

# Overview of national waste prevention programmes in Europe



**Latvia** 

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.

## LATVIA FACT SHEET

 	<p><b>GDP</b> EUR 23.6 billion (0.2% of EU-28 total in 2014)</p> <p><b>Per person GDP</b> EUR 17 500 (in purchasing power standard) (64 % of EU-28 average per person in 2014)</p> <p><b>Use of materials</b> 41 million tonnes DMC (0.6 % of EU-28 total in 2014) 20.5 tonnes DMC/person (156 % of EU-28 average in 2014) Resource productivity 0.51 EUR/kg (26 % of EU-28 average in 2014)</p> <p><b>Structure of the economy</b> Agriculture: 3.4 % Industry: 23.2 % Services: 73.4 % (2014 est.)</p> <p><b>Surface area</b> 64 600 km<sup>2</sup> (1.4 % of EU-28 total)</p> <p><b>Population</b> 1.98 million (0.4 % of EU-28 total)</p>
<p>Source: Eurostat</p>	

## Waste prevention programme

1.	Coverage	National
2.	Type of programme	Part of waste management plan
3.	Title of programme and link to programme	Atkritumu apsaimniekošanas valsts plans 2013.–2020.gadam (Waste management national plan 2013-2020): <a href="http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/4276">http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/4276</a>
4.	Duration of programme	2013–2020
5.	Language	Latvian
6.	Contact person	Ilze Donina, <a href="mailto:ilze.donina@varam.gov.lv">ilze.donina@varam.gov.lv</a> Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
7.	Waste prevention objectives of the programme	The objectives of the programme are the following (p. 85): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to decouple economic growth from waste generation and the associated impacts on the environment;</li><li>• to reduce the volume of waste, promoting product reuse or extended use;</li><li>• to reduce the hazardous substances used in the production of materials and products.</li></ul>
8.	The means used to break the link between economic growth and the environmental impacts associated with the generation of waste	<b>Are the measures/means specifically mentioned in the waste prevention programme?</b> No.
9.	Sectors covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manufacturing;</li><li>• sale, retail, transport;</li><li>• households;</li><li>• public services.</li></ul>
10.	Prevention of waste types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food/organic;</li><li>• hazardous waste;</li><li>• household/municipal waste;</li><li>• paper;</li><li>• packaging;</li><li>• waste electrical and electronic equipment /batteries;</li><li>• manufacturing waste.</li></ul>

11.	Quantitative targets	<p>The targets are related to the indicators presented on page 87. The targets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no more than 400 kg per capita of Municipal Solid Waste generated by 2020;</li> <li>• no more than 650 000 tonnes of total MSW generated by 2020;</li> <li>• no more than 50 000 tonnes of total hazardous waste generated by 2020.</li> </ul> <p>The other targets (p. 87) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 % of MSW recycled by 2020;</li> <li>• 75 % of hazardous waste recycled by 2020;</li> <li>• 75 % of manufacturing waste recycled by 2020;</li> <li>• no more than 50 % of MSW landfilled by 2020;</li> <li>• not more than 25 % of hazardous waste landfilled by 2020;</li> <li>• no more than 25 % of manufacturing waste landfilled by 2020.</li> </ul>
12.	Measures on quantitative prevention	See 'Prevention measures covered as referred to in Directive 2008/98, Annex IV (1–16)'.
13.	Measures on qualitative prevention	See 'Prevention measures covered as referred to in Directive 2008/98, Annex IV (1–16)'.
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)	<p>1. Include a waste prevention programme and waste prevention measures in national planning and development documents (p. 116).</p> <p>1. Evaluate the potential of biodegradable waste to be used for energy production (p. 116).</p> <p>1. Evaluate the differentiation between the natural resources tax rates for different groups of materials in order to promote efficient use of resources (p. 116).</p> <p>2. Prioritise research in the areas of innovative production technologies (resource-efficient production) and innovative recycling and recovery of waste (p. 116).</p> <p>2. Research and develop the implementation of cleaner and less wasteful products and services, promoting efficient use of resources, aiming to attract Norwegian Financial Mechanism funding for a new aid programme for 'green' industry (p. 118).</p> <p>2. Support higher education institutions in studies on waste prevention and resource recovery from waste (p. 119).</p> <p>3. Evaluate the environmental impacts of possible alternatives to raw materials for the various production processes in the Environmental Impact Assessment regulation (p. 119).</p> <p>3. In accordance with the laws and regulations on pollution, waste facility operators must use the best available techniques that provide the least possible waste (p. 120).</p> <p>3. Latvia intends to continue the application of the above two regulatory requirements (p. 119).</p> <p>4. Development and application by the Cabinet of Ministers of regulations for the restriction of certain hazardous chemicals in electrical and electronic equipment (p. 120).</p> <p>4. Promote eco-design issues in specialist higher education institutions, as well as vocational education curricula (p. 120).</p> <p>5. Promote environmentally friendly technologies in the production of materials; promote resource conservation and prudent use of natural resources, and the substitution of new with recycled materials in the production processes (p. 121).</p> <p>5. Establish sustainable production methods and training to work with the latest technologies (p. 121).</p> <p>5. Initiate measures to promote environmentally friendly organic farming (p. 121).</p> <p>6. Ensure the training of staff of the State Environmental Services on waste prevention issues. Include training programmes for waste prevention measures in medical institutions (hospitals, surgeries, health centres, rehabilitation centres and veterinary care practice jobs) (p. 121).</p>

