



PEM CONSULT



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPANY OF GEORGIA



Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia

Project financed by KfW and Government of Georgia and supported with funding by the European Union

Project implemented by consortium leaders PEM Consult and ERM

Landfill Operators

The new waste management system of Georgia



The Ministry of Regional Development has a key role and responsibility in implementing the new waste management system in Georgia. Through its company 'Solid Waste Management Company of Georgia' - SWMCG - it will be responsible for managing in future 8 regional landfills all over Georgia, replacing then all municipal landfills existing up to now. We have

talked with Minister Maya Tskitishvili about the Ministry's vision and view on the new waste management system for Georgia.

According to the National Strategy of Waste Management, landfills operating in the regions will be gradually closed and the new, 8 (including Adjara) European standard landfills will be constructed. As a result, what benefits will the general public reap ??

These projects will improve ecological and living conditions for the population. More importantly, the adverse environmental impact will be minimized. Besides, new regional landfills will create new jobs and establish modern waste management system.

What is the role of the Ministry in establishing Solid Waste Management System and what strategic priorities are set in this regard in the following years?

Establishment of a centralized system of solid waste and its proper management is of particular importance for the country's ecological condition. Arrangement of non-hazardous waste landfills, management of existing landfills and their gradual closure, arrangement and management of waste transfer stations is the competence of LLC "Solid Waste Management Company of Georgia", which is managed by the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia. In the future, by 2023, 56 municipal landfill sites across the country will be replaced by 8 landfills which comply with international standards. In addition, a new network of waste management will be established.

The quality of management of new landfills is important for Georgian population. Solid waste management company of Georgia will operate these facilities. In order to support the high standards in this direction, does the

Ministry plan to financially support the company?

The main part of the landfills across Georgia was uncontrolled, which contributed to adverse environmental impact. From 2013, Georgia's Solid Waste Management Company has implemented many projects with financing of the Ministry. With the exception of Tbilisi and Adjara Autonomous Republic, the company operates 54 municipal landfills. 23 of them have been closed according to standards. The rehabilitation works were carried out on 31 landfills, 5 transfer stations arranged and local residents employed. At the same time, foreign financial institutions and donor organizations continue to support various infrastructural projects. Also, international consulting companies are implementing projects that help the company and municipalities in implementing high standards of waste management. In addition, the Ministry and the Solid Waste Management Company have developed a number of legislative acts in the field of waste management. Consequently, the Ministry continues to provide financial support to the company in order to facilitate introduction of high standards of waste management in the country.

In order to introduce a well-functioning financial system in the field of waste management, municipalities will have to pay the so called Gate fee for the disposal of waste on regional landfills. Today the payment of this fee is subsidized from the central budget. Are you planning to change this approach??

Our goal is to introduce a well-functioning waste management system

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that will increase the serviced area and make it more accessible to citizens. Simultaneously, it is necessary to develop a tariff system that will reduce the necessity of subsidization from the state and promote the implementation of the "waste producer pays" principle. The implementation of this system includes the payment of Gate fees by the municipalities. From 2019, waste separation will start in the country and Extended Producer's Responsibility will also be introduced, which will in turn encourage local and foreign investors to invest more in recycling (recycling). It is also important that this process will contribute to the creation of new jobs in the country.

Focus Topic Municipal Waste Management Plans on the way to implementation from 2018

Improve services, reduce waste and get citizens to pay

These are in brief the main areas, on which the municipalities will focus, who have participated in the municipal waste management plan trainings. It was not easy for the municipalities at the beginning, to instantly recognize and describe the entire dimension of waste management in their territories. Meanwhile, they have gained this overview and come up with ideas on how to cope with the challenges in each of the three main topics.

1. Improvement of services

This includes the need for additional containers to improve the service range, extend waste collection to remoter settlements, and separate certain waste materials in the future. First and foremost, paper and plastics should be in the foreground for a separate collection.

2. Reduction of waste delivered to the landfill

The municipalities have also realized that the amounts they handover to landfilling in the future and for which

they will have to pay directly need to be reduced. Treating also green waste separately has therefore attracted particular attention from a number of municipalities. Partly has a centralized composting been envisaged but also promoting such practices and waste separation in settlements with difficult access to regular collection services is considered.

3. Convincing citizens to pay for waste management services

One of the biggest challenges for the municipalities lies in the fact that every

individual has a financial responsibility for waste management and that without this responsibility a proper management and provision of services is impossible. In the coming years attention and pressure of the municipalities to the payment of contributions for waste services will not only be increased among their citizens.

