## Decentralised Composting in Small Towns

### The Community Composting experience







Speaker: Joan Colón

Entity: UVIC

Date: 23/25-10-2023

Location: Italy



### The DECOST project



## The DECOST project

Acronym: DECOST

Full title: Decentralised Composting in Small Towns

**Thematic objective:** B.4 Environmental protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation

**Priority:** B.4.2 Waste management

**Countries:** Spain, Italy, Palestine, Jordan, Israel, Greece



#### What will be improved?

Besides diverting a significant amount of organic waste from being disposed of in landfills, the DECOST project will foster food security and accessibility thanks to the support of urban agriculture initiatives. Citizens, especially children, and households, will be encouraged to adopt sustainable behaviours through IT tools and big data analysis.

#### Who will benefit?

- Managers and technical staff of 5 municipalities (Al-Sarow, Jordan; Shefa-Amr, Israel; Tulkarem, Palestine; Venosa, Italy; Vic, Spain)
- People living in the target areas/neighbourhoods of the pilot municipalities, civil associations and NGOs, waste management agencies

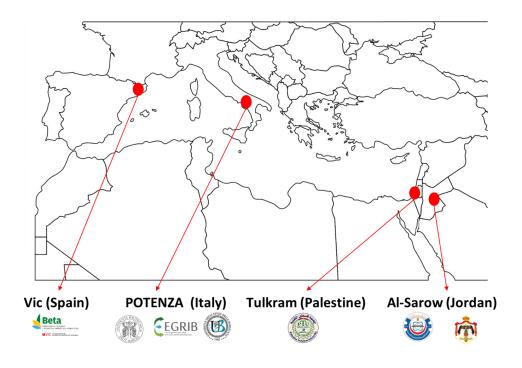
#### **Expected achievements**

- 4 new Integrated Municipal Waste Management Plans designed
- 4 composting plants created
- 1,500 2,000 tons/year of total waste recycling capacity installed
- 1 smartphone application allowing citizens to monitor their environmental performance in terms of waste sorting and recycling
- 40 municipal staff trained
- 1 business plan to foster the longterm economic viability of the recycling system developed

## The DECOST project

The DECOST project aims to develop a new waste management framework by building a closed system for recovering organic waste by integrating decentralized home and community composting systems with urban agriculture projects.





### SPANISH PILOT – Pilot allocation



- Street Containers
- All waste fractions collected by a Waste Management Agency and recycled or disposed
- Fix rates for waste disposal



HUGE PROBLEM WITH WASTE TOURISM

Information provided by all partners with composting pilot:

- Situation in the Med Area regarding
   H&CC and UA models
- Home and community composting initiatives in each country
- H&CC model that Will/would be implemented through the DECOST project
- Existing situation with urban agricultura
- Options to close the loop of the organic matter through UA projects



Figure 3. Home composting initiatives in Spain. A) Plastic traditional composter<sup>14</sup> and B) Home-made rotary composter<sup>15</sup>



Figure 4. Comunity composting in Spain. A) Terrain preparation and B) Composting site with three composters and a <u>prunning</u> container<sup>16</sup>



Figure 5. Example of community composters: a) rotating chamber system; b) and c) two chamber systems

#### **GALSOC**

Al Omariah School من التاريخ المستدامة في برنامة #ك يفي قام طلاب صف الخامس

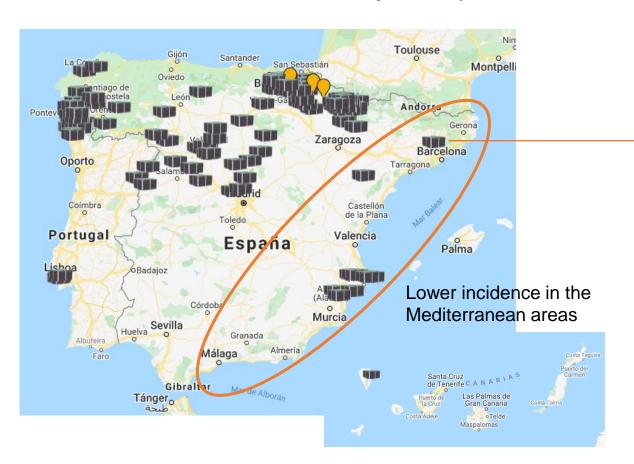




Figure 6. Arab Schools promoting community composting initiatives.

## THE CASE OF SPAIN – H&CC Model

Some of the COMMUNITY COMPOSTING Projects in Spain







This type of composters installed throughout Les Masies de Roda, Barcelona (Spain)

**URBAN LANDS** 

**THE CASE OF SPAIN – Urban Agriculture** 

Model



WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR OWN COMPOST?



