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**National Conference Report** 

# Waste Management Sector,

# **Challenges and Opportunities**



May 20th, 2014, Sheraton Hotel, Tirana

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# 1. Executive Summary

National Conference "Waste management, Challenges and Opportunities" has been intended as a platform to share achievements and challenges of the Albanian national, regional and local stakeholders, after a 3 year period of legal and strategic framework implementation.

It has been organized in three sessions, each of which was followed by questions and discussions. And at the end conclusions and recommendations were made

The first session was aimed at setting the Conference frame from the hosts; Albanian Government with the support of Switzerland and EU.

During two thematic sessions

- Influence of good practice and local level learnings to the national policy (moderated by Deputy Minister of Urban Planning and Tourism)
- Strategic steps to prioritize national actions and policies for the waste sector (moderated by Minister of State for Local Issues)

Presentations were made by various stakeholders (ministries, LGUs, programs) and programs which have responsibilities and are active in the waste management. Panel members and participants commented the presentations, raised questions and made recommendations on various issues related to waste management with special attention to LGU positioning and responsibilities in the sector.

Waste management was seen by various angles: strategic and legal framework; national, regional and local level prospective and activities; challenges of the sector at all levels and opportunities through various instruments.

In particular mayors of some LGUs presented, what has been done in their communities, bringing also their experiences in tackling several issues related to waste management, such as recycling, awareness rising, inter-LGU cooperation, etc.

At the end, the key findings and recommendations from the conference were presented, followed by a wrap up with overall conclusions of the conference by the organizers (see annex 1 Conference program).

# 2. General Frame

National Conference "Waste management, Challenges and Opportunities" has been intended as a platform to share achievements and challenges of the Albanian national, regional and local stakeholders, after a 3 year period of legal and strategic framework implementation.

Since its starting the Government of Albania has introduced several initiatives, bringing again into focus the importance of a clean environment, not only to the quality of life of citizens but as well as for the economic development of the country.

While the general strategic and legal framework has progressed towards the objective of approximation to the European standards, the local government as a direct implementer of such policies has been facing several challenges, but has as well succeeded in creating positive experiences.

Local government related reforms initiated in the country (Review of the Decentralization Strategy and the Administrative & Territorial reform) present opportunities which should be grasped by the local and the regional government for maximizing own potentials and resources, as well as for performing according to standards and requirements.

The Conference served also for the mobilization of international donors for development and cooperation in the waste sector, as well as an opportunity to share the good models and practices developed through such aid.

The Conference has been organized through the cooperation of the Government of Albania, the Embassy of Switzerland and the EUD to Albania, which has been supporting the drafting and implementation of environmental policies and good governance.

Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Local Issues are considered as key stakeholders for the harmonization of the ongoing reforms. While Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism translates the environmental and governing policies in urban planning, without leaving aside the importance of a clean environment for a sustainable tourism.

Participants invited to the Conference were representatives of the local government units which have created positive experiences through the support of dldp and Government of Switzerland. Space has been given to environmental and governance experts, which have contributed during these years to the drafting and implementation of policies, such as SELEA, a program financed by EU.

# 3. Participation and outreach

Participation was high gathering around 99 experts, politicians and practitioners from the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism, the Minister of State for Local Issues, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Transport, Forest and Water Administration, the SDC Country Office in Albania, Municipalities, Communes and Qarks from all over



Albania, Regional Environment Agencies, Prefectures, economic operators, Donor Agencies, Embassies, other projects and programs, national and international consultants, dldp team.

Participants were distributed The Cost and Tariff Manual (Guidance on methodologies for cost and tariff calculation in solid waste management at LGU level in Albania), prepared on the framework of dldp. The Manual is introduced by Minister of Environment. It is based on good practices developed in the framework of dldp program in northern Albania and serves as a guide for all practitioners, LGUs and other institutions. The manual sets guiding rules to refer based on various models for calculating cost and tariff.

The conference was honored by the presence and active contributions of H.E Bledi Çuçi, Minister of State for Local Issues; H.E. Olijana Ifti, Deputy Minister of Environment; H.E. Gjon Radovani, Deputy Minister of Urban Planning and Tourism; H.E Holger Tausch, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Embassy of Switzerland, H.E Clive Rumbold, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., EU delegation to Albania, Francois Begeot, Head of the Operations Section for Infrastructure and Economic Reform, EUD and Anne Savary, Deputy Country Director of the Swiss Cooperation Office in Albania and .

The conference was covered by written and electronic media:

#### **Newspaper Monitor**

http://www.monitor.al/menaxhimi-i-mbetjeve-urbane-zbatimi-i-ligjit-i-dobet/

Channel One TV http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KezByW-JD\_0



# 4. Session 1: opening: Conference frame from the hosts; Albanian Government with the support of Switzerland and EU

The conference was opened by Prof. Dr. Valbona Karakaçi, dldl Program Manager, who explained the objectives of the Conference and introduced the different sessions and presentations.

The first session was facilitated by dldp. It started with introductory speeches of the conference coorganizers Mrs. Olijana Ifti, deputy Minister of Environment and Holger Tausch, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Embassy of Switzerland, followed by a speech of Mr Clive Rumbold, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., EU delegation to Albania.

Deputy Minister Olijana Ifti highlighted that Waste Management at the accepted environmental standards is one of the most acute emergencies, which needs intervention and the Ministry of Environment continues to consider it as one of the main priorities of the environmental policies. She declared that the greater progress is evident on the legislation framework. Strategic objectives of MoE in relation to waste management have been set in such a way that waste management could be



done in the highest efficiency and at the lowest cost possible. Strategic objectives refer to: waste reduction; waste reuse and recycling; energy production. Mrs. Ifti expressed the appreciation of MoE towards dldp engagement in supporting the preparation of a Cost & Tariff Manual, which is a working tool for experts and officials at the national and local level.

The MoE is engaged in several projects:

- sorting the waste at the source;
- establishment of reimbursement schemes for hard-paper waste;
- administration scheme for electric and electronic waste;
- construction of Durrës regional landfill;
- inclusion of environment and integrated waste management in the local, regional and national plans and programs;
- cleaning of main roads axis, rivers and national parks form urban and inert waste.

Legislation implementation is weak for the moment. Measures should be taken to enhance effective penalties. Environmental Inspectorate should be equipped with the necessary instruments for law enforcement. Better implementation of the law requires also awareness rising and a different approach towards the environment.

Mr. Holger Tausch, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Embassy of Switzerland in his speech stressed the importance of waste management for the further development of the country. Switzerland is committed to provide further support, in line with the Albanian government's policy and strategy. Sharing of experience is important being the best source for learning and innovation. Mr. Tausch highlighted, that waste management is about the government providing a service, but also about changing the awareness and mentality of the citizens in terms of caring about our environment and resources, which is the key capital for development.

Mr. Clive Rumbold, from the EU delegation stressed sustainable economic growth asthe principal challenge of our times. Sustainable economic growth seeks a balance between our economic welfare and our environment. Waste management is central to sustainable economic welfare for posterity and us. The European Union has risen to this principal of modern challenges - combining economic growth with resource sustainability. An important avenue to meeting this challenge has been the recognition of waste management as an opportunity, rather than a burden. He brought to the attention that the average weight of a person in the EU 72 kilos. So, we throw away about 7 times our own weight. Of this weight we throw away, though, 37% goes to landfills, 25% is recycled, and 15% is composted. The potential for waste management to fight resource scarcity is even clearer in data from individual countries. Adopting and implementing EU legislation on the environment is a significant challenge of the EU integration process. Just like all other countries in the accession process, Albania is not alone in facing this challenge. Successful implementation of Waste Management Plans depends also on what happens in the local level and on how well the Local Government Units cooperate with each other in the regional context. Local Government Units need to respond to the capacity building, planning, organizational, financial and implementation challenges that are set in front of them by the new legal and policy framework on waste. EU looks forward to seeing these issues addressed.

# 5. Session 2: Influence of good practice and local level learnings to the national policy

The second session was chaired by Deputy Minister of Urban Planning and Tourism Mr. Gjon Radovani. Presentations were delivered by Mrs. Narin Panariti, Deputy Team Leader of SELEA Project; Mr. Arben Gjuraj, Mayor of Commune of Dajç; Mr. Beqir Arifaj, Mayor of Municipality of Pukë; Mr. Viktor Tushaj, Mayor of Municipality of Lezhë and Mr. Ahmet Omi, Deputy Mayor of Municipality of Shkodër. Questions and discussions followed the presentations.

#### Presentations

## 1. <u>Working at the regional level. Results and findings: (Mrs. Narin Panariti, Deputy Team Leader</u> of SELEA Project)

SELEA project has worked at the national and regional level in the framework of the technical assistance provided with the support of the European Union. Mrs. Panariti presented results and findings coming from SELEA's experience. The legal framework on waste management includes various instruments. The National Waste Strategy has been approved on 2011, in the political context of the Stabilization and Association Agreement which sets the bases for cooperation

between Albania and the European Communities in the field of environment, including waste. It follows the principles and requirements of the EU waste legislation, which has also been transposed or on the way to be transposed in national legislation. It is ambitious, thus quite difficult to be implemented with domestic funding only. So far, almost all the regions have a draft Waste Management Plan, which are a reflection of the national ambitions at the regional level. Three regions have approved WMP, while 4 other regions have not yet presented WMP. Mrs. Panariti explained that Role of Regions for waste management are set by several laws Law no. 8652, date 31.7.2000 "On the organization and functioning of the local government", Law no. 9869, date.04.02.2008 "On the borrowing of the local government", Law no. 10119, date 23.04.2009 "On territorial planning", changed, Law no. 10463, date 22.09.2011 "On the integrated waste management". To this regard an analysis of the functions of local level (regional and local) has been done in relation to waste management and focusing on responsibility for Waste Management Plan preparation. Mrs. Panariti tackled to her presentation the Role of Regions in waste management, as well as the importance of comparative feasibility studies, which may be extended to the national level and take into consideration various criteria and which would provide for most appropriate solutions for defining landfill framework. Funding was also tackled in the presentation.

