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European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

CE in Bulgaria Status Quo

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Bulgaria in 2018

GDP: EUR 70 billion

GDP Growth Rate: 3,5%

Use of materials:

140 million tonnes DMC (2.1 % of EU-28 total in 2016)

19.4 tonnes DMC/person (149 % of EU-28 average per person in 2016)

Resource productivity:

0,30 EUR/kg (EU-28 average – 2,04 EUR/kg)

Structure of the economy:

agriculture: 6.8 %

industry: 26.6 %

services: 66.6 % (2016 est.)

Surface area: 111 thousand km²
(2.5 % of total EU-28)

Population: 7.1 million (1.4 % of EU-28 total)



CE IN BULGARIA policy framework

National strategies or action plans:

- ✓ National Development Programme: Bulgaria 2020
- ✓ Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialization of the Republic of Bulgaria 2014-2020
- ✓ National Waste Management Plan 2014–2020
- ✓ Strategy and Action Plan for 2021 – 2027 under development
 - Coordinator of the document – MOEW
 - The strategy is in compliance with EU Circular Economy Action Plan

CE IN BULGARIA policy framework

Institutional set up for material resource efficiency policies

- ✓ **Ministry of Environment and Water** - waste management policy; OP „Environment”; eco-labelling...
- ✓ **Ministry of Economy** - competitiveness and investment policy; OP "Innovation and Competitiveness"; public procurement policy; innovation; SMEs standardisation and technical harmonisation.
- ✓ **Ministry of Energy** – mineral resources and mining waste management; energy efficiency and renewable energy policy.
- ✓ **Municipalities** – management of the waste generated on their territory, local taxes...

monitoring analysis of 10 parameters

Data from 2017

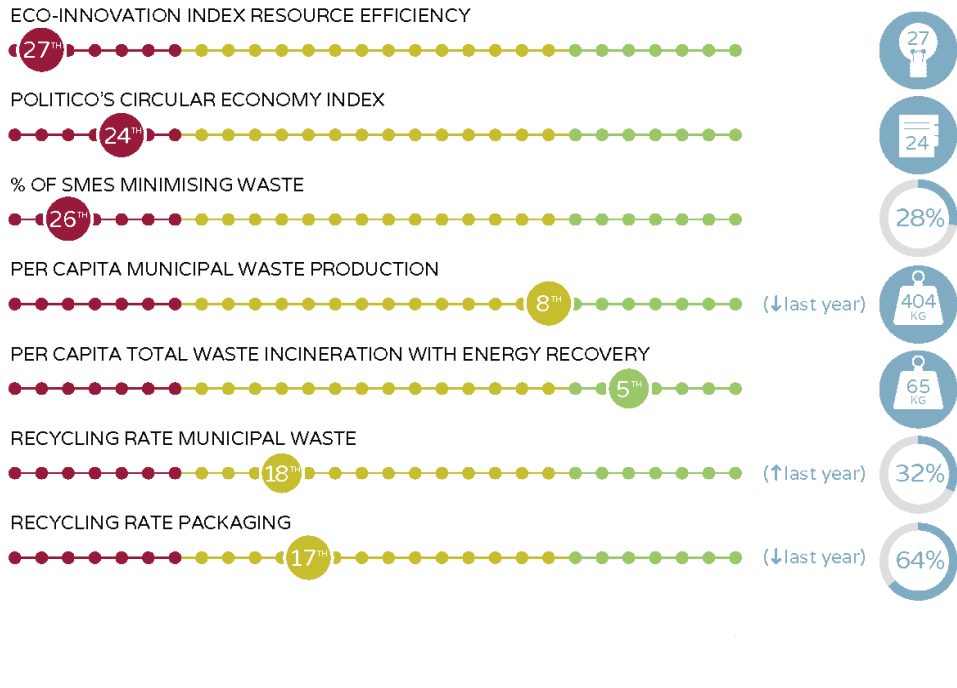
- **Circular material use rate** - 4,3 % v/s EU average – 11,7%
- **Employed in CE** 1,76% of total employment, same as EU
- As per September 2018 only **23 products** are registered and use the ecolabel and **5 licenses are** issued (total in EU 71 707 products and 2167 licenses)
- Percentage of SMEs applying resource efficiency measures – 65 (EU-28 is 89)
- Percentage of SMEs with public support for resource efficiency measures – 42 – paper industry, construction, metal processing, textile, plastics
- Percentage of SMEs with more than 50% turnover from “green products” – 24 (EU-28 is 20)

