaigns which inform citizens and raise consumer awareness. The active local authorities which launch waste prevention initiatives are given financial support. The aim is to limit residual household waste to 150 kg per inhabitant per year.

## **Links to circular economy**

Waste prevention is an integral part of the comprehensive transformation towards a circular economy. It reduces the input of natural resources into the economy as well as the necessary efforts to collect and recycle waste.

Approaches for improving circularity are often highly interlinked with successful waste prevention. The following table shows which circular strategies are explicitly integrated into the waste prevention programme of Brussels.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Addressed in the programme</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Eco-design	Yes	E.g. ecodesign for plastics
Repair, refurbishment and remanufacture	Yes	Various initiatives to support reuse and repair
Recycling	Yes	E.g. with regard to the collection of organic waste/household waste in small recycling centres
Economic incentives and finance	Yes	E.g. subsidy schemes for the implementation of additional separate collections of waste
Circular business models	Yes	E.g. initiatives on the sharing economy

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<sup>12</sup> See Inno4SD, <https://www.inno4sd.net/prevention-and-management-of-household-waste-in-flanders-belgium-504>

Eco-innovation	Yes	E.g. OVAM grant schemes for innovative projects
Governance, skills and knowledge	Yes	E.g. 'learning networks' for local authorities

## Country profile: Belgium - Wallonia

### General information:

Name of the country/ region	Wallonia
Coverage of the waste prevention programme (national/ regional)	regional
Type of programme (stand alone or integrated into waste management plan)	<p>Part of the Walloon waste plan</p> <p>The overall strategy of the current (third) Walloon waste plan has been made around the concept of ‘waste resource’.</p> <p>The topic of waste prevention and reuse is covered in Chapter 2 (pp. 51- 120).</p>
Title of programme and link to programme	<p>Plan Wallon des Déchets-Ressources</p> <p>(<a href="http://environnement.wallonie.be/rapports/owd/pwd/PWDR_3.pdf">environnement.wallonie.be/rapports/owd/pwd/PWDR_3.pdf</a>)</p>
Duration of programme	<p>Start date: 2018</p> <p>The plan does not have an exact duration. It states that the current plan will be evaluated and revised (if necessary) at least every 6 years (p. 17).</p>
Language	French
Contact person in the country/region	<p>Anne DUMONT, Service public de Wallonie Tel: +32 (0)81 33 65 65</p> <p>(<a href="mailto:anne.dumont@spw.wallonie.be">anne.dumont@spw.wallonie.be</a>)</p>
Development process of the programme/ revision	<p>The waste prevention programme describes the involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of the programme. For each measure, the potential stakeholders and target audience have been mentioned.</p>
Foreseen budget for implementation of the project	<p>A summary of the socio-economic analysis of the waste prevention programme can be found in Chapter 6 (Table 112 and Table 113 on pp. 393-394). The estimated additional annual costs related to the implementation of household waste prevention measures are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• organic and green waste: EUR 453 600 p.a.;</li> <li>• paper and cardboard waste: EUR 67 000 p.a.;</li> <li>• special household waste (excluding batteries and medicine): EUR 23 800 p.a.</li> </ul> <p>It is estimated that annual costs are identical in the short, medium and long term. Waste prevention saves money on the costs of collecting and processing household waste. The estimated costs avoided have also been evaluated and are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• organic and green waste: EUR 1.84 million p.a.;</li> <li>• packaging: EUR 0.49 million p.a.;</li> </ul>

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- paper: EUR 0.21 million p.a.;
  - special household waste: EUR 0.2 million p.a.;
  - bulky waste: EUR 0.21 million p.a.
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## WASTE PREVENTION PROGRAMME

### Objectives and priorities

<p>! Waste prevention objectives of the Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- quantitative objectives (waste reduction)</li> <li>- qualitative objectives (reduction of hazardous substances/ environmental impacts)</li> </ul>	<p>The 289 actions envisaged in the waste prevention programme contributes to the efficiency of use of natural resources while the generation of waste, pollution and risks to human health are reduced.</p> <p>The general objectives of the waste prevention programme include the following (p. 55):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• optimise the use of natural resources and raw materials and preserve them to reduce the overall impact on the environment;</li> <li>• decouple waste generation from economic growth;</li> <li>• prevent the generation of waste by promoting; qualitative and quantitative waste prevention actions;</li> <li>• promote the reuse of products and waste;</li> <li>• develop innovative sectors, particularly in the reuse and recycling of construction waste, electronic waste, rare earth metals and plastics;</li> <li>• continue participation of the social economy in waste management.</li> </ul> <p>The seven strategic orientations of the waste prevention programme are (pp. 55- 59):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OS01: Find a better coherence between the levels of government.</li> <li>• OS02: Ensure regional coordination of prevention policy.</li> <li>• OS03: Strengthen partnership between stakeholders.</li> <li>• OS04: Promote production and distribution patterns to prevent waste.</li> <li>• OS05: Promote eco-consumption.</li> <li>• OS06: Reinforce the exemplary role played by public authorities and schools.</li> <li>• OS07: Establish a list of priority actions per waste stream.</li> </ul>
<p>! Sectors covered</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary and secondary production;</li> <li>• construction and infrastructure;</li> <li>• manufacturing;</li> <li>• sale, retail, transport;</li> <li>• hotels and catering (the Horeca sector);</li> <li>• households;</li> <li>• private and public service activities (administration hospitality, nursing homes, schools).</li> </ul>
<p>! Priority waste types</p>	<p>The following priority waste flows have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• organic waste and green waste;</li> <li>• paper/cardboard;</li> <li>• packaging waste;</li> <li>• bulky waste;</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE);</li> <li>• hazardous household waste;</li> <li>• construction and demolition waste;</li> <li>• used tyres;</li> <li>• waste oils.</li> </ul> <p>The Walloon waste plan states that the generation of industrial waste has been decoupled from gross value added (GVA) since 1995. The reasons for this, as stated in the plan, could include modernisation of industrial tools, innovation support, prohibition of landfilling of a certain type of waste and consideration of environmental and economic aspects (p. 72).</p>
Target groups	<p>For each measure, a specific target group has been identified. Many target groups have been mentioned in the Walloon waste plan, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Walloon government;</li> <li>• public administrations;</li> <li>• municipalities and inter-municipal organisations for waste management;</li> <li>• the agricultural and horticultural sector;</li> <li>• industry (small, medium and large enterprises in various sectors);</li> <li>• sale and retail;</li> <li>• hotels and catering (the Horeca sector);</li> <li>• consumers (households);</li> <li>• non-profit organisations (social welfare, charity, environment);</li> <li>• the education sector (universities, schools, kindergarten);</li> <li>• the research and development sector;</li> <li>• hospitals.</li> </ul>

