

## 15. LATVIA

### 15.1 Legal Framework – Waste Management Plans and Strategies

#### 15.1.1 National Legislation concerning CDW

In Latvia, policy planning regarding waste management is carried out at national and regional level.

Current national legislation on waste in generally are:

- **Latvian Waste Management Act**, which transposed at national level the Waste Framework Directive, entered into force the 18 November 2010. The document includes issues like the distribution of competences and all requirements regarding the establishment, management, closure and recultivation of landfills and dumps. It includes the prohibition of illegal dumping;
- **Law on Waste Management** (01.03.2001., Amendments 13.03.2008.), which includes: definitions, objectives, exclusions, classification of waste, waste management hierarchy, waste management permits and inspections, competencies/roles of state and municipal authorities, waste trans-boundary movements (imports/exports), etc..

About CDW, up today, there are no specific national legislation.

#### 15.1.2 Waste management plans (WMP) and Strategies

Waste management purposes are included in the following national planning documents:

- **Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia to 2030** (approved by the LR Saeima on 10 June 2010);
- **Latvian National Development Plan 2007-2013** (Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 564 “Regulations Regarding the Latvian National Development Plan 2007-2013” of 4 July 2006);
- **Latvian Strategic Development Plan 2010-2013** (approved by the ordinance of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 203 of 9 April 2010) as well as the Basic Guidelines for Environmental Policy 2009-2015 (approved by the ordinance of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 517 of 31 July 2009);
- **Environmental Policy Strategy 2009-2015**, adopted in 2015, and prioritizing a new financing model for the use of revenue from the natural-resources tax, creating a deposit system for waste management, improving standards in waste-water management, and improving research and development capacities.
- **Waste Management State Plan 2013-2020**, adopted in 2013 and subjected to a review in 2017. The waste prevention programme is a part of the waste management plan and therefore it will be revised at the same time. The effectiveness of the measures in the national waste prevention programme will be evaluated according to the following quality indicators:

- ✓ the impact of waste prevention measures on waste generation and on the waste producers (sociological assessment);
- ✓ the potential reuse of waste.

### 15.1.3 Legal framework for sustainable management of CDW

Law on Waste Management provides favorable conditions for sustainable management of CDW, in terms of separation collection and management of hazardous waste from construction and demolition operations.

In 2008 the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development has developed "Guidelines on promotion of green procurement in state and municipal institutions" and "Guidelines on promotion of environmentally friendly construction", according to the Green Public Procurement.

### 15.1.4 Targets

No specific target are sets for CDW by the State Waste Management Plan. Only the Latvian regulation n.598 of the Cabinet of Ministers establishes "Reuse, recycling and material recovery of at least 75% of construction and demolition waste by weight, including backfilling".

### 15.1.5 End of Waste (EoW) status

According to the European Commission report "Support to member states in improving waste management based on assessment of member states' performance", provisions about the EoW principle are outlined in the Latvian Waste Management Act of 18 November 2010, although no complimentary information was identified.

## 15.2 Non legislative instruments (best practices, guidelines, recommendations...)

On June 8 2010, the Latvian construction company RE&RE in close cooperation with the charity Zaļās mājas (The Green Home) and the most active supporters of the sustainable construction practices, among other Knauf, Ramirent, Saint-Gobain, a letter of intent to establish an organization to facilitate the sustainable construction practices in Latvia. The purpose of the establishment of organizations is to provide qualitative and lasting instruments intended exclusively for the issues of the sustainable construction and for implementation and maintenance of the Latvian adaptation the BREEAM Europe Commercial system of the assessment and certification.

The main action lines of the organization shall be the raising awareness regarding the sustainable construction practices, related educational issues, maintenance of the Latvian System for Assessment and Certification of Sustainable Construction (i.e., the Latvian adaptation of BREEAM), as well as local and international cooperation to facilitate the development of the sustainable construction practices in Latvia.

