

# IRELAND



👤 TOTAL POPULATION (MILLION): 4.9

🏙️ % CITIES: 46.3%

🏠 % TOWNS AND SUBURBS: 22.3%

👨‍🌾 % RURAL: 31.4%

📄 RECEIVED EARLY WARNING REPORT: NO

🗑️ FOOD WASTE

POTENTIAL GENERATION (KG/CAPITA): 118.2

POTENTIAL GENERATION (T): 579,621

POTENTIAL MAXIMUM CAPTURE WITH OPTIMISED COLLECTION SCHEMES (T): 492,678

CURRENT CAPTURE (T): 46,123

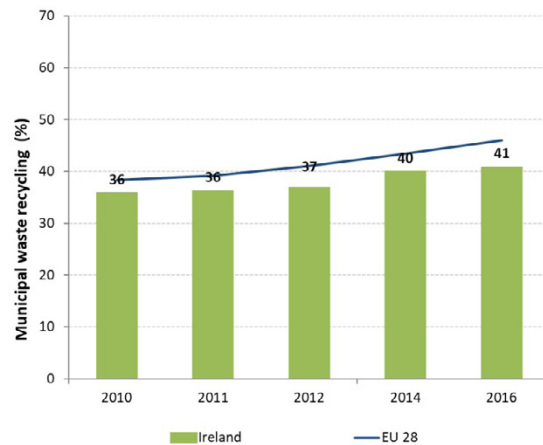
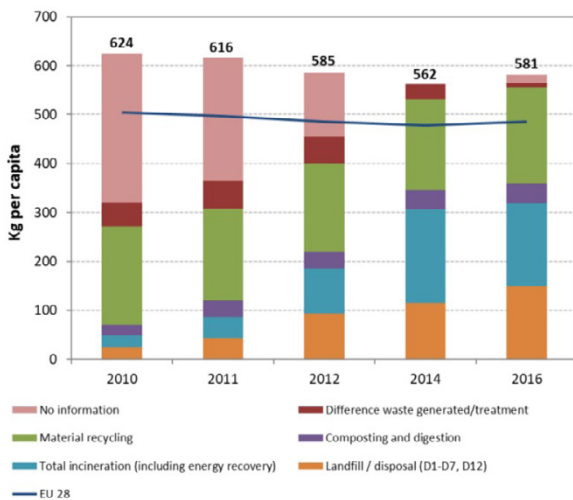
CURRENT CAPTURE (% ON POTENTIAL GENERATION): 8%

AMOUNT STILL TO BE CAPTURED (T): 446,554

🌱 BIO-WASTE

CURRENT CAPTURE (% ON POTENTIAL GENERATION): 20%

[LINK TO NATIONAL WASTE DATA](#)



Source: EC Environmental legislation implementation assessment, national reports 2019

## 🗑️ COLLECTION:

In 2009 the Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations were introduced, requiring food-producing businesses to separate their food waste for organic recycling; this was followed in 2015 by the Household Food Waste and Bio-waste Regulations, which requires all waste collectors to provide separate collection of bio-waste in agglomerations >500 households, and for all households to use the service unless they are home composting. The regulations initially had a significant impact, but a lack of enforcement in recent years has meant overall performance has fallen off. This in turn has led to a number of in-vessel composters converting their facilities to handle mixed waste to produce RDF (refuse derived fuel) and SRF (solid recovered fuel).

## 📄 PLANS AND PROPOSALS:

Ireland is in the process of developing a Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy which includes a number of scenarios to increase the performance of bio-waste collection and recycling systems.



Leaflet of the campaign performed in Sligo. Source: [sligococo.ie](http://sligococo.ie)

## RECENT UPDATE - CASE STUDY

In 2014-5 the national composting association 'Cré' with a number of partners ran a Brown Bin Awareness Programme in the city and county of Sligo. The trial included door-to-door education and awareness raising, the distribution of kitchen caddies and compostable liners, as well as local media and events. At the end of the trial, participation and organic waste capture had doubled, contamination had fallen from 18% to 1% and total organic waste in residual bins was reduced by 10%.