



ANNEX C1: Twinning Fiche

**Project title:** Support in the implementation of the waste management legislation and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme

**Beneficiary administration:** Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Republic of North Macedonia

**Twining Reference:** MK 20 IPA EN 01 21

**Publication notice reference:** EuropeAid/ 173736 /ID/ACT/MK

**EU funded project**

***TWINNING TOOL***

## **Abbreviations**

AWS	Additional Waste Streams
CA	Contracting Authority
CH	Clearing House
BCPL	Beneficiary Country Project Leader
RTA	Resident Twinning Adviser
CFCD	Central Financing and Contracting Department within Ministry of Finance
DEU	Delegation of the European Union
DIS	Decentralized Implementation System
EA	Environmental Administration
EC	European Commission
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ELV	End-of-life vehicles
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
EU	European Union
GRNM	Government of the Republic of North Macedonia
HOS	Head of Operating Structure
IPPC	Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
IPA	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
MIPD	Multi-Annual Indicative Planning Document
MoEPP	Ministry for Environment and Physical Planning
MEIC	Macedonian Environmental Information Centre
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NWMP	National Waste Management Plan
PPWD	Packaging and packaging waste directive
PRO	Producer Responsibility Organisation
PW	Packaging waste
SAA	Stabilisation and Association Agreement
SEA	Secretariat for European Affairs
SEI	State Environmental Inspectorate
SC	Steering Committee
VAT	Value Added Tax
WBA	Waste Batteries and Accumulators
WBAD	Waste Batteries and Accumulators Directive
WMD	Waste management department

WFD	Waste Framework Directive
WEEE	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
WEEED	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive
ZELS	Organisation of Units for Local Self Government

## 1. Basic Information

**1.1 Programme:** Sector Operational Programme for Environment and Climate Action 2014-2020 (IPA 2014 037702). Action 1: Approximation of environmental and climate action legislation in priority areas and gradual move to a sector-based approach. Activity 1.3: Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas.

**For UK applicants:** Please be aware that following the entry into force of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement<sup>1</sup> on 1 February 2020 and in particular Articles 127(6), 137 and 138, the references to natural or legal persons residing or established in a Member State of the European Union and to goods originating from an eligible country, as defined under Regulation (EU) No 236/2014<sup>2</sup> and Annex IV of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement<sup>3</sup>, are to be understood as including natural or legal persons residing or established in, and to goods originating from, the United Kingdom<sup>4</sup>. Those persons and goods are therefore eligible under this call.

**1.2 Twinning Sector:** Environment and Climate Change

**1.3 EU funded budget:** EUR 1,000,000

**1.4 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** This project is contributing to:

SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

SDG 03: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities; and

SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

## 2. Objectives

### 2.1 Overall Objective(s)

The overall objective of this operation is to enable the efficient and effective operation of a modern, accountable recycling and recovery industry in the country, following the principles of the circular economy.

### 2.2 Specific objective

The specific objective is to develop a professional, deliverable, accountable and efficient Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes (EPR system), thus strengthening the capacity of the competent national authorities for waste management and stakeholders for modern waste management and on-line recording and reporting system.

### 2.3 Contribution to key strategic documents

- **National Strategy for Sustainable Development of North Macedonia 2010-2030.** This Strategy provides the first integrated planning approach in North Macedonia, which strategic objective is to encompass the economic, social and environmental dimension by 2030. One of the key challenges of the Strategy deals with sustainable consumption and production and more specifically to improve the pollution management: e.g. waste and waste water management, air pollution control, noise abatement, R&D. The common challenge for all

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<sup>1</sup> Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action.

<sup>3</sup> Annex IV to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, as revised by Decision 1/2014 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers (OJ L196/40, 3.7.2014)

<sup>4</sup> Including the Overseas Countries and Territories having special relations with the United Kingdom, as laid down in Part Four and Annex II of the TFEU.

countries is to break the link between economic growths and environmental impacts from production and consumption, resource use and waste generation.

- **National Strategy for Waste Management 2008-2020.** In 2017, more than 99% of waste generated in the country was deposited in landfills, while less than 1% was processed (recycled or composted). Similarly, most of the hazardous waste (approximately 95%) was disposed of by waste generators, and the remaining portion was properly treated or in temporary storage. Waste management remains a key challenge for ensuring sustainable development. This Strategy establishes a better waste management system (including collection, sorting, treating), reduces illegal disposal and promotes more sustainable waste management practices (including reuse, recycling and recovery). It also encourages the use of cleaner production technologies that utilise resources more efficiently and produce less waste across all sectors.
  
- **National Waste Management Plan (NWMP) 2021-2031 .** Implementation of the NWMP (2021 - 2031) has many important benefits with regard to public health, quality of water and soil, saving of natural resources and eco-systems and global warming. Economic and social benefits are in particular clean water resources and agriculture soil, new employment improved living environment and perspective for future generations. However, the key issues for successful implementation of the NWMP (2021 - 2031) are mainly closely related to the political willingness in the country, available and trained human resources on all levels, and available financial resources. All the implementation activities need a high level of organisation and co-ordination in time, human resources and available financing of investment and waste management operations. One of the most important challenges is the keeping of the implementation continuity of the policy adopted in the National Waste Management Strategy (2008) and in the previous NWMP (2009 - 2015). This NWMP reflects the national policy in waste management and represents the basis for preparation and implementation of an integrated and cost-effective waste management system in North Macedonia. This Plan establishes the direction for waste and resource management in North Macedonia over the period from 2021 to 2031. It seeks to implement the National Law on Waste Management and the relevant EU Directives and to provide a framework for the development of services and infrastructure for the collection, treatment and disposal of wastes through the more detailed Regional Waste Management Plans.
  
- **Green Agenda for Western Balkans.** The recently launched European Green Deal aims at leading the EU into an ecological transition towards a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy. This is translated regionally into the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans based on the existing political and technical cooperation frameworks. In this context, the Government of North Macedonia announced that environmental protection and green development will be one of its six priorities for the period 2020-2024. It is expected therefore a more strategic programming approach that will enable scaling up energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives to decarbonise the country while renewing the efforts to reduce air, water and soil pollution. More specifically, as concern the circular economy, the country is committed to minimised waste generation and to take measures to address the entire life of products.
  
- **National Programme of the Adoption of the *Acquis* (NPAA).** In 2020 in horizontal area, the process of harmonization of national legislation with EU law and adoption of all necessary strategic documents will continue. Regarding the investments in the environment, an assessment will be made of the investments needed for the implementation of the environmental legislation. An inspection system will be established based on planning in accordance with established risk assessment criteria. The strengthening of the administrative capacities in the field of environment at central and local level in different sectors will continue. In the area of climate change, the main focus will be on incorporating lower

emission growth policies into other sectoral policies. In the area of waste management, the focus will be on the establishment of integrated regional waste management systems, through the use of already allocated IPA funds for two regions (East and North-East regions) and providing funds for other regions (grants, loans, etc.).

