

Biowaste management in Romania

Food waste collections and the unintended consequences of plastic contamination to soil

Online event

22 September 2020

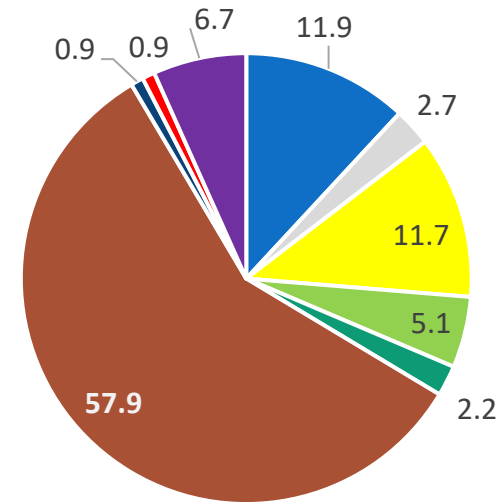
General information

- 20 mil. Inhabitants
 - 50% living in rural areas
- About 5 mil tons of waste generated /year
- Separate collection partly developed (less in rural areas)

More than 80% of municipal waste is still landfilled

More than 50% of municipal waste is biowaste

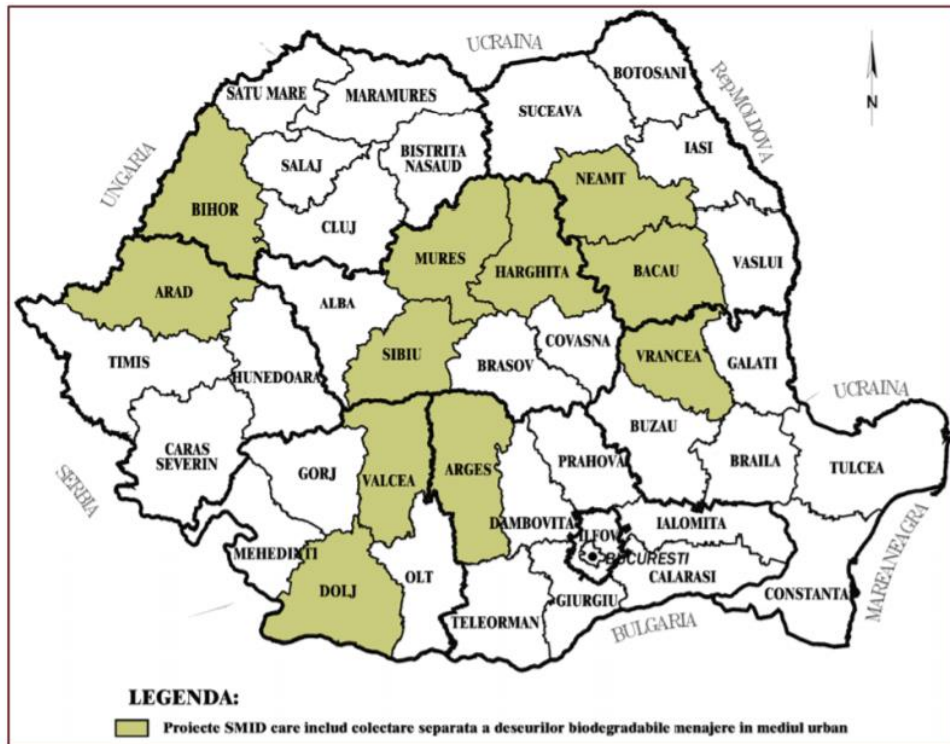
municipal waste composition (%)



■ paper
 ■ metal
 ■ plastic
 ■ glass
 ■ wood
■ biowaste
 ■ textile
 ■ bulky
 ■ other

Biowaste management

Separate collection of biowaste in urban areas - only in 11 counties



For rural areas home composting is preferable solution => individual composting unit (991.000) volume is 261.000 m³

For urban areas separate collection and composting in large facilities

Law 181/2020 regarding compostable waste

- Starting 1 January 2021 separate collection is mandatory
- Local authorities are responsible to organize the system of separate collection at sources
- Conformity certification of waste send to composting or anaerobic digestion

Technical norms will be adopted latest in January 2021 which will set also legal limits for all contaminants among other necessary provisions to support implementation

Biowaste management

Treatment capacity of biowaste is 380.000 tons/year that cover only 10% of total quantity of biowaste generated in 2014 (8% composting rate)

1,4 mil tons/year of bio-waste should be send to treatment facilities in the coming years as there are under construction new plants (composting , AD and MBT) in order to increase available capacity

People are still collecting waste in bags (plastic bags or compostable bags) and of course some plastic can be seen, normally removed during screening phase



Economic instruments

- Landfill tax paid by local authorities – about 10 euros/ton => min. 42% waste diverted from landfill in 2019 and 60% in 2020
- Circular economy contribution => 6 euros /ton for waste sent to landfill in 2019 and 16 euros /ton starting 2020 paid by landfill owners or administrators
- PAYT applicable mandatory starting January 1st 2019 (not later than end of June)

THANK YOU!

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