For citizens

**NGOs** 

**Schools** 

### THE CASE OF ITALY

#### HOME AND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING MODEL

## DECENTRALISED SOLUTION

Municipality of Potenza –











Electromechanical system



HOME COMPOSTING

## CENTRALISED SOLUTION

Municipality of Atella - Cafaro













Electromechanical or static system (specific technology to be defined) with collection service of organic waste

### THE CASE OF ITALY

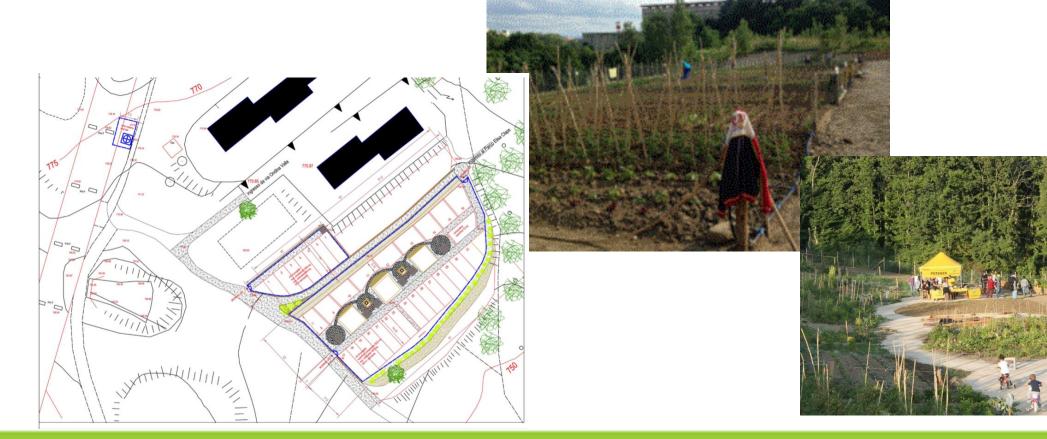
### **URBAN AGRICULTURE MODEL**

**LEGAMBIENTE** 

<u>Urban garden</u> in the municipality of Potenza.

- Specific projects with students

- Social inclusion



## Pilot implementation

### **Steps to implement the pilot:**

- 1. Signature of agreements
- 2. Information about the pilot site
- 3. Starting the implementation
- 4. Citizens using the new waste Management systems









### SPANISH PILOT – Distribution and ground preparation



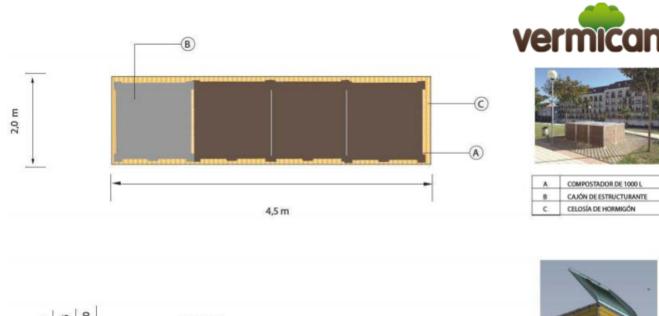




CONTAINERS WILL BE REMOVED AND THE NEW MODEL WILL BE:

DOOR-TO-DOOR +
COMMUNITY
COMPOSTING

### SPANISH PILOT – Distribution and ground preparation



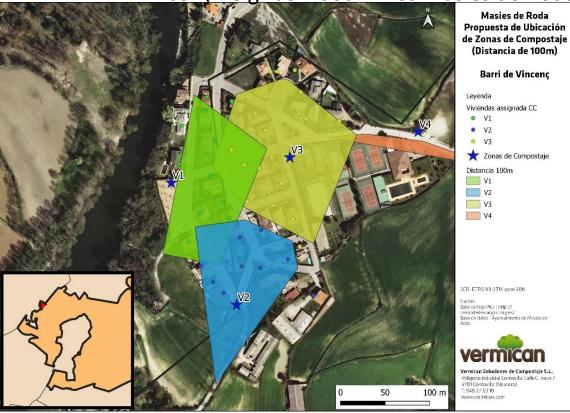
INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION and ALLOCATION MAPS to ensure minimal distances to get to the composters



