Waste prevention country profile

Czechia

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European Environment Agency

Country profile: Czechia

General information

Name of the country/ region	Czechia
Coverage of the waste prevention programme (national/ regional)	National
Type of programme (stand alone or integrated into waste management plan)	Integrated into Waste Management Plan in 2022
Title of programme and link to programme	„Plán odpadového hospodářství České republiky pro období 2015 – 2024 s výhledem do roku 2035 “ (Waste Management Plan of the Czech Republic for the period 2015 – 2024 with a view to 2035)): Czech version: https://www.mzp.cz/C1257458002F0DC7/cz/poh_cr_prislusne_dokumenty/$FILE/OODP-POH_CR_2015-2024_2035_vlada-20220511.pdf
Duration of programme	2015 until 2024, updated in 2022
Language	Czech
Contact person in the country/region	NRC Waste — Gabriela Bulkova, Ministry of the Environment (Collaboration — Petra Urbanova, Ministry of the Environment)
Development process of the programme/ revision	In 2020, the Ministry of the Environment proceeded to initiate an update of the Check Republic’s Waste Management Plan (WMP CR) in connection with changes to the European Union (EU) legislation. (p.5) The updated WMP CR was consulted and revised by the regions and the professional public, it was discussed with important representatives of the waste management sector (presentation and discussion of the updated WMP draft in the Waste Management Council). The document was also submitted to the internal and inter-ministerial commenting procedure. The updated WMP CR was submitted to the environmental impact assessment process pursuant to Act No. 100/2001 Coll., on Environmental Impact Assessment, as amended and to the Government of the Czech Republic for approval. (p. 6) The updated WMP CR was approved by the Government in May 2022.

Foreseen budget for implementation of the project	No specific budget for the implementation of the programme is included in the programme.

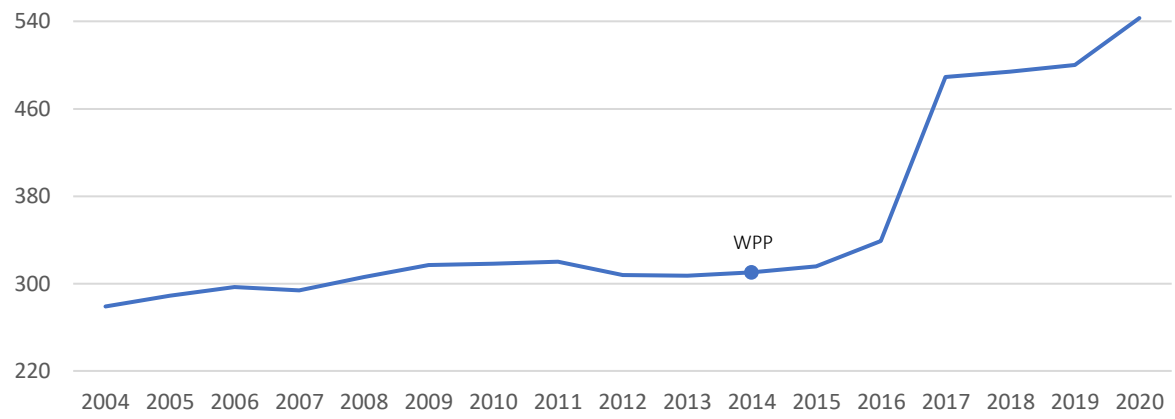
WASTE GENERATION

The following figures illustrate the progress towards waste prevention and decoupling of waste generation from economic growth in Czech Republic:

MSW

- Starting at a relatively low level of 279 kg per capita/year, the municipal waste generation per capita (see Figure 1) increased slowly for a decade since 2004.
- From 2016 on, the municipal waste generation per capita jumped rapidly and reached 489 kg in 2017 and remained rising moderately to a maximum of 543 kg per capita in 2020.
- MSW generation per capita in Chechia is above the European average, which was 517 kg[1] per capita in 2020.
- The Czech WPP came into force in 2014, but as the MSW generation is influenced by many factors (population, household expenditure), prevention measures did not lead to a decrease of MSW.

