



# ACR+ Update

ASSOCIATION  
OF CITIES  
AND REGIONS  
FOR RECYCLING  
AND SUSTAINABLE  
RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT

Winter 2012/2013

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## EDITO

The beginning of 2013 has been marked with my arrival as the **new Secretary General** of ACR+. I am very much looking forward to the coming year and all the challenging projects and events it will bring.

The end of 2012 brought several opportunities to meet at ACR+ events, including our General Assembly and the final conferences of two of our ending projects: **Miniwaste and Pre-waste**, both focusing on sharing waste prevention good practices and monitoring tools.

In the first quarter of 2013, ACR+ will continue to develop its two new initiatives: **ACR+MED**, a network of Local and Regional Authorities located in the Union for the Mediterranean; and **EPR Club**, a platform for exchange and increasing of knowledge about EPR practices. **Exciting events and trainings will be taking place throughout the year!**

2013 will also see the **continuation of ACR+ projects** such as Regions4Recycling and the European Observatory of municipal waste performances, as well as the **fifth edition of the European Week for Waste Reduction**. We will also make sure that we stay in close contact with the **European policies**, among others by following up and contributing to the announced revision of quantitative targets and packaging directive.

**ACR+ wishes you a wasteless and resourceful New Year!**

*Françoise Bonnet*  
Secretary General of ACR+

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## Upcoming Events

### Waste Prevention Webinar | 29 January 2013 Waste prevention good practices

On Tuesday, 29 January 2013, from 11:30 to 12:30 (Brussels time) ACR+ will hold the next [lunchtime webinar for ACR+ members](#), focusing on waste prevention good practices.

The webinar aims to provide public authorities and technical staff in charge of waste prevention with **practical ideas and good practices on waste prevention**. These are based on ACR+ research, as well as on European projects such as the European Week for Waste Reduction, Miniwaste (LIFE) and Pre-waste (INTERREG IV C).

These case studies and good practices will help local and regional authorities to strengthen their waste prevention strategies and will cover the following issues:

- bio-waste

- packaging waste
- paper waste
- bulky waste

The webinar is open to **ACR+ members** exclusively.

For **more information** on ACR+ webinars, [click here](#).



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### EPR Club Seminar | 27 February 2013 | Brussels How can we reach the new WEEE collection targets?

[ACR+ EPR Club](#), in collaboration with one of its most active members, [the WEEE Forum](#), is organising a seminar entitled "How can we reach the new WEEE collection targets?", which will take place on **27 February 2013 in Brussels**.

This event is a unique opportunity for innovative recyclers, national and EU authorities, producers, producer compliance schemes, municipalities and specialist retailers to discuss **what elements need to be in place** to make sure that the new **WEEE collection targets**, as laid down in the newly-adopted Directive 2012/19/EU on WEEE, can be reached.

It is our pleasure to inform you that the **confirmed speakers** include, José Ramón Carbajosa, President of the WEEE Forum, Jean-Pierre Hannequart, President of ACR+, Giorgio Arienti, Managing Director of Ecodom, Filippo Bernocchi, Delegate to Energy and Waste of ANCI, Phâr Oscár, Managing Director of Stena Technoworld, Guillaume Duparay, Director of OCAD3E, Davide Rossi, Managing Director of AIREs and Phil Morton, Member of the Board of WEEE Forum.

#### Register now!

Participation is **free of charge** for ACR+EPR Club Members, WEEE Forum Members and EU Institutions representatives. All other participants will be asked to pay a **50 euros registration fee**. In this case, the registration will be confirmed upon payment. It is compulsory for all participants to register through the online form ([www.eprclub.eu/Registration-form](http://www.eprclub.eu/Registration-form)) **before 15 February 2013**. **The number of seats is limited.**

For **more information** on the event, [click here](#).

For **further enquiries**, please contact Lisa Labriga at [acr4@acrplus.org](mailto:acr4@acrplus.org).



