

The vision, priorities, policies and goals of Albanian Government on Waste Management




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Environmental politics in Albania and the albanian reality are facing a series of obvious problematics and concerns.



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Urban wastes and their administration, under the approved environmental standards, is one of those acute emergencies that needs intervention, In order to improve the situation we are working in these directions:

1. The promotion and the implementation of schemes for the collection and separation of waste at source.
2. Public education is another direction to meet environmental standards in waste management.
3. Tariff increase, which responds to the costs of waste management. The polluter pays (The Establishment of a Regulatory Authority for wastes, which define a solid waste fee)
4. Construction of regional landfill.
5. Closure of existing landfills.
6. The promotion of public - private partnership
7. Law Enforcement.

The Current Legal Framework

The greatest progress in terms of waste management so far has been done in the area of legislation.



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- Legislation on waste management in Albania, has advanced with the adoption of new laws, decisions and regulations / guidelines that reflect:
- The goals and the deadlines provided by laws and national strategies are in line with EU requirements
- One of the important objectives of the legal framework and the main reason of this top-down approach is the creation of adequate conditions for international donors (in particular EU funds) in order to finance the necessary infrastructure.

National Strategy and a National action Plan of Waste Management.



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- Defines the **political direction** of the Albanian Government regarding the **sustainable waste management** until 2025
- It is fundamentally based on the **governmental commitment in order to finance this area** and to transform Albania's history in terms of reduction, recycling, composting and waste recovery
- Presents the **main investment mechanisms** in the sector of wastes and also the need for a two-staged financing process, that **takes into account** situations like in the period of **Pre Acceptance** and **After Acceptance**.
- It ensures the **collection of waste streams separated from one-another** and expanded throughout Albania including paper, glass, metal and plastic.
- Aims to **counsel the businesses** on the minimization of wastes and **develop markets for recycling** materials so that recycling becomes possible and reduce its costs.

The Objectives of this Strategy are:



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- Until **2020**: Aims to **prevent the growth** of municipal waste
- Until **2015**: **Recycling / composting** 25% of municipal waste
- Until **2020**: **Recycling / composting** 55% of municipal waste;
- Until **2025**: **Energy recovery** of 15% of municipal waste
- Until **2025**: **Reduction** of municipal waste in landfill by 90% that it is currently at approximately 30%;



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- **Crucial to the success of this strategy will be:**
- ensuring **adequate funding** (one of the mainstays of Politics) for the infrastructure needs and
- **building capacity** to meet obligations as to this strategy as well as to its implementation plan.

The law “**For the integrated waste management**” has been approved. In pursuance of this law there have been approved 9 regulations and 6 bylaws are in process.

Strategic Priorities of the Albanian Governmental Programme:



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- Adoption of the Legal Standards of European Community.
- Strengthening of law enforcement
- Investments in environmental protection
- Financial support in Environmental Infrastructure
- Environmental Resource Management
- Increasing Awareness and Communication
- Improving the Monitoring System

Targeting objectives



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The strategic objectives set by the Ministry of Environment of Albania for the administration of the wastes, are determined in such a way so that the administration of the waste is done with a much higher efficiency and a lower cost.

These objectives will be met by targeting:

- The reduction of the wastes;
- Their reuse and recycling
- The production of energy;

Ministry of Environment, in collaboration with the private sector, has undertaken the implementation of some projects



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- **The separation of waste at source for all central institutions and those depending on them, primary schools and secondary schools in the district of Tirana**
- **Setting up a refund system to return the waste from packaging and the commitment of manufacturers in promoting their system of collection and recycling. (German Company)**
- **Setting up a scheme for the administration of electrical and electronic waste English Company**
- **Construction of landfill for waste treatment of Durres Region. Albanian-Italian Company**
- **The integration of environment in the local, regional and national plans and programs, as well as integrated waste management.**

Steps to be taken for the improvement of solid waste management:



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- Implementation of legislation through a reformed structure like the Environmental Inspectorate.
- Promotion of Public Private Partnership, since state's budget is unable to take over the financing of waste management
- Continuing drafting of legislation in accordance with EU directives.
- Establishment of an National Agency of Waste Management, depending on the Ministry of Environment, in order to stabilize the situation, to a medium-term period until 2020. The period that we might enter the EU, by implementing the directives of the EU standarts.