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## Targets, indicators and monitoring

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Indicators proposed	<p>Indicators for 10 transversal measures (pp. 65-76).</p> <p>Measure 3 (p. 65):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monitoring of initiatives and achievements, as well as their effectiveness and efficiency;</li> <li>• the proportion of research projects devoted to waste prevention and resource efficiency (in relation to the total number of projects);</li> <li>• the percentage of products and services being commercialised;</li> <li>• the number of public contracts taking into account reused products;</li> <li>• an analysis report on waste reuse by social economy enterprises.</li> </ul> <p>Measure 4 (p. 66):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a survey of health risks and the level of exposure of the population or certain target groups to these risks;</li> <li>• the number of waste categories identified as priorities (integrating the impacts on human health).</li> </ul> <p>Measure 5 (p. 68):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the number of public contracts incorporating environmental issues related to waste prevention;</li> <li>• the number of eco-teams active in the field of waste prevention;</li> </ul>
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- reuse day (organised annually);
  - the proportion of goods reused (by category of goods).

Measure 6 (p. 69):

- the number of schools aware;
- the degree of awareness and behaviour change.

Measure 7 (p. 70):

- the change in household behaviour concerning a functional circular economy;
- the number and type of communication and awareness-raising campaigns on dematerialisation and a functional circular economy;
- the percentage of goods leased (relative to the number of goods sold annually).

Measure 8 (p. 71):

- market shares of environmentally friendly products, by product category;
- the quantity of packaging waste from products sold in supermarkets;
- the quantity of unsold products in the market, by product category.

Measure 9 (p. 74):

- the percentage of companies using a tool to estimate the full costs (direct and indirect) of waste;
- the percentage of companies that submit their individual waste prevention plans and annual reports online;
- the percentage of individual waste prevention plans assessed positively on the basis on an analysis grid;
- the amount of time spent by environmental advisers from the UWE (Union wallonne des entreprises), the UCM (Union des classes moyennes) and the CCW (Confé dé ration Wallonne de la Construction) and the RISE environmental awareness network (Ré seau intersyndical de sensibilisation à l'environnement) on waste prevention actions;
- the number of publications and presentations available on the internet that help to disseminate good practices in waste prevention;
- the percentage of projects dedicated to industrial waste prevention implemented under the NEXT programme (which is responsible for ensuring the deployment of the circular economy in Wallonia) and eco-zoning programmes.

Measure 10 (p. 76):

- communication actions carried out.

Organic and biowaste (pp. 79-84):

- the number of food waste prevention actions carried out (p. 79);
  - the amount of food losses and food waste (tonnes);
  - the global food loss index;
  - the number of pilot projects implemented to reduce food losses in the food industry (p. 80);
  - the percentage of food businesses that are committed to reducing food losses (p. 80);
  - the number and cost of research and development projects, subsidised by Wallonia, that are created to reduce food losses in the food industry (p. 81);
  - the amount of surplus food donated;
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- the number of collaborative agreements between producers/distributors and the food donation sector to facilitate the donation of surplus food;
  - the percentage of environmental permits for retail chains to donate unsold food;
  - the percentage of households affected by the awareness-raising campaigns;
  - a reduction in food waste and food losses in households (p. 83);
  - the percentage of households that compost their organic waste at home (p. 84);
  - the number of composting experiments in the neighbourhood;
  - the number of subsidies granted to promote quality composting at home and in the neighbourhood.

Paper (pp. 86-89):

- the amount of advertising materials distributed to households (p. 86);
- the percentage of households that are registered on the Robinson list (a list of people who do not want to receive marketing materials);
- the amount of office paper waste (p. 87).

Packaging (pp. 89-91):

- the share of eco-designed packaging;
- household behaviour towards eco-designed packaging;
- the reuse rate of non-food packaging;
- the number of pre-packaged products;
- the share of reusable packaging in relation to the total quantity of packaging on the market in Wallonia;
- the number of actions devoted to the reuse of packaging and the fight against overpackaging;
- the number of beverage packages placed on the market per capita and by type of packaging;
- the number of public drinking water fountains.

