

# How do some cities and countries manage organic waste and make an impact?

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Humanity as a whole is rather far from properly managing organic waste. However, certain communities give us a lot of inspiration and motivation to take even stronger next steps. As such, let us share some exciting and empowering case studies with you.

Since we are based in Slovenia, it seems natural to start with our small green country. When it comes to organic kitchen waste management, Slovenia is quite progressive. For instance, the decree on the Management of biodegradable kitchen waste and garden waste was set in place all the way back in 2011. This decree demands a separate collection of all types of organic waste. As such, households and other waste producers are obligated to compost or separate organic waste. Of course, this also requires waste-collecting utility companies to collect organic waste separately. In addition, organic waste service is not charged to those who compost organic waste themselves, which further encourages people to take this approach to food waste management.

Moreover, in Slovenia separate collection of waste is required even during public events. The capital of Slovenia, Ljubljana, took things even further by implementing specific systems to encourage citizens to sort their waste properly. As such, they measure door-to-door waste collection and have the Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) system set in place.

Another mention-worthy example is Besançon, France. The local community is doing its best to encourage recycling at the source. As such, both home composting and community composting have been introduced as an alternative to separate collection of organic waste. Like in most aspects of life, composting is also more efficient when people join forces. Moreover, they've set in place a so-called pay-as-you-throw fee for organic waste, which finances this decentralized composting project. Their results so far are quite impressive as they've managed to reduce waste generation by 30%. In addition, they are currently separately collecting 58% of the community's waste. Even more impressive is the fact that 70% of Besançon's population either owns a composter or is using a community composting site. The fact that composting is promoted by local legislation also has something to do with such positive numbers. The details that focus on composting can be found in Article 2.1.3 of the Besançon City Collection Regulation.