



Women in Europe for a Common Future | WECF

# Enabling water and sanitation safety planning in rural communities

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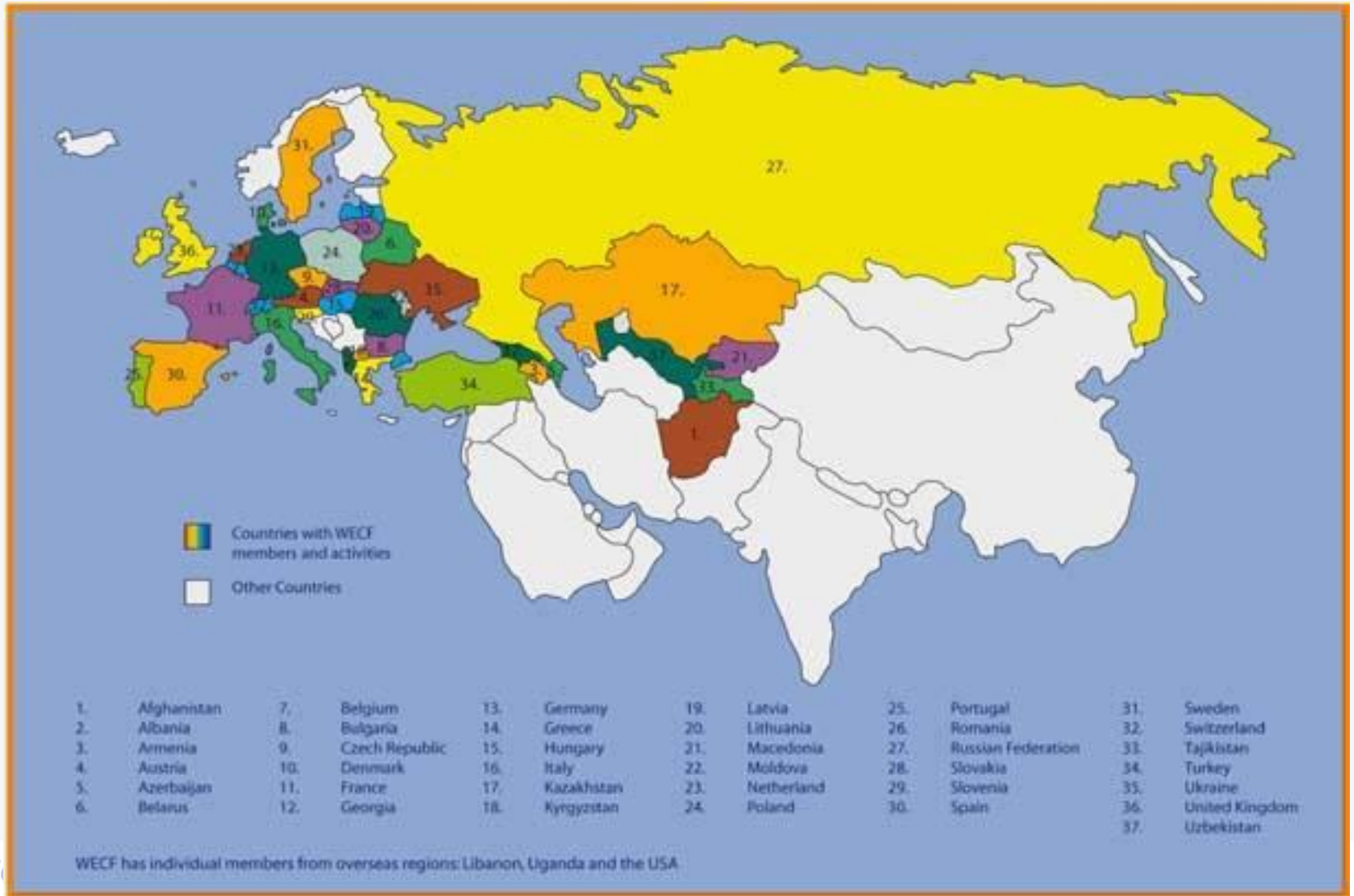
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# WECF Network



# Water supply in the rural communities





# Sanitation in the rural communities



# Present practice in the rural communities



## WECF Experiences:

The rural population is lacking awareness on

- Access to Information e. g. data about water quality
- Influence of their activities on water quality
- Public participation

Sanitation is inadequate. Groundwater pollution due to pit latrines

Legislation exists but is not put into practice, e. g. water protection areas.



