



## About us

The Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and sustainable Resource management (ACR+) is an international network of members who share the aim of promoting smart resource consumption and sustainable management of municipal waste through prevention at source, reuse and recycling. Originally a [European network](#), it has recently been expanded to the Mediterranean area ([ACR+MED](#)).

The association has nearly 100 members, mainly [local and regional authorities](#), as well as national networks of local authorities, representing approximately 1400 municipalities.

## Our mission

- to contribute on a [European and international level](#) to waste prevention and to the ecologically and economically rational waste management and thus to enhance sustainable development;
- to contribute [to close the cycle](#) of primary and secondary raw materials (resources, products, waste) notably through the promotion of resource savings and a more equitable distribution;
- to create and maintain [a network for exchanging information](#) on prevention, selective collection and recycling of waste in urban environments;
- to encourage the [harmonization of concepts](#), definitions and standards in the domain of waste, products and resources;
- to [improve co-operation](#) and collaboration among the members of the association;
- to [develop the expertise](#) and skills of public authorities in effective waste-product-resource policies;
- to [encourage practical action](#) in waste management and sustainable consumption.

## Our history

The Association was created [in Pamplona in May 1994](#) by a group of cities and regions led by the Brussels-Capital Region. The Association's name evolved from Association of Cities for Recycling (ACR-AVR) to current "Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and for sustainable Resource management (ACR+)", reflecting the evolution:

- from waste to products and resources, by encouraging prevention, reuse and recycling;
- from EU-15 to new EU Member States and South-Mediterranean countries;
- from public partnerships to multi stakeholders partnerships.

## Contact



Av. d'Auderghem 63, 1040 Brussels, Belgium



[info@acrplus.org](mailto:info@acrplus.org)



[www.acrplus.org](http://www.acrplus.org)



+32 2 234 65 04



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## Activities

ACR+ allows its members to stay in close contact with events and discussions held at the [European level](#), notably by representing local and regional authorities in various forums and platforms of discussion with the European Commission.

ACR+ activities are open to all waste management actors, who wish to implement or anticipate new regulations, to optimise waste management and to find the best technical solutions, as well as to improve service to citizens and to reinforce environmental communication.

Through [studies](#), [bulletins](#), [conferences and seminars](#), ACR+ allows its members to exchange practical information and experiences, to confront problems, and find solutions with experts in waste management in Europe and beyond. ACR+ also keeps its members up to date with recent developments through its [weekly newsletter and website](#).

## Domains



## Examples



### Campaigns & Projects

ACR+ initiates and participates in European projects with its members. Besides, the association runs thematic awareness-raising campaign, such as the European Week for Waste Reduction.



### Conferences & Workshops

ACR+ organises international conferences where delegates can debate and collect information on topical issues related to waste management. Thematic workshops and site visits are also often arranged.



### Technical reports

ACR+ publishes technical reports providing detailed analysis of specific topics related to municipal waste management. These publications are key tools for decision-makers and technical experts, and are free of charge for ACR+ members.

### ACR+ Update

Summer - Autumn 2012

### News & information services

ACR+ keeps the members informed about developments in the waste management world through its weekly newsletter (ACR+ Newsline), the quarterly ACR+ Update, as well as the website, webinars and regular communications.

## Projects Overview



The [European Week for Waste Reduction](#) was launched as a 3-year project supported by the LIFE+ Programme of the European Commission until July 2012. It continues taking place in the following years. The EWWR aims at organising multiple actions during a single week, across Europe, which will raise awareness about waste reduction.

[www.ewwr.eu](http://www.ewwr.eu)



Miniwaste is a 3-year European project (2010 - beginning of 2013) aiming at gathering and sharing of good practices and case studies implemented by European local and regional authorities [to reduce bio-waste](#), implementing demonstration actions, as well as developing and implementing monitoring procedures.