During 2019, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MoEPP) prepared and during August and September 2021, The Parliament adopted the following laws:

- Law on Waste Management;
  - Law on Management of Batteries and Accumulators and Waste from Batteries and Accumulators;
  - Law on Management of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment;
  - Law on Packaging and Packaging Waste Management;
  - Law on Special Waste Flow Management; and
  - Law on Extended Liability of Producers.
- **Stabilisation and Association Agreement.** The project activities will contribute towards the implementation of the SAA commitment to the environment and more precisely, waste. The last recommendations from the Committee on the SAA related to the reassessment and review of relevant strategies, action plans and legislation to ensure coherence between relevant sectoral documents. Furthermore, the specific recommendations on waste were to make regional structures for waste management fully functional; adopt the new Law on Waste Management; and set of laws on Special Waste Streams, including circular economy principles; and report on the annual waste targets for the main streams and their fulfilment.
- **European Commission’s Progress Report.** The annual Progress Reports published within the Enlargement Package in previous years indicate limited progress in Chapter 27: Environment and climate change. Setting up a sustainable integrated regional waste management system is continuous outlined in those reports as one of the key priorities the country should focus on. In the last report (2021), the European Commission mentioned that *“Regarding waste management, weak administrative capacities, low enforcement and limited inter-sectoral cooperation remain the main obstacles for progress in this sector. The set of laws on waste management and special waste streams incorporating the circular economy principles are adopted. The National Plan for waste management (2021-2031) and the first National waste prevention plan (2021-2027) were prepared and await adoption. The establishment of the regional waste management system continues to face delays. Noncompliant landfills and illegal dumpings continue to represent an important environmental issue. Separate collection of waste streams and economic instruments to promote recycling, reuse and waste prevention remain limited”*. Taking into consideration the above-mentioned, this project will significantly contribute to improving the legal background and institutional structure to establish a reliable waste management system.

### 3. Description

#### 3.1 Background and justification

Tasks and responsibilities in the waste management sector are split among several institutions in the country. The competencies are divided between the central and local authorities and institutions, as well as among different public enterprises.

The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MoEPP), in respect to waste management, has responsibilities over planning and policy development, registration, issuing permits and licensing, organization an effective solid waste management system for hazardous waste, monitoring, data collection/handling and inspection. The Waste Management Department (WMD), established within the Environmental Administration, works on the goals and priorities in the field of waste, arising

from the strategic and planning documents, participates in the process of full transposition of EU legislation in the national legislation, but also at the local level and works on the accomplishment of a high degree of integrated waste management in the Republic of North Macedonia. The WMD also participates in the issuance of integrated environmental permits, responds to requests for access to public information, develops cooperation with local self-government units and non-governmental organizations and regularly participates in national and international conferences and workshops on waste management.

The municipalities are responsible for the following activities: organizing the collection, transportation and disposal of municipal wastes organized on a regional level; supervising transportation and disposal of industrial non-hazardous waste; deciding on the location of waste management facilities; issuing local regulations on waste management facilities; establishing the non-hazardous and inert waste landfills; and issuing environmental permits (IPPC B-permits).

All the bodies of the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, other ministries, municipalities and the production/services sector, which are responsible for carrying out the main tasks of waste management, must further strengthen their capacities, knowledge and experience to develop and implement all relevant legislation, standards, instruments and investments to establish an integrated waste management system. There is also a lack of well-organised communication system among the central level authorities, municipalities, the industry and other stakeholders to exchange information and to prepare and implement legislation.

The available official data on recycling are based on reports received from only eight municipalities. According to that data, the recycling rate of non-hazardous Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) was 0.9 per cent in 2017, which shows very limited progress since 2011, when the recycling rate was 0.37 per cent. On the other hand, the recycling rate of waste streams that are regulated by EPR laws is much higher than the national recycling rate. The total recycling rate for all types of packaging waste in 2016 was 39 per cent, but the recycling of paper and cardboard reached 68 per cent, plastic 38 per cent and glass 23 per cent.

Currently, there are five companies registered as collective packaging waste handlers; three companies as collective Waste Batteries and Accumulators (WBA) handlers; and two companies as collective Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) handlers. The EPR schemes were set up in such a way as to ensure some level of competition among the waste handler companies and consequently better operation and fulfilment of obligations deriving from the legislation.

It is mandatory in the existing legislation (2009 Law on Management of Packaging and Packaging Waste; 2012 Law on Management of Electrical and Electronic; and 2010 Law on Management of Batteries and Accumulators and Waste Batteries) that collective waste handler companies cannot perform any waste management activity by themselves, but they need to cooperate and enter into a contract with entitled companies to collect and treat and manage waste, according to the Law on Waste Management. This means that they are not collecting the waste and they do not own the waste at any moment, but they can only indirectly promote separate collection and recycling in practice by establishing the conditions for separate collection.

One of the conclusions of the recently completed EU-funded Twinning Project “*Strengthening the administrative capacities for implementation of Waste Framework Directive (WFD) and Special Waste Streams Directives (WEEED, WBAD and WPD)*” (MK 12 IPA IB EN 02 16), refers to deficiencies in the implementation of the waste management legislation concerning the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes. In the EU legislation, the EPR schemes are designed to promote the integration of environmental costs associated with goods throughout their life cycles into the market price of the products. In practice, EPR implies that producers take over the responsibility for collecting or taking back used goods and for sorting and treating for their eventual recycling. Such a responsibility may be merely financial or organisational as well. EPR encourages a change in behaviour of all actors involved in the product value chain: product-makers, retailers, consumers-citizens, local authorities, public and private waste management operators, recyclers and social economy actors. In this way EPR shifts the waste management cost or physical collection partially or fully from local governments to producers. It can also involve incentives for producers to take environmental considerations into account when designing their products.

The same Twinning Project above mentioned also recommended the establishment of a Producer Balancing Body (PBB)<sup>5</sup>, which is seen as an independent third-party central agency, acting as a regulator, in a competitive market, regulating the activities of the relevant Producer Responsibility Organizations (PRO)<sup>6</sup>. The PBB should practically control the implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes (EPR). In the framework of the harmonisation of the legislation of the beneficiary country with the EU one, such a body is foreseen to be included in the new Law on Waste Management. Following the experience in the EU countries, such a PBB should also be created in the Beneficiary country and should be funded by the EPRs (established by the current Laws). Following this, the PBB will be a non-profit organization having public obligations set by the new Law. Establishment of PBB will as well contribute to establishing of a ground for the new package of the Circular Economy on EU level. The main functions of the PBB could include, among others: (i) balancing financial and material flows. Fair determination of the PRO's individual collection, recycling and financing obligations, based on market shares; (ii) introducing a data collection system, aggregation of reported data and verification of data quality and completeness; (iii) ensuring a level playing field for all competing PROs, by verifying that all requirements are met.

The proposed operation “Support in the implementation of the waste management legislation and extended producer responsibility scheme” is in accordance with the “Eligible Measures” under Action 1 of SOP, with main goal to implement the following strategic objective of the action:

- Development of primary and secondary legislation to complete the transposition process in prioritized areas;
- Strengthening the capacities at national and local levels for implementation and enforcement of environmental and climate action legislation;
- Strengthening the capacity for monitoring, data collection, data management and reporting;

And objectives of the Activity 1.3:

- Strengthening administrative capacity for organization and management of the approximation process and implementation of the legislation in priority sectors;
- Strengthening administrative capacity for enforcement of environment and climate action legislation at national and local level.

