



Participatory Plastic Clean Up and Waste Management in Lezha

Context

This initiative started with the BELLS movement for awareness and advocacy on environmental issues and was followed by the project titled 'Participatory Plastic Waste Cleaning and Waste Management in Lezha Municipality' funded by the Embassy of the Netherlands and implemented by the Urban Research Institute and the Municipality.

After the initial stage was set successfully, they also involved the Office for Swiss Cooperation through its decentralisation and local development programme.

This made possible more funding and technical assistance for designing a new waste management scheme that includes separation of recyclable waste at the deposit source, capacity building and public-private partnership building at local level, and the establishment of the recycling centre.

Project objectives and Municipality's benefits

1. Reduce by 37% or about 6,500 tons of solid waste destined for landfill, the installation of an efficient system for differentiated collection and separation of recyclable waste;
2. Citizens are aware of the effects of outdoor waste and differentiated collection;
3. Improving municipal financial performance of the cleaning service and waste management;
4. Improvement of marketing activities to provide recyclable products.



The Municipality will also benefit from the vision, goals and objectives clearly defined in the Waste Management Plan, prepared by URI staff, as well as from the action plan that will lead them in the next 5 years to improve their services in waste management system.

Activities

There were many activities that made the project a good one, starting with an one year of public awareness and education among citizens in Lezha, institutional capacity building, preparation of a five year integrated management plan, based on the mid-term budget framework of the municipality and investments.

All activities were carried out by involving public institutions and business companies and the public at large, in demonstrating activities in order to instill confidence and show that the new waste management plan can function if there is participation from the public in one hand, and institutional effectiveness on the other.

About URI

Since 1999 the Urban Research Institute (URI) has been delivering big results for development projects and programmers carried out throughout Albania. Our core business focuses on community development, local government strengthening, environmental protection, decentralization, and public services. We conduct studies, lobby the government, train local government units, increase public access to information, and connect development partners. URI has worked with donors such as USAID, Swiss Cooperation, the Netherlands Embassy, UNDP, World Bank, EU, SIDA, Open Society/Soros Foundation, etc.

THE CENTER FOR SELECTION OF RECYCLABLE WASTE

Center for Selection of Recyclable Waste (CSRW) is set up with the assistance of Urban Research Institute (URI) as an integral part of the overall Waste Management Plan in the Municipality of Lezha.

The set up of the Center was made possible under a combined financing of Swiss Cooperation/dldp, Municipality of Lezha and the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Albania.

The CSRW is designated to offer the service for selection of recyclable waste that are collected through the System for Differentiated Waste Collection (SDWC) that is installed in the city of Lezha under the project of "Participatory Plastic Clean up and Waste Management".

The project aims to encourage waste recycling and reduction of waste designated for the landfill of Bushat.

Municipality of Lezha has designated for the purpose of the project a land plot and a premise with the surface of 500 m2 under its ownership. Feasibility and an operational study, including specification of equipment and a reconstruction design were initially prepared by URI in cooperation with specialized municipal staff.

The study defined also the management format through using a private-public-partnership module of operation.

MAIN FACTS

PARTNERS:

- ✓ Kingdom of Netherland
- ✓ DLDP decentralization and local development programme

DURATION:

2011 – 2013

BENEFICIARIES:

- ✓ Lezha Municipality

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