# Water pollution in the rural communities

From Communities (point pollution):

Pollution through pit latrines, wastewater pits, leakage in the sewage network, livestock holding, deposits of waste

From Agriculture (diffuse pollution)

Chemical fertilizer, pesticides, liquid manure



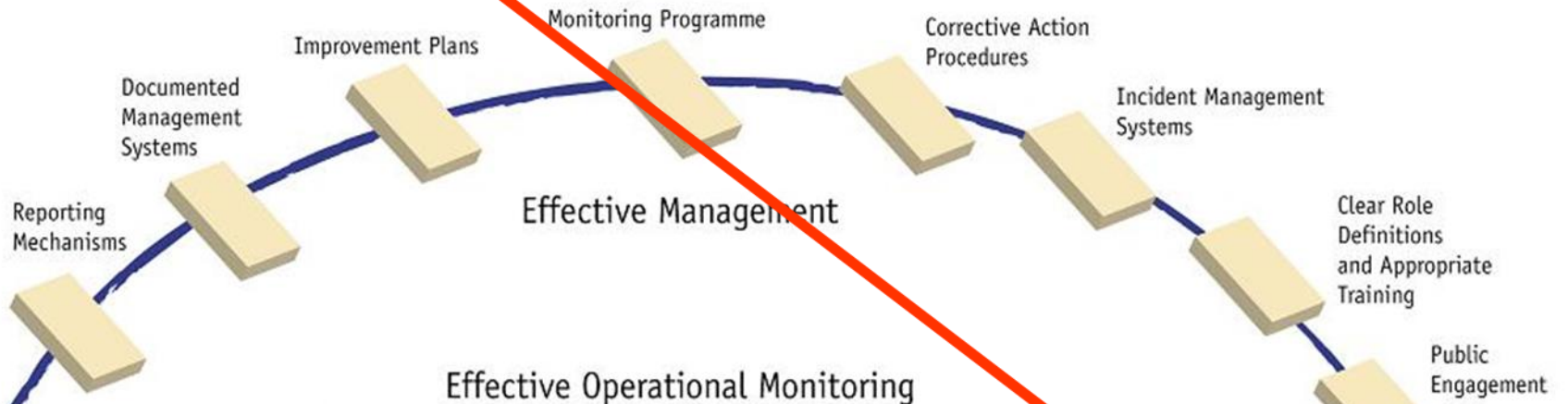


# Potential of the Water Safety Planning (WSP) developed by WHO

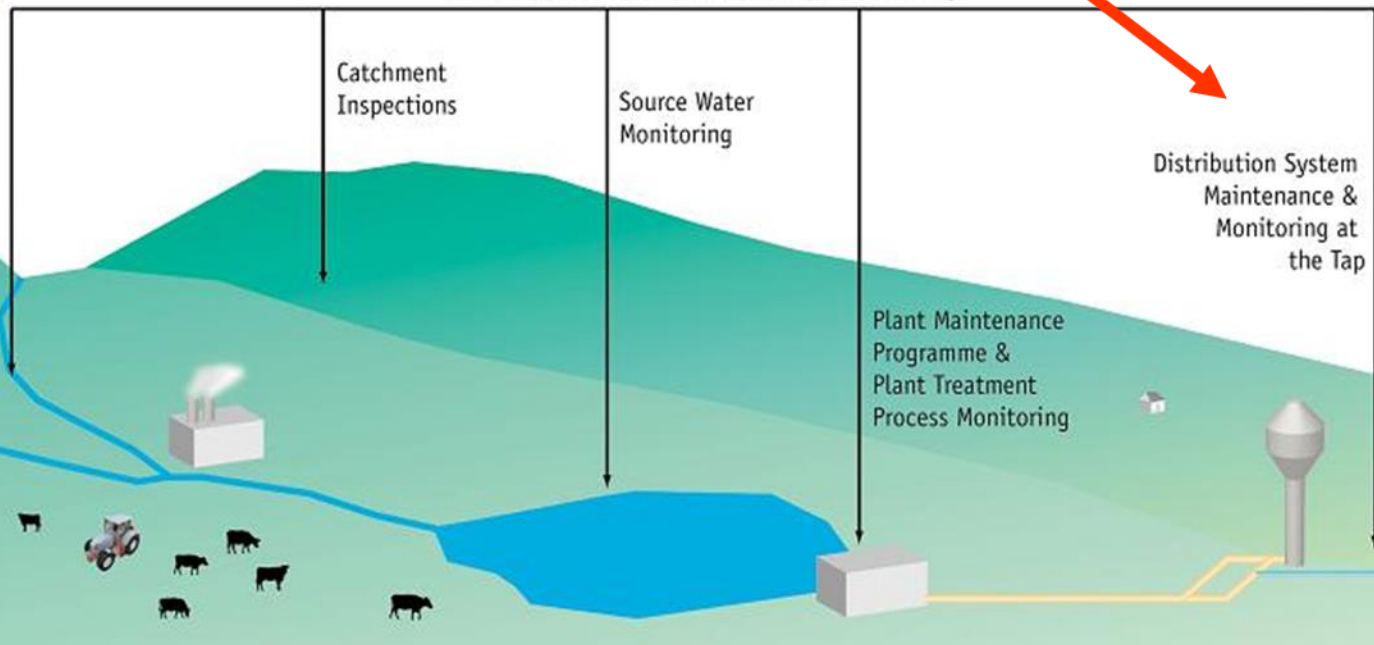
- WSP leads to a safe drinking water management
- WSP supports information and transparency in questions about drinking water
- WSP leads to a better understanding of profitability of drinking water systems
- WSP can be used as a tool to involvement and mobilisation of civil society
- WSP can be used for educational work



