



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
COURT OF AUDIT

Audit on treating industrial waste and remedying contaminated sites

Jerneja Vrabcic
The Court of Audit of the Republic of Slovenia

Malta, October 2015

Contents

- **About the audit**
- **Why an audit on industrial waste and remedying contaminated sites**
- **Audit methodology / findings**
- **Follow-up procedures**

About the audit

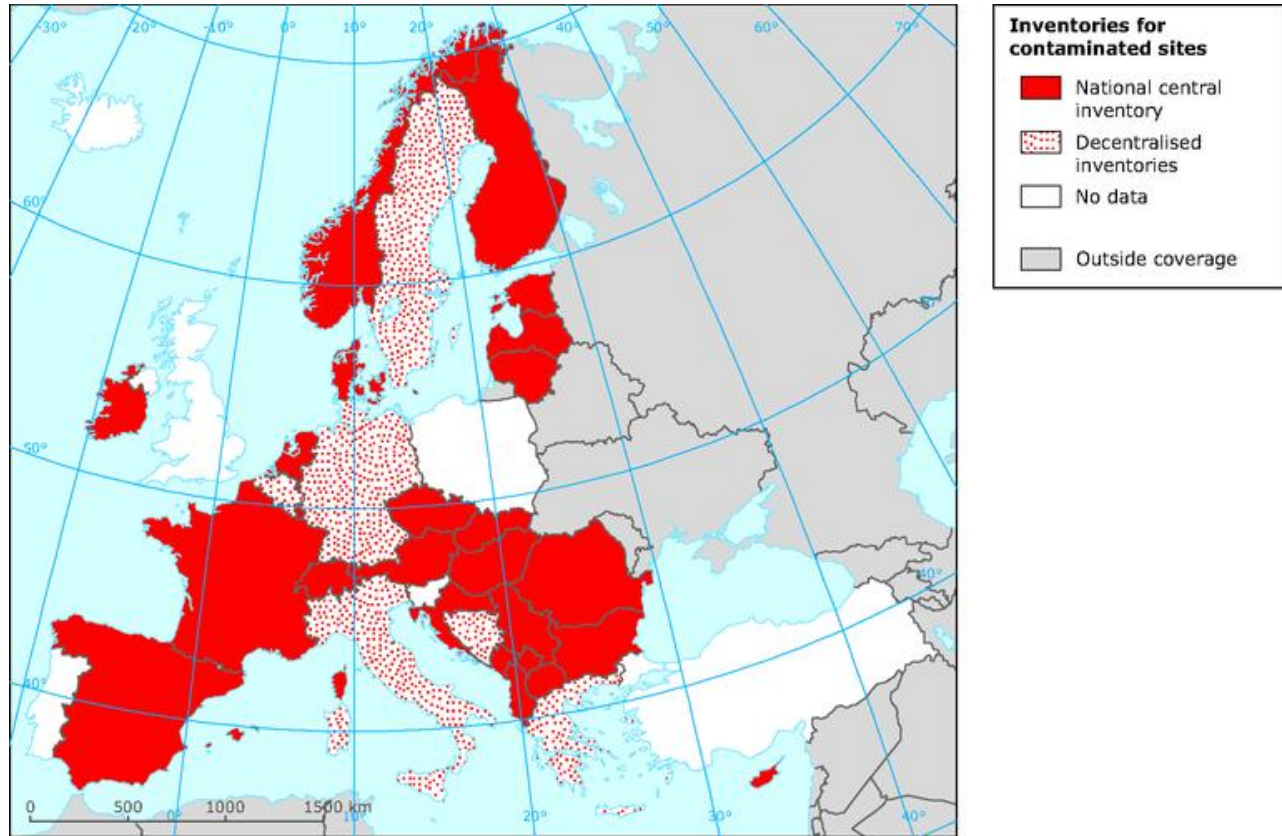
- **Audited bodies:** Ministry of the Environment; Environmental Agency; Inspectorate for the Environment
- **Audit objectives:** effectiveness and efficiency of audited bodies at conducting measures to assure proper treatment of industrial waste and identifying and remedying contaminated sites
- **Scope of the audit:** adequacy of national legislature and strategic framework; existence and adequacy of procedures to identify contaminated sites; assessment of remediation measures
- **First audit report published in 2010, followed by the report in 2012;** constant follow-up procedures and assessment of risks to potentially introduce a new audit.

