



Annex III: ECOGLASS



ECOGLASS is a company that ran a glass recycling plant until a year ago when it had to be closed. The glass recycling plant was opened in 2012 in Galilee; it produced aggregate for asphalt and for cement. They did not produce cullets because of suppliers start to export cullet.

In 2016, the Israeli government allowed the export of glass waste which resulted in the bankruptcy of ECOGLASS.

Currently ECOGLASS is investigating options to build a new recycling glass for glass. ECOGLASS is convinced that there are a lot of arguments to foster glass recycling and hopes that the MoEP will support the industry:

- Large environmental benefits of glass recycling
- Reducing carbon footprint by burning less energy. Use of recycling glass instead of row material can reduce the melting point and by doing that all the producers can use less energy.
- Reducing substantially the harvesting raw material in a large crater. It is harmful to the environment, particularly because it is an area that should be protected
- Preventing landfill: there is not enough space for landfills in IL and there is a huge economic value lost when landfilling glass.
- Producers will be able to be much more competitive because their energy and raw material cost will be competitive to the other suppliers.
- Today IL is exporting environmental and economic value to Turkey

Main problems identified

- Lack of political commitment to recycling
- Lack of stability and trust in feedstock
- Problematic incentive system leads to the biggest cities of Israel not participating in a recycling system

Key recommendations

- Set ambitious targets in deposit law that apply per material stream and are calculated by weight.
- Be assertive in law enforcement.
- Extend the separate collection of glass to help increase the trust in the feedstock
- Improving the quality of feedstock by obliging for separation at source
- Ban the export of waste or set strict environmental and social standards for export
- Introduce a PAYT system on the long run
- MoEP to use its power over the two main collecting companies for glass waste under the deposit law
- Set up GPP rules for public authorities that oblige for a certain percentage of recycled material
- Subsidy from the government to local recycling industry in order to be competitive to export
- Support to use of glass in water filtration



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