

TWINNING INTERIM QUARTERLY REPORT NUMBER 7 DRAFT



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**TWINNING PROJECTS
INTERIM QUARTERLY REPORT**

Project Title: “Capacity Building in the Directorate of Water”

Partners: Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMU)

Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia, Directorate for Water (MAFWD)

Date: . 03. 2008

Signature of BC Project leader

Signature of MS Project leader

Section 1: Project data

Twinning Contract Number	SR2005/IB/EN/01
Project Title:	“Capacity Building in the Directorate of Water”
Twinning Partners (MS and BC)	Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMU) and Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia, Directorate for Water (MAFWD)
Report Number:	7
Period covered by the report:	24 November 2007 to 23 February 2008
Duration of the project:	24 Months
Rapporteur:	Aleksandar Prodanovic, Nikola Marjanovic (MAFWD) and Heinz-Jochen Poremski (BMU)

Section 2: Content

2A – BACKGROUND

Policy Developments

Project Assumptions

This Twinning project purposes to upgrade Serbia's institutional capacity to be able to implement and enforce the guiding principles of the EU's Water Framework Directive and related legislation. The overall objectives of this project are:

- Development of capacity in the WD to implement WFD and relevant water directives.
- Improve the organisation of the WD
- Improve public awareness.
- To upgrade the existing monitoring system up to EIONET standards.
- To strengthen the capacity of Serbian institutions engaged in water monitoring.

In order to achieve these wider objectives, the project will be carried out in 7 Components (besides Component 0: Project Co-ordination):

- Training Plan prepared and under implementation. (Sub-Component 1.1)
- Pilot application of the WFD under implementation. (Sub-Component 1.2)
- Action Plan for legal alignment with the Acquis Communautaire prepared and being implemented.(Sub-Component 1.3)
- Human Resource management Capacity established in water Directorate. (Sub-Component 1.4)
- WFD awareness programme implemented. (Sub-Component 1.5)
- Detailed Strategy for upgrading the water monitoring system prepared (including detailed list of equipment and infrastructure requirements together with a budget and financial plan) and under implementation. (Sub-Component 2.1)
- Inter- and intra-organisation communication procedures and systems implemented. (Sub-Component 2.2)

2B – ACHIEVEMENT OF MANDATORY RESULTS

It is expected that the contents of this Twinning project will contribute substantially to achieving some of the wider objectives of Serbian Water Management and will lead to the following results:

- Training needs identified and prioritized.
- Training Plan including a time schedule for implementation and Training Material prepared and disseminated.
- First training units implemented within the scope of the Twinning project.
- Components of River Basin Management Plan prepared for a Pilot River basin implemented.
- Action Plan and Draft legislation elaborated and agreed in the water administration.
- Human Resource management staff appointed in Water Directorate, HRM procedures in operation.
- Awareness strategy relating to goals, target groups, media and measures including a time schedule elaborated.
- Key messages developed and WFD awareness campaign launched.
- Two events for raising awareness on WFD with stakeholders carried out.
- Strategy document adopted as Conclusions of the Government. Identified upgrading of the monitoring programmes and systems taking place.
- Communication procedures and systems, Standard Operating procedures and Quality Management Systems installed.

Three of the benchmarks above related with the mandatory results have been achieved so far. The works for achieving it are in progress.

2C – ACTIVITIES IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

The following table reveals the current status of activities and benchmarks.

Table 1: Activities completed and benchmarks delivered

Activity	Benchmark	Status
Component 0: Project Coordination		
0.1 Project set-up	RTA offices installed and operable. Relevant contact persons identified and contacted by project month 1	Done
0.2 Kick-off meeting	All project partners informed on the project work plan, time schedule and the further proceedings by project month 2	Done
0.3 Coordination with parallel projects and the International Commission for The Protection of the Danube (ICPDR)	Regular meetings with representatives of parallel projects in the water sector carried out and information disseminated in project month 4, 10, 17	Ongoing
0.4 Wrap-up workshop	Project results summarised and disseminated. Further steps for the harmonisation of the Serbian water sector with EU requirements identified by project month 23	
Component 1: Strengthening the institutional capacity of the Directorate for Water and related institutions		
Sub-Component 1.1: Assessment of institutional capacities and planning of training activities		
Training Plan and Training Material prepared and disseminated.		
1.1.1 Assessment of the institutional structures and review of achieved training by the WD and Hydromet in the field of River Basin Management Planning	Assessment report on the current institutional situation, training status and training needs for WD and Hydromet staff elaborated and agreed by project month 3	Done
1.1.2 Establishment of joint working group with WD and Hydromet	First meeting of the joint working group carried out and meeting schedule fixed by project month 4	Done
1.1.3 Formulation of a training plan	A training plan for the staff of WD and Hydromet (department for hydrology and department for environmental control) is elaborated by project month 5	Done
1.1.4 Preparation of training material	Training material is developed and agreed by project month 3 – 19 parallel to the training sessions in the specific activities	Ongoing
Sub-Component 1.2: Joint elaboration of a RBMP for the pilot small river basin		
Components of River Basin Management Plan prepared for a Pilot River basin.		

