

# National factsheet on separate collection

## Hungary

**Note:** This ‘National factsheet’ has been prepared within the EC study “**Assessment of separate collection schemes in the 28 capitals of the EU**”. The document represents the status-quo of the EU Member State (MS) in September 2015. The information included in this document has been elaborated for all 28 EU-MS based on publically available documents, i.e. national legislation, Waste Management Plans, Waste Prevention Programmes, strategies, implementation reports, and statistics. All information is cited in the factsheet, a complete list of information sources can be found at the end of this document.

For quality assurance purposes the ‘National factsheet’ has been sent to the EU Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Members on waste for verification and commenting, the comments received are included in this final version.

### 1 General requirements on separate collection based on national legislation

Hungary’s Act CLXXXV/2012 on Waste (Act on Waste) was implemented in 2012 (and last modified in 2014). It is the main act of law transposing the requirements of the WFD into domestic law.

Most of the requirements of the WFD have been directly transposed into national legal requirements. Furthermore, the Act goes beyond the requirements: the act spells out that the favoured option is door-to-door collection for as many waste types as possible and that recyclable waste should not be incinerated.

References to “promote high quality recycling” in Accordance with Article (11) are not made in the act though – this is probably due to an error in translation of the original text of the Article (11) in the Waste Framework Directive to Hungarian that refers to collection “*where the quality standard required by the recycling sector can be ensured*”.

The Act calls for the separate collection of bio-waste, but it is not directly spelled out that this is with a view to composting and the digestion.

**Table 1: Overview of national law(s) that implement separate collection**

Year and Abbreviation	Title of the law (translation)
[HU Waste Act 2012]	2012. évi CLXXXV. Törvény a hulladékról (Act CLXXXV/2012 on Waste)

**Table 2: Overview on evaluation categories**

<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
<b>additional</b>	The requirements of the WFD have been transposed and additional information or requirements are set out in the national legal requirement, i.e. additional definition, precision of requirement that goes beyond the text of the WFD
<b>one:one</b>	The requirement of the WFD has been transposed exactly / literally or transposed analogously. No additional requirements or explanations are set out.
<b>deviating</b>	The requirements of the WFD have been implemented into national legal requirements but have been adjusted, left out or deviated
<b>not included</b>	The requirement of the WFD is not transposed into national law

**Table 3: Assessment on national transpositions**

Law & Article	Evaluation	English text (shortened if necessary)	Original text (in original language, shortened if necessary)
<b>1. Article 3 (11) WFD: Definition separate collection: "separate collection' means the collection where a waste stream is kept separately by type and nature so as to facilitate a specific treatment"</b>			
[HU Waste Act 2012] <b>§2 (5) and (6)</b>	One:one	§2 (5) 'separate collection' means the collection where a waste stream is kept separately by type and nature so as to facilitate a specific treatment;	§2 (5) <i>elkülönített gyűjtés</i> : olyan gyűjtés, amelynek során a hulladékáramot a hulladék fajtája és jellege - adott esetben típusa - szerint elkülönítik, lehetővé téve annak egyedi módon történő kezelését;
<b>2. Article 10 (2) WFD: "waste shall not be mixed with other waste/material with other properties"</b>			
[HU Waste Act 2012] <b>§12 (4)</b>	One:one	<b>§12 (4) (...)</b> Waste collected separately shall not be mixed with other waste or other material with different properties.	<b>§12. (4) (...)</b> Az elkülönítetten gyűjtött hulladékot más hulladékkal vagy eltérő tulajdonságokkal rendelkező más anyagokkal összekeverni nem lehet.
<b>3. Article 11 (1) WFD: "measures to promote high quality recycling"</b>			
[HU Waste Act 2012] <b>§15 (4)</b>		<p>§12. (4) Incineration or co-incineration of waste can only be permitted in case the (co-)incineration is combined with energy recovery (electricity and or heat) or used for production of cement, bricks or tiles. Waste that is recyclable, shall not be incinerated or co-incinerated.</p> <p><b>Comment [HU TAC 2015]:</b></p> <p><i>It should be stressed that the provision 12. § (4) in the Act on Waste does not correspond to Article 11 (1) in the WFD, because provision 12. § (4) is not the rule implemented by Article 11 (1) in the WFD. As Hungary set out in the Table of Content appended to the Act on Waste, the implementing rules to Article 11 (1) of the WFD in the Act on Waste are as follows: 3. § (a), 6. § (3), 12. § (3)-(5), 43. § (3)(a). Provision 12. § (4) in the Act on Waste is also a speciality which can be found only in the Act on Waste.</i></p>	<p>§12. (4) Hulladékégető műben vagy hulladékgyűttégető műben hulladékégetés vagy hulladékgyűttégetés akkor engedélyezhető, ha az égetés vagy együttégetés elektromos, illetve hőenergia termelésre irányul vagy cement, téglá, illetve építőipari cserépés kerámiagyártásra. Hulladékégető műben vagy hulladékgyűttégető műben égetni vagy együttégetni csak olyan hulladékot lehet, amely anyagában nem hasznosítható.</p>

