

**National Report of the Republic of Croatia  
to the UN Commission for Sustainable Development CSD -18/19**

**Chemicals**

**Waste management**

**Sustainable Consumption and Production**

## **Contents**

### **Part 1. Republic of Croatia - National reporting for CSD-18/19: Thematic Areas**

- 1.1. Chemicals
- 1.2. Waste Management
- 1.3. The Ten Year Framework of Programmes on  
Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns

### **Part 2. Updated information on national focal point for sustainable development**

- 2.1. National Focal Point

### **Part 3. Annexed profile on National Sustainable Development Strategy; Indicators for Sustainable Development**

- 3.1. National Sustainable Development Strategy
- 3.2. Indicators for Sustainable Development

## Part 1 Republic of Croatia - National reporting for CSD-18/19: Thematic Areas

### 1.1. Chemicals

- **Assessment of chemical risks:**

The competent authority for chemicals in the Republic of Croatia is the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, which has undertaken necessary activities prescribed by national legislation and ordinances with the purpose of comprehensive national regulation of chemicals.

The main law in this respect is the Chemicals Act (OG 150/05, 53/08) and its associated by-laws, as well as the Act on the Implementation of the Regulation No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the registration, evaluation, authorization and restriction of Chemicals (OG 53/08) and The Act on Biocides (OG 63/07, 35/08).

- *Mechanisms for systematic evaluation, classification, and labeling of chemicals, including initiatives towards a harmonized system of classification and labeling of chemicals*

Amongst existing by-laws, the Ordinance on Classification, Labeling and Packaging of Chemicals (OG 23/08, 64/09), regulates systematic evaluation, classification, and labeling of chemicals. Initiatives towards a harmonized system (GHS and CLP) of classification and labeling of chemicals will begin soon pursuant to Croatia's National Programme for Accession to the European Union. Consequently, it is envisaged that the revised ordinance will be scheduled to enter into force during the second quarter of 2010. Implementation of GHS system will improve the national classification, labeling and packaging of chemicals, which currently is inadequate.

- *Initiatives for assessment of toxic chemicals, hazard and risk assessment, and participation in various international and regional initiatives*

The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare actively supports initiatives for assessing toxic chemicals, hazard and risk assessment, by participating in several international and regional initiatives (i.e. for Central European countries). The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare has started to control chemicals in articles (through boarder sanitary inspections) as a part of the international initiative for inspecting chemicals in products.

- *Strategies for exposure assessment and environmental monitoring and improvement in procedures for using toxicological and epidemiological data to predict and estimate the effects of chemicals on human health and the environment*

The National Strategy for Chemical Safety (OG 143/08) sets out objectives and activities, as well as, the need for information exchange and cooperation, data-quality assurance, application of assessment criteria, and linkages to risk management activities. According to the REACH Regulation (OG 39/09), a Safety Data Sheet is mandatory for all chemical substances, and mixtures, so that all companies that import, export or produce chemicals have to provide such documentation and make it available to the end users of chemicals.

- *Information exchange and cooperation, data-quality assurance, application of assessment criteria, and linkages to risk management activities*

In order to accomplish all these activities, a project for capacity building and strengthening of administrative and technical capacities, supported by the IPA Program (European Union Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance) is currently being prepared. This will provide better collaboration between the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction (department in charge for inspection and Seveso Directive,), and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (department in charge for chemical safety). As a first step, this will provide a good foundation for requisite coordination and cooperation between the various administrative sectors, as well as with all other stakeholders in the area of chemical safety in Croatia.

- **Sound management of toxic chemicals**

- *Progress within the larger framework of Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)*

The Director of the Directorate for Sanitary Inspection has been appointed by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare as the national focal point for SAICM. Since 2007, all information pertaining to SAICM is collected by the Directorate for Sanitary Inspection

- *Initiatives and innovations for risk reduction, particularly taking in to account the life cycle of the chemicals*

It is expected that national focal point will support and coordinate activities at the national level and towards improving coordination between different institutions and state administration regarding the collection of all relevant information on chemicals, including initiatives and innovations for risk reduction. The life cycle aspect of chemicals, as well as precautionary measures derived from broad-based life cycle analysis will be particularly taken into account in this exercise.

- *Policy measures to phase out chemicals that pose unreasonable and unmanageable risk to human health and human environment, such as, for example, ozone-depleting substances*

Croatian legislation is fully aligned with the provisions of the Montreal Protocol and its amendments. In Croatia, the production of ozone depleting substances (ODS) is prohibited. Since 1996, the National program for gradual phase-out of ODS has existed, which defines the

consumption of ODS and recommends appropriate practical measurements and projects needed, for the gradual phase-out of ODS. The phasing-out of substances that deplete the ozone layer has been progressing in Croatia in line with the Montreal Protocol. Furthermore, in early 2006, (i.e., 4 years before expiry of the deadline established in the Montreal Protocol), the consumption of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), halons, carbon-tetrachloride, methyl chloroform, and methyl bromide was phased out. Over the forthcoming period, a significant reduction in the consumption of HCFC is expected as a result of the national ban on the import of products using these substances, which has been in effect since October 2005. Moreover, a complete phase-out of HCFC consumption is planned by 2016. In addition to this, the implementation of the HCFC Phase-out Management Plan is underway, which will contribute to reducing consumption levels of these substances in Croatia.

- ***Policies and frameworks for prevention of accidents, preparedness and response***

Pursuant to Croatia's National Strategy for Chemicals Safety the role of the Croatian Institute for Toxicology (CIT) is envisaged to undertake these tasks as a specialized institution, in cooperation with other agencies and ministries. However, for the purpose of formulating policy and frameworks for accident prevention, preparedness and response, the CIT collaborates with the National Protection and Rescue Directorate.

- ***Policies aimed at reducing the risks posed by lead, mercury and cadmium and other harmful heavy metals, including through a review of relevant studies, such as, for example, the United Nations Environment Programme global assessment of mercury and its compounds***

The Croatian Institute for Toxicology is the national capacity responsible for overseeing these policies in coordination with other specialized institutions. In order to scale up national capabilities for sound management of harmful heavy metals, the Directorate for Sanitary Inspection of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare has started to regularly attend international meetings regarding harmful heavy metals, (especially mercury) and fulfill the respective reporting obligations.

