



Countryside Clean-up

Stopping Illegal Waste Dumps in Sveti Nicole



An informed and involved public can play an active role in preventing rogue waste sites.

BACKGROUND

Illegal landfills seriously threaten the environment surrounding the FYR Macedonian farm town Sveti Nicole. The community needs to develop a lasting solution to stop illegal dumping that includes wide public involvement and the introduction of a waste management system by the local self-government. The project activities establish mechanisms for providing information to the public, raising awareness of waste issues and involving residents in decision making about waste issues.



Leading NGO

The environmental association Izgrev

Project leader

Vladimir Glijev

NGO contact information

Mosa Pijade 3

2220 Sveti Nicole

FYR Macedonia

Tel: (359-32) 444-600

Fax (389-32) 444-660

E-mail: edi@edi.org.mk

OBJECTIVES

The project team aimed to:

- inform the public about the solid waste situation using Aarhus Convention principles;
- encourage citizens, using public participation methods prescribed in the Aarhus Convention, to participate in the decision-making process while seeking optimal solutions to the waste problem;
- prepare a solid waste management strategy with wide public participation; and
- initiate a procedure in FYR Macedonia's Parliament for the passage of a physical plan and support for a national study on solid waste management.

METHODOLOGY

To achieve its goals, the project team:

- distributed leaflets and a newsletter containing information on waste issues;
- disseminated information through eco-billboards and the Green Phone Line;
- conducted opinion polls and door-to-door visits to encourage citizens to participate in the decision-making process; and
- organised debates between citizens on possible solutions for waste disposal.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The team managed to:

- inform citizens about the problems arising from illegal landfills;
- involve them in the process of finding solutions for the waste problems;
- organise a public hearing about the draft strategy for solid waste management;
- submit a draft solid waste management strategy for Sveti Nikole to the city council; and
- write up a memorandum between the local government and NGOs.

FOLLOW-UP

The project team continued the work with waste-recovery activities and contributions toward the adoption and implementation of a national strategy for waste management.

GRANTS



FYR MACEDONIA