

Overview of national waste prevention programmes in Europe



Portugal



October 2016

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Waste prevention programme

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

PORTUGAL FACT SHEET



Source: Eurostat

GDP

EUR 173 billion (1.2 % of EU-28 total in 2014)

Per person GDP

EUR 21 400 (in purchasing power standard)
(78 % of EU-28 average per person in 2014)

Use of materials

149 million tonnes DMC (2.2 % of EU-28 total in 2014)
14.3 tonnes DMC/person (109 % of EU-28 average per person in 2014)
Resource productivity 1.14 EUR/kg (57 % of EU-28 average in 2014)

Structure of the economy

Agriculture: 2.6 %
Industry: 22.4 %
Services: 75.0 % (2014 est.)

Surface area

92 200 square kilometres (2.1 % of total EU-28)

Population

10.4 million (2.0 % of EU-28 total)

Waste prevention programme

1.	Coverage	National
2	Type of programme	Integrated in Nacional Estrategic Plan for Municipal Solid Waste (PERSU 2020) on September 2014
3.	Title of programme and link to programme	Strategic Plan for Urban Waste http://apambiente.pt/_zdata/DESTAQUES/2014/RelatorioPropostaPERSU2020_Fev14_v2.pdf
4.	Duration of programme	2016-2020
5.	Languages	Portuguese
6.	Contact person	Cristina Carrola, cristina.carrola@apambiente.pt Portuguese Environment Agency (Agência Portuguesa do Ambiente — APA) http://www.apambiente.pt/
7.	Waste prevention objectives of the programme	Promote the production of sustainable products and materials, in order to reduce: • The amount of waste produced by the reduction of material resources and energy used and by encouraging their reuse and therefore reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill. • The presence of hazardous substances in materials, products and waste (p. 7651).
8.	The means used to break the link between economic growth and the environmental impacts associated with the generation of waste	Are the measures/means specifically mentioned in the waste prevention programme? No. The concept is, however, mentioned. Decoupling economic growth from the production of urban waste is mentioned in the plan as one of its key challenges. A prerequisite for dealing with this challenge is that the consumer understands the relationship between production and consumption in the context of a finite system. In other words, the desired response is cultural and behavioural change.
9.	Sectors covered	• Sale, retail, transport; • households; • private service activities/hospitality; • public services.
10.	Prevention of waste types	• Food/organic; • hazardous waste; • paper; • packaging; • waste electrical and electronic equipment /batteries; • bulky waste.
11.	Quantitative targets	The plan establishes two major objectives to be quantified: ▪ up to 31 December 2016, achieving a minimum reduction of waste production per capita of 7.6% by weight relative to the verified value in 2012; ▪ up to 31 December 2020, achieving a minimum reduction of waste production per capita of 10% by weight relative to the verified value in 2012.

12.	Measures on quantitative prevention	The suggested prevention measures are divided into two main categories (pp. 59–60): <i>Prevention next to industry and trade</i> - Promoting the conception of new products and packages with environmental criteria (eco-design), stimulating the supply of new products that will lead to less urban waste production and hazardous substances, namely: - Increase product durability; - Material reduction and product dimensions and packaging; - Offer of products that generate less waste along the life cycle; - Introduce a variable component in Ecovalue to new waste flow management entities licences, linking to ecodesign and package material reduction; - Promoting incentives and dissemination actions about responsible behavior of companies related to product materials reduction and harmfulness; - Support the formulation of companies policies to green procurement; - Promote the consumption reduction of light plastic bags and adopting others recommendations from the European Commission Green Paper; - Stimulate distributors and retailers to select suppliers that produce/import products with environmental criteria; Make food chain stakeholders aware to food waste and promoting good practices and case studies that contribute for their reduction. <i>Prevention directed to the consumers</i> - Promote awareness raising of citizens to sustainable production/consumption in society; - Campaigns to promote the use of traditional shopping bags and to foment the phasing out of plastic bags; - Enhancing the Implementation of polluter-pays principle by differentiating of pricing schemes (fixed and variable) according to production and destiny; - Stimulate food waste reduction by local and national public awareness campaigns. - Promoting home and communal composting.
13.	Measures on qualitative prevention	None.
14.	Prevention measures covered as referred to in Directive 2008/98, Annex IV: Examples of waste prevention measures referred to in Article 29 (1–16)	- Encouraging the use of technical, organisational, regulatory, economic and communication mechanisms to promote the efficient use of resources (p. 7678). - The promotion of research and development into the area of achieving cleaner and less wasteful products and technologies and the dissemination and use of the results of such research and development. - Promoting minimalist design in packaging and reusable/biodegradable packaging (p. 7676). - Ensuring that there is the capacity to implement the plan at municipal level and providing training on best practices in public service administration (p. 7673). - Developing awareness campaigns to ensure the commitment of economic agents to waste prevention (p. 7673). - Promoting voluntary initiatives, including product labelling (p. 7677). - Economic instruments such as incentives for clean purchases or the institution of an obligatory payment by consumers for a given article or element of packaging that would otherwise be provided free of charge. - Organising awareness campaigns and providing information to the general public. (p. 7673). - Promoting the reuse and repair of products wherever possible (p. 7677).
15.	Other prevention measures not covered by Annex IV	None.

16.	Indicators proposed	Does the programme define indicators for waste prevention? Yes. The main quantitative indicator as the reduction of municipal solid waste (MSW) generated per person per year: • Goal 1: reduction of 7.6% at the end of 2016 relative to the value of 2012. In 2012 the reference value is 456 kg/(person.year) and thereby, the value to be achieved in 2016 will be 421 kg/(person.year); • Goal 2: reduction of 10% at the end of 2020 relative to the value of 2012. In specific terms, it is intended that the value reached in 2020 is 410 kg/(person.year)
17.	Evaluation and monitoring of the programme	Is the programme evaluated (midterm, etc.)? A monitoring (GAG) group was created that will evaluate the strategies established in the program. Their progress will be monitored through annual reports (p. 7680).
18.	Target groups	Supply side: designers, manufacturers, distributors, retailers and service providers. Demand side: citizens and different communities. Governance/regulatory system: local, regional and central levels.
19.	Involvement of stakeholders	Does the waste prevention programme describe the involvement of stakeholders in the development of the programme? No information. Does the waste prevention programme describe the involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of the programme? Yes. This plan involves close cooperation with municipalities and industrial sector, because it involves the urban wastes reduction goals based on the quality of products. Citizens are also a key link to the success of this Plan.
20.	Other comments	Are the costs/savings of waste prevention measures stated in the programme? No information. <i>Other comments:</i> the funds for these activities could come from a general waste fee and/or from Programa Operacional Sustentabilidade e Eficiência no Uso de Recursos (PO SEUR).