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### ACR+MED Thematic Working Group 1 Meeting | 25 March 2013 | Brussels Waste management of plastic bags in the Mediterranean

[ACR+MED](#) has set up a forum for exchange and discussion through four **Thematic Working Groups** (TWGs) in the field of Integrated Sustainable Waste and Resource Management (ISWRM). The objective is to organize 4 workshops in the course of 2013, one for each TWG. The TWG on "priority waste streams", has chosen to target plastic bags in 2013. On **25 March 2013**, ACR+MED will **hold a workshop** on the issue of "waste management of plastic bags in the Mediterranean". ACR+MED is preparing a report on this

issue that will be discussed at the workshop.

### Participate!

Are you interested in participating in this interactive workshop on Monday, 25 March 2013? If so, by 3 February 2013, please send us:

- a summary CV (1 page maximum), highlighting your experience in the field of waste management and more specifically on packaging waste;
- a note (1 page maximum) whereby you express your interest in the topic.

Based on this call for participation, ACR+MED will select 10 participants from Southern Mediterranean countries, Balkan countries and/or Turkey (transportation and accommodation expenses will be covered).

The workshop will only be open to ACR+MED members.

For **more information** visit [www.acrplusmed.org/resources/thematic\\_working\\_groups](http://www.acrplusmed.org/resources/thematic_working_groups)



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## 7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities | 17-19 April | Geneva A green and socially responsible economy: a solution in times of crisis?

With just three months to go, the countdown to the **7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns** is on! The timing of the conference could not have been better, in the aftermath of the Rio +20 Conference and right in the preparation phase of the 7th Environment Action Programme.

With governance and finance for sustainable development as the focus, the 7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns will take place from **17- 19 April 2013 in the City of Geneva**. The conference will bring together **local and national governments, UN and European institutions, business, science institutes and research and development organisations** from all over Europe.

The conference comes at a moment when the world's attention to the **exemplary role of local governments in sustainable development** may never have been as extensive, driven partly by the urgent need to find **lasting solutions to present crises**, both financial and environmental. This is your opportunity to be part of an event that will mark a milestone for Europe's local governments in their quest to achieve sustainable communities and which will allow you to exchange experiences and good practices. The 7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns will **explore sustainability in all areas of public administration** and will try to identify **effective institutional mechanisms** to tackle the current financial and environmental crises.

The conference programme is now taking shape as the list of **internationally renowned speakers** grows. A myriad of Break-out sessions and Workshops on-site have also been confirmed – **register now** to the conference elements of your choice, as places are limited.

The **interactive Break-out sessions**, held on **Wednesday 17th April** and **Thursday 18th April**, will delve into the most topical developments in the field. Topics under the spotlight include, amongst others, sustainable procurement, adaptation to climate change and resilient cities, funding for sustainable cities, solidarity economy, Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities, urban water management, civic engagement, diversity and equality and many more. Do not miss the **break-out session led by ACR+** on the topic of responsible consumption.

In addition to the rich programme offered at the main conference venue, participants will have the opportunity to join **workshops on-site** in the Geneva area. On these occasions, the **latest innovative activities in urban sustainability** will be showcased. Local energy and environmental management infrastructures, urban mobility projects, and private sector sustainability initiatives are examples of workshops on-site proposed to conference participants.

Register now online: [register.sustainablegeneva2013.org](http://register.sustainablegeneva2013.org)

For **further information**, please visit the [official conference website](#)  
or contact: [info@sustainablegeneva2013.org](mailto:info@sustainablegeneva2013.org)



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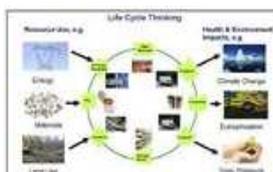
### Synthesis report, basing on the ACR+/HOLCIM cooperation The role of co-processing in integrated municipal waste management policies

Thanks to several years of **cooperation with HOLCIM**, a vast range of valuable information and expertise has been accumulated about the role of co-processing inside integrated municipal waste management policies.