(for more information see Mr. Panariti presentation)

2. <u>Findings from dldp support in waste sector in Northern Albania (*Mr. Arben Gjuraj, Mayor of Commune of Dajç; Mr. Beqir Arifaj, Mayor of Municipality of Pukë; Mr. Viktor Tushaj, Mayor of Municipality of Lezhë*)</u>

Mayors of three dldp partner LGUs presented what has been achieved in their respective Commune and Municipalities, through dldp support. The presentation focused on the methodology for defining cost and tariff for waste management, as well as public information and awareness raising on this issue; optimization of waste collection and transport through inter-LGU schemes; alternative models for recycling in LGUs and awareness raising.



Mr. Arben Gjuraj pointed out that methodology for cost calculation has certain objectives. It should take into account capacity building and greater transparency, have a budget which responds to the real costs and serve as a concrete basis for planning. Tariff calculation should be based on the real costs. It may be calculated on a familybasis, surface basis, or on a

progressive basis (similar somehow to the water tariff model). Awareness' raising activities and respective results in Commune of Dajç have been brought to the attention of the audience as an effective mean. In conclusion, findings and recommendations on the cost and tariff methodology have been presented, among which the need for identifying a responsible authority (new or existing) for defining tariffs.

Mr. Beqir Arifaj in his presentation brought the experience of cost optimization through an inter-LGU scheme for waste collection service. By presenting the inter-LGU scheme between 5 LGUs in the District of Pukë, Mr. Arifaj explained the various steps to arrive to a common understanding among different LGUs and different interests. He provided also the data



which showed the actual financial benefit of the LGUs included in the scheme. In conclusion some recommendations on cost optimization through inter-LGU schemes have been given. Although inter-

LGU scheme may be affected by the territorial reform, it still remains a valid model to be applied among bigger LGUs.



Mr. Viktor Tushaj presented for the audience the achievements of the Municipality of Lezha in introducing recycling as an instrument in the waste management framework. He pointed out several facts related to the actual situation, which suggest that LGUs do not possess the technical capacities for waste sorting. Such process is done by the informal sector, in hard work

conditions. On the other hand the volume of recycling waste is quite small due to the fact that the waste collection service is not extended to the whole territory, thus preventing the mobilization of advanced technology. After providing concrete data from the experience in Lezha, the Mayor brought forward some lessons learned. Among them it can be mentioned the need for additional funding resources which would help the LGU to set up an economically sustainable system of recycling. This way LGUs would further the efforts for meeting national objectives regarding recycling, which in reality are highly ambitious and difficult to be achieved in a short term, without proper support for the implementation of the required infrastructure.

All three speakers pointed out the importance of awareness rising and information of the inhabitants on the different issues related to waste management.

(for more information see the presentation of the Mayors)

3. Experience in Shkodra with recycling and community mobilization (*Mr. Ahmet Omi, Deputy* <u>Mayor of Municipality of Shkodër</u>)

Deputy Mayor of Municipality of Shkodër presented the experience with recycling in this Municipality, which included a broad spectrumof stakeholders public and private, local and national level.. Mr. Omi pointed out that the idea is that by



sorting the waste and recovering recyclable materials, revenues for the Municipality may be generated. Shkodra municipality is one of the rare cases where the national obligations are transposed to the service contract. Actually the recycling is being carried on by a private economic operator. Recommendations on applying recycle schemes stress the importance of involvement of private companies also from the need for investments point of view. This is possible in urban LGUs producing enough waste to allow a short term payback and profit for the company. A video of about 8 minutes (short insert in DVD) showed the key messages from Shkodra municipality (Mayor, deputy Mayor, other key actors) on "Shkodra Recycles!" campaign.

# **Questions and Discussions**

Discussions were focused on:

- Management of inert waste

Mrs. Ani Kallfa, from Albanian Development Fund, raised a question on inert waste collection and management.

Mr. Viktor Tushaj, Mayor of Lezha in response to the question pointed out that this is a real problem for the LGUs. Citizens quite often put inert waste from construction activities in the waste bins, making collection very hard. It is needed great effort from the Municipality to raise citizens' awareness on this issue. On the other hand depositing inert waste in the waste sites is problematic. He suggested that such inert waste may be deposited in the closed stone carriers.

- Collection of glass waste

Silvia Minotti from Green Recycling (private operator) brought to attention the fact that glass waste collection is at very low rates. There are private companies ready to receive different recycled waste, especially glass waste. She offered her company collaboration to LGU-s.

# 6. Session 3: Strategic steps to prioritize national actions and policies for the waste sector

The third session was chaired by Minister of State for Local Issues Mr. Bledi Çuçi. Presentations were delivered by Prof. Dr. Pëllumb Abeshi, General Director, Ministry of Environment; Mr. Enea Hoti, Adviser to the Minister of State for Local Issues. Questions and discussions followed the presentations. A summary of conclusions of the first session was presented from the resource person Mr. Felix Schmidt, CSD/dldp.

## 1. <u>Waste Management in Albania (Prof. Dr. Pëllumb Abeshi, Director General, Ministry of</u> <u>Environment)</u>



Mr. Abeshi made an expose of the politic objectives for integrated waste management, through strategic and planning approach. He explained the role and responsibilities of Ministry of Environment. Further on Mr. Abeshi presented key issues and data related to waste strategic planning at the national and local level, by also pointing out progress and problematic

topics. In his presentation, Mr. Abeshi tackled several elements of particular interest to the Strategic Planning and Waste Management. Education remains a key issue which needs to be further enforced, although several state, civil society and donors have been quite active. Professional trainings remain a challenge. Discussing investment issues, the presentation showed the figures for the implementation costs of compliance with the EU Framework Directive on Waste. Financial instruments to support waste management are diverse: **the polluter pays principle**; **State, municipal or communal budgets**; **EU support in two phases**; **Waste Tariffs**; **Environmental Fund.** He evidenced several investments of the government and stressed also that the Ministry is supporting PPP and concession for waste services. Further on he pointed out that MoE has drafted a DCM for the establishment of the Environmental Fund, which would ease the financial support for the waste management however no progress has been made to this direction. Several problems are faced in relation to financing. Closing his presentation Mr. Abeshi made an expose of the actual legal framework and what needs to be improved. Monitoring and reporting are two important processes, but which have proved to be problematic

(for more information see the presentation of Mr. Abeshi)

## 2. <u>Decentralization and Territorial Reform: opportunities for policy making at sectorial level</u> (*Mr. Enea Hoti, Advisor of the Minister of State for Local Issues*)

The presentation tackled waste management from the prospective of the ongoing reforms. Mr. Hoti made an expose of the Field of activity and responsibilities of the MoSLI, which include decentralization of governance and administrative-territorial reform; Coordination and follow up of the implementation of the general state policy in the field of decentralization and local governance; Designation and/or coordination of the work on draft legal acts in the field of decentralization and local governance. Presentation followed with a brief explanation of competencies and functions of LGUs in relation to waste management, which are foreseen in the organic law of local government and the sectorial law on waste management. A comparison between requirements by the standard and obligations set by the law with the overall, current situation of service performance, showed the discrepancies in service prevision by LGUs. Further on the same situation is evidenced for financial resources and means showing the incapacity of local government to meet what is required by the strategy. To this regard several recommendations were made such as: support the LGUs on regional facilities for landfill and transfer stations on achieving the required standards; strengthen mechanisms for better collection of tariff and execution of sanctions; sequence the implementation of National Strategy by establishing local standards, agreed between all the 3 levels; engage means towards cost recovery by a tariff regulatory policy, subsidy to achieve the standard, etc.; Assess the possibility for better access, on registers and databases for tax/tariff payers; Build a standard billing system in order to insure transparency and communication. In describing institutions responsible for implementing the PERL framework set by the Waste Management Strategy, Mr. Hoti followed with respective recommendations at institutional level. Further on, by the prospective of the territorial reform, it has been presented the relevance of such reform for waste management. Basically the territorial reform will provide for a sustainable service, deriving from an optimized service in functional areas, preceded by a simpler scheme of inter-LGU cooperation. Such event would provide for a cost recovery increased by 60%. As regards the landfills functionality, a possible evolution of regional waste management, at least theoretically, would be a transition from dumpsites scattered in small LGUs, to an intermediate step of functional transfer stations and reduction of dumpsites, and finally to a fully functional landfill associated with functional regional transport and closing of local dumpsites. From this prospective the territorial reform implies measures to support shift from fragmented into integrated service in planning, form of organization and capacities, integrated PPP and financial mechanisms (cost and tariff), as well as revision of the competences of Qark as to strengthen its monitoring role (operations and territory) and enhance inter-LGU collaboration.

