

How Can Waste be Prevented and Recycled?

The European Commission will underline the importance of waste reduction and recycling during the “**Waste Prevention and Recycling Forum**” on **Tuesday 20 December 2016** from **09:30 to 14:00**, at **Bedestan Nicosia**. During the forum the worlds’ leading experts in waste prevention and recycling will present their experiences and recommendations. NGO representatives, academics and SMEs are encouraged to attend the forum and share their ideas. The event, organised by the Capacity Building to the Water/Wastewater and Solid Waste Sectors Project and EU Infopoint in partnership with LTB, Cans for Kids and the Charity Association for Cancer Patients, will also include the launch of a public awareness campaign.

An e-panel discussion will include speakers from around the world including Vaughan Levitzke, CEO of Green Industries in Australia; Dr. Ljiljana Rodic, 3Rs Education Expert from Netherlands; and Professor David Wilson, MBE from Imperial College of Science and Technology, UK.

Waste generation per capita in the Turkish Cypriot community is one of the highest in Europe which is a great burden on the existing waste systems. The currently available capacity of the sanitary landfill at Güngör/Koutsoventis is being rapidly used up. This is why there is a need to expand the systems for reducing, reusing and recycling waste. Over time, waste prevention and recycling must become the norm rather than the exception. Tackling the growth of waste in Cyprus needs innovative new ideas and approaches.

Background:

The European Union's approach to waste management is based on the “**waste hierarchy**” which sets the following priority order when shaping waste policy and managing waste at the operational level: prevention, (preparing for) reuse, recycling, recovery and, as the least preferred option, disposal.

In line with this the **7th Environment Action Programme** sets the following priority objectives for waste policy in the EU:

- To reduce the amount of waste generated;
- To maximise recycling and re-use;
- To limit incineration to non-recyclable materials;
- To phase out landfilling to non-recyclable and non-recoverable waste;
- To ensure full implementation of the waste policy targets in all Member States.

Turning waste into a resource is one key to a circular economy. The objectives and targets set in European legislation have been key drivers to improve waste management, stimulate innovation in recycling, limit the use of landfilling, and create incentives to change consumer behaviour. If we re-manufacture, reuse and recycle, and if one industry's



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waste becomes another's raw material, we can move to a more circular economy where waste is eliminated and resources are used in an efficient and sustainable way.

Interested individuals can get more information on these events on the EU Infopoint Facebook page [f/abbilgi](https://www.facebook.com/abbilgi) or by contacting the EU Infopoint: info@abbilgi.eu, 228 2577 and 11A Hasene Ilgaz Sokak, Köşklüçiftlik Nicosia.

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