## GROUND WAS PREPARED BEFORE INSTALLING THE COMPOSTERS

14 sites with 62 composters in total were implemented

Vicenç neighborhood in Les Masies de Roda



## SPANISH PILOT – Composters installation







# INSULATION OF THE BASE IN SOME CASES TO AVOID SPREADING OF LEACHATE OUTSIDE THE COMPOSTER







### SPANISH PILOT – Composters installation

**LAST COMPOSTER** 

**TROLLEY** 

### **BIG BAGS FOR THE** SHREDDED PRUNING







Composters for maturation



## SPANISH PILOT – Post-processing area



### AT INDUSTRIAL SCALE...

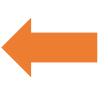


FINAL COMPOST

## SPANISH PILOT – Post-processing area

















# SPANISH PILOT – Mailing of brochures, informative campaigns and material delivery



#### **BROCHURES MAILING:**

Letter from the municipality and informative brochure about the new MSWM system.





## INFORMATIVE SESSION WITH CITIZENS:

Awareness of citizens to set the importancy of sorting properly materials for their recycling and valorization.





# SPANISH PILOT – Mailing of brochures, informative campaigns and material delivery



## DELIVERY OF MATERIAL FOR CITIZENS:

Compostable bags, organic matter bins, personal cards, informative brochures, etc.





## **AWARENESS ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES CITIZENS:**

Composters exhibition, recycling activities, garden pocket kits preparation, etc.



### Outreach activities and awareness material



#### Què és el compostatge?

Gairebé un 40% de les teves deixalles són restes orgàniques, és a dir, restes de menjar i jardineria. Mitjançant el compostatge aquests residus es transformen en compost, un adob natural que pots utilitzar a l'hort o al jardí.

#### Materials compostables

Les restes compostables són les restes orgàniques que generes a la cuina, al jardí o a l'hort.

#### Instruccions d'ús

El compostatge comunitari és un procés molt senzill que no suposa cap esforç per les persones que hi participen. Només cal seguir els següents passos:

- 1. Separa la matèria orgànica a casa. Has de fer servir cubells airejats i bosses compostables per a fer-ho
- 2. Obre la tapa del compostador utilitzant la targeta magnètica i diposita-hi la matèria orgànica. amb cura de no aportar materials no compostables.
- 3. Nosaltres ens encarregarem de tapar els residus orgànics amb estructurant. Només cal que deixis el compostador sempre tancat!















#### **Noticeboards**

#### **Brochure**

#### **Stickers**





iornades de repartiment de material, no hi faltis! Si no hi podeu assistir, us informaran al 900 102 989

#### 17.09.2020

Per

- (i) Sessió informativa. Cal que us registreu a:
- (L) 19:30 o 20:30h
- La Feixa (en cas de pluja, a la Sala Polivalent)

#### 25.09.2020

- Repartiment de material
- (L) De 16 a 20h
- Sala Polivalent de l'Ajuntament

#### 26.09.2020

- Repartiment de material
- (L) De 10 a 14h
- Sala Polivalent de l'Ajuntament

pas de qualitat cap a nivells de recollida molt més

#### Què és?

El porta a porta (PaP) és un sistema de recollida de residus en què es passa casa per casa a recollir la fracció de deixalles que toqui, segons un calendari establert. Recollirem el multiproducte els dimarts i divendres, i el rebuig els dimecres. Ja no hi haurà contenidors al carrer, excepte els de vidre i els compostadors comunitaris

#### Per què ho fem?

Perquè és la manera d'assegurar una bona tria. Tots els sistemes de recollida PaP poden arribar al 75% de recollida selectiva. Com més bé fem la tria. menys quilos portem a l'abocador i menys pujarà

#### Quan ho farem?

El divendres 2 i dissabte 3 d'octubre es retiraran els contenidors del carrer (excepte els de vidre). La setmana de 5 començarà el nous sistema, pe tant la podreu comencar a treure la fracció que toqui cada dia davant la porta de casa la nit abans del dia de recollida que teniu indicat al calendari.

- En qualsevol moment podreu portar els residus orgánics als compostadors comunitaris

#### Per què compostatge comunitari?

El compostatge comunitari és el procés amb el que podem transformar in-situ els residus orgànics en compost, adob orgànic pel sòl. El transport de la matèria orgànica genera tones d'emissions de CO2 cada any que es poden evitar amb el compostatge comunitari. És per això que és un procés altament respectuós amb el medi ambient, que genera un compost ric en nutrients i es pot aplicar al sòl a prop

És molt important que la comunitat que participi en el procés de compostatge ho faci adequadament per a que el compost sigui de gran qualitat i amb el



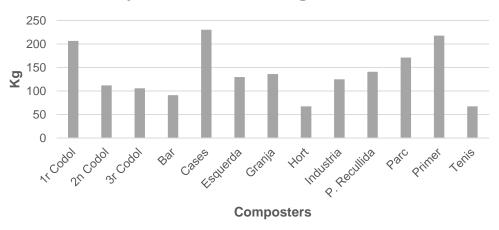
Aquest projecte de compostatge comunitari, anomenat DECOST està finançat pel programa ENI CBC MED.