# **Questions and Discussions**

Mr. Felix Schmidt, expert of waste management discussed on different problematic evidenced by the presentations:

- It has been done a lot of efforts in the legal framework to create laws and bylaws in align with EU directive;
- These objectives are ambitious and needs investments which are not available for the moment, but what is clear is that all the operation and maintenance costs of collection transport and treatment should be financed by local funds or local financial means, so it is

important to develop a cost and tariff analysis. Develop cost system for cost analysis for planning, and decision for optimization and reduction of cost and the importance of tariff to ensure the sustainability of the service;

- There is a need for taking political decision on the principle of "polluters pays";
- It is needed political decision for the repartition of tariff on the system financing between people and businesses;
- While waiting for international funds to be available and taking into consideration that the landfill cannot be done in little time, it is needed a step by step approach and minimum standards;
- LGUs are not in the optimal size to organize collection and transport and then it is needed intervention in the regional level for this topic;
- There is a lack of data, which are necessary for setting tariffs.

Discussions were focused also on:

- Approval of 9 regional waste management plans and territorial reform implications

Mr. Pëllumb Abeshi of MoE argued that Waste management planning is a continuous exercise of governance, which should be subject to continuous improvement. The above plans are based on the current situation and management intends to do analysis, assessment of situation, analyze the factors and determine the measures to be taken at the regional level. Of course, this should be aligned with the national strategy and waste management. An important part of all legislation adopted, strategic documents that are in the approval process is the consulting and data collection for urban planning at regional and local levels. Of course, that should be administratively reviewed and targets set should be improved and harmonized with the strategic objectives and national integration strategy and development.

- Standards for cost and tariff (Authority responsible for setting tariff related to waste management service; cost & tariff calculation)

Mrs. Aida Gojani, Member of the National Regulatory Commission (Water Regulatory Authority) discussed that it is important to be considered as a good practice the experience of the Water Regulatory Authority in setting tariffs for water management, especially wastewater, and ultimately water treatment plants. It is a fact that the experience and capabilities of local government are clearly insufficient to implement tariff setting methodology. The Water Regulatory Entity may be in charge for defining and monitoring a methodology for cost and tariff at the national scale, similarly as it does with the water tariff.

Mr. Artan Rroji of FLAG argued that the tariff calculation should be based on landfill costs and this fact is related with the standard of landfill construction. The examples and data analyses given today, show that we do not have a standard on tariff setting, which means that we do not have a standard for the cost of landfill construction. In addition, the tariff should be calculated based on the number of family members as unit, and not by the family unit itself.

Mr. Bledi Çuçi argued that in terms of costs and tariffs in LGUs that are also tourist areas, where production of waste is not made not only by people living in these LGUs, but also by others who

benefit and use it for tourism purposes, the calculation of cost and tariffs should not be entirely the responsibility of LGU and its population. In this case, we may estimate the cost, but not the tariff/per citizen, as this bill should not be paid only by the local government, because it is a considerable additional cost. He also stressed that a new concept of defining tariff should be introduced by setting it on the number of family members and not on individual basis.

Mrs. Narin Panariti expressed that cost calculation should be based on the level / quality of services provided and not unified to all territory. The tariff should reflect the quality of service.

## - Implication of administrative reform

Mr. Artan Rroji of FLAG argued that it will be a positive effort if the government will promote the establishment of a minimum standard of waste management as a necessity for waste management process of local governance. Another point is that once the new LGUs will administrate a new territory, which was not under their administration before, the calculation of costs should include also the hot spot costs, which are transferred as entire responsibility to the new LGU.

Mr. Bledi Çuçi argued that The Government should define a minimal standard related to waste management, which would be obligatory for the local government. The Government should take the responsibility and appropriate measures to provide a solution for the issue of old dump sites, that in case of several LGUs merging, will be faced the problem of a bigger population for the new LGUs. It should not be allowed to base the calculation of the tariff on the old dumpsites, and then to become an obligation for the citizens of the newly created LGU

Mrs. Narin Panariti expressed that Dumpsites which are actually scattered in different LGUs and which will be within one bigger LGU after the territorial reform takes place, should be considered as hot-spots, thus being a direct responsibility of the state.

Mrs. Redion Biba of CO-Plan argued that the administrative reform will encourage and improve the waste management both in the local and regional level. It is important to clarify institutional and individual roles and responsibilities between central and local government. Also, finding solutions to increase the quality of service should be based on inter-LGUs and PPP practices (e.x schemes of Koplik and Pukë).

# 7. Conclusions and Recommendations by the co-organizers

Conclusions have been presented by representatives of the co-organizers of the Conference: Mr. Francois Begeot, Head of the Operations Section for Infrastructure and Economic Reform, EUD and Mrs. Anne Savary, Deputy Director of SCO-A.

Conclusions & Recommendations by Mr. Francois Begeot

 One challenge is Capacity building for the staff dealing with waste management at all levels (securing staff dedicated, informing training on waste management issues, contractual issues for the waste management companies, etc.);



- Another challenge is the waste separation at source, though being a legal request since 2011, is far from being a practise in Albania. Same situation holds with waste transfer centres and recyclable waste separation centres (except Lezha) and other waste related infrastructure;
- Another challenge consists in the waste disposal facilities;
- Inert waste, hazardous waste, hospital waste and animal waste **landfills** do not exist;
- It seems that no developments of the regulations at the local level has happened so far;
- Improve definition of cost and tariff. Investments and further operation and management of waste systems must be carefully designed. Waste service has a cost;
- Improve recycling, reusing and reducing the waste, along the EU Directive;
- Optimize waste collection and transport through interLGU schemes;
- Optimization of waste transport through transfer station;
- Campaigns on waste quantity and measurement;
- Organize public awareness and behavior changes;
- It is not only important to have laws but also regulations and sub acts which assure their implementation;
- Waste legal framework and strategy should be linked with consultation and collection of data for territorial planning at local and regional level as well as harmonized with strategic objectives and national strategy for development and integration;
- Waste management planning is a continuous exercise of the government and should go through continuous improvement.

Conclusions & Recommendations by Mrs. Anne Savary

- Waste management has not only a direct impact on the quality of life of the population, but it has to do also with the environment risks and the conditions of life of the future generations;
- Good waste management has a direct effect on tourism and overall economic development of the country;



- In 2014, 3 years after the approval of the National Strategy, the situation described and figures shown demonstrate both that **good practices exist**, but that more **coordinated** 

**efforts** have to be done, to ensure that investments are realized and **sufficient budgets** are made available for waste management, involving also the private sector;

- It is suggested that Albania develops a **realistic national plan** (revising the current action plan), with **clear roles and responsibilities** throughout government levels. Such plan should be based on an **agreed upon waste service standard**;
- It is equally advised to develop a **country monitoring and benchmarking system**, in order to enhance informed decision-making;
- As many aspects have to be organized at a larger scale to be cost-effective, the role of regions and inter-LGUs cooperation remain key;
- The territorial reform is seen as an **opportunity**, allowing both cost optimized waste management schemes and an easier mobilization of regional and local specialists;
- There is **commitment** in country and there are capacities and **good practices** developed that need to be promoted and disseminated further;
- SCO-Al recommends the **follow up of findings** of the conference and remaining committed to the waste management sector despite the challenges it entails.

# 8. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

(prepared by Eng. Felix Schmidt through dldp support)

#### 1. Importance of the waste sector

The large participation at the conference confirms, if necessary, the importance of this sector in the agenda of the country.

The quality of waste management has not only a direct impact on the population life quality, but also affects the environmental risks and the conditions of life of the future generations. It has as well a direct effect on the touristic and economic activities of the country.

Waste management is also one of the priorities of the LGU's activity. Throughout the years , the demand for support in this sector has increased.

# 2. Legal framework responds to EU requirements, but couldn't change the reality due to lack of investments

The country has made many efforts in order to develop a legal framework for the waste sector, in close collaboration with the EU and with the vision of a full approximation with the EU regulatory framework.

A national waste management strategy and a national waste management plan have been approved by the government in 2011, as well as 9 by-laws on different topics.

The goals and deadlines provided for by national laws and strategies are ambitious, and in line with the EU requirements. One of the important objectives of the legal framework, and the main reason of this top-down approach, is to create the appropriate conditions for international donors (especially EU funding) to finance the necessary infrastructures.

In 2014, 3 years after the approval of the strategy, the situation described and figures shown in the conference demonstrate that very little has changed in the reality of the day to day waste management:

- Investments are not realized. There is no additional budget for the waste sector at national level, and very few international funding. Only projects financed by international donors are progressing. Funds are largely insufficient to achieve the fixed objectives and respect deadlines.
- Regional waste management plans have been prepared, in line with the national plan, but few are approved and did not bring any change in the field.
- LGUs have enormous difficulties to collect the required revenues in order to realize the minimum level of waste collection service. None of them covers the cost with the collected tariffs.
- Most of waste is dumped in dumpsites and only part of the waste is collected.
- The few existing landfills are receiving only a very limited part of the waste of their region

- Recycling activities are mostly limited to those of informal sector. The private sector couldn't develop significantly the collection of the recyclable part of the waste.
- The willingness to pay for the service and the ability to control and sanction bad practices still remain very limited.
- The global know-how in waste management is weak at all levels.
- There are no budget lines for information and communication on the role and duties of citizens in the LGU budget.

### 3. Many of the local government units are too small to organize sustainable waste management. Some tasks have to be organized at a larger scale.

From the legislative point of view, and from practice, some basic tasks of LGU are very clear:

- 1. Clean the streets, collect the waste and transport them out of the city to a treatment or landfill, develop conditions for reducing the waste quantities and promote recycling.
- 2. Collect tariff from the population and business, on the principle of "polluter-pays", in order to finance the service.

