



# EWR good practices and case studies

## waste Not want Not Composter Design

### 1. Details of Action:

Coordinators: WasteServ Malta

Action Developers: Emma Hickey

Name of nominated action: Waste Not Want Not Composter Design

Town: Mqabba

Region: Malta Xlokk

Country: Malta

Website: /

Nominee [category](#): Individual Citizen

Dates of action: 22-30/11/2014

### 2. Action's theme:

- Reduce – Strict avoidance and reduction at source
- Reuse – Preparing for reuse and reuse
- Recycle – Waste sorting and Recycling
- Let's Clean Up Europe!

### 3. Action related to the Prevention Thematic Days 2014: Stop Food Waste?

- Yes
- No

### 4. Description of the nominated action:

Emma Hickey promoted waste reduction through product design, and specifically focused on composting and growing new food. This is placed at a local fitness center where the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables is promoted. Emma decided to target such people because they tend to consume more food that can be composted.

This self-designed composter was created using wood off-cuts from a local furniture business workshop. This composter is made up of - A large compartment dedicated to hold compostable food - Two drawers which are separated into 4 sections in order to hold seeds depending on the season they should be planted. - Two pots for the planting of the said seeds. - Hooks for gardening tools. - Shelving for gardening shoes/gloves. - A stool for comfortably gardening on. - A worktop - Galvanized steel tray for the excess of liquid during compost process.

Sustainable design was thought of throughout the design process, from using off-cut wood, to creating a chain from where disposed food is used to give nutrients to new life in food.

\*The paint and wood-protector used is also eco-friendly.



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### 5. Type of evaluation conducted and outcome of the evaluation:

- Number of visitors/participants
- Feedback from visitors/participants (willingness to change their behaviour)
- Quantity of waste avoided/collected
- Amount of CO2 avoided
- Other indicators (please specify):

Due to the location of the self-designed composter the number of visitors was a great turn out and is always on going. The club members continue to bring waste from home and contribute to the compost. This has resulted in a change of behaviour. Also, any compostable food that is consumed within the premises is directly transferred to the composter.

### 6. Reasons why the action has been selected for the EWR 2014 Awards :

#### a) Visibility and communicational aspect:

Due to the different members entering and exiting the fitness centre the communication was spread not only internally within the staff however also to the members and their families. The self-designed composter is visible in an outdoor area within the centre, thus it can be seen by all who spend their time within the facility.

#### b) Quality of content and focus on waste reduction, products reuse or materials recycling:

The video that supported this initiative was a clear and detailed explanation of the design and operation of the self-designed composter. Within the video the presenter also mentions the activity of having people bring their left over fruit they consume before or after their workout to then place into the composter.

#### c) Originality and exemplarity:

It is an original design which directly tackles Sustainability through LCA (Lifecycle Assessment and Design) and the problem of food waste. This product encourages people to compost through functional yet aesthetically pleasing design.

#### d) European reproducibility:

By promoting composting through different means that will attract all types of people.

#### e) Lasting impact:

It is designed to fit different households because of its minimal look and compact size, and it will also make composting and gardening an easier task.

#### f) Motivation:

It will do so because of its attractive look, ease of use and compact size to fit different households.



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Club members using the composter

