

Reuse of waste means any operation by which products or components that are not **waste** are used again for the same purpose for which they were conceived.

The differentiation between the terms **reuse**, **recycling** and **recovery** is important for the understanding and application of the targets stated in **EU** waste legislation.

Definitions for **recycling** and **reuse** in waste specific Directives partially deviate from the corresponding definitions of the **Waste Framework Directive** :

1. The term **recycling** specified in waste specific Directives does in particular not include backfilling operations.
2. **Reuse** as defined in the **Packaging Directive 94/62/EC** and the **WEEE Directive 19/2012** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) comprises specifications the Waste Framework Directive does not include.

Further information

- [Eurostat's European Data Centre on Waste](#)
- Waste Framework Directive:
 - [Directive 2008/98/EC](#) of 19 November 2008 on waste, Article 3 (17)
- Waste specific Directives:
 - Batteries: [Directive 2006/66/EC](#)
 - End-of life vehicles: [Directive 2000/53/EC](#)
 - Packaging and packaging waste: [Directive 94/62/EC](#)
 - Waste electrical and electronic equipment: [Directive 19/2012](#)

Related concepts

- [Incineration](#)
- [Landfill](#)
- [Recovery of waste](#)
- [Recycling of waste](#)
- [Waste](#) (including disposal of waste)

Statistical data

- [Waste statistics](#)