

Newsletter MatER - March 2014



NEWS



We are pleased to announce the entrance of Linea Group Holding S.r.l. (LGH) into our group of MatER Study Center partners for the three years 2014-2016. We are sure that collaboration with LGH will be a source of mutual satisfaction. We would like to thank the LGH representatives for their interest, and we extend a warm welcome to them.

News from legislative word

With the [Decree Law 136/2013](#) the crime of the illicit burning of waste was introduced. The crime of illicit combustion covers “anybody setting fire to abandoned or stored waste in an uncontrolled manner”. Even more severe punishments are foreseen if the waste burned is classified as hazardous. [Learn more](#)



With sentence 285/2013 (G.U. of 4/12/2013) the Constitutional Court established the unconstitutionality of Regional Law (RL) 33/2012 passed by the Valle d'Aosta Region concerning waste treatment plants, because the law fixes “absolute limits” on the plants, while in accordance with art. 196 of legislative decree 152/2006, the regions can only establish some “general criteria”. More specifically, the RL establish that “[...] there shall not be built or used on the regional territory plants using heat treatment such as incinerating, waste to energy, pyrolysis or gasification.” [Learn more](#)



On December 10th 2013 MEPs vetoed the proposed EU Council regulation on the ‘end of waste’ criteria for recovered paper, because the proposed criteria would have compromised additional improvement in recycling rates in the UE, with a possible violation of the waste directive 2008/98/EC. [Learn more](#)

As regards waste recycling, the EU has adjusted calculation instructions: on December 12th 2013 the correction of Decision 2011/753/EU, which establishes rules and calculation methods for the verification of EU objectives in the field of recovery and recycling of waste was published; the new formula is as follows: [Learn more](#)

Method of Calculation 2

Rate of recycling of urban and similar waste; in % =

$$\frac{\text{Quantity recycled of urban waste comprising paper, metals, plastic and glass and other specified urban or similar waste}}{\text{Total quantity produced of urban waste comprising paper, metals, plastic and waste and other specified urban or similar waste}}$$

Quantity recycled of urban waste comprising paper, metals, plastic and glass and other specified urban or similar waste

Waste recycling: In Italy calculation method no. 2 wins. After the UE adjustment (see above) for the verification of achieved waste recycling objectives, on January 13th 2014 Italy decided to adopt this method to verify whether it has prepared 50% of household waste material and similar for re-use, recycling and recovery. On the MatER website, a 2011 report on this subject ("[The recovery indicators](#)") is available. [Learn more](#)

The [Ministerial Decree](#) of December 5th 2013 established new "Ways to incentivize bio methane introduced into the natural gas mains supply". In the decree, various kinds of incentive are proposed, according to the production source or the final use of the bio methane. [Learn more](#)



Recycled PET: from December 20th 2013 this can be used for food packaging: Ministerial Decree 134/2013 allows for the use of recycled polyethylene terephthalate (PET) for the production of food trays, providing the recycling process is included in the "European Register of valid applications for authorization of recycling processes". [Learn more](#)

Reports



The new Report "Italy Recycles 2013", produced by the Sustainable Development Foundation, was presented in Rome (December 5th 2013). Positive signals emerge from the report: the recycling sector in general has grown, and in 2011 the separate collection of organic waste increased by 13% compared to 2010, while the green and organic SC waste makes up 40% of total SC. [Learn more](#)

Why was 39% of municipal waste still sent to landfill in Italy in 2012? Following the new report "First of all reduce and recycle", by Legambiente (December 19th 2013), the worst performances were those of Sicily, Calabria and Liguria. This provides the starting point for Legambiente's study to understand how the eco tax is used. [Learn more](#)



What quantity of secondhand goods did Italians recycle in 2013? The Economic and Social Research Center "Occhio del Riciclone" tried to answer to this question in its IV report "Intelligent secondhand" (December 2013). According to the report, in Italy the secondhand market has 3,283 outlets, about 1/6 of which are in Lombardy. [Learn more](#)



