



Supporting Albanian Negotiations in Environment, Chapter 27 (SANE27)

Mbështetja e Negociatave Shqiptare në Mjedis, Kapitulli 27 (MNSHM27)

Stöd till Albanien i förhandlingar av miljökapitel 27

Tirana, 14.10. 2020

The role of municipalities in solid waste management

Benefits of municipal collaboration in establishing waste management system in North Macedonia

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Progress report on North Macedonia (October, 2020)

With reference to the waste management it has been noted that:

The laws on waste management and special waste streams have not been adopted yet.

The process of establishing an integrated regional system for waste management continues to face delays due to insufficient administrative and financial resources, and it suffers from lack of ownership.

Economic incentives to promote recycling and the prevention of waste generation remain limited.

A systematic approach for remediation of environmental hot spots is not in place. This increases the risks to human health and the environment

EXISTING NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK AND POLICIES

Law on Waste Management (amended several times since 2004),

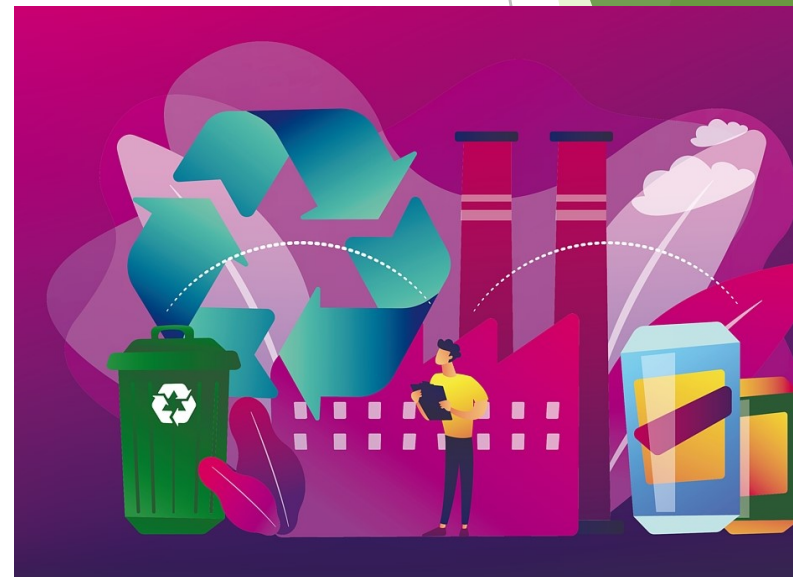
Law on Management of Batteries and Accumulators and Waste Batteries and Accumulators,

Law on Management of Packaging and Packaging Waste,

Law on Management of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment.

Waste Management Strategy 2008 - 2020

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: Sustainable waste management in the planning regions to achieve an integrated and financially sustainable waste management system.



EW NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK

The **Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning**, as a responsible institution in the field of environment, has prepared a **NEW PACKAGE OF LAWS in the field of waste management**:

The previously mentioned 4 laws and in addition:

- ▶ **The Law on Extended Prodcucer Responsibility for Management of Special Waste Streams and**
- ▶ **The Law on Management of Additional Waste Streams in the System of Extended Producer Responsibility.**

New National Waste Management Plan of the Republic of North Macedonia 2020-2026

Objective: Establishment of a waste management system at the level of 8 planning regions through:

Improved regional planning,

Delivery of services through the establishment of **Regional Centers** and inter-municipal operators (joint public enterprises),

Development of the **capacities of the professional staff** in the planning regions,

Creating various **opportunities for recycling, processing and reducing the amount of waste.**



GENERAL CHALLENGES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES

Backlog problems with historical waste resulting from inadequate management in the past,

Insufficient cooperation and agreement between the municipalities for establishing a regional landfill,

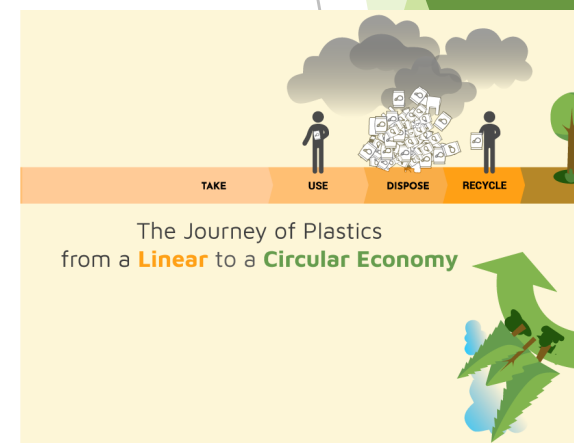
Low awareness of users of these services,

Lack of necessary infrastructure,

Low level of selection and recycling - only supported by Extender producer responsibility organisation,

Financial and technical-technological difficulties of PCEs as service providers,

Non-standard landfills where most of the waste is disposed of.