Likewise considered will be options which, for example, involve also tourists in maintaining a clean municipal environment and bearing the costs for it.

Final training of municipal waste management plans

On 13-14 September 2017, the final training for waste management plan for the municipalities of the project region was held in Kutaisi. The project experts reviewed the progress to date of the plans during the final training seminar, showing that some of the municipalities have already completed the draft plans to a very good stage, but also highlighting some problematic issues related to determination of tariffs. In addition attention was drawn to the subject of public relations and communication, which will be in the medium and long run a key factor for

municipalities to convince the population to actively contribute and support the implementation of the new waste management system.

Following this final training most of the municipalities submitted the draft versions of the Waste Management Plans to the project experts for final consideration and consultation.

By the end of 2017, thirteen out of the 16 municipalities submitted the final versions of their Waste Management Plans to the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture.

Training on Municipal Waste Management Plans - a short overview about 10 months of intense work

The Waste Management Code of Georgia is obliging municipalities to develop waste management plans in 2017, covering the period by 2018-2022. Therefore, in the framework of "Kutaisi Solid Waste Integrated Management Project", experts of the project have conducted 8 training sessions during the 10 months period from November 2016 until September 2017. In addition, more than 25 consultation visits to the waste management plan have been conducted in individual municipalities. After the last training session the project experts provided continuous support to the municipalities for finalizing the plans.



"I highly appreciate my involvement in the training, after the first training details were revealed which are useful not only for this plan but for general public relations, information and PR. We can now make concrete steps for further implementation of this Action Plan, which we want to implement as quickly and accurately as possible."

Ketevan Macharashvili, Sachkhere



"The training was very important. Here we learned new things and approaches how to best cope with the upcoming challenges in waste management of the future. As far as our work is on the paper, foreign experts correct, make comments and give comments, which will result in the final option. This plan leads us to finally clean up our city and clean the village. This is our goal."

