



ACR+ Weekly Newslines

October 24, 2012

Welcome to the weekly Newslines from the ACR+ Secretariat, a free service that is exclusive to our Members and a vehicle to provide news on matters relating to sustainable resource management. If you would like to add a colleague to receive this service, or if you have any items of interest you would like to contribute, send us an email at info@acrplus.org.

Vous trouverez ci-dessous la lettre d'information hebdomadaire du Secrétariat de l'ACR+, un service gratuit réservé à nos membres visant à partager des informations en matière de gestion durable des ressources. Veuillez noter que si vos collègues veulent également s'inscrire pour recevoir ce service ou si vous souhaitez contribuer à cette lettre, vous pouvez nous envoyer un courriel à info@acrplus.org.

Esta es la revista semanal de la secretaria de ACR+, un servicio gratuito exclusivo para los socios de ACR+ y medio que proporciona noticias relacionadas con la gestión sostenible de los residuos. Si desea incluir en este servicio a otro miembro de su organización, o si le gustaría contribuir con noticias, envíenos un correo electrónico a info@acrplus.org.

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01. Europe - Miniwaste final conference. Rennes, 20-21 November 2012

Closing conference of the project.



The Miniwaste project on bio-waste prevention will finish in a couple of months! To highlight the results of the project and present tools and strategies for preventing bio-waste at local and regional level, the Miniwaste project partners - Lipor, Brno, Irstea, ACR+ and Rennes Métropole - invite you to the [closing conference](#) of the project. This event, held during the [European Week for Waste Reduction](#), will take place on November 20 and 21 in Rennes (France) during one and a half day, in French and English.

Plenary sessions will allow bio-waste in and local and regional authorities to find out bio-waste minimization activities implemented by Miniwaste partners and discuss various strategies for managing bio-waste, from waste prevention to centralized management of bio-waste.

Workshops in French and English will allow participants to learn more about four areas related to bio-waste prevention: composting, food waste, garden waste and the use of monitoring tools developed in the Miniwaste project.

During the conference, participants will also have the opportunity to test a computerized tool for bio-waste prevention monitoring.

To register: <http://tinyurl.com/miniwaste2012>

Access to the agenda: <http://www.miniwaste.eu/en/tools-events/final-conference.html>

Please note that the number of places is limited!

Source: www.miniwaste.eu

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02. Europe - ACR+ EPR Club Lunch Seminar

This Friday! Last chance to register!



ACR+ EPR Club is holding a thematic seminar dedicated to European and Belgian legislation regarding the EPR scheme for packaging and packaging waste, called **EPR scheme and EU packaging law: the case of Belgium**.

WHEN AND WHERE?

Friday, 26 October 2012, 12:30 – 14:00

ACR+ offices, Avenue d'Auderghem 63, 1040 Brussels

REGISTRATION

In order to register for this event, fill in the [registration form](#) and send it by e-mail to Ella Stefana (acr1@acrplus.org) before 25 October.

Registration is **free for ACR+ EPR Club Members**. Other participants will be asked to pay the participation fee of 35 euros by bank transfer (you will find our bank details on the registration form). The registration will be completed after we receive the payment. The number of seats is limited.

Source: www.acrplus.org

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[03. Europe – Waste Based Biofuels to Benefit from Commission's RED Proposals](#)

The 10% biofuels target should be met by second generation biofuels produced from feedstocks.



The European Commission has published a proposal that half of the 10% biofuels target should be met by second generation biofuels produced from feedstocks such as waste and straw.

According to the Commission the contribution from biofuels to these targets is expected to be significant.

The Commission said that the proposal to limit the use of food-based biofuels to meet the 10% target to 5% would stimulate the development of alternative, second generation biofuels from non-food feedstock, like waste or straw, which emit substantially less greenhouse gases than fossil fuels and do not directly interfere with global food production.

For the first time, the estimated global land conversion impacts - Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC) - will be considered when assessing the greenhouse gas performance of biofuels, the Commission claimed.

"This proposal will give new incentives for best-performing biofuels. In the future, biofuels will be saving more substantial greenhouse gas emissions and reduce our fuel import bill," explained Energy Commissioner Günther Oettinger.

Understanding biofuel benefits and costs

According to the Commission, biofuels, produced sustainably and under efficient processes, are a low-carbon alternative to fossil fuels in the EU's energy mix and for transport in particular.

The benefits of using biofuels are that they are easy to store and deploy, have a high energy density and typically emit substantially less greenhouse gases than oil, gas or coal.

However, the commission added that only biofuels which satisfy a set of sustainability criteria qualify for public support on the European market.

To make its case the Commission highlighted recent scientific studies which have shown that when taking into account indirect land use change, for example when biofuel production causes food or feed production to be displaced to non-agricultural land such as forests, some biofuels may actually be adding as much to greenhouse gas emissions as the fossil fuels they replace.