WEEE (pp. 93-94):

- the existence of the regional financial mechanisms dedicated to the prevention of EEE;
- the evolution of household behaviour towards repair and rent of EEE;
- the amount of EEE repaired per inhabitant and by type of waste;
- the amount of WEEE generated per inhabitant and by type of WEEE;
- the change in producer behaviour towards the repair of EEE.

Hazardous waste (pp. 96-98):

- the evolution of the quantity of rechargeable and non-rechargeable batteries placed on the market;
- the quantity of purchased products that generate household special waste (HSW) per capita and by product category;
- the quantity of HSW collected by waste collection method and type of waste management;
- the number of subsidies allocated to municipalities for the prevention of household special waste generation (p. 98).

Construction and demolition waste (pp. 102-104):

- the percentage of buildings certified as 'sustainable buildings' that integrate the prevention of construction and demolition waste.

Used tyres (p. 105):

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- the number of awareness-raising campaigns on the use of tyres;
  - the average lifetime of tyres by type of tyre;
  - the reuse rate of tyres by type of treatment and use.

Waste oils (p.108):

- the number of information campaigns to promote the use of biodegradable oils.

Reuse (pp. 110-119):

- the achievement rate of missions assigned to resources (Federation of social economy enterprises active in the reduction of waste) (p. 111);
- an annual update of the indicators of the reuse sector's dashboard of activities (p. 111);
- the percentage of joint social economy enterprise partnerships that lead to actions, by type of partnerships (p. 113);
- the quantity of goods collected by social economy enterprises, by category of goods (p. 113);
- the reuse rate of goods collected by social economy enterprises, by product category and by resource (p. 113);
- the percentage of second-hand goods sold by social economy enterprises (p. 113);
- the number of purchases of second-hand goods (p. 115);
- the evolution of human knowledge and perception of second-hand products (p. 115);
- the visitor satisfaction rate of second-hand retail shops (p. 115);
- the number of communication campaigns carried out;
- the effectiveness of the campaigns (p. 115);
- the quantity of recoverable objects collected from companies, by type of objects and type of company (p. 116);
- the percentage of waste streams for which a quantitative reuse target has been set in regulatory terms;
- the percentage of additional quantities of waste reused through new waste recycling channels, by type of waste stream and by type of social economy enterprise (p. 117);
- the number of actions resulting from collaborations with new collaborative technologies;
- an analysis report on the feasibility of creating collaborations;
- the number of new networks implemented (p. 117);
- the percentage of WEEE collected and sold by social economy enterprises (p. 118);
- the implementation rate of the actions of the 'Recupel' (waste management centre) reuse plan and the agreement between 'Recupel' and resources;
- the number of good practice guides distributed or downloaded for the reuse and recycling of building materials (p. 119);
- the percentage of the social economy enterprises active in the field of construction waste reuse (p. 119);
- the percentage of construction waste collected and reused;
- the number of actions carried out on the reuse of construction waste, taking into account existing results and recommendations in other regions.

This list of indicators is not complete or definitive, as the administration is working on (1) prioritising the actions to be implemented and (2) selecting and improving the indicators corresponding to the priority actions identified.

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Quantitative targets	<p>Some quantitative targets have been proposed for the priority waste flows:</p> <p>Food waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reduction of food waste in households by 33% until 2025, compared to 2013 (p. 79);</li> <li>define and measure the amount of food waste, and establish monitoring indicators (p. 79);</li> </ul> <p>Paper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reduce household paper consumption by 4.4 kg per capita until 2025, in comparison to 2013 (p. 86);</li> </ul> <p>Packaging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reduce the quantity of household packaging by 7.3 kg per capita until 2025, in comparison to 2013 (p. 89)</li> </ul> <p>WEEE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>repair 20% of electronic and electric equipment (EEE) (p. 93);</li> <li>divert 10% of the purchase of EEE into rental of these products (p. 93);</li> </ul> <p>Hazardous waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>increase the use of rechargeable batteries by 38% until 2025 (p. 96);</li> <li>promote alternatives for batteries (p. 96);</li> <li>reduce the consumption of phytosanitary products in households by 20% (0.02 kg per capita) until 2025 (p. 97);</li> <li>reduce purchases potentially substitutable hazardous products by 6% (0.12 kg per capita) until 2025 (p. 97);</li> </ul>
Monitoring of programme	The programme doesn't include specific information on a monitoring scheme for the waste prevention programme.
Evaluation of the programme	<p>The content of the current Plan Wallon des Déchets-Ressources (PWD-R) 2018 has been developed thanks to an assessment of the results of the actions implemented under the previous PWD-H 2010. The evaluation reports of the previous plan and the studies that helped to prepare the current plan are available online: <a href="http://environnement.wallonie.be/rapports/owd/pwd/evaluation_pwd2010.htm">http://environnement.wallonie.be/rapports/owd/pwd/evaluation_pwd2010.htm</a></p> <p>The evaluation of the actions of the Plan Wallon des Déchets-Ressources (PWD-R), and in particular the actions of "Cahier 2" on prevention, is planned for 2023.</p>

## Prevention measures

Implemented prevention measures according to Article 9	The Walloon waste plan does not specify which waste prevention measures correspond to the measures in Article 9 or Annex IV of the Waste Framework Directive. Waste prevention measures are suggested for all the priority waste flows listed above. Detailed information of waste prevention measures (including stakeholders, target groups and sub-measures) can be found between pp. 63 and 119 of the Walloon waste plan.
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Table 1: Specific waste prevention measures structured according to Art 9 WFD

Promote and support sustainable consumption models

Ensure an environmental research link (measure 3 on p. 65):

- Continue the actions of competitiveness clusters in applied research and innovation, as well as waste prevention and resource efficiency.
- Encourage participation in European research programmes related to waste prevention.
- Intensify coherence between research projects funded at different stages of development of a circular economic process.
- Encourage the research sector to comply with recognised standards and labels.
- Strengthen the environmental aspects of the DGO6 (Directorate-General for Economy, Employment and Research) support programmes.
- Increase the share of public procurement devoted to innovative or reused products and services, contributing to waste prevention and resource efficiency.
- Investigate how waste reuse can be integrated into sustainable material management.