- ***Initiatives to reduce overdependence on the use of agricultural chemicals***

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Developing in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare are working on means by which to scale up implementation of existing legislation dealing with plant-protection products and biocides.

## 1.2. Waste Management

- **Prevention and minimization and environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes**

- *Policy measures for the prevention and minimization of hazardous wastes*

As a result of identified problems arising from a waste management status analysis and causes of the current state of waste management, Croatian regional authorities together with the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction (MEPPPC) proposed a multi-year plan of action (2007-2015), with the ultimate goal of creating a self-sustainable waste management system in Croatia.

In this respect, the Waste Management Plan of the Republic of Croatia (OG 85/07) represents the legislative basis for waste management in Croatia for the period 2007-2015. Within the framework for preparing of the Plan is included the Waste Management Strategy of the Republic of Croatia (OG 130/05), existing legislation and EU guidelines.

The Strategy regulates the management of different types of waste in Croatia including from their generation to final disposal, with the underlying objective to establish an integrated waste management system organized in accordance with current European requirements and standards.

The Legislative framework for waste management in Croatia comprises the Waste Act (OG 174/04, 111/06, 60/08 and 87/09) and by-laws that are focused on special categories of waste.

- *Initiatives to treat, recycle, reuse and dispose of wastes at the source of generation and regulatory mechanisms (Polluter-pays principle)*

In Croatia separate collection systems have been set up for special categories of waste (batteries and accumulators, WEEE, end-of-life-vehicles, waste oils and some categories of non-hazardous waste). All these systems follow adhere to the following scheme:

The producer/importer of a product that is going to become future waste pays a fee to the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund (EPEEF). Revenues raised in this manner, are used for improving the collection system of special types of waste and also for promoting more efficient treatment and recovery. A waste collection service in cases where the fee has been paid is completely free for the waste holders such as households. In the case of end-of-life-vehicles, holders shall be entitled to compensation for delivering their old vehicles to collection points provided the vehicle is delivered as a whole.

There are additional initiatives to treat and/or recover all waste that can be treated and/or recovered in Croatia, and to export only waste that we cannot treat and/or recover because of the lack of technology. For example, lead plates from waste accumulators cannot be melted in Croatia because we possess no lead melting plant. The other parts of the accumulator are recovered, but lead plates are exported.

- ***Recovery, reuse and recycling of hazardous wastes and their transformation into useful material***

Given that Croatia is a relatively small country with a corresponding sized market, it does not possess numerous facilities for recovery, reuse and recycling of hazardous waste due to insufficient waste for worthwhile recycled production. Furthermore, the import of hazardous waste has been prohibited by Croatia for a long time.

Recent amendments to the Waste Act were adopted in June 2009, which enabled the import of useful hazardous waste that could be recovered in Croatia.

Establishing some new modern recovery facilities as is the one for WEEE recovery, enabled new collection systems to become more efficient. Furthermore, a lot of work has been done on raising public awareness and introducing new systems so Croatia expects better results in waste recovery in the near future.

- ***Phase-out of toxic, persistent and bio-accumulative waste***

The Republic of Croatia does not experience a significant problem with toxic, persistent and bio-accumulative waste. The only waste of this kind Croatia is having to deal with in noticeable quantities is waste containing PCBs. According to an expert study on PCB inventory that was completed in spring 2009, 530,85 tonnes of equipment were identified in Croatia which contained PCBs, owned by 73 holders. The same study estimates that the total amount of PCB containing equipment in Croatia could amount to 653,74 tonnes.

PCB waste management is regulated by the Ordinance on PCB and PCT Management (OG 105/08). According to the Ordinance, all holders of PCBs and PCB containing equipment are obliged to report their quantity to the MEPPPC and to the Croatian Environment Agency (CEA) by March 2009, six months following the adoption of the Ordinance. By the end of September 2009, holders are obliged to submit their plans for decontamination of such equipment to the MEPPPC and CEA. Furthermore, holders are obliged to ensure decontamination of PCB containing equipment before the end of 2010.

- ***Environmentally sound waste disposal and treatment***

In order to undertake activities related to the disposal/recovery of hazardous waste it is necessary to obtain a permit issued by the MEPPPC, pursuant to Article 41 of the Waste Act. This is also necessary for the activities related to hazardous waste collection and storage.

In Croatia, the method of disposal/treatment of hazardous waste is determined on the basis of permits issued and is carried out in one of the following ways:

- a) incineration/co-incineration,
- b) conditioning by incorporation into brick products,
- c) solvent regeneration, neutralisation of acids and bases,
- d) solidification and stabilisation,
- e) sterilisation/disinfection,
- f) electrolysis and dilution.

Permits for the treatment of special categories of waste that are subject to specific ordinances are issued according to specified criteria respectively.

Given there are no landfills designated for hazardous waste in Croatia and possibilities for the recovery of its energy or incineration are limited, most of Croatia's hazardous waste intended for disposal is exported to other countries,

- ***Inventories of hazardous waste production, their treatment/disposal, and contaminated sites***

The Croatian Environment Agency (CEA) was established by the Government as an independent public institution to collect, integrate, and process environmental data.

In the field of waste management, the CEA is responsible for providing reliable and comparable data, as well as information on waste, to decision-makers and the general public. Their main tasks are as follows:

- collect and collate data on waste pursuant to the Waste Act and relevant by-laws
- maintain the waste information system
- prepare and elaborate indicators on waste
- prepare reports on waste and waste management
  - participate in the European Information and Observation Network EIONET
- collaborate in the preparation and implementation of projects in the field of waste
- improves the quality, quantity, availability and comparability of waste data

A legal or natural person i.e. craftsmen who produce and/or manage waste must keep the requisite register on waste origin and waste flow. They are obliged to enter data into the register in an accurate and comprehensive manner, and subsequent to every change. In accordance with the normative framework, they shall submit on an annual basis the data from the register to the competent authority. The competent authorities then submit this data to the CEA that maintains an official register and issues an annual report. This report includes data on the quantity and type (according to key numbers from the European list) of produced, treated, and disposed waste.

