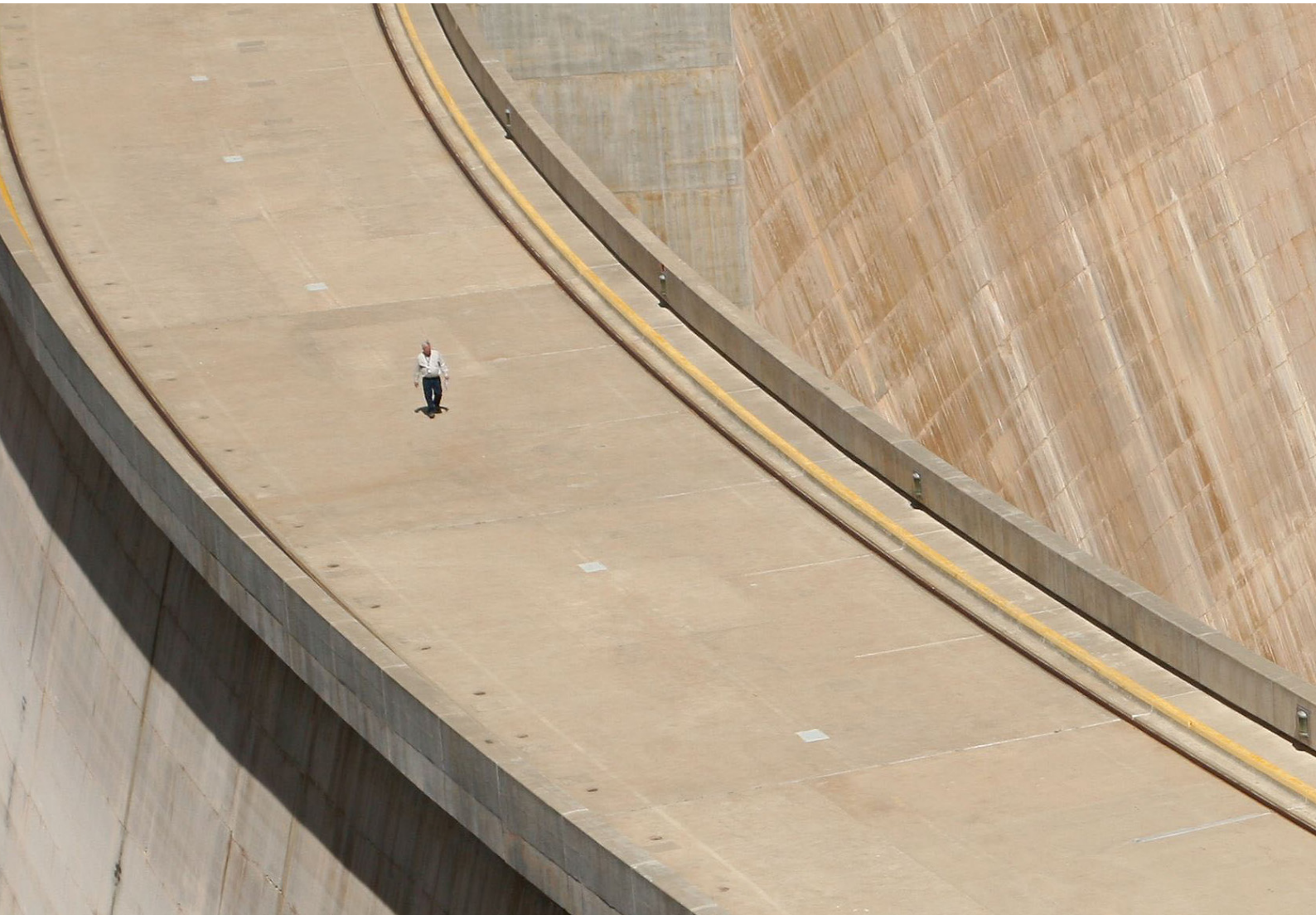
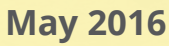


More from less — material resource efficiency in Europe
2015 overview of policies, instruments and targets in 32 countries



Kosovo 
under UNSCR 1244/99  May 2016

This country profile is based on information collected by the Eionet network in Kosovo. This document should not be seen as an official list of government priorities and is not necessarily an exhaustive list of all national material resource efficiency policies, objectives, targets or activities in place. The information is current as of June 2015.

This country profile was prepared as part of the 2015 EEA review of material resource efficiency policies, that aimed to collect, analyse and disseminate information about the development and implementation of material resource efficiency policies in EEA member and cooperating countries. The work resulted in the following outcomes:



32 short country profiles (this document) – self assessments prepared by countries, describing the current status of material resource efficiency policies including key strategies and action plans, policy objectives, instruments, targets and indicators, and the institutional setup. Countries were also invited to share reflections on the future direction of resource efficiency policies.