Support local authorities in their mission to achieve waste prevention and eco-consumption (measure 5 on p. 67):

- Promote actions to reduce packaging waste.
- Evaluate the impact of all actions carried out for the development of sustainable purchases.
- Identify appropriate contacts for these issues in government and schools and provide recommendations.
- Develop reuse initiatives within the Public Service of Wallonia.

Educate students about waste prevention in schools (measure 6 on p. 68):

- Identify subsidised educational tools and optimise their dissemination.
- Identify the stakeholders involved in waste prevention in schools.
- Organise waste prevention actions in schools and raise awareness among teachers and students.
- Encourage a comprehensive approach that includes both waste prevention and sound waste management in the environmental management of schools and school projects.
- Integrate waste prevention into theoretical and practical educational programmes, e.g. about food waste.
- Strengthen the exemplary role of schools through the integration of an efficient use of resources as well as waste prevention and waste management into their management plans.

Encourage dematerialisation and promote a functional economy (measure 7 in p. 70):

- Identify best practices based on studies carried out on dematerialisation (EEE, vehicles, furniture, bicycles and textiles).
- Promote local initiatives on the sharing economy.
- Support pilot companies in the implementation of the functional economy to make this practice better known to consumers.
- Provide financial support, e.g. reduce value-added tax (VAT) for rental services.
- Work with the government to regulate these new sharing and rental services, particularly in terms of consumer protection.

Establish a framework agreement with the distribution sector (measure 8 in p. 71):