A local waste management plan is the tool for the LGU to define the process. A cost analysis is necessary to optimize the system and to calculate the budget. Tariff and billing systems have to be implemented to collect the money from the population and businesses. A tender could be necessary to delegate the service to a private entity and a reporting procedure should be in place to control and adapt the system.

Some experiences have been developed in these fields, in particular with the support of SCO-A through the dldp program, in the Northern Albania. There are also other similar programs which try to contribute on this sector. These experiences are used to elaborate models, manuals and curricula, for dissemination to other LGU or regions. This bottom-up approach is thus well complementary and can bring a support to the implementation of the strategy.

From these experiences and from cost simulations, it appears clear that:

- **Collection**, recycling, and transport of the waste have to be organized at a scale of more than 10'000 inhabitants. For smaller communes, it is necessary to organize inter-LGU cooperation for the services. The experiences of such inter-LGU collaborations are very few in the country, not only in the waste sector, but also in other communal tasks. In this point of view, the experience developed in the waste sector is a pilot model for other tasks of inter-LGU collaborations.
- The cost of waste **transport** from the LGU to a regional landfill or treatment plant is a key element. It should be organized at regional level for more than 25 to 40 km. There is no experience in the country in the matter.
- The **landfill or treatment plant** can only be organized at a regional level.

#### 4. Recommendations for waste management

Funds for investment at the national level are missing as well as funds for operation and maintenance at the local level.

On the other hand it is urgent to improve the situation, and to progress more than in the last years. The conference proposes 2 short midterm priorities:

- Improvement of **quality of life** of the families: first priority is to collect the waste and clean the streets in all the residential and touristic areas of the country.
- Improvement of **quality of environment**: second priority is to reduce step by step the number of dumpsites of the country. This objective cannot be realized in one step. It is also crucial for the development of the tourism.

In these conditions of restriction, it is proposed to focus on two propositions:

- 1. **Develop the local financing of waste management**, following the polluter-pays principle
- 2. Reduce the cost of waste management to an affordable minimum, looking for the cheapest solutions allowing a basic service.

#### Develop the local financing of waste management.

The elements mentioned in the conference:

#### At the national level:

- 1. Responsibility and organization of defining **cost and tariff** principles should be established on a similar process than for the water tariff (regulatory entity, principles and models of tariff calculation, principles of repartition families/business, etc.).
- 2. Tool/rules for providing **data** necessary for tariff calculation and billing to LGUs (required data from cadasters and civil register).
- 3. Training in cost and tariff, as well as recognized billing system.
- 4. Enhance the financing of waste management through **dedicated taxes** on the importation of certain products, following polluter-pays principle (batteries, plastics, electronic, chemicals, medicals, etc.).
- 5. **Separate the revenues created by waste** taxes and tariffs from the general budget at local and national levels, and dedicate them to waste management.
- 6. **Develop a monitoring and benchmarking** system for waste, including tariff situation in the LGUs.
- 7. **Develop a performance and incentive/penalty system** for helping LGUs to establish and apply a tariff system, to bill and progressively cover the cost with tariff collection, for realization and use of regional equipment and progressive closure of dumpsites.

#### At the **regional level**:

- 8. **Mobilize a funding instrument** from national and local level in order to fulfill its functions in waste management.
- 9. Operate the monitoring and benchmarking system for waste and tariff

At the **local level**:

- 10. Cost and tariff calculations, decision and implementation.
- 11. Decision and improvement of **billing** system.

12. Awareness campaigns focuses on "why to pay for the service", tariff system and transparency.

#### Reduce the cost of waste management to an affordable minimum

#### At the **national level**:

- 13. **Territorial reform:** For the waste management at national level, the territorial reform could have the following advantages:
  - Easier to mobilize a reduced number of regional and local specialists.
  - Possibility to plan and optimize a limited number of new landfills or facilities, optimized investments
- 14. **Revision of the National Waste Management action Plan**, conserving the main objectives of the Strategy, but redefining priorities, deadlines and a step by step approach, agreed national standards, optimization of cost and clarifying required financing by local and national funds.
- 15. Create a specific action plan and tax system for the waste management of touristic areas.
- 16. Develop or adapt simple **rules** encouraging the **reduction of waste**, in priority based on :
  - **Green waste**: prohibition of deposit of **garden/agricultural waste** in the communal collection system. This waste has to be eliminated in the own plot or at the cost of the owners. Penalty should be established.
  - Inert waste: Such waste should not be in the bins. The by-law exists, but they must be applied and controlled. Bad practices must be controlled and sanctioned
- 17. **Education** and formation of professionals of waste management at all levels, should take place, in particular through Universities, or professional schools. Existing manuals (dldp) for WMP and cost/tariff should be validated and applied.

#### At the **regional level**:

- 18. Inventory and diagnostic of **dumpsites**, along with defining of priorities, planning of closure, and reporting **should take place**.
- 19. **Territorial reform:** For the waste management at the regional level, the territorial reform could have the following advantages:
  - Reduction of number of required specialists, creation of reduced and efficient **experts group** with the experts of each LGU, for formation, exchange of experience, and benchmarking.
  - **Reduction of number of actors** for management of regional equipment (landfill, transport).
  - Easier **delegation to private** operators (landfill, transport) and control, if required.

- 20. **Revision of the Regional Waste Management Plan**, conserving the objectives, but defining priorities and step by step approach, optimizations and calculation of appropriate financing and tariffs.
- 21. Facilitate the creation of **inter-LGU organizations** for the management of regional infrastructure (landfill, transfer stations, transport trucks, recycling).

#### At the **local level**:

- 22. Territorial reform would create the right conditions for the following advantages:
  - Application of economy of scale, along with better use and maintenance of resources (trucks);Possibility to develop a better professional knowhow;
  - Easier delegation to private operators (collection, transport) and control, if required;
  - Possible step by step reduction of the number of dumpsites.
- 23. Realization/revision and implementation of local **Waste Management Plans**, along with cost and tariff calculations

# 9. Annexes

- A. Conference Program
- B. List of participants
- C. Presentations held in the Conference (online version on <u>www.dldp.al</u>)
- D. Press release (SCO-A)
- E. Cost and tariff manual
- F. Matrix of sectorial analyses

# National Conference – Detailed Program

## "Waste Management sector, challenges and opportunities"

May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Sheraton Hotel, Tirana

Illyria 1, room

| 09.00-09.30 | Reception and registration of participants  | Conference secretary, dldp   |  |  |  |  |
|-------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
|             | Session one: opening  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Conference  | <i>Conference frame from the host; Albanian Government with the support of Switzerland and EU</i> |  |  |  |  |  |
| 09.30-10.00 | Opening speeches from co-organizers:  | Moderator:   |  |  |  |  |
|             | Mrs. Olijana Ifti, Deputy Minister of Environment   | Valbona Karakaçi , dldp Program  |  |  |  |  |
|             | Mr. Holger Tausch, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Embassy of<br>Switzerland                              | Manager  |  |  |  |  |
|             | Mr. Clive Rumbold, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. EU Delegation to<br>Albania                             |  |  |  |  |  |
|             | Session two: Presentations and panel discussion   | ons on   |  |  |  |  |
| Influence   | e of good practices and local level learnings   | s' to the national policy  |  |  |  |  |
|             | Chair of the session: Deputy Minister of Urban Development  | t and Tourism Mr.Gjon Radovani   |  |  |  |  |
| 10.00-10.20 | Working at the regional level. Results and findings.  | Key presenter: Mrs. Narin Panariti<br>Deputy Team Leader of IPA-<br>funded SELEA project - Technical<br>Assistance to the Ministry of<br>Environment |  |  |  |  |
| 10.20-10.50 | Findings from dldp support in waste sector in Northern<br>Albania                                 | Arben Gjuraj, <i>Mayor of Dajç</i><br>Beqir Arifaj, <i>Mayor of Puka</i>   |  |  |  |  |
|             |   | Viktor Tushaj, Mayor of Lezha  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.50-11.00 | Experience in Shkodra with recycling and community mobilization                                   | A short insert (DVD) will show the key<br>messages from Shkodra municipality<br>(Mayor, deputy Mayor, other key<br>actors) on "Shkodra Recycles!"    |  |  |  |  |

|             |   | campaign.   |
|-------------|---|---|
| 11.00-11.30 | Questions, Answers and Discussions  | Session moderated   |
|             |   | Resource person;  |
|             |   | Mr. Felix Schmidt (dldp/CSD)  |
| 11.30-11.40 | Conclusions of the session and key messages from Mr.<br>Gjon Radovani                           |   |
| 11.40-12.00 | Coffee break  | dldp  |
|             | Session three: presentations and panel discus   | sions   |
| Strategic s | teps to prioritize national actions and poli  |   |
|             | Chair of the session: Minister of State for Local Issues Mr. Bl                                 | edi Çuçi  |
| 12.00-12.30 | Reflections on National Waste management strategy   | Key presenter:  |
|             |   | Mr. Pëllumb Abeshi, Director  |
|             |   | General, Ministry of Environment                                      |
| 12.30-13.00 | Territorial reform and decentralization strategy process as a tool for improving local services | Key presenter:  |
|             |   | Mr. Enea Hoti, Adviser of MSLG  |
| 13.00-13.30 | Questions, Answers and Discussions  | Session moderated   |
|             |   | Resource person:  |
|             |   | Mr. Felix Schmidt (dldp/CSD)  |
| 13.30-13.40 | Conclusions of the session and key messages from  |   |
|             | Mr.Bledi Çuçi, Minister of State for Local Issues   |   |
|             | Session four: Conference conclusions and closure (  | moderated by dldp)  |
| 13.40-14.00 | Political and donor support conclusions and   | Key Speakers:   |
|             | closure of the event  | Mr. François Begeot Head of<br>Economic reform and                    |
|             |   | Economic reform and<br>Infrastructures Section EU                     |
|             |   | Delegation to Albania &   |
|             |   | Ms. Anne Savary, Deputy Country<br>Director, Swiss Cooperation Office |
|             |   | in Albania  |
|             | Buffet lunch  |   |