The **three seminars** (and three associated reports), organised by ACR+ in partnership with Holcim between 2009 and 2011, successively addressed issues and challenges concerning specific waste flows such as residual household waste, sewage sludge, incineration bottom ashes, C&D waste, hazardous waste or tyres. They have also allowed to **gain a better understanding** of the respective impacts of the various treatment solutions and their adequacy within the waste hierarchy promoted by the EU regulation and/or the life cycle thinking (LCT) approach.

Basing on the previous work done within the HOLCIM-ACR+ partnership, **ACR+ is elaborating a synthetic technical report**, capitalising on the past cumulated experience and evidence. This technical report, to be released in early 2013, will present the main findings and key questions as addressed in the previous seminars and reports.

The synthetic report should allow municipal waste managers and policy makers in charge of planning and strategizing to **make informed decisions on integrated sustainable waste management options**.



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### E-learning module within the Horizon2020 programme 7 interactive lessons on Integrated Sustainable Waste and Resource Management

Through the Horizon2020 capacity building programme, ACR+ has been asked to **design and prepare an e-learning module on Integrated Sustainable Waste and Resource Management (ISWRM)**.

Even though this module is primarily meant for our ACR+MED members and partners, it can also be used by ACR+ members as an introduction to sustainable municipal waste management. The module will be available in early 2013.

It is comprised of the following **7 lessons**, including exercises for each lesson:

1. Introduction to the Concept of ISWRM
2. First dimension: Life Cycle Thinking
3. Second dimension: Waste hierarchy
4. Third dimension: Stakeholders
5. Fourth dimension: Operational aspects
6. Fifth dimension: Policy aspects

## 7. Waste management planning



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## Recent News

### EPR Club Lunch Seminar | October 2012 | Brussels EPR scheme and EU packaging law: the case of Belgium

[ACR+ EPR Club](#) organised a **thematic seminar** dedicated to the EPR scheme for packaging in Belgium on Friday, 26 October 2012 in the ACR+ offices in Brussels.

It focused on **European and Belgian legislation**, and the key issues were discussed by two expert speakers: **Françoise Bonnet**, at the time Head of Waste Department from Brussels Environment, and **Marc Adams**, Acting Director of the Interregional Packaging Commission.

The **presentations** made on this occasion can be downloaded here:

- Françoise Bonnet: [ACR+ EPR Club - EU packaging law and the \(EPR\) principles of Directive 2008/98](#)
- Marc Adams: [Belgian experiences on the management of packaging waste](#)

For **more information** on this event [click here](#).



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### European Waste and Resource Days | November 2012 | Brussels Waste experts from all over Europe met for a two-day event

This two-day event featured the **final conference of the [Pre-waste project](#)** on 7 November, and, on 8 November, the **ACR+ Conference and General Assembly**, which focused on quantified objectives and performances for recycling and economic instruments for waste management. It was followed by a **European Seminar on Reuse**, addressing legal, organisational and socio-economic aspects of reuse activities. The aim of the event was to help cities and regions to face challenges related to waste management and to exchange experiences and good practices.

The **170 participants** met and interacted throughout the two days, **sharing expertise on waste prevention among local and regional authorities** and discussing innovative actions and instruments for cities and regions. The **ACR+ General Assembly** focused on the association's achievements in 2012 and perspectives for 2013, while the **seminar** which followed discussed the intricacies of reuse and preparing for reuse.

The event was organised by [ACR+](#) and [Brussels Environment](#) with the support of the [Committee of the Regions](#), the [INTERREG IV C programme](#) and the [RREUSE network](#).

To **find out more** about the conference, to view the photo gallery, and to download the programme and the presentations, [click here](#).

To learn more about the Pre-waste project and its final conference [read below](#) or [click here](#).



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### Pre-waste Final Conference | November 2012 | Brussels Waste prevention practices and tools

On 7 November, **nearly 200 experts from European cities and regions** gathered at the Committee of the Regions in Brussels, in order to find out more about the results of the Pre-waste project. The conference was held in the framework of European Waste and Resource Days.