Law & Article	Evaluation	English text (shortened if necessary)	Original text (in original language, shortened if necessary)
		<p><i>In view of the abovementioned, Hungary is on the view that this part of the WFD has been transposed appropriately. Therefore we kindly ask to reconsider the evaluation as we think it is not deviating from the WFD, or mark it as additional.</i></p> <p><b>REMARK:</b></p> <p>All the referred paragraphs have to do with importance of separate collection for recycling and contain information about the promotion/facilitation of recycling by certain measures – but it is not referred to the importance of high quality recycling</p>	
		<p><b>REMARK:</b></p> <p>There is a translation error in the Hungarian version of the WFD available at the EC website. Whereas the original English reads “Member States shall take measures to promote high quality recycling and, to this end, shall set up separate collections of waste (...) to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors.”, the Hungarian text refers to collection “<i>where the quality standard required by the recycling sector can be ensured</i>”. (és az érintett újrahasznosítási ágazatok szükséges minőségi előírásainak megfelel,) This might have led to some confusion around the interpretation.</p>	
<b>4. Requirement WFD: 11 (1) “separate collection if technically practicable”</b>			
<p>[HU Waste Act 2012]</p> <p><b>§12 (4)</b></p>	<p>One:one</p>	<p><b>§12 (4)</b> The waste owner, in order to prepare for transport, shall collect waste separately if technically, environmentally and economically practicable.</p>	<p><b>§12 (4)</b> A hulladékbirtokos a hulladékot a kezelésre történő elszállítás érdekében - amennyire az műszaki, környezetvédelmi és gazdasági szempontból megvalósítható - az ingatlanon, telephelyen elkülönítetten gyűjti.</p>

Law & Article	Evaluation	English text (shortened if necessary)	Original text (in original language, shortened if necessary)
<b>5. Requirement WFD: 11 (1) separate collection if economically practicable</b>			
[HU Waste Act 2012] <b>§12 (4)</b>	One:one	<b>§12 (4)</b> The waste owner, in order to prepare for transport, shall collect waste separately if technically, environmentally and economically practicable.	<b>§12 (4)</b> A hulladékbirtokos a hulladékot a kezelésre történő elszállítás érdekében - amennyire az műszaki, környezetvédelmi és gazdasági szempontból megvalósítható - az ingatlanon, telephelyen elkülönítetten gyűjti.
<b>6. Requirement WFD: 11 (1) "separate collection if environmentally practicable"</b>			
[HU Waste Act 2012] <b>§12 (4)</b>	One:one	<b>§12 (4)</b> The waste owner, in order to prepare for transport, shall collect waste separately if technically, environmentally and economically practicable.	<b>§12 (4)</b> A hulladékbirtokos a hulladékot a kezelésre történő elszállítás érdekében - amennyire az műszaki, környezetvédelmi és gazdasági szempontból megvalósítható - az ingatlanon, telephelyen elkülönítetten gyűjti.
<b>7. Article 11 (1) WFD: "separate collections (...) appropriate to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors"</b>			
[HU Waste Act 2012] <b>§ 6(2)(3)(4)</b>	deviating	<p>§6. (1) a waste management activity endangering human health and without harming the environment should be carried out in such a way that it is not a risk to the environment, not to cause population disturbing (capped) noise or smell and does not adversely affect the landscape, as well as the protected natural and cultural values.</p> <p>(2) any waste management activities, which is an inherent element of the environmental, human health, the landscape, and the natural and cultural values of the protected risks, to ensure that the risk is minimised.</p> <p>(3) the waste inherent in the material, energy recovery should be pursued in order to ensure the greatest possible proportion of the waste, reuse, recycling, and the preparation of the raw material to waste.</p>	<p>§6 (1) Hulladékgazdálkodási tevékenységet az emberi egészség veszélyeztetése és a környezet károsítása nélkül úgy kell végezni, hogy az ne jelentsen kockázatot a környezeti elemekre, ne okozzon lakosságot zavaró (határértéket meghaladó) zajt vagy bűzt, és ne befolyásolja hátrányosan a tájat, valamint a védett természeti és kulturális értékeket.</p> <p>(2) Aki olyan hulladékgazdálkodási tevékenységet végez, amely a tevékenység jellegéből fakadóan a környezeti elemekre, az emberi egészségre, a tájra, valamint a védett természeti és kulturális értékekre kockázatot jelent, gondoskodik arról, hogy a kockázatot a lehető legkisebbre csökkentse.</p> <p>(3) A hulladékban rejlő anyag, energia hasznosítása érdekében törekedni kell a hulladék lehető legnagyobb</p>

