

Organic Waste for Urban Gardening

Waste Flow
Organic waste (green waste)

Impact on PESTEL categories
Economic, Social, Environmental

Location of the good practice
District of Altona, Hamburg

Stakeholders involved
District of Hamburg-Altona, Stadtreinigung Hamburg, initiatives for urban gardening in the area, environmental initiatives and associations

Keywords
Biodegradable, Sustainable, Waste reduction

Description
Many households in densely built-up urban areas cannot be connected to bio waste collection due to the limited space available for the separate bin system. Therefore, the solution introduces local composting sites, where households can dispose uncooked kitchen and garden waste. The composting sites are managed by and situated at local gardening initiatives. If many households participate in the collection and composting, these initiatives will be able to expand to other areas, like underused parts of public green, or to convert sealed surfaces e.g. parking lots to establish further gardening projects.

Objective
The solution aims at offering an alternative composting possibility to households who otherwise would have to dispose their bio waste with the residual waste. Consequently, the amount of bio waste that is separately collected and composted rises. This increases the amount of locally produced compost which will be used for urban gardening projects and for greening the neighborhood - therefore contributing to the quarter’s climate adaptation action plan. The long-term aim is to create a localized cycle from food grown in the area to bio waste used as compost for urban gardening to increase resilience in densely built-up areas.

For further information
[Link to D5.7 Eco-innovative solutions Hamburg](#)



Figure 4.16 Certain materials can be problematic for new composters and sites that lack active management. Meat, dairy, oil, grease, and pet wastes should be avoided in these cases. Diseased or poisonous plants and aggressive weeds are good to avoid, particularly where compost will be used in vegetable gardens. Treated wood and glossy papers may contribute unwanted chemicals. Produce stickers and other pieces of plastic or metal will need to be removed eventually.” Source: Institute for Local Self-Reliance (Brolis & Platt, 2019: p.29).



Figure 4.22 Map based on the Enabling Context Concept to identify the possible locations for the implementation of the Community Composting Program for Urban Gardens (HCU Team, 2019).