The Pre-waste final conference **delivered the outcomes of the project**, aimed at developing tools to help local and regional decision makers to prepare their waste prevention plans, in particular:

- A **methodology** for designing and implementing waste prevention plans and actions
- A glimpse of waste prevention best practices
- Waste prevention indicators and a monitoring web tool
- **Results of Pre-waste partners' feasibility studies** on the transfer of some of the Pre-waste best practices presented in parallel workshops.

Pre-waste gathers ten European partners and is aimed at helping local and regional authorities to improve their waste prevention policies.

For **more information** on Pre-waste final conference, [click here](#)  
For **more information** on Pre-waste, visit the website: [www.prewaste.eu](http://www.prewaste.eu)



*Pre-waste is a 3-year project (2010-2012) supported by the Interreg IV C Programme of the European Commission*

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### GODEM Final Conference and Launch of ACR+MED network November 2012 | Mahdia, Tunisia

In the framework of its Mediterranean activities, **ACR+ organised a high-profile international conference in Mahdia** (Tunisia). More than 120 participants from 12 different countries attended the conference. This conference was a closing event but, at the same time, served as a starting point for the **new ACR+MED network**.

During the event, we reflected on the **work carried out during the last two and a half years by the different project partners**, varying from the design and set up of a civic amenity centre in Sousse, a composting plant in Al Fayhaa, organizing the informal sector in Rabat and finally greening of the hotel sector in Djerba and Mahdia.

But, above all, the conference aimed at bringing together a number of local and regional authorities and other actors in order to **launch the new ACR+MED network**, and discuss the orientations and activities of the network for the next two years.

For **more information** on the conference, [click here](#)  
For **more information** on ACR+MED, visit [www.acrplusmed.org](http://www.acrplusmed.org)



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**ACR+MED website now available!**  
[www.acrplusmed.org](http://www.acrplusmed.org)

ACR+MED is a **Mediterranean network of members** who share the common aim of promoting integrated sustainable waste and resource management with a particular focus on local and cultural context. You can now learn more about the network and its activities by visiting the **newly-launched ACR+MED website**: [www.acrplusmed.org](http://www.acrplusmed.org)!

**ACR+MED website aims to:**

- Provide you with instant visual information
- Be an interactive tool
- Be customized to our members
- Be updated on a continuous basis
- Strengthen our relationship with our members

For **more information** visit [www.acrplusmed.org](http://www.acrplusmed.org)



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**4th Edition of the European Week for Waste Reduction | November 2012**  
**More than 10,000 actions in Europe: the EWWR sets a new record!**

After three successful editions, the European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR) ran for the fourth time between 17 and 25 November 2012, with the aim of **informing European citizens about the simple actions that they can take in everyday life to reduce their waste**. The fourth edition of EWWR took place **under the patronage of Janez Potocnik**, European Commissioner for the Environment.

According to the last count, **10,793 EWWR actions were implemented in 2012**. They focused on the various stages of the product cycle, ranging from production and consumption to reuse, within one of the following 5 themes: Too much waste – Better production – Better consumption – A longer life for products – Less waste thrown away.

During the Week, works of art, contests, conferences, workshops and many other activities raised awareness of consumers, employees, students and others on the need to reduce the 2.7 billion tonnes of waste we produce annually in Europe (source: EEA). The thousands of actions also gave tips, advice and examples of good practices on concrete ways to prevent waste from being produced, encouraging actions like composting at home, drinking tap water, reusing and repairing goods, renting products instead of buying them, etc.

In order to coordinate and promote the 2012 Week, **35 Organisers from across 23 countries** mobilised stakeholders and validated their actions at the national, regional and local level. The complete list can be found on the [EWWR website](#).

Moreover, the **EWWR Secretariat, hosted by ACR+**, promoted the Week and coordinated registrations from areas not covered by any EWWR Organiser. We have received projects from Flanders and several regions in Spain and the UK, as well as from other countries including Luxembourg, Norway, Romania and Switzerland.

