

Waste prevention country profile

Slovakia

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European Environment Agency



Country profile: Slovakia

General information

Name of the country/ region	Slovakia
Coverage of the waste prevention programme (national/ regional)	National
Type of programme (stand alone or integrated into waste management plan)	Stand-alone programme, additional changes in connection to revised Waste Framework Directive incorporated into new Waste Management Plan 2021 - 2025
Title of programme and link to programme	Slovak waste prevention programme 2019-2025 (WPP)
Duration of programme	2019-2025
Language	Slovak
Contact person in the country/region	Viera Špalková (viera.spalkova@enviro.gov.sk) Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, Department of Waste Management and Circular Economy
Development process of the programme/ revision	Published: November 2018 Revised in 2020, focusing on the amendments in connection to revised Waste Framework Directive (revisions of WPP are incorporated into Waste Management Plan SR 2021 – 2025)
Foreseen budget for implementation of the project	There is no information on a specific budget, but each section on special waste flows includes the identified sources of funding for these activities and measures.

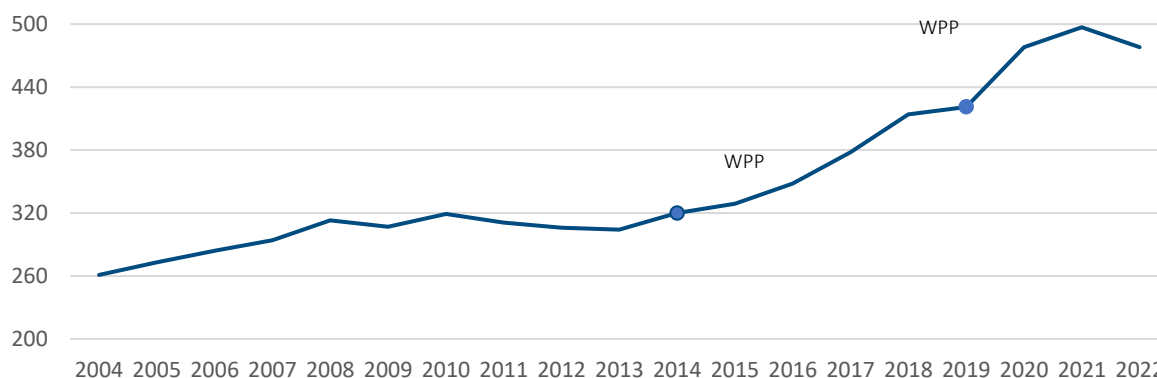
WASTE GENERATION

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

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)

Slovakia generated 478 kg/cap of municipal waste in 2022, which is a significant increase since 2015 (Figure 1) but still slightly below the estimated EU27 average of 513 kg/cap. This increase is mainly due to a significant increase in reported amounts going to material recycling and, to a lesser extent, composting and digestion. The increment observed is mainly due to changes in statistical reporting and an increase in the GDP, rather than a consequence of an improvement of Slovakian recycling. Several factors contributed to the strong increase since 2016, including a change in the registration of reporting of metals from households, the introduction of extended producer responsibility, and the introduction of a sorting rate for municipalities. As of 2020, waste from restaurants and catering establishments and packaging waste from not only sorted municipal waste collection from households, but also waste from other sources that is similar in nature and composition to household waste, is counted as municipal waste in Slovakia. This change has resulted in an increase in the reported per capita production of municipal waste of approximately 9 %.

Figure 1 Municipal waste generation in Slovakia (kg per capita), 2004-2022



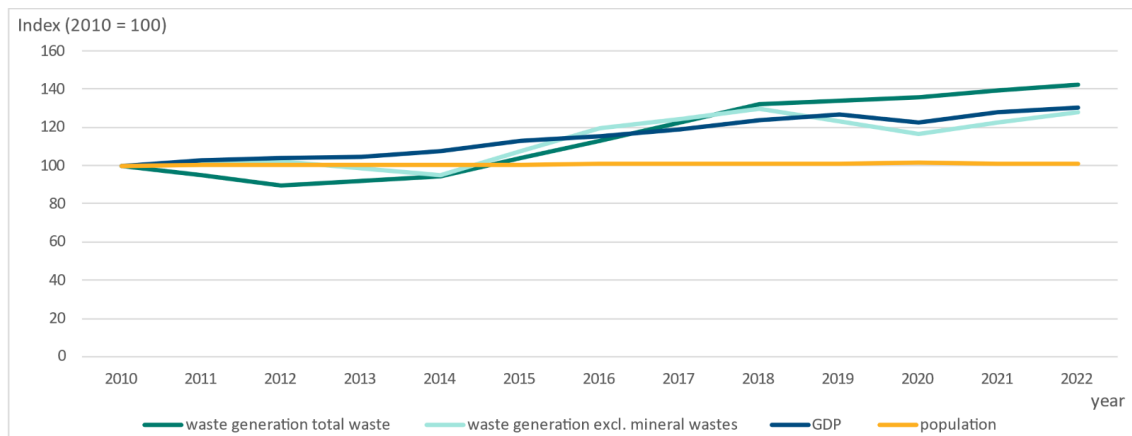
Source: Eurostat [ENV_WASMUN].

