

ESSENTIAL STATUS FOR RECYCLERS

| COUNTRY | SECTOR | STATUS AS ESSENTIAL | STATUS RESTRICTED TO CERTAIN STREAMS (HOUSEHOLD / COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL WASTE) OR MATERIALS | CONSEQUENCES OF CLASSIFICATION | ADDITIONAL INPUT |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| Austria | All sectors classified as waste* | Yes <i>(for waste companies)</i> | No restrictions. Municipal waste disposal sites and waste collection points are currently closed for individuals, which means that electronic waste or electrical equipment cannot be collected at the moment. | No consequences, state aids are possible. | <i>*All our products are legally waste</i> |
| General Information: https://bit.ly/39ESW3S | | | | | |
| Belgium | General Information: https://go4circle.be/fr/covid-19-mesures-pour-notre-secteur | | | | |
| Bulgaria | Textiles | No list with essential activities | There is just an order in which it is written which units have to stop their activities (restaurants, shopping centers, etc.). all other units may work if they can fulfill strict epidemic measures. | | |
| Czech Republic | Collecting & sorting of second hand clothes | No | | | |
| Denmark | Metals | No | | State support for staff that has been sent home. | |
| Finland | Waste Management Sector | Yes | | The waste sector is working but of course volumes specially from industrial sector are at lower level. Municipal waste centers have some restrictions how many customers can be at the same time on the yard | |
| France | All sectors classified as waste | Yes, we are awaiting the drafting of a decree which should define the essential | Some activities are prohibited as Non-food stores, Restaurants; Dance halls and games rooms; libraries, museums, schools. | Around 70% of recycling companies stay opened. 74% of companies use Partial | |

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| | | activities able to apply derogatory measures to social law, in particular on the hours of work. | Outside of these activities, there is no restriction and necessity to continue the economic activity as much as possible. | <p>Unemployment: 50% of companies feel they have lost more than 60% of their business.</p> <p>Health side: concern about the protection of employees' health (respect for barrier gestures and lack of stock of regulatory masks outside the epidemic)</p> <p>Economic side: no consequence, economics aids are in theory possible</p> | |
| General Information: https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/elisabeth-borne-et-brune-poirson-ont-echange-acteurs-filiere-dechets-evoquer-continuite-leurs , https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/lettre-ouverte-delisabeth-borne-aux-agents-et-salaries-lenergie-des-transport-leau-et-des-dechets-0 | | | | | |
| Germany | All sectors | <p>It varies by different federal states; The Federal Government considers entire waste management as essential: https://www.euwid-recycling.de/news/politik/einzelansicht/Artikel/bundesregierung-gesamte-abfallbehandlung-systemrelevant.html</p> <p>In nearly all federal states waste management has the status of essential infrastructure (e.g. BY, BW, NRW, SH, HE, TH).</p> <p>It is mostly required that the respective activity is necessary for the maintenance of the infrastructure / in other federal states the status is unclear.</p> <p>Household waste is nation-wide classified essential. For commercial and industrial waste, it depends on federal state decisions/regulations.</p> | | <p>Special childcare offered while schools etc. are closed ("Notfallbetreuung").</p> <p>National state aids are available for all companies, not only for essential sectors.</p> | |

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| | Recycling, <i>in case of certificated waste management company</i> | Yes | Status of the moment, aggravation reserved. | Permission to remain open / produce. | |
| | Car workshops <i>(without retail stores)</i> | Yes | Special safety and health protection measures if customer relation is necessary (breathing mask, disinfection). | Permission to remain open. | |
| | Metals | Partly <i>Status is not essential in all federal states (Länder). There is not a common national decision yet.</i> | | | |
| General Information: https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/coronavirus https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/dokument/abfallverbringung-ergebnisse-abfrage-bundeslaender | | | | | |
| Hungary | Waste management sector | Partly <i>However, our Government officially does not use the term "essential" or any other similar one to sectors.</i> | There is no differentiation between certain streams so far. | <p>With effect from 17th of March, the Government ruled that all commercial facilities (shops) must be closed from 3 PM. According to our interpretation, waste management and especially scrap metal recycling facilities do not fall under the scope of the requirement.</p> <p>From 28th of March, citizens are not allowed to leave their homes, with some exemptions stipulated in the applicable governmental decree. Using services related to waste management is among the exemptions.</p> | |
| Italy | Metals & waste paper | Yes | | <p>As of 30 March 2020, the Italian Ministry of Environment has delegated all Regions to increase the quantity of storage. The waste recovery and storage facilities are currently waiting for the local decrees to be adopted to ask for a bigger quantity of storage, increasing their authorized capacity in the maximum limit of half.</p> | |