To view our Photo Gallery [click here](#).

**Be part of the EWWR! Schedule your action between 16 and 24 November 2013 - more information [on](#)**

[our website!](#)

For **more information** on the EWWR visit the website: [www.ewwr.eu](http://www.ewwr.eu)



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### Miniwaste Final Conference | November 2012 | Rennes, France Bringing bio-waste back to life

**The Miniwaste project's final conference took place in Rennes** (France) on 20-21 November 2012, in the middle of the European Week for Waste Reduction. Gathering around **170 participants**, mainly bio-waste experts and decision makers, the conference **exhibited the results of the project** and highlighted the main tools public authorities can use to address bio-waste prevention at a local or regional scale.

On the first day of the conference, participants had the opportunity to get an **overview of what is done in Europe regarding bio-waste prevention**, in particular thanks to an inventory of good practices delivered by ACR+. After a debate comparing the strengths and weaknesses of various bio-waste management strategies, participants were given the chance to try out the computerized tool developed as part of the Miniwaste project.

The **workshops** held on the second day covered the issues of engagement of citizens to compost, food waste management, monitoring tools and green waste management. Furthermore, representatives from Rennes Métropole, Lipor and Brno **presented the outcomes of the actions** they organised to mobilise citizens and stakeholders to reduce bio-waste at source on their territory. Finally, a roundtable gave the floor to public authorities' representatives in order to discuss strategic choices regarding bio-waste management at local or regional level.

All in all, the conference highlighted that, despite the fact that no unique practice to address bio-waste existed, **efficient tools are now available to help cities and regions prevent bio-waste**, such as good practices, methodologies on bio-waste quantification and quality assessment of compost, and a web tool aimed at helping decision-makers to implement and monitor efficient bio-waste prevention strategies and actions.

For **more information** visit [www.miniwaste.eu](http://www.miniwaste.eu)



*Miniwaste is a 3-year project (2010-2012) supported by the LIFE+ Programme of the European Commission*

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### R4R Networking Event | December 2012 | Athens, Greece How to increase recycling in cities and regions?

From 12 to 14 December, **nearly a hundred European experts gathered in Athens** to discuss how local and regional authorities could improve their waste collection and recycling policies. This meeting aimed at sharing the expertise of the R4R project partners with Greek municipalities and regions. It also allowed to **present the project's first results** about the local instruments helping to reach high recycling performances.

On 12 December, **Greek municipalities and regions compared their waste management schemes with other territories in Europe**, with a focus on bio-waste and "pay as you throw" issues. Though the results are not as high as in the Flemish or Styrian regions, for instance, their results and desire to improve the situation are encouraging.

On 13 and 14 December, R4R partners continued the discussion on the **local instruments and external**

**factors**, and also the comparison of data related to selective collection of paper waste and bio-waste. Over 300 instruments have been shared by the R4R partners, including legal, technical, economic and communication instruments. Among these, the project will identify best practices and share them with other European cities and regions.

Regions for Recycling (R4R) involves 13 partners and aims at improving their recycling performances through consistent comparisons and exchange of good practices.

For **more information** on the networking event [click here](#)  
For **more information** on R4R visit the project's website: [www.regions4recycling.eu](http://www.regions4recycling.eu)



*Regions for Recycling is a 3-year project (2012-2014) supported by the Interreg IV C Programme of the European Commission*

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### ACR+ welcomes a new member: AVPU

ACR+ is pleased to announce that once more the network is expanding: AVPU joined ACR+ at the end of 2012.

**AVPU, Association des Villes pour la Propreté Urbaine**, was founded in 2010 in Paris. It brings together elected officials and local authorities who have developed an evaluation grid of cleanliness: les Indicateurs Objectifs de Propreté (IOP). The objective of the association is to enhance the urban cleanliness and promote the positive perception of this advancement among citizens.

For **more information** on AVPU visit their website [www.avpu.fr](http://www.avpu.fr)



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