

The treatment of non-recyclable waste

Products which are not fit for reuse or recycling are called “non-recyclable waste”.

In Europe in 2018, 116 million tons were non-recyclable waste, out of a total of 220 million tons of municipal waste generated.

There are two options for this kind of waste: **Waste-to-Energy** or **Landfilling**.



The advantages of Waste-to-Energy

- Recovery of energy and materials
- Avoidance of methane emissions
- Abatement of odor nuisance
- Over 90% reduction of volume
- Saving of valuable land

The treatment of non-recyclable waste

Non-recyclable waste can be quite diverse items, for a variety of reasons:

- Polluted waste
- Degraded waste (e.g. after several rounds of recycling)
- Waste made up of composite materials



Icons taken from the IRF video "Waste-to-Energy - Clean Energy and Sustainable Waste Management"

Waste generation will greatly increase worldwide by 2050. **Our duty is to manage it in a sustainable way.**

Projected waste generation by region

2016 2030 2050

Source World Bank report "What a Waste 2.0"

