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ASSOCIATION  
OF CITIES  
AND REGIONS  
FOR RECYCLING  
AND SUSTAINABLE  
RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT

ASSOCIATION  
DES CITÉS  
ET RÉGIONS POUR  
LE RECYCLAGE  
ET LA GESTION  
DURABLE  
DES RESSOURCES

ASOCIACIÓN  
DE CIUDADES  
Y REGIONES PARA  
EL RECICLAJE  
Y LA GESTIÓN  
SOSTENIBLE  
DE LOS RECURSOS

## ACR+ WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2009-2010

The ACR+ work programme for 2009-2010 will focus on 3 main lines:

- to promote prevention and reuse
- to promote recycling
- to develop permanent services to ACR+ members

### Line 1. TO PROMOTE PREVENTION AND REUSE

#### 1.1. The ACR+ European Campaign for Waste Reduction

Initiated in 2007, the **ACR+ campaign for waste reduction « - kg »** will move on based on 4 main lines of action.

##### **A. Exchange of information and experiences on prevention**

This line of action shall be developed through:

- a specific section on the ACR+ website
- some publications (technical reports based on clusters activities - see below)
- some international conferences and activities organized during the European Week for Waste Reduction (see below), especially an international conference in Barcelona and a training event in Oporto.

The 1st Campaign Guide (published end 2008) will be updated and a more in-depth version shall be prepared for 2010.

##### **B. Clusters (Working Groups)**

Regarding the clusters (working groups) "Biowaste" and "Packaging" the two first technical reports were disseminated at the end of 2008 and new meetings shall be prepared for the end of 2009 or the beginning of 2010.

In 2009, ACR+ shall organize the clusters (working groups) on Paper waste reduction and Bulky waste reduction.

- The cluster "Bulky waste" will focus on the potential for product reuse and shall be organized in Barcelona in March 2009 (a specific report concerning "from "déchetteries" to "ressourceries"" shall be elaborated).
- The cluster "Paper Waste" focusing on « office dematerialization» as well as other aspects of cardboard and paper waste reduction shall be set-up in Brussels in May 2009.



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### **C. European Waste Reduction Week**

In 2009, ACR+ shall implement, with the support of the LIFE+ program of the EC, in cooperation with ADEME, the development of the concept of the European Week for Waste Reduction.

In the project, ACR+ is responsible for communication aspects and the technical Secretariat of the Week. The main milestones are:

- September 09: Communication toolkit for participants
- November 09: First official edition of the European Waste Reduction Week (international conference in Barcelona; European Waste Reduction Awards 09 Ceremony in Brussels).

In 2010, ACR+ will continue to be responsible for communication on the European Waste Reduction Week and the technical Secretariat of the Week. The main milestones for 2010 are:

- Training Event in Porto
- EWR Award Ceremony in Brussels.

### **D. Development of partnerships or projects between specific cities and regions**

Several European project proposals are already in preparation with ACR+ members, and particularly:

- MINI-WASTE (elaboration of a waste reduction management tool and demonstration actions for organic waste reduction) (coordinated by Rennes-Métropole)
- SOREMA (Sustainable Organic Resources Management) (coordinated by Vlaco-OVAM Flanders)
- PRE WASTE: project focused on waste prevention (coordinated by the Marche Region)

A meeting followed by a concrete project proposal on SMART FOOD CONSUMPTION is envisaged with LIPOR.

### **1.2. Link to « sustainable consumption and life styles” issues**

With waste prevention being a top priority for its activities (in connection with the new framework directive and the European concept of national prevention programmes), ACR+ will develop its reflection on sustainable production and consumption, smart lifestyles, low-carbon society, with a special focus on substitution of products by eco-services.

ACR+ will provide its members with the necessary elements of understanding and feedback from successful experiences, allowing them to integrate those aspects in their own strategies and actions.

A technical report and a Seminar on “Sustainable distribution: information of the consumers” are envisaged (with the support of the Walloon Region).



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## **Line 2. T0 PROMOTE RECYCLING**

### **2.1. International Observatory of Municipal Waste Recycling Performances**

Gathering quantitative data related to waste management in European cities and regions has always been one of the main goals of ACR+.

The new framework-directive is going to create renewed interest in quantitative objectives for recycling. Therefore, ACR+ intends to (re)develop a real international observatory of the main municipal waste flows.

In that perspective, ACR+ will gather a group of 4 to 5 cities or regions in order to set up the methodology and structure related to the project to be developed.

### **2.2. International Conferences on Selective Collection and Recycling of Municipal Waste**

The key issues related to plastic waste recycling shall be the topic of an important international conference co-organized by Plastics Europe and ACR+: the IDENTIPLAST Conference on Integrated Plastic Waste Management, 20-22 April 2009, Brussels.

Besides, it is proposed to organize, in collaboration with our member WasteServ Malta, the next ACR+ general assembly in Malta in October 2009 combined with an international conference about "Selective Collection of Municipal Waste : practical aspects and best practices in Europe" with a specific focus on the problem of islands and touristic cities.

Upon several members request, a specific focus will be put on Pay-As-You-Throw systems.

### **2.3. Material and Energy Resource Recovery**

Since the beginning, ACR+ aimed at promoting material recovery (after prevention) to save resources. In 2009-2010, ACR+ will still emphasize the importance of performing good selective collection schemes (particularly with the Malta meeting in October – see above).

Though, there is a growing debate concerning various alternatives for energy from waste. ACR+ will try to feed the debate around the corresponding cost-benefit for the environment of recycling versus different energy treatments, focusing on the energy balance. This will take place through the sharing of information and specific research work from the available scientific and technical data about this issue.