### 3.2 Ongoing reforms

North Macedonia is investing significant efforts to align its legislation and systems with the EU environmental and climate *acquis* and policies. The country is committed to addressing the recommendations included in the 2021 European Commission Report, especially the implementation of the adopted regional waste management plans and establishing an integrated regional waste management system, as well as implement the Paris Agreement by developing a comprehensive strategy on climate-related action, in line with the EU 2030 framework.

In 2019, a process of assessment and reformulation of the sector policy objectives, priorities, and measures was launched in support of the development of a new umbrella Strategy on Environment and Climate Change 2021-2030. The authorities, donors, and civil society were provided with opportunities to challenge the overall and the specific strategic directions and thus increase the compliance of the new Strategy to the current environmental policies at EU and international levels.

A high level of compliance with EU horizontal legislation has already been achieved and transposition of the *acquis* on waste management is well advanced.

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<sup>5</sup> The Twinning experts of the project “*Strengthening the administrative capacities for implementation of Waste Framework Directive (WFD) and Special Waste Streams Directives (WEEED, WBAD and WPD)*” have proposed the establishment of a Clearing House (CH) and this may be given a more appropriate name for translation in the Beneficiary country of Producer Balancing Body (PBB).

<sup>6</sup> A collective entity set up by producers or through legislation, which becomes responsible for meeting the recovery and recycling obligations of the individual producers (Development of Guidance on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). Final Report. European Commission-DG Environment 2014).

As regards the Waste Framework Directive (WFD), no progress has been made towards full transposition. The new Waste Management Law (LWM) has been adopted by the Parliament on 17.09.2021, and transpose the WFD; several sub laws, which are envisaged in the Law, will enable for full transposition of the WFD. The draft LWM has been subject to public consultation and after integrating comments of interested parties, it had been submitted to the Government for adoption.

The Landfill Directive (LD) was reported fully transposed at the end of 2009. However, more detailed legal assessment revealed gaps in transposition related to the amendments introduced by the Directive 2011/97/EU (amendments concerns specific criteria for the storage of metallic mercury considered as waste). Full compliance with the relevant provision is achieved by adopting the new LWM.

The Law on Waste Management settles the framework and provides general rules for all types of waste, as well as the legal basis for the secondary legislation. The Law on Waste Management has essential links to other Laws related to tasks and responsibilities regarding administrative, organizational and operational issues in waste management, particularly to the Law on the Environment, which includes basic provisions on Integrated Prevention and Pollution Control (IPPC), Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedure and greenhouse gas emissions.

The Law on Waste Management introduces the basic policy documents:

- National Waste Management Strategy (NWMS);
- National Waste Management Plan (NWMP);
- National Waste Prevention Plan (NWPP);
- Regional Waste Management Plans; (RWMP)

The National Waste Management Plan (NWMP) is based on the National Waste Management Strategy (NWMS), which reflects the national policy in waste management and represents the basis for preparing and implementing an integrated and cost-effective waste management system. The Strategy includes overall aspects and objectives for waste management and measures and plan for its implementation. The national Strategy foresees a network of 5-7 regional landfills to be established. The Strategy also includes cost estimates for installing new landfill sites and closing and rehabilitating the former dumpsites. According to the new adopted NWMP 2021-2031 the municipal solid waste management system's reforms are foreseen as necessary and regional integrated waste management systems shall be established.

The Inter-municipal Waste Management Boards (IMWMB) are established in all eight statistical regions in the country and shall take over the majority of responsibilities and tasks related to the waste management at regional level on behalf of the municipalities within the region and their inhabitants, with the consent and active participation of Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning.

- The National Waste Prevention Plan (2021-2027) (NWPP) presents a coordinated approach to waste prevention, delineating targets, and policies. Adoption of the National Waste Prevention Plan is foreseen for the beginning of 2022 (after the adoption of the new LWM). The plan aims to:
  - Apply the waste hierarchy of the EU;
  - Apply the principles of zero waste and circular economy;
  - Apply the approach of extended producer responsibility (EPR) where appropriate;
  - Apply continuous approach of resource efficiency throughout the entire process.
  - Motivation and encouraging of the stakeholders and parties concerned to engage and to apply multiple steps and procedures for resource efficiency.

There are eight Regional Waste Management Plans (RWMPs) approved by the MoEPP for each planning region in the beneficiary country. The overall objective of the RWMPs, in general for all eight regions, is the selection of the most preferable option for an integrated regional waste management system after the elaboration of calculations regarding legislative targets, financial

indexes and GHG emissions. The RWMPs were drafted based on: (i) EU and national waste legislation and strategies, which include objectives, set out in specific areas; and (ii) the analysis and evaluation of current situation, which was the outcome of the elaborated Assessment Reports, conducted for each respective region.

Apart from the EU and national waste legislation and strategies, there are a number of significant parameters which influence the regional planning and are taken into account: (i) waste quantity and composition; (ii) geographic origin of the waste; and (iii) current situation regarding waste collection and treatment, including tariffs and affordability.

As an overall conclusion on waste management, North Macedonia has made some progress in recent years. However, due to the lack of relevant infrastructure, the waste management system's overall performance is only moderate. Despite the significant EU financial support in this area, the implementation and enforcement process is still insufficient. The process for establishing an integrated regional waste management system is still at an early stage. Until the completion of the regional landfills, the existing non-compliant municipal landfills continue to operate, but they do not fulfil even the primary conditions for safe waste disposal; thus, their control is limited. Progress has been made in the separate collection and recycling of waste streams, such as packaging waste, electrical waste equipment and waste batteries and accumulators, but they are still insufficient.

Five new laws on special waste streams are prepared. Two of them Law on electrical and electronical equipment and waste from electrical and electronical and Law on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators are adopted in August 2021, and additional 3 laws (law on packaging and packaging waste, Law on additional waste streams and Law on extended producer responsibility) were adopted by the Parliament during September 2021. The new waste legislative framework respects the circular economy principles and the provisions of the revised EU waste legislation that entered into force in 2018. These five laws are regulating the EPR schemes for packaging, WEEE, batteries, waste oils and tires, waste textile and ELV. The frame Law is the Law on extended producer responsibility, where the obligations of the collective and individual handlers are regulated.

### 3.3 Linked activities

**Title:** Strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Environmental and Physical Planning for integrated pollution control and hazardous waste management

**Donor/development partner:** Norwegian Government

**Duration:** 2012-2013

**Value:** EUR 612,000

**Description:** Norsk Energy, Centre for Climate Change and WMD, implemented the project. Four workshops on hazardous waste management and on the establishment of a collective system for the treatment of waste batteries and accumulators and waste electrical and electronic equipment were organized for representatives of the local self-government, non-governmental organizations and the business community. The Government adopted the Programme for waste electric and electronic equipment management, prepared within this project. Under the same project, the Feasibility Study of hazardous waste elimination from the landfills in REK (mining and energy combine) Oslomej and REK Bitola, and Feasibility Study of hazardous waste treatment in the Beneficiary Country are prepared.

