

Mr. Pashko Gega

Chief, Chemicals and Waste Management, Institute of Environment
Albania

In Albania, there is mining, chemical industries as well as refineries, which are all scattered. There are nine hotspots several kilometers square in area and there is mercury contamination, oil industry contamination, industrial solid waste, copper and chromium. There are problems with the inventory phase, identification of chemicals in an unidentified state (without labels or packaging). The same problems are connected to indicators of hazardous waste. It is difficult to classify hazardous waste. We don't have the necessary capacity to do the analysis, to identify them and classify them. Another problem is disposal. The Basel Convention states these hazardous wastes must be treated in the place where they are generated, but Albania lacks the capacity to deal with them. Recycling is the first priority. For disposal we don't have the technology and experience.