Renewable energy application from waste and biomass: European case study

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fundamentals of EU energy policy

reduction of CO₂ emissions

reduction of energy imports by

- increasing energy efficiency
- promotion of renewable energy
- > special focus on bioenergy
- this includes waste-to-energy strategies

instruments for harmonisation

EU directives regulating the energy and waste sector



legislative framework for the waste sector

Landfill Directive (1999)

- definition of classes of landfills
- regulations on landfill design, operation, and control
- reduction of direct disposal of biodegradable waste of 65 % in 2016 compared to 1995
- several countries introduced landfill taxes or banned landfilling

Waste Incineration Directive (2000)

- definition of incineration and coincineration plants
- operation parameters of these plants
- air emission standards
- emission limits for discharged waste water
- mandatory energy recovery (preferred CHP)



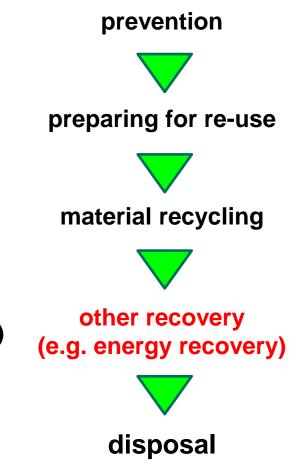
legislative framework for the waste sector

Waste Framework Directive (2008)

- comprising and updating former directives
- definition of a waste hierarchy
- definition of disposal and recovery operations

actual situation in the EU

- separate MSW collection increasing
- biodegradable waste (approx. 50 60 %) for biotreatment (initially composting)
- AD should be first treatment step for biodegradable MSW
- incineration with energy recovery (preferred CHP) for residual MSW





EU 28 data

inhabitants: 508.5 mill.

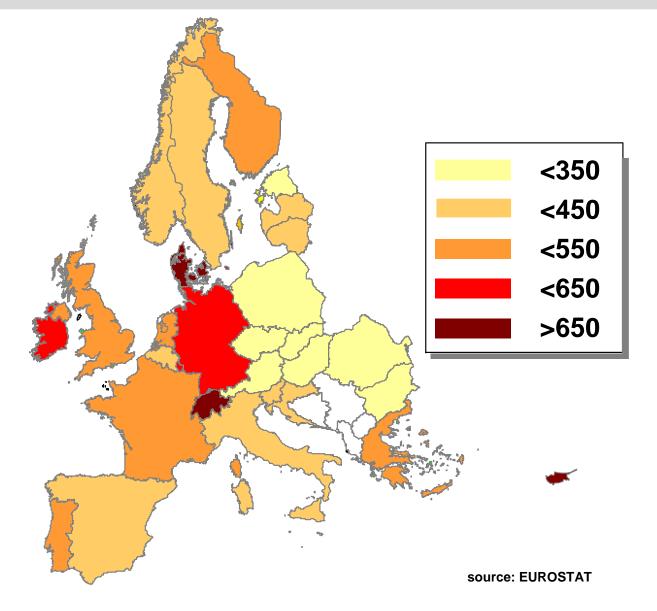
MSW: 235 mill. Mg

material recycling: 69 mill. Mg

biotreatment: 40 mill. Mg

incineration: 64 mill. Mg

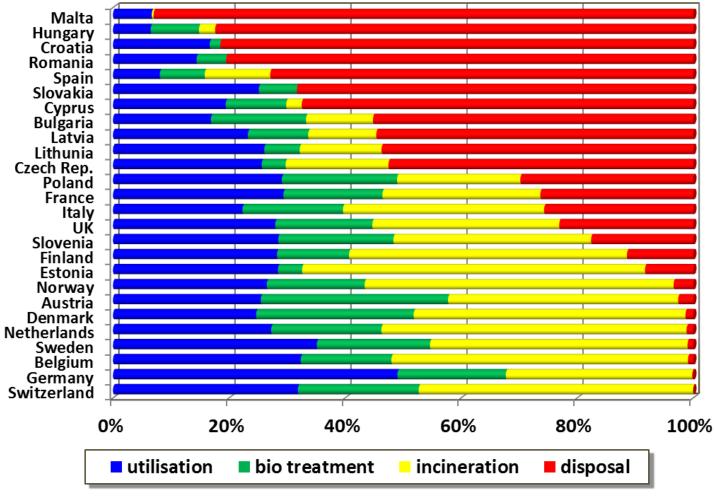
landfilling: 62 mill. Mg



annual per capita generation of MSW in 2016 (kg)