**Title:** Strengthening the central and local level administrative capacities for implementation and enforcement of waste management legislation

**Donor/development partner:** IPA TAIB 2010 - PF 3.5

**Duration:** finished in 2012

**Value:** EUR 750,000

**Description:** Within this project, central and local level administrative capacities for implementation and enforcement of waste management legislation were strengthened. It was recommended that implementing the regional approach require the establishment of the necessary structures allowing effective establishment of the integrated waste management systems. East and Northeast Region, as Beneficiaries from this project, established the Regional Waste Management Bodies (2012). In order to eliminate the possibility that a limited number of municipalities might jeopardize the establishment and operation of an integrated regional waste management system, the Government adopted new amendments of the Law on Waste Management (Official Gazette No. 123/12), where the municipalities within the region must establish Inter-Municipal Waste Management Board.

**Title:** Twinning Project “Strengthening the administrative capacities for implementation of Waste Framework Directive (WFD) and Special Waste Streams Directive (WEEED, WBAD and WPD) (MK 12 IPA IB EN 02 16)

**Donor/development partner:** IPA TAIB 2010-PF 3.5

**Duration:** 26 months, finished in 2018

**Value:** EUR 1,000,000

**Description:** The project provided advisory support to the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, more precisely to the Waste Management Department of the Environmental Administration as the primary beneficiary and also strengthened the administrative capacity and measures for the implementation of WFD, WEED, Packaging Directive and Waste Batteries and Accumulators Directives through the development of implementing legislation, provision of training, in particular to the Directive 2008/98 and Regulation 333/2011. The EU Department, together with the WMD were involved in the activities related to drafting and amending the relevant legislation. The project has identified deficiencies in the implementation of the waste management legislation about the Extended Producer Responsibility (ERP) scheme, which is a strategy designed to promote the integration of environmental costs associated with goods throughout their life cycles into the market price of the products based on the polluter pays principle.

Other relevant projects in this field are the following:

*“National Solid Waste Management Plan and Feasibility Studies”*

Project funded by the EU and managed by the European Agency for Reconstruction (CARDS Program, 2006). The report prepared in the framework of the project contains nine very extensive studies (Associated Consultants: DHV Prowa-SWC, EU funded project managed by EAR, Ref. No.: EUROPEAID/115138/D/SV/MK, 2005) which were undertaken in order to define the priorities and as well as the long term proposals for development of waste management on the following strategic areas: Industrial hazardous waste, agriculture waste and waste from healthcare institutions, Waste reduction, recycling & economic instruments, Regionalisation of municipal waste management systems, Closure/remediation of non-compliant landfills, Cost reduction, Financial-Economic instruments and Private Sector Participation, Identification of 16 contaminated industrial sites (so called “hot-spots”), EIONET database and monitoring system and Public Awareness and Participation.

*“Capacity building for implementation of EU-landfill directive – closure of non-compliant landfills and inspections”*

MoEPP and SEPA have signed agreement for cooperation on preparation of programme for closure of municipal landfills in the Beneficiary Country that are not in compliance with the EU standards, as well as strengthening the capacity of the State Environmental Inspectorate in the segment of supervision over municipal landfills. The project started in September 2010 and ended in December 2012.

*“Solid Waste Management in 4 Regions of North Macedonia, Baseline and Finance Option Study”*

Project financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). The project aims at developing the most appropriate financing structure for waste management systems in the respective

regions. For the four regions, two systems are proposed to be implemented, one system the Vardar + Southeast region and one system for the Pelagonija + Southwest region. Skopje region was not a part of the project. Ended April 2020.

The proposed project contributes to The PAR Strategy 2018 - 2022 and it's in correspondence with following results of PAR:

1. "Built structures and administration capacities prepared for the EU accession negotiations process" - The aim of the proposed project is to acquire the lessons learned from an EU Member State about establishing Operational and administrative capacity on the Producer Balancing Body (PBB) through a twinning mechanism.
2. "Simplified and more effective application of modern information technologies"; -The proposed project anticipates the following result "Electronic data collection and reporting system for EPR system developed"

### 3.4 List of applicable *Union acquis/standards/norms*

- **Directive 2008/98/EC** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste
- **Council Regulation (EU) No 333/2011** of 31 March 2011 establishing criteria determining when certain types of scrap metal cease to be waste under Directive 2008/98/EC
- **Directive 2006/66/EC** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 September 2006 on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators
- **Council Directive 1999/31/EC** of 26 April 1999 on the landfill of waste
- **2003/33/EC: Council Decision** of 19 December 2002 establishing criteria and procedures for the acceptance of waste at landfills
- **Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1885** of 6 November 2019 laying down rules for the calculation, verification and reporting of data on landfill of municipal waste
- **Directive 2006/21/EC** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 on the management of waste from extractive industries
- **European Parliament and Council Directive 94/62/EC** of 20 December 1994 on packaging and packaging waste
- **Council Directive 96/59/EC** of 16 September 1996 on the disposal of PCB/PCT
- **Directive 2011/65/EU** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2011 on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment
- **Directive 2012/19/EU** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)
- **Directive (EU) 2015/720** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2015 as regards reducing the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags

Main national Laws and legislation relevant for this Twinning project:

- Law on Waste Management (2004)
- Law on Management of Packaging and Packaging Waste (2009)
- Law on Management of Batteries and Accumulators and Waste Batteries and Accumulators (2021)
- Law on Management of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (2021)

### 3.5 Results per Component

The project is structured in three components. The following key results are expected to be delivered in line with the ongoing reform as described in point 3.4 above:

### **Component 1: Legal framework**

**Mandatory Result 1:** Analytical prerequisites for drafting legislation for establishment of a Producer Balancing Body (PBB) with associated secondary legislation and documents prepared.

**Sub-result: 1.1** Mechanisms for central coordination of activities of producers, collective handlers and economic operators identified.

### **Component 2: Operational and administrative capacity**

**Mandatory Result 2:** Operational and administrative capacity on the PBB within the EPR enhanced.

**Sub-result 2.1:** Strengthened capacities of the relevant stakeholders for accurate control of quantities of waste materials

### **Component 3: Information Technology**

**Mandatory Result 3.1:** Electronic data collection and reporting system for EPR system developed.

## **3.6 Means/input from the EU Member State Partner Administration(s)\***

The project will be implemented in the form of a Twinning contract between the Beneficiary Country (BC) and EU Member State(s). The implementation of the project requires one Project Leader (PL) with responsibility for the overall coordination of project activities and one Resident Twinning Adviser (RTA) to manage implementation of project activities, Component Leaders (CLs) and pool of short-term experts within the limits of the budget. It is essential that the team have sufficient broad expertise to cover all areas included in the project description.

Proposals submitted by Member States shall be concise and focused on the strategy and methodology and an indicative timetable underpinning this, the administrative model suggested, the quality of the expertise to be mobilised and clearly show the administrative structure and capacity of the Member State entities. Proposals shall be detailed enough to respond adequately to the Twinning Fiche, but are not expected to contain a fully elaborated project. They shall contain enough detail about the strategy and methodology and indicate the sequencing and mention key activities during the implementation of the project to ensure the achievement of overall and specific objectives and mandatory result/outputs.

