



Developing an EU standardised approach to a Vocational Qualification in

Healthcare Waste Management

Vocational Qualifications in Healthcare Waste Management

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Project Partners

1. International Centre for the Environment, Resource Management & Sustainability Ltd (ICERMS)
2. SINERGIE Societa Consortile a responsabilita limitata (SINERGIE)
3. Institute of Environmental Protection – National Research Institute (IEP-NRI)
4. SIGMA Consultants Limited (SIGMA)
5. ET Log Health Envirotech & Logistics GmbH (ET Log)
6. Regional Environment Centre for Central & Eastern Europe – Country Office Macedonia (REC COM)
7. Associacio d'organitzacions registrades EMAS a Catalunya (Club EMAS)
8. Regional Environment Centre for Central & Eastern Europe— Country office Albania (REC AL)
9. Regional Environment Centre for Central & Eastern Europe – Country Office Slovenia (REC SLO)
10. The NHS Confederation (NHS - Conf)
11. European Union of Private Hospitals (UEHP)
12. International Solid Waste Association (ISWA)

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Healthcare Waste Management Qualifications

One of the key milestones of the project was the completion of the vocational education qualification units for the new qualification of Healthcare Waste Manager. At the beginning of the project a first draft of the units list for the new qualification was developed and this was then put out to consultation with key stakeholders in the different project partner member states and through our partner multiplier organisations.

The consultation process lasted two or three months and involved the distribution of 1000's of internal evaluation questionnaires through the project partner professional networks, the project website and at the informative workshops. It has been a difficult task balancing the interests and views of so many valid contributions from the industry and hopefully we have managed to get the balance right.

What we have ended up with are three distinct qualifications involving three distinct pathways mapped from the healthcare waste management suite of vocational education units and which reflect key roles in the healthcare waste management sector:

1. Healthcare Waste Manager at a Healthcare Facility
2. Healthcare Waste Manager at a Healthcare Waste Treatment Facility
3. Healthcare Waste Manager at Healthcare Waste Transport Operations

Units in blue text are optional units within the qualification pathway while black plain text denotes mandatory units.

Qualification 1: Managing Healthcare Waste at a Healthcare Facility	
No	Unit Title
1	Complying with Waste Management Legislation
2	Developing Healthcare Waste Management Policy and Plan Documents
3	Implementing a Healthcare Waste Management Plan, Record Keeping and Reporting
4	Manage the collection of hazardous and non-hazardous waste from a healthcare facility
5	Manage the movement, sorting and storage of hazardous and non-hazardous waste at a healthcare facility
6	Monitor the procedures to control risks to health and safety of the waste management function at a healthcare facility/healthcare treatment facility
7	Project Manage improvements to waste management operations/practices at a healthcare facility, treatment centre or during healthcare waste transport operations
8	Implementing a Waste Minimisation Programme, in the context of a circular economy, including the sorting and storage of recycled materials, at a healthcare facility
9	Ensure protection of the environment at healthcare facilities, treatment or during healthcare waste transport operations
10	Managing Waste Transportation operations for the transfer of hazardous and non-hazardous healthcare waste from a healthcare facility (Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser)
11	Manage a budget to Supporting the efficient use of resources
12	Contribute to the development of tender/bid documentation, selection of, implement and management of sub contracted services
13	Contribute to the selection of personnel for activities
14	Review the performance of teams and individuals
15	Create effective working relationships
16	Preparing for and Delivering In-house Healthcare Waste Management Training
17	Conducting an Internal waste management audit and pre-acceptance auditing at a healthcare facility
18	Sharps Waste Management and Biosecurity
19	Effective Management of Environmental Incidents and Emergencies
20	Preparation of an Installation with an Environment Permit for an Inspection Visit (Permit Holder)
21	Climate Change Adaptation Auditing & Reporting
22	Understanding Waste Management in the Environmental Management System
23	Manage the reception of infectious wastes at a healthcare waste treatment facility
24	Manage site operations for the treatment of healthcare waste at a healthcare facility/ healthcare waste treatment facility
25	Manage the disposal of outputs and residues from healthcare waste treatment operations or, healthcare waste transfer operations, at a healthcare facility
26	Manage maintenance and other engineering operations at a healthcare facility, healthcare waste treatment facility or during healthcare waste transport operations

Qualification 2: Managing Healthcare Waste Treatment Operations – Infectious Waste	
No.	Unit Title
1	Complying with Waste Management Legislation
6	Monitor the procedures to control risks to health and safety of the waste management function at a healthcare facility/ healthcare treatment facility
7	Project Manage improvements to waste management operations/practices at a healthcare facility, treatment centre or during healthcare waste transport operations
9	Ensure protection of the environment at healthcare facilities, treatment or during healthcare waste transport operations
11	Manage a budget to Supporting the efficient use of resources
12	Contribute to the preparation of tender/bid documentation, selection of, implement and management of sub contracted services
13	Contribute to the selection of personnel for activities
14	Review the performance of teams and individuals
15	Create effective working relationships
16	Preparing for and Delivering In-house Healthcare Waste Management Training
18	Sharps Waste Management and Biosecurity
19	Effective Management of Environmental Incidents and Emergencies
20	Preparation of an Installation with an Environment Permit for an Inspection Visit (Permit Holder)
21	Climate Change Adaptation Auditing & Reporting
22	Understanding Waste Management in the Environmental Management System
23	Manage the reception of infectious wastes at a healthcare waste treatment facility
24	Manage site operations for the treatment of infectious healthcare waste at a healthcare facility
25	Manage the disposal of outputs and residues from infectious healthcare waste treatment operations or, healthcare waste transfer operations, at a healthcare facility
26	Manage maintenance and other engineering operations at a healthcare facility, infectious healthcare waste treatment facility or during healthcare waste transport operations

Qualification 3: Managing Healthcare Waste Transport Operations	
No.	Unit Title
1	Complying with Waste Management Legislation
4	Manage the collection of hazardous and non-hazardous waste from a healthcare facility
7	Manage improvements to waste management operations/practices at a healthcare facility, treatment centre or transport operations
9	Ensure protection of the environment at healthcare facilities, treatment or transport operations
10	Managing Waste Transportation operations for the transfer of hazardous and non-hazardous healthcare waste at a healthcare facility (Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser)
11	Manage a budget to Supporting the efficient use of resources
12	Contribute to the preparation of tender/bid documentation, selection of, implement and management of sub contracted services
13	Contribute to the selection of personnel for activities
14	Review the performance of teams and individuals
15	Create effective working relationships
16	Preparing for and Delivering In-house Healthcare Waste Management Training
18	Sharps Waste Management and Biosecurity
19	Effectively Manage Environmental Incidents and Emergencies (Spillages)
21	Climate Change Adaptation Auditing & Reporting
26	Manage maintenance and other engineering operations at a healthcare facility, infectious healthcare waste treatment facility or during healthcare waste transport operations
27	Monitor the procedures to control risks to health and safety during healthcare waste transport operations