

# National factsheet on separate collection

## France

**Note:** This ‘National factsheet’ has been prepared within the EC study “**Assessment of separate collection schemes in the 28 capitals of the EU**”. The document represents the status-quo of the EU Member State (MS) in September 2015. The information included in this document has been elaborated for all 28 EU-MS based on publically available documents, i.e. national legislation, Waste Management Plans, Waste Prevention Programmes, strategies, implementation reports, and statistics. All information is cited in the factsheet, a complete list of information sources can be found at the end of this document.

For quality assurance purposes the ‘National factsheet’ has been sent to the EU Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Members on waste for verification and commenting, the comments received are included in this final version.

### 1 General requirements on separate collection based on national legislation

The requirements resulting from the WFD have been transposed through different ordinances and decrees into French domestic law, these are ordinance n° 2010-1579 from 17 December 2010 [FR 1579 2010], the decree n° 2011-828 from 11 July 2011 [FR 828 2011] and the Article 256 of the law n° 2010-788 from 12 July 2010 [FR 788 2010]. It has to be noted that they make changes to the French Environmental Code [FR CdE 2015] that is the main piece of legislation the changes refer mainly to Book V, Title IV Waste (Code de l’environnement, Livre V Prévention des pollutions, des risques et des nuisances, Titre IV Déchets). The relevant parts of the [FR CdE 2015] are summarised in the table below.

Most of the single requirements of the WFD are transposed “**one:one**” into the French law, in the “Code de l’environnement”. However, some requirements are **not included** especially the requirements that deal with the implementation of the separate collection with the aim of recycling (measures to promote high quality recycling, quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors).

**Deviating transposition** has only been assessed for the separate collection of bio-waste with a view to composting or digestion. Even though the Environmental Code includes additional information on bio-waste e.g. mandatory separate collection for big producers it does not refer the treatment option to be applied (digestion or composting). In addition according to the law all other provisions regarding separate collection and treatment of bio-waste are to be included in the regional WMPs.

**Table 1: Overview of national law(s) that implement separate collection**

| Year and Abbreviation | Title of the law (translation)   |
|-----------------------|--|
| [FR CdE 2015]         | Code de l’environnement (Environmental Code): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partie législative: Chapitre 1er “Prévention et gestion des déchets (Chapter 1 “Waste prevention and management”)</li> <li>Partie réglementaire: Chapitre 1er “Dispositions générales relatives à la prévention et gestion des déchets (Chapter 1 “General measures for waste prevention and management”)</li> <li>Partie réglementaire: Chapitre III “Dispositions propres à certaines catégories de produits et de déchets (Chapter 3 “Provisions for certain waste and product categories”)</li> </ul> |

**Table 2: Overview on evaluation categories**

| <b>Evaluation</b>   | <b>Explanation</b>   |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>additional</b>   | The requirements of the WFD have been transposed and additional information or requirements are set out in the national legal requirement, i.e. additional definition, precision of requirement that goes beyond the text of the WFD |
| <b>one:one</b>      | The requirement of the WFD has been transposed exactly / literally or transposed analogously. No additional requirements or explanations are set out.  |
| <b>deviating</b>    | The requirements of the WFD have been implemented into national legal requirements but have been adjusted, left out or deviated  |
| <b>not included</b> | The requirement of the WFD is not transposed into national law   |

