

Survey Report 4

Dutch Waste Management Association (DWMA)

- * Request coordination of visits by DWMA member recyclers
- * Interviews on issues in the waste recycling industry in the Netherlands and Europe during visits to GP Groot and Remondis.

Dutch Waste Management Association (DWMA)

**Contact person: Mr. Unico van Kooten (European Secretary),
Mr. Jeroen Stein (Advisor Communication and Spokesman)**

Outline of DWMA

DWMA promotes the interests of companies active throughout the whole waste management chain. By uniting the various parties and interests in the chain, the Association has become a key partner in the transition to the circular economy. The Association stimulates the transition to a circular economy, focusing on closed-loop recycling and materials and energy recovery, and negotiates with government and other organizations on behalf of its members. In terms of turnover and waste volumes, the Association represents about two-thirds of the Dutch waste market.

Challenges of the Dutch recycling industry

- **There is a problem of cost in reusing resources. In the previous decade, there was a sense of unwillingness to take risks regarding the reusing of resources. The government is making a shift and promoting reuse and recycling, but the spread of recycled materials is not progressing because the price of recycled materials is higher than that of virgin materials.**
- **It is important not only to pursue recycling technology, but also to design for recycling (environmentally conscious design).**

DWMA webpage article: The Crisis of the Plastics Recycling Industry

18 March 2024

CRISIS IN PLASTIC SORTING AND RECYCLING INDUSTRY

INDUSTRY SOUNDS THE ALARM: CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND CLIMATE GOALS IN DANGER, PRODUCTION OF RECYCLED MATERIAL STALLS

The Dutch Waste Management Association (DWMA) is sounding the alarm. Dutch and European plastic sorting and recycling facilities are facing major difficulties. The demand for recycled plastic from the plastic processing industry is insufficient for profitable recycling. Turnover is stagnating, stocks of plastic waste are mounting and recycling companies are winding down production. Jobs are in danger. The root of the problem lies in cheap imports of virgin plastic from Asia and America. The industry has sent an urgent letter to the caretaker environment minister Vivianne Heijnen with three suggestions. One: support the market price of recycled plastic with a fixed amount per tonne. Two: make the government's circular procurement objectives consistent with plastic recycling targets. Three: introduce a carbon credit system for using recycled plastic in products.

<https://www.wastematters.eu/news/crisis-in-plastic-sorting-and-recycling-industry>

Challenges of the Dutch recycling industry

- **Even if it is recycled, it is not used, and many resources are discharged as waste. Japan also imports resources from overseas and relies on imports to secure energy. Reuse and recycling strategies are issues that need to be considered together with resource and energy strategies on a global scale.**

Challenges of the Dutch recycling industry

- **Information on the location of emitters and waste volumes is collected and mapped at the request of the government, and information is shared with stakeholders on the impact on reducing CO2 emissions. The sharing of mapping information is important to understand where and how much resources are located. DWMA believes that it is necessary to know where and how much resources are available, not only in Europe but also all over the world, and to take equal risks worldwide. DWMA is appealing this idea to the European Commission.**

DWMA webpage article: JAPANESE VISIT TO DUTCH RECYCLING HUBS

<https://www.wastematters.eu/news/japanese-visit-to-dutch-recycling-hubs>

4 July 2024

JAPANESE VISIT TO DUTCH RECYCLING HUBS

On July 3rd, a delegation from the Japan Industrial Waste Information Center (JW Center) visited the Dutch Waste Management Association (DWMA) to learn about the Dutch approach to recycling and circularity in the construction and demolition waste sector. The Japanese delegation visited recycling companies GP Groot in Alkmaar and REMONDIS in Son en Breugel.

The visit focused on how to extract more recyclable material from construction and demolition waste and the importance of working with the construction sector, which aims to become circular. Japan generates about 80 million tons of construction and demolition waste each year. About 99% of this demolition waste is recycled. Japan is exploring ways to improve its overall recycling performance and make its construction sector more circular.



Motoki Sasaki (Chief Research and Survey Division of JW Information Center), Izumi Sasaki (Staff Research and Survey Division of JW Information Center), Wim Horeman (Director GP Groot Collection and Recycling) during the working visit to GP Groot in Alkmaar. At the recycling location, waste and material flows are processed into new raw materials. This is done, among other things, with 2 recycling installations that together have a processing capacity of 35 tons per hour (photo: Fotopersbureau Dijkstra / Cor Salverius).

DWMA webpage article: Waste statistics

https://www.wastematters.eu/userfiles/files/DWMA-Waste%20Statistics_edition%202024.pdf

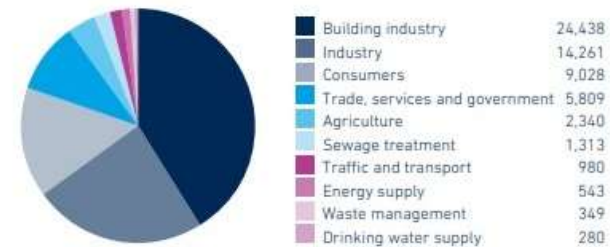


In 2022 the 8.1 million households in the Netherlands produced 8.4 million tonnes of waste (8,395 kilotonnes)



Each person in the Netherlands produces **460 kilograms** of waste each year

Total waste arisings in the Netherlands in 2020 (59.341 kiloton)



Almost **80%** of the more than **59 million tonnes** of waste is recycled