



F. I. R.

**Fédération Internationale du Recyclage International
International Recycling Federation
Internationale Vereinigung Baustoff-Recycling**

FIR – representing the European recycling industry of C&DW

Recycling in Europe

In many Member States recycling of C&DW has well developed. In these countries proper waste management is in place, favouring recycling. The products of recycling, such as recycled aggregates, are well recognized by authorities and clients for their good quality. The average recycling rate in FIR countries exceeds recycling rates elsewhere.

	Recycling rate
FIR countries	60%
EU 27	<25%

High levels of recycling are feasible in all EU Member States. Several conditions must however be met, for instance the landfilling of C&DW must be prohibited. The revised Waste Framework Directive which is currently being developed by the EU institutes will contain recycling targets for C&DW. The target will be 70% recycling in 2020.



Recycling, a sustainable solution

Recycling of C&DW has shown to be an economically beneficial activity. It also contributes to the prevention of our environment. Each ton of recycled aggregates replaces 1 ton of primary materials. Additionally, recycling of C&DW contributes to the reduction of CO2 emissions. Initial calculations by the German institute Prognos show that around 15Mton CO2 can be prevented when the EU targets will be met.

Goals of FIR

The main goal of FIR is to represent the C&DW recycling industry on all levels required. FIR aims at increasing the level of recycling of C&DW throughout Europe. It aims at improving the quality of recycling and of recycled products. An important aim of FIR is furthermore to support the exchange of knowledge and expertise between members and to other parties interested in C&DW recycling.

The goals of FIR are achieved by effective lobbying in Europe, by organizing events and by an appropriate internal organization, consisting for instance of a Technical Committee. FIR organizes an international recycling conference every two year, at which companies, authorities and scientists exchange experiences and knowledge.

FIR in Europe

Many developments are taking place which may positively or negatively influence the recycling industry. FIR is actively involved to follow up and influence these developments. The new Waste Framework Directive is a main issue of our attention. End-of-waste criteria and REACH have our full interest. New policies on sustainable use of resources are of great importance to the recycling industry. "Old" issues such as the Landfill Directive however also still are an important issue to many members. The revision of the Construction product Directive and standardisation in CEN are other areas where FIR is actively involved.

Becoming a member of FIR means getting access to knowledge, expertise and information. It also means that your interest is represented on all levels where policy and legislation for tomorrow is prepared. Simply write or mail to the FIR secretariat.

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Why and how to become member

Members of FIR are both national associations and individual companies. FIR helps associations securing their influence in the development in new policies and legislation. National problems arising due to European legislation are dealt with by FIR. Where recycling is still to be developed, FIR can give support by supplying knowledge and expertise on political, legislative and technical level. Individual companies may benefit from this as well. Besides, their network in FIR offers many ways to acquire specific and detailed information on all kinds of issues they deal with.

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