Municipal landfills

In the Republic of North Macedonia, for a long time only the Skopje landfill "Drisla" meets the minimum criteria of EU standards prescribed in the Landfill Directive,

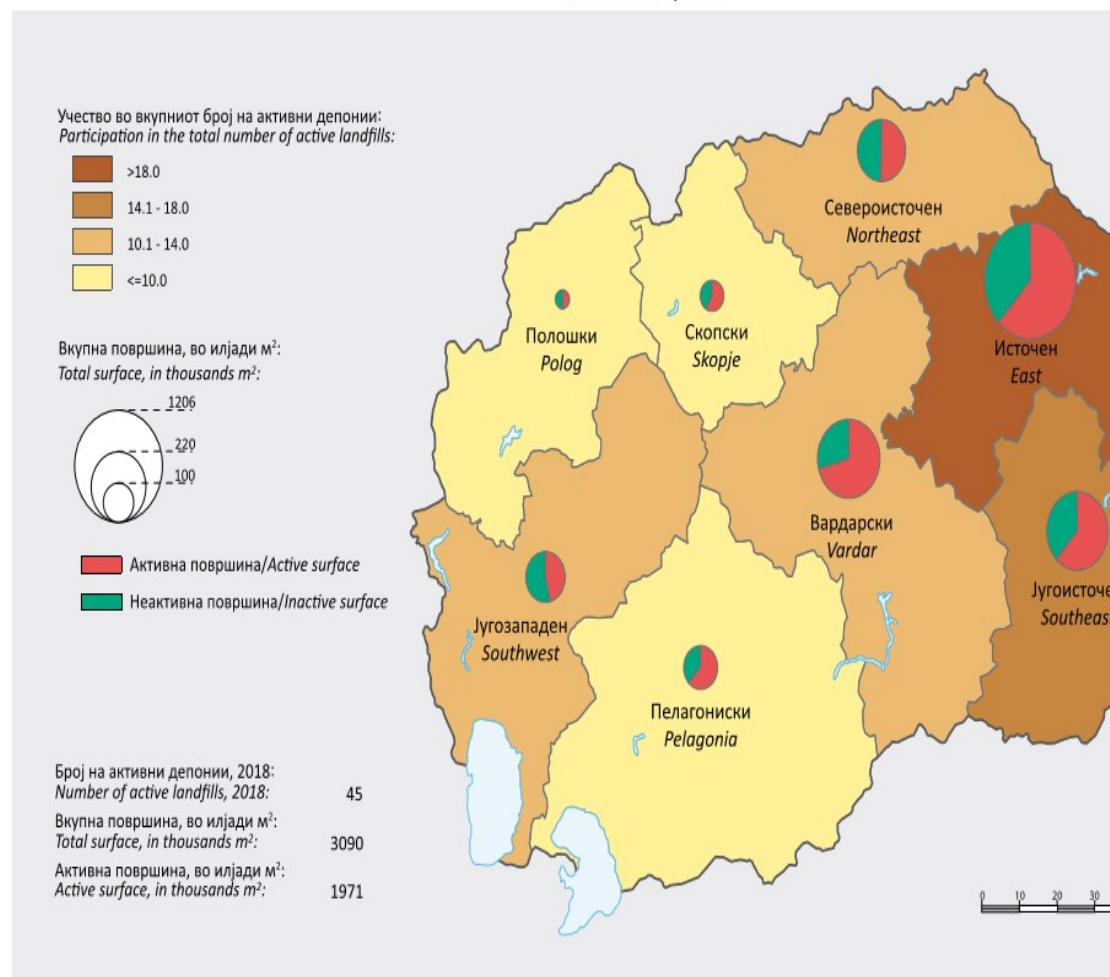
The other 45 landfills do not meet EU standards,

Compaction and soil cover is performed only on a number of larger landfills,

At the end of 2018, a new landfill was put into operation in Gevgelija municipality, built according to EU standards, the first of its kind in the country.

