



# GOOD PRACTICE BRUSSELS:

## BRUSSELS WASTE NETWORK

November 2014



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## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE GOOD PRACTICE (GP)

### 1.1 General information

Region	Brussels
Country	Belgium
Short name of the good practice	Brussels Waste Network
Geographical level of implementation (country, region, municipality...)	Brussels Region
Target group	Entreprises (PME)
Date of implementation/duration	2010 – 2014, ongoing
Waste stream (and subcategory)	all waste streams
Legal framework	
Main local instruments involved	Subsidies, public procurement
Scale (pilot/partially roll out /roll out)	BECI
Initiator/coordinator	IBGE
Demography	
Population	1,138,000
Number of households	550,000
Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	161
Population density (number of inhabitants/km <sup>2</sup> )	7,000
General waste data (Not necessarily related to the GP but to give some background information. Data about the GP should be included under 3.1) <sup>[PM1]</sup>	
Year of the following waste data	
Sum of all waste streams excl. residual & bulky waste (kg/inhabitant/year) (Use indicator 1 or 2 from the R4R Online Tool)	
Residual waste (including sorting residues) (kg/inhabitant/year) (Use indicator 8 or 9 from	

the R4R Online Tool)	
Total waste (add up the previous two)	
Sum of all waste streams excl. residual & bulky waste to DREC (kg/inhabitant/year) (Use indicator 3 of the R4R Online Tool)	

## 1.2 Context

The Brussels Waste Network was created in 2010 to address one of the objectives of the fourth Waste Plan to develop a network of waste advisers for Brussels based enterprises.

This project comes from a public/private partnership with BECI, the Chambre of Commerce and Industry de la Région de Bruxelles Capitale.

## 1.3 Short description

The objective was to develop a real dynamic around the waste issue in enterprise.

The BWN works around two main actions:

- the creation of a position of waste adviser within BECI. The waste adviser acts as coordinator.: his mission is to monitor the evolution of the sector and to link the private sector and public authorities. The waste adviser must assess the network's performance and ensure its dynamism (organisation of meetings, creation of new tools, improvement of existing tools and of the website, etc.) or implement audits in companies expressing this request;
- the launch of tenders aimed at federations and groups of companies asking for funding and methodological help to realise a specific waste prevention or management project.

## 1.4 Objective

The goal of supported projects in enterprise is to:

- Reduce the quantity of generated waste;

- increase the rate of sorted waste.

To that end, it is necessary to:

- Develop, expand and dynamise the Brussels Waste Network in order to face current challenges and help Brussels based companies to improve their waste prevention and management strategies;
- Develop / use communication tools to raise awareness of Brussels based companies in particular regarding new regulations;
- Promote and increase the BWN network, if needed by organising a call for interest;
- Implement concrete waste prevention and management projects in Brussels based enterprises.

### 1.5 Method used to identify the good practice

- Expert judgement
- Results of the initiative

### 1.6 External factors

Is there a link between the GP and an external factor? Is the GP implemented as a solution for a problem caused by a certain external factor?

## 2. IMPLEMENTATION

### 2.1 Preparation phase

Meeting between BECI and Brussels Environment at the initiative of Brussels Environment.

### 2.2 Technical implementation

BECI gets a subsidy to hire a waste adviser, whose mission has been described above.

Calls for proposals are launched. Selected projects are financed by public procurement up to 25,000€. The cofunding goes up to 65% of the budget, the rest being borne by the project developer.

## 2.3 Communicative implementation

- Website
- Network meetings
- Animation of enterprises members of BECI's network
- newsletters

## 2.4 Organisations

BECI is the chamber of Commerce & Union of Brussels based Entreprises and represents thousands of Brussels based companies, takes care of their interests and provides services to facilitate their business management.

Brussels Environment is the environment and energy administration of Brussels-Capital Region.

Its missions are to study, monitor and manage air, water, waste, noise and natural issues (green spaces and biodiversity)... but also to deliver environmental permits, ensure their respect, develop and support environment education projects in Brussels schools, take part in meetings and negotiations at Belgium and international level, etc. Finally, Brussels Environment developed expertise in sustainable building and links between health and environment.

## 2.5 Key success factors

- Sustained financial support (subsidies, public procurement, etc.)
- Good coordination of the network by BECI's waste adviser
- Obligation to reach the objectives for project developers
- Motivation of participants
- Answering a need from the companies
- Concrete projects
- Awareness of participants (feeling to be part of a larger initiative)
- Allowing positive contacts between administrations and enterprises during network meetings

## 2.6 Resources

- Subsidy to finance the position of the waste adviser.
- Punctual financing of enterprises' projects. It is a cofunding, each project developer must partly cover the charges of its project.

