



Challenges for International Waste Management
24th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

Mag. Georg Ketzler
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Saubermacher

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An international waste management and recycling company

59
participations

3,200
employees

42,000
customers

300 M €
turnover



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International waste management faces big challenges

- Continuous increase in environmental pollution
- Huge differences in environmental standards
- Illegal export of waste streams („Waste takes the cheapest way!”)
- Urgent need for reduction of CO₂
- Significant growth of demand for resources
- Disproportionate rise in global waste production



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Concrete Issue: Disappearance of waste streams

Examples:

- Cars: 250,000 vehicles for scrapping in Austria per year. → Only 50,000 cars are processed in high-standard shredding facilities in Austria!
- Electronical waste: significant amounts are illegally exported to Asia or Africa



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„Standards“ of processing of illegally exported waste



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Example: Modern waste management in the Middle East



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Saubermacher's Lessons Learned

- Awareness & commitment on site
- Step-by-step proceeding
- Environmental education
- Know-How transfer



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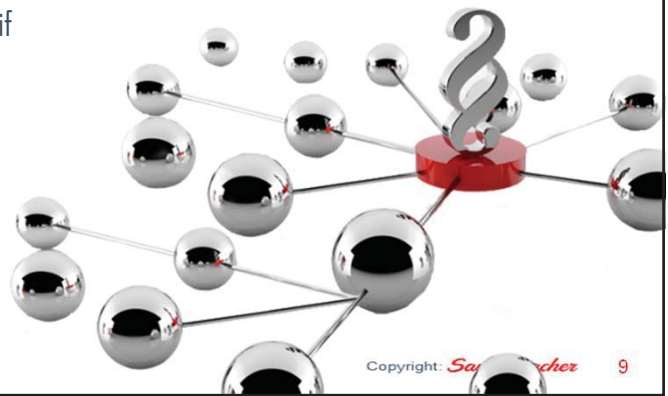
Important: Step-by-step proceeding

- Collection & systematic depositing
- Enforcement of separated collection to reduce amounts deposited
- Reinforced recycling



How could OSCE help?

- Raising awareness of the importance of the waste industry
- Creation of homogenous legal regulations & standards
- Ending illegal waste export. Only allowing exports if environmental standards are sufficiently high.
- Support with monitoring the compliance of legal regulations
- Provide know-how transfer



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Conclusion

There is a need to switch from national waste management autarky to real cross-border concepts. We're all in the same boat called „earth“.



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