

## **SMART WASTE - Innovation in Waste Management Policies**

### **KRWMC report on final results of local evaluation activities**

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#### **Table of contents**

1. Policy instrument evaluated.....	2
2. Evaluation process.....	2
3. Evaluation results .....	3
4. Next steps .....	3

## 1. Policy instrument evaluated

Lithuanian multi-fund Operational Programme (OP) for investing European Structural and Investment funds 2014-2020, measure 05.2.1-APVA-K-009

## 2. Evaluation process

The first step in the evaluation process was the development of a shared methodology by the SMART WASTE partners on an international level and stakeholders on the national level.

The main goal of SMART WASTE is to support innovation in waste management. Hence the main aim of the evaluation methodology was to assess the policy instrument-specific support to innovation concerning:

- Waste streams involved;
- European waste hierarchy step;
- Specific kind of EU Structural Fund support;
- Quantitative evaluation of policy instrument capacity to reach environmental targets if the policy instrument included such targets.

Three activities were pivotal in developing the evaluation methodology:

- Interregional exchange of experiences was essential for sharing each partner's experiences in the evaluation of Policy Instruments, taking into account structural differences among SMART WASTE partner's Policy Instruments of choice. On a general basis, these activities were the foundation of the methodological side of the evaluation methodology development;
- SMART WASTE partnership took into proper account relevant Policy Briefs from the Policy Learning Platform of the Interreg Europe Programme;
- Lithuanian local stakeholder group contributions were the primary source of insight into general failures and successes of the policy instrument in supporting innovation in waste management. The national stakeholder group includes APVA - Environmental Project Management Authority, Klaipeda University, public and private stakeholders.

Taking into proper account the outcomes of the above-listed exchanges, KRWMC applied the evaluation methodology to the policy instrument through desk analyses. KRWMC shared the evaluation methodology and the evaluation results via email with the national stakeholder group for feedback.

This is a brief recap of the evaluation timeframe:

- 04-06/09/19 Kick-off meeting in Florence, including partners stakeholders. LP developed the Draft Shared Evaluation Methodology and shared it with partners;
- KRWMC held the first national stakeholder group meeting on 05/03/2020 in Klaipeda, with representatives from 6 stakeholder institutions;
- 23-24/01/20 Partner Meeting 2 PM2 – Kolding, including partners and stakeholders;
- Regular contacts via email / phone to share results of local evaluation and Good Practices with stakeholders and to identify Good Practices to submit to Interreg Europe for approval;
- Mid 2020: finalization of the Policy Instrument evaluation.

### 3. Evaluation results

This is the Table summarizing the main findings:

	Good Practice	1 failure	2 failure
State of innovation in waste management projects and measures	Removal of airborne odors from the regional mechanical waste treatment facility in Klaipeda.	Failed support for the development of technologies for the recovery and reuse of used tires.	Critical situation for sales of recycled secondary raw materials due to volatile demand in Asia.
Priority of the National Advanced Specialization Innovation Strategy (RIS3) in Lithuania	"Energy and fuel production from biomass and waste, waste treatment, storage and disposal" in the priority R&D area "Energy and sustainable environment" – implemented by 80%		



Removal of airborne odors from the regional mechanical waste treatment facility in Klaipeda.

#### 4. Next steps

KRWMC is working in close contact with APVA for developing the Lithuanian multi-fund Operational Programme (OP) for investing European Structural and Investment funds for the programming period 2021 – 2027. KRWMC advises APVA on the next ERDF OP target definition, proposals for indicators and overall amount of public financing envisioned, relying on SMART WASTE progress and results. On June 17, 2021, Mr.



Simonas Gentvilas, the Minister of the Environment of the Republic of Lithuania has signed the Executive Order No. D1-369 regarding the allocation of funding for the projects submitted under Priority 5 of the EU Lithuanian multi-fund Operational Programme (OP) for investing European Structural and Investment funds for the programming period 2014–2020.

The list of approved measures also includes the Measure 05.2.1-APVA-R-008 “Development of Municipal Waste Management Infrastructure” for the establishment of special infrastructure for sorting and treating of food / kitchen waste collected from population in the Klaipeda Region following a unique scheme developed during the SMART WASTE project. Special equipment “Depacker“ will be used to separate biodegradable food waste for composting and incineration. Currently, the public procurement procedures are taking place to purchase the Depacker equipment for the Measure 05.2.1-APVA-R-008.