## 3. RESULTS

### 3.1 Monitoring of the progress of the GP

The objective was two-fold:

- Reduce waste quantities;
- Increase the share of sorted waste fractions.<sup>[PM2]</sup>

This work ended up in particular with 2 calls for interest involving 13 partners (amongst which Brussels Expo, Atrium, Agoria, Febelgra, BHA, La Lustrerie, etc.) in many diverse fields (design sector, food sector, commerces, hospitality sector, etc.). Altogether those projects managed to:

- accompany 140 Brussels based enterprises;
- train or involve 55 people among project developers;
- allow the creation of 15 tools;
- allow the development and implementation of 41 action plans.

Examples :

- a company specialised in exhibitions reduced its waste generation by 3 tonnes/month and increased the amount of sorted waste by 5 tonnes/month;
- a federation of enterprises reduced its waste generation by 16% and increased the amount of sorted waste by 10%.

### 3.2 Other results

- 7 network meetings were organised about various issues (extended producer's responsibility, legal framework, economic impacts of waste, etc.);
- Creation of waste management tools for companies in the various involved sectors (already 15 tools);
- Enthusiasm of participants;

- Objectives reached;
- Allows awareness raising about waste issues.

## 4. LESSONS LEARNED

### 4.1 Negative effects

Difficulty to monitor the projects due to lack of time and/or staff.

### 4.2 Challenges

- Long term implementation and sustainability of projects is crucial. Those initiatives must go on after the end of the co-funding. However, it is difficult to keep the level of motivation when the project stops.
- It is difficult to quantify the results (some results are mentioned in litres, others in kilos, others in numbers of people reached, etc.).
- The autonomy of the Brussels Waste Network is also an objective, despite difficulties with the monitoring due in particular to waste adviser turn-over at BECI (3 people in 4 years).
- The tools created need to be refined afterwards in order to be reproducible from one project to another, one situation to another;
- It is important to develop a global overview outside the frame of individual projects;
- Working with intermediaries like federations of group of companies and not directly the enterprises themselves makes it difficult to maintain the level of motivation within the companies.

## 5. PICTURES AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION



## 6. FURTHER INFORMATION

Organisation	BECI
Address	Avenue Louise 500, B-1000 Brussels
Contact person	Laurie Verheyen
Phone	02.210.01.75
E-mail address	<a href="mailto:lv@beci.be">lv@beci.be</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.brusselswastenetwerk.eu/">http://www.brusselswastenetwerk.eu/</a>
Others	

## 7. OTHER REGIONS WITH SIMILAR GOOD PRACTICES

The following partners of the R4R-project have a good practice similar to the good practice described in this factsheet:

Organisation	Office of the Federal State Government of Styria – Division Waste Management and Sustainability
Address	Bürgergasse 5a
Region	Styria
Country	Austria
Contact person:	Wilhelm Himmel
Phone	+43 316 877 4323
E-mail address	<a href="mailto:wilhelm.himmel@stmk.gv.at">wilhelm.himmel@stmk.gv.at</a>
Website	<a href="http://abfallwirtschaft.steiermark.at">abfallwirtschaft.steiermark.at</a>
Others	Verein VABÖ: Matthias Neitsch <a href="http://www.vaboe.at">www.vaboe.at</a>

	<a href="mailto:neitsch@arge.at">neitsch@arge.at</a>
Short description of the main differences.	The municipal waste consultant in Styria is a public employee with various roles and responsibilities that can range from raising awareness of the general public, to educating children from schools or kindergartens about waste prevention and separate waste collection, and to developing waste management strategies for businesses or public entities.

Organisation	Southern Regional Waste Management Office
Address	Limerick City & County Council, Lissanalta House, Dooradoyle, County Limerick
Region	Limerick/Clare/Kerry Region (now part of the larger Southern Region)
Country	Ireland
Contact person:	Philippa King/Carol Sweetnam
Phone	+353 61 496842/+353 61 496841
E-mail address	<a href="mailto:philippa.king@limerick.ie">philippa.king@limerick.ie/</a> <a href="mailto:carol.sweetnam@srwmo.ie">carol.sweetnam@srwmo.ie</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.srwmo.ie">www.srwmo.ie</a>
Others	
Short description of the main differences.	The region employs a Regional Industrial Waste Minimisation Officer (RIWMO) who works specifically with the business sector across the region in order to raise environmental awareness among employees and assist companies in their waste reduction efforts. Environmental Awareness Officers (EAOs), based in each of the local authorities within the region, also work with the business sector in pursuit of best environmental practice, and work closely with the RIWMO.

The region also employs a Waste Prevention Officer who has responsibility for implementing the EPA-funded Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN) program which works on the delivery of specific prevention initiatives. The EAOs based in each of the local authorities within the region, also work with the program.

# REGIONS FOR RECYCLING