Note: As of reference year 2020, new reporting rules apply for calculating recycled municipal waste pursuant to the targets laid down in Article 11.2(c-e) of Directive 2008/98/EC. However, it is unclear based on the information available whether these new reporting rules have been implemented in Slovakia yet.

Total Waste

The total amount of waste generated in Slovakia has increased over the last 12 years by more than a third (Figure 2). This trend is mainly driven by the mineral and solidified wastes category. When excluding major mineral wastes the trend is primarily driven by recyclable wastes, which have more than doubled over the last 12 years. Slovakia's GDP shows a limited break in its increasing trend in 2020, most likely due to the Covid-19 outbreak. In general, it appears that there is no decoupling between waste generation and economic growth.

Figure 2 Generation of waste (total and excluding major mineral wastes), population and economic development, 2010-2022



Source: Eurostat [ENV_WASGEN, NAMA_10_PC, DEMO_GIND]

Note: Waste generation data for odd years are interpolated.

WASTE PREVENTION PROGRAMME

Objectives and priorities

1. Waste prevention objectives of the Programme - quantitative objectives	The main goal of the program is to move away from material recovery as the only priority in waste management in the Slovakia is to prevent waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy.
	<p>Other goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• reduce the amount of mixed municipal waste by 2025 by 50% compared to 2016;• reduce the amount of biodegradable waste in mixed municipal waste by 60% by 2025 compared to 2016;• promote the reduction of food waste generated by retail and consumers and reduce food losses throughout the food production and distribution chain;• reduce the generation of paper waste and reduce the share of paper in mixed municipal waste;• increase the reuse of bulky waste;• restrict the use of non-recyclable disposable plastic packaging;• prevent excessive packaging within one product;• promote the recyclability of plastic products and packaging (following the European strategy for the plastics in the circular economy);• reduce the disposal of construction and demolition waste;• continue the emerging trend of reducing hazardous waste generation;• reduce the generation of waste from the extractive industries through the application of applicable legislation and the implementation of regular inspections within the state supervision;• prevention of major accidents which could have an impact on the environment and human health (this goal is long-term. It should be taken into account that category B repositories, unlike category A, are inspected at least once every 4 years).
2. Sectors covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construction and Infrastructure• Manufacturing & industry• Retail• Households• Service activities• Hospitality• Public services (including procurement).
3. Priority waste types	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food/organic waste• Construction and demolition waste• Hazardous waste• Household/municipal waste• Packaging• Manufacturing waste• Bulky waste• other miscellaneous wastes: paper waste, waste from extractive industries.

4.	Target groups	Public, municipalities, enterprises, government, and other stakeholders
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Targets, indicators and monitoring

1.	Indicators proposed	<p>General:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of a new law on fees for waste disposal, the subject of which will be an increase in fees for waste disposal at landfills • Number of implemented information and educational campaigns, focused on waste prevention • Number of entities registered in EMAS / EMS – environmental management system • Number and value of contracts from the public budget considering environmental aspects for selected priority product groups from the total volume of concluded contracts • Number of licenses / contracts concluded under the National Environmental Labeling Scheme and the European Environmental Scheme labeling of EU Ecolabel products • Number of notifications from the Ministry of the Environment within the National Scheme for Environmental Labeling of Products <p>Mixed Municipal Waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of municipal waste and mixed municipal waste (thousand tons) • Amount of mixed municipal waste and total municipal waste (including small construction waste) per GDP and population <p>Biodegradable municipal waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantity of biodegradable municipal waste (thousand tons) • Share of biodegradable waste in mixed municipal waste (%) (need to complete the methodology for determining the share of biodegradable municipal waste) • Number of municipalities that support home and community composting / number of households that will be involved in home composting / number of communities that will be involved in community composting (need to finalize the methodology for obtaining statistical data) <p>Food waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of biodegradable kitchen and restaurant waste (thousand tons) • Share of food waste in municipal waste (%) <p>Paper waste:</p>
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- Amount of paper waste (thousand tons)
 - Number of implemented information activities to support the reduction of the amount of paper consumed/used

Bulky waste:

- Amount of bulky waste (thousand tons)
- Amount of reused bulky waste (thousand tons)

Plastics and packaging:

- Amount of packaging waste per quantity of packaging placed on the market (thousand tonnes)
- Number of implemented information activities to support the prevention of packaging

Construction waste:

- The amount of generated construction and demolition waste and amount of disposed of construction and demolition waste (thousand tons)
- Number of implemented information activities to support building material reuse centers

Hazardous waste:

- Amount of hazardous waste (thousand tons)

Waste from the extractive industries:

- Amount of waste from the mining industry (thousand tons)

2. Quantitative targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the amount of mixed municipal waste by 2025 by 50% compared to 2016; • reduce the amount of biodegradable waste in mixed municipal waste by 60% by 2025 compared to 2016.
3. Monitoring of programme	<p>In order to ensure the fulfillment of the objectives of the program, it is necessary to regularly monitor and evaluate the situation in the field of waste prevention. For detailed information see below.</p>
4. Evaluation of the programme	<p>The evaluation of the Waste Prevention Program (WPP) for the years 2019–2025 is conducted in accordance with § 7, paragraph 5 of the Waste Act. To ensure the program's objectives are met, regular assessments of waste prevention efforts are essential. The Slovak Ministry of the Environment, in collaboration with relevant ministries and organizations, will prepare an ongoing evaluation of the program's progress and present it to the Government, alongside an evaluation of waste management objectives. Should significant issues arise in meeting the established goals, the WPP will be re-evaluated and updated during the program period.</p> <p>Internal evaluations of waste prevention indicators are carried out annually by the Ministry of the Environment in collaboration with the Slovak Environment Agency (SEA).</p> <p>Responsibility: Slovak Ministry of the Environment (MoE SR) in cooperation with SEA</p> <p>Term: 2024</p>

Prevention measures

Implemented prevention measures according to Article 9	<p>The Waste Prevention Programme outlines prevention measures in the following areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sustainable consumption models 2. Design, manufacturing, and use of products 3. Reuse of products and the establishment of systems to promote repair and reuse activities 4. Reduction of waste generation in processes 5. Reduction of food waste generation 6. Reduction of waste generation, particularly waste that is not suitable for reuse or recycling 7. Identification of products that are major sources of littering 8. Information campaigns to raise awareness <p>Detailed information on specific measures can be found in the following overview.</p>
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Table 1: Specific waste prevention measures structured according to Art 9 WFD

<p>Promote and support sustainable consumption models</p>	<p>O.5. Ministries and their subordinate organizations as well as central state administration bodies will be consistent to apply principles of green public procurement in accordance with the current National Action Plan for Green Public Procurement in Slovakia (NAP GPP III, approved by Government Resolution No. 590/2016). Gradually, mandatory green public procurement for self-governing regions and cities will be introduced. Gradual move towards mandatory electronic green procurement. It is necessary to stimulate green innovation by increasing the share of green procurement.</p> <p>O.6. Promoting waste prevention through the application of sustainable production and consumption patterns by creating relevant conditions for development, and implementation of voluntary instruments in the field of environmental policy (environmental labelling of products, EMAS – scheme for environmental management and audit, green public procurement) and through eco-design.</p> <p>O.31. Reduction of the sales area under section 56(7) of the Waste Act. This is the obligation of a packaging distributor who distributes beverages in other than reusable packaging for sale to the consumer to also distribute beverages of the same type in reusable packaging, depending on the sales area, if such beverages are marketed in Slovakia. Term: to the amendment to the Waste Act.</p> <p>Creating a roadmap for the transition to the circular economy in Slovakia. Project creation of a roadmap for circular economy is supported by the Structural Reform Support Programme of the European Union. Slovakia cooperates with the EC and the OECD</p>
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	<p>on it. The expected impact of the project is the creation of a comprehensive policy framework including concrete measures to enable the transition to a circular economy. The impacts of the implementation of these measures were also prepared to improve resource efficiency and waste management. The project started on September 1, 2020 and lasted 18 months. The final report “Closing the loop in Slovakia, A roadmap towards circularity for competitiveness, eco-innovation and sustainability” is available here: https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/closing-the-loop-in-the-slovak-republic_acadd43a-en.</p> <p>Scheme of the Slovak Ministry of Economy (ME SR) to support the cooperation of business entities and scientific research institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for business entities that have the potential to increase their competitiveness through innovation of their own products, services and processes • Granting of so-called innovation vouchers, which reimburse solutions for innovative projects <p>Scheme of the ME SR to support industrial cluster organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the establishment and development of industrial clusters at the regional and superregional level as a tool for developing the competitiveness of the economy and economic growth, by improving links between research, academia and business and supporting increasing the competitiveness of industrial cluster members. <p>Measures to remove barriers to the sustainable development of the automotive industry in Slovakia, including the supply network</p> <p>Scheme of the ME SR to support small and medium-sized enterprises in the implementation of innovative solutions in cities, the so-called Smart Cities - supporting innovative SMEs in putting innovative ideas and solutions into practice, in particular in building smart cities, which will improve their access to modern technologies and processes and ultimately their more efficient operation and increase urban development and growth</p> <p>Handbook on public procurement processes for demand-oriented projects and national projects of the Operational Program Integrated Infrastructure, programming period 2014 - 2020, under the responsibility of the ME SR, where recommendations for the implementation of green public procurement in relevant cases are given</p>
<p>Encourage the design, manufacturing and use of products that are resource-efficient, durable (including in terms of life span and absence</p>	<p>O.44. Ecodesign support following the Circular Economy Action Plan.</p>

