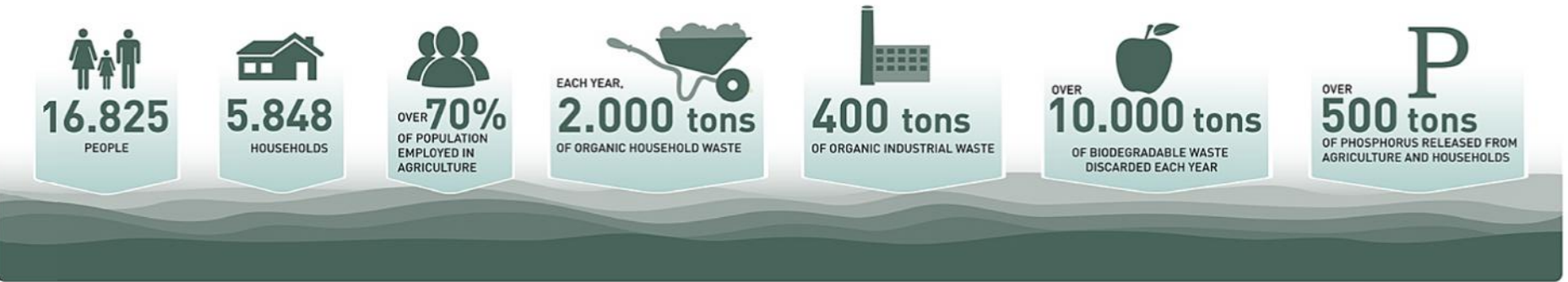


Compost Production in Prespa: Turning Waste into Profit

Organic waste is one of the main causes of the Prespa Lake degradation

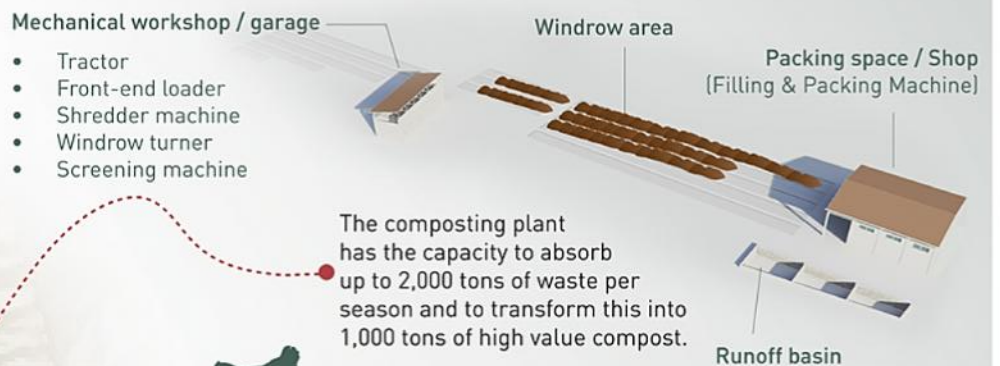
Organic waste from agriculture, industry and households has been one of the main sources of pressure on the vulnerable ecosystem of the Lake Prespa basin. For many decades, in the absence of adequate waste management system, large quantities of organic waste have been deposited along the shores of the lake and dumped into nearby riverbeds and other places in the basin.



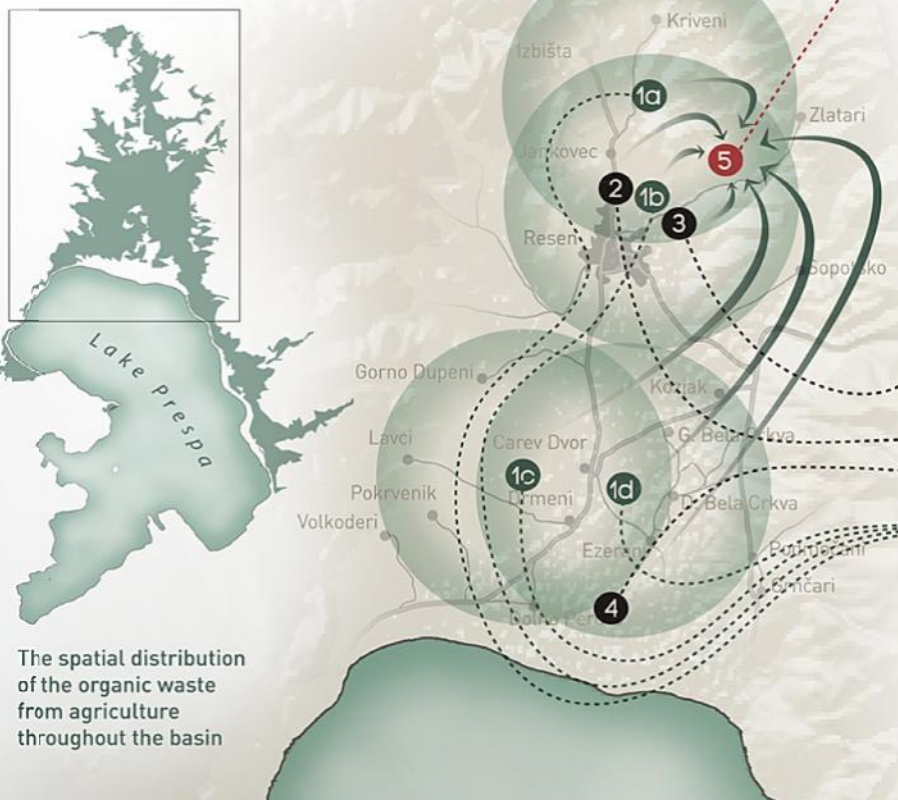
Prespa's first composting plant helps address this major challenge

A first in the country centralized biodegradable waste management system has been introduced to help transform the waste into a product of economic and environmental value – compost. The system comprises a central composting plant and four main collection points distributed in those areas with the highest generation of biodegradable waste.