Figure 1: Municipal waste generation in Czech Republic (kg per capita), 2004-2020



Source: Eurostat [ENV_WASMUN]

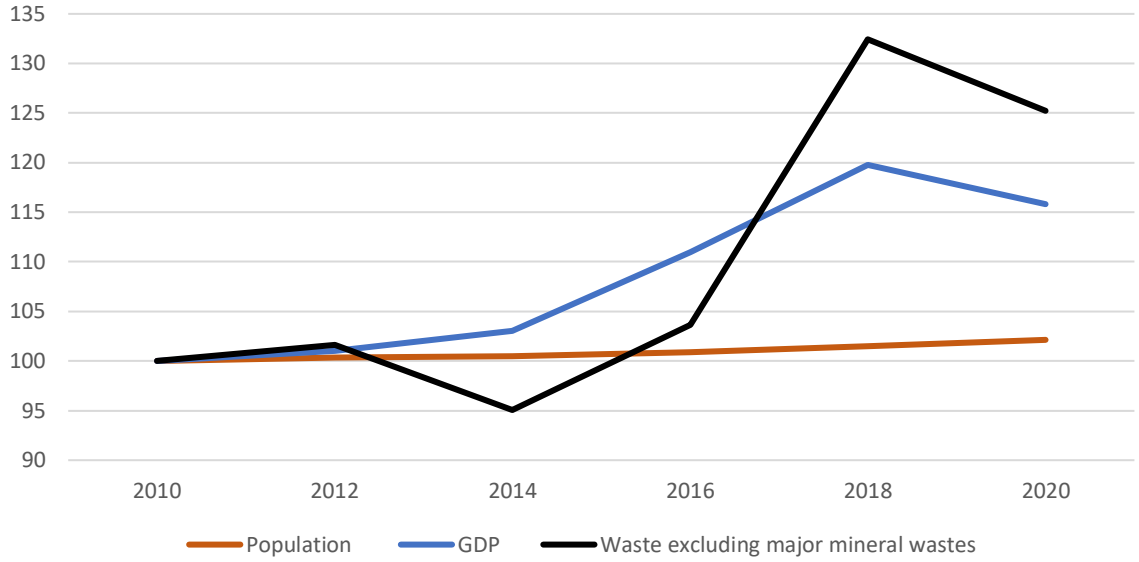
Total waste

- Total waste generation in Czech Republic (excluding major mineral wastes) indicates overall an increasing trend between 2010 and 2018. Although a slight decrease occurred between 2012 and 2014, the figures kept rising afterwards. The drop in 2020 coincides with Covid-19 pandemic but does not imply that it is a direct result of the pandemic itself.
- Similar situation can be observed for economic growth (GDP), which decreased slightly between 2011 and 2014, but after that it rose steadily until 2018 to drop in 2020.Both indicators have similar development during the observed time period, although from 2016 the GDP shows a more rapid growth than waste generation. Although a longer time period would be needed, their ascending character from 2014 indicates that more distinctive decoupling is not happening.

[1] Based on data collected from Eurostat in September 2022.

- The Czech population is almost constant and seems not to have influence on evolution of GDP and waste generation.

Figure 2: Growth rate of waste (excluding major mineral wastes), GDP (main GDP aggregates, chain linked), and population, 2010-2020, (2010=100).