<p>of planned obsolescence), reparable, re-usable and upgradable.</p>	<p>Creating a roadmap for the transition to the circular economy in Slovakia (project started on September 1, 2020 and lasted 18 months).</p> <p>Consideration of legislative regulation of the length of the warranty period, especially in relation to the products that burden the environment, beyond the scope of the general warranty period of two years, following the results of the review of Directive (EU) 2019/771</p> <p>Scheme of the ME SR to support the cooperation of business entities and scientific research institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for business entities that have the potential to increase their competitiveness through innovations of their own products, services and processes • Granting of so-called innovation vouchers, which are used to reimburse solutions for innovation projects
<p>Target products containing critical raw materials to prevent that those materials become waste.</p>	<p>Recovery of critical raw materials from waste that is secured from waste from products (electrical equipment, vehicles, batteries and accumulators) by authorized treatment facilities. The minimum targets for the recovery and recycling of e-waste, used batteries and accumulators and end-of-life vehicles are taken from the relevant EU directives into the Waste Act.</p> <p>Support for waste treatment facilities containing a significant amount of critical raw materials</p> <p>Product life extension (ME SR)</p> <p>Slovak raw materials policy - handling of raw materials and the obligation to use them effectively (ME SR)</p>
<p>Encourage the re-use of products and the setting up of systems promoting repair and re-use activities, including in particular for electrical and electronic equipment, textiles and furniture, as well as packaging and construction materials and products.</p>	<p>O.26. Legislative, financial and information support building re-use centers located in collection yards. Term: to the amendment to the Waste Act (legislative and financial support), on an ongoing basis (information activities).</p> <p>O.27. Information support for building libraries of things and projects from manufacturers who take furniture from their own production via a web portal to avoid waste.</p> <p>O.30. Take measures to support an increase in the proportion of reusable packaging placed on the market under reusable packaging systems in an environmentally friendly manner. Term: to the amendment of the Waste Act</p> <p>O.43. Elaboration analysis of the possibilities of re-use of building materials from demolition and reconstruction work. Term: 2021</p> <p>O.28. Evaluate the possibilities of introducing financial incentives (from the Environmental Fund, Producer Responsibility Organizations) for companies involved in preparing for re-use (e.g. furniture, textiles).</p>

	<p>Term: 2025</p> <p>Proposal to support product reuse, product repair and upcycling from EU and national resources</p>
<p>Encourage, as appropriate and without prejudice to intellectual property rights , the availability of spare parts, instruction manuals, technical information, or other instruments, equipment or software enabling the repair and re-use of products without compromising their quality and safety.</p>	<p>Consideration of the possibility of legislative regulation of the length of the warranty period, especially in relation to the products that burden the environment the most, beyond the scope of the general warranty period of two years, following the results of the review of Directive (EU) 2019/771</p>
<p>Reduce waste generation in processes related to industrial production, extraction of minerals, manufacturing, construction and demolition, taking into account best available techniques.</p>	<p>O.41. Increase fees for construction and demolition wastes landfilling. Term: within the amendment to the Act on Waste Disposal Fees</p> <p>O.43 Elaborate analyses of possibilities of repeated use of building material from demolition and reconstruction works</p> <p>Strict implementation of Directive 2010/75 / EU on industrial emissions and its obligation to apply BAT in IPPC plants by Slovak Environmental Inspection, as IPPC plants are obliged to comply with BAT and the permit for operation must reflect the waste management hierarchy.</p> <p>Support of projects in the operational program Integrated Infrastructure, programming period 2014 - 2020 - the condition of project eligibility is compliance with RIS3 SK, "Research and Innovation Strategy for Intelligent Specialization in Slovakia". The RIS3 SK condition is related to measures aimed at supporting waste prevention and circular economy, which is formalized through product lines defined by RIS3 SK, while a significant part of the defined product lines are environmental measures with an emphasis on reducing the negative impact of production systems on the environment.</p> <p>Setting the obligation for producers of construction and demolition waste to carry out selective demolition according to the procedures established by the implementing act for the management of removed construction materials intended for reuse, by-products in such a way as to ensure their maximum reuse and recycling (since July 2022)</p>