The established set of guidelines considers full lifecycle of architectural objects: starting from planning, blueprinting and constructing to dismantling or remodelling of a particular unit. It centres on sustainable development, for example, by laying down the principles of how to determine the environmental friendliness as well as social and economic viability of buildings, construction processes and maintenance.

There are already plans for a second edition of the document, in the preparation of which a wider range of public and professional bodies will be thoroughly involved.

Among the main principles highlighted by the working group for sustainable construction and maintenance, there are:

- conscientious utilisation of environmentally friendly sources of energy;
- use of environmentally friendly, harmless types of materials and other resources;
- efficient use of water;
- prudent methodology of land use planning for neighbourhoods, residential districts, clusters of office blocks, etc.;
- area improvement and landscaping;
- optimum architectural and structural solutions;
- introduction of buildings that promote the health and well-being of their inhabitants;
- the need to decrease harmful emissions and to handle waste efficiently.

### 15.3 CDW management performance – CDW data

#### 15.3.1 CDW generation data

EUROSTAT database reports the data reported in Table 53 for CDW generated between years 2010 and 2014.

Table 53. EUROSTAT CDW generation data.

|                                | 2010<br>[tons] | 2012<br>[tons] | 2014<br>[tons] |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Mineral waste for construction | 18.498         | 4.492          | 452.236        |
| Metal wastes, ferrous          | 202            | 1.02           | 326            |
| Metal wastes, non-ferrous      | 0              | 0              | 4              |
| Glass wastes                   | 4              | 0              | 17             |
| Plastic wastes                 | 0              | 0              | 43             |
| Wood wastes                    | 0              | 455            | 30             |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>21.551</b>  | <b>7.509</b>   | <b>454.281</b> |

However, DELOITTE factsheet reports that data availability and reliability is an issue in Latvia and this data may not necessarily reflect the current situation in Latvia. In June 2015, the Latvian Environment, Geological and Meteorological Centre has started undergoing discussions with EUROSTAT regarding the validity of reported figures over the past years. As

this review is not yet completed and data is not yet available, data cross-checking for these figures is not possible at the date of the current study.

### 15.3.2 CDW treatment data

Data published by EUROSTAT deals with different waste categories but becoming from all the economic activities. Therefore, only for the category “Mineral waste from construction”, data can be considered reliable, as in the Table 40.

Table 54. EUROSTAT database for “Mineral waste from construction”

| <b>Mineral waste from construction [tons]</b>            | <b>2010</b>    | <b>2012</b>    | <b>2014</b>    |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Landfill / disposal (D1-D7, D12)                         | 13.441         | 6.708          | 9.588          |
| Deposit onto or into land                                | 13.441         | 6.708          | 9.588          |
| Land treatment and release into water bodies             | 0              | 0              | 0              |
| Incineration / disposal (D10)                            | 0              | 0              | 0              |
| Incineration / energy recovery (R1)                      | 0              | 0              | 4              |
| Recovery other than energy recovery                      | 133.271        | 148.615        | 103.839        |
| Recovery other than energy recovery - backfilling        | 0              | 0              | 11.298         |
| Recovery other than energy recovery - except backfilling | 133.271        | 148.615        | 92.541         |
| <b>Total waste treatment</b>                             | <b>146.712</b> | <b>155.323</b> | <b>113.431</b> |

### 15.3.3 CDW exports/imports data

Importing construction waste from other countries of the European Union is allowed only for regeneration purposes. No construction and building demolition waste is brought into Latvia from other countries for regeneration. According to the Latvian Environmental, Geological and Meteorological Centre, in practice, Latvia imports CDW from their Baltic Member State neighbors, in particular Lithuania.

### 15.3.4 CDW treatment facilities data

According to EUROSTAT database about “Number and capacity of recovery and disposal facilities by NUTS 2 regions”, In Latvia there are no landfill for inert waste, while there are 11 landfill for non-hazardous waste and 2 landfill for hazardous waste.

### 15.3.5 Future projections of CDW generation and treatment

Future projections of CDW generation and treatment do not exist on the national level, in large part because the existent data is not reliable in its current stage to draw up projections.