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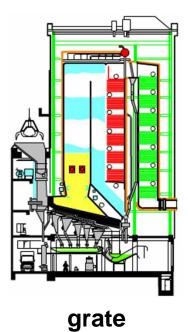


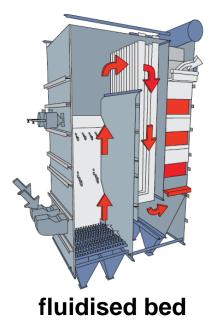
source: EUROSTAT

waste management in Europe in 2016



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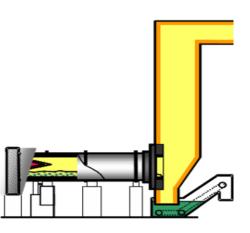


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> MSW



- > RDF/SRF
- biomass



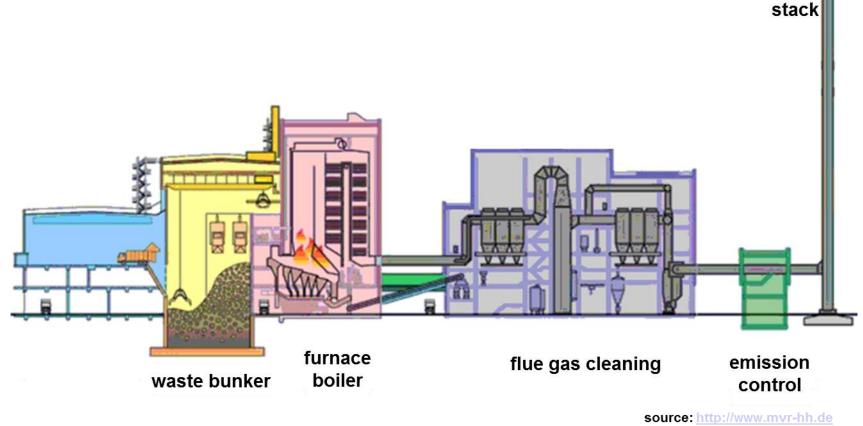
rotary kiln/post comb.

hazardous waste

types of furnaces



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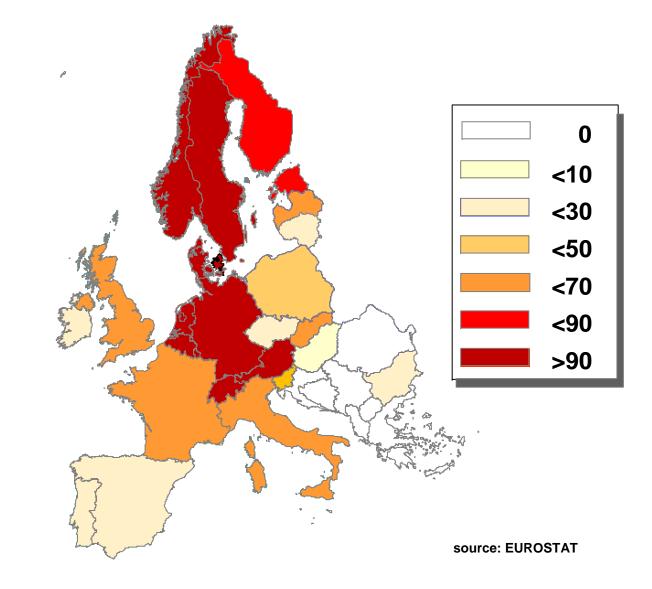


⁽modified)

scheme of a waste incineration plant



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incineration of residual waste in Europe in % (2016)



EU 28 data

inhabitants:

508.5 mill.