[www.miniwaste.eu](http://www.miniwaste.eu)



Pre-waste is a 3-year European project (2010-2012) whose aim is to [help cities and regions to improve their waste prevention policies](#). The project involves 10 partners in Europe, committed to sharing their expertise in waste prevention and waste management. The objective is to give decision-makers the opportunity to go beyond recycling and to be ever greener when they develop their waste or environmental policies.

[www.prewaste.eu](http://www.prewaste.eu)



A permanent [Observatory of municipal waste performances in Europe](#), which focuses on the analysis of recycling performances across Europe and involves ACR+ members in partnership with key waste management expert organisations. The Observatory serves as a platform for sharing experiences and demonstrating best practice amongst different cities.

[www.acrplus.org/observatory](http://www.acrplus.org/observatory)

## Projects Overview



R4R ([Regions for Recycling](#)) is an INTERREG IVC project (2012-2014) which aims at [promoting regional contributions to the European Recycling Society](#), by allowing local and regional authorities to make consistent comparisons thanks to a common method and exchange of transferable good practices related to local instruments in order to improve recycling performances.

[www.regions4recycling.eu](http://www.regions4recycling.eu)



ACR+ EPR Club is a [new exchange platform on EPR schemes in Europe](#) aiming at benchmarking on recycling performances, European harmonization, fair competition, public control or best practices. It gathers different stakeholders and allows a dialogue on the EU policy developments and technical implementation of EPR schemes throughout Europe.

[www.eprclub.eu](http://www.eprclub.eu)



ACR+MED is a [Mediterranean network of members](#) who share the common aim of promoting integrated sustainable waste and resource management with a particular [focus on local and cultural context](#). ACR+ MED aims at taking into account the specificities of the region and at increasing expertise through the exchange of experiences between cities and regions from "MED" countries and from Europe.

[www.acrplusmed.org](http://www.acrplusmed.org)

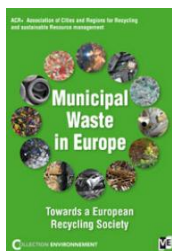
### Horizon2020

The Horizon 2020 Initiative aims to [de-pollute the Mediterranean by the year 2020](#) by tackling the sources of pollution that account for around 80% of the overall pollution of the Mediterranean Sea. ACR+ is involved in numerous [capacity-building activities](#) targeted at country officials and other stakeholders involved in finding solutions to an integrated sustainable management of municipal solid waste.

[www.acrplus.org/horizon2020](http://www.acrplus.org/horizon2020)

## Available Publications

### Book



#### Municipal Waste in Europe - Towards a European Recycling Society

What are the problems posed by municipal waste in European cities? What operational decisions must be taken in order to manage these wastes properly? What are the current policies and legislation which apply? Each of these questions is addressed within this publication.

### Technical reports

- Good practices in collection and closed-loop glass recycling in Europe, 2012
- Plastic bags - Policies and Practices to reduce consumption, 2011 Update
- Report on the Interpretation of Life Cycle Thinking in the Waste Management Hierarchy, 2011
- Quantitative Benchmarks for Waste Prevention : A guide for Local & Regional authorities in support of the new Waste Framework Directive, 2010
- Optimal Recovery of material and energy resources: the cases of the rest fraction of municipal waste and sewage sludge, 2010
- Optimal recovery of material and energy resources in the context of waste management, 2009
- Analysis of Municipal Waste Management Practices in Europe. An Image of some of the best performing cities and regions, 2008
- Waste prevention in regional waste management plans: Comparative study of 7 regional and subregional authorities in Europe, 2006
- Managing Biodegradable Household Waste : What prospects for European Local Authorities?, 2005
- L'ACR+ et le partenariat Nord-Sud - Diagnostic de la gestion «déchets-produits-ressources : le cas de Mahdia, 2005
- Good practices guide on waste plastics recycling - A guide by and for local and regional authorities, 2004