1.2.1 Introduction of conceptual issues for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive	3 seminar series for the implementation of River Basin Management Planning (I Characterisation of river basins and programmes of measures, II Monitoring, III GIS and Reporting) held. Relevant staff at the WD and Hydromet trained by project month 14	Ongoing
1.2.2 Characterisation of the river basin district, review of the environmental impact of human activity and economic analysis of water use (Article 5 WFD)	Characterisation of the pilot small river basin according to article 5 of the WFD delivered by project month 12.	Ongoing
1.2.3 Formulation of a monitoring programme of surface water and ground water status according to WFD and Serbian legal requirements in the small river basin.	Monitoring Programme for the pilot small river basin developed and disseminated in the WD and Hydromet and involved institutions by project month 17.	Ongoing
1.2.4. Formulation of the programme of measures (Article 11 WFD) for the RBMP	Programme of measures for the pilot small river basin developed by project month 21.	Ongoing
1.2.5 Mapping out water resources in the pilot river basin with the help of GIS techniques.	RBMP maps according to Annex 7 of the WFD are prepared month 20.	Ongoing
1.2.6 Study tour on surface and groundwater monitoring and the use of GIS	5-day study tour for 10 persons from the WD and Hydromet implemented and potential technical and administrative solutions for Serbian monitoring system identified by the participants in project month 3.	Done
Sub-component 1.3 Developing of action plans for the alignment of legislative, administrative and financial measures in the water sector	Action Plans and Draft legislation elaborated and agreed in the water administration.	
1.3.1 Gap analysis of the existing legal framework in the water sector in Serbia	Gap analysis of the Serbian water legislation with regard to the harmonisation with the <i>acquis communautaire</i> is elaborated by project month 6.	Done
1.3.2 Preparation of the transposition of key directives	Central elements for the transposition of the selected key directives formulated and agreed in the water administration by project month 9.	Ongoing
1.3.3 Upgrading administrative structures for enforcement	An action plan for administrative restructuring of the Serbian water administration according to the harmonisation needs is prepared and disseminated by project month 15.	Ongoing
1.3.4 Development of a financial plan	Support to the elaboration of long-term financial plan for the harmonisation process with the EU is accomplished by project month 19.	Ongoing
Sub-Component 1.4 Human Resources Development	Human Resource management staff appointed in Water Directorate and Hydromet, HRM procedures in operation.	

1.4.1 Restructuring of the administrative units responsible for human resource development	Core team for recruitment, HR development and motivation established and trained in a 1-week seminar on personnel management instruments by project month 4.	Started
1.4.2 Elaboration of a human resource development strategy	A human resources development strategy is elaborated and agreed between the partners by project month 21.	Ongoing
<i>Sub-Component 1.5 Design of a WFD public awareness programme</i>	Awareness programme, Awareness raising materials and events implemented.	
1.5.1 Assessment of obstacles and opportunities for public participation in the implementation of the WFD	Assessment report on public participation elaborated by project month 11.	Ongoing
1.5.2 Design of a multi-level awareness strategy	Awareness strategy relating to specific goals, key target groups, mix of medias and selection of measures including time frame elaborated by project month 13.	Done
1.5.3 Implementation of the public awareness programme	Key messages developed and WFD awareness campaign launched by project month 13. 2 stakeholder seminars with participation of the administrations, industry, NGOs, researchers involved in the water sector held by project month 14 and 20. Interim evaluation of awareness undertaken for a key target group by project month 22.	Ongoing