<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>	<p>O.18. Ban on landfilling of food waste from wholesale, retail and distribution in the Waste Act with effect from 1.1.2023. Term: 2022</p> <p>O.19 Assess the possibility of abolishing exemptions for the obligation to introduce and ensure the separate collection of biodegradable kitchen waste from households</p> <p>O.20 Participate in the development of a methodology for consistent determination/measurement of the amount of generated food waste and methods of food waste management</p> <p>O.21. Actively support the implementation of measures Action plan to prevent food waste.</p> <p>O.22 Information support of food waste prevention in terms of environmental impacts</p> <p>O.23 To support of zones of non-standard food (e.g. optically non-standard fruits and vegetables) in retail through information campaigns</p> <p>Environmental Strategy 2030: Objective: 10.5. Disposal of food waste for supermarkets will be prohibited. Measures for the stated objective:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduce the obligation for restaurants and supermarkets to continue to use food, e.g. donate food after the best before date to charity. If the food is no longer fit for human consumption, they will be able to compost it, or use it for energy or other recovery (e.g. by selling it at a reduced price for feed purposes, other than feeding wild animals). 2. Ensure information campaigns and behavioural measures aimed at changing human behaviour in the generation of food waste in order to prevent its generation.
<p>Encourage food donation and other redistribution for human consumption, prioritising human use over animal feed and the reprocessing into non-food products.</p>	<p>The same as previous - reduce the generation of food waste</p>
<p>Promote the reduction of the content of hazardous substances 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</p>	<p>Under green public procurement, for some product groups, the environmental characteristics are formulated in the technical specifications in such a way that the contracting authority requires that the ordered goods do not contain dangerous substances (defined in REACH) and the tenderer must prove this compliance with the relevant certificate. One such technical specification can also be found in the methodology for the product group "computers and monitors", which from 01.07.2020 are to be complied with by central state administration bodies when procuring goods and services falling within it.</p>

<p>pursuant to article 33(1) 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>O.2. Increase landfill fees as part of the amendment to the Fees Act for the disposal of waste in connection with its effectiveness and the relevant implementing regulation.</p> <p>O.30 Take measures to support an increase in the share of reusable packaging placed on the market within the reuse systems of packaging in an environmentally sound manner</p> <p>O.31 Reduction of the size of the sales area specified in § 56 par. 7 of the Waste Act. It concerns the obligation of a packaging distributor who distributes beverages in other than reusable packaging for sale to the consumer, to distribute beverages of the same type also in reusable packaging depending on the sales area, if such beverages are marketed in Slovakia</p> <p>O.35 In the Waste Act, establish a ban on the use of disposable dishes, cutlery, cups and straws in permanent operations. (In addition to the directive on reducing the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, there is also a ban on the use of paper, not only plastic, disposable tableware, cutlery, cups and straws)</p> <p>O.38. Information support for the establishment of a network of drinking water wells in public places, drinking of tap water and preparation of a map of the location of wells in Slovakia (+ financial support from the Environmental Fund – applicant for support under Act No. 587/2004 Coll. On the Environmental Fund and Amendment of Certain Acts, as amended).</p> <p>O.39 Legislative introduction of mandatory use of beverages only in returnable prepaid packaging for all state administration bodies</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</p>	<p>O.32 Introduce the obligation to pay for all types of plastic bags (including very light ones), then analyse the reduction in plastic bag consumption after the introduction of the charges to evaluate the introduction of a ban on the provision of light plastic bags. Term: amendment to the Waste Act, continuously</p> <p>O.33. Ban the use of disposable plastic tableware, cutlery, cups and drinking straws at public events (note: promote biodegradable disposable tableware). Term: to the amendment of the Waste Act, December 2022</p>

proportionate and non-discriminatory.

O.34. Introduction of mandatory use of reusable and compostable bowls, cutlery and cups at public events (in temporary stands), mandatory separate collection of biodegradable municipal waste and mandatory provision of its processing (composting plant, biogas plant).

Term: amendment to the Waste Act

O.35. Prohibition on the use of disposable tableware, cutlery, cups and straws in permanent operations.

Deadline: amendment to the Waste Act

O.36. Prohibition of the use of disposable plastic packaging for non-recyclable food or compostable (in the case of compostable packaging, ensuring their separate collection and recycling).

Term: amendment to the Waste Act

O.37. Development of a methodological tool to support the emergence of packaging-free stores, to support the introduction of packaging-free distribution of goods and the use of reusable packaging (draft measures to promote the use of reusable packaging, minimum hygiene compliance requirements for the use of self-supplied packaging, recommendations for control authorities).

Term: December 2023

O.39. Legislative introduction of mandatory use of beverages only in reusable packaging for all state administrative bodies.