A specific report is prepared for the transboundary movement of waste.

Contaminated sites, so called "hot spots", are registered and described in the Waste Management Plan of the Republic of Croatia for the period 2007-2015. The 2006 PHARE project: "Development of Hazardous Waste Management System Including the Identification and Management of Hot Spot Sites in Croatia", was initiated in December 2008, and is still being implemented. Its main objective is to identify and recommend appropriate solutions for the remediation of hot spots.

- ***Establishment of combined treatment/disposal facilities for hazardous wastes in small- and medium-sized industries***

Technical and technological capacities for the collection, storage and treatment of hazardous waste are being developed in accordance with supply and demand in the market. Certain economic entities have been issued with permits for collecting, transporting and temporarily storing hazardous waste. In addition, there are several smaller specialised facilities in Croatia built for the purpose of recovery/treatment of hazardous waste and there are available capacities

within individual industrial installations which are used for recovery/treatment of some types of hazardous waste.

- *Dissemination of scientific and technical information dealing with various health and environmental aspects of hazardous wastes*

Environmental Health Department of the Croatian National Institute of Public Health holds health education and promotion activities on managing medical waste and from time to time disseminates information on various health and environmental aspects of hazardous wastes. Information's are published on the web: [www.zdravlje.hr](http://www.zdravlje.hr), [www.hzjz.hr](http://www.hzjz.hr), [www.hcjz.hr](http://www.hcjz.hr) and in brochures and leaflets that are sheared as educational materials for the TV and radio.

- *Preventing illegal international traffic in hazardous wastes*

Croatia's decision-making process and regulatory framework overseeing the export and transit of hazardous waste have been fully aligned with Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and Their Disposal. Croatia ratified the Basel Convention in 1994, which calls for close cooperation with competent authorities of those states to which hazardous waste is exported or with transit countries.

Alongside, the Basel Convention, the prevention and detection of illegal transboundary movement of waste is ensured via implementation of the Waste Act and the Regulation on Supervision of Transboundary Movement of Waste (OG 69/06, 17/07 and 39/09). Pursuant to these provisions, inspections are conducted at border crossings and on the premises of customs houses, in a manner that makes optimal use of competent capacities to hand, using the urgent procedures in sanctioning offenders at Magistrates courts

Regular and ad hoc inspections of transboundary movement of waste are being conducted. Notifications for inspection are sent to very small targeted group of customs officials at the very last minute and as close to the actual time the inspection, so as to achieve ensure an element of surprise and the ultimate success of the exercise.

Within the ambit of environmental inspections, Croatian officials also cooperate on bilateral and multilateral manner via participation in activities within the IMPEL TFS cluster.

- **Environmentally sound management of solid (non-hazardous) wastes and sewage, in the context of integrated planning and management of land resources**

- *Policies aimed at waste prevention and minimization, reuse and recycling*

As part of its accession process, to the EU, Croatia was incorporate relevant EU legislation that provided the basis for newly enacted legislation including several ordinances dealing with different categories of waste. According to these ordinances new collection systems for special categories of waste were set established, as well as waste treatment and recovery were enhanced.

Separate collection and recovery services are organized through concessions.

The main aim is to reduce the amount of waste that ultimately ends up in landfills by establishing separate collection systems and to recover as much waste as possible. The collection and recovery systems are established on the country level.

To date, Croatia has achieved very good results with separate collection and recovery services, especially with PET packaging and used tyres - all collected quantities of these types of waste have been recovered in Croatia.

- *Development of environmentally sound disposal facilities, including technology to convert waste into energy, such as, for example, through utilization of landfill methane*

At the moment no such facilities exist in Croatia. According to the Waste Management Plan in the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2007-2015, 17-21 waste management centres (WMC) are envisaged to be built with mechanical-biological treatment (MBT) facilities that will produce methane and refuse-derived fuel (RDF).

However, current forecasts indicate that construction and initial operation of all these WMCs will not be achievable by 2015 due to financial reasons. Consequently, the new target date has been set for 2020.

- **Radioactive wastes and their environmentally sound management (safe storage, transportation and disposal of radioactive waste)**

In Croatia, radioactive waste is regulated by the Regulation on the Conditions and Methods of Disposal of Radioactive Waste, Spent Sealed Radioactive Sources and Ionising Radiation Sources which are not Intended for Further Use” (OG 44/2008). This regulation does not apply to nuclear material defined in the Nuclear Safety Act (OG 173/2003), originating from nuclear installations.

The State Office for Radiation Protection (SORP) authorises activities involving radioactive waste, spent sealed radioactive sources and ionising radiation sources, which are not intended for further use. Permits are awarded to legal entities or individuals on the basis that the SORP is satisfied of full adherence to prescribed requirement under the Act on Ionising Radiation Protection and Safety of Ionising Radiation Sources (OG 64/2006), Regulation (OG 44/2008), and provisions of special regulations in the field of ionising radiation protection.

The Rudjer Boskovic Institute Repository is licensed to undertake collection and storage, including the final accommodation of low level and intermediate level of radioactive waste.

### 1.3. The Ten Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns

- **Generic issues relating to the inclusion of SCP in national policies:**
  - *Inclusion of SCP in development planning*

The recently adopted national Sustainable Development Strategy (2009) includes a thematic chapter exclusively dealing with SCP. Its overall objective is to achieve a balanced and stable economic growth which will have less impact on further environmental degradation and waste generation than at present. Under the Strategy, economic growth must be followed by a change in unsustainable behaviour patterns in households, as well as in the public and private sector. Activities and measures laid out in the Strategy towards achieving the overall objective, are wide-ranging, and focus on issues such as the promotion and market supply of sustainable products and services, application of new sustainable and ecological agricultural based technologies, sustainable tourism, cleaner production, corporate social responsibility, sustainable waste management, environmental labelling and EMAS. Some of these measures already enjoy strong support under existing sector policies, while others will be fostered by a SCP Action Plan which is currently in its conceptual phase.

