



Funded by the European Union



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.

“UNIVERSAL CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND SUPPLY” JSC - CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND RELATED SERVICES



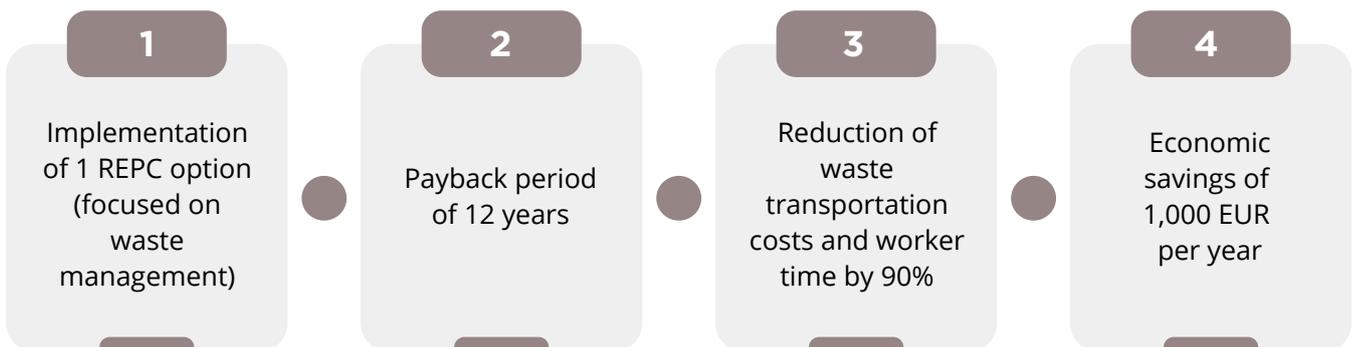
Company overview

Location: Baku
No. of employees: 7
Main markets: Azerbaijan
Founding year: 2017
Key products: chipboards, construction, engineering, consulting, and supply services



“Universal Construction Engineering and Supply” JSC provides a diverse range of construction services with a team of highly experienced professionals. The company has a robust organizational structure and essential international partnerships, enabling the execution of complex repair and construction projects from the initial design to the final implementation. Additionally, the company operates workshops dedicated to producing laminated chipboards and kitchen aprons, sourcing the raw materials needed for chipboard production from abroad. Motivated to address production costs and waste, the company participated in the RECP Clubs project under EU4Environment (2019-2024). This publication details the company's experience reported after the assessment exercise conducted in 2024.

BENEFITS



Action implemented by:



UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



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The project's approach

The RECP assessment examined the production site and identified several RECP options, out of which the following was prioritized and successfully implemented by the company. The suggested RECP measure requires a payback period of 12 years:

RECP Option 1. Installing a chipboard crusher: The enterprise receives chipboard sheets on pallets, which are used as primary materials for lamination. Unfortunately, some sheets sustain damage during transportation, rendering them unsuitable for use. To maintain quality standards, the enterprise strictly prohibits the use of damaged sheets and ensures their proper disposal through a process of sorting and discarding. Currently, the enterprise rents a machine to manage the disposal of these damaged sheets. Given the substantial size of the sheets (3500x1750 mm) and the volume of damaged sheets (255 pieces annually), multiple machine rentals are required each year. With the enterprise producing approximately 25,500 chipboard sheets annually, damaged sheets account for 1% of total production. To address this, the RECP team recommended acquiring a crusher. A crusher would allow the enterprise to process the damaged chipboard sheets into a material that could be repurposed for producing industrial pellets.

SAVING ACHIEVEMENTS

RECP measure

OPTION 1

Installing a chipboard crusher

Economic key figures

RECP OPTIONS	INVESTMENT (EUR)	SAVINGS (EUR/YR)	PAYBACK PERIOD (YR)
Option 1:	12,046.28	1,000	12

Resource savings

RECP OPTIONS	FUEL (M ³ /YR)
Option 1:	0.0975

The introduction of RECP has been part of the EU-funded EU4Environment Action and executed by UNIDO. In this context, **“Universal Construction Engineering and Supply” JSC** joined the RECP Clubs training and assistance programme 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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