



**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

***UNECE Working Group on Environmental Monitoring (WGEM)***

***in collaboration with Ministry of Environment of Georgia***

***and with the financial assistance of the European Community***



## ***First Workshop on Waste classifications and inventories***

***Tbilisi (Georgia), 7 and 8 July 2003***

### ***1. Background***

The quantitative and qualitative data on the generation, use, disposal and environmental effects of wastes are unreliable in many countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) and do not meet priority demands. Some important waste streams such as: hazardous waste; municipal waste; packaging waste; end of life vehicles (used tyres); healthcare waste; construction and demolition waste; waste from electrical and electronic equipment (incl. batteries and accumulators); sewage sludge; and waste oil; are not properly monitored. Inventories are lacking in several countries of waste of high potential hazard, which were (or continue to be) dumped on landfill sites, especially in rural areas. Different agencies involved rarely share data. Data quality is often uncertain; data collected is often incomplete; little work has been done to analyze or synthesize data for policy development and assessment through appropriate indicators.

The activity on Waste Classifications and Inventories under the joint project of UNECE and the European Environment Agency (EEA) on “Support to the activities of the UNECE Working Group on Environmental Monitoring” is intended:

- To review current situation in EECCA countries with the waste classifications and inventories;
- To introduce to EECCA countries sets of waste indicators that are used in EEA countries;
- To strengthen the capacity of EECCA countries to collect and assess data on waste generation, recovery and disposal.

The detailed assessment will be made of the three Caucasian countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia) in terms of collecting and handling data on waste and the effectiveness of existing regulations. Recommendations will be prepared for these countries and other EECCA countries for improving the situation and making national waste classification systems compatible with those applied in EEA member countries.

## ***2. Workshop objectives***

The Workshop will discuss current situation in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia with waste classifications and inventories. It will identify gaps in data collection on most important waste streams, weaknesses in the regulatory and institutional frameworks, and needs in building national capacities in the area. Senior officials responsible for waste management and data collection in the three countries will be informed about approaches applied in EEA member countries to improve waste classification systems, data collection and the use of indicators.

National experts will also develop a plan and a time schedule for the preparation of recommendations on improving legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks related to routine data collection and reporting on wastes, and the use of indicators on waste and material flows that are compatible with those applied in EEA countries.

## ***3. Workshop programme***

On the first day, the Workshop will be opened by a series of keynote presentations on EEA and its European Topic Centre on Waste and Material Flows, including a core set of indicators, and on the experience of some EU accession countries in adapting their legislation and practices to up-to-date requirements on waste data collection and reporting. A plenary discussion will follow to focus on international waste classification systems, such as that of the Basel convention, and on sets of key indicators used in data collection and reporting on wastes and material flows.

On the second day the experts from the three Caucasian countries will deliver national contributions on the current situation with waste classifications and inventories in their countries, regulatory and institutional frameworks for waste data collection and reporting, and needs for improvements and promoting international comparability. The UNEP's experience on waste data collection in the sub-region will be also presented. The Workshop will end up with the discussion of activities to be pursued by experts at home during the period up to the next Workshop, as well as of the scope and dates of the second Workshop.

## ***4. Workshop outcomes***

The Workshop will result in an analytical report on the current situation in the three Caucasian countries with data collection and reporting on waste, including relevant technical, organisational and institutional problems, and the use of indicators.

## ***5. Workshop follow-up***

A second Workshop will be organized in October 2003 in Tbilisi to prepare recommendations to Governments of the three Caucasian countries and other EECCA countries (possibly in the form of model regulations) for improving national waste classification systems, routine waste data collection as well as reporting by the use of indicators on waste and material flows that are compatible with those applied in EEA countries. In addition to the Caucasian experts, experts from the five Central Asian States will participate.