**Table 3: Assessment on national transpositions**

| Law & Article   | Evaluation   | English text   | Original text  |
|---|--------------|--|--|
| <b>1. Article 3 (11) WFD: Definition separate collection: "separate collection' means the collection where a waste stream is kept separately by type and nature so as to facilitate a specific treatment"</b> |              |  |  |
| [FR CdE 2015]<br>Article R541-49-1  | One:one      | R541-49-1 Within the meaning of this title, separate collection is a type of collection where a waste stream is kept separately according to its type and its nature in order to facilitate a specific treatment.  | R541-49-1 Au sens du présent titre, on entend par collecte séparée une collecte dans le cadre de laquelle un flux de déchets est conservé séparément en fonction de son type et de sa nature afin de faciliter un traitement spécifique.   |
| <b>2. Article 10 (2) WFD: "waste shall not be mixed with other waste/material with other properties"</b>  |              |  |  |
|   | Not included |  |  |
| <b>3. Article 11 (1) WFD: "measures to promote high quality recycling"</b>  |              |  |  |
|   | Not included |  |  |
| <b>4. Requirement WFD: 11 (1) "separate collection if technically practicable"</b>  |              |  |  |
| [FR CdE 2015]<br>Article L541-21-2  | One:one      | L541-21-2 Every waste producer or holder has to put in place a separate sorting of waste at the source, and if the waste is not treated on the spot he has to put in place a separate collection of his waste, in particular for the waste streams paper, metals, plastics and glass insofar as this activity is technically, environmentally and economically feasible. | L541-21-2 Tout producteur ou détenteur de déchets doit mettre en place un tri des déchets à la source et, lorsque les déchets ne sont pas traités sur place, une collecte séparée de leurs déchets, notamment du papier, des métaux, des plastiques et du verre, pour autant que cette opération soit réalisable d'un point de vue technique, environnemental et économique. |
| <b>5. Requirement WFD: 11 (1) "separate collection if economically practicable"</b>   |              |  |  |
| [FR CdE 2015]<br>Article L541-21-2  | One:one      | L541-21-2 Every waste producer or holder has to put in place a separate sorting of waste at the source, and if the waste is not treated on the spot he has to put in place a separate collection of his waste, in particular for the waste streams paper, metals, plastics and glass insofar as this activity is technically, environmentally and economically feasible. | L541-21-2 Tout producteur ou détenteur de déchets doit mettre en place un tri des déchets à la source et, lorsque les déchets ne sont pas traités sur place, une collecte séparée de leurs déchets, notamment du papier, des métaux, des plastiques et du verre, pour autant que cette opération soit réalisable d'un point de vue technique, environnemental et économique. |

| Law & Article  | Evaluation   | English text  | Original text   |
|--|--------------|---|---|
| <b>6. Requirement WFD: 11 (1) “separate collection if environmentally practicable”</b>   |              |   |   |
| [FR CdE 2015]<br>Article L541-21-2   | One:one      | L541-21-2 Every waste producer or holder has to put in place a separate sorting of waste at the source, and if the waste is not treated on the spot he has to put in place a separate collection of his waste, in particular for the waste streams paper, metals, plastics and glass insofar as this activity is technically, environmentally and economically feasible.  | L541-21-2 Tout producteur ou détenteur de déchets doit mettre en place un tri des déchets à la source et, lorsque les déchets ne sont pas traités sur place, une collecte séparée de leurs déchets, notamment du papier, des métaux, des plastiques et du verre, pour autant que cette opération soit réalisable d'un point de vue technique, environnemental et économique.  |
| <b>7. Article 11 (1) WFD: “separate collections (...) appropriate to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors”</b>  |              |   |   |
|  | not included |   |   |
| <b>8. Article 11 (1) WFD “by 2015 separate collection shall be set up for at least the following: paper, metal, plastic and glass”</b>   |              |   |   |
| [FR CdE 2015]<br>Article L541-21-2   | One:one      | L541-21-2 Every waste producer or holder has to put in place a separate sorting of waste at the source, and if the waste is not treated on the spot he has to put in place a separate collection of his waste, in particular for the waste streams paper, metals, plastics and glass insofar as this activity is technically, environmentally and economically feasible.  | L541-21-2 Tout producteur ou détenteur de déchets doit mettre en place un tri des déchets à la source et, lorsque les déchets ne sont pas traités sur place, une collecte séparée de leurs déchets, notamment du papier, des métaux, des plastiques et du verre, pour autant que cette opération soit réalisable d'un point de vue technique, environnemental et économique.  |
| <b>9. Article 22 WFD: Bio-waste – Member States shall take measures, as appropriate (...) to encourage: “a) the separate collection of bio-waste with a view to the composting and digestion of bio-waste”</b> |              |   |   |
| [FR CdE 2015]<br>Article R543-226  | deviating    | R543-226 The recovery of waste can be performed directly by the waste producer or waste owner, or it can be handed over to a third party after separate collection if the recovery is not completed on the production site.<br><br>Once the bio-waste is conditioned it can be collected in its container. Also bio-waste can likewise be collected together with other non-synthetic organic waste that might be treated with the same organic recovery treatment. | R543-226 La valorisation de ces déchets peut être effectuée directement par leur producteur ou leur détenteur ou être confiée à un tiers, après une collecte séparée lorsque la valorisation n'est pas effectuée sur le site de production. Lorsque les biodéchets sont conditionnés, ils peuvent être collectés dans leur contenant. Les biodéchets peuvent également être collectés en mélange avec des déchets organiques non synthétiques pouvant faire l'objet d'une même opération de valorisation organique. |