Law & Article	Evaluation	English text (shortened if necessary)	Original text (in original language, shortened if necessary)
		<p>(4) the technology used in waste management, equipment, device, or material, or the application of law to marketing authorisation or aptitude test, reference, and classification.</p> <p>(5) on the grounds of 35 Waste or reducing environmental damage, the provisions of the CCT..</p> <p><b>Comment</b> [HU TAC 2015]:</p> <p><i>We are on the position that the transposition of this part of the WFD is ensured by:</i></p> <p><i>1) Provision 6. § (2),(3),(4) in the Act on Waste;</i></p> <p><i>2) the 4, 5, 9, 10. § of the Gov. Decree 385/2014. (XII. 31.) concerning the conditions of providing waste management public service</i>  <i>(<a href="http://njt.hu/cgi_bin/njt_doc.cgi?docid=173577.295670">http://njt.hu/cgi_bin/njt_doc.cgi?docid=173577.295670</a>);</i></p> <p><i>3) Provisions in the Act CXXV of 2013</i>  <i>(<a href="http://net.jogtar.hu/jr/gen/hjegy_doc.cgi?docid=A1300125.TV">http://net.jogtar.hu/jr/gen/hjegy_doc.cgi?docid=A1300125.TV</a>), which sets out the rules on the standard of quality and safety of public service in waste management. Public service provider companies are obliged to meet these requirements. Therefore we kindly ask to reconsider the evaluation as we think it is not deviating from the WFD, or mark it as additional.</i></p> <p><b>REMARK:</b></p> <p>6(3) mentions that the separation happens with the aim to ensure recovery (both energy and material). However no reference is made regarding recycling standards.</p>	<p>arányú újrahasználatra előkészítésére, újrafeldolgozására, valamint a nyersanyagok hulladékkal történő helyettesítésére.</p> <p>(4) A hulladékgazdálkodáshoz használt technológia, berendezés, eszköz vagy anyag alkalmazását, illetve forgalmazását jogszabály engedélyhez vagy alkalmassági vizsgálathoz, referenciához, valamint minősítéshez kötheti.</p> <p>(5)35 Hulladékkal történő környezetveszélyeztetés vagy környezetkárosítás esetén a Kvt. rendelkezései szerint kell eljárni.</p>