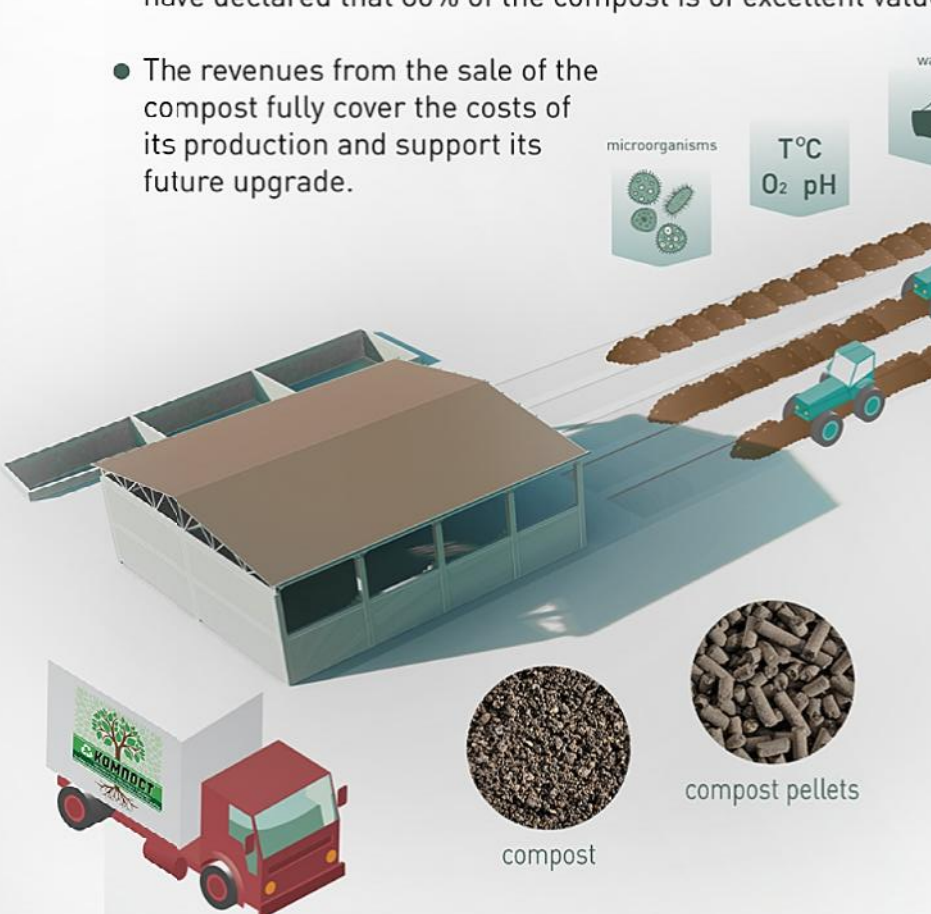
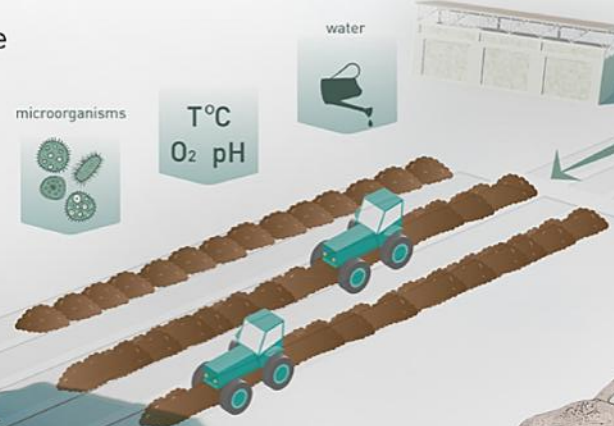
Basic elements of the composting plant



The composting plant has the capacity to absorb up to 2,000 tons of waste per season and to transform this into 1,000 tons of high value compost.



- The organic waste from different sources is decomposed and recycled as a fertilizer and soil conditioner in a controlled process.
- Experts undertaking rigorous chemical and microbiological analyses have declared that 80% of the compost is of excellent value.
- The revenues from the sale of the compost fully cover the costs of its production and support its future upgrade.



A WIN-WIN SITUATION

What's in it for the people?

- Healthy communities and better access to clean water.
- Compost production creates jobs.
- Compost is less expensive than artificial fertilizers, enabling women and men farmers to make additional savings.
- Compost production helps raise environmental awareness.