# Safe & Secure Drinking Water



## Effective Operational Monitoring



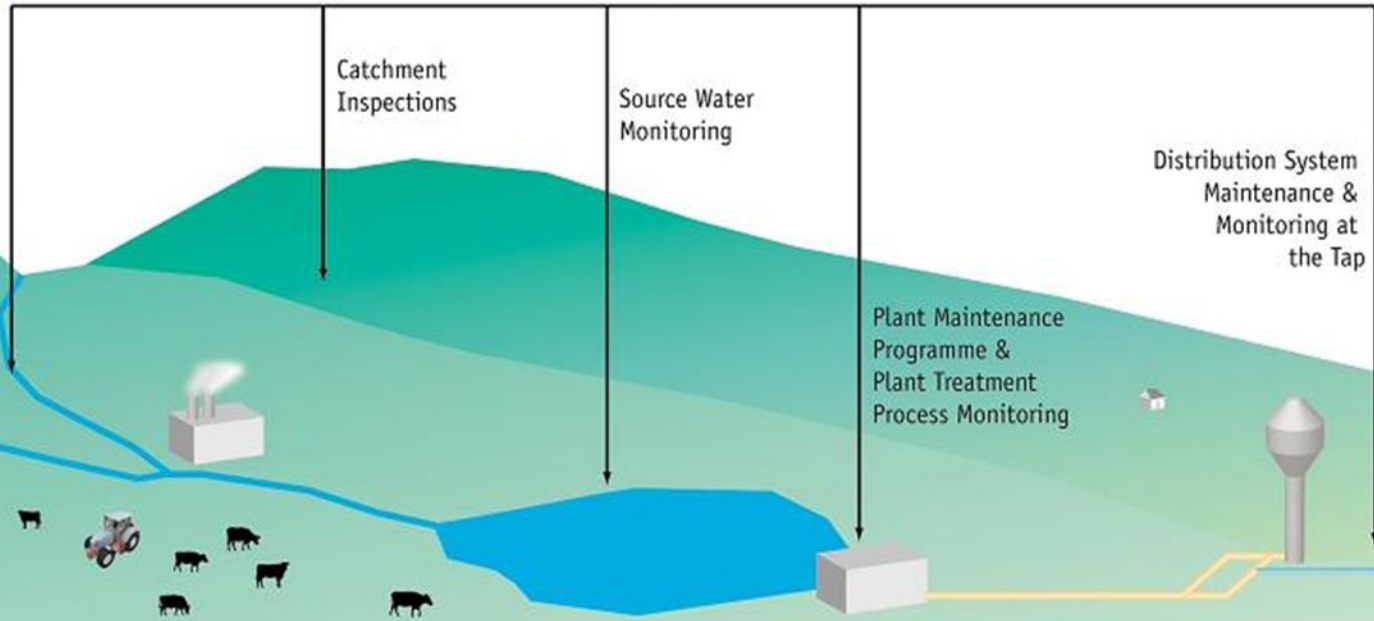


# Safe & Secure Drinking Water



Effective Management

Effective Operational Monitoring



Catchment Inspections

Source Water Monitoring

Distribution System Maintenance & Monitoring at the Tap

Plant Maintenance Programme & Plant Treatment Process Monitoring

Risk Assessment (Catchment to Consumer)

# WHO/IWA tools to develop and implement WSP

Target groups are especially Water supplier

Water Safety Plan manual (2008)

Step-by-step risk management for drinking water suppliers 11 Modules

<http://www.wsportal.org/ibis/water-safety-portal/eng/home>

Excel-based “WSP Quality Assurance” Tool + user manual (2009)

[http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/publications/wsp\\_qa\\_tool/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/wsp_qa_tool/en/index.html)

Water Safety Planning for Small Community  
Water Supplies (2012)

Step-by-step risk management for Small  
Community Water Supplies

[http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/publications/2012/water\\_supplies/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/2012/water_supplies/en/index.html)



# Challenges with small water supplies

WHO/IWA guidelines to WSP are very good, but

- Are mainly focusing of organised suppliers
- The WSP Team has to consist of specialists

In many rural communities:

- Little Know-how on drinking water and sanitation and their responsibilities
- Minor personnel and financial capacities
- Minor awareness for information and involvement of citizens





# Benefits of WSP

- Communities understand the ecological connection and the influence on water quality
- Communities understand their own responsibility for the water quality

➤ **Water supply can be improved through own action**



# Adaption of the WSP to small communities through citizen science

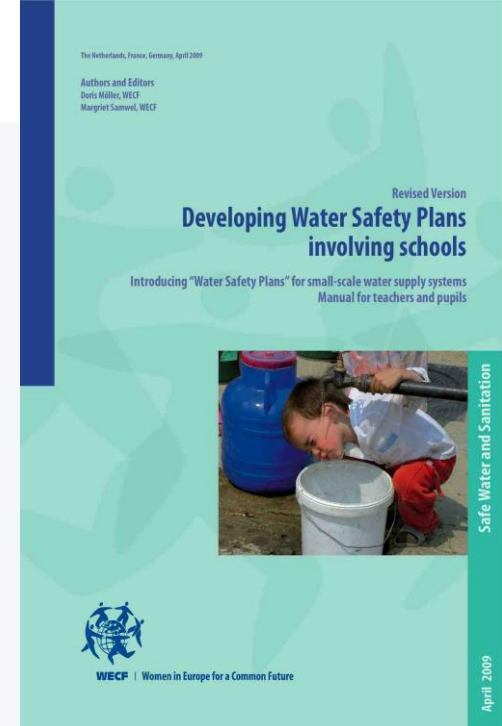
## ➤ WSP - Toolbox for schools includes:

Manual with:

- Background information
- Suggestions for activities
- Questionnaires for different stakeholders
- Checklists for sanitary inspection of wells, public taps
- Forms and examples for reporting results
- Materials for water quick tests like nitrate, pH, colour, turbidity

## ➤ Workshop for Teachers and local authorities

Teachers develop a 8-months Programme



# Water and Sanitation Safety Plan Compendium

- Sanitation is an important aspect for the health in the rural areas
- Many diseases are not water-based, but transmitted through faeces, example: parasites (STH - soil trans-mitted helminths)
- According to estimations of WHO are in Romania alone 0.8 million children who suffer from STH and need to be dewormed





# Water and Sanitation Safety Plan Compendium

- Publication with background information, instructions and Materials for teachers and NGOs
- 22 Modules (including small centralised drinking water supply systems):

