



#zerowaste

# Webinar: Waste-to-Energy: an essential element for a Circular Economy?

Presentation: Zero Waste Europe's perspective on managing residuals

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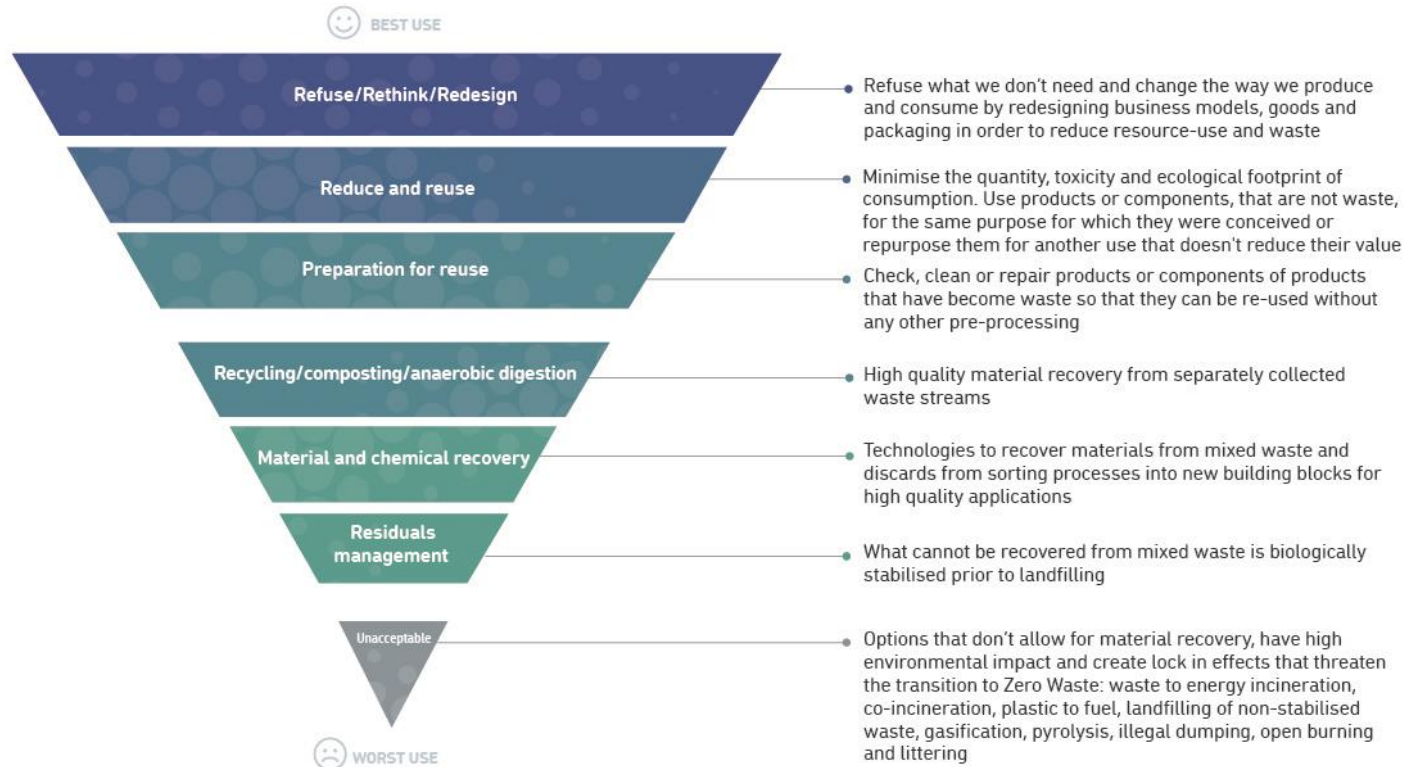
# Waste incineration and Taxonomy

- **Incineration** = with or without energy recovery (Art 3 point 40 of [Industrial Emissions Directive](#))
- [Taxonomy Regulation](#) → considers increase in waste generation as, with the exception of the incineration of non-recyclable hazardous waste, as harmful to the circular economy (as per Article 12(d))
- **Technical Expert Group's (TEG) [Final Technical Report](#)** → refers to Taxonomy regulation for not including waste incineration
- [Commission guidance on RRF](#) → Example 3: Waste incinerator (example of non-compliance with DNSH)

Example 3: Waste incinerator (example of non-compliance with DNSH)

<p><i>Transition to a circular economy, including waste prevention and recycling:</i> Is the measure expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) lead to a significant increase in the generation, incineration or disposal of waste, with the exception of the incineration of non-recyclable hazardous waste; or</li><li>(ii) lead to significant inefficiencies in the direct or indirect use of any natural resource at any stage of its life cycle which are not minimised by adequate measures; or</li><li>(iii) cause significant and long-term harm to the environment in respect to the circular economy?</li></ul>	<p><i>Example of non-compliance with DNSH</i></p>	<p>While this measure aims to divert, among others, combustible non-recyclable waste from landfills, the Commission would likely consider this measure to develop or “lead to a significant increase in the generation, incineration or disposal of waste, with the exception of the incineration of non-recyclable hazardous waste” for the following reasons.</p> <p>The construction of new waste incinerators to increase the existing incineration capacity in the country leads to a significant increase in the incineration of waste, which does not fall under the category of non-recyclable hazardous waste. Therefore, it is in direct breach of Article 17(1)d(ii) (‘Significant harm to environmental objectives’) of the Taxonomy Regulation.</p> <p>The measure hampers the development and deployment of available low-impact alternatives with higher levels of environmental performance (e.g. reuse, recycling), and could lead to a lock-in of high-impact assets, considering their lifetime and capacity. Significant amounts of non-hazardous waste (recyclable and non-recyclable, indistinctively) might be used as feedstock, thus hampering, as regards recyclable waste, treatment ranking higher in the waste hierarchy, including recycling. This would undermine the achievement of recycling targets at national/regional level and the national/regional/local Waste Management Plan adopted in accordance with the amended Waste Framework Directive.</p>
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# Zero Waste Hierarchy





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# Thank you!

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