- *Inclusion in the poverty alleviation strategies*

The Ministry of Regional Development, Forestry and Water Management is the lead governmental body of the multi-sectoral Project for Social and Economic Recovery of the Republic of Croatia (PSGO), that has been implemented since 2006 with the aim of supporting economic and social revival, as well as improving social cohesion in areas of special state concern. The project currently covers 13 counties and its economic revitalization pillar aims to create new jobs, increase industrial processing and agro-industrial production, improve marketing conditions, and introduce new and innovative technologies. Financial assistance is planned for strengthening the productive capacity of existing cooperatives and small businesses, and to support the establishment of and initial phases of newly formed cooperatives.

- *Inclusion in national and local development planning, including infrastructure investment*

Infrastructural investments in Croatia are regulated by comprehensive environmental policies.

In the area of fisheries, infrastructural investments are closely aligned to sustainability principles. These include primarily the planning and development of marine aquaculture, as well as capture fisheries, where sustainability values play an integral part in the planning of port and coastal infrastructure. The main objective is to use resources in such a manner that will minimize their quantity but maximize their value. This is the basic principle underlying the development policy in Croatia's fisheries sector. In order to implement this policy, measures aimed at planning port infrastructure are aligned with the policy on resource usage. In planning marine aquaculture, priority is given to usage of clean technologies, application of best practice codes, with selection

of sites being determined on the basis of environmental criteria. Concessions for marine aquaculture are awarded at the local level, as well as port infrastructure. Since these fall under the responsibility of local governments, incorporating sustainability criteria apply also at the local level.

With regard to waste management, infrastructure investment is currently being made for building of regional waste management centers as part of local development planning schemes.

In the area of rural development, infrastructure improvement and development activities include installation of sewer systems and waste water purification units, construction of local unclassified roads and power plants, as well as building natural firewalls using parts of existing forest roads.

Sustainable development principles are also integrated in some multi-sectoral projects containing some elements of SCP. The objective of the Karst Ecosystem Conservation project (2002 - 2007), was to strengthen institutional and technical capacity for biodiversity conservation in the karst environment. This was done by integrating biodiversity conservation into physical planning and sectoral objectives, strengthening the management of protected karst areas, promoting entrepreneurial and tourism activities to support sustainable use of natural resources and conservation, as well as educating local communities and visitors to these national parks on how to adopt their behavior so as to preserve and protect the unique features of Croatia's natural karst environment.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) financially supports several projects in Croatia and some of them are oriented toward the promotion of biodiversity conservation and energy efficiency. The Project COAST (2007 - 2012) supports preservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity along the Dalmatian Coast, through sustainable development of coastal areas. The aim of this Project is the conservation of natural assets and the sustainable use of natural resources found along the Dalmatian coast. The Project further aims to increase public awareness and knowledge with regard to these natural assets, integrate biodiversity based criteria into sectoral development activities at the national, regional and local level, as well as develop and introduce into practice the concept of integral management of the coastal area and entrepreneurial cooperation with the retail and business sector. More details can be found at: <http://www.undp.hr/show.jsp?page=51894>

### **Green public procurement policies, laws and regulations**

- Croatia has fully adopted two EU Directives regulating socially responsible procurement. Also *The Public Procurement Act* is planned to be amended with new provisions on social and responsible public procurement, in accordance with EU recommendations and practices.
- **Instruments for sustainable consumption**
  - *Awareness-rising programmes/campaigns on SCP, including water conservation, energy efficiency, waste minimization and recycling*

The United Nations Environment Programme publication “*Resource Kit*” dealing with sustainable consumption and production, has been translated into Croatian and distributed as educational material to primary and secondary schools throughout the country.

In 2009, several awareness-raising campaigns on energy efficiency issues were initiated. The underlying aim of these campaigns is to promote a reduction in energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, by continuous public information and awareness-raising campaigns, as well as social marketing, including TV commercials and disseminating posters on this issue.

The “*Removing Barriers to Energy Efficiency in Croatia*“ Project, implemented by the Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship in conjunction with the UNDP in Croatia, aims at removing barriers for the implementation of economically feasible, energy efficient technologies and measures in residential and service sectors in Croatia. An important role of the Project is directed to demand-side market transformation and development of energy efficient segment of the market related to the availability of energy efficient products and the development of local capacity for energy efficient services. More details can be found at: <http://www.undp.hr/show.jsp?page=57802>.

Along with activities directed towards citizens and the private sector, two nation-wide projects in the public services sector have also been launched by the Government to encourage energy efficiency: “*House in Order*” (HiO) and “*Energy Management in Cities and Counties*” (EMCC). Both these projects are aimed at implementing energy efficiency and systematic energy management in all central government-owned buildings, as well as in all buildings and programs at the local and regional level throughout the country. For more details please refer to: <http://www.energetska-efikasnost.undp.hr/>. Activities under these projects include organizing and conducting courses for energy advisers (i.e. local government employees in town/county energy offices and energy efficiency information centers).

Croatia’s capital city Zagreb joined the EU initiative CIVITAS ELAN with the aim of improving living conditions in the city, and to promote and support sustainable, clean and energy efficient public transport (2008 – 2012). For more details on this initiative please see: <http://civitas-elan.zagreb.hr/>

- ***Policies and/or infrastructure to support citizens’ choices for responsible consumption of products and services, including consumer information tools***

In the area of energy efficiency, the following regulations have been adopted with the aim of facilitating citizens’ choices towards responsible consumption of products and services: *Ordinance on Certification of Energy Performance of Buildings (OG 113/08)* and *Ordinance on Energy Efficiency Labelling of Household Appliances (OG 130/07)*.

