

SEPARATE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING

Diverting recyclable materials from landfill is an important component of zero waste approach and a core principle of circular economy. We dedicate a lot of time and effort to this topic: from promoting the benefits of recycling to studying best practices and working on replicating them in Lviv. Here is a list of our main activities and achievements in this area through the years.

2017

SOCIAL ZERO WASTE EXPERIMENT

A week-long online marathon for more than 500 people, where we shared our recommendations and lifehacks and encouraged the participants to implement zero waste approach in their life. Sorting household waste was one of the main topics of the marathon.

2018

OPEN DISCUSSION «SORT ME IN FULL!»

Together with the representatives of other environmental organizations, we talked about the possibilities for separate collection and reducing waste generation in Ukraine.

GARBAGE 31 WEBSITE

We cooperated with the Bambuk design studio in working on the Garbage31 project. It is an interactive website that tells about different types of waste and their recycling prospects in Ukraine and around the world.

ZERO WASTE FEST 2018

We invited activists to present local initiatives in the field of recycling:

- Green Box waste sorting station in Lviv (Sviatoslav Stets, Ilko Petryk)
- Garbage31 interactive website on recycling (Vitalii Solovii, Oles Kucherenko)

2019

ZERO WASTE FEST 2019

Our annual festival had a recycling zone, where the visitors could bring their recyclables and electronics. Also there were lectures on the topic:

- How to launch separate collection in apartment buildings (Athena Charkezova, Taras Kolodii)
- Sortui mobile app (Oleksandra Cherniavska)
- Green Box waste sorting station in Lviv (Ilko Petryk)
- Garbage31 interactive website on recycling (Oles Kucherenko)

LVIV ECO FORUM 2019

One of the forum's panels was dedicated to the topic of separate collection, recycling and extended producer responsibility. We talked about the challenges of installing reverse vending machines in Lviv and what should be done in order for the waste prevention and recycling system to start working properly.

2020

ZERO WASTE IN ACTION PROJECT: IN COOPERATION WITH ENVIRONMENT PEOPLE LAW

We worked together with business in the hospitality sphere to help them reduce waste generation:

- studied the waste composition in cafes and restaurants;
- held an event on separate collection of organic waste and recyclables;
- purchased recycling containers for several establishments;
- organized a contest for best practices in implementing zero waste principles among the Lviv hotels and restaurants. The winner of the Separate Collection category was BANKHOTEL

CONSCIOUS CONSUMPTION: REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE. ONLINE DISCUSSION BY THE RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION

We talked about Ukraine's zero waste initiative, their development, achievements and challenges.

STUDYING EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE

Together with our colleagues from Sweden, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine, we studied sustainable concepts of event organization and attitude towards food and food waste, and visited waste treatment facilities as a part of the Project Sustainable Cross-border Destinations.

2021

COLLECTING EXPIRED MEDICATIONS

A pilot project during which we collected 150 kg of expired medications from the residents and sent them to disposal. Together with the Department of Ecology and Natural resources of the Lviv City Council we plan to make this a city-wide project after the victory.

NEW PAGE FOR OUR WEBSITE

We created a [PAGE](#) on our website on separate collection of recyclables in Lviv (in Ukrainian).

WASTE COMPOSITION ANALYSIS

We studied the composition of waste generated in an apartment building on the Khvyliovoho street. The building has containers for recyclables, so we wanted to see how diligent the residents are in separating the from the residual waste.

WASTE BRAND AUDIT IN THE FRANKO PARK

We studied the contents of the park's trash bins to find out what waste is generated there and whether installing containers for recyclables in the park makes sense.

HOW TO BECOME A ZERO WASTE CITY: PRACTICAL WORKSHOP FOR MUNICIPALITIES

We presented the **zero waste city certification** by MiZa and Zero Waste Europe to the representatives of municipalities and municipal companies. The presentation included discussion on such topics:

- Separated collection in the city. What can a waste management company do? How to launch separate collection in an apartment building?
- Extended producer responsibility (EPR). How can cities prepare for cooperation with the EPR companies?

We also organized excursions for the participants to such locations:

- GreenEra waste sorting station;
- mercury-containing waste treatment plant near Lviv.

