



# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN- PAYT IN THE NEW CATALAN WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## Content table

1. Name of the implementation plan.....	3
2. General information.....	3
2.1 General purpose of the implementation.....	3
2.2 Scope.....	3
2.3 Responsible organization, project leader and team members .....	4
2.4 Goal of the implementation .....	4
2.5 Key activities .....	4
2.6 Expected results of the implementation .....	4
2.7 Risks and measures.....	4
3. Key success factors.....	5
4. Plan of approach and time schedule .....	5
4.1 Phases and activities and milestones .....	5
5. Communication plan.....	6
5.1 Purpose.....	6
5.2 Analysis of stakeholders .....	6
5.3 Plan of approach .....	7
6. Financial implications.....	7

## 1. Name of the implementation plan

Embedding the “Pay As You Throw” principle (PAYT) in the Catalan Waste Management Plan PRECAT 2013-2020

## 2. General information

### 2.1 General purpose of the implementation

The “Pay As You Throw” principle aims at making the waste producer contribute to the cost of collection and final treatment of the waste according to the amount he produces, thus emphasizing his responsibility regarding waste generation and management cost.

At present, in most cases, citizens are not aware of the particular waste management costs, because these are charged in an indirect way, included in other municipal taxes. “Pay as You Throw” (from hereon referred to as PAYT) in the first place serves the purpose of making the cost of waste management visible for the citizens, breaking them down to the detail. This way it is possible to dissuade citizens from generating high amounts of mixed residual waste due to the high cost related to final treatments, and to incentivate waste prevention and a good performance in separate collection of recyclable materials, thus inducing their consideration as resources.

Catalonia is in the process of publishing a new waste management plan (PRECAT 20), which is outlining the catalan waste policy for the coming years until 2020. Besides waste prevention, material flows and a resource oriented approach are main issues.

During the last years, 4 catalan municipalities (Argentona, Miravet, Rasquera and Canet de Mar) started PAYT projects, which have been supported by ARC. In 2010 a Guide for the Implementation of PAYT Systems was published. However, these initiatives only affect a small number of citizens. With the experience gained from working with the partners on the R4R Project we considered that the implementation of the PAYT principle on a larger territorial scale is a good practice which will help to meet the objectives of the waste management plan in several ways, ranging from making contribute waste producers in a more equitable way to waste management costs to create citizens’ awareness on their responsibility in waste generation and waste management.

### 2.2 Scope

According to the legally established competences in municipal waste management of the Catalan Waste Agency (ARC), the scope of this implementation plan include the PAYT principle in the Catalan Waste Management Plan and to create the conditions and promote its implementation in the catalan municipalities before 2020.

As municipal waste management is a direct competence of the municipalities, the practical aspects of the implementation is not part of this implementation plan.

### 2.3 Responsible organization, project leader and team members

Responsible organisation: Catalan Waste Agency (ARC)

Project leader: Alfred Vara

Project team: Neus Gallart, Mireia Martí, Gisela Sommer, Marc Balagué

### 2.4 Goal of the implementation

The primary goal is to obtain an equitable way of allocating the waste management costs to the waste producers in accordance to the amounts they produce, offering thus the possibility of reducing this budget item by good practices (i.e. waste prevention, separate collection). This is expected to have a positive impact on waste generation and on the recycling performance on all local levels.

### 2.5 Key activities

- Make waste producers, in particular private households, aware of the cost for the collection and treatment of their wastes.
- Promote the effective implementation of direct or indirect PAYT systems by the local authorities.

### 2.6 Expected results of the implementation

The expected results of the implementation plan are an improvement of prevention and recycling performance on the local and regional level, the reduction of residual waste going to landfill and incineration, the creation of a financial instrument that encourages recycling and waste prevention and an increased awareness of the citizens of their responsibility in waste generation and material recovery.

### 2.7 Risks and measures

Any change in established municipal services is likely to encounter detractors and misgivings among the stakeholders.

Charging the waste producers individually for their waste can sometimes result in illegal dumping or the diversion of the waste to unlicensed or illegal disposal methods.

Dialogue and active implication of all stakeholders will be essential to avoid these risks.

In PAYT systems a reduction of the waste amounts may result in a reduction in revenues destined to waste management. In order to maintain sufficient revenues to cover the waste management costs, the billing system has to foresee a fixed base and a variable part, which depends on the performance of the waste producer.

### 3. Key success factors

- Clear legal framework: Mandatory separate collection schemes for the MSW (already existing) and mandatory PAYT in 2020 (to be developed)
- Approval of the Catalan Waste Management Plan PRECAT 20
- Financial support for initial investment and running costs
- Technical aspects: Development of PAYT systems according to local circumstances and implementation of the convenient infrastructure
- Consense among stakeholders
- Accompanying policy measures

### 4. Plan of approach and time schedule

#### 4.1 Phases and activities and milestones

Activity	Completion Date
Include the implementation of PAYT in the objectives of the Waste Management Plan PRECAT 20	July - August 2014
Publish Draft Waste Management Plan PRECAT 20 and commence public consultation (45 days)	October 2014
Governmental approval of PRECAT 20	End of first semester 2015
Development of instruments and methods that enable to assess and monitor the costs of municipal waste management on the local level	2014 - 2016

Elaborate of models for fiscal ordinances which incentivate waste prevention and separate collection.	2014 - 2016
Develop communication strategie of continuous and active dialogue with the municipalities, association of municipalities and the key players in the whole chain of waste management	2014 - 2016
Promote of communication campaigns by the local authorities to inform about the evolution of waste generation and waste management and associated costs, including a break-down of costs to the level of households.	2014 - 2020
Elaborate legislation that makes PAYT compulsory by 2020	2014 - 2016
Provide technical and economic support for local authorities to implement PAYT systems	2014 - 2020
Incentivate the implementation of PAYT by refund schemes for the waste disposal tax.	2014 - 2020

## 5. Communication plan

### 5.1 Purpose

The publication of documents and associated public consultation activities will give the opportunity to explain the introduction of PAYT to the Catalan Waste Management Plan and to all the stakeholders.

### 5.2 Analysis of stakeholders

The stakeholders include the following:

- Catalan Waste Agency (ARC)
- Local authorities – decision makers
- Local authorities - waste management staff
- Public & Private Waste Contractors & Facility owners
- Department of the Environment of Catalonia

- Environmental Interest Groups
- Citizens

### 5.3 Plan of approach

The communication plan will include the following and will be prepared by Catalan Waste Agency staff in:

- Interaction at workshops
- Presentations
- ARC website
- Social Media

## 6. Financial implications

The Catalan Waste Management Plan PRECAT 20 provides a budget for the implementation measures of PAYT.

A sum of 45.000 € is allotted to the task of making the cost of waste management visible to the citizens and raise the awareness of their responsibility in waste generation and management. This includes the development of methods and instruments for assessment of cost structure and the monitoring of municipal waste management costs on the local level. This budget item is financed entirely by the Catalan Waste Agency ARC.

For the second key task of promoting the effective implementation of PAYT by the local authorities on their territories, the PRECAT 20 foresees a budget of about 3.5 Million €, 75 % of which will be financed by ARC and 25 % by the local authorities.

# REGIONS FOR RECYCLING