Since 1993 a national eco-labeling scheme “*Environmentally Friendly*” has been granted for promoting environmentally-friendly goods on the national market. This voluntary scheme has been recently extended to the services sector and is regulated by the *Environmental Protection Act (OG 110/07)* and by the new *Ordinance on Environmental Labels (OG 70/08)*.

Ecological agriculture is promoted under an eco-labeling mechanism: “*Ecological Product of Croatia*”. This label is granted to food products which are produced in accordance with prescribed standards in the *Act on Ecological Production of Agricultural and Food Products (OG 12/01)* and the *Ordinance of Procedure and Conditions for Getting of Ecological Product Label (OG 13/02)*.

Labeling and consumer information in the fisheries sector are currently being established in such a manner as to ensure maximum information for the end-user. The main elements of information

to be provided will include whether the product was wild-caught or farmed, and if so under which conditions. Croatia is also currently setting up a labeling system by which a product will be easily verifiable as to whether it has originated from sustainably managed fisheries. Internationally adopted guidelines (FAO) are being consulted in this process. These provisions are also being governed by the Croatia's national *Food Law*, as well as specific sectoral regulations (*Marine Fisheries Act, Act on Structural Mechanisms and Organization of the Markets in Fisheries, and their implementing regulations*).

In Croatia a strong regulatory framework exists on relating genetically modified organisms (GMO). The *Act on GMO, OG 70/05*, closely regulates the treatment, transport, restrictive use of, market placement, handling and packing of GMO food products.

In 2009, the Croatian Business Council for Sustainable Development published a set of "*Guidelines on Labels for Products and Packages*", with the aim of providing a systematic overview of domestic and EU legislation, which could be helpful to both consumers and industry. For more details please refer to: [www.hrpsor.hr/upload/knjizni\\_blok\\_znakovi.pdf](http://www.hrpsor.hr/upload/knjizni_blok_znakovi.pdf)

- *Curriculum development/formal education programmes*

While SCP issues are not included in official educational curricula, a professional educational campaign for teachers on the subject of Education for Sustainable Development being run throughout the country. Seminars organized by Croatia's Education and Teacher Training Agency were conducted in order to inform teachers on sustainable consumption and production, as well as to promote United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) brochure "Resource Kit" on this issue (2009). The latter was undertaken in collaboration with the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning, and Construction that financed publication and distribution of brochures.

For the purpose of education of energy auditors and energy certifiers of buildings there is a program organized by university, polytechnic institute and a professional association that was granted approval from Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction (*Ordinance on the Requirements and Criteria to be Met by Energy Auditors and Building Energy Certifiers OG 113/2008, 89/09*).

- **SCP in national priority areas**

- *Inclusion of SCP in policies, laws, regulations, and guidelines*

Croatia has identified SCP as one of the key challenges for the future under its national Sustainable Development Strategy (2009). Drafting on the National Action Plan on SCP has just started. The recently established Steering Committee for drafting the Action Plan involves various stakeholders from different sectors. The Action Plan will aim to identify gaps and determine requisite actions and measures for reinforcing SCP in national policy.

Although SCP in itself is not garner wide comprehension in Croatia, however several new national policies and regulations support the principle of SCP.

Croatia's Energy Efficiency Policy is one of the important SCP instruments for the reduction of natural resources consumption. This policy has strong foundation in two other documents, the

*Energy Efficiency Programme for Republic of Croatia (EEMP) 2008 - 2016* and the *National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) 2008 – 2010*. The NEEAP defines a national framework to increase energy efficiency in the stipulated timeframe, and prescribes a series of requisite measures that need to be adopted in each sector of direct energy consumption (industry, traffic, households), in order to achieve the desired target. It also defines a series of inter-sectoral measures that should help increase energy efficiency. Energy efficiency enjoys strong legislative on physical planning, construction and buildings, as well as through regulations on heating and air-conditioning, energy efficiency requirements for household electric refrigerators and freezers, including energy efficiency labeling of household appliances.

*Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2002/91/EC (EPBD)* of the European Union has been integrated into national legislation, in particular the *Physical Planning and Building Act (OG 76/07, 38/09)*. The aim of this Act is to promote cost-effective improvement of the overall energy performance of buildings, while taking into account local conditions and requirements. Efficient energy performance by buildings is also supported by additional by-laws and regulations. To achieve more effective implementation of national legislation, an *Action Plan for EPBD implementation* has been drawn up. The Plan sets out activities and deadlines for EPBD implementation, and the allocation of tasks according to the area of competence. Together, the Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship and Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction are in charge of overseeing the Plan's development and EPBD implementation.

In addition, there is regulation of general conditions for setting eco-design criteria for energy-using products.

Electricity production from renewable energy sources and cogeneration is regulated and promoted by an incentive fee mechanism. In addition to the new *Act on Biofuels for Transport (OG 65/09)*, the *National Programme on Promoting Production and Use of Biofuels in Transport* and the related *National Action Plan* are flagged to be drafted in 2010. According to this Act, all secondary legislation and instruments (including national and local plans for promoting bio fuel production and consumption, a national action plan, regulations of subsidies), have to be enacted within one year from the entry into force of this Act.

The following secondary legislation relevant for renewable energy sources and cogeneration in Croatia were issued, adopted and being enforced:

- The *Regulation on Incentive Fees for Promoting Electricity Production from Renewable Energy Sources and Cogeneration* (all electricity buyers, tariff buyers and eligible buyers shall pay an incentive fee to the market operator). For more details please refer to >  
[http://releel.mingorp.hr/UserDocsImages/2\\_Incentives\\_for\\_RES\\_CHP\\_33\\_07.pdf](http://releel.mingorp.hr/UserDocsImages/2_Incentives_for_RES_CHP_33_07.pdf)

- The *Regulation on a Minimum Share of Electricity Produced from Renewable Energy Sources and Cogeneration* whose production is encouraged by incentives (until 31 December 2010, the minimum share of electricity produced from power plants using renewable sources under an incentive system amounted to 5.8 % of total electricity consumption, excluding hydro power plants exceeding 10 MW of production capacity). Please see:  
[http://releel.mingorp.hr/UserDocsImages/3\\_Min\\_share\\_of\\_RES\\_CHP\\_33\\_07.pdf](http://releel.mingorp.hr/UserDocsImages/3_Min_share_of_RES_CHP_33_07.pdf)

- Incentive System for the Production of Electricity from Renewable Energy Sources and Cogeneration (pursuant to which the annual incentive rates until 2010 are as follows: 2008 = 0.0198 kuna per kWh + VAT; 2009 = 0.0271 kuna per kWh + VAT, for year 2010: 0.0350 kn/kWh + VAT).