235 mill. Mg

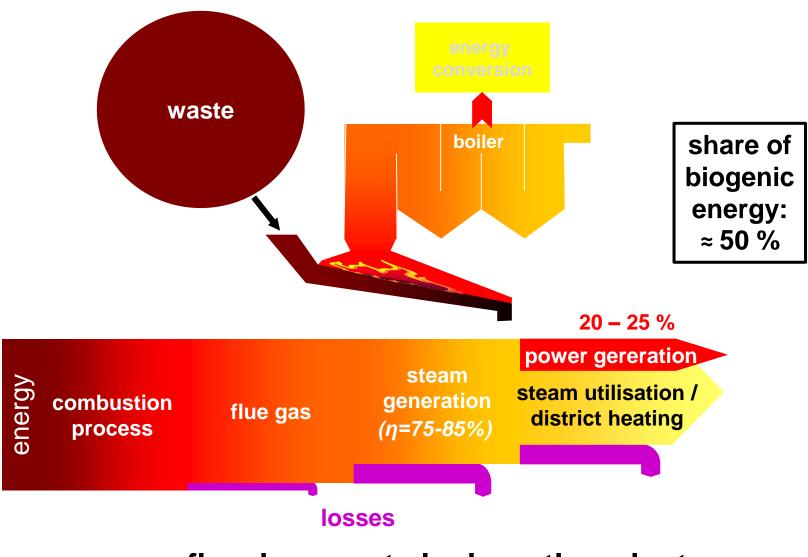
incineration:

>450 plants

64 mill. Mg

MSW:

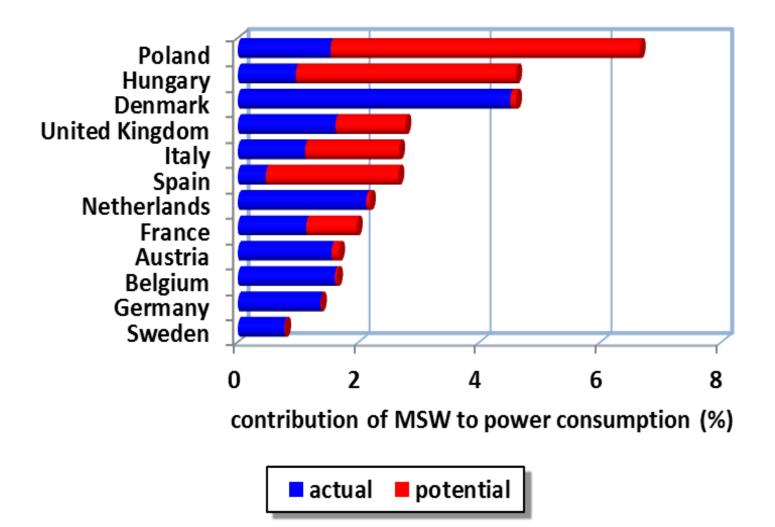
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energy flow in a waste incineration plant



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substitution of power by MSW in 2015

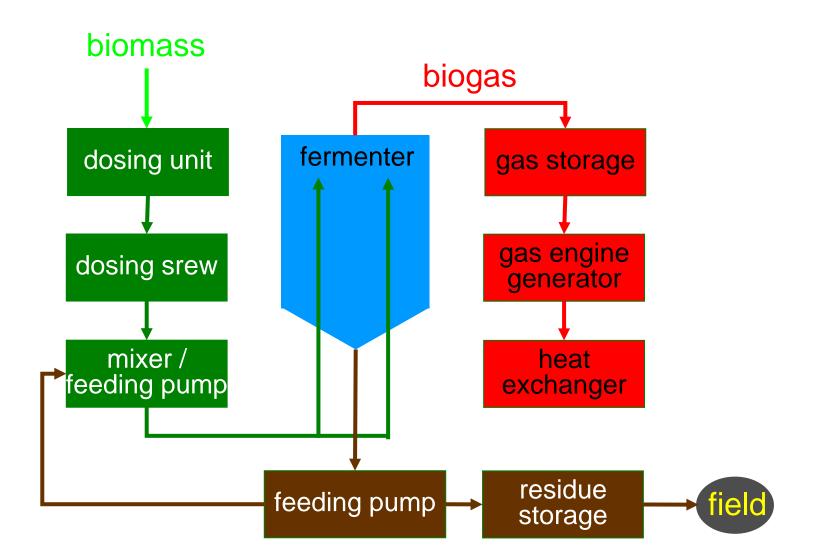


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anaerobic digestion

- common practice for sewage sludge and agricultural residues like manure
- strong increase for mixed MSW and separated biodegradable MSW since mid 1990s
- EU requires AD as first step of biowaste treatment
- > 2015 situation in Europe:
 - almost 250 plants
 - capacity approx. 7.8 mill. Mg (≈ 6 7 % of biodegradable MSW)