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an annual report on the implementation of certain policies within companies, with a view to improving the legislative framework of waste prevention.</li> <li>• Reduce the supply of hazardous products and promote more environmentally friendly alternatives.</li> <li>• Promote certified/labelled and loose/bulk products.</li> <li>• Encourage the environmental assessment procedure in shops to identify and control impacts.</li> <li>• Ensure that staff are trained on sustainable products and consumer counselling.</li> <li>• Encourage actions against food waste, e.g. establish statistics, set a food waste reduction target, raise consumer awareness.</li> <li>• Develop indicators to monitor supply and demand for sustainable products. establishment of sustainable purchase and consumption behaviour through social platform (e.g. <a href="http://www.bewusstkaufen.at">www.bewusstkaufen.at</a>);</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage the design, manufacturing and use of products that are <b>resource-efficient, durable</b> (including in terms of life span and absence of planned obsolescence), <b>reparable, re-usable</b> and <b>upgradable</b>.</p>	<p>Support companies in their waste prevention policies (measure 9 on p. 73):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage Walloon companies to join standardisation and labelling processes.</li> <li>• Encourage beneficiaries of Walloon subsidies to use the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) or the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard.</li> <li>• Continue to collect useful data for measuring the decoupling of economic activity from waste production.</li> <li>• Improve the computerisation of individual waste prevention plans and develop a tool for annual reviews.</li> <li>• Disseminate good practices in industrial waste prevention.</li> </ul>
<p>Target products containing <b>critical raw materials</b> to prevent that those materials become waste.</p>	<p>Hazardous products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12. Encourage the use of rechargeable batteries and products without batteries (measure 28 on p. 96).</li> <li>• 8/9/12. Promote alternatives to hazardous products by, among other things, disseminating good practices in the form of voluntary agreements with the trade sector (measure 29 on p. 96).</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage the re-use of products and the setting up of systems promoting <b>repair and re-use activities</b>, including in particular for electrical and electronic equipment, textiles and furniture, as well as packaging and construction materials and products.</p>	<p>Reuse (pp. 110-120):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue the current framework agreement with non-profit organisations or social economy enterprises who are working in the field of waste reuse (measure 36 on p. 111).</li> <li>• Establish and support partnerships between social economy enterprises and local authorities (measure 37 on p. 112).</li> <li>• Increase the attractiveness of outlets for second-hand goods using various instruments (professionalisation, organisation of sales training for sellers, strengthening of the efficiency of repair workshops, guaranteeing systems offered to the consumer, etc.) (measure 38 on p. 114).</li> <li>• Organise information awareness-raising campaigns to promote reuse and gifting (measure 39 in p. 115).</li> <li>• Disseminate information to businesses on how to get rid of reusable goods (valuable goods and WEEE), in collaboration with the social economy sector (measure 40 on p. 116).</li> <li>• Propose including reuse objectives in legislation (measure 41 on p. 116).</li> <li>• Support the development of new reuse opportunities to create a cooperative for grouping valuable waste streams or promoting innovative models of cooperation (measure 42 on p. 117).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen reuse regulations for WEEE (measure 43 on p. 118).</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage, as appropriate and without prejudice to intellectual property rights , the <a href="#">availability of spare parts, instruction manuals, technical information</a>, or other instruments, equipment or software enabling the repair and re-use of products without compromising their quality and safety.</p>	
<p><a href="#">Reduce waste generation</a> in processes related to industrial production, extraction of minerals, manufacturing, construction and demolition, taking into account <a href="#">best available techniques</a>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen prevention measures in standard specifications for the construction of roads and buildings (measure 30 on p. 102).</li> <li>• Promote ecological construction by limiting waste using various instruments (referential, guidance documents, certification, labelling, calls for projects, training) (measure 31 on p. 103).</li> <li>• Limit excavated waste materials within the framework of a project called ‘Balance équilibrée des remblais-déblais’ (balanced embankments and cuttings) (measure 32 on p. 103).</li> <li>• Establish decommissioning standards for buildings (measure 33 on p. 104).</li> <li>• Support the reuse of construction waste through (1) the dissemination of good practices, (2) further analysis of the composition of construction waste, to evaluate the potential of reusable waste, and (3) the recovery of certain materials (marble, ornamental stone) (measure 44 on p. 119).</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Reduce the generation of food waste</a> in primary production, in processing and manufacturing, in retail and other distribution of food, in restaurants and food services as well as in households as a contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to reduce by 50 % per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and to reduce food losses along production and supply chains by 2030.</p>	<p>Improve knowledge of food losses and food waste (measure 11 on p. 79):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a (food) waste composition analysis campaign for those sectors that have high food waste reduction potential.</li> <li>• Create an annual report on the results of the Walloon food waste prevention programme ‘Plan REGAL’.</li> <li>• Contribute to the work of the EEA’s expert group on waste prevention programmes of Member States concerning food waste.</li> <li>• Participate in the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Eurostat and the EU platform on food losses and food waste.</li> <li>• Establish a reference system for calculating food losses and food waste in Wallonia.</li> </ul> <p>Measures on food loss reduction at the production level (measure 12 on p. 79):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue support for research and technological innovation to reduce food losses and food waste.</li> <li>• Integrate the topic of food waste into agricultural training programmes.</li> <li>• Explore the possibilities of collecting and distributing on of unmarketable farm produce to charities.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an audit tool and recommendations for food waste reduction in agricultural enterprises.</li> <li>• Improve the dissemination of good practices within farms and enterprises.</li> </ul> <p>Introduce measures against food losses in the food industry (measure 13 on p. 80):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organise theme days focusing on the key points in the fight against food losses for companies in the food sector.</li> <li>• Establish voluntary agreements or green deals with companies that incorporate the fight against food waste into their activities.</li> <li>• Conduct pilot projects to implement concrete measures and investments (such as the optimisation of the size of portions, taking into account food waste and waste generation p. 80).</li> <li>• Continue support for research and innovation (e.g. in food waste reduction).</li> <li>• Implement provisions for the fight against food waste in public procurement and catering.</li> <li>• Continue support for local projects such as mobile food transformation workshops, particularly with social economy enterprises (e.g. workshops for the processing and preservation of surplus fruits and vegetables).</li> </ul>
<p>Encourage <b>food donation</b> and other redistribution for human consumption, prioritising human use over animal feed and the reprocessing into non-food products.</p>	<p>Facilitate the donation of surplus food (measure 14 on p. 81):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out an inventory of food donations in Wallonia.</li> <li>• Identify existing good practices within agricultural structures, food companies, the distribution sector and the Horeca sector, and develop recommendations.</li> <li>• Identify the obstacles to food donations and the solutions.</li> <li>• Ensure cooperation between food distributors, the food donation sector and producers to ensure donations of surplus food.</li> <li>• Support the development of logistics management in the charity sector through training.</li> <li>• Create an informative platform (moinsdedechets.be) to ensure the provision of good practices and to support the work of various stakeholders.</li> <li>• Support and continue the development of the Food Fair project and online platforms: Bourse aux dons (<a href="https://www.bourseauxdons.be/">https://www.bourseauxdons.be/</a>) and FoodWe (<a href="https://www.foodwe.be/">https://www.foodwe.be/</a>).</li> <li>• Promote and establish organised gleaning agreements and donations of unmarketable produce between farmers and charities.</li> <li>• Research opportunities to collect and distribute uneaten food from events to charities.</li> </ul> <p>Improve the management of food waste in the Horeca sector and small-scale food distribution sector (measure 15 on p. 82):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the current state (amount of food losses, causes of food losses, financial impact of food losses).</li> <li>• Inform the Horeca sector and small retailers about existing good practices and potential gains (e.g. cost reduction).</li> <li>• Promote the use of ‘Rest-O-Pack’ (avoid food waste by taking home leftover restaurant food).</li> <li>• Integrate the topic of food waste into professional training.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out a pilot project to evaluate the idea of adapting portions to customers' appetite and demand.</li> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>Reduce food waste in canteens (measure 16 on p. 82):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate the share and amount of food waste in communities.</li> <li>• Provide training and support local communities on the topic of food waste and sustainable food.</li> <li>• Develop partnership agreements and provide incentives to convince the relevant authorities that they need to provide sustainable food management and adequate measures against food waste in canteens.</li> </ul> <p>Educate households on food waste (measure 17 on p. 83):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12. Carry out awareness-raising campaigns (occurring multiple times) to reduce the confusion around notions such as 'best before' and 'use by' dates.</li> <li>• Designate special days for the fight against food waste (REGAL days).</li> <li>• Evaluate household behaviour on food waste after awareness-raising campaigns have been organised.</li> <li>• Continue to subsidise actions to combat food waste carried out by municipalities.</li> <li>• Develop a website (<a href="http://moinsdedechets.wallonie.be/">http://moinsdedechets.wallonie.be/</a>) which includes topics on reduction of food waste and food losses.</li> <li>• Create a forum to promote the exchange of experiences.</li> </ul> <p>Support quality composting at home and in the neighbourhood (measure 18 on p. 84):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipalities have to (1) organise the distribution of compost produced in the neighbourhood, (2) inform residents about all the practical details of composting, (3) organise training sessions about composting, and (4) evaluate the quality of the compost produced.</li> <li>• Continue to subsidise actions to promote quality composting, e.g. training.</li> <li>• Produce and disseminate a methodological guide for the development of neighbourhood composting projects.</li> </ul>
<p>Promote the <a href="#">reduction of the content of hazardous substances</a> in materials and products, without prejudice to harmonised legal requirements concerning those materials and products laid down at Union level, and ensure that any supplier of an article as defined in point 33 of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council provides the information pursuant to article 33(1)</p>	<p>Integrate health aspects into qualitative waste prevention (measure 4 on p. 66):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess health risks related to waste.</li> <li>• Disseminate validated information on these risks and precautionary measures.</li> <li>• Propose preventive actions to limit the impact on health.</li> </ul>

