



ZERO WASTE CERTIFIED CITY

REQUIRED CRITERIA

PREPARATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

- The municipality has a **zero waste plan/strategy** that defining quantitative targets and the policies it will implement to achieve them. These targets must include a reduction of the municipal waste volume generated within its boundaries in the short, medium, and long term. **REQUIRED**
- The municipality conducts a **situational analysis** on:
 - the composition of waste within the municipality;
 - the available options and powers available at the local level to help waste prevention.**REQUIRED**
- Municipalities responsible for waste collection and recycling **set specific targets** on increasing the amount of collected and recycled municipal solid waste (MSW). **REQUIRED**

Where responsibility for recycling lies elsewhere (e.g at the regional level), municipalities must **urge and work with recycling authorities** to continually improve the system.

- The municipality **collects data on the current levels of waste generation** and recycling within its boundaries, which are then used as a baseline to measure the progress of the zero waste plan. **REQUIRED**
- The municipality conducts research and collects qualitative and quantitative data on the **existing waste prevention policies, measures, and initiatives** within its local area. **UP TO 3 POINTS***
- The municipality **appoints one staff/official** (e.g a zero waste focal point) to lead the implementation and coordination of their zero waste plan. **REQUIRED**
- The municipality has a **broader management team and structure**, led by the staff/official appointed above. **UP TO 2 POINTS ***
- The municipality has a **Zero Waste Advisory Board (ZWAB)** or a similar multi-stakeholder engagement process supporting the development, implementation, monitoring, and adaptation of the zero waste plan. **REQUIRED**
- The municipality regularly **consults their citizens** on the design and development of their zero waste plan (yearly consultation at a minimum), and regularly communicates its results. **REQUIRED**

*Points-based criteria will be granted according to the ambition and impact of each policy. The sum of these points will define the municipality's level of certification (and its subsequent star level).



The municipality analyses its public procurement processes to identify **measures that further optimise the reduction of waste** within the supply chains.

REQUIRED



As part of its public procurement procedures, the municipality implements **specific requirements on waste prevention and reduction**, and on the improved **availability and quality of recycled and reused materials**.

UP TO 4 POINTS *



The municipality organises **training for its staff and its local waste management company(ies)** to ensure an up to date knowledge level on zero waste methods and efficient implementation of the plan.

REQUIRED



The municipality offers further opportunities for capacity-building and training to its staff and local waste professionals, such as through participation in either a **Study Tour or best practice visit**.

UP TO 3 POINTS *



The municipality **partners with other cities** to conduct further educational and capacity building training opportunities for its workers.

UP TO 1 POINT *



The municipality **encourages waste companies** to increase their transparency and **enhance the traceability** of any imported or exported waste, including the content of each shipment.

UP TO 3 POINTS *

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IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPACT

-  The municipality implements a **separate collection system** that:
 - collects at least 5 of the key material streams;
 - is capable of capturing at least their nationally set recycling targets for each specific material stream by a set future date, or 75% where targets have yet to be set;
 - is capable of achieving contamination rates of <10% by a set future date.**REQUIRED**

-  The municipality is **separately collecting locally generated waste** as required above. **UP TO 14 POINTS ***

-  The municipality implements a **programme for organic waste management** capable of achieving the minimum standards set by national or EU regulations. **REQUIRED**

-  The municipality **separately collects locally generated organic waste** as required (the municipality implements a programme for organic waste management capable of achieving the minimum standards set by national or EU regulations). **UP TO 6 POINTS ***

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The municipality has a **system to separately collect items where regular kerbside collection is not feasible** (e.g due to cost or danger).

REQUIRED



The municipality **improves the variety of waste streams** that are separately collected, as outlined in the previous criteria.

UP TO 5 POINTS *



The municipality **continually monitors** the level and amount of waste generation, recycling, and impact of local prevention measures within the municipality, collecting data on these indicators. The data is then used to assess the progress of the zero waste plan and inform the decision-making process.

REQUIRED



The municipality **collects and publishes data** on the economic and societal impact of the zero waste plan.

REQUIRED



The municipality conducts **regular residual waste analyses** to study the residual waste fraction, making the results publicly available.

REQUIRED



The municipality continues to **minimise** the generation of **residual waste per inhabitant** per year.

UP TO 9 POINTS *

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- The municipality creates and implements **economic incentives for citizens and businesses** to generate less waste, ensuring those who generate the most waste pay more. **UP TO 4 POINTS ***
- The municipality promotes **active participation** in local zero waste family programmes and challenges. **UP TO 3 POINTS ***
- The municipality creates and implements a plan to **prevent waste on the street**. **UP TO 2 POINTS ***
- The municipality creates and implements **waste prevention measures, programmes and policies** within their jurisdiction that prioritise refuse, reuse, and repair. **UP TO 10 POINTS ***
- The municipality facilitates and supports **wider waste prevention measures** that are implemented by a wider range of actors within the local community. **UP TO 10 POINTS ***
- The municipality implements **zero waste policies** within its headquarters and other buildings used by the municipality, or in municipality-owned companies. **UP TO 3 POINTS ***
- The municipality specifically **supports local stakeholders** to facilitate the redesign of problematic products that are not reusable, recyclable, or compostable. **UP TO 3 POINTS ***





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COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

-  The municipality conducts an internal audit/report to **ensure compliance with Zero Waste Cities Certification** criteria and continuous improvement. The leadership of the municipality and other relevant stakeholders are aware of the results and of plans to address any deviations or development ideas. The municipality communicates transparently, honestly, and publicly about the progress of its zero waste plan. A minimum of **one yearly public report** is required. **REQUIRED**
-  The municipality **communicates regularly to its citizens** about the progress, targets, and actions of their zero waste plan. In addition, the citizens are informed about any changes in waste management practices concerning them. **REQUIRED**
-  The municipality makes its **commitment** to become zero waste **clearly visible** in its external and internal communications. **UP TO 3 POINTS ***
-  The municipality develops specific communications and embeds awareness-raising activities on zero waste within **local schools and kindergartens/nurseries**. **UP TO 4 POINTS ***

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- The municipality creates connections and **networks with municipalities across Europe** and beyond to share learnings and best practices of zero waste models. **REQUIRED**
- The municipality creates **formal partnerships with local stakeholders** to facilitate the growth of any initiative that helps extend the lifecycle of materials/products. **UP TO 3 POINTS ***
- The municipality **assesses the positive climate impacts** of its zero waste plan and communicates about the results to the public. **UP TO 4 POINTS ***
- The municipality has an understanding of the **United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals** (www.globalgoals.org) and publicly links their zero waste plan to the UN's 17 goals and 169 indicators. **UP TO 1 POINT ***

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