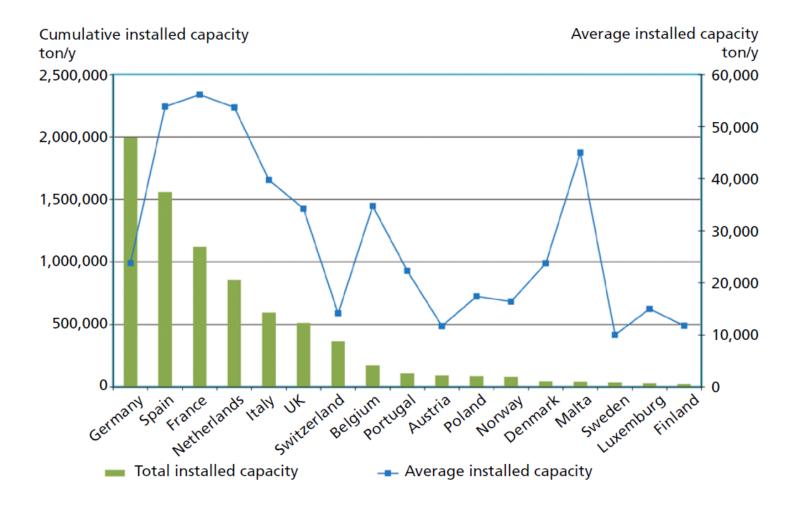




scheme of an anaerobic digestion plant



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source: De Baere & Mattheeuws

capacity of AD plants for biodegradable MSW in Europe



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legislative framework for the energy sector

Renewable Energy Directive (2009)

- 2020 target for renewable energy: 20 % (of final consumption)
- national targets from 10 % (Malta) to 49 % (Sweden)

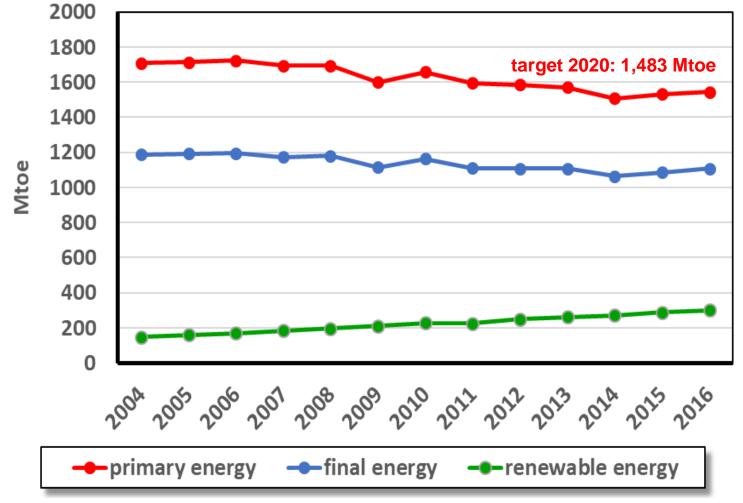
> 2020 target for renewables in transportation: 10 % updated targets for 2030 (2016)

- ➢ 40% cut in GHG emissions compared to 1990 levels
- target for renewable energy: 27 %
- > annual 1.5 % energy savings from 2021 to 2030
- ➢ in total at least 27% energy savings

Energy Efficiency Directive (2012)

- improving energy efficiency of buildings
- improving energy performance of products
- informing consumers (energy labelling)
- smart financing for smart buildings

