

## PROJECT INFORMATION

State at project completion: September 2010

### Strengthening regional waste management planning in Macedonia



Different types of plastic waste piled up after treatment in a modern sorting plant. Source: Philipp Engewald

#### Background information

In the context of the adaptation process to the EU environmental acquis and the National Waste Management Strategy, Macedonia plans the establishment of a regional body in order to manage the future organizational challenges and investments for a more effective and efficient waste management. Local authorities in Macedonia are still not thoroughly acquainted with inter-municipal cooperation. Additionally, the Macedonian Ministry of Environment sees the establishment of a regional landfill in form of a public-private partnership (PPP) as a first step towards establishing regional waste management systems. The project answered the need for advisory assistance particularly regarding experiences with PPP models and the establishment of an environmentally sound waste management system with respect to these circumstances. It was intended to give Macedonian municipal waste experts the opportunity to make use of the experiences made in the young EU Member State Latvia as well as to benefit from the knowledge of German experts. Latvia was predestined for this partnership, since the country had to face similar challenges before its accession to the EU.

#### Project

The overall objectives of the project were to support Macedonian authorities in establishing a regional waste management system, to discuss organizational and technological options and to extend the international exchange of information between Macedonian, German and Latvian experts. Options for recycling and waste avoidance as well as the characteristics of PPP models were discussed. During a field trip to the country and one workshop, representatives from Macedonian local authorities and the Ministry of Environment together with EU experts discussed options for legal and organizational structures of a regional waste management system in Macedonia. The results of the first workshop were disseminated among Macedonian local authorities in a second local workshop. The project partners received additional support from the German Association of Cities and Towns (Deutscher Städtetag) and the Latvian Association of Waste Management Companies. The recommendations found are specific to this project and applicable to other projects only within limits, since the focus was on the establishment of landfills in form of a PPP model, as intended by the Macedonian project partner.

- Funding: Advisory Assistance Programme of the German Federal Environment Ministry
- Project identification: 380 01 225
- Region: FYR Macedonia
- Duration: 12/2009-09/2010
- Project management: Umweltbundesamt
- Project partner in Germany: Baltic Environmental Forum Deutschland (BEF) e. V., Hamburg, [www.bef-de.org](http://www.bef-de.org)
- Project partner on-site: Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC), Country Office Macedonia, Skopje, [www.rec.org.mk](http://www.rec.org.mk), BEF Latvia, Riga, [www.bef.lv](http://www.bef.lv)