Law & Article	Evaluation	English text (shortened if necessary)	Original text (in original language, shortened if necessary)
<b>8. Article 11 (1) WFD “by 2015 separate collection shall be set up for at least the following: paper, metal, plastic and glass”</b>			
[HU Waste Act 2012] <b>§ 43 (3)</b>	additional	<p>§43 (3) Separate collection shall be set up by the public service companies:</p> <p>a) covering at least on paper, glass, plastics, metal and green waste;</p> <p>b) favouring door-to-door collection for as many waste types as possible,</p> <p>c) (...)</p> <p>d) collection points should only be set up as a complementary system, for example to serve sparsely populated areas.</p> <p>e) civic amenity sites should provide possibility for separate collection for the most types of municipal waste</p>	<p>§43 (3) Az elkülönített hulladékgyűjtési rendszert a közszolgáltató úgy alakítja ki, hogy</p> <p>a) legalább a települési papír-, üveg-, műanyag, fém- és zöldhulladék elkülönített gyűjtése biztosított legyen;</p> <p>b) a házhoz menő gyűjtés minél több fajtájú és jellegű települési hulladék esetében biztosított legyen;</p> <p>c) (...)</p> <p>d) a települési hulladék hulladékgyűjtő szigeten történő elhelyezése csak kiegészítő megoldásként, elsősorban olyan sűrűn lakott településrészekben legyen alkalmazható, ahol az elkülönítetten gyűjtött háztartási hulladék házhoz menő gyűjtése és elszállítása nem biztosítható;</p> <p>e) a hulladékgyűjtő udvarban a lehető legtöbb típusú, fajtájú és jellegű települési hulladék átvételéről tudjon gondoskodni.</p>
<b>9. Article 22 WFD: Bio-waste - Member states shall take measures, as appropriate (...) to encourage: “a) the separate collection of bio-waste with a view to the composting and digestion of bio-waste”</b>			
[HU Waste Act 2012] <b>§3 f)</b>	deviating	<p>§3 f) Separate collection and material recovery operations of biodegradable municipal waste shall be promoted in order to ensure that after treatment a high quality organic material can be redirected to natural circulation of organic matter and to divert biodegradable waste from landfills.</p> <p><b>Comment [HU TAC 2015]:</b></p> <p><i>We are on the view that the transposition of this part of the WFD is ensured. We would like to stress that the provision 3. § f) in the Act on Waste is just one of the corresponding provisions to Article 22 (a) in the WFD. As Hungary set out in the Table of Content appended to the Act on Waste, the</i></p>	<p>§3 f) elő kell segíteni a biológiailag lebomló hulladék elkülönített gyűjtését és hasznosítását annak érdekében, hogy a hasznosítás után a természetes szervesanyag-körforgásba minél nagyobb tisztaságú anyag kerülhessen vissza, valamint a hulladéklerakókon lerakásra kerülő települési hulladék biológiailag lebomló tartalma csökkenjen;</p>

Law & Article	Evaluation	English text (shortened if necessary)	Original text (in original language, shortened if necessary)
		<p><i>implementing rules to Article 22 (a) of the WFD in the Act on Waste are as follows:</i></p> <p><i>12. § (3), 39. § (4), (5), 43. § (3). Therefore we kindly ask to reconsider the evaluation as we think it is not deviating from the WFD.</i></p> <p><b>REMARK:</b></p> <p>The respective paragraphs do not mention the view to composting and digestion.</p>	



## 2 General requirements on separate collection based on main strategies

<b>Hungary</b>	<b>402 kg MSW/capita 25.37% recycling</b>
<p><b>Definition of Municipal solid waste (MSW)</b> is provided in the Waste Management Act [HU Waste Act 2012 p.12 and p.44] as meaning waste from household and waste similar to household waste from other sources. It is estimated, that 55% is arising from households and 45% from other (public institutions, service and commercial, etc) [HU NWMP 2014]</p>	
<p><b>Main strategies implementing separate collection</b></p>	
<p>The most important strategy implementing separate collection is the National Waste Management Plan (2014-2020) [HU NWMP 2014].</p> <p>The most important general aim of waste policies is to <b>prevent waste and increase recycling levels</b> and that waste should be seen as resource [HU NWMP 2014]. The main targets of waste management policies [HU Waste Act 2012] are those set by the EU directives: to achieve 50 % recycling of MSW and <b>introduce separate collection</b> of glass, metal, plastics and paper waste, facilitate separate collection of bio-waste and reduction of biodegradable waste landfilled to 35 % (of amount landfilled in 1995) by 2016.</p> <p>It is intended, to set up three <b>regional reuse centers</b> in the country by 2022 [HU NWMP 2014] to promote reuse as well. In accordance with targets in the NWMP, for preparing for re-use and the recycling of waste materials such as at least paper, metal, plastic and glass from households (and possibly from other origins as far as these waste streams are similar to waste from households) shall be increased to a minimum of 50 % by weight (in total) by 2020 [HU NWMP 2014].</p> <p>Originally, the introduction of separate waste collection systems throughout the country was driven by the targets of the Packaging Waste Directive in accordance with earlier National Waste Management Plans. A <b>general campaign</b> was launched in 2001 to gradually extend the network of 'free of charge' separate waste collection system (bring sites). The purpose of the instrument is to dramatically increase the rate of recycling by making it easier and accessible for the population to recycle waste materials. The implementation of separate collection under the umbrella of extended producer responsibility schemes (i.e. Green Dot for packaging waste) resulted in the <b>increased separate collection</b> of PET plastics, paper, glass and aluminum waste [ETC/SCP, 2013]. It is under consideration to implement a <b>mandatory deposit and return schemes</b> on beverage containers (plastic, metal and glass) [HU NWMP 2014].</p>	

### 3 Implementation of separate collection

#### Overview on separate collection systems in place

The country's performance in terms of MSW recycling has been improving dramatically over the last decade from close-to-zero (2 % in 2001) to 25.4 % in 2012.