So, it is proposed in 2009:

- to organize an International Seminar especially on optimal recovery of material and energy resources, with a focus on the role of the co-processing industries (probably in June 2009).
- In 2010, a follow-up initiative could be an International Conference under Spanish Presidency on "Energy from waste recycling and waste recovery" as well as a technical report on "European benchmarking on energy from waste recovery: comparative study on Municipality waste management alternatives from their energy/CO2 balance perspective".



## 2.4. Extended Producer Responsibility

In 2009-2010, ACR+ wants to brainstorm on the use of Extended Producer Responsibility schemes by examining the systems currently existing in Europe for the flows covered by EU regulations but also for other waste flows.

This is a main financial issue for local and regional authorities; this is also a very important issue connected with recycling targets (and perhaps the eco-design of products). There is a need for more clarification and harmonization at European level.

The main activities projected in this field in 2009-2010 are:

- the WEEE-PIN Working group (co-chaired by INTERAFVAL and AMORCE) will have some meetings and will try to elaborate technical notes on the following topics:
  - monitoring of the new WEEE Directive proposal
  - promotion of the social economy sector (in partnership with RREUSE)
  - control of EEE or WEEE shipments
- a study on EPR schemes implementing the existing directive or for new/specific waste flows at European level (with the support of ARC and ISR).

## 2.5. Specific Support for Eastern and Southern Cities and Regions

ACR+ will continue its efforts to develop activities especially with cities and regions from new Member States and from the European Neighbourhood Policy (in particular the Mediterranean area). The objectives are:

- capacity building of public authorities regarding waste management and sustainable consumption
- specific solutions adapted to local contexts (technical, legal, financial,...).

The main activities projected in this field in 2009 are:

- an integrated publication "Waste management in Maghreb countries" based on the outcomes of the seminars organized in 2008 in Rabat and Madhia
- a Project proposal under DG EuropAid Call "Ciudad": partnership for sustainable waste management and consumption in South-Mediterranean countries
- an international Conference in Budapest in 2011 about the management of sewage sludge (during the Hungarian presidency of the EU).



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## **Line 3. TO DEVELOP PERMANENT SERVICES TO ACR+ MEMBERS**

### **3.1. Recurrent Activities**

- News and information services: ACR+ will carry on providing information to its members via the weekly Newsline service, the Warner Bulletin, its specialised website [www.acrplus.org](http://www.acrplus.org) as well as a regular Newsletter.
- A new website will be built in 2009-2010 with a view of strengthening the links between members and with the Secretariat. State-of-the-art technologies will be used to allow a faster and better exchange of information and an easy access to a permanent documentation centre reserved to ACR+ members.
- European projects: ACR+ will continue to seek out European funding for new projects in order to develop innovative experiences and the expertise of its members.

### **3.2. 15 YEARS ANNIVERSARY**

ACR+ was created in 1994 in Pamplona (Spain). It is now a renown network in Europe gathering nearly one hundred members and connecting thousands of contacts dealing with municipal waste management and sustainable consumption. Its activities and topics of work have evolved together with the evolution of European waste policies and geographical coverage.

In 2009, ACR+ will celebrate its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary by publishing a book on “Municipal waste in Europe”. The publication of this book will be the occasion of celebrating the anniversary in different European cities (Paris, London, Barcelona,...).

## Presentation of the Work Programme 2009-2010 by type of activity

<b>INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES</b>		
<b>2009</b>		
20-22 April	Brussels	Integrated plastic waste management
7-9 October	Malta	Waste selective collection (and ACR+ General Assembly)
November	Barcelona	Waste reduction at source
<b>2010 (to be confirmed)</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup> half of the year	Madrid	Extended producer responsibility
1 <sup>st</sup> half of the year	Spain	Energy balance from waste recycling and recovery
2 <sup>nd</sup> half of the year	Oporto	Training event on waste reduction awareness-raising (Life+)
2 <sup>nd</sup> half of the year	Brussels	Export of waste or products from electric and electronic equipment
<b>2011 (to be confirmed)</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup> half of the year	Budapest	Sewage sludge management

<b>SEMINARS / WORKING GROUPS / EVENTS – 2009</b>		
<b>2009</b>		
February	Brussels	WEEE-PIN
February	...(Spain)	EPR - Working Group on Legal Aspects
March	Barcelona	Cluster bulky waste (Ressourceries)
April	Namur	Sustainable distribution (to be confirmed)
May	Brussels	Cluster paper waste (Office dematerialization)
June	Paris/ London/ Barcelona	15 year anniversary ACR+ (Book launch events)
June	...(Spain)	Energy from waste (Co-processing) tbc
November	Brussels	European Waste Reduction Awards Ceremony



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## PUBLICATIONS – 2009

- Book – Waste Management
- Report – Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes (tbc)
- Report – « From Déchetteries to Ressourceries » (with ARC)
- Report – “Energy Balance” (tbc)

## TECHNICAL REPORTS – 2009

- Waste anaerobic digestion plants in Europe: introduction
- Waste management in Maghreb
- Reduction of paper waste (Cluster report)
- Reduction of bulky waste (Cluster report)
- About WEEE for local and regional authorities (WEEE-PIN)
  
- Plastics wastes (Proceedings Identiplast conference)
- Sustainable Distribution (Proceedings Namur conference tbc)
- Municipal Waste Selective Collection (Proceedings Malta conference)

## WORKING GROUPS

- WEEE-PIN (Interafval-Amorce)
- Extended Producer Responsibility (ISR)
- OBSERVATORY Municipal Waste (ORDIF)
- North-South cooperation (AICA)
- Cluster « Packaging Reduction » (Resource Recovery Forum)
- Cluster « Paper Reduction » (IBGE)
- Cluster « Organic Waste Reduction » (LIPOR)
- Cluster « Bulky Waste Reduction » (ARC)