Source: Eurostat [ENV_WASGEN, NAMA_10_PC, DEMO_GIND]

WASTE PREVENTION PROGRAMME

Objectives and priorities

1.	Waste prevention objectives of the Programme - quantitative objectives (waste reduction) - qualitative objectives (reduction of hazardous substances/ environmental impacts)	Prevention in waste management will be aimed both at reducing the amount of waste generated and at reducing its hazardous properties, which have an adverse impact on the environment and on the health of the population. Product reuse and preparation for reuse is also considered prevention in this area. (p.69) The Waste Prevention Programme of the Czech Republic (WPP CR) contains 1 main objective and 12 sub-objectives (chapter 3.3). The main objective of the waste prevention (p.70) is to: • maximize waste prevention, reduce amount of waste and the consumption of primary resources. The examples of sub-objectives are: • Promote sustainable production and consumption patterns, focusing on products containing critical raw materials. • Create conditions for reducing raw material and energy resources in manufacturing sectors and the use of "secondary raw materials". • Stabilise the production of hazardous waste, construction and demolition waste and reduce the content of hazardous substances in materials and products, without prejudice to harmonised legal requirements for these materials and products. In addition to general waste prevention objectives**,** the WMP CR puts an emphasi**s** on selected priority waste streams (chapter 3.4) for which specific objectives and measures are described. A separate chapter (3.8) is included on reducing the environmental impact of certain plastic products, which contains a set of five objectives with corresponding measures with the aim to prevent single-use plastic waste and their environmental impact on the water environment and human health. The main benefits of the WPP CR can be expected in the area of securing available information at various levels, increasing awareness of the issue, increasing the sense of responsibility, real enforcement of measures both among citizens, institutions and interested businesses, increasing the competitiveness of the participating entities and the Czech Republic as a whole, and developing science and research in the field of waste prevention. (p.70)

2.	Sectors covered	• The WPP CR affects various sectors of the Czech Republic's economy, impacting not only the waste management sector, but also the mining and manufacturing industries, design, services, education and awareness, and public and private consumption. (p.69)
3.	Priority waste types	• municipal waste; • mixed municipal waste; • biodegradable waste and biodegradable municipal waste; • food waste • construction and demolition waste; • hazardous waste; • packaging and packaging waste; • waste electrical and electronic equipment • waste batteries and accumulators; • waste tyres • end-of-life vehicles • sludge from municipal wastewater treatment plants • waste oils • waste from health and veterinary careother (i.e., animal by-products and biological waste from kitchens and catering establishments, ferrous and non-ferrous metal waste); • single use plastic waste
4.	Target groups	Target groups are not specifically mentioned; however, the primary target groups addressed by the measures are public consumers, businesses and manufacturers, the public sector and local authorities. The responsibility to implement set objectives and measures is put on the Ministry of Environment, regions, municipalities and waste producers. (p.109)

Targets, indicators and monitoring

1.	Indicators proposed	Both quantitative and qualitative indicators are included in the WMP CR (Annex 2). There are 59 core and 49 complementary national indicators listed in the Annex. In addition, there are indicators specified for regions (35) and municipalities (10). The examples of the core national indicators are as follow: • total waste production • production of hazardous waste • municipal waste production • production of mixed municipal waste • production of biodegradable municipal waste • production of construction and demolition waste • take-back of waste electrical and electronic equipment • take-back of waste portable batteries and accumulators • overview of measures to promote waste prevention The examples of the complementary national indicators are as follow: • production of municipal waste from municipalities • production of biodegradable municipal waste from municipalities • production of textile waste • separation (separate collection) of single-use plastic beverage bottles • overall waste management overall hazardous waste management
2.	Quantitative targets	The WMP CR includes among others: • targets for the level of preparation for reuse and recycling of municipal waste (55% in 2025, 60% in 2030, 65% in 2035) • targets for the take-back of WEEE (65% from 2021 onwards) • targets for the preparation for reuse, recycling and recovery of WEEE (e.g., preparation for reuse and recycling of small devices 55% from 2021) • target for the take-back of waste portable batteries and accumulators (45% from 2020) • targets for recycling and preparation for the reuse of waste tyres (e.g., 10% in 2021, 30% 2024) • targets for the recovery, recycling and reuse of vehicle fractions (e.g., recovery and reuse 95% from 2020 onwards) • target for the reduction of single-use plastic beverage cups and food containers (consumption 2026 < consumption in 2022 kg/capita/year)
3.	Monitoring of programme	The Ministry of the Environment develops methodologies for assessing the fulfilment of the objectives of waste management plans and sets out the approach to setting indicators. For the calculation of waste management indicators, data from the Waste Management Information System, containing data from obliged entities under the Waste Act and the End-of-Life Products Act - will be used.