**The interested EU Member State(s) shall include in their proposal the CVs of the designated Project Leader (PL) and the Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA), as well as the CVs of the potential designated Component Leaders (CLs).**

The Twinning project will be implemented by close-cooperation between the partners aiming to achieve the mandatory results in sustainable manner.

The set of proposed activities will be further developed with the Twinning partners when drafting the initial work plan and successive rolling work plan every three months, keeping in mind that the final list of activities will be decided in cooperation with the Twinning partner. The components are closely inter-linked and need to be sequenced accordingly.

### **3.6.1 Profile and tasks of the PL**

Qualification and skills

- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body (see Twinning Manual 4.1.4.2);
- University degree in science and technology, social science or any other discipline relevant for the position or in its absence an equivalent professional experience of 8 years;

- At least 3 years of specific experience in the field of waste management in the EU Member State relevant administration/institutions;
- Experience in project coordination in international and/or EU funded project will be considered as an asset;
- Fluency in written and spoken English.

#### Tasks of the Project Leader

- Conceive, supervise and coordinate the overall Twinning project;
- Coordinate and monitor the overall implementation of the project including coordination and direction of the MS Twinning partner;
- Coordinate MS experts' work and availability;
- Permanent contacts with the main counterpart in the BC;
- Ensure the backstopping functions and financial management;
- Guarantee from the MS administrative side, the successful implementation of the Project's Work Plan; participate in meetings of the Project Steering Committee with the BC PL;
- Undertake all activities specified in the project and for achieve the mandatory results;
- Participate in preparation of the initial and subsequent work plans

### 3.6.2 Profile and tasks of the RTA

One Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA) will be appointed and he/she will be located in the premises of the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MoEPP). The secondment of the RTA will last for 24 months, during which he/she will be responsible for the direct implementation of the project under the overall supervision of the MS Project Leader.

#### Qualifications and skills

- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body (see Twinning Manual 4.1.4.2);
- University degree in economics, engineering, law, public administration or other relevant discipline with the project focus or equivalent professional experience of 8 years;
- At least 3 years of specific experience in MS administration in the environmental field with an emphasis on implementation of waste management legislation;
- Experience in project coordination in international and/or EU funded project will be considered as an asset;
- Fluency in written and spoken English.

#### Tasks of the Resident Twinning Adviser

- Drafting and initial work plan in close cooperation with the relevant actors;
- Coordinate of all project activities and experts' inputs in the country;
- Ensure timely and correct implementation of the activities as outlined in the initial and subsequent work plans; keeps the Beneficiary PL informed about the implementation and reports regularly to the Member State PL;
- Updates the work plan to be transmitted to the Project Steering Committee under the authority of the Member State PL;
- Providing advice and technical assistance to the representatives of the Beneficiary administration;
- Monitoring and evaluating the needs and priorities in the respective sector, project risks, progress against the project budget, benchmarks, and outputs, and taking any necessary remedial actions if needed;
- Coordination of the EU MS experts' work and availability;
- Preparation of the materials and documentation for regular monitoring and reporting;
- Take corrective actions, if necessary, inside the terms of the signed contract.

### *RTA Assistant*

The RTA shall be supported by a full time project assistant. The RTA assistant will be recruited and funded by the project. He/she will be working together with the RTA for the whole duration of the project. The RTA assistant will provide logistical and administrative support, translation and interpretation services as necessary and assist in the preparation of working documents, organisation of seminars, training and study tours. The profile of the RTA assistant will be specified by the RTA who will proceed to his/her recruitment following the provisions of the Twinning Manual. The assistant will be contracted in line with the Twinning Manual rules (see point 4.1.6.10) and paid from the Twinning budget. The assistant will be selected through an open call.

### *Full-time translator/interpreter*

For the purpose of the project and for cost effectiveness, the Twinning project foresees a part or full-time translator/interpreter who should be selected through an open call. The full-time translator/interpreter will be involved in all necessary project activities (training sessions, translation of project documents/reports and materials, organisational activities, etc.). The role of the translator/interpreter will be to provide translation and editing as well as interpretation services to the Twinning project in general.

## **3.6.3 Profile and tasks of Component Leaders:**

### 3.6.3.1. Component Leader for Component 1: Legal framework

#### *Qualifications and skills*

- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body (see Twinning Manual 4.1.4.2);
- University degree in law or other relevant discipline with the project focus or equivalent professional experience of 8 years;
- At least 3 years of specific experience in drafting legislation in the environmental field and/or waste management
- Experience in developing an EPR regulation will be considered as an asset;
- Experience in project coordination in international and/or EU funded project will be considered as an asset;
- Fluency in written and spoken English.

#### *Tasks of the Component Leader*

- Undertake all activities related to coordination and preparation of the comparative analysis of selected legal systems in EU member states addressing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes, including the Producer Balancing Body (PBB);
- Coordinate of all activities related to drafting the primary legislation needed for the establishment and operation of the Producer Balancing Body (PBB);
- Providing advice and technical assistance to the representatives of the Beneficiary administration related to the drafting the legislation.
- Coordinate the process of data collection and processing plan for the EPR schemes, including PBB, producers, collectors, recyclers and any other entity handling waste.

### 3.6.3.2 Component Leader for Component 2: Operational and administrative capacity

#### *Qualifications and skills*

- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body (see Twinning Manual 4.1.4.2)
- University degree in law, economy or other relevant discipline with the project focus or equivalent professional experience of 8 years;
- At least 3 years of specific experience in MS administration in the environmental field with an emphasis on implementation protocols for financing and operational auditing of the producers, EPRs and PBB;

- Experience in project coordination in international and/or EU funded project will be considered as an asset;
- Fluency in written and spoken English.

#### *Tasks of the Component Leader*

- Undertake all activities related to coordination and development of training need assessment of the relevant stakeholders (MoEPP, waste producer companies, State and Local Environmental Inspectorate, State Market Inspectorate, Regional Waste Management Centres) for implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes (ERP system) and circular economy;
- Coordinate of all project activities and experts' inputs in the development of the accounting protocols for waste production calculation and necessary supporting documentation, including data processing plan.
- Coordination of the activities related to development of the organisational set up staffing and resources proposals for the operation of the PBB;
- Providing advice and technical assistance to the representatives of the Beneficiary administration.

#### 3.6.3.3 Component Leader for Component 3: Information Technology

##### *Qualifications and skills*

- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body (see Twinning Manual 4.1.4.2);;
- University degree in Information Technology or other relevant discipline with the project focus or equivalent professional experience of 8 years.
- At least 3 years of specific experience in developing of IT systems for operation of companies/associations/organizations and for communication and data collection.
- Experience in project coordination in international and/or EU funded project will be considered as an asset;
- Fluency in written and spoken English.

##### *Tasks of the Component Leader*

- Undertake all activities related to coordination of the project activities and experts' inputs in the development of an assessment report of the IT and other equipment needs for operation of the PBB and for communication and data collection;
- Coordinate all project activities and experts' inputs related to financial estimates and procurement documentation for funding applications for the PBB IT system;
- Coordinate all project activities and experts' inputs related to standard audit protocol to enable National and EU reporting to be completed accurately and activities related to connections to the already existing National Environment Data Collection System;
- Providing advice and technical assistance to the representatives of the Beneficiary administration.

