

WASTE MANAGEMENT IN CROATIA EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This study aims to provide a better understanding of waste management practices in Croatia, and potential opportunities for stakeholders to invest in Croatia. Croatia faces many challenges concerning waste disposal and is fighting to obtain more sustainable and profitable ways of disposing the accumulated waste.

Modern waste management is a set of activities, decisions and measures that are directed to prevent the generation of waste and its harmful impact on the environment. In addition, measures such as collection, transport, disposal and other activities related to waste are very important, as well as supervision over these activities and care for landfills which should be arranged in an economically efficient and environmentally friendly way.

The situation in the waste disposal system in the Republic of Croatia is still bad and greatly affects the environment and human health. The way in which Croatia is now dealing with waste is not good and effective. The solving of the municipal waste disposal problem begins with prevention. Unfortunately, current production and consumption systems do not offer incentives that would prevent the generation or reduce the amount of waste. Progress in terms of resolving the issue of waste requires the association and joint action of all stakeholders: consumers, producers, local authorities and waste treatment facilities.

Consumers who are willing to separate their household waste can only do so if it exists adequate infrastructure. The same is true for local governments that can recycle most of the waste, only if households from their area sort their waste.

In the Republic of Croatia, a large number of landfills, i.e. unregulated landfills, have been rehabilitated. It is a major shift towards responsible waste management but is not a sufficient prerequisite for implementation of a comprehensive waste management system.

The Act on Sustainable waste management (OG No. 73/17) has imposed significantly more complex conditions for activity waste management and stricter measures for the municipal waste management system.

This study offers an overview of waste types and their respective management systems implemented in Croatia, strategies, statistics and general information about main State bodies responsible for waste management and environment protection, as well as legal framework concerning the disposal.

For further information, or if you wish to obtain the whole study, please contact us directly on: zagreb@hub.brussels