



*Developing an EU  
standardised approach to a  
Vocational Qualification in*

# Healthcare Waste Management

## Qualification Structures

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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 FYROM)
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-Confed)
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 Managing Healthcare Waste at a Healthcare Facility	
No	Unit Title
1	Complying with Waste Management Legislation
2	Understanding Waste Management in the Environmental Management System
3	Contribute to the selection of personnel for activities
4	Create effective working relationships
5	Conducting an Internal waste management audit and preparing a healthcare facility
6	Ensure protection of the environment at healthcare facilities, treatment or transport operations
7	Developing Healthcare Waste Management Policy and Plan Documents
8	Climate Change Adaptation Auditing & Reporting at a Healthcare Facility
9	Manage a budget to Supporting the efficient use of resources
10	Contribute to the development of tender/bid documentation, selection of, implement and manage, sub contracted services
11	Preparing for and Delivering Healthcare Waste Management Training
12	Implementing a Waste Management Plan, Record Keeping and Reporting
13	Implementing a Waste Minimisation Programme, including the use of recycled materials, at a healthcare facility
14	Sharps Waste Management and Biosecurity at a Healthcare Facility
15	Manage the collection of hazardous waste from a healthcare facility
16	Manage the movement, sorting and storage of hazardous waste
17	Manage improvements to waste management operations/practices at a healthcare facility, treatment centre or transport operations
18	Effectively Manage Environmental Incidents and Emergencies
19	Monitor the procedures to control risks to health and safety of the waste management function at a healthcare facility/healthcare treatment facility
20	Managing Waste Transportation operations for the transfer of hazardous and nonhazardous healthcare waste at a healthcare facility (Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser)
21	Review the performance of teams and individuals
22	Prepare an Installation with an Environment Permit for an Inspection Visit (Permit Holder)
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/healthcare waste treatment 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 Managing Healthcare Waste Treatment Operations Infectious Waste	
No.	Unit Title
1	Complying with Waste Management Legislation
2	Understanding Waste Management in the Environmental Management System
3	Contribute to the selection of personnel for activities
4	Create effective working relationships
6	Ensure protection of the environment at healthcare facilities, treatment or transport operations
8	Climate Change Adaptation Auditing & Reporting at a Healthcare Facility
9	Manage a budget to Supporting the efficient use of resources
10	Contribute to the development of tender/bid documentation, selection of, implement and manage, sub contracted services
11	Preparing for and Delivering Healthcare Waste Management Training
14	Sharps Waste Management and Biosecurity at a Healthcare Facility
17	Manage improvements to waste management operations/practices at a healthcare facility, treatment centre or transport operations
18	Effectively Manage Environmental Incidents and Emergencies
19	Monitor the procedures to control risks to health and safety of the waste management function at a healthcare facility/healthcare treatment facility
21	Review the performance of teams and individuals
22	Prepare an Installation with an Environment Permit for an Inspection Visit (Permit Holder)
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/healthcare waste treatment 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 Managing Healthcare Waste Transport Operations	
No.	Unit Title
1	Complying with Waste Management Legislation
3	Contribute to the selection of personnel for activities
6	Create effective working relationships
6	Ensure protection of the environment at healthcare facilities, treatment or transport operations
8	Climate Change Adaptation Auditing & Reporting at a Healthcare Facility
9	Manage a budget to Supporting the efficient use of resources
10	Contribute to the development of tender/bid documentation, selection of, implement and manage sub contracted services
14	Preparing for and Delivering Healthcare Waste Management Training
14	Sharps Waste Management and Biosecurity at a Healthcare Facility
15	Manage the collection of hazardous waste from a healthcare facility
17	Manage improvements to waste management operations/practices at a healthcare facility, treatment centre or transport operations
18	Effectively Manage Environmental Incidents and Emergencies
20	Managing Waste Transportation operations for the transfer of hazardous and nonhazardous healthcare waste at a healthcare facility (Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser)
21	Review the performance of teams and individuals
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