



CROATIA



Population: 4,496,869
Capital: Zagreb
Language: Croatian
Currency: Kuna
GDP per capita: \$10,600

BEST PROSPECTS

Water quality maintenance and monitoring, improvement of water supply systems and waste water treatment facilities, solid waste management, systems for waste separation, rehabilitation of waste disposal sites, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste, construction of incineration(s), air pollution emissions control.

WATER & WASTE WATER

While water supply coverage (73%) is high compared to other countries in the region, coverage for sewage is only around 40 percent, and less than twelve percent of all collected wastewater is being treated. General objectives for water and wastewater management in Croatia in the coming years include: bringing Croatian water management regulations in line with relevant EU regulations; creation and maintenance of Water Information System; extending public water supply to 90 percent of the population; providing wastewater collection, treatment and disposal systems for a population equivalent of 10.5 million and implementation of flood control and multi-purpose projects. Among multiple smaller opportunities, three large wastewater projects are currently underway: the US\$250 million World Bank-sponsored Coastal Cities Pollution Control project, the US\$ 38 million EBRD-financed Karlovac Wastewater Management Project and the US\$18 million World Bank-financed Inland Waters Project.

WASTE

Waste management is currently the largest challenge in the environmental sector in Croatia. Key issues are: increase in solid waste; very limited recycling; unreliable data concerning waste flows and quantities; lack of organized disposal sites. According to plans, by 2025 almost the entire population will be included in the organized collection of a municipal waste system, recycled and treated waste will grow significantly, and an important reduction of disposed municipal and biodegradable waste will be achieved. To meet these goals, Croatia has embarked on the process of gradually organizing four regional and 21 county waste management centers with treatment plants and landfills. Remediation of 176 landfills is also currently underway. Two upcoming projects offer immediate possibilities for U.S. firms. The Zagreb Waste Management Center will include an incinerator, recycling yard, heat and electricity generating plants with an approximate cost of US\$ 580 million. The incinerator will be constructed next to the central wastewater treatment plant and the sewage sludge, together with the municipal waste, will be used for energy generation. A Hazardous Waste Incinerator is also planned for Croatia with an approximate cost of US\$ 22 million.

AIR POLLUTION

The Air Protection Act (2005) governs air quality management in line with the EU framework directive 96/62/EC on ambient air quality assessment and management. Though Croatia ratified the Kyoto Protocol in May 2007, efforts are still needed to limit the growth of greenhouse gas emissions in order to meet Croatia's Kyoto target for the period 2008-2012. Another priority is

reduction of acid and other polluting gaseous emissions from major industrial premises such as refineries, petrochemical plants, cement industry and large combustion plants.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

In 2007, Croatia adopted important regulations to support development of renewable energy projects required to meet the goal of the minimal share of 5.8 percent of the renewable energy in the total electric energy supply by 2010. The overall size of the renewable electric energy projects is about 330 MW of new capacity in the next three years, estimated to cost approximately US\$ 700 million. Numerous private sector investors have submitted over a hundred projects for preliminary approval to the Ministry of Economy, 90 percent of which are for wind farms. In addition to wind farms, other renewable energy best prospects include biomass cogeneration plants, solar thermal collectors, and bio-fuel plants.

TRADE EVENTS

EMAT-International Environmental Protection, Eco Technology and Municipal Equipment Fair, September 15-19, 2009, http://www.zv.hr/sajmovi/033/index_hr.html

AVAILABLE MARKET RESEARCH

Wastewater & Sewage (2008)
Solid Waste Management (2007)
Hazardous Waste (2009)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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