

ROMANIA



👤 TOTAL POPULATION (MILLION): 19,40

🏙️ % CITIES: 28,9%

🏘️ % TOWNS AND SUBURBS: 25,4%

👨‍👩‍👧‍👦 % RURAL: 45,7%

📄 RECEIVED EARLY WARNING REPORT: YES

🗑️ FOOD WASTE

POTENTIAL GENERATION (KG/CAPITA): 127,7

POTENTIAL GENERATION (T): 2,477,413

POTENTIAL MAXIMUM CAPTURE WITH OPTIMISED COLLECTION SCHEMES (T): 2,105,801

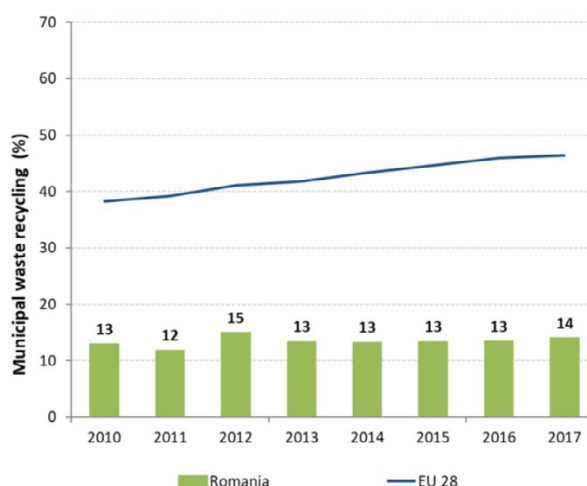
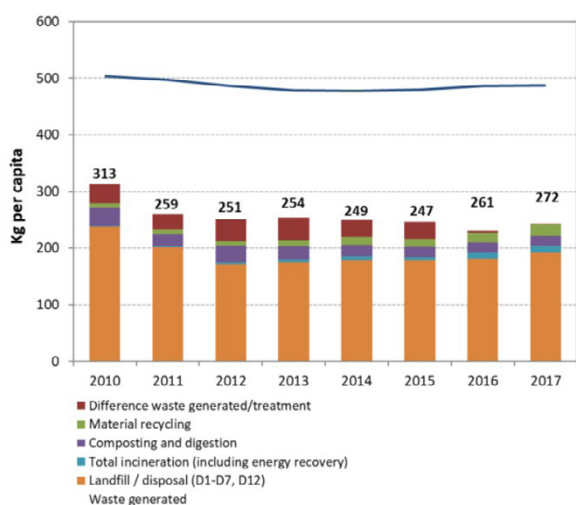
CURRENT CAPTURE (T): 69,846

CURRENT CAPTURE (% ON POTENTIAL GENERATION): 3%

AMOUNT STILL TO BE CAPTURED (T): 2,035,955

🌿 BIO-WASTE

CURRENT CAPTURE (% ON POTENTIAL GENERATION): 7%



Source: EC Environmental legislation implementation assessment, national reports 2019

🗑️ COLLECTION:

Until recent times, no separate collection was in place and very little progress in waste management has been seen in recent years in Romania. Low implementation of separate collection means that overall recycling performance remains very low. Most counties do not have infrastructure for effective management of municipal waste, and the majority is landfilled.

📄 PLANS AND PROPOSALS:

Romania received an Early Warning Report specifically mentioning that EU funds should be used to ensure better separate collection of bio-waste. Emergency ordinance 74 of 17-07-2018 introduced Pay As You Throw as a scheme to promote separate collection. No specific provisions for bio-waste are in place. Some regional plans, such as in Sibiu County (2019 - 2025), now mention the opportunity to set up separate collection of bio-waste and build composting/anaerobic digestion facilities.



5 fractions door-to-door separate collection in Salacea. Photo: [Zero Waste Europe](#)

RECENT UPDATE - CASE STUDY

The city of Sălacea, in the north-west of Romania, not only managed to quickly increase from almost no waste recycling to 60% in 3 months, including door-to-door separate collection of bio-waste, but also reduced overall waste generation by 55%. The project was run in partnership with Zero Waste Europe.