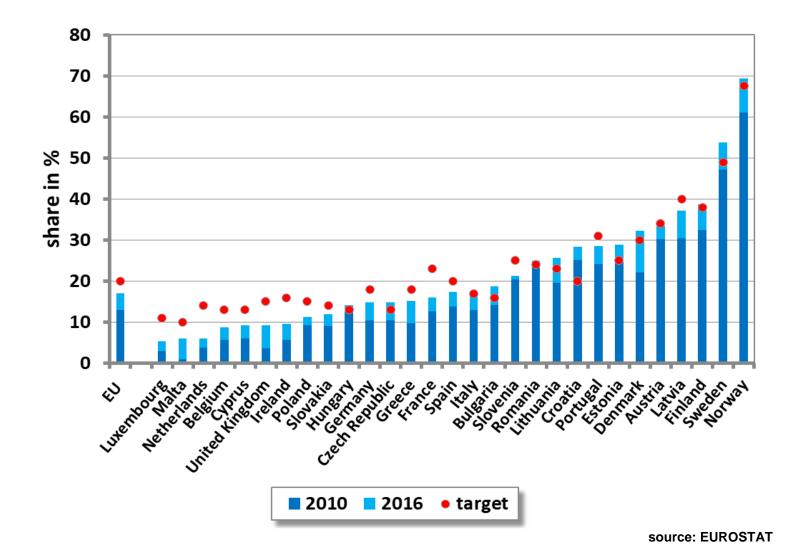




source: EUROSTAT

EU primary, final, and renewable energy consumption

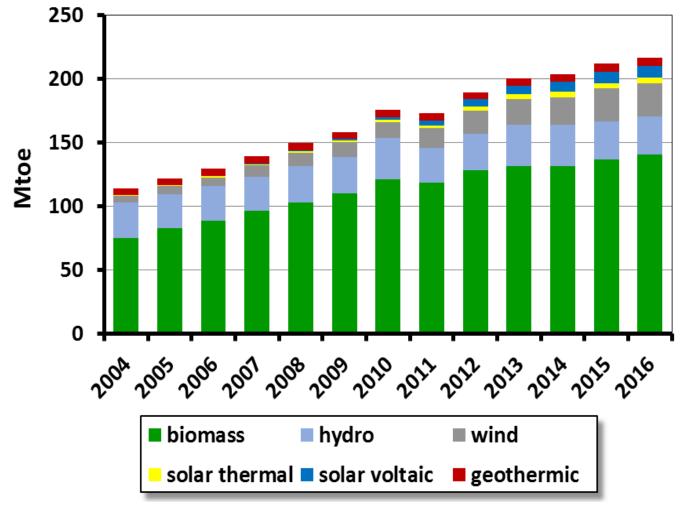




renewables in final energy consumption (2016)



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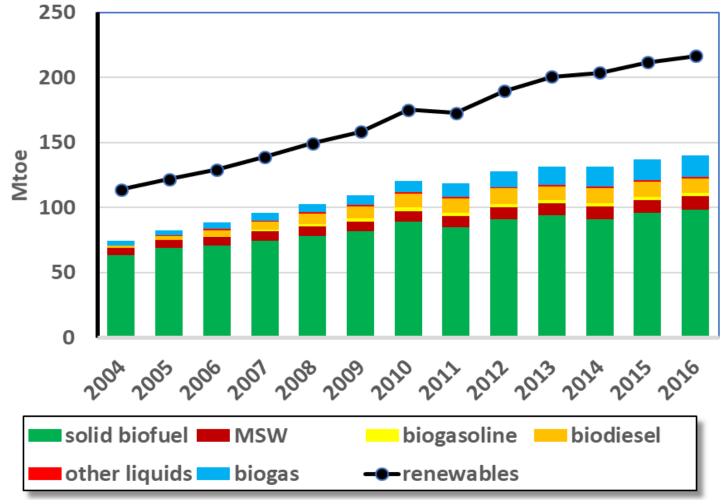


source: EUROSTAT

renewables in final energy consumption (2016)



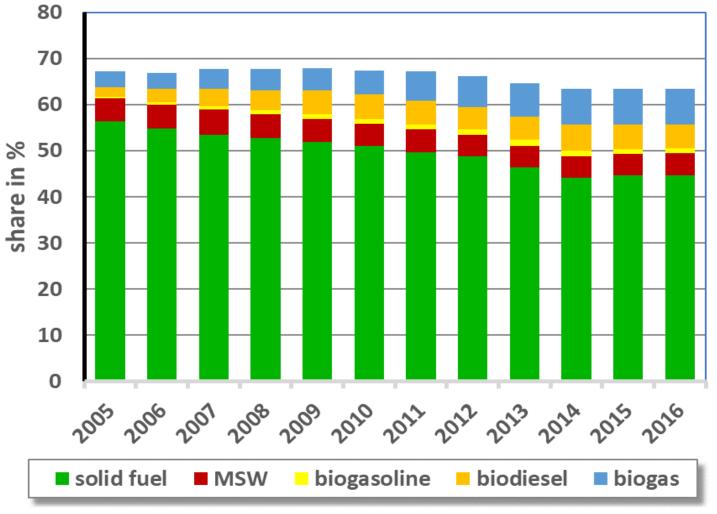
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source: EUROSTAT

biomass in gross inland renewable energy consumption





source: EUROSTAT

share of bioenergy sources in the EU



conclusions

- the energy consumption in the EU is slowly declining
- the share of renewable energy sources will still increase
- specially bioenergy strategies are strongly promoted
- waste-to-energy is in many countries well established and will still grow
 - especially for biodegradable MSW separate collection is recommended
 - composting will widely be replaced by AD
 - waste incineration with CHP is the preferred treatment for residual MSW



