



Baltic Waste Management Council

Introduction

The **Baltic waste management council (BWMC)** is an initiative by the project RECO Baltic 21 Tech. The project aims to facilitate for decision makers at a local and regional level to optimise their waste management investments. A joint strategy for waste management is developed to make use of best practices from national strategies. All together the project contributes towards sustainable waste management by putting into practice a systematic approach and providing a platform that enables a co-operation in the Baltic Sea region.

In previous projects it has been clear that there is a need for national decision makers to meet and discuss waste related questions in order to get input to the work in each country. It can be discussions on how to use fees, the mandate of municipalities etc. The BWMC meeting is a continuation of the previous RECO project tradition and will take place at least once a year in connection with the project's annual conference.

Aims of the BWMC

The major aim of the council is to give officials from the ministries or environmental protection agencies and authorities an opportunity to meet and discuss waste related issues on a Baltic Sea level. RECO Baltic 21 Tech believes that this kind of communication will facilitate and give inspiration to their work in implementing waste related regulations and recommendations. These meetings and discussions will also create a stronger platform that will enable future co-operation when it comes to harmonisation of treatment, waste management standards and approaches/ technical solutions.

The other aim is for RECO Baltic 21 Tech to use the BWMC as a reference group when creating the joint strategy and for other project results.

Target audience

Politicians and decision makers:

- Representatives from the ministries
- Representatives from Environmental Protection Agencies etc.
- Representatives of bigger cities and municipalities, Regional Waste Management Centres, associations etc.

Continuation beyond the project

RECO Baltic 21 Tech ends in December 2013. From the members of the BWMC it has been stated that they see this arena as a valuable meeting point and would like to continue the meeting under the existing format. It would also be an opportunity to see to that the Joint Strategy on Waste management that has been developed by the project and adopted by the council would be followed up and further incorporated in national decision making.