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Advancing resource efficient and cleaner production in Azerbaijan

The RECP methodology

Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) is the integrated and continuous application of preventive environmental strategies to **processes, products, and services** to increase efficiency and reduce risks to humans and the environment. RECP is all about producing with fewer resources while minimizing environmental impacts and increasing overall productivity. For **Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)**, the RECP methodology is an effective means to lower production costs whilst improving the SMEs' competitive advantage and applying environmentally friendly practices. RECP is also an effective tool to introduce and promote Circular Economy principles among SMEs.

GREEN BLUE LLC - PELLET PRODUCTION



Company Overview

Location: Mingachevir

Key products: pellets

No. of employees: 14

Main markets: Azerbaijan

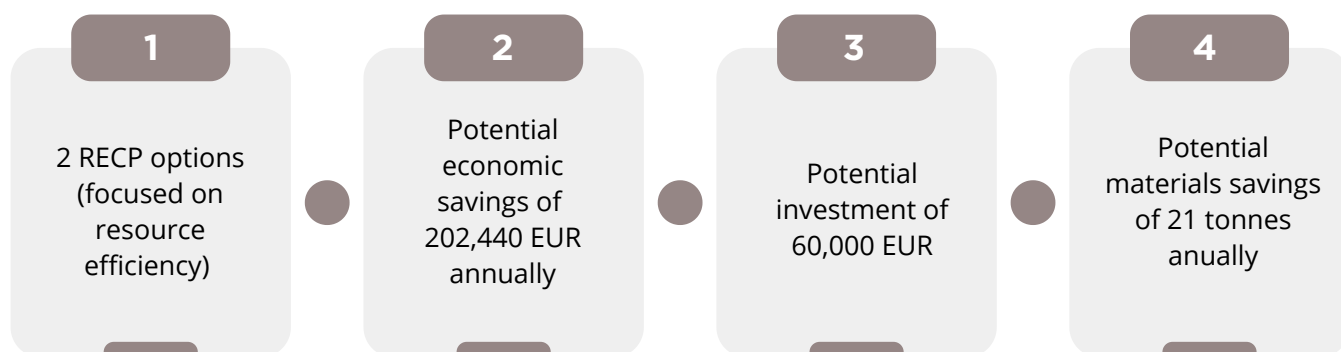
Founding year: 2007

Certifications: AZ031 ASI.35.01.00420.23, AZ031 ASI.35.01.00419.23, ISO (9001;17225-6:2014;17225-2:2014), etc.



“Green Blue” LLC is specialized in pellet production, specifically, the processing of wood waste generated during wood processing. The raw materials come from the sanitary felling of dry, emergency, and diseased trees in the parks and squares of Mingachevir, managed by the Housing and Communal Service. The pellet production line has a capacity of 1,500 kg per hour. The production process is environmentally friendly, as the sawdust pellets are made without chemical additives. Motivated to address production costs, the company participated in the RECP Demonstration Project under EU4Environment (2019-2024). This publication details the company's experience reported after the assessment exercise conducted in 2024.

BENEFITS



Action implemented by:

The project approach

The RECP team evaluated the production site and identified several options, out of which the following two were prioritised by the company staff:

RECP Option 1. Investing in a belt drying machine: Investing in a low-temperature belt dryer would enable the company to consistently process raw materials with the required humidity levels. Currently, the absence of a dryer limits the company's ability to accept raw materials with high moisture content. Belt drying systems are known for their high productivity and low energy consumption, hence, by purchasing a dryer, the company could potentially double its production capacity.

RECP Option 2. Collecting dust and recovering raw materials: During the crusher's operation, a small amount of dust is generated, resulting in a need to invest in a dust collection system. Such a system would help capture the dust produced during the processing of dry materials, reducing emissions into the atmosphere. Additionally, the collected dust could be reintegrated into the production process, allowing for the recovery and reuse of raw materials.

SAVING ACHIEVEMENTS

RECP measures

OPTION 1	Investing in a belt drying machine
OPTION 2	Collecting dust and recovering raw materials

Economic key figures

RECP OPTIONS	INVESTMENT (EUR)	SAVINGS (EUR/YR)	PAYBACK PERIOD (YR)
Total:	60,000	202,440	-

Resource savings

RECP OPTIONS	MATERIALS (T/YR)
Total:	21

The introduction of RECP has been part of the EU-funded EU4Environment Action and executed by UNIDO. In this context, **Green Blue LLC** joined the RECP Demonstration Project to be monitored under EU4Environment. Follow-up visits have also been conducted to check on the implementation of the recommended RECP options. EU4Environment helps the EU's Eastern Partnership countries preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts. For more details, visit: www.eu4environment.org

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