LECTURE ON RECYCLING AND WASTE SORTING

We held a lecture on the culture of recycling and waste minimization at the Lviv Municipal Culture Center.

VISITS TO THE ZERO WASTE CITIES OF EUROPE

We visited Croatia and studied the country's experience with EPR, waste collection and waste management. We also visited a zero waste store in Graz, Austria, and Ekologi Brez Meja, a fellow Zero Waste Europe member organization working in Ljubljana, Slovenia. We described our impressions from the trip [HERE](#) (in Ukrainian).

2022

SORTING SHIP: A CONTAINER FOR COLLECTING RECYCLABLES IN THE PARK

This project was our first attempt to launch separate collection of recyclables in a park. Here's what we did:

- [ANALYZED](#) the generation of waste in the Zamarstinivskyi Park in Lviv to determine how much and what types of waste are generated;
- designed and [INSTALLED](#) a **container in the form of a ship for 6 types of recyclable packaging**: PET bottles, bottle caps, glass bottles, paper, metal, and Tetra Pak based on the research results;
- presented the container during the Balaton Neighbourhood Festival;
- arranged for the collected waste to be removed and transported to recycling facilities;
- presented **recommendations on scaling** the project for the representatives of the Department of Ecology and Natural Resources of Lviv City Council.

INFORMAL WASTE PICKERS: STUDY OF THE GROUP

We conducted a study of the groups of **informal pickers** of recyclable materials in Lviv. The study aimed to determine how many informal waste pickers there are, who they are, and what their role in the city's waste management system is. The efforts of this group of people help to **save a large amount of waste**, namely recyclable materials, **from landfills**. Our goal was to learn more about them and to tell other stakeholders of the waste management sphere about their contribution. More on the project [HERE](#) (in Ukrainian).

CHATBOT FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

We created a section on waste management in Lviv for the chatbot by the Lviv City Council Information Technology Department. The chatbot is called Lviv for You Bot and it provides IDPs with information on various aspects of life in Lviv: housing, job search, document processing, medical services, etc. The section "Lviv and waste" contains information on existing waste management opportunities as well as tips on waste minimization for the city residents.

ECOFRIENDLY: ZERO WASTE MARATHON FOR FAMILIES

Together with colleagues from other NGOs, we conducted a pilot marathon for **16 families** from different parts of Ukraine. During the marathon, the participants attended webinars on various topics, including waste management. We also provided all participating families with **containers** for separate collection of household waste. We prepared and posted **informational materials** [ON OUR WEBSITE](#) for all interested parties to use when organizing similar marathons.

ORGANIC WASTE IN WARTIME

This [PROJECT](#) aimed to address the issue of organic waste collection in places providing the internally displaced persons (IDPs) with meals and shelter. When working with the modular camp for the IDPs, we studied the **morphological composition of waste** generated there and shared recommendations for improving the separate collection of recyclables with the camp's administration.

TRIP TO ITALY

We studied the work of the **Contarina company** which carries out separated waste collection in 49 communities in the Veneto region. This included their experience in collecting and processing organic waste, packaging waste, and sanitary products.

2023+ plans and dreams

SEPARATE COLLECTION IN PARKS

We want all the parks in the city to have containers for recyclables, and we are ready to work together with the municipality towards this goal.

COLLECTION OF EXPIRED MEDICATIONS

We plan to scale the expired medications collection to the city level to give the residents the opportunity to dispose of them properly. We also plan to cooperate with charity organizations to organize safe disposal of the expired medications that were brought into the country as humanitarian aid.

COLLECTION OF USED COOKING OIL

When the cooking oil is poured out into the sink or toilet, it can cause the pipes to clog. Lviv does not have a collection system for cooking oil. We want to launch a pilot project to collect the oil from citizens some time after Christmas, since it is the time when many people use a lot of oil to cook pampukhs, the traditional Christmas deserts.

SERVICE DESIGN WORKSHOP

We want to have a service design workshop to work together with the public, municipal companies and the city on improving the separate waste collection in the city.

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY

While the law on EPR has not yet been passed in Ukraine, we encourage the city and businesses to join us in designing a pilot city-wide EPR project in Lviv.

INTRODUCTORY VISITS TO WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPANIES

We plan to visit various waste management companies, recycling companies, and sorting stations to see how they operate and to educate the public on their work.