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- Establishment of a Regulatory Entity of Waste Management for the determination of a tariff, based on the implementation of the principle the Polluter Pays.
- Ensuring a high level of environmental protection and health through prevention, minimization and proper waste management and also through the efficient use of natural resources by their reuse, recycling and recovery of waste.
- In terms of incentive tax measures or taxes much remains to be done in this direction in order for recycling to be stimulated as a business, which is the biggest contributor in the improvement of environmental standards.



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- Promotion and implementation of the collection and separation schemes of wastes at source.
- Possibility of subvention from the central government, giving it as a conditional funding for the treatment of waste in landfill or incinerator.
- Establishment of Environmental Fund.
- Awareness and participation of the public, local authorities and all other factors such as business, civil society, etc., which have a crucial role in meeting the objectives in this area.

Crucial for the success of this strategy will be:



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Ensuring **adequate funding** for infrastructure needs and **building capacity** to meet obligations as to this strategy as well as to its implementation plan

The Ministry of Environment is **the key institution to the composition of policies and legislation** of waste management, **the licensing** of entities that manage and generate waste, **inspection** and **control of the situation** regarding the applicability of the legislation environment.

Draft law on waste management, the policies and the programs set the **priorities waste treatment** according to the following hierarchy:



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- a. **prevention of waste;**
- b. **preparation for reuse;**
- c. **recycling;**
- d. **other recoveries, for example energy recovery; and**
- e. **destruction**

A focus on policies' treatment related to the reduction, reuse and recycling of wastes;



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- **Until 2025, it will be achieved 25% of landfill and 75% recycling, composting and energy recovery,**
- **the establishment of landfill tax**
- The Albanian government also plans to establish a **system of compensation / payment for landfill for local authorities,**
- **The legal initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Environment**

An important element are the financing costs

The **local government units have concrete obligations** (new territorial reform)

Current Situation of Waste Management in Albania



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- The current state of urban solid waste deposition is unsatisfactory
65 existing landfills in urban areas (with no criteria);
- contaminate surface water, underground water, soil and air and pose a risk to the public health;
- In a year we generate approximately 1,000,000 tons of municipal waste
In rural areas there is a lack of waste management.

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- The system of hazardous waste's management is poor, no landfills or installations where they need to be addressed;
- Also construction wastes are dumped wherever it is possible, since there is no landfill or even installation for them to be processed. Currently, we generate about 300,000 tons of construction waste annually;
- Currently, there are three landfills that cover several municipalities such as Tirana, Lezha, Shkodra, Saranda, Delvine and Himara under construction is the landfill of Korca (supported by KfW).

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The Albanian government is prioritizing the promotion of Public Private Partnership for waste management.



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1. Construct incinerators; soon enough will begin the construction for the Region of Elbasan (under construction) and Fier.
2. Construct landfills, soon will begin the construction of landfill for the Region of Durres.
3. Treat hospital waste and pharmaceuticals.
4. Treat electronic and electrical waste.
5. Treat used tires.
6. Treat used oils.
7. Treat waste from ships.
8. Treat construction waste.
9. Treat hazardous waste.

With regard to the prevention of illegal trans-boundary movements of wastes, there have been taken a series of measures:



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1. The draft of the Ministerial Council's Decision no. 641, dated 01.10.2014 "On approval of rules for waste export and transit of non-hazardous waste and inert waste", which transposes Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and Council dated 14 June 2006 "For the transport of wastes".
2. Increased customs control through qualified custom officers in the relevant area.
3. Continuous communication between the Ministry and the competent authorities of destination for export, mainly for the hazardous wastes before the authorization.
4. Permanent control by the Inspectorate of Environment in all businesses that export solid waste out of the borders, on meeting the standards required by legislation.



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Thank You!