People's attitude

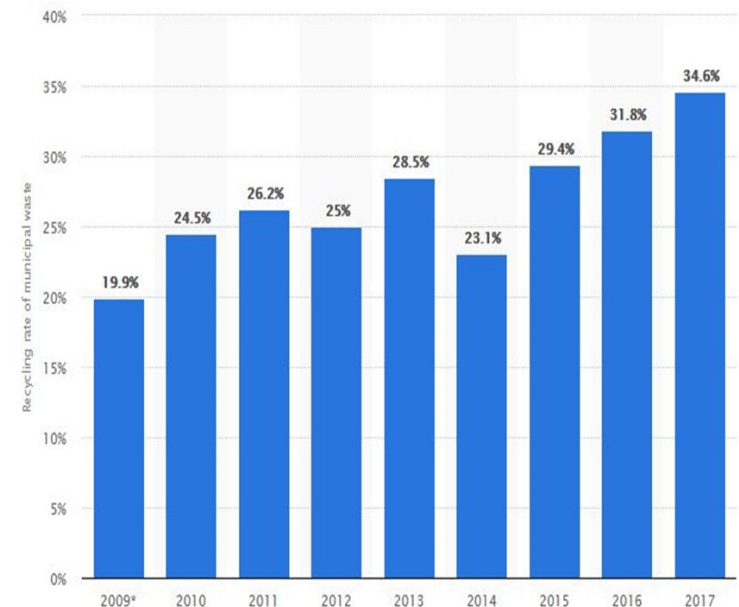
- 84 % of the Bulgarians are concerned about the impact of the plastics on the environment (EU-28 is 87 %)
- 89 % are concerned with the impact of chemicals (EU-28 is 90 %)
- The country's accession to the EU improved quality of life for the populace, in turn ramping up demand for high quality products and services

CE IN BULGARIA and waste management

PERFORMANCE-RANKING OF BULGARIA AMONG ALL EU MEMBER STATES*



Source: Ecopreneur.eu, the European Federation of Sustainable Business



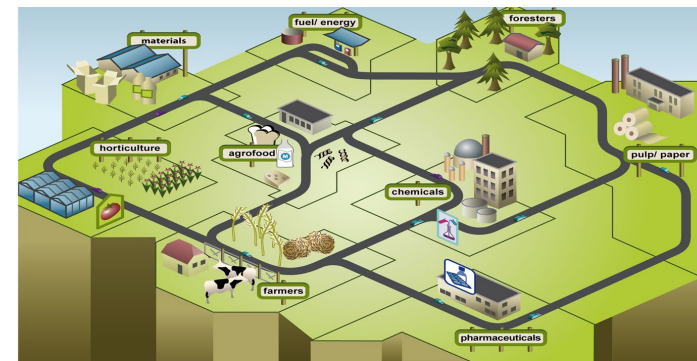
Recycling rate of waste

Bulgaria: Levels of SMEs involvement

- 36% of SMEs in BG are undertaking energy saving actions (3rd lowest EU level);
- 4 % of SMEs in BG use predominantly renewable energy (2nd lowest EU level);
- 7% of SME's are planning additional actions to use predominantly renewable energy (3rd lowest EU level);
- 4% of SMEs in BG are self-assessing how resource efficient their company is (lowest EU level);
- 15% of SMEs in BG are offering green products or services (3rd lowest EU level);
- No official data or plans about minimizing the waste for SMEs. The new Waste law will enter into force on January 1st, 2021 in Bulgaria.

Bulgaria: challenges and possible developments

- Launch a “New Green Deal” Circular Procurement for the public and the private sector;
- Formulate and launch a Bulgarian Circular Economy Strategy and Roadmap how to become fully circular in 2050 focuses on bio economy development;
- Make a free training programme and commitments from companies;
- Use the EU funds to set up a national support programme for SMEs with focused activities and access to finance to create a circular economy “hub”;
- Implement the new EU regulations on waste management and plastics as soon as possible;
- Make the Bio-based economy development priority for Bulgaria as national source with a big potential;
- Connect all global challenges as SDG’s, Climate, etc. to the circular economy development.



Bulgaria: examples of companies entering CE participants in the first meeting in Sofia

Large multinational

AMILUM Bulgaria producer of a wide range of corn-based products for the food, beverage, paper, packaging and animal nutrition industries, member of

ADM <https://www.adm.com/adm-worldwide/europe/Bulgaria>

Veolia - the world leader in the environmental services sector. Veolia offers customized solutions in 3 complementary business areas: water management, waste management and energy management. In Bulgaria the company is involved in utility companies

<https://www.veolia.bg/bg>

Small companies

<https://www.cupffee.me/>

Cupffee the cookie cup you can eat with your coffee Bulgarian company produces cups from natural grain products. It is eco-friendly, delicious, crispy and suitable for all kinds of hot and cold beverages.

<https://www.zurbana.com>

Zona Urbana a small, home based Bulgarian producer of handmade bags, wallets, toys, bracelets and other products from **recycled materials**.



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Thank you!

Questions welcome