This is the 10th year that the Emilia Romagna Region (E.R.) and Arpa E.R. have published their annual report on waste management in Emilia Romagna (Bologna, December 2013). From 2012 to 2013 a 4% decrease in urban waste production was registered (total waste: 2,893,518 t), together with an increase in SC (53.9%). Special waste in 2011 totalled 8,027,491 t, of which 10% was dangerous. [Learn more](#)



The report "Environment at a Glance 2013: OECD Indicators" focuses on some indicators which could aid understanding of the broken link between economic growth and environmental damage. [Learn more](#)

The Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (Deposit and Loans Fund - CDP) published a sector study (February 2014): "Waste – objective zero landfill". According to the report, in the last 10 years about 11 billion euros have been wasted in Italy by landfilling waste rather than exploiting its energy content. [Learn more](#)

Other news

According to the new Ministry of Environment program ("Denmark Without Waste – Recycle more, incinerate less" – November 2013), a large amount of materials and resources have been lost by incinerating waste, when they could have been recycled. In 2011, only 36% of household waste was sent for recycling, out of a total of 22% of waste recycled. Denmark has thus decided to establish some ambitious goals for the near future, given that by 2050 it wants to be independent of fossil fuels. [Learn more](#)

Denmark without waste

Recycle more
– incinerate less





EVENTS

Organized by MatER

The MatER Study Center, in collaboration with Regione Lombardia, organized a one-day (February 28th 2014) training session for ARPA personnel, called “La valutazione dell'indice di recupero energetico R1 per i termovalorizzatori di rifiuti urbani” (Evaluation of the energy recovery index R1 for municipal waste incinerators).

Again in collaboration with Regione Lombardia, MatER organized a meeting on “La termovalorizzazione dei rifiuti per una strategia della sostenibilità” (Waste to energy for a sustainability strategy) (March 27th 2014). [Learn more](#)

From **June 16th to 20th 2014**, the MatER Study Center will hold an intensive in-depth course in Sorrento (NA) on “Recovery processes and technologies for sustainable waste management”. The program will be soon available on our website.



Promoted by MatER

MatER promoted a meeting organized by LEAP: “Progetto UPUPA (Ultrafine Particles in Urban Piacenza Area). Presentazione dei risultati finali della ricerca” (UPUPA project: Presentation of the final results of the research) (Piacenza, 22nd January 2014).

[Learn more](#)



PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCES

The following articles, written by members of the **MatER** team, have been published:

Rigamonti L., Grosso M., Møller J., Martinez Sanchez V., Magnani S., Christensen T.H. (2014). "Environmental evaluation of plastic waste management scenarios". Resources, Conservation and Recycling, 85, 42-53 [Learn more](#)

Biganzoli, L., Grosso, M. (2013) "Aluminium recovery from waste incineration bottom ash, and its oxidation level". Waste Management and Research, 31 (9), pp. 954-959. [Learn more](#)

Biganzoli, L., Ilyas, A., Praagh, M.V., Persson, K.M., Grosso, M. (2013). "Aluminium recovery vs. hydrogen production as resource recovery options for fine MSWI bottom ash fraction". Waste Management, 33 (5), pp. 1174-1181 [Learn more](#)

Rigamonti L., Falbo A., Grosso M. (2013) "Improving integrated waste management at the regional level: the case of Lombardia". Waste Management & Research, 31(9), 946-953. [Learn more](#)

Grosso M., Rigamonti L., Falbo A. (2013) "Sistemi di gestione dei rifiuti urbani Valutazione del ciclo di vita". Energia & Ambiente Oggi, 12, 58-62. [Learn more](#)

MatER personnel gave the following presentations during the respective events:

Bionergy Italy 2014 (March 5th-7th 2014) "Le attività del LEAP nel settore Bioenergia, casi studio" (engg. G. Bortoluzzi, M. Zatti), in the workshop "Come collaborare con Università e Centri di Ricerca: benefici, agevolazioni finanziarie e potenziali sinergie". [Learn more](#)



KEEP IN TOUCH!

Note our contact details and keep up to date with the latest news on material and energy recovery from waste:



Twitter: [@materresearch](#)



LinkedIn: open group "[MatER - Recupero Materia ed Energia](#)"



YouTube: Channel "[Laboratorio MatER](#)"

MatER Study Center takes the opportunity to wish everybody a Happy Easter 2014!