# Annex B: List of participants

|     | Final List of participants<br>national waste<br>conference 20.05.2014 |                         |                                     |  |                          |
|-----|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| No. | Organization  | Name                    | Position                            | Email  | Tel                      |
|     | Swiss Embassy   |                         |                                     |  |                          |
| 1   | Embassy of Switzerland/<br>Swiss Cooperation Office<br>(SCO-A)        | Holger Tausch           | Chargé<br>d'Affaires<br>a.i., CD    | holger.tausch@sdc.net  | Tel: 2240102/<br>2253182 |
| 2   | SCO-A   | Anne Savary             | DCD                                 | anne.savary@sdc.net  | Tel: 2240102/<br>2253182 |
| 3   | SCO-A   | Marie Therese<br>Karlen |                                     | marie-therese.karlen@eda.admin.ch                            |                          |
| 4   | SCO-A   | Elda Bagaviki           | NPO                                 | elda.bagaviki@sdc.net  | 00 355 68 20<br>60482    |
| 5   | SCO-A   | Eduart Rumani           | NPO                                 | eduart.rumani@sdc.net  |                          |
|     | Donors and foreign<br>programmes                                      |                         |                                     |  |                          |
| 6   | EUD   | Clive Rumbold           | EU Chargé<br>d'Affaires<br>a.i., CD | _  |                          |
| 7   | EUD   | François Begeot         |                                     |  |                          |
| 8   | EUD   | Antoine Avigon          |                                     | antoine.avignon@eeas.europa.eu                               | 069 608 2285             |
| 9   | EUD   | Ledia Muco              |                                     | Ledia.MUCO@eeas.europa.eu                                    |                          |
| 10  | OSCE  | Silva Malaj             | programme<br>Officer                | silvana.malaj@osce.org                                       |                          |
| 11  | OSCE  | Manoela Lussi           |                                     | manoela.lussi@osce.org                                       |                          |
| 12  | Italian Cooperation   | Stefania Fantut         |                                     | stefania.fantut@esteri.it                                    |                          |
| 13  | GIZ Albania   | Hermann<br>Plumm        |                                     | hermann.plumm@giz.de   |                          |
| 14  | CoE Office  | Olsi Dekovi             |                                     | olsi.dekovi@coe.int  | 2228419                  |
| 15  | CoE project   | Edlira Muhedini         |                                     | Edlira.MUHEDINI@coe.int                                      |                          |
| 16  | PLGP/USAID  | Peter Clavelle          |                                     | pclavelle@plgp.al  |                          |
| 17  | PLGP  | Ndriçim Shani           |                                     | Peter energy propion   |                          |
| 18  | SELEA   | Narin Panariti          | Deputy team<br>leader               | -<br>narin.panariti@gmail.com/<br>narin_panariti@yahoo.co.uk |                          |
| 19  | USAID   | Suzana Cullufi          |                                     | scullufi@usaid.gov   |                          |
|     | Central Government representatives                                    |                         |                                     |  |                          |
| 20  | Ministry of Local Issues  | Bledi Çuçi              | Minister of<br>State                | -  |                          |
| 21  | Ministry of Local Issues  | Enea Hoti               | Adviser of<br>Minister              | -  |                          |

| 22 | Ministry of Environment                     | Olijana Ifti          | Deputy<br>Minister       | -                           |                         |
|----|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 23 | Ministry of Environment                     | Pellumb Abeshi        | General<br>Director      | pellumbabeshi@yahoo.com     |                         |
| 24 | Ministry of Environment                     | Vladimir<br>Bezhani   |                          | Vladimir.Bezhani@moe.gov.al | 682168188               |
| 25 | Ministry of Environment                     | Ledjana Karalliu      |                          | Lediana.Karalliu@moe.gov.al | 694112110               |
| 26 | Ministry of Environment                     | Polikron<br>Horeshka  |                          | -                           | 068 209 9191            |
| 27 | Ministry of urban development and tourism   | Gjon radovani         | Deputy<br>Minister       | -                           |                         |
| 28 | Ministry of urban development and tourism   | Ergis Tafalla         |                          | tafallaergis@yahoo.com      |                         |
| 29 | Ministry of urban development and tourism   | Ermira Dedej          |                          | ermira-dedej@hotmail.com    |                         |
| 30 | Ministry of urban development and tourism   | Valmira Bozgo         |                          | valmira.bozgo@turizmi.al    |                         |
| 31 | Dep Prime Minister Office                   | Mirlinda<br>Boshnjaku | Adviser                  | -                           | 069 205 8882            |
| 32 | Ministry of Finance                         | Irina Canco           |                          | icanco@minfin.gov           |                         |
| 33 | Ministry of transport and<br>Infrastructure | Isa Memia             |                          | imemia@gmail.com            | 067 208 0170            |
| 34 | Ministry of transport and<br>Infrastructure | Ornela Lili           |                          | ornela.lili@gmail.com       |                         |
| 35 | Water Regulatory<br>Authority               | Aida Gojani           |                          | aida.gojani@gmail.com       |                         |
| 36 | Albanian Development<br>Fund                | Evelina Azizaj        |                          | elazizaj@albaniandf.org     |                         |
| 37 | Albanian Development<br>Fund                | Anni Kallfa           |                          | akallfa@albaniandf.org      |                         |
|    | LOCAL GOVERNMENT                            |                       |                          | <u></u>                     |                         |
| 38 | BUSHAT                                      | Zija Gerbeti          |                          | zijagerbeti@yahoo.it        | +355 (67) 406<br>6072/4 |
| 39 | SHKODER                                     | Ahmet Omi             | Deputy<br>Mayor          | omiahmet52@yahoo.com        | +355 (69)<br>2087805    |
| 40 | PUKE  | Beqir Arifaj          | Mayor                    | <u>b_arifaj@yahoo.com</u>   | +355 (68)<br>2060998    |
| 41 | LEZHE                                       | Nikolin Prendi        | Directory of<br>Services | -                           |                         |
| 42 | LEZHE                                       | Dile Nikolli          | Municipality             | pzhvillimi@lezha.org        |                         |
| 43 | DAJÇ (SHKODER)                              | Arben Gjuraj          | Mayor                    | arbengjuraj@yahoo.co.uk     | +355 (69)<br>4072801    |
| 44 | LEZHE Mayor                                 | Viktor Tushaj         | Mayor                    | mayor@lezha.org             |                         |
| 45 | KALLMET                                     | Petrit Marku          | Mayor                    | petritmarku@hotmail.com     | +355 (68)<br>2086707    |
| 46 | Qarku Kukes                                 | Valdete Sinanaj       |                          | valdete.sinanaj@kqk.gov.al  |                         |
| 47 | Qarku Diber                                 | Abedin Kamberi        |                          | dinikamberi@gmail.com       | 696294886               |
| 48 | Bashkia Fier                                | Baftjar Zeqja         | Mayor                    | kryetari@bashkiafier.gov.al | 692082400               |
| 49 | Bashkia B.Curri                             | Agron Demushi         | Mayor                    | agron.demushi@hotmail.com   | 692040531               |