Term: to the amendment of the Waste Act

Implementation of Act no. 302/2019 Coll. on the deposit system of disposable packaging for beverages, introduction of the backup of disposable packaging for beverages with effect from 01.01.2022

Introduction of an obligation for the packaging producer to provide plastic bags for the purchase of goods or products for a fee (except for very light plastic bags) and an obligation to provide other types of bags, in accordance with § 54 (5) of the Waste Act

Measures through the application of Act 364/2004 Coll. on Waters as amended:

- It is forbidden to throw into the waters all types of waste generated on ships and the balances of transported cargo (§ 19, 4)
- Slovakia's water plan is a water planning document for the protection and improvement of surface water and groundwater and aquatic ecosystems, for sustainable and economical use of water, for improving water conditions, for ensuring the territorial system of ecological stability and for protection against harmful effects of water. The elaboration of the Water Plan of Slovakia is ensured by the Ministry of

	<p>the Environment in cooperation with the relevant central state administration bodies. Slovakia's water plan is the basis for the elaboration of the International Danube River Basin Management Plan and the International Vistula River Basin Management Plan in accordance with the international obligations (§ 14)</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>The same as previous measures</p>
<p>Develop and support information campaigns to raise awareness about waste prevention and littering.</p>	<p>O.3. Promoting waste prevention by conceptual documents concerned departments (ecodesign, innovative production processes, green public procurement, ...).</p> <p>O.4. Improve public awareness through information and education campaigns, which will focus on waste prevention. The implementation of the measure will be implemented in accordance with the Departmental Concept of Environmental Education, Training and Awareness until 2025, through the activities of the National Project “Improving information and providing advice on improving the quality of the environment in Slovakia”, as well as other activities.</p> <p>O.11. Support information and educational activities to prevent the occurrence of MSW in the form of systematic education of the population through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a portal dedicated to waste prevention • good examples from practice from Slovakia and abroad published on the portal for waste prevention. <p>O.17. Preparation and implementation of the National Education Programme on the Prevention of Biodegradable Waste and Food Waste for individual target groups – residents, municipalities and state administration. Term: preparation 2021, implementation continuously</p> <p>O.22. Information support to avoid food waste in terms of environmental impact.</p> <p>O.23. Support construction of non-standard food zones (e.g. optically non-standard fruit and vegetables) in retail establishments in the form of information campaigns.</p> <p>O.24. Preparation and implementation of campaigns, in which residents will be informed about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quantities of paper used for the production of advertising materials and various catalogs,

- junk mail protection options, e.g. by offering a “Don’t Throw Ads” sticker that residents can stick on their mailbox.

Term: during the National SEA project

O.40. Information support for packaging prevention on a portal created for waste prevention:

- Creation of a national “Zero Waste” database of good practice examples on the portal (information and map of physical and online stores offering loose food and other products with no packaging, which serve as a tool to support the development of this model in practice),
- publication of a methodological aid to support the creation of non-packaging transactions (measure no. 37),
- clear and correct information on biodegradable plastics. Information must be provided to the consumer as to which plastics may be labeled as “compostable” or “biodegradable” and how they should be treated after use,
- how to reduce excessive use of packaging,
- publication of information supporting the construction and use of fountains for drinking water and drinking tap water and maps of the location of fountains in Slovakia (measure no. 38).

O.42. Support for the creation of bazaars or centres for the reuse of building materials in the form of promotional and educational activities as well as information campaigns on successful examples in Slovakia and abroad.

National project of the SEA focused on raising awareness

<https://www.sazp.sk/projekty-eu/infoaktivita/>

Information platform on green economy <https://zelene-hospodarstvo.enviroportal.sk/en>

Platform for the circular economy in Slovakia Circular Slovakia, <http://www.circular-slovakia.sk/>, in which the public, private and third sectors cooperate with the aim of exchanging knowledge and stimulating business in the field of circular economy.

Activities of the Ministry of the Environment focused on the support of environmental education and training in the field of waste

National Recycling Agency of Slovakia (www.narask.sk), where the public, private, educational sector, representative associations and citizens cooperate on the principle of QUADRUPLE HELIX in the activities of consulting, education, promotion and awareness of the application of products and technical solutions from recovered green public and socially responsible procurement for the transition to a circular economy

Additional implemented prevention measures, not covered by Article 9

O.1. Linking waste prevention activities with activities related to the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development and preparation of the Slovak National Investment Plan for 2018 – 2030 (under Objective 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns). Waste prevention is an integral part of the circular economy and as such affects product and consumer policy.

O.7. Change of waste management programmes at the regional level: in the mandatory part of the regional WMP to indicate specific steps and targets for waste prevention activities.

O.8. Introduction of mandatory quantitative collection of municipal waste (Pay As You Throw System).

Term: to the amendment of the Waste Act and Act no. 582/2004 Coll. On local taxes and local fee for municipal waste and small construction waste

O.9. Elaboration analysis of the effects of the introduction of door-to-door waste collection and quantity collection (Pay As You Throw System), which are associated with the registration of waste at the level of the population as a tool for the implementation of these steps in Slovakia.

Term: December 2024

O.10. Support waste collection systems for products and local deposit systems in the form of legislation amendment and economic incentives.

Term: 2025

O.12. Elaboration of biodegradable municipal waste management strategies including a thorough analysis of the origin of the waste and the application of a valid waste management hierarchy with an emphasis on waste prevention.