		Information from other ministerial databases may also be used. (p.111) The methodological approach to the calculation of indicators will be described in a separate document - Methodology for evaluating the objectives of the Waste Management Plan of the Czech Republic and the Waste Management Indicator System of the Czech Republic. The Ministry uses a set of quantitative and qualitative indicators to monitor the implementation of the Waste Management Plan of the Czech Republic and the Waste Prevention Programme of the Czech Republic, the state of waste management in the Czech Republic, and proposes adjustments to this set of indicators. At the time of updating this country profile, the progress of the WPP was assessed in 2020.
4.	Evaluation of the programme	As part of the evaluation of the WMP CR, the Ministry of the Environment will evaluate the implementation of the objectives and measures of the WPP. The Ministry prepares a report on the status of the implementation of the WMP CR once every two years by 31 December for the past two-year period. Based on the results, it proposes further measures to support its implementation. (p.110) The evaluation report of the WPP for the period 2017-2019 has been produced, and the evaluation of the fulfilment of the WPP is included in the current updated WMP CR (2022). The Ministry evaluates the instruments used in waste management and determines the procedure for their application in the waste management of the Czech Republic.

Prevention measures

Implemented prevention measures according to Article 9	Most of the measures stipulated in Czech waste prevention programme are in line with the requirements of Article 9 and focus at activities supporting and promoting reduction of waste generation in several sectors, including through effective dissemination of information and awareness programmes.

Table 1: Specific waste prevention measures structured according to Art 9 WFD

Promote and support sustainable consumption models	• Publicly promote the activities of non-profit and municipal take-back organizations and similar entities. Ensure the creation of a publicly accessible network (map) of these organisations and centres. • Promote and intensively inform about available voluntary instruments (voluntary agreements, environmental management systems, environmental labelling, cleaner production, social responsibility, etc.) with a view to their gradual expansion. • Advocate and promote credible environmental labelling of products with lower environmental impact with the aim of gradually increasing the number of National Ecolabelling Programme licences. • Develop an analysis of the management of construction and demolition waste in the context of sustainable construction and reconstruction of buildings, recycling options and the use of recyclate in the construction industry. • Develop an analysis of textile waste flows in the Czech Republic and the possibilities of increasing their recovery and recycling. • Assess the possible introduction of recycled content requirements for certain products, taking into account their safety and functionality. • Assess the possibility of controlling and sanctioning false environmental claims. • Provide technical support and awareness campaigns to platforms for sharing second-hand products, such as libraries of things and the like, 'product-as-a-service' or other business models where producers retain ownership of the products or are responsible for their performance throughout their life cycle, and business models that minimise waste in sales, such as zero packaging.

