

Waste Network for sustainable solid waste management planning and promotion of integrated decision tools in the Balkan Region



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Balkwaste Project

BALKWASTE is a LIFE – Environment project (LIFE 07 ENV/RO/000686) aiming to promote sustainable waste management planning in the Balkan region and to develop an integrated decision tool in the Balkan Region

Project Partners:

- REPA - AGENȚIA REGIONALĂ PENTRU PROTECȚIA MEDIULUI BACĂU
- National Technical University of Athens (School of Chemical Engineering)
- TUC - Technical University of Crete Electronic and Computer Engineering Dpt.
- EUROCONSULTANTS S.A.
- SDCS - Club "Sustainable Development of Civil Society"
- EFCon - SC European Focus Consulting SRL
- SUROVINA družba za predelavo odpadkov d.d.

This projects aims to the dissemination of the knowledge, deriving from the implementation of the EU waste strategy and policy in Member states, to the whole Balkan Region, using Romania and Bulgaria as case studies for the implementation of integrated waste management planning. Beneficiaries from 4 Balkan Countries (Greece, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Romania) will cooperate in order to develop decision support tools, that will incorporate EU policy on waste and recycling and can be easily implemented by Competent Authorities.

The project covers a period of three years and its main objectives include:

- 🌱 Aiding accession countries (Romania and Bulgaria) incorporate and implement EU waste management and natural resources protection policy
- 🌱 Establishment of a waste network for the Knowledge exchange within the Balkan Region
- 🌱 Establishment of monitoring procedure regarding waste management efficiency and Infrastructures
- 🌱 Provision of technical support to local entities that are responsible for waste management Planning and implementation
- 🌱 Demonstration of innovative decision support tools
- 🌱 Increase awareness in waste management aspects
- 🌱 Promote collaboration among waste relevant stakeholders within the Balkan Region
- 🌱 Ensure the sustainable character of a waste management monitoring procedure and its future expansion
- 🌱 Supplement EU officially established monitoring procedures



www.balkwaste.eu

Sustainable Construction in Public and Private Works through IPP approach

Editorial

The adoption of sustainable practices in solid waste management is an important step towards environmental protection and conservation of natural resources. The program aims to record the current solid waste management practices in Greece, Romania, Slovenia and Bulgaria and to promote information exchange between those countries. Long term target of the project is to create an information exchange network that will continue to operate after the completion of the project and will evaluate the progress in the waste management sector through the use of indicators.



The Project Tasks

The project tasks can be summarized below:

- Analysis of the current status and legislative framework regarding solid waste. Data will be collected and analyzed in a national level and regional level and waste management practices together with the corresponding statutes will be recorded.
- Identification of two case study regions in Romania and Bulgaria. The infrastructure, the and the waste management status of those regions will be assessed. Development of database for municipal waste treatment technologies
- Examination of specifications for sustainable waste management planning and development of guidelines for the evaluation of alternative waste management scenarios. Development of criteria for the assessment of treatment technologies.

- Development of analytical tool for evaluation of alternative management options. The tool will be expanded in order to be able to evaluate alternative scenarios. Following that, the tool will be distributed to all public and private stakeholders.
- Identification of MSW composition in the case study areas. Based on the data from the MSW composition analysis and information from previous actions the software model will be implemented in the selected regions. All potential funding options for the selected plan will be investigated.
- A data base containing all relevant stakeholders in terms of waste management will be created. Furthermore a monitoring platform for the evaluation of waste management performance among the Balkan Countries will be created.

Progress of the Project



Regarding the progress of the project during the first six months, the following actions have been realized:

Publicity

Regarding the publicity of the project, its official web page has been created, which is already available in the Romanian and English version (www.balkwaste.eu).

Kick-off meeting

In January 2009, the kick-off meeting between the partners of the project took place, during which the actions of the project were planned.

Analysis of existing solid waste management practices

In the framework of this action the current solid waste management practices in the four participating countries together with the future trends were assessed. The evaluation of the waste management status occurred both in national and regional level.

Analysis of the waste legislative framework

This activity shall involve the detailed description of the national legislative framework regarding solid waste management. The transposition of EU waste related framework was investigated and the national and regional waste strategy was analysed. In addition, the future steps in European Policy regarding solid waste management together with their implementation in the Balkan countries were examined.



Identification of case study regions

Based on the results from the previous activities and taking into account the national and regional waste management strategy and planning, the project team identified and selected two regions in Romania and Bulgaria as case study regions where the software tool will be implemented.

Future Actions

The action plan of the project up to October 2009 includes the following actions:

Evaluation of waste infrastructure

This activity shall record, review and assess in detail the current situation regarding solid waste management in the two regions identified. An analysis of current waste management structure, such as disposal routes, sorting and treatment activities, institutional capacity and management cost will take place.

Second Project Meeting

In August 2009 the second meeting between the project partners is going to take place in Greece, in order for the project progress to be assessed and the next actions to be planned.

Development of database for waste treatment technologies

Taking into account the fact that Romania and Bulgaria are recently acceding countries that have to conform with European waste legislation and policy, all available treatment technologies will be examined in order to be implemented as part of an integrated approach in sustainable waste management



***For more information, you can visit the project website:
www.balkwaste.eu***