



## PRESS RELEASE

# The European Week for Waste Reduction rewards the best actions implemented in 2014

Yesterday's EWWR award ceremony finally revealed the award winners of this year's EWWR awards. The six most outstanding actions implemented during the EWWR 2014 have been selected amongst the 18 finalists, one in each of the categories of Action Developers: Administration/Public Authority, Association/NGO, Business/Industry, Educational Establishment, Citizens, and Others.

The awards ceremony took place in the scope of a two-day congress held on 27-28 May in Budapest: "[New approaches to the national waste management](#)". Closing an interesting day of discussion at the conference "[Moving away from landfill & incineration: circular economy in practice](#)", jointly organised by ACR+ and NWMD, the EWWR awards ceremony was the perfect occasion for all conference participants to learn about concrete examples on how to implement circular economy actions on a local level.

### The award winners

Six actions were awarded in the ceremony yesterday, one for each of the six categories of Action Developers:

#### 1) Administration/Public Authority

**Food wastage in prison: let's reduce waste there too!** – *Strasbourg detention centre (Alsace, France)* – [Good practice document](#)

Confronted with the great amount of food waste generated by a prison, the Strasbourg detention centre decided to implement a system to rationalise the food distribution. Thanks to an exhibition and a video broadcasted on the internal video channel of the prison, this action reached 1000 persons.

#### 2) Association/NGO

**Foodwe.org, the food donations platform** – *Foodwe.org (Wallonia, Belgium)* – [Good practice document](#)

This online platform ([www.foodwe.org](http://www.foodwe.org)) allows food professionals (distributors, producers, restaurants, etc) to provide supplies of unsold but still edible food to charitable or civic associations. Looking only at the results provided during the EWWR 2014, more than 3.500 kg of food waste have been given to local charities.

#### 3) Business/Industry

**United Against Waste Challenge** – *Unilever Food Solutions (Flanders, Belgium)* – [Good practice document](#)

The "United Against Waste Challenge" launched by Unilever Food Solutions (UFS) was a campaign in France, Netherlands and Belgium calling 36 restaurants to realise an audit of their kitchens waste, and then to implement food waste reduction actions accordingly. Both kitchen staffs and clients outputs, in 9 pilot sites, showed that the UFS tools (website, mobile app, etc...) can reduce waste from a restaurant by 20%.

#### 4) Educational Establishment

**4th One week for waste reduction - 600 clicks for the environment**

– *Bethlen Gábor ÚÁG Kincskereső Tagiskolája (Budapest, Central Hungary, Hungary)* – [Good practice document](#)

To raise awareness about waste reduction among its students, this primary and secondary school created an inventive software aiming at stimulating the children's curiosity and motivating them to reduce their waste. 120 students and teachers were involved in this action and 10kg of food waste have been avoided.



5) Citizens

**A year without waste bins** – Yacine Canamas, (Brussels, Brussels Capital, Belgium) – [Good practice document](#)

The goal being to reduce the amount of waste produced by his family, this experience also aimed at having a better idea about what amount and what sort of waste can produce a family during one year. At the end of the experience, Yacine and his family produced only 16 kg of waste (120 times less waste than an equivalent European family.)

6) Others

**Minimisation of uneaten hospital meals** – José Germans Trias i Pujol Hospital (Badalona, Catalonia, Spain) – [Good practice document](#)

In order to reduce its amount of uneaten meals, this Hospital led a satisfaction survey on cuisine service quality, established a menu preselection by patients, trained the nurses to increase the accuracy of the diet patterns, and even created a software that enables patients and cooks to communicate. In total, between 2013 and 2014, the Hospital saved 1171 meals (761 kg of food waste) and reduced by 50% their waste production.

