



GWP Slovakia experience in promotion of sustainable sanitation, in connection with the RBMPs

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Sustainable Wastewater Management in River Basin Management Plans in Baltic Sea Region

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Sustainable sanitation in Slovakia

Settlements above 2000 p.e.

- Negotiation SR with EC
- Included into national RBMP
- Transferred into Danube RBMP

Settlements less than 2000 p.e.

- Political issue
- Association of Towns and villages of Slovakia (ATVS)
 - Local IWRM plans
 - Support of sustainable/eco/alternative sanitation approach
 - Bottlenecks of sustainable sanitation (SS)
 - Richnava case study

Settlements above 2000 p.e.

- Traditional approach
 - Centralized
 - Collection of wastewaters
 - Waste water treatment plant
 - Grouping small settlements to agglomeration above 2000 p.e.
 - Too artificial – rejected by EC as not efficient/economical
 - Waste of finances invested by small settlements into project proposals
 - Included into national RBMPs and transferred into Danube RBMP
 - Deadline 2015 will be met

Settlements less than 2000 p.e.

- More than 2800 of them
- Traditional approach strongly promoted by joint-stock Water Companies
 - Not affordable by small settlements from financial view
 - Excluded from national operational programmes supported by EU structural funds
 - Some of them excluded from all national programmes promoting small settlements
- Political issue
 - Small settlements feel themselves discriminated
 - Appeal to ATVS for help in discussion with government
 - ATVS office
 - Established IWRM working group (GWP experts are members)
 - Elaborated principles for implementation of IWRM approach in understandable language (in cooperation with GWP)
 - Disseminated Questionnaire among towns and villages on the status of IWRM implementation/planning incl. wastewater disposal

Settlements less than 2000 p.e.

- Organized jointly with GWP Slovakia seminar in 2008 for mayors of small settlements based on results of Questionnaire
 - Presentations were based on GWP CEE book on *Sustainable Sanitation (SS)*
- Result – negotiation with 15 mayors on implementation SS – positively accepted by local governments
- Negative response from state administration responsible for permits
- Negative attitude of wastewaters experts and water companies to alternative SS
- Mayors lost their interest to implement SS approach

What should be done next?

- Train experts to be skilled in **Open Wastewater Planning (OWP)** and afterwards be able to use this tool jointly with other communities for implementation of SS (incl. wastewater treatment systems)
- Explore which communities are willing to use **OWP** and consequently to build SS
- Engage state administration at all levels into **OWP** and implementation of SS in order identification problems and facilitation of permits process
- Initiate necessary changes in respective legislation which could obstruct smooth application of SS – if necessary
- Implement pilot projects to propagate new approaches and prove their efficiency **to meet sustainability criteria**
- Advocate SS at national governments and **convince** them to bring this as priority issue to respective EC body
- In the case of Slovakia the whole proposed programme would be gradually executed in close cooperation between GWP Slovakia and ATVS

Richnava case study

- Feasibility study incl. **OWP**
- Establishment of *ad hoc* working group
 - Visits on the spot
 - Discussion with representatives of the village
 - Natural conditions (surface waters recipient groundwater, precipitation regime, water outflow)
 - Water supply, water pollution sources, wastewater disposal, future plans
 - Roma camp – solution???
 - Task for ad hoc Working Group?
 - Feasibility study of wastewater disposal in an IWRM context towards a *Village Strategy*