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MSW MANAGEMENT IN MOUNTAINOUS AREAS: OUTCOMES FROM A COMPARISON BETWEEN TWO ITALIAN PROVINCES

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Abstract – In the present paper, two case studies are reported regarding the municipal solid waste (MSW) management trend in the last decades in two Italian areas in order to propose some guidelines for replicating the approaches. *The first case study* has a very good selective collection (SC) rate that is expected to reach 80 % in a few years. SC is made mainly kerbside. There is no thermo-chemical plant in the territory (but a part of the residual MSW is burnt in an external combustion plant). A local plant combines anaerobic digestion with post-composting as a main destination for food waste and green waste. A sanitary landfill receives the main stream of locally pre-treated residual MSW. The adopted tariff helped increasing the SC rate: since 2013, the punctual tariff has been adopted. *The second case study* concerns an area where SC reached about 75 % in 2019, before the pandemic period that affected the performances of the sector. The punctual tariff has been recently introduced. In the territory, there are an incineration plant and a Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) plant that sends the final product mainly to a cement factory. No plant for the biodegradable waste exists locally (export is adopted). Looking at the two case-studies, useful waste guidelines for similar areas could be set up starting from these experiences.

Keywords – *Circular economy; guidelines; mountainous area; municipal solid waste; waste management*