

Nicosia, 6 April 2016

Solid Waste Management Panel: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle NOW!

The European Commission will mark the importance of solid waste management with two consecutive panels on Thursday, 7 April 2016 at Merit Hotel, Nicosia and on Friday, 8 April 2016 at the Bandabulya, Trikomo/Iskele from 10:30 to 13:30. The EU Policy on solid waste management, EU Harmonisation in the Turkish Cypriot community, and the local communities' current implementations will be discussed by the speakers and representatives from local communities. In addition to this, information on the upcoming grant call for local communities will be shared by the European Commission.

In 2010, total waste production in the EU amounted to 2,5 billion tons. From this total only a limited (albeit increasing) share (36%) was recycled, with the rest landfilled or burned, of which some 600 million tons could be recycled or reused. Each person in Europe is currently producing, on average, half a tonne of such waste. Only 40 % of it is reused or recycled and in some countries more than 80% still goes to landfill (source: [Environmental Data Centre on Waste](#), Eurostat).

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 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 this event on the EU Infopoint Facebook page [f/abbilgi](#) or by contacting the EU Infopoint: info@abbilgi.eu, 228 2577 and 11A Hasene Ilgaz Street, Köşklüçiftlik Nicosia.

Media contact: Selen Mesutoğlu Altan, selen.altan@abbilgi.eu or 0533 840 8583



EU Infopoint is funded by the European Union.

