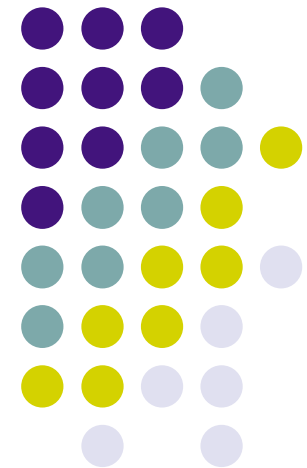


Catalysts and obstacles in implementing the right to sanitation in Romania

Adina Florea MESD
Mihaela Vasilescu M&S



Water Management in Romania



- Water sector

Strengths: - existing national policy for capacity building programme;

- relevant steps for reorganisation of water services;

- experience gained by water operators/local authorities in developing investments projects financed from PHARE, ISPA, SAPARD.

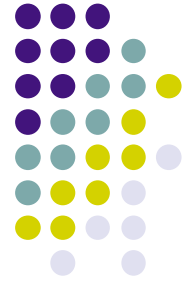
Weaknesses: - insufficient waste water treatment and sewerage network comparing with EU countries

Water Management in Romania

- continuation -



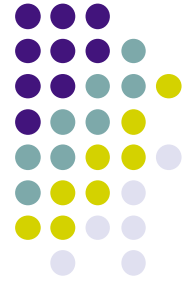
- Weaknesses:
 - low access of the population to centralized water and waste water systems;
 - low quality of drinking water supply;
 - inadequate facilities for sludge treatment;
 - inefficient water management structures, especially in smaller towns.



MoH Legislation

- **Order no.536/1997 - Norms of Hygiene**

- Art. 34 ... the households that are not connected at the public sewage, shall be endowed with pre-treatment facilities or septic tanks ...
- Art. 36 ... it is forbidden the use of waste water for irrigation purposes.
- Art. 39 h ... solid waste coming from zoo technique sector shall be composted.



International commitments

- **Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes**, done in London, on 17 June 1999

General provisions and targets of Protocol:

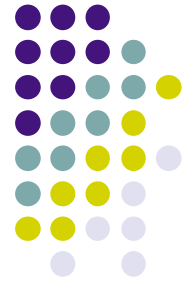
- protection of water resources used as sources of drinking water, treatment of water;
- access to drinking water for everyone;
- provision of sanitation for everyone.



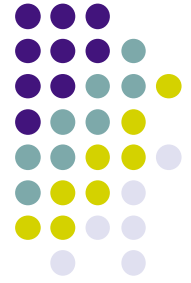
International commitments

- **SOP Environment 2007 – 2013**, MESD RO, May 2007
 - Projects are financed by the Structural Fund –mld.€ 3.27 (2,78 of EU grant) allocated to Romania under Priority Axis 1 of the SOP Environment for 2007-2013, approved by the Commission in July 2007.
 - **SAPARD Programme :**
 - **Rural Infrastructure Development and Rehabilitation (measure 2.1 in NARDP) - 512 milion Euro (total value)**
 - **854 projects have been selected (drinking water systems construction and modernisation and sewerage systems and WWTP construction)**

Additional investments in Water sector from other sources:



- National Rural Development Programme co-financed by the EU, in period 2007-2013;
- Governmental Programme for development of infrastructure in the rural area in period 2006-2009;
- Foreign loans or various forms of PPP are also solutions in some of the urban agglomerations
- Important investments in water sector infrastructure are planned beyond 2013, aiming to achieve full compliance with EU acquis.



