

Methodology for the EEA's input to the 'Early warning' Assessment – Landfill of municipal waste target



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Abbreviations and explanations

BMW	Biodegradable municipal waste
MS	(EU) Member States (European Union)
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SRF	Success/risk factor
Questionnaire	One of the key sources for collecting information mentioned in the methodology is a questionnaire. This questionnaire will be sent out to Member States in early 2021.
WFD	Waste Framework Directive



Introduction

This document describes the methodology for to assessing the 27 Member States' prospects of meeting the target to landfill not more than 10 % of municipal waste generated by 2035.

Art. 5b of the Landfill Directive foresees an early warning report to be produced by 2030, therefore the methodology used here is based on a shorter and simplified methodology compared to the early warning assessments for the municipal waste recycling target and the packaging waste recycling targets.

The methodology uses a basic set of three 'success/risk factors' (SRFs). An SRF is assumed to influence the probability of meeting the target.

The assessment of each SRF is done through threshold values or qualitative assessment categories that categorize each factor into green, amber or red:

on track target reached favorable	additional effort needed medium uncertain	unfavorable highly uncertain no information
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The risk assessment should indicate whether a country is at risk of not meeting the target. The 'total risk' categorization is the result of the sum of the individual scores of each SRF, where the assessment of each SRF results in a score of 2 points (green), 1 point (amber) or 0 points (red), depending on the assessment of the SRF. As the 'distance to the target' is considered to have a higher impact on meeting the target, this SRF gets the weight of 5, the other two SRFs are weighted with factor 1. A MS is considered to be 'not at risk' if its score is more than 50 % of the maximum score, and 'at risk' if its score is less than 50 % of this maximum score.

1 Current situation and past trends

SRF LF-1.1 Distance to target

Description and relevance

The distance to the target - max. 10 % of municipal waste generated is landfilled by 2035 – is assessed. The actual distance to the target for the most recent data point is a key factor determining the likelihood of meeting/not meeting the target. The closer the Member State (MS) is to the target already, the more likely it becomes that the MS will meet the target. MS already meeting or exceeding the target will be excluded from the further assessment.

Source

Reported data according to the Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC as amended by Directive 2018/850/EU) and Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1885. This analysis calculates the landfilling rate based on the Eurostat dataset *Municipal waste by waste management operations [env_wasmun]*; by dividing the amount of landfilled waste by the total amount of waste generated.

Assessment

Distance to target < 10 percentage points, or target exceeded	Distance to target 10 – 20 percentage points	Distance to target > 20 percentage points, or no data reported
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Weight

5

Considerations for the assessment

MS may apply for a derogation from the landfill target if they meet the conditions set out in Art. 5(6) of the Landfill Directive (Estonia, Greece, Croatia, Latvia, Malta, Romania and Slovakia). However, the deadline for such applications is at the end of 2033 and therefore this option is not taken into account in the early warning assessments before 2033

Until data responding to Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1885 becomes available, assessments are based on data reported to Eurostat according to the Eurostat-OECD questionnaire, published by Eurostat in the dataset env_wasmun.

SRF LF-1.2 Past trend in municipal solid waste landfill rate

Description and relevance

Has the landfill rate (landfilled MSW as share of generated MSW) over the past five years been stagnating or increasing, and how does it relate to the current landfill rate? The closer the country is to the target, the lower the pace toward the target will probably be. This SRF will help to better understand the dynamics of the landfill rate in a Member State.

Sources

- Historical trend: Municipal waste generation and landfilled amounts reported to Eurostat (dataset env_wasmun).
- Current situation: Landfill rate for the reference year 2020 as reported according to the Eurostat-OECD questionnaire, published by Eurostat in the dataset env_wasmun (to be replaced later on

with data reported according to the rules of the 2018 Landfill Directive and Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1885.

Assessment

Landfill rate in 2020 < 20% and decrease in last 5 years > 5 percentage points, or Landfill rate in 2020 < 25% and decrease in last 5 years > 10 percentage points or Landfill rate in 2020 < or = 10%	Landfill rate in 2020 < 20% and decrease in last 5 years < 5 percentage points, or Landfill rate in 2020 < 25%, and decrease in last 5 years < 10 percentage points, or Landfill rate in 2020 > 25% and decrease in last 5 years > 15 percentage points	Landfill rate in 2020 > 25% and decrease in last 5 years < 15 percentage points
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Weight

1

Considerations for the assessment

MS may apply for a derogation from the landfill target with a deadline at the end of 2033.

SRF LF-1.3 Diversion of biodegradable municipal waste from landfill

Description and relevance

Delay in meeting previous targets generally increases the risk for not meeting future targets.

This SRF therefore assesses compliance with the target laid down in Art. 5(2)(c) of the EU Landfill Directive to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 35 % of biodegradable municipal waste generated in 1995. The target had to be met in 2016, but the following MS have been granted an extension of the target deadline to 2020: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Slovenia.

Source

Member States' reporting to the European Commission, and Member States' data provided during review of the draft assessments.

Assessment

Target for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) landfilled to 35% of BMW generated in 1995 has been achieved in 2016 or in the year specified in the derogation where applicable	For Member States with a derogation: Target for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) landfilled to 35% of BMW generated in 1995 has not been achieved yet, but data indicate that there is still a chance to meet it by 2020	Target for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) landfilled to 35% of BMW generated in 1995 has not been achieved in 2016 or in the year specified in the derogation where applicable, or data not reported. Or, in case of derogation: Target for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) landfilled to 35% of BMW generated in 1995 has not been
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		achieved yet and available data indicate that it is unlikely to be achieved
Weight		
1		