

Vyborg Baseline Review

on the topic “Waste management system in Vyborg region”

Conducted by: the administration of the municipality of Vyborg region
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1. General information on the Municipality of Vyborg region

The municipality of Vyborg region consists of 14 smaller municipalities, 6 rural and 8 urban ones. Vyborg region is located northwest of St Petersburg, just between St. Petersburg, Russia and Finland. Vyborg region is one of the largest municipalities of Leningrad Oblast, with the town of Vyborg, being an administrative centre. Vyborg's region population is 188,000 people. (Vyborg – 78 ths). Vyborg region has diversified economy, developed tourism and service infrastructure. Vyborg region is known as a recreation area with inland and sea holiday facilities. It is a big transport centre, with sea, road and rail connections to main destinations and transport hubs: Moscow, St.Petersburg, Helsinki and ports in Baltic Sea.

Vyborg region has long lasting relations with the Finnish municipalities of Lappeenranta, Imatra, Joutseno, Kotka and others. Cooperation between municipalities has been changed substantially, starting from exchange visits of high officials, cultural groups and school students, through humanitarian aid for social needs to mutually beneficial projects.

SWOT analysis of the municipality of Vyborg region

Advantages

- Border location with EU (Finland)
- Access to Baltic Sea (ports of Vyborg, Primorsk, Vysotsk)
- Vyborg as a transport centre (crossing point of sea, road, rail and pipe line routes)
- European transport corridor no.9
- Availability of sites for industrial construction
- Big and valuable recreation opportunities
- Availability of forestry, water, fishing and mineral resources
- Residence in Karelian isthmus - a pearl of Leningrad oblast
- Active dwelling market
- Well developed public transport system
- Diversity of transport means
- High professional and educational level of population
- Cultural and free time facilities
- Multistructural economy
- High competitiveness in several industries (shipbuilding, pulp and paper, metal processing, cargo handling industries)
- Huge consumption market due to the close proximity to St.Petersburg
- Reliable local budget structure
- High tourist potential
- International publicity of Vyborg (especially among Scandinavian countries)

Drawbacks

- Differences in welfare status
- Climate conditions
- Technical depreciation in engineering and transport infrastructure

- Non complexity of residential zones
- Long paper process to obtain approvals and permissions for site land forming and construction works
- Outdated urban documentation on main settlements
- Lack of efficient system on waste collection , utilization and management
- Poor technical condition of sewage, rain water and water pipe system

Opportunities

- Improvement of legislative and institutional background
- Political stability
- National programme on economic development aimed at creation of favorable investment climate
- Increasing of foreign trade turnover in Russia
- Liberalization of visas and customs procedures (implementation of agreement on partnership and cooperation with EU, WTO)
- Revitalization of economic activities in Russia
- Increasing of population mobility
- Increasing of educational level
- Economic development in region
- Credits and grants of World Bank and EBRR and other international financial funds for projects within cooperation programme
- Economic cooperation with national and foreign municipalities and companies (especially with Baltic sea countries)
- Growing demand on tourist services
- New tourist routes (ferry lines)
- Development of IT communications

Threats

- Reorientation on closed model of economy , limitation of import
- Increasing of monopoly
- Possible economic and financial crises
- Lack of financing for the programmes and projects
- Increasing of social conflicts
- Depopulation
- Strict customs policy
- Political conflicts
- Competition from other regions

2. Strategy on sustainable development of Vyborg region

The strategic plan for sustainable development of the municipality 'Vyborg region' has been worked out in 2001 and adopted by the municipal council in 2002. The main aim and strategy of sustainable development is to provide high quality of life for the population on the basis of sustainable development of the region and transformation of the regional centre of Vyborg into a modern prosperous historic-cultural business and tourist centre.

The aim can be achieved by implementing the following policies:

1. Formation of the favourable business climate and international cooperation
2. Creation of sustainable social system for the citizens
3. Improvement of the environment

Each policy consists of several measures .

Measures within the first policy are restructuring of the industrial economy based on IT and science research technologies used in shipbuilding and instrument-making industries development of industrial zones, techno parks, industrial villages and SME businesses.

Measures within the second policy focus on development of regional and town management system in all spheres of life: health care, education, youth policy, engineering infrastructure, etc.

Measures within the third policy include the following actions:

- Creation of the waste management system
- Increasing of the efficiency of utilization of natural resources
- Organization of the international cooperation aimed at improvement of the ecological situation in the region
- Environmental and human safety against technological and natural catastrophes

3. Federal and oblast legislation on waste management

There are several federal laws, regulating the environmental issues. The main federal law on waste management is "On industrial and consumable wastes", no.89, 1998.

Nowadays, oblast law is under working process. The law will be tailored to specific factors of social-economic development of Leningrad oblast.

4. The existing waste management system in Vyborg region

The waste usually comes from the permanently living population, seasonal population (summer houses), public and industrial buildings and institutions. The total amount of waste is 414 ths cub.m. per year. + 56 ths cub.m. in summer time. There are 27 landfills, and only 1 is an officially authorised landfill.

Collection and transportation is maintained by specialized transport companies. The territory under service can include several small municipalities, or part of the municipality.

5. Main problems and drawbacks:

- Lack of regulations and sanitary norms on local level
- Small rural settlements are out of system
- bad technical condition of the transport and other machinery
- no sorting of waste at all
- discrepancy of ecological regulations and existing landfills

6. Future of waste management system

In the next coming period the total amount of wastes will reach 620 ths cub.m. per year. In order to solve the problem the following methods should be observed:

- minimization of the wastes
- second hand usage
- recycling and processing
- composting
- incineration and land filling with getting additional energy
- construction of waste processing or incineration plant.

Local authorities should fulfil the following tasks:

- work out the scheme of sanitarian cleaning of the territory
- consecutive liquidation of non-authorised land fills
- development of the programme of ecological education
- cleaning up zones along the roads and summer houses location