*downloadable in English, Romanian, Macedonian and Russian:*  
<http://www.wecf.eu/english/publications/2014/WSSP-Publication.php>



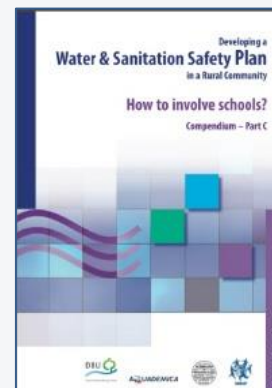
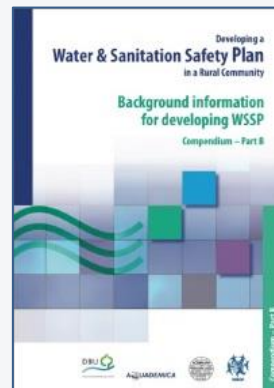
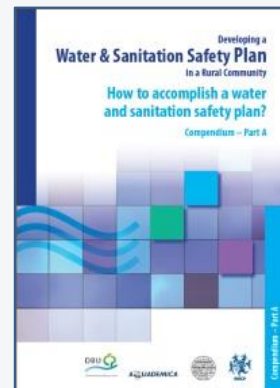
# WSSP-Compendium 2014

## In English, Macedonian, Romanian and Russian

Part 1: How to accomplish WSSP (Water and Sanitation Safety Plan) and Instructions (8 Modules)

Part 2: Background information for developing WSSP (8 Modules)

Part 3: How to involve schools (6 Modules)



# Structure of WSSP: 10 Steps

Step 1: Start: Introducing Water and Sanitation Safety Plans

Step 2: Description of the Situation of water supply and sanitation in the community