Component 2: Support for the upgrading of the Water Monitoring system in Serbia	Strategy document adopted as Conclusions of Government. Identified upgrading taking place.	
Sub-Component 2.1 Enhancing monitoring system and laboratory capacity		
2.1.1 Review of the existing monitoring programmes and facilities (measuring stations, i.e. monitoring sites) for surface water, groundwater and hydrological observations, i.e. water level, discharge, sediment transport	Monitoring programme and facilities reviewed and recommendations developed and agreed by project month 3.	Done
2.1.2 Redesign of the monitoring programme and observation network and sampling design for surface water, ground water hydrological observations, i.e. water level, discharge, sediment transport	Monitoring network for monitoring surface and groundwater meeting WFD and Eurowaternet requirements agreed by project month 8.	Ongoing
2.1.3 Technical Implementation plan for enhancing the monitoring system and the monitoring facilities (hardware)	Specifications for the preparation of the tender of the equipment for water monitoring / testing by project month 8.	Ongoing
2.1.4 Training of personnel involved in Water Monitoring	2-week intensive training on monitoring issues for 2 persons from Hydromet in Germany and transfer of specialised know-how on the operation of automated monitoring stations undertaken by project month 9.	
2.1.5 Development of a field handbook of methods for the collection, preservation and transportation of water samples.	Manual for (Serbian) procedures in collection, preservation and transportation of water samples drawn up as draft by project month 16.	Ongoing
2.1.6 Technical implementation plan for enhancing the laboratory equipment and capacity	Hardware needs identified and agreed, cost estimation, investment needs and operating costs identified by project month 12.	Ongoing
2.1.7 Training of laboratory staff in processing/handling of samples and analytical techniques.	Relevant staff at Hydromet trained and training progress evaluated by project month 14.	
Sub-Component 2.2 Enhancing organisational capacity of institutions undertaking water monitoring	Communication procedures and systems, Standard Operating procedures and Quality management Systems installed.	
2.2.1 Assessment of intra- and inter-institutional communication procedures and data management	Existing communication procedures described and gaps analysed by project month 6.	Done
2.2.2 Improvement of communication between the institutions by the elaboration of standard communication /reporting procedures and systems	Recommendations for the improvement of communication procedures formulated and agreed by project month 12.	Ongoing
2.2.3 Quality assurance/control of the documentation of monitoring results and data	Guidance document for quality control system of monitoring results and data developed by project month 19.	Ongoing

Component 1: Strengthening the institutional capacity of the Directorate for Water and related institutions

Sub-Component 1.2: “Implementation of training for the pilot application of River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) issues in a small river basin.”

Missions related to Activity 1.2.2:

Title “Characterisation of the river basin district, review of the environmental impact of human activity and economic analysis of water use (Article 5 WFD)”

For the elaboration/formulation of the “Characterisation Report” of the Kolubara river basin according Article 5 of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) the results of the report presented by the finalised SAVA CARDS Project “Pilot River Basin Plan for Sava River Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro” will be used as baseline. This project was carried out as a trilateral project between the countries of Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia). For several reasons (not related with this project) an English version of this report was only available since the end of November 2007. The compiled results were reviewed by the short term experts Mr. Simon Henneberg and Andreas Mühlberg who carried out corresponding short term missions to Serbia (the mission of Mr. Mühlberg took place from 04.02.2008 to 08.02.2008, the mission of STE Henneberg took place from 18.02.-22.02.2008).

Mr. Mühlberg reviewed the section comprising the economic analysis of the SAVA CARDS report “Pilot River Basin Plan for Sava River Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro” and delineated suggestions for the formulation of the upcoming Characterisation Report of this twinning project. A meeting was held with the authors (Directorate for Water and Institute Jaroslav Cerni) in order to organize the next workings steps and to discuss mutually the findings and recommendations. Mr. Henneberg reviewed the section comprising the elements of description of the river basin, surface water characterization, body delineation as well as the presented pressures and impact analysis. A meeting was held with part of the staff which coordinated the formulation of the final SAVA CARDS report (Directorate for Water and Institute Jaroslav Cerni) in order to organize the next workings steps and to discuss mutually the findings and recommendations. Both experts produced corresponding reports with observations.

The review of the groundwater section was already done in conjunction with the works carried out under Activity 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 at an earlier stage as the groundwater body delineation had to be modified to match European Directives requirements.

Duration: 10 days

Participants: 2 STEs (Mr. A. Mühlberg, Mr. S. Henneberg), RTA 2 Mr. C.Ebel, RTA, Staff of Institute Jaroslav Cerni, Staff of the Water Directorate.

