

Foreword



This booklet provides a short introduction to the importance of waste management planning, specific waste management problems in developing countries, and a short guide on what to be aware of when drafting a waste management plan.

The European Topic Centre on Waste and Material Flows¹ has developed a methodological guidance note on preparing a Waste Management Plan, commissioned by the EU Commission².

In preparing the booklet ISWA³ and UNEP have found that many subjects covered in the above mentioned document also apply to countries outside Europe as well as developing countries. Therefore, large parts of an early draft of this methodological guidance note have been reproduced in the booklet.

The overall aim of the booklet is to help countries around the world implement the waste targets set in Agenda 21⁴ and through those reach a sustainable future.

1 The European Topic Centre on Waste and Material Flows (ETC/WMF) is a consortium built around the Danish Environmental Protection Agency/Environmental Protection Agency, City of Copenhagen as lead organisation.

The partners in the consortium are:

Agenzia Nazionale per la Protezione dell' Ambiente(A), Italy

Environmental Protection Agency, Ireland

Estonian Environment Information Centre

Federal Environment Agency, Austria

National Technical University of Athens, Greece

Slovak Environmental Agency

Wuppertal Institute, Germany.

2 The Waste Guide can be downloaded from the homepage of the EU Commission :

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/waste/plans/index.htm>

3 ISWA is a world-wide association of organisations, enterprises and individuals within the field of waste management. Presently ISWA has members in nearly 76 countries as well as National Members in 34 countries. The members of ISWA are waste collectors, waste hauliers, waste processors and waste disposers, managers, practitioners, scientists, international organisations and authorities, as well as consultants and producers of equipment and services in industry, all connected in a network, to exchange experiences on professional waste management world-wide. As a non-profit and non-governmental association ISWA's main objective is to contribute to sustainable development. ISWA is founded on the idea that dialogue and international relationships create the fundamental conditions for a successful development strategy.

4 To see a summary of the Agenda 21 targets and other international agreements and definitions (see Annex 1 "Waste management after Rio")