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| | | | | <p>The measures of the Ministry and the Regions were issued, because in Italy the waste treatment plants are authorized by the Regions. The increase in authorized storage capacity also applies to waste paper.</p> <p>It must be noted that recovered paper in Italy is a secondary raw material and so outside the waste legislation.</p> | |
| | Waste and of materials derived from waste recovery | Yes | | <p>The Italian Ministry of Environment has addressed the Regions, with a series of indications to overcome the problems in waste management determined by the COVID-19 emergency. The indications aim at ensuring the proper management of waste and, at the same time, ensure safety for workers in the specific sector, as well as the protection of public health and the environment.</p> <p>As outlined by the Ministry, Italian context is characterized by plant scarcity, different methods of collection of waste from households (despite the indications provided by ISS and SNPA) and difficulties in cross-border movements of waste.</p> <p>In order to prevent the shutdown of the waste management service, the Ministry has provided a series of indications to the competent bodies that are willing to use, for the duration of the emergency, the instrument of the contingibile and urgent ordinance ex art. 191 of Legislative Decree no. 152/2006. In particular, under certain</p> | |

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| | | | | <p>conditions, it should be allowed an increase in annual storage capacity, as well as instant storage capacity, up to 50% of the authorised capacity.</p> <p>In addition the Ministry, to ensure the closing of urban waste management cycle in this emergency context, suggests to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •authorize incineration plants to reach the maximum thermal capacity assessed in the authorisation, giving priority to undifferentiated urban waste •modify the authorisations by allowing the landfilling of waste generated from the treatment of municipal waste, differentiated and undifferentiated, with no alternative destinations. | |
| | General Information: https://www.minambiente.it/notizie/coronavirus-ecco-la-nuova-circolare-ministeriale-con-le-indicazioni-sulle-criticita-nella | | | | |
| | Tyres | No | | | |
| Netherlands | General Information: https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/coronavirus-covid-19/veelgestelde-vragen-per-onderwerp/kinderopvang/cruciale-beroepen | | | | |
| Norway | Parts of the value chain for hazardous waste, household waste and commercial waste | Yes | <p><u>Hazardous waste</u>: Applies for waste where there is not sufficient storage capacity, storage is related to health or environmental risks or stop may entail that other activities critical to society stops.</p> <p><u>Household/commercial waste</u>: Applies for waste where collection, transport, storage and treatment is critical to avoid</p> | <p>Qualify for receiving public services of schools/ kindergarten for children of critical employees (ordinary schools and kindergartens in Norway are now closed).</p> <p>Quality for dispensations to current quarantine regulations for critical personnel.</p> | |

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| | Tyres | No | challenges with odor, pests (rats, etc.), infections or fire, if not handled properly. | | |
| Republic of Serbia | Metals / Plastic | No | Recycling sector is not mentioned at all, and we can say it's not essential at all as we asked special permissions to be issued for some of our workers to stay longer on work to fulfill the business obligations but we were refused. | At the moment there are permissions that the police are issuing on a company demand for workers that need to stay at work after the police hour starts at 5PM every day. For now, we are working normally but we cannot stay after 5PM on the street. Something was mentioned that maybe we will have a total restriction of going out valid for 24h. | |
| Slovakia | Metals | Yes <i>Since 30 March 2020.</i> | Until 29 March 2020, the operations of collection of metal scrap had to be closed due to governmental restriction. | The losses of turn-over and profit can lead to firing of employees and closure (bankruptcy) of operations. | |
| Spain | Household (Domestic) Waste in General (including Textile) | Yes | No restrictions for collection of textile waste yet. Some local administrations have agreed with certain collectors to stop. | Sorting centers closed. In our case due to failure of internal customers (our closed 2nd hand shops). From today, increased alert stage in Spain. Our sorting work would be non-essential. | |
| | Collection, management and treatment of hazardous waste, as | Yes | | Companies in the paper and cardboard waste recovery and recycling sector will be able to continue with waste collection, | |

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| | well as hazardous and non-hazardous solid waste from urban areas, paper industry and the industry of manufacturing of packaging related to food and beverages | | | management and treatment services, as well as supplying raw materials to the paper industry. On the other hand, the government has presented financial aid to companies such as temporary records of employment regulation, suspension of contracts and reduction of workday. | |
| | General Information: https://www.boe.es/biblioteca_juridica/codigos/codigo.php?id=355 | | | | |
| United Kingdom | Tyres | Yes | All tyres, commercial and private. | Permission to remain open. | |
| | General Information: https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus , https://mailchi.mp/recyclemetals.org/covid-19-24-march-update?e=73d8405807 | | | | |