## **First Workshop on waste classifications and inventories**

Tbilisi (Georgia), 7-8 July 2003

### Agenda

#### July 7, Monday

- 09:30 – 10:00 Yaroslav Bulych, UNECE, Aims and tasks of the project.  
Givi Kalandadze, Georgia, Workshop organization and logistics.
- 10:00 – 11:00 Dimitrios Tsotsos, EEA, “EEA and ETC: fields of work, participating countries, main reports”.
- 11:00 - 11:15 Coffee break.
- 11:15 – 12:15 Fotis Kourmoussis, ETC, “EEA-ETC core set of indicators, policy questions and policy documents, idea of a hierarchy with levels of key, core and basic indicators”.
- 12:15 – 13:00 Discussion of the two papers.
- 13:00 – 14:30 Lunch
- 14:30 – 15:30 Matti Viisimaa, ETC, “How to provide the data for indicators: example of Estonia”
- 15:30 – 16:30 Toomas Pallo, UNECE consultant, “How to improve the legal and institutional framework to have a better system of data collection and processing on main waste stream taking into account the experience of the three Baltic States.”
- 16:30-16:45 Coffee break.
- 16:45 –17:30 Discussion of the two papers.
- 17:30 –18:00 Fuad Ibragimov, Azerbaijan, “National law system on waste management: requirements for data collection and reporting”.

#### July 8, Tuesday

- 09:30 – 10:00 Mamed Nasibov, Azerbaijan, “National experience in hazardous waste management: requirements for data collection and reporting”.
- 10:00 – 10:30 Rena Lazymova, Azerbaijan, “Information collected in Azerbaijan on waste generation, removal, treatment and disposal, as well as indicators used”.
- 10:30 – 11:00 Discussion of data collection and reporting on waste in Azerbaijan.
- 11:00 - 11:15 Coffee break.
- 11:15 – 11:45 Ron Witt, UNEP, “Main findings on waste of the UNEP Caucasus Environment Outlook 2002 and UNEP’s experience with waste data collection in the sub-region”.
- 11:45 – 12:30 Anahit Aleksandryan & Irina Akopyan, Armenia “National experience in Armenia on waste management: requirements for data collection and reporting”
- 12:30 – 13:00 Nelli Baghdasaryan, Armenia “The core indicators on waste: collection, processing and dissemination of statistical data in Armenia”
- 13:00 – 14:15 Lunch
- 14:15 – 14:45 Discussion on data collection and reporting on waste in Armenia.

- 14:45 – 15:15 Malkhaz Dzneladze, Georgia, “National Law on Waste Management in Georgia: requirements for data collection and reporting”.
- 15:15 – 15:45 Alverd Chankseliani, Georgia “Existing problems in waste management in Georgia: implications for data collection and reporting”.
- 15:45 – 16:15 Zurab Kirvalidze, Georgia “Indicators, data collection and reporting in Georgia on waste generation, removal, treatment and disposal”.
- 16:15 - 16:30 Coffee break.
- 16:30 – 17:00 Shalva Deboshvili, Georgia “Tbilisi city’s experience with data collection and reporting on waste”.
- 17:00 – 17:30 Discussion on data collection and reporting on waste in Georgia.
- 17:30 – 18:00 Conclusions on the discussions held.
- 18:00 – 18:30 Preparations for the next Workshop.

## Information on Practical Arrangements

### **Venue**

The Workshop will be held in the Ministry of Environment of Georgia. The address is as follows:

68-a Kostava Street  
380071 Tbilisi

The Workshop will take place in 6th floor conference room.

### **Contact person:**

Mr Givi Kalandadze  
Tel.: +995-32-230-664, 334 082  
Fax: +995-32-333-952  
e-mail [airdept@caucasus.net](mailto:airdept@caucasus.net)

### **Facilities**

Technical equipment and other facilities available for the Workshop include:

- Data projector for PowerPoint Software for PC operated with WIN 95/MS Office 95
- Overhead projector
- Photocopying.

### **Interpretation**

Interpretation into English and Russian will be provided during the discussions.

### **Accommodation**

Host organization will help participants to make hotel reservations.

### **Financial support**

Ministry of Environment of Georgia under the contract with UNECE Secretariat will provide invited Armenian, Azerbaijan as well international experts with financial support to cover their travel expenses, accommodation and subsistence costs. Participants should use the cheapest way of transport between their cities and Tbilisi. The reimbursement will be made on the base of actual travel costs. When the private cars are used, receipts from the gas stations should be submitted.

Lunches and refreshments will be offered to all Workshop participants on 7 and 8 July (free for local experts to be covered from the project budget, and against payment for external experts).

### **Visas**

If Georgian entry visa is needed, the Ministry of Environment of Georgia will provide a letter of invitation for visa support. Experts should contact Mr. Givi Kalandadze.