Missions related to Activity 1.2.4:

Title "Formulation of the programme of measures (Art. 11 WFD) for the RBMP"

Three missions took place under this activity by the German groundwater STEs. The missions were used to prepare the first steps for the programme of measures. Here also the SAVA CARDS project report describing the Kolubara Basin was used as baseline and starting point for the necessary works. The missions of Mr. Domroese took place between 21.01-25.01.2008 and 04.02.-08.02.2008; the mission of Mr Neumann was scheduled between 21.02.-25.02.2008.

The missions of the groundwater experts under this activity were synchronized with the ongoing works of the formulation of the new strategy for groundwater monitoring under Activity 2.1.2.

Duration: 15 days

Participants: 2 STEs (Mr. J. Domroese, Mr. P. Neumann), RTA C. Ebel, RTA, staff of Institute Jaroslav Cerni, staff of the Institute of the Geological Service of Serbia, staff of Hydromet)

Sub-Component 1.3: "Developing of action plans for the alignment of legislative, administrative and financial measures in the water sector"

Mission related to Activity 1.3.2:

Title: „Preparation of the transposition of key directives"

Mr Gabor Spuller analysed the compliance with EC regulations of the water law and the draft regulation concerning the implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD). Concerning some aspects of the very important effluent limit values one aspect related to the draft of the new water law is to underline: Companies and other legal persons that discharge wastewater directly into the recipients have duty to provide wastewater treatment to the level which corresponds to emission limit values or to the level which could be reached by best available techniques (combined approach cf. WFD). The table of compliance will be finalized in April 2008 during next mission of Dr. Spuller.

Mr Matthias Löw continued the analysis of the gaps between the current Serbian Water Law and the "Directive 2007/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks". The mission aimed also at investigating the specific conditions of Serbia under which the EU-Floods Directive has to be implemented. Particular emphasis was laid on the flood topic in the autonomous province of Vojvodina. For this purpose, a workshop was held on January 29, 2008, in Novi Sad after the regular meeting of the Joint Working Group. Participants were representatives of the Public Water Management Company "Vode Vojvodina" in Novi Sad. The participant list of this workshop is attached as Annex. The workshop was completed with a visit of dykes in the town of Žabalj at the Tisa River where important parts of the dykes were already reconstructed. Other parts of the dykes are about to be restored in 2008, according to the plans of Public Water Management Company "Vode Vojvodina". One important perception was that flooding in Serbia is characterised by the fact that about 95 % of the surface waters are transboundary waters with a high rate of inflow into the Vojvodina area and a relatively low discharge capacity. Additional part of the flood problem is the occurrence of inland waters, i. e. not or extremely slow discharging precipitation water that accumulates in dips on land surfaces. The current situation got worse through insufficient maintenance of drainage facilities in former wetland areas in the years after 1980. Although recovering has started in the last years, there is still need for enhanced investments.

In addition Mr Thomas Gerstmann worked in the field of the Council Directive 98/83/EC concerning Drinking Water, and the EC Bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC). Since the Serbian Directorate for Water is not responsible for these Directives the Twinning team co-operated closely with the Public Health Institute of Serbia and its Director, Mrs Tanja Knežević.

Duration: 15 days

Participants: 3 STE (Dr. Spuller, Mr. Löw, Mr. Gerstmann), Water Directorate, Vode Vojvodina, Serbian Public Health Institute, RTA 1 Mr. Heuberger

Mission related to Activity 1.3.3:

Title: „Upgrading administrative structures for enforcement”

Mr. Kessler and Mr. Hotopp prepared the detailed structures for the Serbian water management administration and discussed them with the Water Director. He commented the draft and the STEs are now elaborating the detailed action plan for upgrading the enforcement structures. On January 25th twinning team accompanied by short-term experts met Mr. Dušan Pajkić, the vice minister of Ministry of Environment responsible for protection of natural resources, and his coworker Mrs. Dušanka Stanojević. The information was exchanged on several topics including division of competences in the water sector among different ministries. In addition, the twinning team visited the new director of RHMZ, Mr. Dacić. The goal of the meeting was to highlight the so far reached achievements and problems. This established the grounds for continued target oriented cooperation.

On February 12th 2008 Mr. Kessler presented the licensing procedure for water permits in Germany and answered many upcoming questions. The participants list from the meeting is given as annex.