- *Ordinance on the Use of Renewable Energy Sources and Cogeneration.*
- *Ordinance on Attaining the Status of Eligible Electricity Producer.*

Promoting the use of biofuels has been prescribed under Croatia's Energy Act, which identifies the use of renewables as a matter of national interest, defines biofuels, and stipulates the criteria for biofuel production, transportation conditions of oil, oil derivatives, as well as the usage of biofuels for energy purposes. Furthermore, pursuant to the Regulation governing the Quality of Biofuels (OG 141/05), a national target has been established under which 5.75% total annual gasoline and diesel fuel consumption must be comprised of biofuels by the year 2010.

Waste management of different types of waste, from their generation to final disposal, with the underlying objective to establish an integrated waste management system, is regulated by the *Waste Management Plan of the Republic of Croatia* (2007 - 2015) and by the *Waste Management Strategy* (2005). There are several measures that support waste reduction such as separate collection and maximum recovery. Separate collection systems are set up for special categories of waste (batteries and accumulators, WEEE, end-of-life-vehicles, waste oils and some categories of non-hazardous waste). However, due to the small market for hazardous waste currently in Croatia, there is insufficient demand for its worthwhile recovery, reuse and recycling. Recent measures have enabled the import of useful hazardous waste and it is expected to have better results in recovery of such waste in near future.

In the tourism sector, the following two projects exist which give priority to development projects which promote and/or contain elements for the protection and conservation of nature as well as the environment: *Heritage through Tourism Program* (2000) <http://www.mint.hr/default.aspx?id=4493>, which encourages the protection, regeneration and monitoring of natural and cultural heritage intended for tourism development, and *Rural Tourism Loan Program* (2007 onwards) <http://www.mint.hr/default.aspx?ID=3859>, <http://www.poslovni.hr/48161.aspx>. This program promotes the direct marketing of domestic agricultural products, the preservation of traditional architecture and landscapes, as well as the implementation of environmental standards and the development of eco-tourism.

In Croatia there exists a strong nature-protection regulatory framework (e.g. the *Nature Protection Act, the Environmental Protection Act*), which balances conservation and protection of ecosystems, soils, biological and land diversity on the one hand, whilst providing an enabling environment for the sustainable use of natural resources on the other, (e.g. forests and water). The Republic of Croatia joined the European NATURA 2000 ecological network, which has been incorporated into Croatia's "protected areas" management plan. Under such a framework, environmental impact assessment (EIA) is mandatory in cases where intervention is planned in protected areas. Also in the case of planned interventions where environmental impact assessment (EIA) is obligatory, the evaluation of admissibility for ecological network shall be carried out within the context of EIA. In planning for and undertaking the expansion of agricultural land, it is necessary to conserve wherever possible existing natural habitats, or create new ones, by designing their arrangement and size in such a manner so as to safeguard their maximum benefit for preserving biological and landscape diversity.

With the aim of conserving biological diversity, grasslands are managed under a pasture and mowing regime, adapted accordingly to the type of grassland in question, along with a nature-friendly use of plant protection agents and mineral fertilizers.

The goals are as follows:

- Conserve biodiversity on agricultural land surfaces by their sustainable management.

- Decrease existing trend in the loss of land surfaces and diversity of near-natural and semi-natural grasslands, which are valuable anthropogenic habitats and very rich in biodiversity.
- Promote ecological agriculture and other forms of agriculture that contribute to the conservation of biodiversity, and assist producers in promoting such goods and their market penetration.
- In agricultural areas, encourage conservation of biological species important for the habitat type, and ensure that alien species and genetically modified organisms are not introduced into natural habitats.
- Use protective agents and mineral fertilizers in a sustainable manner throughout agricultural production.
- Ensure full implementation of nature-protection measures in the agricultural sector.

Natural resources management plans include nature-protection measures and stipulations. According to the *Forests Act* (OG 140/05), forests throughout Croatia are managed on the basis of forest management plans. These plans prescribe criteria for the proper use of forests and forest land, as well as projects carried out in such areas. It also regulates the scope of forest cultivation and their protection, as well as the maximum level to which forests may be used, as well as requirements for the management of fauna. Today all state-owned forests in Croatia are certified under the international certification, issued by the FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) mechanism, which certifies the management of forests according to strict environmental, social and economic standards.

Regarding marine fishery policy in Croatia, a new *Marine Fisheries Act* contains basic provisions to secure the long-term sustainability of the exploitation of marine resources, including fishing and aquaculture. Also newly enacted *Act on Structural Mechanisms and Organization of Markets in Fisheries*, underscore a basic principle of sustainability for exploitation of natural living resources. The roadmap on this subject will be drafted in the National strategic plan for fisheries, which is currently underway.

In 2002, the Croatian Parliament adopted the *Agricultural and Fisheries Strategy* of the Republic of Croatia (OG 89/02). The Strategy's general objective is to preserve and develop self-sustaining Croatian freshwater fisheries, whose production will satisfy Croatian needs, as well as maintain and develop viable foreign demand, which comply with market and ecological regulations.

In addition, strategies and programs exist in Croatia, which direct activities toward improved irrigation and land use, and better water management (*National Project for Irrigation and Management of Agricultural Land and Water in the Republic of Croatia – 2005*).

- ***Inclusion of measures and policies to improve the environmental and social impacts of products (e.g. life-cycle analysis, energy-efficiency standards, internalization of environmental and social costs)***

Under the Croatian eco-labeling scheme, a life-cycle analysis is mandatory for any product evaluation.

