Bin2Bean

SCAN ME!

Practice abstract 19

Collection strategies throughout Europe

The following collection strategies are presented with the understanding that effective organic waste management must be adapted to local conditions, as no one-size-fits-all solution exists for municipalities.

Community composting engages environmentally motivated citizens and can be supported by municipalities through dedicated spaces, areas for the use of soil improvers, and practical guidance. Within the Bin2Bean Living Labs, it is considered a complementary solution that raises awareness of bio-waste valorisation and soil health. While it ensures high input quality and low municipal costs, the total volume collected and the available application areas remain limited.

Recycling centres and dedicated garden waste collection sites provide an effective pathway for green waste such as grass, leaves, and branches. In the Living Labs, they serve as key access points, especially for residents unable to compost at home. Measures such as automated drop-off stations and decentralised neighbourhood points are explored to improve efficiency and accessibility.

Collection frequency should reflect local climate conditions. Warm and humid weather accelerates decomposition, increasing odour and quality issues if collection is too infrequent. Mitigation measures include closed bins, ventilation systems, and lids with odour-absorbing materials.

In densely populated areas, kerbside bins are often impractical, leading to the use of shared containers or underground systems. However, Bin2Bean findings show that while effective for residual waste, these solutions often lead to contamination when used for bio-waste. Causes include user anonymity, limited in-home storage, long walking distances, and insufficiently tailored communication.

Example from Haute-Savoie (France) BioCyclette is an activity of a regional environmental association in the French Department of Haute Savoie. Cargo bikes with a capacity of 250 kg are used for collecting organic waste from restaurants and hotels.

Banner from Biocyclette website

Project partners

Consorzio Italbiotec · WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH · N3 NACHHALTIGKEITSBERATUNG DR. FRIEGE & PARTNER · RUOKAVIRASTO Livsmedelsverket • Finnish Food Authority · euroquality A WARRANT HUB COMPANY · HIGE SHAPING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY · STADTREINIGUNG.HAMBURG · etaflorence renewableenergies · AMS AMSTERDAM INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED METROPOLITAN SOLUTIONS

Get in touch

bin2bean.eu · info@bin2bean.eu · Bin2Bean

originally published on

Co-funded by the European Union

EU CAP NETWORK

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or REA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them