<p>of that regulation to the European Chemicals Agency as from 5 January 2021.</p>	
<p>Reduce the generation of waste, in particular waste that is not suitable for preparing for re-use or recycling.</p>	
<p>Identify products that are the main sources of littering, notably in natural and marine environments, and take appropriate measures to prevent and reduce litter from such products, where Member States decide to implement this obligation through market restrictions, they shall ensure that such restrictions are proportionate and non-discriminatory.</p>	
<p>Aim to halt the generation of marine litter as a contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds.</p>	<p>Packaging waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the eco-design principles of packaging, especially via <a href="http://moinsdedechets.wallonie.be/">http://moinsdedechets.wallonie.be/</a> and the Preventpack tool managed by Fost Plus (<a href="http://www.preventpack.be/">http://www.preventpack.be/</a>) (measure 23 on p. 90).</li> <li>• Compare bulk versus pre-packaged products, particularly with respect to wastage generated during transport, from distributors and by households, and promote bulk purchase if relevant.</li> <li>• Promote reusable packaging and the fight against overpackaging (measure 24 on page 90).</li> <li>• Prohibit single-use plastic bags.</li> <li>• Implement prevention plans in companies to avoid the use of non-reusable or non-recyclable packaging.</li> <li>• Promote distribution systems that generate less or no packaging waste (measures 24 and 25 on p. 91).</li> </ul> <p>WEEE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent generation of WEEE waste and promote reuse of WEEE (measure 26 on p. 93).</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage repair of WEEE, notably through the establishment of a ‘Repair observatory’ and the consolidation of the Repair Café network in Wallonia (measure 27 on p. 94).</li> <li>• Stimulate collaborations between repair shops, retailers and technical training schools.</li> </ul> <p>Paper and cardboard waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit the distribution of unwanted printed post and unwanted press — the introduction of such a measure is particularly thanks to the reinforced use of the ‘Stop advertising sticker’ (measures 19 and 20 on p. 86).</li> <li>• Collaborate with the market and the advertising sector to implement the ‘dematerialisation of advertising’, e.g. sending catalogues in electronic format (measure 19 on p. 86).</li> <li>• In the context of the EPR scheme, prohibit the use of plastic film around unwanted postal items (measure 20 on p. 87).</li> <li>• Promote the purchase of office paper according to environmental criteria (measure 21 on p. 87).</li> <li>• Promote eco-responsible consumption of paper (measure 22 on p. 87):</li> <li>• Promote the use of electronic invoices (gas, electricity, water, internet, TV, etc.).</li> <li>• Promote the use of electronic advertisement materials, e.g. flyers, newsletters, etc.</li> <li>• Evaluate and monitor paper consumption in private offices and public administrations.</li> <li>• Carry out a regional campaign to promote the rational use of paper, by encouraging more citizens to join the Robinson list, for example.</li> <li>• Encourage companies to join the Belgian Direct Marketing Association (BDMA), which manages private Robinson lists in Belgium.</li> </ul>
<p>Develop and support <a href="#">information campaigns to raise awareness</a> about waste prevention and littering.</p>	<p>Organise a communication, information and awareness strategy (measure 10 on p. 75):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement a 3-year communication plan for Wallonia’s waste prevention programme.</li> <li>• Ensure the visibility of actions.</li> <li>• Update the website <a href="http://moinsdedechets.wallonie.be">moinsdedechets.wallonie.be</a> and study the feasibility of creating a forum.</li> <li>• Benchmark (i.e. compare against) innovative projects in other regions/countries and assess the possibility of adapting them to the Walloon context.</li> <li>• Conduct campaigns (information and awareness-raising campaigns for households).</li> <li>• Evaluate and adopt good ideas from the zero waste experiences of households and schools.</li> <li>• Encourage companies and business federations to join waste prevention campaigns.</li> <li>• Promote thematic campaigns to raise awareness among companies and associations on the benefits of waste prevention.</li> <li>• Awareness-raising campaigns for children and young people about overconsumption and non-material gifts.</li> </ul>

## FOOD WASTE PREVENTION

### Food waste generation

For 2013, food waste generation in Wallonia has been estimated to be between 14 and 23 kg per capita. Based on the 3.65 million inhabitants, this would sum up to a volume between 51 and 81 thousand tonnes.

