



**Green Paper on Bio-waste**  
A perspective from the European Parliament

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**1. Introduction**

- Longstanding discussion on bio-waste
- 75-100 million tonnes food and garden waste yearly in EU → enormous challenges and concerns
- Different views in EU-27
- Existing EU legislation and bio-waste
- Green Paper, December 2008

## 2. Why does the EU need a separate instrument on bio-waste?

### ● ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- A resource-efficient European recycling society: support Member States to reach the targets of the **Landfill Directive**
- Enhance **soil protection**: end-of-waste criteria as part of an integrated quality surveillance approach with traceability
- **Renewable energy**: a mix of different elements and a tailored approach for the use of bio-waste are needed

## 2. Why does the EU need a separate instrument on bio-waste? (2)

### ● ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL BENEFITS

- Cost reduction
- Significant results in a short period of time
- An enlarged European scale ensures sufficient input for the processing installations
- Needed legal certainty to investors
- Spur economic development and create jobs
- More efficiency

## 3. Missing links

### Prevention

- Number one in waste hierarchy
- Reduces the costs
- Feasible with quite straightforward interventions
  - E.g. composting at home, smart gardening and prevention of food waste
  - SOREMA-project in Interreg

**Definition of bio-waste** too restrictive

## 4. Conclusion

- Stand-alone directive provides clear benefits
- Time to act: legislative proposal by 2010
- Council position on June 25
- New European Parliament should start discussion on Green Paper and hold on to ambitious position