Step 3: Identification of relevant stakeholders and regulations

Step 4: Documentation, Water and Sanitation-Mapping

Step 5: Risk assessment and water tests

Step 6: Preparation of Information and mobilization of the community

Step 7: Development of a plan of measures

Step 8: Reporting and discussion of measures

Step 9: Implementation of measures

Step 10: Monitoring, improvement and adjustment





# Monitoring and risk assessment of the drinking water supply with the pupils

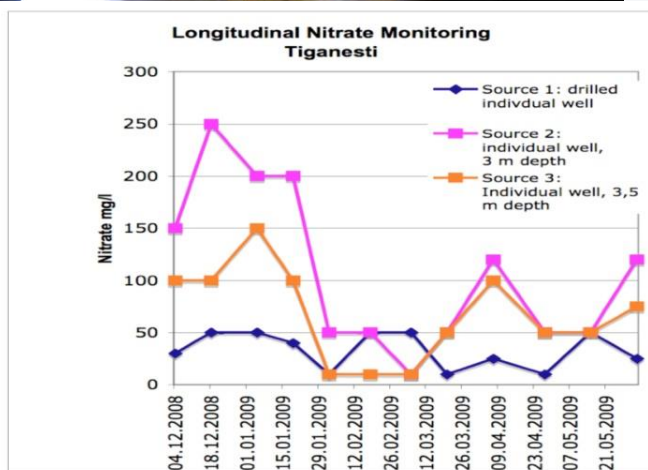


# Monitoring and risk assessment of the drinking water supply with the pupils



# Activities and results

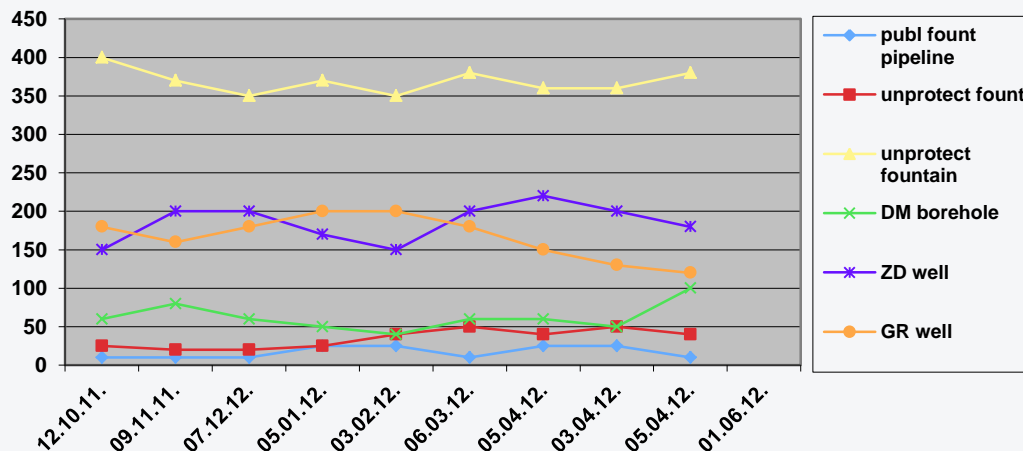
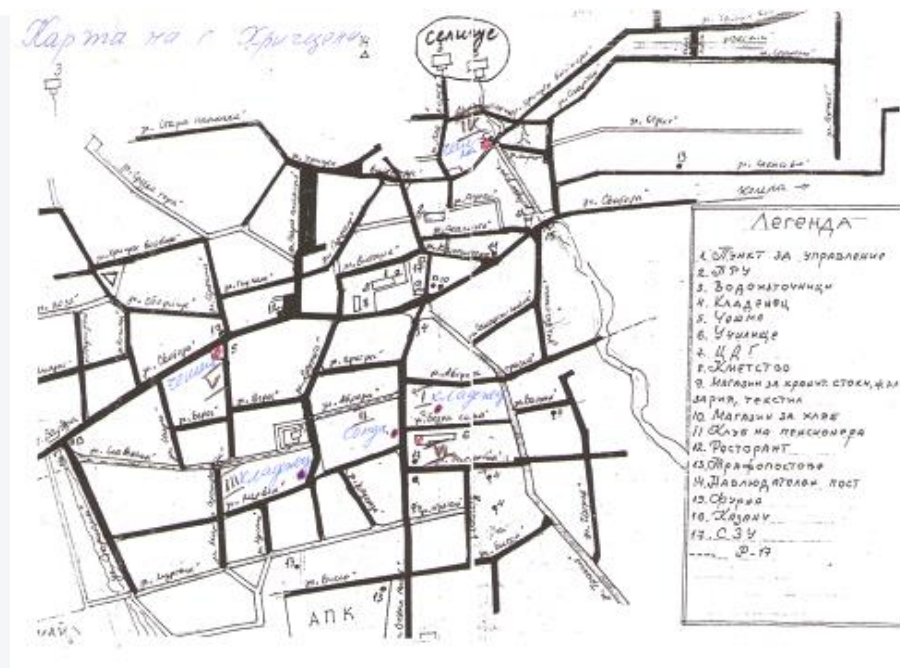
- Testing the water quality (Nitrate, Turbidity, pH)
- Risk Analyses of the quality of the water sources and surroundings
- Cooperation with Authorities and participants
- Informing of the population
- Awareness raising
- Concrete improvements/ planning and actions





# More results

- Local authorities, citizens were informed about nitrate-measurements
- Citizens were informed about water quality, they came with water samples to the pupils“



# Results of the WSSP for the improvement of safety of drinking water resources

Identified main problems

- Uncontrolled deposition of urban waste
- Lack of Wastewater treatment plants
- Leaking distribution network
- Inadequate sanitation

Recommendations which lead to an improved water protection as well as save drinking water quality were formulated:

***On the level of households***

***On the level of the village/community***

***On national level***



# Examples of outcome: Implementation of a new School toilet in Moldova

## *UN “Water for Life - Best Practice Award”*

Pupils became active and found a sponsor for the construction of a new school toilet (Ecosan)



[http://www.wecf.eu/english/articles/2013/03/ormax\\_winning\\_un\\_award.php](http://www.wecf.eu/english/articles/2013/03/ormax_winning_un_award.php)



# Conclusion

- The Compendium is a helpful guideline for small communities and schools to develop and implement concrete action for improved water and sanitation
- The understanding for environmental linkages rises
- Civil society will be strengthened
- Improvement of the communication and the understanding between schools/population and the authorities
- WSSP is a suitable method for an extensive and practical environmental education that can inspire and mobilise schools (WSSP Program becomes a part of the school curriculum)



Thanks for  
your  
attention!



Claudia Wendland

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