For more information about the awards winners and finalists please have a look at the complete press file, available on the EWWR website: <http://www.ewwr.eu/en/misc/press> (Press Area)

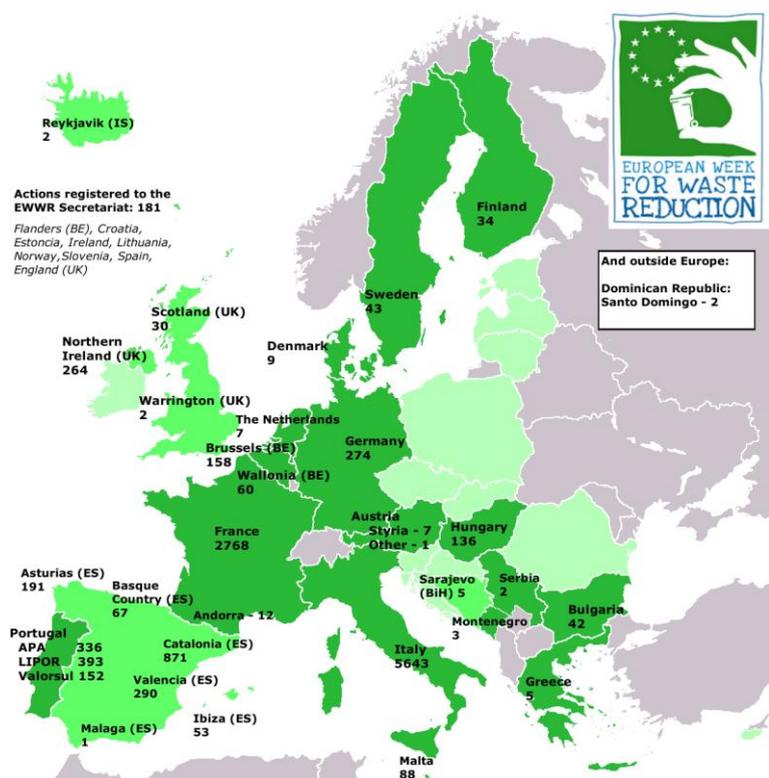
*The EWWR: A continuing success story*

Like every year since 2009, the EWWR 2014 has been a great success: with around 12,000 actions implemented in 28 different countries by 35 national and regional Coordinators in cooperation with the EWWR Technical Secretariat, the sixth edition of the EWWR showed continuity in terms of actions, as well as an improvement in the amount of countries covered. This shows a constant interest in how to reduce the amount of waste we put in our garbage bins every day.

In addition, the EWWR contributed to creating a lively network of public authorities and stakeholders acting in the field of waste prevention at national, regional or local level who are sharing their expertise and best practices to reduce waste. The EWWR confirms its statute of key waste and resource event in Europe.

This sixth edition mainly focused on the topic of [food waste](#) which is a major environmental and social issue. Indeed, a total of 842 million people were estimated to be suffering from chronic hunger in the world while 100 million tonnes of food are wasted annually in the EU.

The next EWWR edition will take place **from 21 to 29 November 2015** and will have a special focus on dematerialisation ("[Doing more with less!](#)"). Everyone interested in joining is welcome!



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**The European Week for Waste Reduction** was launched in 2009 with the support of the LIFE+ Programme of the European Commission. The aim of the European Week for Waste Reduction is to put forward the concept of waste prevention, reuse and recycling during one week, by coordinating awareness-raising actions organised by a variety of actors.

The Week is coordinated at European level by the Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and Sustainable Resource Management ([ACR+](#)) in cooperation with several national and regional organisations. ACR+, the international network of public authorities committed to promoting sustainable waste and resource management, acts also as Technical Secretariat for the EWWR.

The project is implemented with the help of 4 project partners: [AICA](#), the International Association for Environmental Communication from Italy, [ARC](#), the Catalan Waste Agency, [IBGE-BIM](#), Brussels Environment, the Brussels Region environmental agency and [NWMD](#), the National Waste Management Directorate for Hungary.

**More information about the Week:**

[www.ewwr.eu](http://www.ewwr.eu) and [contact@ewwr.eu](mailto:contact@ewwr.eu)



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