In the future, food waste generation in Wallonia will be calculated based on common EU procedures.

### Measures to prevent food waste

The Wallonian Réduction du Gaspillage Alimentaire en Wallonie (REGAL) plan aims to reduce food losses and wastage by 30% by 2025 and includes 17 specific actions on food waste prevention.<sup>13</sup>

With regards to the waste flows targeted by the waste prevention programme, around 20% of the actions are intended to reduce the production of bio-degradable organic waste, by combating food loss and wastage as a priority.

The initiative “Bon appétit, Zéro Gaspi” (Eat Well, Zero Waste) was launched by the supermarket Lidl Belgium with the aim to halve food waste by 2025. Products close to the expiration date are sold at low prices while the profit is donated to food banks.

The waste prevention programme lists various food waste prevention measures:

Educate students about waste prevention in schools (measure 6 on p. 68):

- Integrate waste prevention into theoretical and practical educational programmes, e.g. about food waste.

Establish a framework agreement with the distribution sector (measure 8 in p. 71):

- Encourage actions against food waste, e.g. establish statistics, set a food waste reduction target, raise consumer awareness.

Improve knowledge of food losses and food waste (measure 11 on p. 79):

- Conduct a (food) waste composition analysis campaign for those sectors that have high food waste reduction potential.
- Create an annual report on the results of the Walloon food waste prevention programme ‘Plan REGAL’.
- Contribute to the work of the EEA’s expert group on waste prevention programmes of Member States concerning food waste.
- Participate in the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Eurostat and the EU platform on food losses and food waste.
- Establish a reference system for calculating food losses and food waste in Wallonia.

Measures on food loss reduction at the production level (measure 12 on p. 79):

- Continue support for research and technological innovation to reduce food losses and food waste.
- Integrate the topic of food waste into agricultural training programmes.
- Explore the possibilities of collecting and distributing on of unmarketable farm produce to charities.
- Develop an audit tool and recommendations for food waste reduction in agricultural enterprises.
- Improve the dissemination of good practices within farms and enterprises.

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<sup>13</sup> <http://moinsdedechets.wallonie.be/fr/je-m-engage/gaspillage-alimentaire#17actions>

Introduce measures against food losses in the food industry (measure 13 on p. 80):

- Organise theme days focusing on the key points in the fight against food losses for companies in the food sector.
- Establish voluntary agreements or green deals with companies that incorporate the fight against food waste into their activities.
- Conduct pilot projects to implement concrete measures and investments (such as the optimisation of the size of portions, taking into account food waste and waste generation p. 80).
- Continue support for research and innovation (e.g. in food waste reduction).
- Implement provisions for the fight against food waste in public procurement and catering.
- Continue support for local projects such as mobile food transformation workshops, particularly with social economy enterprises (e.g. workshops for the processing and preservation of surplus fruits and vegetables).

Facilitate the donation of surplus food (measure 14 on p. 81):

- Carry out an inventory of food donations in Wallonia.
- Identify existing good practices within agricultural structures, food companies, the distribution sector and the Horeca sector, and develop recommendations.
- Identify the obstacles to food donations and the solutions.
- Ensure cooperation between food distributors, the food donation sector and producers to ensure donations of surplus food.
- Support the development of logistics management in the charity sector through training.
- Create an informative platform ([moinsdedechets.be](https://moinsdedechets.be)) to ensure the provision of good practices and to support the work of various stakeholders.
- Support and continue the development of the Food Fair project and online platforms: Bourse aux dons (<https://www.bourseauxdons.be/>) and FoodWe (<https://www.foodwe.be/>).
- Promote and establish organised gleaning agreements and donations of unmarketable produce between farmers and charities.
- Research opportunities to collect and distribute uneaten food from events to charities.

Improve the management of food waste in the Horeca sector and small-scale food distribution sector (measure 15 on p. 82):

- Assess the current state (amount of food losses, causes of food losses, financial impact of food losses).
- Inform the Horeca sector and small retailers about existing good practices and potential gains (e.g. cost reduction).
- Promote the use of 'Rest-O-Pack' (avoid food waste by taking home leftover restaurant food).
- Integrate the topic of food waste into professional training.
- Carry out a pilot project to evaluate the idea of adapting portions to customers' appetite and demand.

Reduce food waste in canteens (measure 16 on p. 82):

- Evaluate the share and amount of food waste in communities.
- Provide training and support local communities on the topic of food waste and sustainable food.
- Develop partnership agreements and provide incentives to convince the relevant authorities that they need to provide sustainable food management and adequate measures against food waste in canteens.

Educate households on food waste (measure 17 on p. 83):

- 12. Carry out awareness-raising campaigns (occurring multiple times) to reduce the confusion around notions such as 'best before' and 'use by' dates.
- Designate special days for the fight against food waste (REGAL days).
- Evaluate household behaviour on food waste after awareness-raising campaigns have been organised.

- Continue to subsidise actions to combat food waste carried out by municipalities.
- Develop a website (<http://moinsdedechets.wallonie.be/>) which includes topics on reduction of food waste and food losses.
- Create a forum to promote the exchange of experiences.

## REUSE OF PRODUCTS

### Data

Belgium has been one of the frontrunners with regard to the establishment of regional reuse and repair networks. The Walloon waste prevention programme also includes a specific chapter on reuse as one of the priority action fields. Aggregated figures will be recorded based on the upcoming EU regulation.