| 50 | Bashkia Burrel                          | Adelina Farrici                 | Mayor                 | farrici.adelina@gmail.com/<br>bashkia.burrel@gmail.com | 692350990    |
|----|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| 51 | Bashkia Peshkopi                        | Ilir Krosi                      | Mayor                 | iliripeshkopi@yahoo.com                                | 682062805    |
| 52 | Bashkia Shijak                          | Shpresa Domi                    | Deputy<br>Mayor       | shpresadomi@hotmail.com                                |              |
| 53 | Bashkia Bulqize                         | Elion Dedja                     |                       | erseni2008@hotmail.com                                 | 068 424 0542 |
| 54 | RUBIK                                   | Florenca Korbi                  |                       |  | 068 554 9217 |
| 55 | ARM Shkoder                             | Edmond<br>Terthorja             | Director              | aterthorja@hotmail.com                                 |              |
|    | Other programmes and NGOs               |                                 |                       |  |              |
| 56 | NUUS                                    |                                 | Programme             |  |              |
|    | RISI Albania - HIS                      | Edlira Muedini                  | Manager               | emuedini@risialbania.al                                |              |
| 57 | FLAG                                    | Artan Rroji                     |                       | Artan.Rroji@flag-al.org                                |              |
| 58 | COPLAN                                  | Redion Biba                     |                       | Artan.Kroji@nag-al.org                                 |              |
| 50 |   |                                 |                       | -  |              |
| 59 | COPLAN                                  | Dritan Shutina                  | Director              | -  |              |
| 60 | ANTTARK                                 | Myftar Doci                     |                       | ngocenter@icc.al.eu.org                                |              |
| 61 |   |                                 | <u>.</u>              |  |              |
| 62 | URI<br>NGO NFUV                         | Zana Vokopola<br>Mamica Dakolli | Director<br>President | zvokopola@uri.org.al<br>org.nfuv@gmail.com             |              |
| 02 |   |                                 | President             | org.max.egman.com                                      |              |
| 63 | VALU ADD                                | Esida Lekbello                  |                       | elekbello@volu-add.com                                 | 067 202 0523 |
| 64 | VALU ADD                                | Semira Kasimati<br>Vathi        |                       | skasimoti@valu-add.com                                 |              |
| 65 | AGC                                     | Arber Kadia                     | Expert                | -  |              |
| 66 | Milieukontakt<br>International, Albania | Rrezarta Ago                    |                       | -  |              |
| 67 | InterKomunale Zadrima                   | Emirjan Lazri                   |                       | emirjani_88@hotmail.com                                |              |
| 68 | Gesellschalf Sdiweiz-<br>Albania        | Rolf Althev                     |                       | -  |              |
| 69 |   | Konalsi Gjoka                   | Freelance<br>expert   | -  |              |
| 70 |   | Antoni Braho                    |                       | -  | 068 409 9222 |
| 71 | DEA consulting                          |                                 | Evocurius             |  |              |
|    | EPER center                             | Elvis Çela                      | Execurive<br>director | epercenter@gmail.com                                   |              |
| 72 | Europartners                            | Jolanda<br>Trebicka             | Director              | jolanda.trebicka@europartners.al                       | 069 205 2966 |
| 73 | Korca Region Waste<br>Management        | Vjollca Kostreci                | Menaxhere             | krwmom.kostreci@gmail.com                              |              |
| 74 | EDEN center                             | Jonida Mamaj                    | MendAnere             | jonida.mamaj@eden-al.org                               | 067 200 3656 |
| 75 | EDEN center                             | Ermelinda<br>Mahmutaj           |                       | ermelinda.mahmutaj@eden-al.org                         | 067 203 0512 |
| 76 | REC                                     | Mihallaq Qirjo                  | Director              | rec@albania.rec.org                                    |              |
| 77 | REC                                     | Eduart Cani                     |                       | -  |              |
| 78 | REC                                     | Ornela Sulçe                    |                       | osulce@rec.org   |              |

| 79       | REC  | Genta Hoxha           |  | ghoxha@rec.org                         |                       |
|----------|--|-----------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
|          | PRIVATE SECTOR                                 |                       | <u> </u>                                 |  |                       |
| 80       | Private Company of Waste<br>Service in Shkodra | Florian Borshi        |  | fborshi@yahoo.it                       |                       |
| 81       | Albanian Association of Recyclers              | Bardhyl Balteza       | Executive<br>director                    | info@edipack.al/<br>bbalteza@gmail.com | 692026111             |
| 82       | Everest IE                                     | Vullnet Haka          |  | vullnet.haka@everestie.com             | 692090854             |
| 83       | KORSEL shpk                                    | Maksim Fejzulla       |  | maksimfejzulla@yahoo.com               |                       |
| 84       | Kurum International sha                        | Haxhihasim<br>Saraçi  |  | <u>canisaraci@kurum.com.ta</u>         |                       |
| 85       | DIADYMA SA - GREECE                            | Nadia<br>Hatzimitraga |  | nadia.xm@gmail.com                     |                       |
| 86       | Private company NZK<br>Shkodra                 | Zyber Kraja           |  | nnzkshkodra@hotmail.com                | 682023060             |
| 87       | Private company Eurogers                       | Fran Kaçorri          |  | fran-kacorri@hotmail.com               | + 355 68 20 23<br>980 |
| 88       | NGO for Education & integration of ROM         | Esat Jashari          |  | _                                      | 068 220 9234          |
| 89       | GREEN RECYCLING                                | Silvia Minotti        |  | silvia.minotti@greenrecycling.al       |                       |
|          | dldp   |                       |  |  |                       |
| 90       | dldp   | Valbona<br>Karakaçi   | Programme<br>Manager                     |  |                       |
| 91       | dldp/CSD                                       | Felix Schmidt         | International expert                     |  |                       |
| 92       | dldp   | Arben Kopliku         | Deputy<br>programme<br>manager<br>Deputy |  |                       |
| 93       | dldp   | Erton Kashta          | programme<br>manager                     |  |                       |
| 94       | dldp   | Aljon Koçkiçi         | Programme<br>Officer                     |  |                       |
| 95       | dldp   | Elvin Hoxha           | Programme<br>Officer                     |  |                       |
| 96       | dldp   | Erida Dobrushi        | Programme<br>Officer                     |  |                       |
|          |  | Liri Haidari          | Programme<br>assistant                   |  |                       |
| 97       | dldp   | Liri Hajdari          | assistant                                |  |                       |
| 97<br>98 | dldp<br>dldp                                   | Aranit Vokshi         | Logistics                                |  |                       |

#### Annex C. Presentations held in the Conference

See presentations on-line at www.dldp.al

- Working at the regional level. Results and findings: (Mrs. Narin Panariti, Deputy Team Leader of SELEA Project)
- <u>Findings from dldp support in waste sector in Northern Albania (*Mr. Arben Gjuraj, Mayor of* <u>Commune of Dajç; Mr. Beqir Arifaj, Mayor of Municipality of Pukë; Mr. Viktor Tushaj, Mayor of</u> <u>Municipality of Lezhë</u>)</u>
- Experience in Shkodra with recycling and community mobilization (*Mr. Ahmet Omi, Deputy Mayor of Municipality of Shkodër*)
- <u>Waste Management in Albania (Prof. Dr. Pëllumb Abeshi, Director General, Ministry of</u> <u>Environment)</u>
- <u>Decentralization and Territorial Reform: opportunities for policy making at sectorial level (Mr.</u> <u>Enea Hoti, Advisor of the Minister of State for Local Issues)</u>

#### Annex D. Press release (SCO-A)



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

Ambasada e Zvicrës Zyra e Bashkëpunimit Zviceran në Shqipëri

#### Njoftim për Mediat

Datë: Për: 20 Maj 2014 Përfaqësuesit e Mediave

#### Menaxhimi i Mbetjeve Diskutohet gjatë një Konference me Përfaqësues nga Qeveria, Donatorët dhe Shoqëria Civile

Një konferencë e organizuar nga programi i decentralizimit të Bashkëpunimit Zviceran mblodhi së bashku përfaqësues nga qeveria qendrore dhe vendore, donatorë ndërkombëtarë dhe shoqëria civile për të prezantuar dhe diskutuar sfidat dhe mundësitë më të fundit për të trajtuar çështjen e menaxhimit të mbetjeve.

**Tiranë, e Martë, 20 Maj 2014** – Programi i decentralizimit të Bashkëpunimit Zviceran në bashkëpunim me projektin SELEA të financuar nga BE, organizuan një konferencë për të sjellë në nivel kombëtar çështjet dhe mundësitë në lidhje me menaxhimin e mbetjeve. Përfaqësuesit përfshinë zyrtarë nga Ministria e Mjedisit, bashkitë e Shkodrës dhe Lezhës, Delegacioni i BE-së dhe shoqëria civile.

"Menaxhimi i mbetjeve shkon përtej çështjes së mjedisit. Ai ndikon mbi shëndetin dhe turizmin, për shembull", that Holger Tausch, I Ngarkuar me Punë në Ambasadën e Zvicrës dhe Drejtor I Bashkëpunimit. "Unë besoj se ka një consensus midis qeverisë, donatorëve, dhe shoqërisë civile mbi nevojën për të përmirësuar menaxhimin e mbetjeve. Ka tashmë një Ligj mbi Menaxhimin e Integruar të Mbetjeve si dhe legjislacion dhe rregulla që e shoqërojnë të cilat janë krijuar në bashkëpunim me Bashkimin Evropian. Kjo krijon një bazë të mirë nga mund të filohet. Sidoqoftë, draftimi dhe zbatimi I ligjit duhet të shkojnë dorë pas dore", vazhdoi Z. Tausch.

Zv. Ministrja e Mjedisit, Oliana Ifti përmendi gjatë fjalimit të saj se qeveria prej disa kohësh e ka bërë menaxhimin e mbetjeve një prioritet. "[citimi ]", tha Zv. Ministrja.

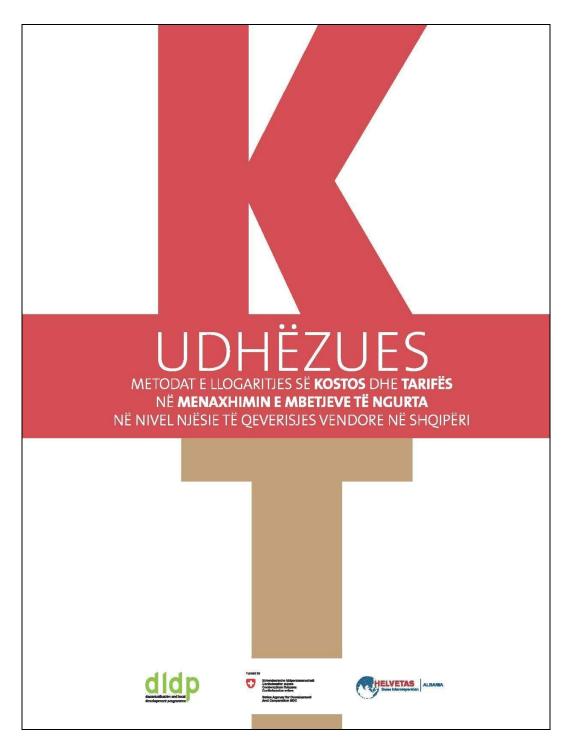
Qëllimi I konferencës ishte të sjellë në nivel kombëtar disa shembuj të mirë se si qeveria vendore në Shkodër dhe Lezhë e ka trajtuar menaxhimin e mbetjeve. Këto shembuj mund të informojnë strategjinë kombëtare dhe të ndihmojnë në vendosjen e prioriteteve.