In the tourism sector the “Distinctive Tourism Development Program” focuses on the impact of tourism-related services. In the development of distinctive forms of land and maritime tourism,

their activities are particularly evaluated for their impact on the ground water resources, offshore and coastal areas, as well as on natural assets. Pursuant to the *Hospitality and Catering Industry Act*, several regulations which define the minimum requirements, classification and categorization of hospitality establishments, have a specified system under which credits are awarded for implementation of environmental standards. Ecological aspects are also regulated for all types of campsites as well as minimum standards for landscaping are prescribed for all restaurants.

Energy efficiency standards for household electrical appliances and buildings are implemented through different regulations (e.g. *Ordinance on Certification of Energy Performance of Buildings*, *Ordinance on Energy Efficiency Requirements for Household Electric Refrigerators, Freezers and Combined Appliances*, *Ordinance on Energy Efficiency Labelling of Household Appliances*, etc.). In the near future, envisaged methodology for measuring energy savings will be regulated.

Croatia's fisheries policy, as well as basic legal instruments and implementing regulations support the transformation of fishing aimed at securing the resource sustainability. Also foreseen are aqua-environmental measures, aimed at including more "cleaner" technology both in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. Furthermore, particular support mechanisms are envisaged for promoting the sustainability of fisheries communities, with preference being given to small coastal fisheries.

- ***Public, parastatal and private institutions involved***

Several public and parastatal organizations are currently involved in specific SCP themes in accordance with their respective competences. These include: The Croatian Chamber of Commerce, the Croatian Business Council for Sustainable Development, the Croatian Cleaner Production Center, and the Civil Consumer Society.

- ***Enabling infrastructure and institutions for sustainable lifestyles***

The Hrvoje Požar Energy Institute, together with the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund and Institute Ivo Pilar (Ecological-footprint Project) are a few Croatian institutions whose activities and projects are strongly oriented toward lifestyle issues.

- ***Eco-efficiency/eco-design programmes***

On the issue of energy savings, the recently adopted *Ordinance on General Conditions for Products' Eco Design* (OG 97/09) prescribes the establishment of eco-design requirements for energy-using products.

- ***Promotion of Corporate Social Responsibility in the sector***

The CSR Index project was launched under the joint cooperation of the Croatian Chamber of Commerce (CCC) and the Croatian Business Council for Sustainable Development (CBCSD), with the goal of developing assessment methodology under which voluntary CSR practices

would be evaluated amongst Croatian companies. During the first year of the project, 500 large, medium and small sized companies in Croatia were invited to participate in evaluation process. The methodology is designed in accordance with the highest standards and includes criteria for six main areas: economic sustainability, inclusion of corporate social responsibility in business strategies, working environment, environmental protection, market relations and local community relations. Through completing a questionnaire prepared for the purpose of implementation of this project, companies were able to have a comprehensive overview of their CSR activities. This in turn enabled them to decide which activities they could undertake to improve operations and strengthen their market positioning. Through the implementation of this project, both the CCE and CBCSD identified the need for additional education and information dissemination on the concept of CSR among economic entities and the general public. In addition, it is found necessary to further improve cooperation and coordination among various institutions dealing with corporate social responsibility. The intention of the project drafters is to implement the project annually. Through the project's continual improvement and more active promotion of its methodology, a significant contribution will be made towards raising awareness on CSR and to provide support to and assist Croatian companies in CSR implementation.

In an effort to promote corporate social responsibility, the CCC endorsed ethical criteria with the aim of promoting transparent and efficient business operations pursuant to the Code of Business Ethics. All economic entities in Croatia were invited to sign the Code. By October 2009, 635 companies were signatories to the Code of Business Ethics.

○ *R&D incentive or support provided*

There are an increasing number of research projects supported by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports, which deal with the issue of sustainable development and SCP, although do not exclusively focus on these issues. The thematic content of such research projects (Z-projects), can be broadly divided into the following six categories:

- Projects that focus on the structural and behavioral aspects of implementing SD
- Projects that have a strong thematic focus on a specific system such as food, health etc.
- Projects that have a spatial focus with a regional, urban, or eco-system basis
- Projects that focus on sustainable technologies and innovation systems (sustainable growth)
- Projects that focus more broadly on sustainable economic development
- Projects that address the interaction between global change and SD.

According to data provided by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), the structure of gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) by socio-economic objectives in the period from 2005 – 2007, show increasing investment trends in research related to sustainable development in Croatia. With regard to socio-economic objectives related to sustainable development, the largest share of research in the GERD is devoted to „Industrial production and technology", followed by „Protection and improvement of human health".

○ *Links with spatial planning and sustainable city policies, including Integrated Waste Management*

In the procedure of producing physical planning documents for cities and counties, the Ministry of Culture issues to a body responsible for drawing up a plan the requirements and measures for nature protection. When adopting physical plans involving protected nature areas, the prior opinion of the Ministry has to be sought.

As an Annex to the Guidelines on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, below is a chart for identification of priority areas related to Sustainable Consumption and Production. Please fill out and return this chart with your national report to the contact person identified above.

**Chapter III of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation identifies a number of sectors and issues as well as policy instruments relevant to sustainable consumption and production patterns.**

**Please indicate in the tables below the areas relating to sustainable consumption and production in which are of current high priority for your government, and those that in your judgment are likely to be priority areas for future work. Please specify other areas if appropriate.**

**If possible please add a contact name and email for the person responsible for areas of current high priority.**

SECTORS AND ISSUES	Current Government Priority	Expected Future Priority
<b>Solid waste management</b>		
- Waste disposal	high	
- Reuse and recycling		yes
- Waste reduction,		yes
- Others		
<b>Transport</b>		
- Clean fuels and vehicles		
- Public and alternative transportation		
- Urban and regional transportation planning	high	
- Others		
<b>Cleaner production</b>		
- Resource efficiency		yes
- Pollution prevention		yes
- Technology strategies		
- Others		

