

Experiences in the 'Northern Countries'

Three Key Lessons Learned

1

Key lesson 1

A system of mandatory separate collection of bio-waste, plus compost quality assurance, has proved to work cost-effectively *under very different local conditions*, including i.a.:

- Different scales of waste management (organisation)
- Rural and urban areas
- For a wide range of biological treatment capacities
- Different conditions for compost marketing, including areas with over abundance of animal manure
- It allows for specific exemptions where separate collection is not feasible

2

Key lesson 2

The system of mandatory separate collection plus compost quality assurance has a number of proven benefits, including i.a.:

- Environmental benefits (soil quality, greenhouse gas emission reduction, etc.)
- It is the next cost-effective bio-waste treatment option after landfilling
- It marks the starting point for investments
- It is a necessary element to achieve substantial overall MSW recycling
- It contributes to citizens' overall environmental awareness and responsibility

3

Key lesson 3

- Without *mandatory* separate collection, it would not have happened.
- In other words, (local) waste authorities require clear guidance on how to move away from landfill reliance ('what to do')

4