Encourage the design, manufacturing and use of products that are resource-efficient, durable (including in terms of life span and absence of planned obsolence), reparable, re-usable and upgradable.	• Support the manufacturing and industrial sectors in their efforts to optimise production management processes in terms of waste prevention. • Focus on programmes, i.e., research, experimental development and innovation programmes, in the area of low-waste and input-saving technologies in the field of eco-design and product life extension and in the area of the sustainable construction and renovation of buildings. • Promote the introduction of reusable packaging.
Target products containing critical raw materials to prevent that those materials become waste.	• Promote the design, manufacture and use of products that are resource efficient, durable, repairable, reusable and upgradable; with a particular focus on products containing critical raw materials. •
Encourage the re-use of products and the setting up of systems promoting repair and re-use activities, including in particular for electrical and electronic equipment, textiles and furniture, as well as packaging and construction materials and products.	• Provide and support the dissemination of information and awareness programmes to gradually increase the amount of returned clothing, textiles, shoes, toys, books, magazines, furniture, carpets, tools and other reusable products. • Ensure and support the dissemination of information and awareness-raising programmes to gradually increase the amount of electrical and electronic equipment taken back. • Promote the establishment of a network of service centres for the repair and continued use of electrical and electronic equipment. • Legislatively enforce the obligation to inspect buildings before demolition and to selectively demolish buildings with regard to the separate concentration of building materials suitable for reuse and the removal of materials containing hazardous substances. • Analyse the possibilities and then provide support to companies, organisations and initiatives dealing with the sorting, reuse and recycling of textile products. • Develop guidance on selective demolition as part of waste prevention and the reuse of construction and demolition waste. • Comply with the waste management hierarchy, prioritising the reuse of electrical and electronic equipment by public and private institutions.

Encourage, as appropriate and without prejudice to intellectual property rights, the availability of spare parts, instruction manuals, technical information, or other instruments, equipment or software enabling the repair and re-use of products without compromising their quality and safety.	• Create conditions for the implementation of voluntary agreements in the areas affected by the Waste Prevention Programme. • Provide technical support and awareness campaigns to organisations and initiatives that reprocess or refurbish used products and recover used products for new purposes. • Create the conditions, in an appropriate manner and without prejudice to intellectual property rights, for the availability of spare parts, manuals, technical information or other tools, software or other equipment to enable the repair and reuse of products without compromising their quality and safety. • Set standards for the collection and processing of selected end-of-life vehicles, standards for the reuse of parts from selected end-of-life vehicles and enforce them consistently through state and local government authorities.
Reduce waste generation in processes related to industrial production, extraction of minerals, manufacturing, construction and demolition, taking into account best available techniques.	• Assess the need and develop criteria for certain material and waste streams defining when these materials are by-products and when they cease to be waste. Following the establishment of these criteria, develop a procedure to ensure the safe, sustainable and circular use of excavated soil.
Reduce the generation of food waste in primary production, in processing and manufacturing, in retail and other distribution of food, in restaurants and food services as well as in households as a contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to reduce by 50 % per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and to reduce food losses along production and supply chains by 2030.	• Conduct and promote education to raise public awareness of issues related to food waste prevention and improve consumer awareness of the importance of use-by dates and best before dates. • Support the activities and awareness-raising of non-profit and charitable organisations and other initiatives in the field of food waste prevention. • Create conditions for the conclusion of voluntary agreements in the field of prevention and reduction of food waste at the level of producers, processors, sellers and distributors of food, especially in the catering and retail sectors. • Support for research, experimental development and innovation programmes in the field of food waste prevention. • Develop an analysis of the quantity and flow of food waste in the Czech Republic. • Proceed to monitor the amount of food waste generated in primary production, processing and manufacturing, in retail and other food distribution, in restaurants and catering services and in households, as well as the management of such waste and the flow of food that has been redistributed for human consumption or processed into feed.

