

## Taking Action to Reduce Waste in Healthcare

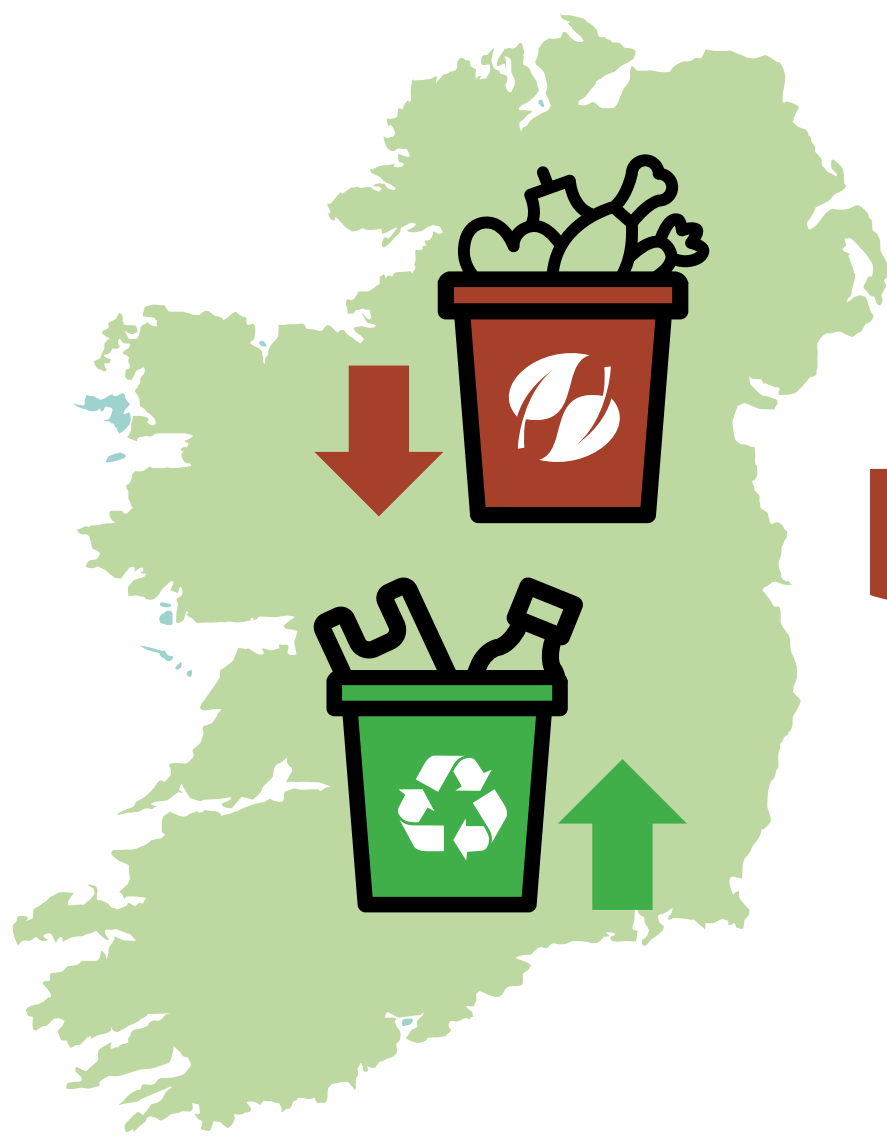


The HSE's Green Healthcare programme works with Green Teams to help minimise waste, maximise recycling, and ensure correct waste segregation:

<p><b>Site surveys</b> to review, advise staff and fund waste infrastructure</p>	<p>Monthly online training sessions on <b>waste reduction</b> and recycling</p>	<p>Monthly online training sessions on <b>food waste reduction</b></p>
<p>Onsite food waste reduction <b>workshops</b> with catering staff</p>	<p><b>Identification</b> of waste reduction opportunities</p>	<p>Production of <b>case studies</b></p>

### NATIONAL TARGETS

INCREASE reuse & recycling **55% by 2025**



**REDUCE Food Waste 50% by 2030**



At least 1/3 of risk waste is non-contaminated material that could go in general waste or recycling



Risk waste is 10 times more expensive to treat than general waste



Communication is key for reducing food waste



There are good opportunities for recycling large amounts of clean packaging in theatres & clinical areas



Staff are very open to initiatives like increasing recycling facilities and introducing reusables

### SUCCESS STORIES!



**The Mercy University Hospital - Cork**  
The Mercy University Hospital introduced reusable cups and **SAVED 312,000 DISPOSABLE CUPS** every year, with five year savings in disposable cup purchases forecasted as €88,000



**Sligo University Hospital**  
SUH installed a food waste composter which composts **1/3 OF THE FOOD WASTE** produced by the hospital. The compost is reused on-site, which reduces waste collection costs & carbon emissions