Term: 2020

O.13. Legislative, financial and information support for home and community composting.

O.14. Introduction of a system of statistics at municipalities level about the number of households that compost biological waste on their own in the form of domestic and community composting.

Term: to the amendment of the Waste Act

O.15. Preparation of methodology for calculating the amounts of composted biodegradable waste in the form of home and community composting.

Term: December 2020

O.16. Creation of a unified methodology for monitoring the amount and types of biodegradable wastes in mixed municipal waste (analysis of

mixed municipal waste) and the introduction of the obligation to perform ongoing analyses.

Term: 2020

O.19. Assess the possibility of canceling the exceptions for the obligation to introduce and ensure the implementation of separate collection of biodegradable kitchen waste from households.

Term: 2022

O.20. Participate in the development of a methodology to consistently identify / measure the amount of food waste generated and methods to dispose of food waste.

O.25. Initiation and cooperation in the area of limiting the production and distribution of printed promotional materials.

O.29. Preparation of an analysis focusing on the study of the most commonly used packaging on the Slovak market with a focus on sorting and recycling equipment and methods for assessing the products placed on the market in terms of recyclability in Slovakia and surrounding countries (in relation to capacity in the region).

Term: December 2020

O.45. Application of valid legal regulations and regular implementation of state supervision at operators of repositories for waste from extractive industries in connection with the inspection of the repository. It is suitable to create a photo documentation of the repository for a later comparison of the repository status.

FOOD WASTE PREVENTION

Food waste generation

In accordance to the Article 5 (1) of the Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste, it is crucial for Slovakia to limit the generation of food waste and thus prevent the biodegradable waste ending up in landfills. Food waste prevention objectives could further be strengthened by banning the landfilling of retail food.

In future, the generation of food waste and its development over time will be monitored by the official data provided by Eurostat.

Measures to prevent food waste

To address the issue of food waste, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovakia has developed the Plan for the Prevention of Food Waste in 2016. This includes inter alia the following measures:

- Elaboration of a list of causes of food loss and food waste in individual segments of the food chain, together with a proposal for the possibility of mitigating their impact on waste or food waste, e.g. optimization of production processes, application of the best available technologies, etc.
- Encourage: stimulate the efficient use of behavioral resources through investment subsidies, economic incentives, price signals, taxes, sanctions, benchmarking (performance measurement and competitive pressure).
- Define the form and scope of cooperation in quantifying and reducing food loss and food waste in the form of a platform with a defined status.
- Proposal of beneficial uses of food losses and wasted food, e. g. the use of former food as feed in accordance with applicable legislation.
- Consider simplifying the rules for donating / handing over expired foods for feed purposes.
- Adopt provisions to facilitate food donations for charitable purposes.

Slovakia considers the implementation of a food waste landfilling ban for foods originating from the retail sector. Positive outcomes of this law would be that retailers find ways to donate food, that reached their best-before-end date, to charities and producers of livestock feed. There is also a possibility to extend the measure towards restaurants, food producers, and agricultural sector.¹

Slovakia canceled exemptions for the obligation to introduce and ensure the separate collection of biodegradable kitchen waste from households from January 2021. Positive outcomes of this obligation are the reduction of mixed municipal waste, minimization of biodegradable waste going to landfills and increasing the amount of nutrients returned to the cropland in the form of compost.

¹ <https://www.oecd.org/environment/waste/Policy-Paper-Making-the-Slovak-Republic-a-more-resource-efficient-economy.pdf>

REUSE OF PRODUCTS

Data

Slovakia has not reported any data for reuse of textiles, furniture, electrical and electronic equipment and construction and building materials according to Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/19 for the year 2021 by the reporting deadline (EEA, 2024)

Measures to support ReUse

The waste prevention programme of Slovakia includes specific waste prevention activities that aim to support the reuse and repair/ preparation for reuse of products. Inter alia the legislative, financial and information support for building reuse centres in collection yards is specifically mentioned. Also, the support for local deposit systems is indicated as one of the priorities of the programme. The possibilities of introducing financial incentives for companies involved in preparing for re-use (e.g. furniture, textiles) will be evaluated.

Another focus for reuse is the life span extension for construction materials, e.g., the Slovak association supporting recycling of CDW – ZRMS is involved in several projects (like the H2020 project RE4), research and products which enable recycled CDW to be re-used. For instance, the Slovak company PR Krajné, s.r.o produces an insulation from textile waste from leftovers from vehicle manufacturing and also from end-of-life vehicles under the trademark called STERED®.

Best practice examples

Fulfilment of specific objectives of PPVO SR 2014 – 2018

Objective: Continue the trend of year-on-year reduction in the generation of mixed municipal waste

The objective ‘reduction of mixed municipal waste’ has been fulfilled. But from 2010 to 2016, only a slightly declining trend in the generation of mixed municipal waste was recorded. However, for other waste categories (i.e. bio-waste, paper, packaging), there has been an increasing trend in the generation of waste. These numbers show that the individual waste components were sorted in greater detail than in the years before; leading to less mixed municipal waste, but a greater amount of sorted individual waste types.

