

## **Audit on urban environmental protection from waste pollution, waste management and removal**

### **1. Actual environmental condition compared to the beginning period of the audit**

The environmental condition in the city of Elbasan at the audit period compared to the beginning period of it, leans to the improvement of environmental indicators such as urban air quality, city greenness and urban hygiene.

In the Elbasan City Hall, the Environmental Protection Structure and the Sanitary Inspectorate has not been established during 2006-2007, as a consequence the environmental sector failed to efficient functioning.

There have been important improvements related to the greenness as an important component for Elbasan such as melioration of the service quality in the city green areas but also trees and decorative bush augmentation.

The water supply service system in Elbasan tends to melioration towards drinking water supply continuance, but 24 hours water supply is not yet achieved. It remains a concerning problem for Elbasan the flooding because of the rivers Zarranika and Manazdere, especially on raining days.

### **2. Use of the funds allocated to the Elbasan City Hall for environmental issues**

On the planning and realization of the incomings to be allocated in environmental issues in the years 2006, 2007, 2008, the audit found out that in the City Hall Council Decisions, cleaning and greenness tariffs value for families and business conform with law nr. 8435, December 28<sup>th</sup> 1998.

Referring to the data, the audit found out that in the Elbasan City Hall the planning of funds which destination should be investment in the greenness sector in the years 2006, 2007 has not been realized.

### **3. City waste removal and environmental administration of waste**

Waste removal in the Elbasan is enabled by the “Viktoria Invest” Company, which has not provided yet the environmental permission in order to pursue its activity.

The audit found out that the Company many times has not fulfilled the waste removal according to the graphics for many days and such a thing has caused water and air pollution.

The place where waste is deposited is near the river Shkumbin. This place was established since 1986 and it is overfulling, unenclosed and unprotected. Waste is not separated (glass, plastic, etc) and is not submitted to any kind of treatment.

The audit group monitored different private businesses and found out that these private businesses do not properly clean their territory in a 5 km reach. They have not placed wastebaskets for the waste generated during their day activity.

#### **4. Air pollution and main elements causing it**

Referring to the data, in Elbasan, since 2006 there is a reduction of air particles content as a consequence of the restrained activity during a long time for the two major air polluters in Elbasan, the “Kurum” steel melting factory and the “ECF” cement factory.

The monitoring of the air polluters, for the first six months of 2008, based on the allowed values of the Albanian legislation and compared to year 2007 indicate a content decline of 10 to 11%, but an excess of the European Union limit values for two indicators.

The factors that list Elbasan among the most air-polluted cities are:

- The emissions in the air from the big and small industrial operators.
- Waste incineration in the field where they are deposited.
- Waste incineration inside the containers.
- The growing number of vehicles.
- Utilization of combustibles beyond the EU parameters.
- The vehicle emissions in the air, which are not completely and severely controlled.

#### **5. Responsible actors for preventing city pollution and their responsibilities**

The main responsible for preventing the city pollution is the City Hall, as a local government unit. In order to prevent pollution, the City Hall should insist on physic and juristic persons, which activity generates waste, maximum reduce of the waste. Such a thing would lead to pollution reduce.

The lack of: waste treatment, environmental administration projects, continuous control on waste generating activities, collaboration among City Halls and other structures charged in environmental protection, have leaded to a not effective pollution prevent in Elbasan.