Активни депонии, 2018

Active landfills, 2018

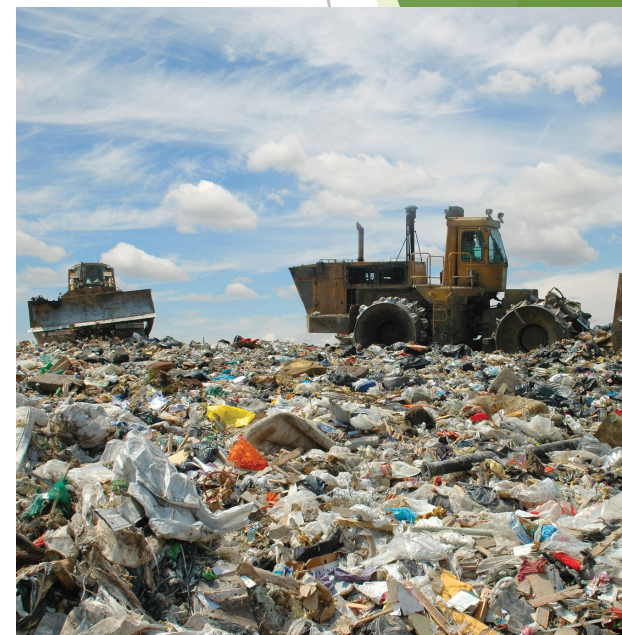


Generated waste and collected quantity in North Macedonia

According to the data from the State Statistical Office, in 2019, **632,484 tons** of municipal waste were collected and the amount of generated municipal waste was **915,943 tons**,

It is particularly important to emphasize that **there are around 1,000 municipal "illegal" dumsites**, especially in rural areas, where almost one third of the totally generated waste is disposed of,

At the national level, the average annual amount of municipal waste generated per capita in 2019 is **441 kg** or **1.21 kg** per day.



WASTE RECYCLING

Only in a few municipalities, through pilot projects, secondary waste selection is performed by placing waste containers of: paper, polyester packaging and glass.

2015 recycling rates: glass 10.01 %, plastic 44.36 %, paper and cardboard 59.89%, metal packaging 1.47, wood (data from EEA country fact sheet for waste);

Primary selection in households is represented in an insignificant percentage due to low awareness,

The infrastructure and a complete process of proper handling of the selected waste fractions is mostly done by the EPR organization, and it is not uncommon for them to be disposed of again in landfills.



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Toni predlagam da go izbrises ovoj slajd, zatoa sto ke imame sesija za ova prasanje

Jadranka Ivanova, 10/5/2020

ATIONAL PRIORITIES

Implementation of EU waste management directives,

Expansion and improvement of the waste collection and transport systems,

Establishment of regional integrated waste management system with regional landfills in accordance with EU standards,

Closing the existing municipal landfills/dumpsites following technical standards and documents,

Establishment of waste recycling and treatment facilities - mostly connected to the disposal facility - landfill.



WASTE MANAGEMENT AT THE LEVEL OF STATISTICAL PLANNING REGION BY THE MUNICIPALITIES IN NORTH MACEDONIA

by laws:

MoEPP Law Package (4 + 2 Laws)

Law on Local Self-Government

Law on Balanced Regional Development

Law on Inter-Municipal Cooperation

Law on Public Enterprises

REGIONAL
WASTE
MANAGEMENT
PLAN



FEASIBILITY
STUDY



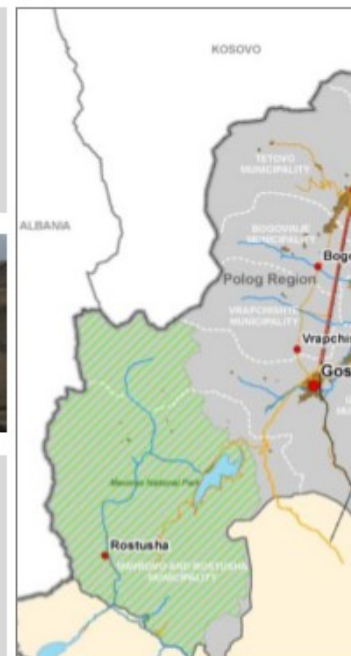
SWM in
Polog Region,
North
Macedonia



IMPLEMENTATION



WASTE
TREATMENT/
DISPOSAL
FACILITIES



Law on Local Self-Government

Collection, transport and disposal of waste is the **JURISDICTION of the municipalities,**

Waste disposal usually takes place locally, by depositing on non-standard MUNICIPAL LANDFILLS, located on the territory of the municipalities (**with the exception of the Drisla landfill located in the city of Skopje**).