Menaxhimi I mbetjeve pritet të ndikohet nga decentralizimi dhe reforma e re territoriale e lancuar nga qeveria. Një Grup Pune ndër-ministror mbi Menaxhimin e Mbetjeve nën udhëheqjen e Ministrisë së Mjedisit u krijuar pas urdhërit të Kryeministrit Rama dhe në linjë me Planin Kombëtar mbi Mbetjet. Grupi I Punës përbëhet nga zv. Ministra dhe përfshin një bord këshillues.

Përveç shembujve të qeverisë vendore, konferenca përfshiu reagime nga ministri të tjera dhe donatorë ndërkombëtarë. Rekomandimet që vijnë nga shembuj realë dhe nga ekspertë të fushës pritet të informojnë strategjitë kombëtare të ardhshme në lidhje me menaxhimin e mbetjeve.

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#### Annex E: Cost and tariff manual



See the full text manual on-line at dldp Knowledge Management Platform

#### Annex F

#### Analysis of institutional responsibilities and roles of the Government in the management of solid waste in Albania

Preliminary analysis based on the competences and responsibilities assigned by the legal framework.

*Currently ministries are working to clarify their roles and functions. A further clarification of duties and avoidance of duplication is necessary.* 

An analysis of the progress of the Waste Strategy and policy work is compiled and given attached.

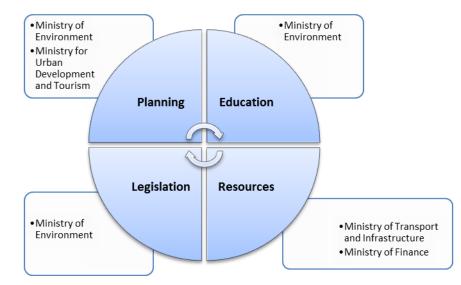
Compiled by Eduart Cani (REC) in consultation with the line Ministries for the **dldp** 

#### A. Graphically - Ministries with direct roles and responsibilities in the management of solid waste

Ministries with direct duty to fulfill the strategic and legal obligations are:

| Ministry of Environment (MM)  | Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure (MTI)   | Ministry of Urban Development and  |
|---|--|--|
|   |  | Tourism (MUDT)   |
| Legal functions   | Legal functions  | Legal functions  |
| - Based on DCM. 945, dated<br>09.10.2013, the Ministry carries out its<br>activities in the environmental sector,<br>including policies, standards and<br>monitoring of waste | <ul> <li>Based on DCM. 954, dated 10.16.2013, the Ministry carries out its activities in:</li> <li>1. Preparation and implementation of the objectives of government policy for the development and urban waste in terms of the implementation of their projects.</li> </ul> | - Based on DCM. 944, dated 09.10.2013<br>Ministry carries out its activity in the field of<br>waste in relation to spatial planning.<br>The Institutional Set-up |
|   | 2. Developing development policies and coordination of infrastructure policies for the urban waste in their implementation component and following   | - Structure organized at Directorate level -   |

| The Institutional Set-up   | of the implementation of these policies in the levels of subordination.  | Department of Urban Services and Housing /  |
|--|--|---|
| <ul> <li>Structure organized at sector level<br/>under the Department of the<br/>Environment – Sector for Waste,<br/>Chemical and Industrial Accidents</li> <li>The sector has a structure of one<br/>chief and one specialist to cover all<br/>strategic and legal obligations</li> <li>National Environment Agency,<br/>depending institution performs its<br/>activities in the field of monitoring of</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>4. The direction, management, supervision and setting technical standards infrastructure, waste landfills</li> <li>7. Reviewing and proposing programming for funding sources of internal and external (foreign donors and through public private partnership), to cover the need of developing infrastructure construction of waste.</li> <li>8. Coordinate work with other ministries and international financial institutions of various partner countries, for providing necessary funding sources, in order to create development opportunities and harmonization: a) and waste treatment, environmental protection and enhancing the quality of life in the country;</li> </ul> | Sector of solid waste treatment - The sector has a structure of one chief and two specialists and three engineers of the urban services sector which provide technical support project-design issues Budget - Directorate currently has no budget for waste management. |
| waste  | country,   |   |
| <ul> <li>Budget</li> <li>The Sector has no budget assigned to perform duties according to the strategy.</li> <li>EU funded project SELEA to support the Ministry at the Planning and Legislation pillars of the strategy</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>The Institutional Set-up</li> <li>Structure organized at Directorate level - Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation and Waste / Sector for the treatment of urban waste</li> <li>The sector has a sector structure with one chief and one specialist to cover all legal obligations</li> <li>Budget</li> <li>The sector has set an investment budget which stands at USD 500K each year, and for 2014 the budget was increased to 1.5M USD</li> </ul>   |   |



#### B. Description of competences and roles of Ministries according to the National Waste Strategy

| Policy<br>framework of<br>the National<br>Waste Strategy<br>(PERL) | The main objectives   | National institution in charge to fulfill duties and responsibilities   | Powers and duties of the Qark<br>and LGUs   | Remarks on the<br>situation with the<br>distribution of powers<br>under the strategic<br>directions   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Planning</b> for<br>waste<br>management                         | <ol> <li>Develop PERL<br/>based policy for<br/>the managemen<br/>of solid waste<br/>according<br/>hierarchy of to E<br/>WFD and related<br/>strategy</li> </ol> | <ul> <li>(PERL) and has assigned the management based on the waste management hierarchy in full compliance with EU</li> <li>WED and has adopted the landfill as the final stage of waste</li> </ul>     |   | - Further clarification of<br>roles and responsibilities<br>between the MoE and<br>MUDT in the context of<br>the planning for the<br>location of landfills in<br>the broader context of<br>territorial planning |
|  |   | <b>Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism</b><br>based on the duties for the territory planning assigns the<br>landfill location   |   |   |
|  | 2. Draft National<br>Plan for Waste<br>Management   | Ministry of Environment<br>drafted and adopted in 2011 the NPWM and designed 12<br>regional waste areas (under 12 Qarks) which must develop<br>their respective plans and design the location landfills | - Qark is the regional authority<br>that approves the Regional<br>Waste Plan developed by MoE | - This task is well defined<br>and there is a freedom<br>to assign one landfill per<br>region or two in one or<br>one per two   |

| 3. | Draft Regional<br>Plans of Waste<br>Management    | <ul> <li>Ministry of Environment</li> <li>drafted 12 regional plans for 12 regions of the country. Has approved three plans in the Qark councils of Tirana, Shkodra and Diber. No plan has arrived for approval by the Council of Ministers.</li> <li>Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism</li> <li>is charged with the task of territorial planning and under this can assign the location of the landfill. So far the ministry does not have direct competence.</li> </ul> | - According to the law on<br>integrated waste management<br>No. 10 463, dated 09.22.2011 as<br>amended by Law no. 156 dated<br>10.10 2013, Article 12, paragraph<br>1 stipulates that: <b>Every Qark</b><br><b>designs the regional integrated</b><br><b>waste management plan for the</b><br><b>territory under its jurisdiction</b> , in<br>accordance with the National<br>Plan of Integrated Waste<br>Management and with the<br>requirements of Section 10 of<br>this law  | - Clarification of the<br>functions and plans<br>within the planning<br>competences of the<br>MUDT for landfills  |
|----|---|---|---|---|
| 4. | Encouraging local<br>planning waste<br>management | <b>Ministry of Environment</b><br>designs binding policy for the Qark and LGUs in developing<br>local plans for waste management according to the Strategy<br>and NPWM. The Law for IWM imposes fines for LGUs not<br>managing the solid waste according to the legal framework.  | <ul> <li>According to the law on<br/>integrated waste management<br/>No. 10 463, dated 09.22.2011 as<br/>amended by Law no. 156 dated<br/>10.10 2013, Article 12, paragraph<br/>2 stipulates that: Every local<br/>government unit or group of<br/>units of local government<br/>designs the local integrated<br/>waste management plan for the<br/>territory under its jurisdiction, in<br/>accordance with the National<br/>Plan of Integrated Waste<br/>Management and with the<br/>requirements of Section 10 of</li> </ul> | - The local units have<br>prepared management<br>plans which have not<br>predefined minimum<br>standards, but those in<br>general level set by the<br>NPWM and framework<br>law. The plans<br>developed so far are not<br>supported or<br>documented by any<br>Ministry to verify the<br>fulfillment of legal<br>obligations. |

