



## ACR+ Activity Report 2008 (DRAFT)

Approved at the General Assembly in San Sebastian on 19 April 2007 and updated by the Board of Directors on 20 September 2007, ACR+'s work programme has been faithful to the Association's founding philosophy:

- promote waste management that respects a five-level hierarchy (reduction at source, reuse, recycle, energy recovery, careful elimination)
- integrated approach to the "resources-products-waste" problem
- multi-instrument activities (legal, economic, educational/communicational).

### The 2008 work programme was set out according to 3 main working themes:

**1) Influence European politics on waste and resources:** 2008 has been an important year at European level, namely with the final approval of the new Waste Framework Directive and the beginning of the revision process of the WEEE directive.

ACR+ has provided its members with constant information along the adoption process and the debates in the EU institutions concerning the Waste Framework Directive.

**2) Acting for prevention,** with a large number of activities under the umbrella of the European Campaign for Waste Reduction "-kg", namely:

- the cluster "biowaste" met under Presidency of Lipor and as a result a report has been elaborated. This report focus on the prevention potential, the performance indicators for the main prevention actions and a first set of recommendations.
- dedicated section of ACR+ website with news and technical information
- the organization of a pilot edition of the future European Week for Waste Reduction from 22 until 30 November 2008
- the elaboration and submission of a Life+ project proposal with Ademe end 2007 about the creation and promotion of a European Waste Reduction Week. This project has been officially approved in November 2008
- the preparation of new projects with certain members in the framework of the Life+ and Interreg IVC calls for projects (see below and WP 2009).



### **3) Helping local and regional authorities attain sustainable waste-product-resource management, ACR+ will continue to propose its members to develop their technical expertise through:**

- the organization of international conferences or working groups gathering the best European experts
- the publication of new technical reports on topical issues
- the set-up of EC funded projects and European partnership proposals for its members
- the weekly Newline service, the Warmer Bulletin, the ACR+ specialised website [www.acrplus.org](http://www.acrplus.org) and a new bi-monthly electronic information letter on ACR+ activities and European waste policy news (ACR+ update).

## **ACR+ Activities in 2008 in a Nutshell**

### **1) Conferences 2008**

31/01-01/02/2008: Conference on Climate and waste - London, UK (with London Remade)

16 June 2008 : Technical Seminar on integrated and sustainable management of waste, products and resources, Rabat, Morocco

17-18 October 2008 : Evolution of local authorities' partnerships for sustainable urban development in the Mediterranean region, Mahdia, Tunisia

20-21 November 2008: Conference on Organic Waste in Urban Environments - New European Challenges (combined with General Assembly), Brussels with IBGE and the Committee of the Regions.

### **2) Publications 2008**

Updated report on the management of plastic bags (January 2008)

Analysis of Municipal Waste Management Practices in Europe. An image of some of the best performing cities and regions (June 2008)

Waste reduction potential and targets at a local level for biowaste and packaging (technical report as an output from the Campaign "-kg" clusters", November 2008)

Campaign guide for municipal waste reduction (in support of Campaign "-kg", November 2008)

The content of a reference book on municipal waste in Europe was elaborated during 2008 (will be published in 2009, see WP 2009)



### 3) ACR+ Working Groups

WEEE-PIN (chair: Interafval-BE and AMORCE-FR): this working group met on 26 March 2008 and participated in the Stakeholders consultation concerning the revision of the WEEE Directive and organized by the European Commission. The WEEE-PIN issued an Opinion paper and various press releases.

### 4) European Projects

ACR+ prepared or participated in the preparation of various project proposals in answer to European calls, namely on:

- the creation of a Euro-Mediterranean network on waste management and sustainable consumption (ANEAL call DG Aidco, not selected)
- implementing and assessing waste prevention actions at local level (coordinated by Rennes-Métropole, FR, in process of being submitted under Life+ call)
- organic waste sustainable management (coordinated by Vlaco-OVAM, BE, to be submitted in January 2009 under Interreg IVC call)

As a complement, preparatory discussions have taken place concerning the following projects (see also WP 2009):

- consumers information and sustainable distribution
- resource recovery
- smart lifestyles
- evaluation and perspectives regarding Extended Producer Responsibility

### 5) Members

In November 2008, ACR+ had 91 members (69 local and regional authorities, 8 networks or syndicates of municipalities, 10 NGOs, 2 academic/scientific establishment and 2 private sector partners).

Since the previous ACR+ General Assembly, the Association has welcomed into membership:

- Alessandria (IT), Belfast City (UK), Budapest (HU), Cranfield University (UK), CRIOC (Belgian Consumers Association, BE), Dun Laoghaire (IE), EPA (IE), Fundació Catalana per a la Prevenció dels Residus i el Consum Responsable (ES), Malta (MT), NVRD (Dutch Association of public waste managers, NL), Rudologia (FR), Finnish Solid Waste Association (FI), ORDIF (Regional Observatory for waste of Ile de France)

We have registered 5 resignations:

- Doncaster (UK), Shanks (UK), Lons-Le-Saunier (FR), ENVAC (SE), EPA (IE)



During the same period, the Region of Castilla La Mancha (ES), London Community Recycling Network (UK), Valles Oriental (ES), North London Waste Authority (UK) and Sitom 93 (FR) have also undertaken steps to become ACR+ members.

## **News from the Staff**

The ACR+ team in Brussels is now composed as followed:

Gabriela Collado	Project Assistant
Olivier De Clercq	Brussels Office Coordinator
Jean-Jacques Dohogne	Project Manager
Audrey Martin	Communication Officer

Audrey joined us in January 2008 and namely contributed to renew ACR+ graphic charter and the presentation documents of the Association. She endeavoured an important professionalization work for our communication, be it external (press, general contacts, potential members) or internal towards members.

Jean-Jacques joined the team on 20 October 2008. Until the end of January, he will continue to work in parallel for VLACO, the Flemish Compost Organisation. Jean-Jacques brings along a valuable experience in the field of waste, in particular, waste reduction, organic waste management and sustainable consumption.

Finally, the Secretariat's team can count on the technical support of Francis Radermaker, Scientific Director, of Kit Strange, Secretary General in Skipton, UK, of the ACR Board of Directors... and the involvement of ACR+ members!