

City Liège	
Country	Belgium
Population	197,355
Title of policy or practice	Zéro déchets (Zero waste)
Subtitle (optional)	Raising food waste awareness
URL video	
Category	Food Waste
SDGs	SDGs: 12, 13.
Brief description	<p>As part of the Walloon Minister of the Environment's call for proposals for the Communes Zéro Déchets operation (Zero Waste Municipalities operation), the City of Liège has committed to reducing under the threshold of 100 kg the amount of household and similar waste per year and per inhabitant by 2025, whereas in 2017 the amount was estimated to be 149 kg. Therefore, the target consists of a one-third reduction!</p> <p>The City of Liège has thus adopted a strategy to raise awareness of food waste.</p> <p>The current priorities are awareness raising (primary target audience: schools), selective sorting and collection of organic waste.</p> <p>Organic waste sorting takes place on a voluntary basis, but it is strongly encouraged: the annual urban tax automatically includes the supply of 20 biodegradable bags for organic waste sorting and containers are made available free of charge on request.</p> <p>Objectives to be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the volume of waste produced per inhabitant by 15%. • Reducing the volume of landfilled and incinerated waste by 50%. • Increasing the recovery rate by 70%.
Date of start and state (ongoing/completed)	03/2017 Ongoing
Actors and stakeholders involvement	<p>Within the City:</p> <p><i>Echevinat de la Transition écologique</i> (Alderman of the Ecological Transition); <i>Département des Travaux</i> (Works Department) - <i>Direction de la Gestion de l'Espace public</i> (Public Space Management Department) – <i>Service Environnement</i> (Environment Service); ASBL Liège Santé (non-profit organization); <i>Intradel</i> (Intermunicipal waste treatment company of the municipalities of the province of Liège).</p>
Approach	<p>Initial training on <i>Guide Relais Compostage</i> (Guide for Composting Relay).</p> <p>Relay guides training in the neighbourhoods, specifically for off-land horticultural crops.</p> <p>Joining <i>Green deals</i> (sustainable canteens) - Gradual conversion of the canteen that supplies the City of Liège's childcare centres and schools into a sustainable canteen.</p> <p>Entertaining activities on the topic of snacks and water, raising awareness of food waste and healthy eating in primary schools.</p>
Innovation	<p>Actions to promote/raise awareness and to support individual and/or collective composting have been carried out over the last three years on the territory of the municipality.</p> <p>The main actions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial training on <i>Guide relais compostage</i>;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced training on <i>Guide relais compostage</i> (2016) for people who trained since 2009; • Creation of a demonstration site "composting - vermicomposting" in collaboration with the <i>Espaces botaniques</i> (Botanical Spaces) of the University of Liège; • Information on composting provided for people following the training courses of <i>Guide relais Potager hors sol</i> (Off-land Horticultural Crops Relay Guide) and <i>Guide relais Jardin Nature admise</i> (Nature Garden Permitted Relay Guide); • Information on waste sorting (including organic waste) and composting at various public events, and demonstrations taking place in Liège (<i>Retrouvailles, Liège au Jardin...</i>); • Awareness campaign <i>Stop au gaspillage alimentaire</i> (Stop Food Waste); • Educating the CHR (cafés, hotels and restaurants) sector within the framework of the campaign <i>Un Rest-O-Pack, s'il vous plaît</i> launched by Test-Achats and with which the City of Liège has joined as a pilot city. The 900 or so restaurants in Liège were given a sticker in the colours of the campaign and were invited to place it on their windows to encourage their customers to ask to take away the leftovers of their meals. The newsletter sent to traders also addressed aspects of waste management.
<p>Impact</p>	<p>New eating habits, including no-food waste, food appreciation and a better sorting system all have a positive impact on the environment.</p> <p>In addition, young people (they are the future!) are made aware of it through schools. Plus, currently, several schools in the area of the City of Liège, in partnership with the non-profit organization COREN, are taking steps within the framework of School Agenda 21, aiming in particular at sorting waste and reducing its production (inter alia through the reduction of food waste).</p> <p>Finally, given its status of metropolis, the actions carried out in Liege have and will have an impact on non-residents of the City of Liège (tourists, workers not domiciled in Liege, students, participants in events taking place in Liege...).</p>
<p>Inclusion</p>	<p>Awareness-raising campaigns tend to reach all segments of the population and they are proving their effectiveness thanks to the collaboration between different departments of the City of Liège (education, environment, youth department) and with the non-profit organization <i>Liège Santé</i>.</p> <p>The Municipality of Liège also works as a network; for example: waste prevention and management in schools are carried out through effective collaboration between various municipal services, <i>Intradel</i> and the voluntary sector.</p> <p>In addition, discussions are under way with the Protocol Department on sustainable food public procurements (to avoid food waste even more, among other things), following the participation in sustainable development workshops organized by the SPW (Public Service of Wallonia).</p>
<p>Adversity coefficient</p>	<p>The population movements and the attendance of Liège, typical of a big city, which have repercussions in terms of food waste and waste generated: 8% of the population of Liège is a dynamic population.</p> <p>On one hand, Liège is home to a large multicultural population, including many newcomers who do not speak French and who are therefore difficult to reach in terms of awareness.</p> <p>On the other, Liège organizes and/or hosts many events that attract a large population (e.g. Le Tour de France, La foire de Liège, Le Village de Noël, Les Ardentes, La Nocturnedes Coteaus de la Citadelle...) for whom preventing food waste is not necessarily a priority.</p>