

News story: Charitable recycling company wins Sellafield contract

A waste recycling company will open a new facility and create local jobs in West Cumbria, having won a contract with Sellafield Ltd.

'Recycling Lives' will recycle metal from the nuclear site, offering jobs and training opportunities at a new depot in Workington.

The company will also set up a food distribution charity with centres throughout Cumbria, which will also need staff and volunteers.

This follows the success of a similar community programme they have delivered throughout Lancashire.

Martin Chown from Sellafield Ltd said:

We want to ensure our local communities benefit from the money we spend and we do this by insisting that companies that win work with us invest to support local growth.

I'm excited by the plans Recycling Lives has to create jobs and support disadvantaged people in west Cumbria.

It demonstrates the unique power of Sellafield Ltd to attract new businesses to the area

The scrap buying and processing facility in Workington, has brought an empty site back into use, and will be open to the public and other businesses from September.

William Fletcher from Recycling Lives, said:

We are pleased to have been chosen as the preferred contractor for scrap metal collection and processing from Sellafield Ltd.

We're really excited to be able to use this contract to create social value across Cumbria.

The benefits will be more than just environmental and economic, as we create social impact through job creation and food redistribution.

Their food redistribution service operates on behalf of national organisation, Fareshare. It diverts surplus food from manufacturers, suppliers and supermarkets, that would otherwise go to landfill, and distributes it to charities and community groups in deprived areas.

Find out more about [Recycling Lives](#)

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Find out more about [Recycling Lives](#)

News story: Real Madrid vs Manchester United – Travel Advice

Fixture information

Date: Tuesday 8 August 2017

Venue: National Stadium Philip II, Skopje

Kick off time: 8:45pm (local time); 7:45pm (UK time)

Man Utd supporter meeting point/UEFA fan zone: Mother Theresa Memorial House, Macedonia Street

As well as this advice, check out our [travel advice for Macedonia](#)

Passports and visas

Please check your passport and visa details:

- you don't need a visa to travel to Macedonia if you have a British Citizen passport; but your passport should be valid for at least three months from the date you enter the country
- if you have a different type of British nationality (other than 'British Citizen'), check entry requirements with the Macedonian Embassy in London before you travel
- make sure you take out good travel insurance even if you're only going for one night – it could save you a lot of money if you get into difficulties
- the British Embassy have been advised you may need your passport (and your match ticket) to gain entry to the stadium
- if you lose your passport, or have it stolen, contact the British Embassy on +389 2 3299 299 or by e-mail at consular.skopje@fco.gov.uk to book an appointment to apply for an Emergency Passport

Getting to National Stadium 'Philip II'

- Philip II National Stadium is located in the city centre; you can find a map showing the location of the stadium [here](#). The stadium holds 33 460 supporters fully seated

- The Stadium is located near the city centre, in the city park, 15 minutes walking distance from the Main Square and the city centre. It can be reached by bus No 8 and No 15a (get off at the City Park Stop. There is a paid parking lot next to the stadium.
- there will be a Manchester Utd fan zone at the Mother Theresa Memorial House in Macedonia Street ([map](#))
- it is an 18 minute walk to the stadium from Mother Theresa Memorial House; you can find a map showing the route [here](#)
- taxis are plentiful and cheap by UK standards, although some vehicles may not be in very good condition. Most taxis are metered. Vehicles may vary in colour.
- avoid taxis parked outside hotels or in tourist areas; ask your hotel to call a taxi or flag down a passing taxi with a green 'available' light in the window
- a licensed taxi company operates at Skopje airport and has an official rank. Details are available at <http://skp.airports.com.mk/default.aspx?ItemID=384>

At the match

- Man Utd fans are seated in East Sector and blocks 5 & 6 in South Sector; All gates have disabled access
- access to the stadium can be slow, there will be ticket checks and body searches at three check points before entrance to the stadium
- to avoid missing the start of the match, you should get to the stadium early – entrances will open at 5:45pm
- anyone who is obviously drunk won't be allowed into the stadium
- weapons, flares, fireworks, alcohol, cans, glass, bottle tops aren't allowed in the stadium
- smoking is allowed at the stadium; lighters will be permitted
- beer in plastic containers will be available at the stadium

Helpful tips for local area

You should leave your passports in a hotel safe and use another form of ID: e.g. driving licence or the passport photocopy.

You should maintain at least the same level of personal security awareness as in the UK. As in any other city beware of pickpockets and bag snatchers at airports, railway stations, around the town centre and when using public transport – only carry what you need and leave spare cash and valuables in hotel safety deposits.

Tap water in Skopje is drinkable.