It is estimated that the MSW contains around 13.5 % paper, 20 % plastics, 5.9 % glass and 6.4 % metal in Hungary, and around 52 % of the MSW is biodegradable [HU ETC/SCP, 2013]. This means, that approximately 54.5 kg paper, 80 kg plastics, 24 kg glass and 25kg metal waste is generated per capita.






In 2012, there were 9437 **bring sites** in total and the **door-to-door collection system** covered only 500 000 households [HU NWMP 2014]. Furthermore, **some 262 civic amenity sites** complement all separate waste collection systems, that also receive bulky waste, WEEE or other hazardous waste streams from households. [HU NWMP 2014]. Bring sites will remain the primary collection mode for sparsely populated areas or regions subject to seasonal fluctuations (summer and winter holiday resorts). [HU NWMP 2014] [HU Waste Act 2012]

With the requirements of the Waste Framework Directive, **the system has gradually being changed since 2011 to door-to-door collection, which is also favoured in legislation** [HU Waste Act 2012]. The first results showed, that while bring sites achieved a collection of 8-10 kg/capita annually, door-to-door collection has increased the separate collection to 22-30 kg/capita. The amount of reject losses are estimated by the National Waste Management Agency (OHÜ) to be around the level of 5-6%.

**Co-mingling is only allowed for plastic and metal waste** (to be collected together) and in the new door-to-door systems this is usually the practice, also in the capital city of Budapest. **Glass, as the only exception, is intended to be mainly collected through the network of bring points** [HU NWMP 2014]. It is expected, that via a dense network of bring sited, the collection rate can be increased to 65%. Bio-waste (green waste) is usually collected through door-to-door collection or civic amenity sites, collecting approximately 200 000 tonne. In addition, around 250-300 000 tonne is home composted. [HU NWMP 2014]

Earlier, the separate collection system (of bring sites) was essentially free of charge for the public and was financed under the EPR of producers of packaging materials [HU ETC/SCP, 2013]. With the introduction of door-to-door collection, **a pay per bin system is in place**, with the exception of glass (which is typically collected via bring sites). Collection companies have to offer two bin sizes for all fractions in order for the household to choose the bin size based on how much waste they produce. By this system household with small bins pay less than households with large bins [HU Waste Act 2012].

Table 4: Overview of main separate collection systems in HUNGARY

Collection type	Paper	Glass	Plastic	Metal	Bio-waste
<b>Door-to-door collection</b> 	Primary	Secondary	Very rare	Very rare	Separate bins or bags on demand
<b>Co-mingled (door-to-door)</b> 			Primary collection for plastic and metal (co-mingled)		
<b>Bring points</b> 	Secondary, but main form at sparsely populated areas	Primary	Secondary, but main form at sparsely populated areas		Secondary, but main form at sparsely populated areas
<b>Civic amenities</b> 	Additional collection for all streams on top of other waste types, i.e. hazardous waste from households				
<b>Producer/retail take-back</b> 		Beverage bottles - voluntary system by retailers			

## 4 Information sources

<b>[HU Waste Act 2012]</b>	2012. évi CLXXXV. Törvény a hulladékról (Act CLXXXV/2012 on Waste) <a href="http://net.jogtar.hu/ir/gen/hjegy_doc.cgi?docid=A1200185.TV">http://net.jogtar.hu/ir/gen/hjegy_doc.cgi?docid=A1200185.TV</a>
<b>[HU NWMP 2014]</b>	National Waste Management Plan 2014-2020, <a href="http://videkstrategia.kormany.hu/download/c/96/90000/Orszagos%20Hulladekgazdalkodasi%20Terv%202014-2020.pdf">http://videkstrategia.kormany.hu/download/c/96/90000/Orszagos%20Hulladekgazdalkodasi%20Terv%202014-2020.pdf</a>
<b>[HU ETC/SCP 2013]</b>	Municipal waste management in Hungary. ETC/SCP Working Paper by Márton Herczeg. Copenhagen, March 2013, <a href="http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/managing-municipal-solid-waste/hungary-municipal-waste-management">http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/managing-municipal-solid-waste/hungary-municipal-waste-management</a>
<b>[HU TAC 2015]</b>	Information provided by the TAC member of Hungary, September 2015