Proposal

The Commission said that it is therefore proposing to amend the current legislation on biofuels through the Renewable Energy and the Fuel Quality Directives and in particular:

- To increase the minimum greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations to 60% in order to improve the efficiency of biofuel production processes as well as discouraging further investments in installations with low greenhouse gas performance
- To include indirect land use change (ILUC) factors in the reporting by fuel suppliers and Member States of greenhouse gas savings of biofuels and bioliquids
- To limit the amount of food crop-based biofuels and bioliquids that can be counted towards the EU's 10% target for renewable energy in the transport sector by 2020, to the current consumption level, 5% up to 2020, while keeping the overall renewable energy and carbon intensity reduction targets
- To provide market incentives for biofuels with no or low indirect land use change emissions, and in particular the 2nd and 3rd generation biofuels produced from feedstock that do not create an additional demand for land, including algae, straw, and various types of waste, as they will contribute more towards the 10% renewable energy in transport target of the Renewable Energy Directive

With these new measures, the Commission said that it wants to promote biofuels that help achieving substantial emission cuts, do not directly compete with food and are more sustainable at the same time.

While the current proposal does not affect the possibility for Member States to provide financial incentives for biofuels, the Commission said that considers that in the period after 2020 biofuels should only receive financial support if they lead to substantial greenhouse gas savings and are not produced from crops used for food and feed.

Source: www.waste-management-world.com

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[04. Europe - Plastics – the "Facts 2012" report now available](#)

More efforts towards zero plastics to landfill needed.



The plastics industry has set itself the challenging goal of reaching zero plastics going to landfill by 2020. However, the efforts of all stakeholders towards turning waste into a valuable resource - be it through recycling or energy recovery - need to be increased. Latest data say that with a business as usual approach, zero plastics to landfill would only be reached by the year 2037.

Achieving the 2020 objective would prevent an estimated 80 million tonnes of plastic waste from going to landfill, an amount representing about 1 billion barrels of oil or around €78 billion. This is one of the main conclusions drawn from the annual monitoring report "Plastics – the Facts 2012", which is published by PlasticsEurope, representing Europe's plastics producers, European Plastics Converters (EuPC), European Plastics Recyclers (EuPR) and the European Association of Plastics Recycling and Recovery Organisations (EPRO). The report presents latest data on European plastics production, demand and waste data for 2011.

The report is not all gloom and doom though overall progress has been achieved in capturing the value from plastics waste. In EU-27, 4.8% more post-consumer plastic waste was recovered compared to 2010. The amount of plastic waste ending up in landfills decreased in a similar way. The recovery rate reached 59,1% in 2011. However, the increase in recycling and energy recovery rate between 2006 and 2011 still varies a lot between EU Member States: The biggest improvement in recovery rate was achieved in Estonia with 45%, followed by Finland at about 30% during this five year period. The nine best countries in 2011 recovered more than 90% of their post-consumer plastic waste, while seven countries still recovered less than 30%.

The plastic industry in total employed a workforce of 1.45 million in 2011, including 53.000 from the plastics machinery industry. With a total of €21 billion in income tax and social security costs, and €6.5 billion in corporate tax, the plastics industry generated about €27.5 billion in 2011 for public finance and welfare and is therefore an important pillar of economics and society

Source: www.plasticseurope.org

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[05. Europe - Eight cities apply for European Green Capital Award 2015](#)

The deadline for submitting entries is now closed!

The deadline for submitting entries to become European Green Capital 2015 is now closed and the following cities have entered the competition:

- Bristol (UK)
- Brussels (Belgium)
- Bydgoszcz (Poland)
- Dublin (Ireland)
- Glasgow (UK)
- Kaunas (Lithuania)
- Kutahya (Turkey)
- Ljubljana (Slovenia)

EU Environment Commissioner Janez Potočnik said that it is encouraging to see former applicants reapplying and some cities entering that have not previously participated in the competition. Many EU cities are setting global standards for urban sustainability, with pioneering innovative solutions to environmental challenges, and the Green Capital Award is a unique opportunity for them to share that knowledge with the rest of Europe.

The European Green Capital Award is presented to a city in the vanguard of environmentally friendly urban living. An international Expert Panel will now perform a technical assessment of each entry on the basis of 12 indicators covering climate change and energy performance, sustainable local transport, air quality and noise levels, green urban areas and sustainable land use, promotion of nature and biodiversity, waste management, water consumption and waste water treatment, eco-innovation and sustainable employment, as well as the environmental management practice of the local authority.