#### **3.6.4 Profile and tasks of other short-term experts:**

##### *Qualification and skills*

Short Term Experts shall comply with the following minimum requirements:

- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body (see Twinning Manual 4.1.4.2);
- University degree preferably in the area relevant for the implementation of the project or equivalent professional experience of 8 years;
- At least 3 years of working experience in areas relevant to their specific assignment;

- Fluency in written and spoken English;
- Good skills in reporting and communication.

#### Tasks

- Delivering expertise under the overall responsibility of the Member State PL and the coordination and supervision of the RTA;
- Delivering support to the Beneficiary administration through specific activities in the Beneficiary country, including workshops, seminars, training sessions, meetings with officials of the Beneficiary administration, joint drafting sessions, etc.;
- Preparation and reporting work, before and after missions to the Beneficiary country;
- Address cross-cutting issues.

#### 4. Budget

Twinning Contract	Total (EUR)	IPA Community Contribution		National Public Contribution	
		EUR	%	EUR	%
Support in the implementation of the waste management legislation and extended producer responsibility scheme	1,000,000	850,000	85	150,000	15

#### 5. Implementation Arrangements

##### 5.1 Implementing Agency responsible for tendering, contracting and accounting is the Central Financing and Contracting Department (CFCD) within the Ministry of Finance.

Name: Ms. Ermira Fida

Institution: Ministry of Finance / Central Financing and Contracting Department

Position: Head of the Operating Structure

E-mail: ermira.fida@finance.gov.mk

Address: st. Dame Gruev no. 12, 1000 Skopje

##### 5.2 Institutional framework

The Contracting Authority for this Twinning project is Central Financing and Contracting Department within the Ministry of Finance.

Main beneficiary and coordinator of the project will be Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning. The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning will be directly responsible for coordination and management of the project from the beneficiary side and will support the Twinning project team in organizational and technical matters

The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MoEPP) performs environmental tasks related to the legal harmonization process; preparation of national strategies and action plans; inspection and enforcement, including intervention if needed against the more significant polluters; and nationwide monitoring, information systems and cadastres.

In relation to the current project, three departments with the MoEPP shall be involved:

- *EU Department.* Responsible for the approximation process and drafting national legislation in compliance with the EU one. It is as well responsible for the whole EU integration process of the environment sector. In addition, two units of the EU Department are managing the IPA funds and perform activities of IPA operational structure.

- *Environmental Administration (EA)*. The main objective of the EA is to establish an efficient and integrated system of environmental protection in the country. The EA is the responsible authority for the implementation of environmental legislation. It performs professional in nature protection, waste, water, air, soil, noise protection and other environmental areas. It is also responsible for conducting environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure for projects and the procedure concerning Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) permits.
- *Waste Management Department (WMD)*. It is the central administrative body for waste management with the environmental administration of the MoEPP, which is responsible for the implementation of waste-related legislation. It carries out the leading organisational, planning, monitoring and development tasks related to the waste management projects on the national and local/regional level. WMD is appointed as competent for issuing waste-related permits, elaborating waste management plans and programmes of national and regional importance, monitoring their execution, and preparing periodic reports. In total, there are 90 employees in the EA from which eight people are in the WMD.

### **5.3 Counterparts in the Beneficiary administration**

The PL and RTA counterparts will be staff of the Beneficiary administration and will be actively involved in the management and coordination of the project.

#### **5.3.1 Contact person**

Name: Ms Vesna Indova Tocko  
 Institution: Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning  
 Address: Plostad Presveta Bogorodica no.3, 1000 Skopje  
 Position: Head of Department for EU- IPA Coordinator

#### **5.3.2 PL counterpart**

Name: Ms Lendita Dika  
 Institution: Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning  
 Address: Plostad Presveta Bogorodica no.3, 1000 Skopje  
 Position: State Counsellor for industrial pollution and risk control

#### **5.3.3 RTA counterpart**

Name: Ms Ana Karanfilova Maznevska  
 Institution: Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning  
 Address: Plostad Presveta Bogorodica no.3, 1000 Skopje  
 Position: Head of Waste Management Department

### **6. Duration of the project**

The overall execution period of the Twinning project is 27 months with an implementation period of 24 months. (The execution period of the contract shall enter into force upon the date of notification by the Contracting Authority of the contract signed by all parties, whereas it shall end 3 months after the implementation period of the Action).

### **7. Management and reporting**

#### **7.1 Language**

The official language of the project is the one used as contract language under the instrument (English). All formal communications regarding the project, including interim and final reports, shall be produced in the language of the contract.

#### **7.2 Project Steering Committee**

A project steering committee (PSC) shall oversee the implementation of the project. The main duties of the PSC include verification of the progress and achievements via-à-vis the mandatory results/outputs chain (from mandatory results/outputs per component to impact), ensuring good

coordination among the actors, finalising the interim reports and discuss the updated work plan. Other details concerning the establishment and functioning of the PSC are described in the Twinning Manual.

### **7.3 Reporting**

All reports shall have a narrative section and a financial section. They shall include as a minimum the information detailed in section 5.5.2 (interim reports) and 5.5.3 (final report) of the Twinning Manual. Reports need to go beyond activities and inputs. Two types of reports are foreseen in the framework of Twinning: interim quarterly reports and final report. An interim quarterly report shall be presented for discussion at each meeting of the PSC. The narrative part shall primarily take stock of the progress and achievements *vis-à-vis* the mandatory results and provides precise recommendations and corrective measures to be decided by in order to ensure the further progress.

## **8. Sustainability**

Implementation of this operation will establish reasonable legislative, administrative and financial control over the national Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes via the development of a Producer Balancing Body. Previous experience in the EU would indicate that there will be a major overall environmental benefit gained from the efficiencies and control provided by the development of a professional Producer Balancing Body.

Every result will be the product of a joint work of the public administration staff and the selected experts, which will ensure an increase of expertise within the public administration. The achievements of a Twinning project shall be maintained as a permanent asset to the Beneficiary administration even after the end of the Twinning project implementation. This presupposes *inter alia* that effective mechanisms are put in place by the Beneficiary administration to disseminate and consolidate the results of the project. During the project, the twinning partners should develop documents/handouts, guidelines that will be easily accessible for later use by the final Beneficiary administration. Staff benefiting from trainings shall transfer knowledge through subsequent training to their colleagues, and the final Beneficiary will further use training resources.

## **9. Crosscutting issues**

### **Equal opportunity and non-discrimination**

Based on the fundamental principles of promoting equality and combating discrimination, participation in the project will be guaranteed on the basis of equal access regardless of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. Equal participation of men and women during the implementation of the project will be assured. Gender equality incentives are incorporated particularly in activities concerning capacity building.

### **Minorities and vulnerable groups**

The Twinning partners in formulation the proposal and implementation of the contract shall ensure respect of Ohrid Framework Agreement and “Race directive” 2000 (200/43/EC of 29 June), which has an important impact on employment (incl. vocational training, working conditions, social protection, etc.) and is also a crucial aspect of the *acquis*. Furthermore, the training activities will include a specific component to train beneficiary staff in the different elements of mainstreaming minority and vulnerable groups in programme and project development and monitoring and evaluation.

