



Dear ICS members,

I am delighted to announce that the 2020 ICS Prize for the Green Chemical Industry will be awarded to Veridis Environment Ltd. for applying advanced technologies in recycling municipal and industrial wastes to produce fuels, fertilizers, raw materials, and renewable energy.

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The Veridis Group manages waste, water, and energy, thus contributing to the sustainable development of communities and industries. In the last three decades, their waste management division has made remarkable environmental accomplishments as a world leader in the recycling and waste management industry.

The Hirriya Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) plant, which has started operation in 2016, is one of the largest RDF plants worldwide and the only one of its kind in Israel. Serving the Gush-Dan Metropolitan area with more than 4 million residents, the plant can treat over 1,500 tons of incoming waste per day. The facility handles up to 540,000 tons of waste annually, and the plant is under expansion to allow treatment of 650,000 tons. In addition to material reclamation from waste, the plant also produces waste-derived solid fuel, suitable for cement plants furnaces and coal-fueled power plants. The Hirriya plant converts nearly 25% of the incoming waste to pellets of solid fuel, which are being used by Nesher Israel Cement Enterprise in Ramla, replacing much of the highly polluting petcock fuel (residue of oil refinement). In 2016–2019, the plant prevented landfilling of 724,000 tons of waste and supplied 200,000 tons of RDF to replace petcock fuel at Nesher cement industries. [\[see article in Hebrew\]](#)

The Afula Material Recovery Facility, which operates since 1988, is the first waste recycling facility in Israel. The plant reclaims more than 30% of the daily incoming 1,200 tons of waste. The facility specializes in sorting and collecting recyclable materials, such as plastics, glass, cardboard, and aluminum, which go back to the consumable market. The organic fraction of the waste goes to compost production plants.

The Masua and Gevim Compost Sites are two of the largest composting facilities in Israel, started their operation in 2000. Masua, located in the Jordan Valley, is the only organic waste composting facility in Israel. Gevim, located in the northwestern Negev Desert, is the biggest livestock manure-based composting facility in Israel. Both plants produce more than 200,000 tons of compost per year for agriculture use.

Landfill gas to energy: Landfills produce massive amounts of methane and carbon dioxide. Both are greenhouse gases, and the global warming potential of methane is 25 times greater than that of CO₂. Waste landfills are one of the largest human-generated sources of methane emissions. Veridis collects and uses the released methane in three gas electricity plants in the Evron, Ganey Haddas, and Ef'eh Landfills. Together, these plants generate about 10 MW per hour.

In summary, Veridis' waste recycling operations create multiple environmental benefits, such as reducing landfill operations, recovering various metals, producing organic fertilizers, and creating energy by taking advantage of the combustible components of municipal and industrial wastes.

The award ceremony will take place on July 1, 2021 on the Open University campus.

Congratulations to the Veridis people for their achievements!