|  |    |   |  | this law    |   |
|--|----|---|--|-------------|---|
|  |    |   |  |             |   |
| Education and<br>training for<br>waste<br>management | 1. | Preparation of<br>national<br>campaigns for<br>waste and<br>community<br>education in<br>fulfillment of<br>objectives | Ministry of Environment<br>promotes education on waste management according to<br>hierarchy of waste focusing on reduction and recycling | Not defined | <ul> <li>There no clear role in<br/>this policy pillar, beside<br/>that anyone is invited to<br/>contribute</li> <li>Except for the MoE no<br/>other structure has any<br/>role or responsibility to<br/>fulfill the need under<br/>this pillar</li> </ul>  |
|  | 2. | Training and<br>qualification of<br>specialists at all<br>levels to respond<br>to legal<br>requirements               | Ministry of Environment<br>organizes training for its staff and regional structures on<br>waste policies                                 | Not defined | <ul> <li>Staff of MoE is very<br/>limited and does not<br/>comply with the strategy<br/>advice to employ 9<br/>specialists.</li> <li>A further clarification<br/>of the division of tasks<br/>between the ministries<br/>(MoE, MTI, MUDT)<br/>which combined have 7<br/>specialists employed for<br/>waste management.<br/>might contribute to the<br/>fulfillment of the needs<br/>for the strategy</li> </ul> |

|   |    |   |   |  | implementation  |
|---|----|---|---|--|---|
| Financing and<br>investments in<br>waste sector | 1. | Planning for<br>Investments for<br>the construction<br>of landfills | <ul> <li>Ministry of Environment</li> <li>within the regional policy-making for integrated waste<br/>management and based on criteria's set by the Strategy and<br/>NPWM projects the need for the financial resources and<br/>investment criteria's for the landfills.</li> <li>According to law No. 10 463, dated 09.22.2011 as amended<br/>by Law no. 156 dated 10.10 2013, for integrated waste<br/>management, Article 65 of the Promotion of private<br/>investment and public private partnership, provides:</li> <li>Projects that, in the judgment of the ministry, aiming to<br/>implement measures of the National Plan of Integrated<br/>Waste Management, are awarded the concession, in<br/>accordance with Law no. 9663, dated 18.12.2006 "On<br/>concessions", as amended.</li> <li>Currently the Ministry of Environment is responsible for<br/>assessing the need and applying for concession and in<br/>cooperation with MTI organizes joint technical committee<br/>to asses and approves the request.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>DCM Nr.333 dated 26.01.2011 "On the management of regional waste landfills", stipulates: <ol> <li>Administration of urban waste landfills to be done at the regional level through the respective Qarks.</li> <li>LGUs to cooperate with their regional level to harmonize regional policies for the exercise of common functions.</li> <li>Qarks cooperate with local governments, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (now Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure), Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration (now Ministry of Environment) and, within 2011, assign and approve the surfaces that can be used for the constructions of the regional landfills.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> | <ul> <li>implementation</li> <li>MTI has direct<br/>responsibility for<br/>funding and allocated<br/>budget (very limited)</li> <li>A clarification of<br/>responsibilities between<br/>MTI and MUDT on study<br/>projections and<br/>investing for the landfills<br/>is needed (priority)</li> <li>The cost and tariff is<br/>not a task for any<br/>Ministry and no<br/>standards are adopted<br/>in this issue.</li> </ul> |
|   |    |   | The Ministry of Environment has no budget for investment.   | - LGUs is in charge for the financial management of the  |   |

| <ul> <li>is responsible for setting in security-sanitary condition of all existing waste dumps, and construction of new landfills according to EU criteria and create the conditions for an integrated waste management.</li> <li>According to EU criteria and create the conditions for an integrated waste management, Article 45 of Landfill Operations, stipulates that:</li> <li>1. The Council of Ministers, on the proposal of the Minister and the Minister responsible for public works, adopts the criteria for studies and project-construction for the construction of landfills and closure of landfills for urban solid waste.</li> <li>Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure is the only Ministry with allocated funds for projections and investment works. However, these funds are limited and do not allow any construction of new landfills.</li> <li>Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism remains within urban planning in the frame of territorial planning and identifies currently ongoing by the Ministry)</li> </ul> | <ol> <li>Establishing the<br/>environmental<br/>fund</li> </ol> | <b>Ministry of Environment</b><br>promotes the establishment of the Environmental Fund as  | No role.<br>Fund for the regions does not                      | <ul> <li>Ministry of Finance did<br/>not take into<br/>consideration the draft</li> </ul> |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <ul> <li>is responsible for setting in security-sanitary condition of all existing waste dumps, and construction of new landfills according to EU criteria and create the conditions for an integrated waste management.</li> <li>According to law No. 10 463, dated 09.22.2011 as amended by Law no. 156 dated 10.10 2013, for integrated waste management, Article 45 of Landfill Operations, stipulates that:</li> <li>1. The Council of Ministers, on the proposal of the Minister and the Minister responsible for public works, adopts the criteria for studies and project-construction for the construction of landfills and closure of landfills for urban solid waste.</li> <li>Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure is the only Ministry with allocated funds for projections and investment works. However, these funds are limited and do not allow any construction of new landfills.</li> </ul>   |   | planning and identifies current dumpsites, and their closure<br>and plans the construction on new landfills (unspecified<br>tasks with DCM but that is currently ongoing by the<br>Ministry) |  |   |
| <ul> <li>is responsible for setting in security-sanitary condition of all existing waste dumps, and construction of new landfills according to EU criteria and create the conditions for an integrated waste management.</li> <li>According to law No. 10 463, dated 09.22.2011 as amended by Law no. 156 dated 10.10 2013, for integrated waste management, Article 45 of Landfill Operations, stipulates that:         <ol> <li>The Council of Ministers, on the proposal of the Minister and the Minister responsible for public works, adopts the criteria for studies and project-construction for the construction of landfills and closure of landfills for urban solid waste.</li> <li>Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure is the only Ministry with allocated funds for projections and investment works. However, these funds are limited and do not allow any</li> </ol> </li> </ul>   |   | Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism  |  |   |
| <ul> <li>is responsible for setting in security-sanitary condition of all existing waste dumps, and construction of new landfills according to EU criteria and create the conditions for an integrated waste management.</li> <li>According to law No. 10 463, dated 09.22.2011 as amended by Law no. 156 dated 10.10 2013, for integrated waste management, Article 45 of Landfill Operations, stipulates that:</li> <li>1. The Council of Ministers, on the proposal of the Minister and the Minister responsible for public works, adopts the criteria for studies and project-construction for the construction of landfills and closure of landfills for urban</li> </ul>   |   | with allocated funds for projections and investment works.<br>However, these funds are limited and do not allow any  |  |   |
| is responsible for setting in security-sanitary condition of all<br>existing waste dumps, and construction of new landfills<br>according to EU criteria and create the conditions for an<br>integrated waste management.<br>According to law No. 10 463, dated 09.22.2011 as amended<br>by Law no. 156 dated 10.10 2013, for integrated waste<br>management, Article 45 of Landfill Operations, stipulates   |   | and the Minister responsible for public works, adopts the criteria for studies and project-construction for the construction of landfills and closure of landfills for urban                 |  |   |
| is responsible for setting in security-sanitary condition of all<br>existing waste dumps, and construction of new landfills<br>according to EU criteria and create the conditions for an   |   | by Law no. 156 dated 10.10 2013, for integrated waste management, Article 45 of Landfill Operations, stipulates  |  |   |
|  |   | existing waste dumps, and construction of new landfills according to EU criteria and create the conditions for an  | jurisdiction, including cost for the IWM and tariff management |   |

|         | an instrument for direct financing of integrated waste<br>management.<br>A draft DCM has been developed by the Ministry but not<br>varied over.<br><b>Ministry of Finance</b><br>should / could support the creation of the fund and<br>establishes management policy on operating the fund<br>outside the state budget | provide support for waste management. | decision drawn up by<br>MoE. further progress<br>remains to be clarified   |
|---------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| 3. Prom | Noting PPP       Ministry of Environment         urges PPP policies through the waste hierarchy mainly by encouraging recycling.         According to law No. 10 463, dated 09.22.2011 as amend by Law no. 156 dated 10.10 2013, for integrated waste management  |                                       | - MoE has a good<br>cooperation and<br>strongly encourages<br>recycling businesses and<br>has the main role of<br>promoting and planning<br>for concession |
|         | <ul> <li>Article 65, Promotion of private investment and public private partnership, stipulates that:</li> <li>1. Council of Ministers encourages private sector involvement and public-private partnership in the activiti of integrated waste management.</li> </ul>  | es                                    | - Imports of waste for<br>recycling purposes is still<br>an open question  |
|         | Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure<br>7. Reviewing and proposing programming for funding<br>sources of internal and external (foreign donors and<br>through public private partnership), to cover the need of   |                                       |  |

|  |    |  | developing infrastructure construction of waste.  |   |  |
|--|----|--|---|---|--|
| Legislation for<br>waste<br>management | 1. | Drafting and<br>adoption of the<br>framework law on<br>integrated waste<br>management          | Ministry of Environment<br>drafts and adopts the law on IWM and all liabilities<br>associated with the environmental and infrastructural<br>framework in place<br>Law No. 10 463, dated 09.22.2011 as amended by Law no.<br>156 dated 10.10 2013, for integrated waste management " | Is directly affected. Currently<br>does not promote new<br>legislation. |  |
|  | 2. | Draft and adopt<br>by-laws in<br>support to legal<br>framework and<br>integrated<br>management | Ministry of Environment<br>designs all legal framework, DCMs, regulations and orders in<br>fulfillment of the law for IWM<br>The bylaw framework almost completed   |   |  |
|  | 3. | Comply with the<br>EU legal<br>framework   | Ministry of Environment<br>is responsible for the legislative framework with the EU in<br>accordance with DWM<br>Compliance and approximation is very well progressed   |   |  |