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7. There is a requirement to include waste prevention in permits for Polluting Activities of category A, B or C according to existing legislation (CM 30.11.2010, No 1082 of 'Procedure for A, B and C categories of polluting activities'). Latvia intends to continue the application of these regulatory requirements (p. 122).
  8. Continue the application of existing measures concerning the prevention of waste and criteria for the rational use of waste (p. 122).
  8. Educate producers about environmentally friendly materials and efficient material inputs to production (p. 122).
  8. Promote eco-design issues in specialist higher education institutions, as well as vocational education curricula (p. 122).
  9. Perspectives to evaluate the need to enter into such agreements, in the case of waste prevention, cannot be achieved by the measures referred to in Annex 5 of the Latvian waste prevention programme (p. 122).
  10. Promote the European Union's Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) (p. 123).
  11. From 2008, there have been differentiated Natural Resource Taxation rates for plastic bags. Ordinary plastic bags are charged with a higher tax rate than others, such as bio-plastics and oxy-separating plastics, which are priced with significantly lower tax rates (p. 123).
  11. The Latvian government will evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented measure and the subsequent application development tools (p. 123).
  12. Support information activities to promote sustainable consumption and resource efficiency (p. 124).
  13. Promote and support the application and use of eco-labelling (p. 126).
  14. Perspectives to evaluate the need to enter into such agreements, in the case of waste prevention, cannot be achieved by the measures referred to in Annex 5 of the Latvian waste prevention programme (p. 126).
  15. The Latvian Ministry of Environment has published information reports with recommendations to promote Green Public Procurement for the state and municipal institutions, as well as the construction sector. Latvia intends to continue with these recommendations and promote the application of these recommendations (p. 126).
  16. Examine the possibility of organising a system for collection of used textiles from households and textile by-products from textile businesses for reuse and recycling (p. 126).
  16. Support businesses (especially small and medium-sized enterprises) in the reuse and/or preparation for reuse/repair operations (p. 127).
  16. Municipalities to issue orders for the management of waste paper, waste electrical and electronic equipment, and waste batteries and accumulators by local government institutions (p. 127).
  16. Assess whether it is possible for state and local authorities to promote the reuse of old electrical and electronic equipment or to use some of their parts as spare parts, and encourage such behaviour as much as possible (p. 127).
  16. Public education, calling on the individual responsible to choose more environmentally friendly products and promoting sustainable consumption, which would reduce the consumption of goods, as well as promoting citizens' involvement in the reuse of products (p. 127).

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15.	Other prevention measures not covered by Annex IV	No.
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16. Indicators proposed	<p><b>Does the programme define indicators for waste prevention?</b></p> <p>Yes. Table 17 on page 87 contains all the quantitative indicators proposed in the waste prevention programme of Latvia. There are nine indicators in total:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. total municipal solid waste generated (kg/capita);</li> <li>2. total municipal solid waste generated (tonnes/year);</li> <li>3. total amount of hazardous waste generated (tonnes/year);</li> <li>4. total amount of municipal solid waste recycled (% of the amount generated);</li> <li>5. total amount of hazardous waste recycled (% of the amount generated);</li> <li>6. total amount of manufacturing waste recycled (% of the amount generated);</li> <li>7. total amount of municipal solid waste landfilled (% of the amount generated);</li> <li>8. total amount of manufacturing waste landfilled (% of the amount generated);</li> <li>9. total amount of hazardous waste landfilled (% of the amount generated).</li> </ol>
17. Evaluation and monitoring of the programme	<p><b>Is the programme evaluated (midterm, etc.)?</b></p> <p>Yes. The Information Report on Implementation of Waste Management State Plan was prepared for 2013, 2014 and 2015: <a href="http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/4276">http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/4276</a></p> <p>The Latvian waste management plan is planned to be revised in 2017 (p. 88). The waste prevention programme is a part of the waste management plan and therefore it will be revised at the same time.</p> <p>The effectiveness of the measures in the national waste prevention programme will be evaluated according to the following quality indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the impact of waste prevention measures on waste generation and on the waste producers (sociological assessment);</li> <li>• the potential reuse of waste (p. 87).</li> </ul>
18. Target groups	No information.
19. Involvement of stakeholders	<p><b>Does the waste prevention programme describe the involvement of stakeholders in the development of the programme?</b></p> <p>No.</p> <p><b>Does the waste prevention programme describe the involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of the programme?</b></p> <p>Yes. The waste prevention programme describes which stakeholders are going to be involved in the implementation of measures in the programme (pp. 116–128). They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development;</li> <li>• Ministry of Economics;</li> <li>• Ministry of Education and Science;</li> <li>• Ministry of Finance;</li> <li>• entrepreneurs/businesses;</li> <li>• Ministry of Health.</li> </ul>
20. Other comments	<p><b>Cost of waste prevention measures. Are the costs/savings of waste prevention measures stated in the programme?</b></p> <p>No.</p>