### **Civil society development and dialogue**

Relevant civil society organisations will be included in twinning activities when relevant. In compliance with the provisions of the IPA II Implementing Regulation, the civil society will be involved through the mainstreaming mechanism developed to integrate it to the implementation of IPA II, in accordance with the principle of wide stakeholder representation and partnership of all interested and affected parties.

## Environment and climate change

The project directly relates to environment and climate issues at national and local levels. It will improve the institutional, technical and quality of information necessary for the further progress in the implementation of EU legislation and thus directly contribute to the improvement of environmental legislation in North Macedonia. It will also support better management of solid waste treatment through the elaboration of planning and technical documents, as well as the establishment of a modern and efficient waste management regulator.

The principle of implementation of this Twinning project will be based on environment friendly atmosphere. This in particular guarantees, minimising paper use during project implementation by the maximum feasible use of electronic tools and resources. Minimal use of plastics and not using plastics for the visibility materials (e.g. no plastic pens or plastic folders).

## Good governance

All relevant requirements to ensure a sound financial management of the project will be fulfilled in accordance with the principle of good governance. All necessary provisions will be taken to fight against corruption in accordance with Article 51.3 of the Law on Ratification of Framework Agreement between the Government and the European Commission on the arrangements for implementation of Union financial assistance under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) (published in the Official Gazette No. 99/2015 on 16 June 2015): *“The IPA Final Beneficiary shall under indirect management, take any appropriate measure to prevent and counter any active or passive corruption practices at any stage of the procurement procedure or grant award procedure or during the implementation of the corresponding contracts.”*

## 10. Conditionality and sequencing

The implementation of this project requires the full commitment and participation of the senior management of the final beneficiary institution. In addition to providing the twinning partner with adequate staff and other resources to operate effectively, the senior management must be actively involved in developing and implementing the policies and institutional change required to deliver the project results.

### Conditionalities

- Appointment of counterpart personnel by the final beneficiary before the launch of the call of proposal and guaranteeing the continuity of the appointed and trained staff;
- Allocation of working space and facilities by the final beneficiary within the premises of the beneficiaries before contract signature;
- Participation by the final beneficiary in the selection process as per EU regulations;
- Organisation, selection and appointment of members of working groups, steering and coordination committees, seminars by the final beneficiaries;
- Active engagement for the use and application of project outputs.

## 11. Indicators for performance measurement

Operation	
Support in the implementation of the waste management legislation and Extended Producer Responsibility scheme	
Mandatory Result	Objectively Verifiable Indicators
Component 1: Legal framework	

<p><b>Mandatory result 1:</b> Analytical prerequisites for drafting legislation for establishment of a Producer Balancing Body (PBB) and associated secondary legislation and documents prepared</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparative analysis of selected legal systems in EU member states addressing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes, including the Producer Balancing Body (PBB) prepared;</li> <li>• Number of working and implementation model for EPR, including the PBB, drafted;</li> <li>• Number of analytical prerequisites for drafting or amending primary legislation needed for establishment of a Producer Balancing Body (PBB) prepared;</li> <li>• Number of analytical prerequisites for implementing legislative drafting in the special waste streams under the EPR scheme regarding the operating criteria of the system in each waste stream prepared;</li> <li>• Number of analytical prerequisites for implementing legislative drafting for the establishment and operation – specially data handling- of the PBB prepared.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sub-result 1.1:</b> Mechanisms for central coordination of activities of producers, collective handlers and economic operators identified</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of stakeholder’s communication plan for implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Schemes in line with the new EU circular economy package and the relevant legislative acts of the Republic of North Macedonia prepared;</li> <li>• Number of memos from the meetings held by the Working Group comprised of all stakeholders, involved in PBB and EPR systems prepared;</li> <li>• Number of data sheets and data processing plan for the EPR schemes, including PBB, producers, collectors, recyclers and any other entity handling waste prepared.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Component 2: Operational and administrative capacity</b></p>	
<p><b>Mandatory Result 2:</b> Operational and administrative capacity on the PBB within the EPR enhanced</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of working and implementation model of the PBB, including establishment criteria, prepared;</li> <li>• Number of Terms of Agreement, Standing and Financing Orders for operation of the Producer Balancing Body, prepared;</li> <li>• Number of accounting protocols for waste production calculation and necessary supporting documentation, including data processing plan, prepared;</li> <li>• Number of organizational set-up, staffing and resources proposals for the operation of the PBB, prepared;</li> <li>• Number of protocols developed for financing and operational auditing of the producers, EPRs and PBB;</li> <li>• Number of Plan for implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes and circular economy 2020-2030 prepared;</li> <li>• Number of Working programme (5 year duration) of the PBB and plan of activities prepared;</li> <li>• Number of funding proposal for independent professional operation of the PBB for an initial 5-year period developed.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Sub-result 2.1:</b> Strengthened performance of the relevant stakeholders for accurate control of quantities of waste materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of training for approximately 10 participants for implementation performed;</li> <li>• Number of training need assessment of the relevant stakeholders (MoEPP, waste producers companies, State and Local Environmental Inspectorates, State Market Inspectorate, Regional Waste Management Centres) for implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes (EPR system) and circular economy prepared;</li> <li>• Number of Training Programme (5 year duration) for implementation of the EPR system and circular economy prepared;</li> <li>• Number of trainings for implementation and enforcement of the EPR system, including PBB and circular economy delivered to relevant stakeholders;</li> <li>• Number of trainings for enforcement and auditing of the PBB operation and data collection and dissemination delivered to approximately 10 participants for the relevant stakeholders;</li> <li>• Number of training curricula and materials for implementation prepared and translated in Macedonian and Albanian language.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Component 3: Information Technology</b></p>	
<p><b>Mandatory result 3.1</b> Electronic data collection and reporting system for EPR system developed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of assessment reports of the IT and other necessary equipment needs for the operation of the PBB prepared..</li> <li>• Number of Technical Specifications for IT and other equipment developed;</li> <li>• Number of financial estimates and procurement documentation to enable funding applications for the delivery of the PBB IT system developed;</li> <li>• Number of standard audit protocol to enable National and EU reporting to be completed accurately developed based on the PBB IT system developed;</li> <li>• Consultation process with the relevant coordinating state authority for ICT conducted;</li> <li>• Connections to the already existing National Environment Data Collection system determined.</li> </ul>

## 12. Facilities available

An office for the RTA and his/her assistant will be made available by the beneficiary institution. Also, the beneficiary will put at disposal internal meeting and training rooms with all the necessary equipment. Exceptionally, rent of external meeting and training rooms may be necessary. The Beneficiary commits itself to deliver the following facilities:

- Adequately equipped office space for the RTA and the RTA assistant(s) for the entire duration of their secondment;
- Supply of office room, including access to computer, telephone, internet, printer, photocopier;
- Adequate conditions for the STE to perform their work while on mission;
- Provide suitable venues for the meetings and training sessions that will be held under the Project;
- Availability of staff that will be involved during the Twinning project implementation.