EEA report *More From Less – material resource efficiency in Europe* – prepared by the EEA and ETC/WMGE, the report analyses trends, similarities and differences in policy responses, showcases selected policy initiatives from the countries, and offers some considerations for the development of future policies.

The EEA report *More from less – material resource efficiency in Europe* and the 32 country profiles are available at: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/resource-efficiency>



For information about trends and policies on municipal waste management in the participating countries, please visit: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/managing-municipal-solid-waste>

Information about EU Member States' waste prevention programmes can be found at: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/waste-prevention-in-europe-2015>

For information on climate- and energy-related policies, including those on energy efficiency, in the participating countries, please visit: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate/ghg-country-profiles>

Kosovo^{*)}, facts and figures

Source: Eurostat

	GDP: EUR 5.6 billion
	Use of materials: Data not available
	Structure of the economy: agriculture: 12.9 % industry: 22.6 % services: 64.5 % (2014 est.)
	Surface area: 10,900 square kilometres (equivalent to 0.2 % of EU-28 total)
	Population: 1.8 million (equivalent to 0.4 % of EU-28 total)

^{*)} Kosovo - This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

Introduction

Kosovo does not have a dedicated national resource efficiency strategy or action plan.

Scope of material resource efficiency

n/a

Driving forces of material resource efficiency

Driving forces include:

- compliance with principles of sustainable management of forests;
- ensuring management of waste in compliance with legislation, and taking advantage of economic opportunities;
- strengthening the mining sector;
- conservation of biodiversity.

Priority material resources, sectors, and consumption categories

Priority materials

n/a

Priority industries and economic sectors

n/a

Priority consumption categories

n/a

Policy framework

National strategies or action plans for material resource efficiency

Some national policies and strategies that address material resource efficiency among various other topics include:

Law on mines and minerals:

[http://mzhe.rksgov.net/repository/docs/Ligji_per_minierat_dhe_mineralet_271_08_2010_\(3\).pdf](http://mzhe.rksgov.net/repository/docs/Ligji_per_minierat_dhe_mineralet_271_08_2010_(3).pdf)

Mining strategy for the Republic of Kosovo, 2012–2025:

http://mzhe.rks.gov.net/repository/docs/Strategjia_Minerare_e_R_Kosoves_2012-2025_shqip.pdf

Law no. 2003/3 on Kosovo's forests:

http://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/Ligji_pr_pyje_shqip.pdf

Law on Waste: <http://www.mmph-rks.org/sq/Ligjet-e-Mjedisit1>

Waste Management Strategy for the Republic of Kosovo, 2013–2022: <http://www.mmph-rks.org/sq/Departamenti-per-Mbrojtjen-e-Mjedisit>

The circular economy and closing material loops

n/a

General policy objectives for material resource efficiency

MINING STRATEGY FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO, STARTING FROM 2012 TO 2025

Kosovo's sustainable economic and social development and the welfare of its citizens represent the main priority of Kosovo's state institutions. The Mining Strategy of the Republic of Kosovo is a document, prepared by the government to ensure the realistic and rational utilisation of mineral resources with the aim of achieving the sustainable development of mining resources. This document should serve as a guideline for relevant institutions in conducting the responsible management of mineral assets, and aims to value existing mining resources and identifying new ones. The Mining Strategy of the Republic of Kosovo is drafted in line with the government's economic vision, in which sustainable economic development, mining sector empowerment, the adoption of adequate legislation, structural economic reform, and education of new generations represent the foundation of Kosovo's economic future. This strategy is based on four basic pillars, representing the framework for the establishment of action plans and policies, which define how the relevant institutions and the mining sector will engage in the exploration and development of mining resources and the mining sector, in general.

- First pillar: provision of favourable conditions for the economic valorization of mining resources, and attracting of investment.
- Second pillar: enhancement of human and institutional capacities in the mining sector.
- Third pillar: social considerations and community benefits.
- Fourth pillar: environmental care.

These pillars envisage a number of objectives, developmental policies, and activities. Objectives are delineated in the strategy, whereas developmental policies will establish a clear framework for sustainable economic development and environmentally-friendly treatment, while supporting mineral exploration, extraction and processing, and the overall development of Kosovo's mining sector. Actions/measures comprise support for relevant institutions, in order to ensure that the mining sector provides substantial and sustainable benefits for the country's economy and minimises any adverse impacts.

LAW ON WASTE

Article 1. Purpose 1.

