

News



Project

WATER CoRe leads to improve water scarcity and drought management policies and instruments in all partner regions.

The duration of the project is three years and it counts with a budget of EUR 2.5 million, financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). WATER CoRe focuses on the exchange of experiences addressed to the identification of problems and the development of best practices for drought management. The 14 partners from 7 EU Member States are committed to exchanging good practices and adapting these to their local or regional conditions.

The overall outcome will be a platform of European wide water management strategies available for everybody.



What's New !

The WATER CoRe project is co-financed by the ERDF and made possible by the INTERREG IVC Programme



Project partners have gathered their experiences and good practices on water scarcity and drought management in the Good Practice Handbook. However, the project partners are conscious that many other interesting projects, documents and experiences exist across Europe. Therefore, WATER CoRe project has compiled a wide range of information on these issues in the Survey, which is available at www.watercore.eu by clicking [WATER CoRe Survey on Water Scarcity and Droughts in Europe](#)

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May 2012 - Issue 8



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● Presidium Meeting and Study Visit in 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands

● WATER CoRe participated in the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille

Hungary: participation and expectations in WATER CoRe project

There are two Hungarian partners in WATER CoRe project: the Ministry of Rural Development (MARD) and the Lower Tisza District Water Directorate (ATIVIZIG).

The Ministry is the central governing body for environment and nature protection and water affairs. The Ministry is responsible for the Department of management, regulation and of environment and nature, and water management and meteorology. Moreover, the Ministry of Interior is responsible for both flood protection and water excess protection. Finally, the Ministry of Interior controls the regional water Directorates based on the 12 sub-basins of Hungary.

The Water Directorate of Lower Tisza District (ATIVIZIG) was created in 1953. Its headquarters are located in the South-East of Hungary. Two big rivers cross this area: the Tisza and the Maros. Both of them ensure enough water during the whole year, although users need to pump water. Floods may last a long period of time, sometimes even one month and a half.

The climate in this area is very often extreme, up to the point that long abundant floods and very serious droughts may be suffered during the same year.

Drinking water in the area is ensured thanks to the richness of ground water resources.

The Water Directorate is a water management body that works in coherence with EU policies and frameworks. Therefore, it is responsible for the following tasks:

- Protection of major flood lines, prevention of reservoirs damage, protection of flooding inlands, building of irrigation supply canals.
- Protection of long-term drinking water bases, water bases operation, water damage prevention, and environment and water quality damage prevention.
- Water Management Board operation.
- Management of the regional side within the National water quantity monitoring network,
- Preparation of the regional water management plans and risk management plans.

Within the WATER CoRe project, ATIVIZIG is interested in exchanging best practices related to the water demand-side management, climate change, drought management, and communication and dissemination. Expectations of ATIVIZIG

regarding the project are both to improve cooperation between EU partner regions and to learn new solutions about water scarcity and drought management.

ATIVIZIG works actively in an area between the River Duna and the River Tisza, in which -by the beginning of the 80's- a very dry period started. The ground water level decreased 2-5 metres. Water scarcity caused problems not only to farmers, but also to the local ecosystem. Therefore, any existing solutions or procedures to cope this situation are of special interest for ATIVIZIG.

Moreover, communication and cooperation between local communities and the government institutes in the field of water management are as well of great interest for ATIVIZIG, who is eager to learn from traditional democratic European countries.

ATIVIZIG is as well involved in scientific research concerning water, and more specifically drought management. As a result of this work, the Pálfaí drought index (PAI) has been created. PAI is a very useful parameter to characterize drought periods in Hungarian basin, but it may be used as well by project partners in the South-East of Europe.

Presidium Meeting and Study Visit in 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands

The Presidium Meeting and Study Visit of the WATER CoRe project took place in the Province of North Brabant from 28th to 30th March 2012. The Study Visit focused on the enhancement of water use efficiency and the exchange of good practices, while the Presidium Meeting discussed the development of the e-learning module.

In the morning of 28th March, participants were welcomed by Mr. Johan van den Hout, Provincial Executive of Ecology and Enforcement. After that, the following good practices related to water scarcity were presented: Regional List of Priorities in using water for agriculture and other economic interest; Deltaplan Dry Rural Areas; new ideas for balancing water supply; and Demand and Treatment of brackish groundwater.

In the afternoon, a study tour was made to Castle Heeswijk. After that, Mr. Bart Pastor, Project Manager for the restoration of the brook system of the Aa, gave a short presentation, which was followed by a field trip.

On 29th March, a study visit was made to a thematic park called "De Efteling": good practices related to the use of sustainable water (project: "Klaterwater"). The project was

introduced by Ms. Dré Castelein, Manager of Corporate Governance of "De Efteling", and Mr. Ivo Südmeier, Manager for Nature and Landscape Architecture. After the presentation, participants enjoyed a guided tour and visit to the water project.

In the afternoon, participants were welcomed by Mr. Ton de Waal, Senior Manager QESH, who explained Coca Cola's business profile as well as the company's water stewardship, whose main goals are to reduce, recycle and replenish water use.

During the Presidium Meeting, partners made significant progress regarding the general management of the project including subjects related to communication and dissemination of the project results. Furthermore, partners were updated on the evolution of the e-learning module, which is the very next achievement of WATER CoRe project and which will enable all European regions to share pioneer experiences and good practices on drought and water scarcity management.

WATER CoRe participated in the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille

The WATER CoRe project participated in the 6th World Water Forum (WWF) held in Marseille last 12-17 March.

The event, whose slogan was "Time for solutions", gathered over 35.000 participants during. High level sessions, a "village of solutions" and a large exhibition area for regions and companies were held in and around the Palais des Congres area.

On Thursday 15th March, WATER CoRe project was presented in a side-event within the WWF. The presentation consisted of an introduction to the project and its main products -good practice handbook, WATER CoRe guide, survey and e-learning- followed by the showcase of specific good practices carried out in The Netherlands, France and Romania.

At the exhibition, information on WATER CoRe project was disseminated at the stands of Hérault region and the Netherlands Water Partnership.

The 6th WWF was characterized by a strong international mobilization of politicians and civil society, both aiming move forward the cause of water. Therefore, the 6th WWF was an excellent scene to increase WATER CoRe's visibility.