*With regard to the Commission Implementing Decision ([https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L\\_.2021.010.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2021%3A010%3ATOC](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2021.010.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2021%3A010%3ATOC)), this section will be updated by the EEA accordingly.*

### Measures to support reuse

The following measures are included in the waste prevention programme:

- Continue the current framework agreement with non-profit organisations or social economy enterprises active in the field of waste reuse (measure 36 on p. 111).
- Establish and support partnerships between social economy enterprises and local authorities (measure 37 on p. 112).
- Increase the attractiveness of outlets for second-hand goods using various instruments (professionalisation, organisation of sales training for sellers, strengthening of the efficiency of repair workshops, guaranteeing systems offered to the consumer, etc.) (measure 38 on p. 114).
- Organise information awareness-raising campaigns to promote reuse and gifting (measure 39 in p. 115).
- Disseminate information to businesses on how to get rid of reusable goods (valuable goods and WEEE), in collaboration with the social economy sector (measure 40 on p. 116).
- Propose including reuse objectives in legislation (measure 41 on p. 116).
- Support the development of new reuse opportunities to create a cooperative for grouping valuable waste streams or promoting innovative models of cooperation (measure 42 on p. 117).
- Strengthen reuse regulations for WEEE (measure 43 on p. 118).
- Support the reuse of construction waste through (1) the dissemination of good practices, (2) further analysis of the composition of construction waste, to evaluate the potential of reusable waste, and (3) the recovery of certain materials (marble, ornamental stone) (measure 44 on p. 119).
- No information exists on measure 13 in Annex IV of the Waste Framework Directive.

Wallonia has continued and expanded its actions in favour of reuse, notably through the following measures:

- a) Continuation and evaluation of [support for social economy enterprises](#) in favour of reuse;
- b) Preparation of a regulatory framework intended to reinforce and generalise the preserving collection of recoverable or reusable objects by municipalities and associations of municipalities;
- c) [Calls for projects](#) in favour of reuse in 2021 and 2022;
- d) Support for the "repair cafés" mechanism through the Repair together association;

- e) Setting up a [repair observatory](#);
- f) Deployment of a range of actions in favour of the reuse of construction materials.

## Best practice examples

### WALOSCRAP

Waloscrap analyses the deposits and secondary material flows in Wallonia and boosts their industrial development. The initiative is supported by the Walloon Ministry for the Environment and the Walloon Waste Office - l'Office Wallon des Déchets (OWD). The WALOSCRAP 12-month project aims to study the potential economic development of deposits and local secondary material streams that are currently badly exploited or exported when they could be exploited in Wallonia. The project focussed notably on deposits/flows from plastic waste, used tyres and other waste streams.

### Zero Waste

Since 2020, the household waste prevention policy has been redeployed around the concept of Zero Waste through the following actions:

- a) For years, Wallonia has been granting aid to municipalities; this aid is increased for those who implement a Zero Waste approach that meets the conditions set by regulation ([Walloon Government decree of 17 July 2018](#), amended on 18 July 2019);

76 Walloon municipalities have notified their adherence to the Zero Waste approach for 2021, representing 50% of the Walloon population.

In terms of the choice of actions carried out as part of the approach, the preferences are as follows:

	Measure A: Exemplarity of the municipality	Measure B: Collaboration with retailers	Measure C: Collaboration with social economy actors	Measure D: Information, animation and training actions	Choice of the 4 measures
Number of municipalities having chosen the measure	68 (89,50%)	55 (72,50%)	59 (77,50%)	75 (98,50%)	29 (38%)

- b) [Calls for Zero Waste projects](#) in 2020 and 2022 for the hotel and catering industry and food and non-food businesses,
- c) Establishment of a “zero waste” facilitator (“facilitateur”) and development of a zero waste roadmap (ongoing).

An evaluation of the actions carried out under the Zero Waste label is being prepared thanks to the reporting obligations of the beneficiaries.

### Prevention plans for companies

Some companies are subject to the obligation to draw up prevention plans under two specific frameworks: the [Interregional Cooperation Agreement](#) on the Prevention and Management of Packaging Waste, made pursuant to Directive 94/62 on packaging and packaging waste; and the [sectoral conditions](#) for certain activities with significant environmental consequences, made pursuant

to Directive 2010/75 on industrial emissions (IED Directive). An evaluation of the prevention plan instrument is underway for IED companies.

### Awareness-raising tools

Various awareness-raising tools have been produced and are available on the [Walloon waste reduction website](#), including some on [home composting](#).

See : <https://moinsdedechets.wallonie.be/je-m-informe/ma-commune-zero-dechet>

### **Links to circular economy**

Waste prevention is an integral part of the comprehensive transformation towards a circular economy. It reduces the input of natural resources into the economy as well as the necessary efforts to collect and recycle waste.

Approaches for improving circularity are often highly interlinked with successful waste prevention. The following table shows which circular strategies are explicitly integrated into the waste prevention programme of Wallonia.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Addressed in the programme</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Eco-design	Yes	Inter alia by supporting alternatives to hazardous products
Repair, refurbishment and remanufacture	Yes	Several initiatives that focus on extending the use phase of products.
Recycling	Yes	For example with regard to composting.
Economic incentives and finance	Yes	E.g. reduced VAT rates for renting services.
Circular business models	Yes	E.g. by providing information on sharing/leasing services.
Eco-innovation	Yes	E.g. in the context of dematerialisation of products
Governance, skills and knowledge	Yes	E.g. with regard to identifying stakeholders involved in waste prevention in schools.