Encourage food donation and other redistribution for human consumption, prioritising human use over animal feed and the reprocessing into non-food products.	• Analyse the conditions for donating food from restaurants and canteens in order to use them. • Support the function and activities of food banks.
Promote the reduction of the content of hazardous substances in materials and products, without prejudice to harmonised legal requirements concerning those materials and products laid down at Union level, and ensure that any supplier of an article as defined in point 33 of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council provides the information pursuant to article 33(1) of that regulation to the European Chemicals Agency as from 5 January 2021.	• Support for research, experimental development and innovation programmes in the field of waste prevention, reduction of hazardous substances in products, use of "secondary raw materials" and increasing the proportion of recyclate in products while avoiding the presence of hazardous substances in them. • In cooperation with the competent authorities, carry out effective education on the impact of hazardous properties of waste on human health and the environment, including the development of methodologies.
Reduce the generation of waste, in particular waste that is not suitable for preparing for re-use or recycling.	• Monitor the presence of substances that are suspicious and problematic from a recycling perspective. • Motivate the public to the separate concentration of hazardous components of municipal waste. • Increase the number of hazardous waste recovery or disposal facilities and waste treatment facilities to reduce and eliminate hazardous properties. • Ensure a suitable legislative environment for the implementation of the programme and consistently monitor the implementation of the waste prevention requirements of the End-of-Life Directives (hereinafter referred to as the "Product Directives") and the Waste Framework Directive and relevant national regulations.
Identify products that are the main sources of littering, notably in natural and marine environments, and take appropriate measures to prevent and reduce litter from such products, where Member States decide to implement this obligation through market restrictions, they shall ensure that such restrictions are proportionate and non-discriminatory.	
Aim to halt the generation of marine litter as a contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds.	• Provide and support public awareness campaigns on reducing single-use plastics, reducing environmental pollution from waste and integrating this issue into education and training. • Promote the replacement of single-use plastics, in particular packaging, tableware and cutlery with reusable products through legislation, technology and awareness-raising campaigns. • Support the introduction of extended producer responsibility schemes for selected single-use products.

	• Legislatively anchor the obligation to reduce the consumption of single-use plastic products such as beverage cups and food containers to achieve measurable reductions by 2026. • Conduct awareness raising and provide information to achieve the objective of quantitative reduction in the consumption of selected single-use plastic products. • Legislatively anchor the prohibition of the placing on the market of oxo-degradable plastic products and selected single-use plastic products such as cotton buds, cutlery, plates, straws, drink stirrers, balloon holding and support sticks, expanded polystyrene food containers, expanded polystyrene beverage containers and expanded polystyrene beverage cups. • Provide information on the negative environmental impacts, particularly on the marine environment, of the disposal of waste outside designated disposal sites and other improper disposal of waste from the aforementioned single-use plastic products and fishing gear containing plastics. • Educate and provide information on the availability of reusable alternatives, reuse systems for the aforementioned single-use plastic products and fishing gear, and on how to manage waste from those single-use plastic products and fishing gear, as well as on good waste management practices that do not endanger human health or harm the environment.
Develop and support information campaigns to raise awareness about waste prevention and littering.	• Provide an accessible information base on waste prevention issues at all levels. • Provide and support public awareness campaigns on waste prevention, collection of reusable movable items and integration of this issue into education and training. • Provide information and educational support for waste prevention issues at all levels of government and self-government. • Ensure the introduction of waste prevention issues into primary and secondary school curricula, research programmes and educational, awareness-raising and training activities related to environmental protection and creation. • As part of the Environmental Education, Guidance and Awareness programme, consider the possibility of practically integrating waste prevention into the school curriculum to raise awareness of the issue. • Ensure that the activities of collective systems and product take-back systems are expanded in terms of waste prevention, especially through information campaigns focusing on raising awareness among citizens.

Additional implemented prevention measures, not covered by Article 9	Measure focusing on increase of biodegradable waste composting: • Promote home and community composting of biological waste technically and through awareness campaigns. Take into account the programme of support for home and community composting within the framework of subsidy programmes and incorporate its implementation into regional waste management plans in cooperation with municipalities. Support of green public procurement: • Promote the integration of environmental considerations with a focus on waste prevention in public procurement, e.g. taking into account requirements for environmental management systems, environmental labelling of products and services, a preference for reusable packaging, etc; take into account and give preference to tenders demonstrating the use of construction materials that meet environmental aspects with a focus on waste prevention (environmental management systems, voluntary agreements, environmental labelling); take into account and give preference to tenders from companies demonstrating the use of 'secondary raw materials, recyclate' in their activities directly related to the specific contract. • Analyse the possibility of introducing mandatory minimum environmental criteria for green public procurement.