## **ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE**

1. The Simplified Logical framework matrix
2. Organogram of the BC institution

Annex 1: Logical Framework Matrix

Support in the implementation of the waste management legislation and extended producer responsibility scheme	Programme name and number	Sector Operational Programme for Environment and Climate Action 2014-2020 (IPA 2014 037702). Action 1: Approximation of environmental and climate action legislation in priority areas and gradual move to a sector-based approach. Activity 1.3: Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas.
Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning	Total budget: 1.000.000 EUR	

	Description	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of verification	Risks	Assumptions
Overall Objective (impact)	The overall objective of this operation is to enable the efficient and effective operation of a modern, accountable recycling and recovery industry in the country, following the principles of the circular economy	Progress made towards meeting the EU accession criteria in the area of waste management system	- EC Reports		
	Description	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of verification	Risks	Assumptions
Specific Objective(s) (outcome)	To develop a professional, deliverable, accountable and efficient Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes (EPR system), thus strengthening the capacity of the competent national authorities for waste management and stakeholders for modern waste management and on-line recording and reporting system.	Number of EPR and PBB fully in place	- MoEPP Reports		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Political commitment</li> <li>- Strong support and commitment from twinning partner(s)</li> <li>- Relevant staff involved in the process</li> <li>- Efficient procedures for implementation of the recommendations</li> </ul>
Component 1: Legal framework					

	Description	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of verification	Risks	Assumptions
Mandatory results	<p><b>Mandatory result 1:</b> Analytical prerequisites for drafting legislation for establishment of a Producer Balancing Body (PBB) and associated secondary legislation and documents prepared</p>	<p>Comparative analysis of selected legal systems in EU member states addressing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes, including the Producer Balancing Body (PBB) prepared;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legal proposal for primary legislation establishing a PBB.</li> <li>- Communication Plan for stakeholders on EPR Scheme and circular economy</li> <li>- Minutes of the Working Group meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of sufficient cooperation between all parties involved in the project that could result in low quality of the prepared documents</li> <li>- Unclear division of the responsibilities among involved stakeholders</li> <li>- Lack of sufficient information and delays on ensuring documents necessary for implementation of the operation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Smooth and effective cooperation between all parties involved in the project</li> <li>- Completion of the tasks, according to the time schedule and the budget</li> <li>- Support and commitment from involved stakeholders</li> <li>- Sufficient flow of relevant information for the operation implementation between the involved parties on national local level</li> <li>- Dedicated staff by the Beneficiaries is present during the project implementation</li> </ul>
		<p>Number of working and implementation model for EPR schemes, including the PBB, drafted;</p>			
		<p>Number of analytical prerequisites for drafting or amending primary legislation needed for establishment of a Producer Balancing Body (PBB) prepared;</p>			
		<p>Number of analytical prerequisites for implementing legislative drafting in the special waste streams under the EPR scheme regarding the operating criteria of the system in each waste stream prepared;</p>			

		<p>Number of analytical prerequisites for implementing legislative drafting for the establishment and operation –specially data handling- of the PBB prepared.</p>			
<p><b>Sub-result 1.1:</b> Mechanisms for central coordination of activities of producers, collective handlers and economic operators identified</p>		<p>Number of stakeholder’s communication plan for implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Schemes in line with the new EU circular economy package and the relevant legislative acts of the Republic of North Macedonia prepared;</p>			
		<p>Number of memos from the meetings held by the Working Group comprised of all stakeholders, involved in PBB and EPR systems prepared;</p>			
		<p>Number of data sheets and data processing plan for the EPR schemes, including PBB, producers, collectors, recyclers and any other entity handling waste prepared.</p>			

Component 2: Operational and administrative capacity					
	Description	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of verification	Risks	Assumptions
Mandatory results	<b>Mandatory result 2:</b> Operational and administrative capacity on the PBB within the EPR enhanced	Number of working and implementation model of the PBB, including establishment criteria prepared;	- Project interim and final report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of sufficient cooperation between all parties involved in the project that could result in low quality of the prepared documents</li> <li>- Unclear division of the responsibilities among involved stakeholders</li> <li>- Lack of sufficient information and delays on ensuring documents necessary for implementation of the operation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Smooth and effective cooperation between all parties involved in the project</li> <li>- Completion of the tasks, according to the time schedule and the budget</li> <li>- Support and commitment from involved stakeholders</li> <li>- Sufficient flow of relevant information for the operation implementation between the involved parties on national local level</li> <li>- Dedicated staff by the Beneficiaries is present during the project implementation</li> </ul>
		Number of Terms of Agreement, Standing and Financing Orders for operation of the Producer Balancing Body prepared;			
		Number of accounting protocols for waste production calculation and necessary supporting documentation including data processing plan prepared;			
		Number of organizational set-up, staffing and resources proposals for the operation of the PBB prepared.			

		Number of protocols developed for financing and operational auditing of the producers, EPRs and PBB;			
		Number of Plan for implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes and circular economy 2020-2030 prepared;			
		Number of working programme (5 year duration) of the PBB and plan of activities prepared;			
		Number of funding proposal for independent professional operation of the PBB for an initial 5-year period developed.			
	<b>Sub-result 2.1:</b> Strengthened performance of the relevant stakeholders for accurate control of quantities of waste materials	Number of trainings for approximately 10 participants for implementation performed;			

		<p>Number of training need assessment of the relevant stakeholders (MoEPP), waste producers companies, State and Local Environmental Inspectorates, State Market Inspectorate, Regional Waste Management Centres) for implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes (EPR system) and circular economy prepared;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training Need Assessment report and training curricula.</li> <li>- List of participants on trainings, evaluation forms, etc.</li> <li>- Training reports</li> <li>- Project reports</li> </ul>		
<p>Number of Training Programme (5 year duration) for implementation of the EPR system and circular economy prepared;</p>					
<p>Number of trainings for implementation and enforcement of the EPR system, including PBB and circular economy delivered to relevant stakeholders;</p>					

		Number of trainings for enforcement and auditing of the PBB operation and data collection and dissemination delivered to approximately 10 participants for the relevant stakeholders;			
		Number of training curricula and materials for implementation prepared and translated in Macedonian and Albanian languages.			
<b>Component 3: Information Technology</b>					
	Description	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of verification	Risks	Assumptions
Mandatory results	<b>Result 3.1:</b> Electronic data collection and reporting system for EPR system developed	Number of assessment reports of the IT and other necessary equipment needs for the operation of the PBB prepared;	- IT concept and technical specification report	- Lack of sufficient cooperation between all parties involved in the project that could result in low quality of the prepared documents	- Smooth and effective cooperation between all parties involved in the project
		Number of Technical Specifications for IT and other equipment developed;	- Project reports	- Unclear division of the responsibilities among involved stakeholders	- Completion of the tasks, according to the time schedule and the budget
		Number of financial estimates and procurement documentation to enable funding applications for the delivery of the PBB IT system developed;		- Lack of sufficient information and delays on ensuring documents necessary for	- Support and commitment from involved stakeholders -Sufficient flow of relevant information for the operation

		Number of standard audit protocol to enable National and EU reporting to be completed accurately developed based on the PBB IT system developed;		implementation of the operation	implementation between the involved parties on national local level
		Consultation process with the relevant coordinating state authority for ICT conducted;			- Dedicated staff by the Beneficiaries is present during the project implementation
		Connections to the already existing National Environment Data Collection system determined.			

## Annex 2: Organogram of the BC institution