<b>Energy efficiency and renewable energy</b>		
- Industrial energy efficiency		yes
- Household energy efficiency		yes
- Renewable energy markets		
- Others		
<b>Housing and construction</b>		
- Energy efficiency	high	
- Building materials		yes
- Construction standards		yes
- Building operations		yes
- Others		
<b>Food and clothing</b>		
- Organic products		yes
<b>Chemical management</b>	high	
<b>Hazardous waste</b>	high	

<b>B. POLICY INSTRUMENTS</b>	<b>Current Government Activities</b>	<b>Expected Future Priorities</b>
<b>General policy instruments</b>		
- Taxes, subsidies	high	
- Preferential tariffs and trade policies		
- Economic instruments		
- Tax reform		
- Consumer protection policies		yes
- Polluter-pays principle	high	
- Integrated product policies		yes
<b>Changing consumer behaviour</b>		
- Education and public information		yes
- Consumer information		yes
- Labeling, eco-labels	yes	
- Consumer organizations	yes	
- Public procurement policies		yes
- Others		

<b>Changing production patterns</b>		
- Regulation of emissions and effluents	high	
- Charges or incentives for cleaner production		yes
- Product standards (e.g. energy efficiency)		yes
- Cleaner production programmes	yes	
(R&D, training, technical assistance)		yes
- Pollutant reporting and registers	high	
- Strategic industrial and technology planning		
- Investment incentives		yes
- Voluntary initiatives and codes of conduct	yes	
- Corporate social/environmental responsibility		
- Improved management accounting	yes	
- Investment analysis		yes
- Others		
<b>Analytical tools</b>		
- Life-cycle analysis		yes
- Indicators of sustainability		yes
- Technology impact assessment		yes
- Policy impact assessment		
- Impacts of globalization and urbanization		
- Impacts of changes in international markets		
- Others		

## **PART 2 - Updated information on national focal point for sustainable development**

### **2.1. National Focal Point**

**Name(s) of National Focal Point for sustainable development:**

- 1) Ms Marijana Mance Kowalsky
- 2)

**Title(s):**

Director

**Ministry/Office(s):**

Ministry for Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction  
Directorate for International Co-operation and Sustainable Development

**Key functions in relation to national reporting:**

- to ensure and coordinate the participation of relevant ministries, government offices, other institutions, as well as civil society representatives in national reporting.

**Telephone:**

+ 385/ 1 / 3782 154

**Fax:**

+ 385/ 1 / 3717 135

**E-mail:**

[marijana.mance@mzopu.hr](mailto:marijana.mance@mzopu.hr)

**Website address:**

<http://www.mzopu.hr>

**Mailing address:**

Republike Austrije 20  
10000 Zagreb  
Croatia

## **PART 3 - Annexed profile on National Sustainable Development Strategy; Indicators for Sustainable Development**

### **3.1. National Sustainable Development Strategy**

**Strategy Title:**

Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Republic of Croatia

**Strategy website:**

[http://www.mzopu.hr/doc/Strategy\\_for\\_Sustainable\\_Development.pdf](http://www.mzopu.hr/doc/Strategy_for_Sustainable_Development.pdf)

**Coordinating Body:**

Ministry for Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction

**Coordinating Body website:**

<http://www.mzopu.hr>

**Strategy Status:**

The category here corresponds to the status of NSDS implementation reflected in the NSDS Global Map available at: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/natlinfo/nsds/nsdsMap.htm>.

i) NSDS is being implemented

**Date of Adoption:**

20<sup>th</sup> February 2009

**Strategy contact:**

Ms Marijana Mance Kowalsky, Director  
Directorate for International Co-operation and Sustainable Development  
Ministry for Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction  
Republike Austrije 20  
10000 Zagreb  
Croatia  
telephone: + 385 / 1 / 3782 154  
fax: + 385 / 1 / 3717 135  
e-mail: [marijana.mance@mzopu.hr](mailto:marijana.mance@mzopu.hr)

**Additional Information:**

The *Environmental Protection Act* (Official Gazette 110/07) entered into force in November 2007. It is a document which regulates: environmental protection and sustainable development principles, protection of environmental components and protection against environmental burdening, actors in environmental protection, sustainable development and environmental protection documents, environmental protection instruments, environmental monitoring,

information system, ensuring access to environmental information, public participation in environmental matters, access to justice, liability for damage, financing and instruments of general environmental policy, administrative and inspection supervision. Based on this overreaching act a number of secondary legislation has been adopted.

The *Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Republic of Croatia* as the document directing a long-term economic and social development, as well as environmental protection of Croatia towards the sustainable development holds a key position in the Environmental Protection Act. The *Strategy* contains fundamental principles and criteria for determining objectives and priorities in considering the long term transformation towards sustainable development of the Republic of Croatia. The Strategy sets basic objectives and measures of economic sustainable development, social sustainable development as well as environmental protection, identifying at the same time key challenges in their realization. The analysis of the most important challenges includes description of the current situation from all of these components. Finally, the Strategy enlists involved institutions and undertaken responsibilities, as well as methods of implementation and monitoring.

### **3.2. Indicators for Sustainable Development**

**Name of indicator set:**

Indicators of sustainable development are listed in the last chapter of the *Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Republic of Croatia*.

**Indicators website:**

[http://www.mzopu.hr/doc/Strategy\\_for\\_Sustainable\\_Development.pdf](http://www.mzopu.hr/doc/Strategy_for_Sustainable_Development.pdf)

**Indicators contact:**

Ms Marijana Mance Kowalsky, Director  
Directorate for International Co-operation and Sustainable Development  
Ministry for Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction  
Republike Austrije 20  
10000 Zagreb  
Croatia  
telephone: + 385/ 1/ 3782 154  
fax: + 385 / 1/ 3717 135  
e-mail: [marijana.mance@mzopu.hr](mailto:marijana.mance@mzopu.hr)

**Additional Information:**

The indicators used in the *Strategy* should pinpoint to the development of processes and trends in sustainable development, as well as to the ability of responding to main challenges that prevent further progress. The existing indicators could be replaced and/or new indicators added in the process of developing Action Plans and under the proposal of relevant institutions.