

## Give box



### Principle: a reused/repaired object = prevented waste!

A give box is a large, open cupboard, placed in a public area, where people can drop off and pick up second-hand goods (clothes, books, tools, etc.). No surveillance is needed, people can come and go as they please, 24/7. An alternative is to put an open shelf in a place where a lot of people come (e.g. a hotel hall/lounge), where people can drop/take books; if several similar shelves are available in other hotels, books can be borrowed at one place and then given back in another hotel, like “travelling books”.

This activity can be organised by anyone (individual citizen, business, school, etc.): the principle remains the same.

### Objectives

- ▶ Make European citizens aware that action can be taken at their level and on a daily basis to reduce waste by giving away old products for other people to reuse them.
- ▶ Provide a very simple and accessible way to give/take second-hand products for free.

### What you need

- ▶ An open access **location** to put the box (if possible sheltered from the rain): a covered courtyard, a waiting room, a laundrette, etc.
- ▶ A **shelf or big box** to put the items (with a water proof curtain, in order to protect it from the rain if it is located outdoors).

### Preparing and implementing the action

#### *Before the EWWR (one month beforehand)*

- ▶ Find the location and get the authorisation to put the box there.
- ▶ Find or build the box.
- ▶ Register your action with your official EWWR Coordinator.

#### *Pre-EWWR (one or two weeks beforehand)*

- ▶ Install the box at the chosen location, with a small poster explaining its purpose and functioning.
- ▶ Communicate: display posters to inform the public (neighbourhood shops, city hall, etc.); advertise via social networks and the press.



# Prevention Thematic Day 2013 | Reuse / repair

## ***During the EWWR (day of the action)***

- ▶ Organise 2 presentations (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday and 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday) to explain the functioning of the box, the purpose of the EWWR and of waste prevention (more information on [www.ewwr.eu](http://www.ewwr.eu)).
- ▶ Check out the give box after it's unveiling to make sure that it is not mistaken for a waste bin.
- ▶ Remember to take photos.
- ▶ Measure participation.
- ▶ Monitor the quantity of products collected by counting them, using the **annexed pdf**.

## ***After the EWWR***

- ▶ Insert the final number of products collected in worksheet 1 of the annexed excel file. This will give you a comprehensive overview of how much waste you avoided by implementing this EWWR action.
- ▶ Send the excel file, pictures and other relevant feedback to your EWWR Coordinator.
- ▶ Check out the give box from time to time.

## **More information**

### ▶ Examples of actions

- Give box (Belgium):  
[http://www.ewwr.eu/sites/default/files/case%20studies%202012/EWWR\\_2012\\_Case%20Studies\\_Others\\_Brussels.pdf](http://www.ewwr.eu/sites/default/files/case%20studies%202012/EWWR_2012_Case%20Studies_Others_Brussels.pdf)
- Frigocambio de libros (Spain):  
[http://www.ewwr.eu/sites/default/files/case%20studies%202012/EWWR\\_2012\\_Case%20studies\\_Adminis tration\\_Navarra.pdf](http://www.ewwr.eu/sites/default/files/case%20studies%202012/EWWR_2012_Case%20studies_Adminis tration_Navarra.pdf)
- Givebox facebook page (Germany): [www.facebook.com/Givebox](http://www.facebook.com/Givebox)
- Give box wiki: [http://wiki.gifteconomy.org/Give\\_Box](http://wiki.gifteconomy.org/Give_Box)

▶ EWWR Coordinator's website/contact (e.g. Setmana Europea de la Prevenció de Residus : [www.arc.cat/setmanaprevencio](http://www.arc.cat/setmanaprevencio))

▶ European Week for Waste Reduction: [www.ewwr.eu](http://www.ewwr.eu)      [contact@ewwr.eu](mailto:contact@ewwr.eu)



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