
Goal and scoping for the JRC detailed pilot studies

Bo P. Weidema
2.-0 LCA consultants

Geographical system boundaries

- Malta & Krakow
- Site-specific versus generic data
- Differences in sensitivity of ecosystems

Geographical system boundaries

Electricity
on Malta

Waste collection
and treatment

Local transport and
treatment of by-products

Fuels and
equipment

Recycling

All other
electricity

Temporal system boundaries

- In principle:
 - Infinite time horizon
 - All emissions assumed to take place at present (steady-state model)
 - Exception for emissions to groundwater:
2 weeks, 100 years, 60'000 years...

Functional unit

- 1 Mg (metric tonne) of municipal solid waste
 - at private households,
 - including waste from commercial operations when this is collected together with and in the same way as the household waste.
- Implications:
 - Waste prevention is not covered, e.g. reuse options

Waste composition

- *Specific* waste compositions of Malta and Krakow
- *Current* waste composition
- Clean fractions, i.e. impurities follow main fraction
- **Implications:**
 - Results do not predict actual future emissions, as these will be influenced by possible changes in waste composition
 - Impurities may in reality end up in other places than predicted by the model (e.g. in wastewater)

Waste fractions studied

- Wet biodegradable wastes
- Paper and cardboard wastes, subdivided in Cardboard wastes, Newsprint wastes and Other paper wastes
- Plastics wastes
- Glass wastes
- Iron and steel wastes
- Aluminium wastes
- Other wastes

Substance composition of waste fractions

- Plastics assumed to be 60% PE, 20% PET, 10% PP, 5% PS, 4% PU and 1% PVC
- Wet biodegradable assumed to contain at least 15% parks and garden waste
- Elemental composition from Ecoinvent, supplemented with data from AWAAT
- **Example:** Wet biodegradable wastes (g/Mg): O 126430; H 20000; C 162400; S 1500; N 4000; P 1130; B 10; Cl 4000; Br 6; **F 200**; I 0.055; **As 2**; Cd 0.138; Co 5; Cr 8; Cu 18; Hg 0.07; Mn 4.3; Mo 0.4; Ni 5.42; Pb 18.56; Se 0.5; Sn 8; V 3; Zn 58; Si 39980; Fe 600; Ca 21800; Al 10000; K 3500; Mg 2820; Na 1500

Composition of “Other wastes”

- Textiles: 3.2% of household waste
- Batteries: 0.32 kg per capita
- Electronic goods: 0.4% of household waste
- Other hazardous: 2.12% of household waste
- Paper and plastic: Each 1.5% (Malta) and 4.5% (Krakow) of household waste
- Inert waste: 15% (Malta) and 26% (Krakow) of “Other wastes”

Technologies studied

- Uncontrolled landfill
- Directive compliant landfill
- Directive compliant incineration with energy recovery, BAT, Semi-dry, non-catalytic NO_xR
- Home incineration
- Central composting with energy recovery, BAT
- Central composting without energy recovery
- Home composting
- Material recycling

Scenarios studied

- A. Baseline (2003) waste management infrastructure
- B. Incineration scenario with increased recycling
- C. Composting scenario with increased recycling
- D. Economic optimum scenario
- E. Environmental optimum scenario

Ultimate packaging recycling targets applied to entire MSW:

- 60 % for all glass and paper
- 50 % for all metal
- 22.5 % for all plastics
- Overall minimum of 55% for all these fractions

Optimising economic performance within each scenario

- Maximum recycling attainable (Tucker & Speirs 2002):
 - 85% for cardboard, newspaper and glass
 - 80% for other fractions
- Marginal costs of recycling versus incineration:
 - (EUR/Mg): Alu -875, PET -103, Iron&steel -49, Glass -47, Cardboard -32, **Newsprint -1.5**, PE 7.5, **Mixed paper 8.5**, **Wet biowaste 26**

Assumptions: 5 EUR additional promotion costs; 24 EUR additional collection costs for separate fractions; 43 EUR for biowaste; excluding 29 EUR additional transport from Malta; 25% efficiency of electricity production from waste incineration; 0.08 EUR / kWh; Price of recycled materials from Sound Resources Management.

Economic cost data

Waste fraction	Incineration [EUR/Mg]		Recycling [EUR/Mg]	
	Fixed cost of incineration	Economic value of electricity sold	Additional cost of collection	Economic value of material
Aluminium	40 – 45	19	18 – 30	800 – 960
PET	40 – 45	121	18 – 30	190 – 230
PE	40 – 45	230	18 – 30	170 – 200
Cardboard	40 – 45	82	18 – 30	90 – 110
Newsprint	40 – 45	72	18 – 30	50 – 70
Mixed paper	40 – 45	72	18 – 30	45 – 55
Iron & steel	40 – 45	4 – 5	18 – 30	35 – 45
Glass	40 – 45	-8	18 – 30	20 – 30
Wet biowaste	40 – 45	16	35 – 50	-26 – 12

A. Baseline 2003 (Malta)

	Uncontrolled landfill	Central composting – no energy recovery	Sums
Wet biodegradable	76	24	100
Paper & board	100		100
Plastics	100		100
Glass	100		100
Iron & steel	100		100
Aluminium	100		100
Other	100		100

A. Baseline 2003 (Krakow)

	Uncontrolled	Land-fill, dir. compl.	Incineration at home	Recycl	Central compost – no energy	Home compost	Sum
Wet biodegradable		78			7	15	100
Paper & board		81	13	6			100
Plastics	9	90		1			100
Glass	9	49		42			100
Iron & steel	8	74		18			100
Aluminium	8	76		16			100
Other	9	91					100

B. Incineration (Malta / Krakow)

	Incineration	Recycling	Sums
Wet biodegradable	100		100
Paper & board	40	60	100
- of which Newsp.	43	57	100
- of which Cardb.	15	85	100
- of which Other	100		100
Plastics	68	32	100
- of which PE	100		100
- of which Other	20	80	100
Glass	28 / 36	72 / 64	100
Iron & steel	20	80	100
Aluminium	20	80	100
Other	100		100

C. Composting (Malta / Krakow)

	Incineration	Composting / Recycling	Sums
Wet biodegradable	46 / 59	54 / 41	100
Paper & board	40	60	100
- of which Newsp.	43	57	100
- of which Cardb.	15	85	100
- of which Other	100		100
Plastics	53 / 60	47 / 40	100
- of which PE	75 / 86	25 / 14	100
- of which Other	20	80	100
Glass	40	60	100
Iron & steel	20 / 50	80 / 50	100
Aluminium	20	80	100
Other	100		100

D. Economic (Malta / Krakow)

	Incineration	Composting / Recycling	Sums
Wet biodegradable	100		100
Paper & board	40 / 27	60 / 73	100
- of which Newsp.	43 / 15	57 / 85	100
- of which Cardb.	15	85	100
- of which Other	100		100
Plastics	68	32	100
- of which PE	100		100
- of which Other	20	80	100
Glass	15	85	100
Iron & steel	20	80	100
Aluminium	20	80	100
Other	100		100