FOOD WASTE PREVENTION

Food waste generation

According to Eurostat, the amount of total food waste generated in 2020 was 90.7 kg per capita (Eurostat data code: ENV_WASFW). According to a "Guide on preventing food waste in the private catering sector", published in 2017 by the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic, the largest share of losses is in the production process itself accounts to 44% (362 thousand tons), followed by the households 31% (241 thousand tons), catering services 15% (123 thousand tons), and retailers 11% (91 thousand tons).

The recent study "An analysis of food waste in Czech households—a contribution to the international reporting effort" published in April 2021, which was a survey comprising over 400 Czech households based on the kitchen diaries method, showed that, on average, the surveyed households discarded 2.6 kg (1.1 kg per capita) weekly. After extrapolation, the total food waste was estimated to 57.1 kg per capita per year.

Measures to prevent food waste

Food waste is one of the priority waste streams in the WMP CR updated in 2022 and the measures included in the chapter aim at prevention and reduction of food waste at all levels of the food chain. The objective is set with three principles, i.e.,:

a) promote food donation and redistribution systems for human consumption;
b) promote other uses of food, possibly as feed, in compliance with Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EC) No 1069/2009 on animal by-products, if no further redistribution of food for human consumption is possible;
c) promote the reduction of food waste from food consumption by citizens.

The measures set for food waste in the WMP CR are included above in Table 1 on specific waste prevention measures structured according to Art 9 WFD.

According to the Czech Food Act (No. 110/1997 Coll.) all supermarkets over 400 square metres are required to donate unsold but still consumable food to non-profit organizations from the beginning of 2018. Based on this regulation the Czech retailers donate food with deformed packaging, incorrect labelling or items after the best before date which do not pose a threat to human health.

An important and well-functioning measure toward reducing the wastage coming from foodstuffs and toward an improved utilisation of food, which otherwise would be wasted, is represented by the Food Banks (https://www.potravinovebanky.cz/). They are grouped into the Czech Food Bank Federation, a member organisation of the European Food Bank Federation. Food banks are non-profit organizations that collect food and distribute it to charity organizations.. Currently there are 15 food banks sourced mainly by farm producers, food manufacturers, food chains, retailers or by food collections and they have over a thousand recipient organisations.

REUSE OF PRODUCTS

Data

With regard to the Commission Implementing Decision (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2021.010.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2021%3A010%3ATOC), this section will be updated by the EEA accordingly.

Measures to support ReUse

Reuse is mentioned in two sub-objectives of the WPP CR, i.e.:

- Support the activities of charity centres and organisations, servicing and repair services to extend the life and reuse of products and materials, particularly electrical and electronic equipment, textiles, furniture and building materials.
- Stabilise and subsequently reduce the production of municipal waste components that are not suitable for preparation for reuse or recycling.

The measures are listed in the Table 1 on specific waste prevention measures structured according to Art 9 WFD. Four measures in the WPP CR address reuse but also reuse measures are mentioned for certain priority streams, i.e., for construction and demolition, and for end-of-life products, such as EEE and vehicles. In addition, with the aim to reduce the amount of discarded single-use plastic waste a measure to educate and provide information on the availability of reusable alternatives to single-use plastic products and fishing gear is introduced.

In practice, a range of opportunities provide for re-use of second-hand products. Bazaars operated as permanent outlet shops have long tradition in Czech Republic. Similarly, so-called flea markets offer a rich variety of products for sale, purchase or swaps – furniture, domestic appliances, automobiles, electrical and electronic equipment and many others. Second-hand shops specialising in clothing are also present. These are shops and outlets which offer mainly worn clothes and imported footwear.
In recent years, bazaars, swaps and informal markets focused on children's clothing and outfits became very popular, extending the life span of such products often being used only for several months by one child. Many of these activities are nowadays being held in maternity and children's centres. Many internet portals also serve as a reliable selling, swapping or donating connection points of all kind of second-hand items (especially electronics).