This law aims at:

- 1.1. the great potential of avoiding and reducing waste generation;
- 1.2. the re-use of useful components from waste;
- 1.3. sustainable development through the protection and preservation of natural resources;
- 1.4. preventing negative impacts of waste on the environment and human health;
- 1.5. final disposal of waste in environmentally acceptable ways.

Goals and standards of forest management: Kosovo will manage its forests, in accordance with the statement of principles for a global consensus on the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests. set out in Annex III of the report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992)

Waste Strategy: sets guidelines and objectives in the field of waste management for 2013–2022, in accordance with the legislation on waste management and economic opportunities.

Mineral Strategy of the Republic of Kosovo: this was drafted based on the government's economic vision, in which sustainable economic development, the strengthening of the mining sector, the adoption of appropriate legislation, economic structural reform, and the education of young generations are seen as the basic principles for the economic future of Kosovo.

The aim of this strategy is:

- (a) conservation (preservation) of biodiversity;
- (b) sustainable development based on the sustainable use of natural resources;
- (c) creating revenues; and
- (d) equal division of benefits from the use of biodiversity.

Institutional setup and stakeholder involvement

Institutional set up for material resource efficiency policies

Mining strategy: http://mzhe.rks-gov.net/repository/docs/Strategjia_Minerare_e_R._Kosoves_2012_-_225_Ang.pdf

Energy strategy: http://mzhe.rks-gov.net/repository/docs/SE_-_Ang_26.12.pdf

Process to ensure stakeholder participation

n/a

Suggestions for international support mechanisms to exchange experience

n/a

Policy instruments

Policy instruments commonly used for material resource efficiency

- On 2 November 2011, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo took the decision to stop the exploitation of inert materials from river beds and banks, and surrounding areas throughout the country. This decision has required operators to withdraw their machines within the time limit specified in the decision; and gave the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) the right of seizure and its transformation to property of the government. In 2012, to intensify of the implementation of the decision, the Inspectorate of MESP, was empowered to remove sand and gravel stockpiles and continue with confiscation of machinery so that a long-term rehabilitation plan can be implemented.
- Illegal quarries – From 2015 illegal operators are prohibited and the rehabilitation of devastated areas will begin, in compliance with the environmental powers of the MESP.
- Plastic bags: the MESP has been committed to the prevention of use of and disposal of plastic bags through the Environmental Funds since 2012. The project has been implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and a special tax on products that are recognized as environmental pollutants (packaging).
- Car cemetery: based on Administrative Instruction 02/2009, the priority of this year will be the removal of recyclers and processors of old vehicles. The following measures will the increase environmental standards of work for all businesses in this industry.
- Funds for Environmental Protection: the draft Environmental Funds aim to support the long-term rehabilitation and protection of vulnerable natural environments in Kosovo. The Environmental Funds will collect revenue from the polluting industries which will be used for protection, sustainable development and environmental rehabilitation.

- Integrated Environmental licenses and permits: based on decisions on integrated environmental permits and licenses for the largest polluters, the MESP will supervise the efficient implementation of the legal measures provided and their impact on the environment. An integrated permit is required by law for the prevention and control of environmental pollution, which is in full compliance with the European Union (EU) Directive 96/61 EC on the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC).
- Forest destroyers: taking strict measures against the illegal devastation of forests will continue this year. In addition, it will continue with the implementation of the decision to double area of Kosovo's national parks.
- Hade village relocation and open new coal mines: the completion of infrastructure for the new location of Hade village. All owners have already received compensation and been allocated new plots. In parallel, the project foresees the spatial development of the area with special focus on the development of mines and new power plants and their effects on the surrounding area.
- Memorial Complex Adem Jashari: all the year's five phases of work have been completed and have provided housing conservation in preparation for the resistance Memorial Complex Adem Jashari and the construction of the centre of the complex.
- Memoria of Dr. Ibrahim Rugova: earlier this year the announcement of the design concept was made and work started on the memorial of Dr. Ibrahim Rugova and its associated facilities.

Examples of good practice

n/a

Targets and indicators

Targets for material resource efficiency

n/a

Indicators to monitor use of materials and resource efficiency:

n/a

Optional questions

Recent policy developments concerning natural resources in the broader sense of the term

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity is the basic document for the protection of nature, which sets long-term goals for the conservation of the biodiversity and landscape diversity, the protection of natural values and lays down methods of implementation, in line with the overall economic, social and culture of the Republic of Kosovo. The aim of this strategy is not to list all the open issues related to biodiversity, but to create a framework of aims and activities, and the better coordination of earlier programmes by providing a strategic approach to the development of future initiatives.

The aims of this strategy are:

- (a) conservation (preservation) of biodiversity;
- (b) sustainable development based on the sustainable use of natural resources;
- (c) creating revenue; and
- (d) equal division of benefits from the use of biodiversity.