## Pilot storytelling

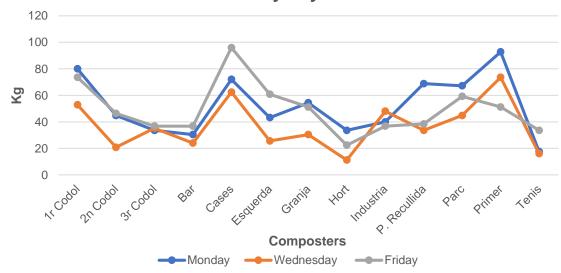


## Operational information-LMR

#### Monthly contribution of organic matter 2021



#### Contribution by day of the week





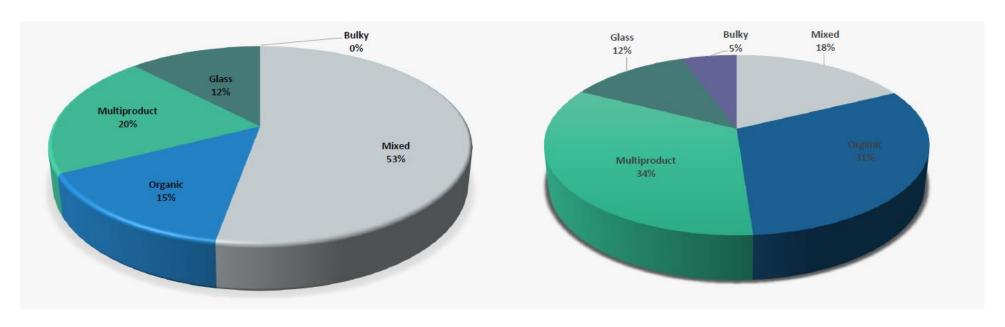
- Control of T and moisture
- Control of plagues (rats and flies)
- Control of undesirable materials



Incidents presented by the inadequate pruning arrangement

## Operational information-LMR





- ≈100 % of the organic matter collected and recycled in-situ
- Easy System of door to door collection implemented for the sorted materials
- Operational costs of the System economically competitive
- Incrementation of job offers
- Citizens are co-responsible of the waste management and have benefits from the compost produced

### Challenges in Les Masies de Roda

### **Challenge nº1**

Process optimization. Community composting is not fully adapted to be a technology that replaces centralized collection and composting. The DECOST project has taken a big step forward, but a greater technification of the process and professionalization of the sector is still required

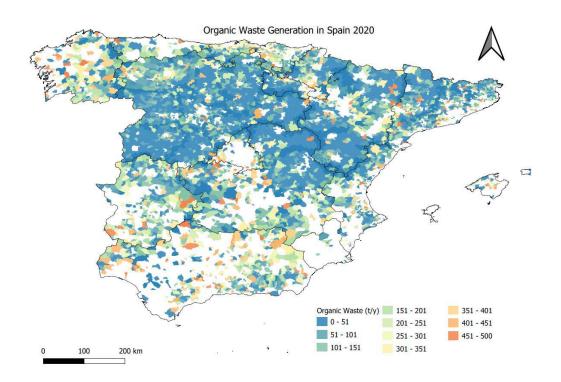
### **Challenge nº2**

has shown that the system is economically viable from an operational point of view. It remains to be defined what the financing model would be for the initial investment. System that can contribute to defining new systems of waste rates such as payment by generation, tax benefits, etc.

### **Opportunities**

Replicability. As shown above, in Catalonia and in general in many Mediterranean regions there is the possibility of making the transition to decentralized waste management models. System that can facilitate the adoption of the "door to door".

### Opportunities in Spain



According to the map categorized by organic waste generation, the Autonomous Communities that have a generation similar to that of LMR, that is, between 50 and 150 t/year are:

- Castella i Lleó 94,256 t/year
- Castella la Manxa 40,636 t/year
- Catalunya 32,575 t/year
- València 19,803 t/year
- Extremadura 23,746 t/year

Potential → over 210,000 t/year of OFMSW in Spain to be managed through community composting

## Decentralised Composting in Small Towns

### The Community Composting experience







Speaker: Joan Colón

Entity: UVIC

Date: 23/25-10-2023

Location: Italy