Municipalities manage municipal waste mainly through their own established **public communal enterprises (PCEs)** and in several cases through concessions granted to economic operators from the private sector.

Law on Balanced Regional Development

The territory of the country is divided into 8 statistical-planning regions,

Regions do not have the character of administrative units of subnational government,

The institutional framework of each region actually consists of the municipalities,

The council of each planning region consists of mayors of the municipalities in the region,

Implementation of measures and activities aimed at more balanced regional development is a primary obligation of the Ministry of Local Self-Government and the Bureau for Regional Development within this Ministry,

In each region small organizational units - Centers for development of the planning regions are formed, through which support from the state budget is channeled.



Law on Inter-Municipal Cooperation

North Macedonia has a single-level local self-government (80 municipalities and the city of Skopje)

Decentralization was carried out through a symmetrical transfer of competencies (equal competencies for all municipalities regardless of their character or size),

In order to ensure economies of scale and overcome capacity disparities, the Law on Inter-Municipal Cooperation was adopted.



Law on Inter-Municipal Cooperation - regulated forms of cooperation

Joint working body and commission,

Joint administrative body,

Joint public services:

- ▶ Joint Public Enterprise,
- ▶ Joint public institution.

Inter-municipal cooperation can also be achieved by concluding agreements for:

Pooling of financial, material and other funds and

Performing certain activities by one municipality for one or more other municipalities.

Law on Inter-Municipal Cooperation

The Joint Public Enterprise is established by a DECISION adopted by the municipal councils

This Decision determines:

- ▶ The headquarters of the joint PCE company (the municipality that has the largest, ie the largest number of users of public services, unless the founders agree otherwise),
- ▶ The amount of the funds for establishment and the manner of their provision,
- ▶ The organization of the joint public enterprise - its management and supervisory bodies and the manner of making and implementing decisions.

For the joint public enterprise, the mayors of the municipalities conclude and sign an agreement regulating their mutual rights and obligations.

REGIONAL APPROACH (Law on Waste management)

An INTER-MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD is formed which is the competent body for preparation of the Regional Waste Management Plan which is then adopted by the MUNICIPAL COUNCILS,

A REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT CENTER is established with representatives from all municipalities for each region in order to perform administrative work related to waste management however not all have dedicated staff fully working for the centers,

The Regional Center initiates and facilitates the conduct of a procedure for establishing a REGIONAL INTER-MUNICIPAL ENTERPRISE with DECISIONS MADE BY THE COUNCILS OF THE MUNICIPALITY in accordance with the Law on Inter-municipal cooperation

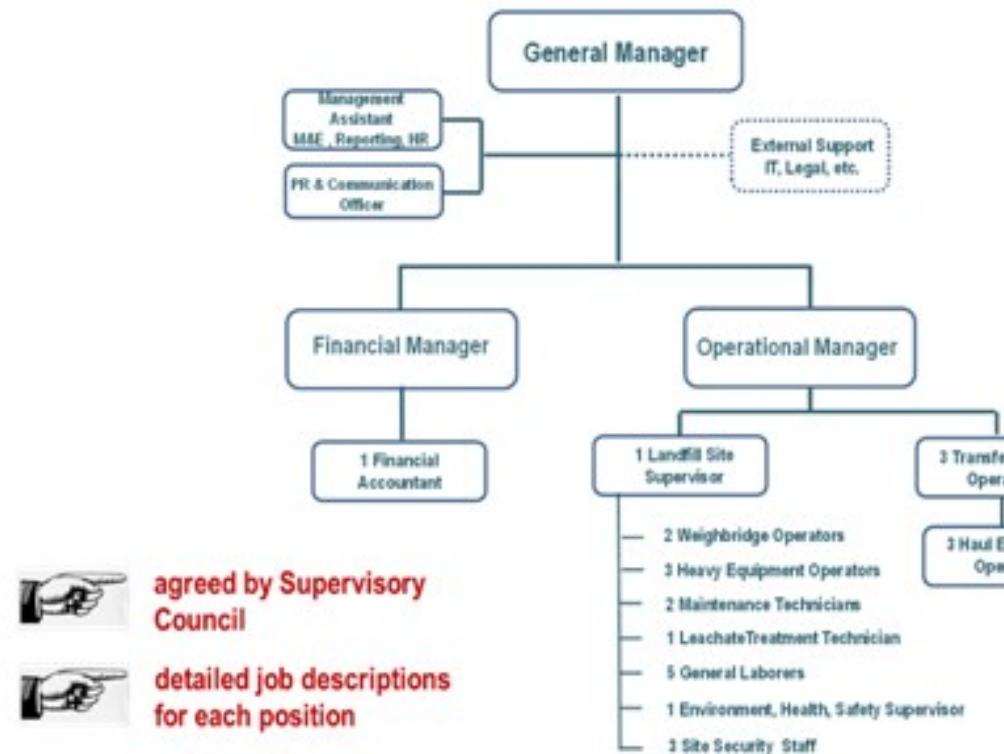
REGIONAL APPROACH (Law on Waste management)