## FULL MEMBERS

- Local and regional authorities

Aalborg (DK)  
AMIU (IT)  
Barcelona (Ayuntamiento - ES)  
Barcelona (Area Metropolitana - ES)  
Belfast (UK)  
Besancon (FR)  
Bouches du Rhône (FR)  
Brussels (ABP) (BE)  
Brussels (IBGE) (BE)  
Cascaïs (EMAC) (PT)  
Catalunya (ARC) (ES)  
Charente (FR)  
Charleroi (ICDI) (BE)  
Diputación de Castellón (ES)  
Dublin City Council (IE)  
Genoa (IT)  
Gipuzkoa (ES)  
Hasselt (BE)  
Ile de France (FR)  
INTRADEL (BE)  
IPALLE (BE)  
KS Bedrift (NO)  
Lausanne (CH)  
Leiria (Valorlis, PT)  
Liège (BE)  
Lille Métropole (FR)  
Limerick (IE)  
Lisbon (PT)  
Luxembourg (LU)  
Lyon (FR)  
Maastricht (NL)  
Madrid (ES)  
Malta (MT)  
Milano (AMSA - IT)  
Milton Keynes (UK)  
Nantes Métropole (FR)  
Nicosia (CY)  
North London (UK)  
Odense (DK)  
Oeiras (PT)  
Oporto (Lipor) (PT)  
Oslo (KS Bedrift) (NO)  
OVAM (BE)  
Pamplona (ES)  
Paris (FR)  
Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zaer (MA)  
Rennes Métropole (FR)  
SITOM 93 (FR)  
SEMARDEL (Essonne – FR)  
Settimo Torinese (IT)  
Sousse (TN)  
Sybert (FR)  
Sykies (GR)  
Wallonia (BE)  
Warsaw (PL)  
Zagreb (HR)  
Zadar (HR)

- City networks

AMORCE (FR)  
AVPU (FR)  
Cercle National du Recyclage (FR)  
COPIDEC (BE)  
FEDERAMBIENTE (IT)  
Finnish Solid Waste Association - JLY (FI)  
INTERAFVAL (BE)  
Instituto para la sostenibilidad de los recursos (ISR) (ES)  
Dutch Solid Waste Association (NVRD) (NL)

## PARTNER MEMBERS

- NGOs

AICA (IT)  
ARGE (AT)  
ARNIKA Association (CZ)  
Ecological Recycling Society (GR)  
Espace Environnement (BE)  
Fundació PRC (ES)  
Green Steps for Environmental Literacy (TU)  
NABU (DE)  
ORDIF (Observatoire régional des déchets d'Ile-de-France) (FR)  
Passerelles.info (FR)  
RAL - Quality Assurance Association (DE)  
Ressources ASBL (BE)  
Rudologia (FR)

- Academic institutions

Agència d'Ecologia Urbana de Barcelona (ES)  
CRIOC (BE)  
Fundació ENT Environment & Management (ES)  
Swansea Institute (UK)

- Private partners

Suez Environnement (F) / Sita (BE)

- Consultancies

Intertek-RDC (BE)  
SuperDrecksKëscht® (LU)  
WRAP (UK)

## WHY JOIN US ?

- Enjoy direct access to a network of experts involved in municipal waste management;
- Exchange information and experience with nearly 100 cities and regions;
- Pay reduced fees to attend ACR+ conferences, workshops and webinars on topical issues;
- Receive free copies of all technical reports produced by ACR+;
- Receive up-to-date information on the latest developments through:
  - accessing the members-only area of the ACR+ website ([www.acrplus.org](http://www.acrplus.org))
  - weekly electronic newsletter (ACR+ Newline)
  - quarterly ACR+ Update
- Be involved in studies and international projects on waste management;
- Follow the European policy developments and get the opportunity to express the views of local and regional authorities at European level;
- Increase your own visibility through the ACR+ website, newsletters and communications.

## HOW TO JOIN ?

[www.acrplus.org/joinACR+](http://www.acrplus.org/joinACR+)  
or [info@acrplus.org](mailto:info@acrplus.org)