| Law & Article                      | Evaluation | English text   | Original text  |
|------------------------------------|------------|--|--|
| [FR CdE 2015]<br>Article L541-21-1 | deviating  | L541-21-1 By the 1 <sup>st</sup> of January 2012 every person that produces or owns significant quantities of waste that mainly consists of bio-waste is required to set up a separation at source and a biological recovery, or if this is not carried out by a third party a separate collection of waste in order to allow their material recovery that limits greenhouse gas emissions and favours the return to the soil. | L541-21-1 A compter du 1er janvier 2012, les personnes qui produisent ou détiennent des quantités importantes de déchets composés majoritairement de biodéchets sont tenues de mettre en place un tri à la source et une valorisation biologique ou, lorsqu'elle n'est pas effectuée par un tiers, une collecte sélective de ces déchets pour en permettre la valorisation de la matière de manière à limiter les émissions de gaz à effet de serre et à favoriser le retour au sol. |
| [FR CdE 2015]<br>Article L541-14   | deviating  | L541-14 The waste management plans: In order to achieve the objectives that are set out in article L541-1 the plan [...] defines the objectives of separation at the source, separate collection, notably of bio-waste and recovery of the materials.  | L541-14 Plans de prévention et de gestion des déchets II.-Pour atteindre les objectifs visés à l'article L. 541-1, le plan : 3° [...] Dans ce contexte, le plan :b) Fixe des objectifs de tri à la source, de collecte sélective, notamment des biodéchets, et de valorisation de la matière   |

## 2 General requirements on separate collection based on main strategies

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>France</b>   | <b>534 kg MSW/capita<br/>38.76% recycling</b> |
| <p><b>Definition of Municipal solid waste (MSW):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In France, MSW is defined by the following waste types: street sweeping, sewage sludge and garden and park waste (from municipal sources), household waste (recycling centre and bulky items, household hazardous waste and mixed &amp; separately collected household waste). Finally, MSW includes trade waste similar in nature to household waste [FR EEA 2013].</li> <li>- <b>Household wastes</b> (Déchets Ménagers, DM) are the wastes generated by households and collected by the municipality. Compared to <b>household wastes and wastes of a similar nature and composition</b> (Déchets Ménagers et Assimilés, DMA) it is calculated excluding wastes of a similar nature and composition, meaning that <b>commercial waste</b> collected by municipalities are not included. Household and wastes of a similar nature and composition (DMA) is the waste collected from households and similar waste. Waste produced by municipal services, sewerage waste, street cleaning waste, market waste do not fall within this scope (p. 7) [FR ADEME 2014].</li> </ul>  |   |
| <p><b>Main strategies implementing separate collection</b></p>  |   |
| <p>In France waste management, including separate collection is <b>regulated on national</b> as well as on <b>regional level</b>. Although France is a unitary state certain competencies of waste management are delegated to the regions (départements). This means that there are a <b>many differences</b> concerning the implementation throughout the country. Regions have the possibility to set own priorities that have however to be in line with national requirements.</p> <p>The implementation of separate collection is included in national legislation and as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The European Framework Directive 2008/98/EC has been transposed into the Environmental Code [FR CdE 2014] legislative part through the Ordinance of 17 December 2010 [FR 1579 2010] and in the regulative part through Decree of 11 July 2011 [FR 828 2011].</li> </ul> <p>In addition there are several national and regional plans for the implementation of separate collection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On <b>national level</b> France has elaborated a waste reduction and recovery plan that constitutes the strategy for waste prevention, waste reduction targets and recycling targets for non-hazardous wastes [FR WRP 2014]. In regards of separate collection the WRP focuses especially on the <b>separation at source and recovery of bio-waste</b>. Therefore, <b>until 2025</b> every household shall have access to separation at source of bio-waste either through composting close to homes or separate collection (p. 8f.). Further the <b>population</b> shall be strongly <b>involved in the sorting of waste</b> by facilitating the accessibility to separate collection. The focus is laid on plastics and graphic papers (newspapers, magazines...) including an overhaul of the separate collection system throughout the country. The number of different collection schemes shall be reduced to promote the most favourable collection system. This shall go hand in hand with the separate collection of bio-waste (p. 12f.).</li> <li>- On <b>regional level</b> each department has to develop a regional plan on non-hazardous waste management and prevention that are equivalent to the required Waste Management Plans (WMP).</li> </ul> |   |

According to [FR CdE 2015] each plan has to define the **goals of separation at source, separate collection, including bio-waste, and material recovery**. Since there are over 100 regional WMPs implemented in France no general indication on the implementation of separate collection within the territory is available.

