

INTERNATIONAL WATERS RESULTS NOTES

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Romania - Integrated Nutrient Pollution Control Project

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- 1. 69 applications for investments in improved systems at commune level for manure collection, storage, and better management of animal and household waste at Commune level -14 investments under construction, 18 under the process of civil works contracting and 40 prepared for submission for Government approval.
- 2. Water quality monitoring, analysis and reporting capacity of National Administration "Romanian Waters" (ANAR) and its subordinated units at river basin level strengthened. 56 equipments for data processing and storage, 10 auto laboratories, various field and laboratory equipment, training of specialists for use of new equipment and testing methods, provided by the Project. The construction of ANAR's Training Centre is ongoing.
- 3. Population in the Project area informed about water pollution with nutrients and recommended remedial measures through events, more than 2,000 informative materials (brochures, flyers and leaflets, guide of good practices) produced and distributed, over 200 media appearances, website etc.

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PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The Project overall objective is to support the Government of Romania to meet the EU Nitrate Directive requirements by: (a) reducing nutrient discharges to water bodies, (b) promoting behavioural changes at the communal level and (c) strengthening institutional and regulatory capacity.

The global environment objective of the project is to reduce, over the long term, the discharge of nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorous) into water bodies leading to the Danube River and Black Sea through integrated land and water management.

RESULTS: PROCESS

Indicator #1: Functional National Inter-Ministry Committees (IMCs) - The existing Inter-Ministerial Committee for Application of the Action Plan for Water Protection against Pollution with Nitrates from Agricultural sources, that is also acting as the Project Steering Committee is fully functional and met on regular basis. Action Programs for water and soil quality protection in Nitrate Vulnerable Zones including the evaluated implementation costs and responsibilities were prepared and provided to each of the 86 communes included in the Project.

Indicator #2: Improved inter-governmental coordination and capacity to assess, monitor and report on progress with implementation of the EU Nitrates Directive. Romania prepared, on voluntary bases, the first report to the European Commission on implementation of Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources, for the period 2004 – 2007.

Indicator #3: Project website, www.inpcp.ro, established, maintained and regularly updated.

RESULTS: STRESS REDUCTION

Indicator #1: Percentage of households with livestock adopting improved waste management practices. Target: 45%. Investments, consisting in commune level manure storage and management facilities and household level manure storages are currently under construction in 9 communes selected as Training and Demonstration Sites (TDS), representing 13% of the localities included in the Project. Sets of equipment for manure management at commune level were provided to 11 TDS and the procurement of a second tranche of 18 sets is ongoing.

Indicator #2: Promotion of the Code of Good Agricultural Practices - Nutrient reduction measures under the Code of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) widely applied by farmers in the targeted communes (Target 30%). 11 training sessions for 333 farmers were provide to farmers in the 11 TDS communes. The Code of Good Agricultural Practices for the protection of waters against nitrate pollution and the Code of Good Agricultural Practices in Farms, prepared within the GEF financed Project "Agricultural Pollution Control", implemented in the period April 2002 – June 2007, were wide disseminated among farmers in the Project area. About 600 copies were distributed to farmers and local administration during the Training sessions regarding the use of good agricultural practices. The adoption rate will be evaluated through a survey planned for end 2011.

Indicator #3: Improved protection of water bodies in targeted communes. Percentage of targeted communes with tree planting plans implemented. (Target: 75%). An area of about 600 ha suitable for tree planting was identified in 27 communes in the Project area and tree planting plans were prepared. To date, 44 ha (7,13%) of the identified land were planted with forestry vegetation in a number of 6 communes (22%), and the tree planting will continue in the autumn and spring seasons.

RESULTS: WATER RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

Indicator#1: Unified set of monitoring guidelines and standards for soil and water adopted, and monitoring program implemented. Guides for water resources monitoring activity prepared and implemented. The Project provided support to ANAR and its subordinated units in equipment for database management, transportation means and portable equipment for water quality testing.

Indicator #2: Improved inter-governmental coordination and capacity to assess, monitor and report on progress with implementation of the EU Nitrates Directive. Romania prepared, on voluntary bases, the first report to the European Commission on implementation of Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources, for the period 2004 – 2007.

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