Contact the British Embassy in Skopje in case of a consular emergency:

British Embassy Skopje, Todor Aleksandrov No.165, Skopje 1000, Macedonia

Tel: +389 (2) 3299 299 (also for out of hours emergencies)

Office hours: Monday to Thursday, 8am to 4:30pm, Friday, 8am to 1pm

For more information please visit our website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/world/macedonia>

Emergency services numbers

Police: 192

Ambulance: 194

Fire brigade: 193

Further information

Follow the British Embassy on Twitter [@ukinmacedonia](#) for up to the minute travel advice.

Tourist information about [Macedonia](#)

Information about the city of [Skopje](#)

Research and analysis: Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2017

We provide three sets of conversion factors:

- Condensed set: Most frequently requested by users. An abridged version of the full set of factors, designed to reduce the volume of information users have to navigate through to find the factors they want. Recommended for most, and new, users of conversion factors
- Full set: This set of factors contains all of the available factors for the selected year, and is recommended for advanced users only due to the volume of information presented.
- Flat file set: contains same information as the full set, but arranged for automated processes – available from 2014 onwards. Not recommended for most users.
- The methodology paper explains how the conversion factors are derived.

For new users of the conversion factors, we recommend you download the condensed set of conversion factors from the latest available year and read the guidance in the document's introductory sheet. Then follow the informative text at the top of each conversion factor tab in the output files.

For repeat users of the conversion factors we suggest that you download your preferred factor set and read the 'what's new' sheet before using the conversion factors. This sheet highlights the most significant changes to the conversion factors made in this update. Following the 'what's new' guidance

will ensure that reporting is consistent and comparable year-on-year.

World news story: UK Government Funds to combat illegal wildlife trade and protect biodiversity are open now

The British Embassies Vietnam, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for funding as part of the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund and Darwin Initiative run by the UK's Department of Environment Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Department for International Development (DFID).

Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund

The Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund helps developing countries to tackle the illegal wildlife trade, by addressing demand reduction, strengthening enforcement and criminal justice, and providing local alternative livelihoods. Further information can be found [here](#).

The priority areas we are looking to fund include:

- Developing sustainable livelihoods and economic development, to benefit people directly affected by IWT
- Strengthening law enforcement
- Ensuring effective legal frameworks
- Reducing demand for IWT products

In addition, our Embassies are particularly looking for projects that have a strong regional element, involving action or collaboration across borders. We are also looking to encourage projects that have strong partnerships with governments in the region.

The deadline for the first phase of the bidding process is 21 September.

Darwin Initiative

The Darwin Initiative helps to protect biodiversity and the natural

environment in developing countries Further information can be found [here](#).

The objective of the Darwin Initiative is to protect and enhance biodiversity and in doing so, to contribute to sustainable development in developing countries, through projects which address one, or more, of the following themes:

- Protection or enhancement of ecosystems, species or genetic resources through in-situ or ex-situ conservation or remedying environmental damage;
- Integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services within host country development objectives and economic decision making, through institution building, capacity development, strengthening regulatory and policy frameworks or research; or
- Assisting host countries' efforts to meet their obligations under at least one of the international conventions/agreements listed above.

In addition, our Embassies are particularly looking for projects that have a strong regional element, involving action or collaboration across borders. We are also looking to encourage projects that have strong partnerships with governments in the region. We also want to encourage projects that identify synergies with priorities and actions promoted by the Illegal Wildlife Challenge Fund.

The deadline for the first phase of the bidding process is 12 September.

What to do now?

Our regional network want to work with prospective bidders to craft and refine bids to these funds and also to understand who we can help support the aims and activities of the projects. Our network has significant insight in to these issues as well as political reach and access. As priority issues of the UK Government, we would intend to work with the project implementers to help ensure the maximum benefits from the projects are secured.

To improve efficiency and coherence, we have appointed a regional coordinator to give you a one-stop-shop for initial contacts. Any inquiries will be dealt with and you can be sure they will be shared with all the Network. It is possible to contact individual Embassies directly but we recommend, particularly for Cambodia and Laos, that you first work with the regional lead.

It is not compulsory to contact the Regional lead person or Embassy or to submit bids in line with the priorities / goals of our Regional Network. However, our Network has much expertise and skills to offer and we would strongly recommend this.

Contact points

Contact points for the regional lead and various Embassies are:

Regional Lead – Nguyen.ThuyLinh@fco.gov.uk

Vietnam – Nguyen.ThuyLinh@fco.gov.uk

Bangkok – Kanyasorn.Tansubhapol@fco.gsi.gov.uk

Cambodia – Phalla.Chea@fco.gov.uk

Laos – Anongly.Phimmasone@fco.gov.uk