Why an audit on industrial waste and remediating contaminated sites? (1/3)

- **Constant warnings from NGOs and general public** about officially unidentified contaminated sites as a consequence of previously illegally disposed industrial waste;
- **Incentives by different bodies (parliamentary commission for environment, NGOs)** to conduct an audit on this field;
- **Unclear legislative framework on managing industrial waste:** no obligatory procedures regulating waste treatment; no clear division of responsibilities between polluters and the state regarding obligation to remedy contaminated sites;
- **No strategic background** for managing industrial waste and contaminated sites;
- **Polluter pays principle not enforced:** although the polluters were identified, all measures to remedy contaminated sites were financed through the state or local budgets

Why an audit on industrial waste and remedying contaminated sites? (2/3)

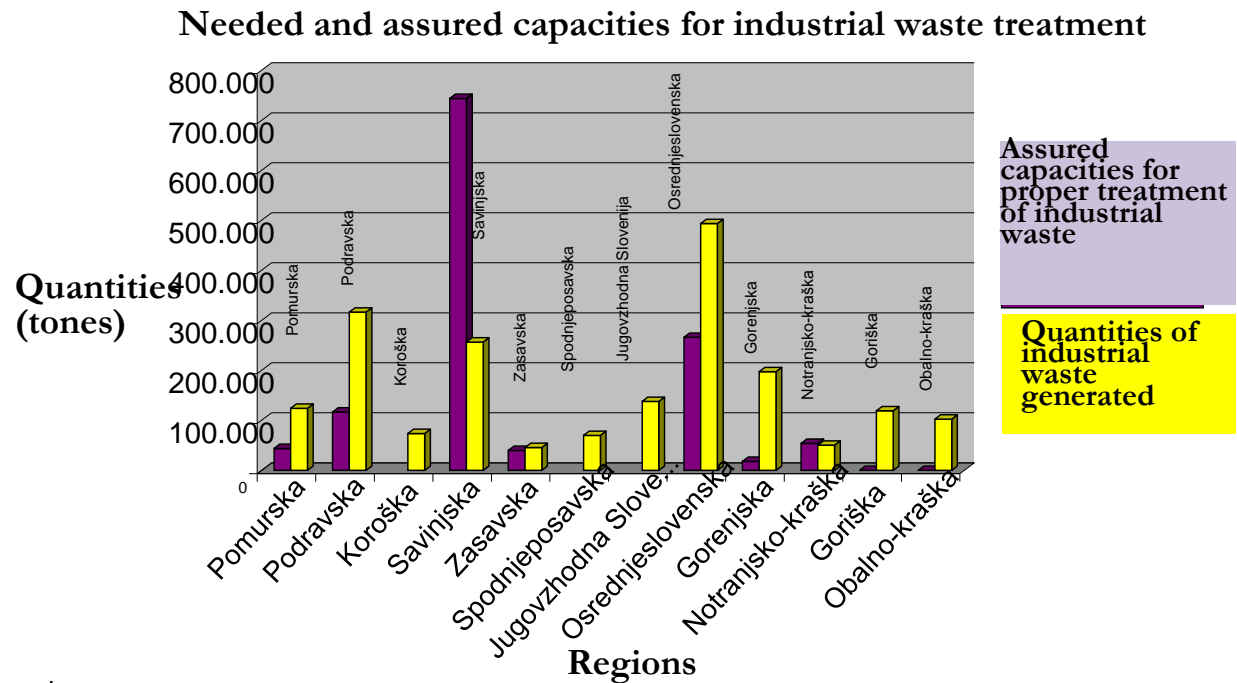
- No inventories for contaminated sites



Source: EEA

Why an audit on industrial waste and remediating contaminated sites? (3/3)

- **Huge discrepancy** between capacities available for disposal and estimations of quantities of generated industrial waste: (capacities for only 40 % of industrial waste generated)



Audit methodology / findings (1/4)

- (1) Is there a comprehensive legislature and strategic framework regarding industrial waste and managing contaminated sites in place?

Audit criteria	Findings
Is there a proper definition of industrial waste contaminated sites in place?	✓ /x
Are there procedures to treat industrial waste / manage contaminated sites established?	x /x
Is there a proper control mechanism of industrial waste generated and treated /managing contaminated sites in place?	x /x
Are there any estimations of future generation of industrial waste /costs of managing contaminated sites	x /x

Audit methodology / findings (2/4)

- (2) Is there a reliable database of industrial waste generated/ treated/ disposed?

Audit criteria	Findings
Is there a sound reporting system in place?	✘
Is there any control over reported data?	✓ / ✘
Is there any triangulation of reported data?	✓ / ✘
Are there any comparisons to estimated streams of industrial waste?	✘

Audit methodology / findings (3/4)

(3) Is there a funding mechanism for remedying of contaminated sites in place?

Audit criteria	Findings
Is "polluter pays principle" respected?	✘
Are there responsibilities of state and local communities well defined?	✘
Is there a methodology of remedying costs estimations in place?	✓ / ✘
Are there any controls of costs estimations in place?	✘

(4) Has a preliminary study / site identification been done? ✓ / ✘

Audit methodology / findings (4/4)

(5) Is there a proper management of contaminated sites in place – case studies of identified contaminated sites

Audit criteria	Findings
Were there preliminary studies of contaminated sites done?	✓ /x
Were there preliminary investigations of the contaminated sites done?	✓ /x
Were there main investigations of the contaminated sites done?	✓ /x
Were required remediation measures implemented?	✓ /x

Follow-up procedures

- **Assessment of required measures/ recommendations (mainly action plans) in 90 days after publishing the report**
- **Presenting findings to the Parliament and various parliamentary commissions**
- **Progress report of required measures/ recommendations after two to three years after publishing of report – decision about follow-up audit depending on evaluation of actions performed**

Thank you for your attention

Any questions?