In 2013 shortlisted cities will be invited to present their proposals to an international jury, which evaluates their commitment to ongoing environmental improvement and the level of ambition of their future goals, their communication actions and the extent to which they can act as a role model and promote best practice in other European cities. In addition to inspiring other cities, the winning city will benefit from an increased profile, which will enhance its reputation and attractiveness as a destination for people to visit, work and live in.

The winner will be announced in June in Nantes, France (the 2013 European Green Capital).

Source: rpsgroup.createsend5.com

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06. UK - Textile product flow and market development opportunities

Mapping the flow of all textile products moving through UK in 1 year.



The purpose of this report was to map the flow of all textile products moving through UK in 1 year, in order to identify market development opportunities which would increase the value of UK re-use and recycling textile markets.

Potential for textiles re-use and recycling

Mapping the flow of categorised textile products (clothing, footwear, household linens, carpets, mattresses and leisure) across the UK has provided the baseline evidence for future development decisions. Data was taken from a range of sources to build the flow for 2010, including surveys of textile reuse and recycling organisations. The flow identified that there is still a significant amount of textile material still going to landfill, which has the potential for re-use and recycling across most of the product categories.

Three key areas of development are proposed

Firstly, to reduce the amount of valuable textiles reaching landfill through black bag waste using current infrastructure and communications. The potential income that could be realised through capturing just 10% of this material has been estimated at £25 million.

Secondly, to develop markets for recovered carpet and mattress materials. There are still limited markets for these recovered materials and the commercial viability of this type of opportunity rests on developing new and existing markets both in volume and value.

Finally, a number of new technologies to recover textile fibres from product have been identified but there is still significant development to realise the potential of this. Further testing of these technologies within a UK economy would be of value.

More on the report [here](#).

Source: www.wrap.org.uk

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07. UK - Reuse charity expands to offer wider service

West London based Furnish opened its new warehouse in Greenford.



A London reuse charity has moved to bigger premises in response to growing demand from local authorities and major retailers for a diversion route for bulky items.

West London based Furnish opened its new warehouse in Greenford, quadrupling the floor space of its old premise in White City.

The new premises will also accept commercial office furniture and there are plans to receive take-back items from major retailers. Set up as a furniture reuse charity in the late 1990s, Furnish has historically collected unwanted furniture from the local community.

Working with the London Reuse Network, it carries out small repairs before selling on the items to residents in need, offering a discount system to enable vulnerable people to furnish their homes and also providing a fit-out-service for homeless people in temporary accommodation.

The charity offers volunteer work experience opportunities for the long-term unemployed and diverts waste from landfill, reducing local authority disposal costs.

In 2011, Furnish saved 80 tonnes of furniture from landfill, the equivalent of 720 tonnes of CO2 emissions. The charity also collects domestic appliances and currently sends the items to a waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) workshop in Wandsworth, run by Groundworks.

The WEEE workshop would also enable the six local authorities that work with the West London Waste Authority to send unwanted WEEE items for refurbishment.

Part of the warehouse will be put aside for a workshop so that items can be remanufactured into new furniture. Furnish also plans to introduce a product tracking system.

Source: www.edie.net

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08. UK - CIWM launches waste report at House of Commons

Report outlining the 'current picture' of waste and resource management launched.

The 'Professional Perspectives on Waste & Resource Management' report was released by CIWM President John Skidmore, after he had been officially inaugurated as the 2012/13 CIWM President at the House of Commons. Skidmore takes over as President from Derek Greedy.

The report calls on industry and government to 'rise to the resource efficiency challenge' and emphasises that the 'big challenges' faced by the waste and resource industry will demand a 'co-ordinated approach across national boundaries and involving all stakeholders'.

Speaking at the event, Skidmore called for more government leadership and said that the waste prevention plans required by the Waste Framework Directive offer "a unique opportunity to put in place a long term vision to design out waste by ensuring that the roles and responsibilities at every stage of the product supply chain are recognised".

Adding that "quality is paramount" to both service delivery and recycling performance and could resolve some of the "current tensions" regarding recycling collection methods, Skidmore went on to say that though there is no "one size fits all" approach, with over half local authorities operating co-mingled collections, it is essential to develop quality protocols, starting with a MRF code of practice.

Delivering new infrastructure, increasing support to "address barriers" including planning and investment and continuing the momentum in progress made in the industry so far were also highlighted as key priorities by Skidmore.

Source: www.resource.uk.com

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09. Ireland - Businesses not up to speed with end-of-waste criteria

Irish business leaders are failing to realise the importance of end-of-waste requirements.



Speaking at the Resource Ireland show in Dublin earlier today, Inspector for the Environment Inspectorate of the Department of Environment & Local Government, Brendan O'Neill, described specific criteria as laid out in the EU Waste Framework Directive which must be fulfilled in order to meet legal recycling requirements. He told delegates that it's about removing unnecessary waste controls on something, which is stripped for purpose and can be used without adverse effects on the environment and human health.