Quality of life in rural areas

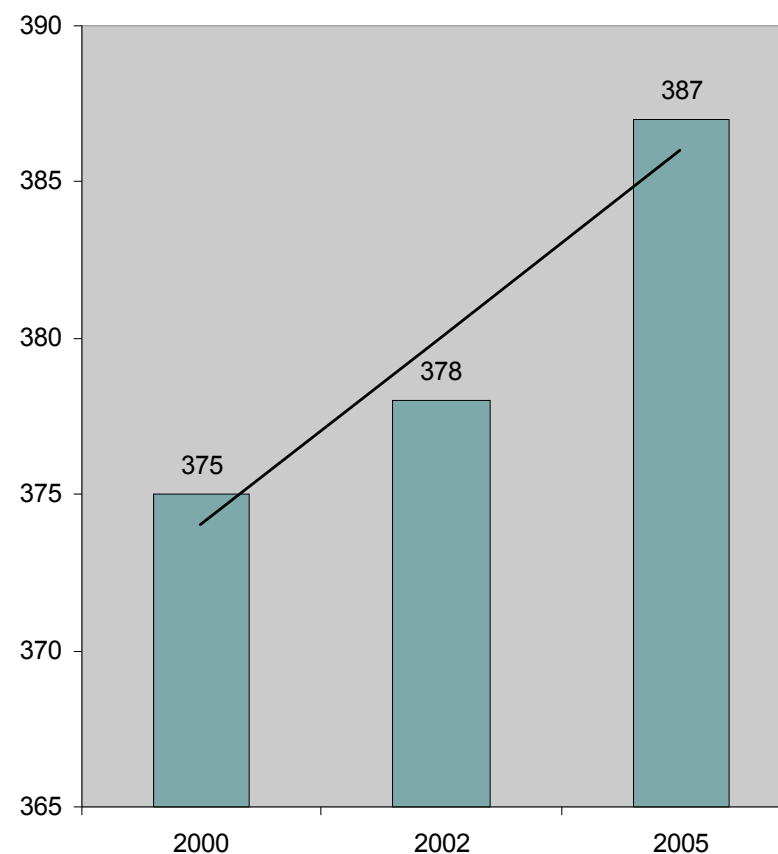
- The provision of drinking water is a problem of quality of life in this area (only 33% of the rural inhabitants have access to the public water network);
- The public sewerage network is still incipient in rural areas: at the end of 2005, 373 communes (10% of the rural population) had sewerage network.



Access to sanitation

- **Rural Population**
 - with water connection: **15.1%**
 - with sewage connection: **12.9%**
- **Romania: 2,686 Commune and 15,700 rural localities**
 - **Rural localities with public sewage: see the graph**
- **Rural areas** - no organized services to transport solid waste to the 2,686 dump sites.

Source: Statistical year Book 2006



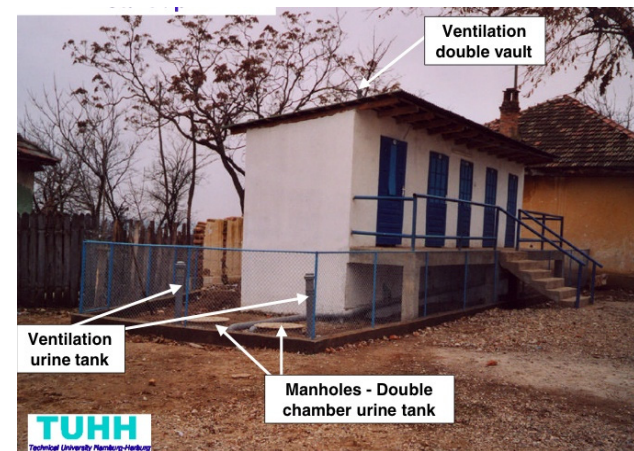


Access to sanitation

- **Initiatives of GWP:**
 - **Project SUSTAINABLE SANITATION 2005 – 2007**
 - **Concept of “Sustainable Sanitation”**
 - ” sanitation that protects and promotes human health, does not contribute to environmental degradation or depletion of the resource base, is technically and institutionally appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable” (this definition has been agreed by the GTZ and EcoSanRes)

NGO initiatives

- Started in 2003
- Projects on decentralized solutions “eco-sanitation” are developing in 3 regions in Romania: Mehedinti, Teleorman, Ialomita
- by cooperation of WECF with local NGOs partners.



Town Hall eco-san toilets 2006



Household eco-san toilets



Discussions – aspects to be promoted



- **Development of the legal frame for alternative sanitation solutions**, both at the European and National level.
- **Strengthening the cooperation between the governmental institution and civil society** (local communities, NGO targeting environmental and health protection), in order to implement sustainable solutions for water and sanitation in rural areas.