Luri Lartsuliani, Tsageri

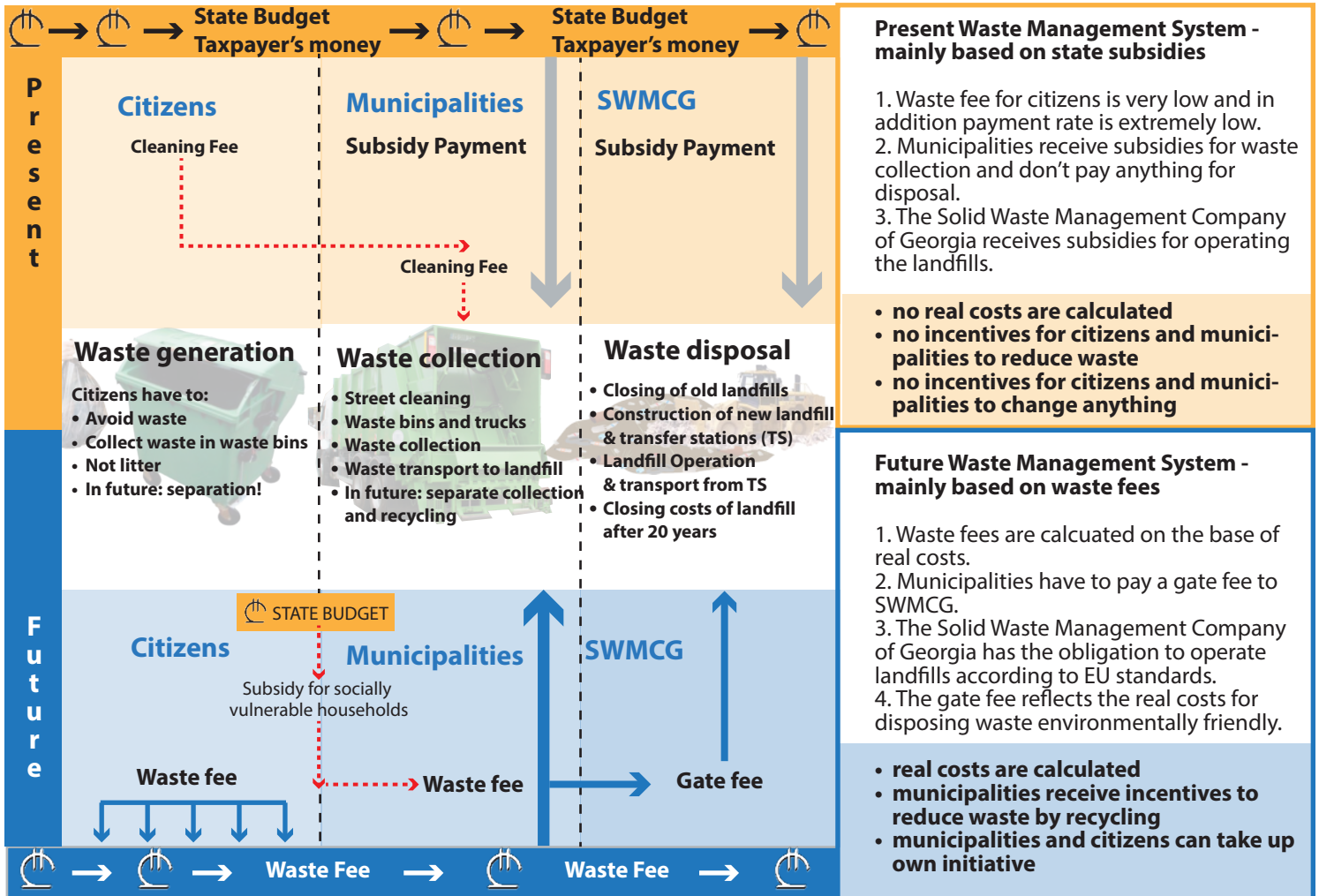


"Until now we have been cleaning up with municipal staff. Implementation of this plan will raise awareness of citizens in the municipality and Samtredia will be one of the cleanest cities in the municipalities."

Lika Darjania, Samtredia

Plans - Implications, Challenges and Opportunities - 2018 onwards

Costs for waste management - state subsidies or incentives for change?



By 2020 - Closure of all municipal landfills



Three major implications for municipalities when the new landfill will start operating

- 1 All presently still operating municipal landfills will be closed after the new regional landfill will start operating.
- 2 All municipalities will have to deliver their waste to a transfer station or directly to the new landfill.
- 3 In near future after 2020 all municipalities will have to pay a gate fee per ton of waste to the Solid Waste Management Company of Georgia for covering the costs of waste disposal.

The new regional landfill - who is doing what?

Construction and operation

Solid Waste Management Company of Georgia / Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development



The solid waste management company of Georgia is the beneficiary. The company has since 2013 in property and operation 53 former municipal landfills in Georgia. The mandate for the future is, to construct and operate up to 9 regional landfills and to close down all former municipal landfills. The landfill for Imereti and Racha Lechkhumi/Kvemo Svaneti is the FIRST regional landfill that will be constructed.



- Beneficiary of the project
- Contracting consulting companies
- Contracting construction companies
- Supervision of construction works
- Final approval and reception of construction
- Owner and operator of the new landfill

Technical assistance

The Implementation Consultant (IC)



The consulting company ERM (Environmental Resources Management) delivers consulting services for **planning, tendering and supervising** the construction of the new sanitary landfill and the transfer stations including the long distance transport equipment.

- Design of the sanitary landfill
- Environmental Impact Assessment study (EIA)
- Prepare tender dossiers for construction works and equipment
- Supervise construction works

The Accompanying Measures Consultant (AMC).



This component is implemented by the German consultancy company PEM Consult in cooperation with INTECUS GmbH and Gamma Consulting and delivers **training and consulting services** to support and **improve the organisational and institutional capacities** of the Solid Waste Management Company of Georgia

- Support and improve organisation and management
- Support and improve financial management and technical competences
- Strengthen PR, communication and public awareness activities.

Financing

German-Georgian Cooperation, KfW



Within the bilateral German-Georgian Cooperation Programme, the KfW provides a € 20 mio loan to the Georgian State.



EU Neighbourhood Investment Fund



ევროკავშირი საქართველოსთვის
The European Union for Georgia

The EU provides through its Neighbourhood Investment Fund a € 2 mio grant for financing the technical assistance for implementing the project.

Government of Georgia



The Government of Georgia contributes with € 4 mio to the total costs of € 26 mio.

Beneficiaries

16 municipalities of the regions Imereti and Racha-Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti - about 700 000 citizens

Kutaisi, Ambrolauri, Lentekhi, Oni, Sachkhere, Samtredia, Chiatura, Terjola, Tsalktubo, Zestaponi, Tsageri, Kharagauli, Khoni, Bagdati, Vani, Tkibuli



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Builder and Operator of landfill

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