The regional enterprise is responsible for operational waste management on the territory of the region,

It is stipulated to establish a system consisting of regional landfill and several transfer stations,

Municipalities are responsible for collecting waste and transporting it to transfer stations or landfills.

Staff Structure



REGIONAL APPROACH (Law on Waste Management) - Pricing of services

- ▶ A common price for waste disposal at the regional landfill is to be set for the whole region (all municipalities within the region),
- ▶ Regarding the pricing of the waste disposal service at the joint regional landfill, a debate is underway whether it should be subject to economic regulation by an independent regulatory body or the methodology should be prescribed by the Minister of Environment,
- ▶ Determining the price of services related to waste management shouldn't exceed the threshold of affordability to the population (calculated according to the average household income of the region),
- ▶ Establishment of communal infrastructure (road network, electrification, etc.), procurement of equipment, mechanization for collection and transport, other movable and immovable goods and all related investment activities are primarily coordinated by the WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE PLANNING REGION and the COUNCIL OF THE PLANNING REGION (which makes decisions related to project applications) as well as the COUNCIL OF MUNICIPALITIES (which decides on the budget of the municipalities)

ULTS 2018 - 2020

Feasibility studies for waste management have been prepared for: East, Northeast, Polog, Pelagonija, Skopje, Southwest and Vardar planning regions,

Inter-municipal bodies - waste management boards are established in all planning regions,

Seven regional waste management plans have been prepared and the last plan is in the final stage of preparation,

the organizational set-up and the financing system of the regional landfill in Rusino (Polog region) have been defined and in the final phase is the establishment of the FIRST inter-municipal - joint PCE,

Regional Waste Management Centers have been operational in only two regions with IPA support (East and Northeast regions)

KEY CHALLENGES

URGENT UNDERTAKING OF DECISIONS ON LOCATIONS for regional sanitary landfills (with the exception of one region - Polog, supported by a project funded by the Government of Switzerland),

Four planning regions decided to return the competence for establishing regional waste management systems to the Government, for the other three regions the activities are implemented at the regional level with the help of an IPA projects,

The main obstacle to proper waste management is the lack of capacity, including municipal capacity, as well as the very limited budget at both levels of government,

The assumption is that transition period from non-standard landfills to sanitary landfills in the regions will unfortunately last longer than 6 years given all the activities that need to be implemented, primarily providing LOCATIONS and funding as a basic prerequisite.

ENEFITS for municipalities if a waste management system is established in accordance with EU standards

Municipalities or regions (in countries where they exist as an administrative level) have easier access to IPA funds, donations and soft loans from international financial institutions,

Through inter-municipal cooperation, an economy of scale and savings is realized, which can be redirected to the improvement of the waste management system,

Complementary effects of environmental protection and gradual transition to a circular economy are realized,

A new market segment is being created with opportunities for new "green" jobs,

Risks of natural disasters such as floods and air pollution are reduced.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN NORTH MACEDONIA

Industrial strategy in North Macedonia for the period 2018-2027 as an important component includes the GREEN INDUSTRY which is strongly related to the concept of CIRCULAR ECONOMY,

Unfortunately, there is currently no availability of adequate data for the calculation of most of the indicators for progress towards the circular economy with the exception of the data on generated municipal waste by regions per capita,

However, the lower the value of this indicator, it is considered that the greater the progress towards the circular economy of the specific region,

Through support of the Extended Producer Responsibility Organisation some form of organized collection exists for packaging waste, waste batteries and accumulators, electrical and electronic equipment waste. Other waste is selected at very limited extent and unfortunately still ending up in municipal landfills.



**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

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