- ✓ The capital city of Slovakia, Bratislava, has initiated and supported several zero waste activities. This includes a zero-waste policy for the very popular traditional Christmas market. For a more sustainable Christmas market, the visitors of the markets will have to buy a refundable cup alongside returnable glasses and compostable, bio-degradable dishes.
- ✓ Zone Without Money - <http://zonabezpenazi.sk/> - events (swap) organised by Zone Without Money during the whole year, but mainly at one common date in November (because of Christmas time) through partners as NGOs / interested parties / enthusiasts / volunteers throughout the territory of Slovakia.
- ✓ Baterkáreň: <https://baterkaren.nevyhadzujte.sk/about-us/o-reuse-centre-baterkaren>, The first community reuse centre in Slovakia, established in 2019 in the city of Trnava. It creates a space where community members can bring unnecessary products and together look for a new use, both online and offline. The aim of the centre is to put as many items as possible into circulation, reduce waste production, raise awareness of second-hand goods and motivate as many people as possible to change their shopping behaviour and live a more sustainable life.
- ✓ The Conference Slovakia Going Zero Waste: <http://zero-waste.sk/>, conference organized annually from the year 2018 with presentation on zero waste in everyday life, circular economy, zero waste in business, followed by discussion. Consultations zone during breaks, the possibility of zero waste purchases

- ✓ The conference „Waste prevention 2021 “ took place as a hybrid event streamed free of charge. The program covered explanation of why this topic is so important, presented the current situation, strategies and direction at the Slovak and EU level, trends and practice in waste prevention, experience, recommendations and tips for different target groups. (Recording is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pl_rNTaowRQ&t=5408s)
- ✓ Office without waste bin: <https://www.incien.sk/projekty-incien/samospravy/kancel-bez-kosa/>, the aim of the project "Office without waste bin" is to reduce the negative impact of waste on the environment in the form of proper sorting and prevention of waste at work, especially in the office environment.
- ✓ In October 2022, the Slovak capital Bratislava opened its´ first re-use center, which is called KOLO (<https://www.olo.sk/kolo/>). The opening was preceded by a monthly collection of unnecessary but fully functional items from Bratislava households. Residents brought more than 7 tons of items for reuse. KOLO is open six days a week (Tuesday to Sunday). Visitors can get second-hand things, but also bring those that no longer serve them in their household.
- ✓ Initiative of the Slovak Environment Agency “**Zatoč s odpadom**” („Outsmart the waste“) for schools <https://www.ewobox.sk/sazp/zatoc-s-odpadom>, with specific activities throughout the school year, always focusing on a particular theme. This initiative is very popular and used by schools, with practical proposals for everyday life.
- ✓ Special part of initiative “Zatoč s odpadom” („Outsmart the waste“) for teachers: “**Teacher in action**”: <https://www.ewobox.sk/sazp/zatoc-s-odpadom/ucitel-v-akcii> helps teachers to promote environmental themes more suitable for students with activities for students. These two activities are part of the platform www.ewobox.sk
- ✓ Dozens of companies and non-governmental non-profit organizations operating in Slovakia, as well as self-managed companies, bring all kinds of green solutions that are in line with the transition to circular eco-management. On the website <https://zelene-hospodarstvo.enviroportal.sk/en>, one may search for individual solutions, which are classified into seven categories: climate change adaptation, circular economy and sustainable use of resources, sustainable transport, energy efficiency, green buildings and housing, sustainable landscape management, sustainable bio-economy.

Product rentals

- ✓ Goethe-Institut's Library of Things: <https://www.goethe.de/ins/sk/sk/kul/sup/ajn.html> -
- ✓ LEGO RENT - LEGO building kits rental: <https://www.legorent.sk/sk/uvod/#ako-to-funguje>
- ✓ Home of books: <http://www.knihyknihy.sk/>, moving of read and new books to publicly accessible bookshelves, create new book places, help start libraries and bookshelves in schools, medical facilities, companies, gastronomy, and bringing books to events.

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 Slovakia.

Topic	Addressed in the programme	Comments
Eco-design	Yes	Specific measures to support waste preventing product design.
Repair, refurbishment and remanufacture	Yes	Inter alia financial support for reuse centres.
Recycling	Yes	Inter alia in the context of construction and demolition waste management.
Economic incentives and finance	Yes	E.g. on reuse of textiles.
Circular business models	No	Not specifically addressed in the programme.
Eco-innovation	Yes	Measures O.3 and O.5 of WPP SR, and special activities and support of eco-innovation through activities of responsible ministries (in the revised part of WPP)
Governance, skills and knowledge	Yes	Various initiatives on knowledge creation, learning and enabling consumers to prevent waste.