**General facts on separate collection in France [FR EEA 2013]:**

- The policy instrument related to the extended producer responsibility (EPR) was mostly implemented between 2001 and 2010 including: tyres, printed/graphic paper, textiles and shoes, furniture, household healthcare products, chemicals from households and household natural gas cylinders. The overall aim is to improve the waste management performance of these materials, using a financial contribution from the producers (and transferred to consumers), which is then redistributed to municipalities. The implementation of the EPR has reportedly contributed to the improvement in the recycling performance according to the Environment Ministry.
- The total MSW recycling, related to MSW generation, has increased from 26 % in 2001 to 35 % in 2010. The increase in recycling rate is strongly related to the **high increase in container parks**, more than **4 500 container parks** were accounted for in 2009, compared to 3 000 in 2000.
- 11.8 million t of waste were collected in 2009, as opposed to 6.8 million t in 2001.
- The 2016 target for the diversion of biodegradable municipal waste from landfill is likely to be met on the French territory (38 % achieved in 2010, with a target of 35 % in 2016), although regional performance differences are quite marked.
- In France there is the requirement for retailers to offer a packaging recovery centre, where shoppers can remove the packaging from the products after the purchase. This measure is nevertheless not appropriately implemented.

### 3 Implementation of separate collection

#### Overview on separate collection systems in place

Due to the regulation of waste management systems on a **regional level** a general overview of separate collection systems in France is not possible. Some information on separate collection are though available [FR EFR 2014]:

- The municipal waste collection rate amounted to 38.6 Million t in 2011 and accordingly 591 kg/capita; 78% of this waste comes from households and 22 % of economic activity (small businesses, artisans, merchants, etc.).
- Collected mixed residual waste accounted to 18.8 Million t in 2011. It decreased quite sharply for 4 years, due to the **growth of separate door to door collection, voluntary intake at bring points and waste disposal facilities.**
- **Separate collection** amounted in 2011 to more than 16 Million t, an **increase of 80%** since 2000. Since 2005, the success of the recycling centres (4 565 in 2011) cannot be denied; separate waste collection amounts have increased from 3.4 Million t to 12.8 Million t in 2011.
- MSW in sorting facilities: Out of the 8.3 Million t of wastes that leave the sorting facilities 3.1 Million t are paper waste (of which 1.3 Million t are graphic papers).
- Rejected quantities are about 32% of total amount sorted; they are mostly sent to disposal (62%) or incinerated.
- **Far less quantities of waste that has been separately collected at households is rejected**, only 17%.
- **Material recovery of household waste has increased from 12.5% in 2000 to 21% in 2012.** The overall recycling rate (including material and organic recycling) reached 37% in 2011 surpassing the legislative target of 35% for 2012.
- **Household packaging recycling rate is steadily increasing** since 2006, in 2011 the recycling rates were as follows: glass 84%, paper 65%, plastic 22% and aluminium 36%.

According to Waste Prevention Programme [FR WPP 2014] some municipalities have experienced a decrease of collected residual household waste of 47% in average and a **growth of collection of dry recyclables** of all types due to the implementation of a **pay-as-you-throw scheme** (p. 69).

In order to attain the recycling and reduction targets for household waste in the period of 2013-2015 it was concluded that sorting indications - especially plastic packaging other than bottles and jars - shall be expanded, and the probable change in collection methods (harmonisation and different organisation of flows between packaging and paper) will result in a need to upgrade / renovate obsolete sorting centres [FR Management 2013].

**Table 4: Overview of main separate collection systems in France\* (assessment of five biggest regions)**

| Collection type   | Paper  | Glass     | Plastic | Metal | Bio-waste |
|---|--|-----------|---------|-------|-----------|
| <b>Door-to-door collection</b><br>     | Secondary  | Secondary |         |       | Rare      |
| <b>Co-mingled (door-to-door)</b><br>   | Rare (together with plastic and metal)   |           | Primary |       |           |
| <b>Bring points</b><br>                | Primary  | Primary   | Rare    |       | Very rare |
| <b>Civic amenities</b><br>           | Additional collection for all streams on top of other waste types, i.e. hazardous waste from households, wood, WEEE, furniture   |           |         |       |           |
| <b>Producer/retail take-back</b><br> | Packaging waste take back in some stores<br>EPR schemes for: tyres, printed/graphic paper, textiles and shoes, furniture, household healthcare products, chemicals from households and household natural gas cylinders |           |         |       |           |