The EU standard definition of end-of-waste states that waste ceases to be waste if it has undergone a recovery operation to turn it into safe and useful materials.

O'Neill laid out EU regulations that qualify iron, steel and aluminium as legally end of waste and said that the complexity in getting this recognition was "onerous", but insisted that it was important businesses were fully aware of them.

He added that some of the regulations were yet to be implemented after failing to come into law through receiving a qualified majority vote in Europe, but added that many of them look likely to come into force over the next two years.

Some of the requirements include less than 2% steriles in recycled iron, aluminium and steel. Other materials must be free of visible oil and must not contain hazardous chemicals.

Source: www.edie.net

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10. Ireland - BHS lends support to business reuse exchange pilot

An online corporate 'freecycle' network has been launched to encourage sustainability, reuse and collaboration between businesses and charities.



The site globechain.com is a free service enabling charities and organisations, particularly SMEs, to either request or dispose of useful items that are still usable and in working order that might otherwise end up in landfill.

One of Globechain's first corporate users, national retailer BHS, uploaded a number of shop fittings onto the site as part of a pilot scheme to monitor tonnage diverted from landfill as part of its CSR objectives.

The charity benefiting from this trial is St Michaels Hospice, which has taken delivery of the fittings for a shop in Hastings that is undergoing refurbishment.

Approximately two tonnes of fixtures and fittings were donated - if St Michael's Hospice were to purchase that amount of equipment, it would cost up to £ 3,000.

The charity's head of trading Chris Jones said it was important that shop expenditure was kept to a minimum. "A service such as Globechain helps us to achieve this, allowing us to update and refit our shops without any expense," he said.

Over 100 companies have already registered on the site including West London Waste Authority, the London Reuse Network and the Charity Retail Association.

Source: www.aluproireland.ie

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11. Belgium - Grande collecte de vêtements organisée dans le cadre de la Semaine Européenne de la Réduction des Déchets

Chaque année, 10 kg de vêtements sont mis sur le marché par habitant.

Le réseau de collecte de l'économie sociale (bulles textile et magasins) permet de récupérer 50% de ce gisement, soit 23.000 tonnes par an en Wallonie et à Bruxelles.

En collectant les vêtements usagés, les acteurs Solid'R réalisent un travail bénéfique pour l'environnement, développent des projets de solidarité et créent de l'emploi durable en Belgique.

Du 17 au 25 novembre, participez à la grande collecte et confiez les vêtements que vous ne portez plus aux opérateurs Solid'R.

- Que peut-on donner ? Tout type de vêtements, maroquinerie, chaussures et linge de maison... propres, en bon état et emballés dans des sacs fermés !
- Où donner ? Plus de 3360 bulles Solid'R sont réparties en Wallonie et à Bruxelles. Elles reçoivent des vêtements qui sont collectés, triés, donnés, revendus ou recyclés par les acteurs de l'économie sociale. De nombreux points de collecte en magasin vous accueillent également.

Chaque jour de la semaine, les collecteurs pèseront les dons qui seront sur notre site web. Combien pourrions-nous réunir en une semaine ? Relevez ce défi avec nous !

Les temps forts de cette semaine se déclineront autour d'une exposition de bulles relookées, de visites de centre de tri, de collecte dans les écoles, des ateliers de valorisation de textile...

Plus d'infos ? www.solid-r.be

Source: www.res-sources.be

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12. Spain - "La Escuela de Reciclaje" visitará 130 colegios para concienciar sobre el reciclaje de los aparatos eléctricos

Este año participarán en las actividades de la iniciativa un total de 25.000 alumnos.

Los organizadores (Ambilamp, Ecopilas y Tragamóvil) estiman que este año participarán en las actividades de la iniciativa un total de 25.000 alumnos de tercer ciclo de primaria y primer ciclo de la ESO.

El aula móvil 'La Escuela de Reciclaje', recorrerá este curso un total de 130 colegios de País Vasco, Navarra, Islas Baleares, Murcia y la Comunidad Valenciana hasta el mes de junio para concienciar a los alumnos sobre la importancia de separar los aparatos eléctricos y electrónicos para su reciclaje.

Los organizadores (Ambilamp, Ecopilas y Tragamóvil) estiman que este año participarán en las actividades de la iniciativa un total de 25.000 alumnos de tercer ciclo de primaria y primer ciclo de la ESO. Los alumnos desarrollarán actividades interactivas, utilizarán pantallas táctiles y asistirán al visionado de varios vídeos y una película con animación en tres dimensiones en los que se tratará de mostrar cómo la separación, recogida y tratamiento de los residuos son "un paso imprescindible" para su reciclaje, según los organizadores del proyecto.

Source: www.ecoticias.com

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