Best practice examples

Prague, don't throw it away!

"Don't throw it away" (praho.nevyhazujto.cz) is a portal where citizens of Prague can donate things they no longer need, which could still be useful to someone else. Donor has to be registered, provide description, photo, category, condition of the item and location. Items have to be offered for free. The portal has been in operation for over 10 years, it has permanent users and has saved over 65,000 items from being thrown away. Because its´ creators are constantly looking for ways to spread the idea of "no dumping" among other people, they also started cooperating with other Czech cities, for which they make their city portals (e.g. for Ostrava: ostravo.nevyhazujto.cz), or even private companies, for which they create closed corporate "Don´t throw it away" for their employees. Moreover, they help to set up and manage so-called Re-Use points at the collection yards in Prague, where citizens can directly bring unwanted things instead of uploading them on the portal. The Re-Use point operator accepts the donated items, takes photos and places them on the web portal. These subjects are primarily offered to the social departments of the city or other selected entities and subsequently to all users of www.praho.nevyhazujto.cz.

Textile waste collection in Czech Republic

The infrastructure for collection of used textiles has improved significantly over the past few years. One of the oldest organisations in the field of collection and re-distribution of used textiles is Diakonie Broumov. It has its own sorting plant and also a plant for the processing of textiles that are no longer suitable for wearing into cleaning cloths. Another successful collector of used textiles is Potex with a network of several hundreds of containers located in the Czech capital and its´neighbourhood. Dimatex is also an important player whose main activities are textile collection and redistribution for re-use with over 2 000 containers in Czech Republic, textile recycling (RETEXTIL is a composite material made of recycled textiles and LDPE, suitable also as an alternative to wood) and production of cleaning cloths. Aided z.s. is an independent charitable-ecological association founded to help people in need. Thanks to the donated used textiles, blankets, bed linen, towels, shoes and toys the association serves people in areas affected by natural disasters in the country and also abroad. The Czech Red Cross and the Salvation Army are also active in redistribution of used clothing through the TextilEco project. Beside the standard textile collection containers, Textileco a.s. operates also mobile container for collecting both textiles and electrical appliances. Most of these collection companies are associated in the ARETEX association (Association of Recycling of Used Textiles). Collection of textiles is additionally provided by companies providing comprehensive waste management services, such as SAKO Brno, a.s. or FCC Czech Republic, s.r.o.

Links to circular economy

Waste prevention is an integral part of the comprehensive transformation towards a circular economy. It reduces the input of natural resources into the economy as well as the necessary efforts to collect and recycle waste.

Approaches for improving circularity are often highly interlinked with successful waste prevention. The following table shows which circular strategies are explicitly integrated into the Czech waste prevention programme.

Topic	Addressed in the programme	Comments
Eco-design	Yes	E.g. a measure to foster the programmes of research, experimental development and innovation in the area of introducing low-waste technologies and technologies that save input raw materials as well as those involved in waste prevention including eco-design and product life extension.
Repair, refurbishment and remanufacture	Yes	E.g. measure topromote establishment of network of service centres for the repair and re-use of EEE.
Recycling	Yes	e.g., a measure to monitor the presence of substances that are suspicious and problematic from a recycling perspective..
Economic incentives and finance	Yes	Section 4.2.2 on Economic instruments
Circular business models	Yes	E.g. Extended Producer Responsibility scheme, which is successfully applied to packaging, ELVs, WEEE, batteries and accumulators and tires.
Eco-innovation	Yes	E.g. through voluntary instruments.
Governance, skills and knowledge	Yes	E.g. by co-operation of Ministry of Environment with non-governmental,

		non-profit organisations in various projects related to improvement of waste management including waste prevention / reuse aspects.