### 15.3.6 Methodology for CDW statistics

The methodology for CDW statistics of data reported in this document follows Eurostat guidelines.

## 15.4 C&D waste management in practice

### 15.4.1 CDW management initiatives

See paragraph 15.2

### 15.4.2 Drivers / barriers to increase CDW recycling

Main obstacles to sustainable CDW management are:

- Absence of C&D Legislation
- Poor of national data transparency and reporting
- Lack of national resources for CDW development
- Lack of deterrents aimed at landfilling
- Underdeveloped market for recycled CDW (aggregates)
- Lack of communication on CDW management practices.

Main drivers are:

- EU-funding for CDW projects
- Tighter enforcement on illegal dumping and the introduction of stricter landfill costs
- Better communication on CDW management practices
- Incentives towards favourable use of recycled aggregates.

## 15.5 CDW sector characterization

### 15.5.1 CDW materials (CONCRETE, BRICKS, TILES AND CERAMIC, ASPHALT, WOOD, GYPSUM)

#### *Product description and applications*

CDW is referred to as waste from construction, renovation and demolition, as well as debris and damaged materials resulting from the construction process, or materials used in the construction site temporarily. Usually the construction waste from residential buildings contains concrete, wood, metal, plaster panels, oil, chemicals and roof trim materials.

#### *Quantitative analysis*

See paragraph 15.3.1

#### *Recovery techniques*

To ensure a quality construction waste recycling process, the owner of the construction waste must sort such as follows:

- separate other household waste and hazardous waste, including asbestos;
- concrete and reinforced concrete constructions (larger than 100x70 cm, thickness of up to 30 cm);
- concrete and reinforced concrete constructions (larger than 100x70 cm, thickness from 30 cm to 70 cm);

- concrete and reinforced concrete constructions (larger than 100x70 cm, thickness exceeding 70 cm) as well as all T-shape and double T-shape beams;
- all types of construction waste (smaller than 100x70x30 cm) by sorting them.

Owners and carriers of the construction waste are strictly prohibited to remove and store away construction waste in household landfill sites and the managers of the household landfill sites are prohibited from accepting such. In the construction waste recycling company the delivered construction waste is weighted and the type of construction waste is registered by filling in the form "Construction waste acceptance waybill" delivered by the cargo carrier; two copies of which shall be retained by the carrier. The construction waste recycling company is entitled to handle the construction waste after weighing the waste and accepting it for recycling. The construction waste carrier must deliver the "Construction waste acceptance waybill register" to the Environmental Department monthly, by the 15th date of the following month. If the construction waste recycling company refuses to accept the construction waste due to its low quality or any other reason, such shall be confirmed by an entry in the construction waste acceptance waybill by specifying that it is permitted to take the construction waste to the household landfill site for storing away.

When construction waste is accepted for storing away in the household landfill site, the construction waste acceptance waybill containing the entry by the construction waste recycling company regarding its refusal to accept the construction waste for recycling shall be required. One copy of the construction waste acceptance waybill shall be left with the person accepting such cargo at the landfill site.

If the construction waste delivered to the construction waste recycling company or the household landfill site contains substances hazardous to the environment and human health, the construction waste shall be returned to the supplier to handle, according to the provisions of Part One of Section 14 of the Law of the Republic of Latvia "Waste Management Law".

#### *Environmental and economic impacts of CDW waste management*

No data found

#### *Drivers / barriers to increase recycling*

See paragraph 15.4.2

#### 15.5.2 Recycled materials from CDW

DELOITTE factsheet reports that the most commonly used recycled material from CDW are metals, because of their relatively easy reintegration via closed loop recycling. Bricks, glass and concrete is usually backfilled or landfilled (depending on quality), while wood is used for recovery via incineration.

### 15.5.3 Market conditions / costs and benefits

There are currently no types of financial incentives to recycle CDW. Therefore, drivers towards better CDW management and market conditions for recycled CDW such as: End-of-Waste criteria, EPDs, GPP, etc. is either underdeveloped and poorly communicated to relevant actors, or inexistent.