\* Overview on main separate collection systems in France was not available since more than 100 WMPs are in force, therefore the five biggest regions were assessed (Nord [FR WMP Nord 2011], Paris, Hauts-de-Seine [FR WMP IdF 2009], Bouches du Rhone [FR WMP BdR 2014], Rhone [FR WMP Rhone 2014])

## 4 Information sources

- [FR 1579 2010]** Ordinance No. 2010-1579 of 17 December 2010 adapting various provisions in the law of the European Union in the field of waste (Ordonnance no 2010-1579 du 17 décembre 2010 portant diverses dispositions d'adaptation au droit de l'Union européenne dans le domaine des déchets), <http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000023246129&dateTexte=&categorieLien=id>, accessed March 2015.
- [FR 788 2010]** Law No 2010-788 making provisions regarding the environment (LOI n° 2010-788 du 12 juillet 2010 portant engagement national pour l'environnement (1)), <http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000022470434&categorieLien=id>, accessed March 2015.
- [FR 828 2011]** Decree No. 2011-828 of 11 July 2011 containing various provisions related to the waste prevention and management (Décret no 2011-828 du 11 juillet 2011 portant diverses dispositions relatives à la prévention et à la gestion des déchets), <http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000024353443&dateTexte=&categorieLien=id>, accessed March 2015.
- [FR ADEME 2014]** Ademe: Waste 2014 edition (Déchets Edition 2014, Chiffres Clés), <http://www.ademe.fr/chiffres-cles-dechets-edition-2014>, accessed March 2015.
- [FR CdE 2015]** French Environmental Code (Code de l'environnement Version consolidée au 28 février 2015), <http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006074220>, accessed March 2015.
- [FR EEA 2013]** European Environment Agency: Municipal waste management in France, <http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/managing-municipal-solid-waste>, accessed March 2015.
- [FR EFR 2014]** Ministry of Environment : Environment in France, 2014 edition (L'environnement en France ÉDITION 2014), <http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/-L-environnement-en-France-.html>, accessed March 2015.
- [FR Management 2013]** Waste management overview from 2009-2012 (Gestion des déchets : bilans 2009-2012 de la TGAP et des soutiens de l'ADEME), [http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Rapport\\_TGAP.pdf](http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Rapport_TGAP.pdf), accessed March 2015.
- [FR WMP BdR 2014]** Non-hazardous Waste Prevention and Management Plan of the Bouches du Rhone region (Plan de Prévention et de Gestion des Déchets Non Dangereux des Bouches-du-Rhône), [https://www.cg13.fr/fileadmin/user\\_upload/environnement/Plan-Dechets/Enquete-public-dechet.pdf](https://www.cg13.fr/fileadmin/user_upload/environnement/Plan-Dechets/Enquete-public-dechet.pdf), accessed March 2015.
- [FR WMP IdF 2009]** Regional plan for the disposal of household and similar waste, Ile de France region (Ile de France PREDMA, Plan régional d'élimination des déchets ménagers et assimilés), <http://www.ordif.com/public/fiche/predma-plan-regional-d-elimination-des-dechets-menagers-et-assimiles.html?rub=14351&id=10462>, accessed March 2015.
- [FR WMP Nord 2011]** Plan for the disposal of household and similar waste in the North Region (Plan d'Élimination des Déchets Ménagers et Assimilés du Nord, Novembre 2011), [https://lenord.fr/jcms/pnw\\_5140/le-plan-delimitation-des-dechets-menagers-et-assimiles](https://lenord.fr/jcms/pnw_5140/le-plan-delimitation-des-dechets-menagers-et-assimiles), accessed March 2015.

- [FR WMP Rhone 2014]** Non-hazardous Waste Prevention and Management Plan of the Rhone region (Plan de Prévention et de Gestion des Déchets Non Dangereux du Rhône) [http://www.rhone.fr/content/download/53621/442584/file/plan\\_dechets\\_non\\_dangereux\\_rhone.pdf](http://www.rhone.fr/content/download/53621/442584/file/plan_dechets_non_dangereux_rhone.pdf), accessed March 2015.
- [FR WPP 2014]** National waste prevention programme (Programme national de prévention des déchets 2014-2020), [http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Programme\\_national\\_prevention\\_dechets\\_2014-2020.pdf](http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Programme_national_prevention_dechets_2014-2020.pdf), accessed March 2015.
- [FR WRP 2014]** Waste reduction and recovery plan 2014-2020 (Plan de reduction et de valorisation des déchets 2014 -2020), <http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Plan-dechets-2015-2020-webssTBLO.pdf>, accessed March 2015.