Duration: 8 days

Participants: 2 STE (Mr. Kessler, Mr. Hotopp), Water Directorate, RTA 1 Mr. Heuberger

Mission related to Activity 1.3.4:

Title: „Development of a Financial Plan”

Mrs. Stoff-Isenberg and Mr. Diehl support the elaboration of a financial action plan according to the harmonisation needs with the EU *acquis communautaire* in the water sector. The basis for the financial plan is the definition of strategic goals for the reform of the water sector in Serbia. Therefore the current situation of water management in the Republic of Serbia is assessed jointly by the German and Serbian partners. Based on the results of the assessment, the goals are defined that should be attained within five years in order to improve the situation concerning drinking water supply, groundwater and surface water quality. Moreover the German experts provide a list of long-term goals in order to solve the immediate problems and consult their Serbian counterparts about it. The planning horizon should cover a period of 20 years. The social and economic conditions of Serbia shall be taken into account. The financial action plan takes the action plans for legal harmonization and upgrading of enforcement structures into account and fixes the necessary investments, fixed costs (human resources and additional expenses), budgets and shares in budgets as well as possible revenues (water or licensing fees). The financial action plan covers a mid-

term planning period of 5 years as well as a long-term period of 20 years. Based on the available data a first draft for financial plan will be elaborated. Due to the fact that the available data for financial planning is very limited the report summarises the available data and proposes measures to build up a solid data base and financial planning. The financial impacts of the most important issues for Serbia water management are taken under consideration in the report.

Sub-Component 1.4: “Human resources development”

Mission related to Activity 1.4.1:

Title: „Restructuring of the administrative units responsible for human resource development”

Finally the intensive efforts referring to the building of a human resource core team were successful. On 14 February 2008 the constitutive meeting took place. Invited were all the heads of the departments in the Water Directorate and representatives from Hydromet, Srbijavode and Vode Vojvodina. The participants list is attached as Annex.

The discussion during the meeting showed the given problems with the human resource development in the Serbian Water Directorate. There are restrictive job descriptions. The budget is limited as well as the number of employees. Only a central unit of the ministry is in charge of the staff in the Water Directorate instead of having a human resource management of its own. The employees probably won't have a positive approach to the instruments of the human resource development. First steps should focus on strengthening the acceptance for a modern human resource development. All in all the options for a successful implementation of a human resource development strategy for the Water Directorate are limited. The delay in this activity causes a prolongation of the project.

Mission related to Activity 1.4.2:

Title: „Elaboration of a human resource development strategy”

3 short-term experts continued on the elaboration of a human resource development strategy. They attended the constitutive meeting of the Core team and presented the cornerstones of the intended strategy. The strategy won't be finalized before end of June. Also for this activity an extension of the project is necessary.

Duration: 13 days

Participants: 3 STE (Mr. Kessler, Ms. Dahrendorf, Ms. Keller), Water Directorate, RHMZ, RTA 1 Mr. Heuberger

Sub-Component 1.5: “Design of a WFD public awareness programme”

Mission related to Activity 1.5.3:

Title: „Implementation of the public awareness programme”

Mr. Udo Sittig evaluated the questionnaire for evaluation of the awareness for WFD that took place in the summertime 2007. 239 citizens of Serbia participated in the opinion poll. For this research an IT-program was developed which allows the evaluation of the data under various aspects and different criteria as there were question related lists, lists oriented to the education or the age of the participants, lists of free text answers and a list containing a comprehensive overview. The results of the evaluation are attached as Annex. An assessment will be given after the repeat of the questionnaire at the end of the project.

Duration: 5 days

Participants: 1 STE (Mr. Sittig), Water Directorate, RTA 1 Mr. Heuberger

Sub-Component 2.1: “Enhancing monitoring system laboratory capacity”

Missions related to Activity 2.1.2:

Title: “Redesign of the monitoring programme and observation network and sampling design for surface water, groundwater, hydrological observations, i.e. water level, discharge, sediment transport.”

The works for the delineation of the groundwater water monitoring strategy started with the mission of STE G. Berthold 21.02-25.02.2008. The German and Serbian experts elaborated a first proposal describing the general approach. It was agreed to finalize the works on the new groundwater monitoring strategy until the end of March 2008. The working approach of the groundwater strategy is visualized in figure 1 of this report.

The elaborated strategy will be adapted by the Serbian colleagues in order to formulate the concrete monitoring programme in the pilot basin of the Kolubara basin. The monitoring programme of the Kolubara basin as benchmark of the Activity 1.2.4 “*Formulation of a*

“monitoring programme for groundwater (for the Kolubara basin)” is one element of the draft of the RBMP report. This report is to be developed under Subcomponent 1.2.

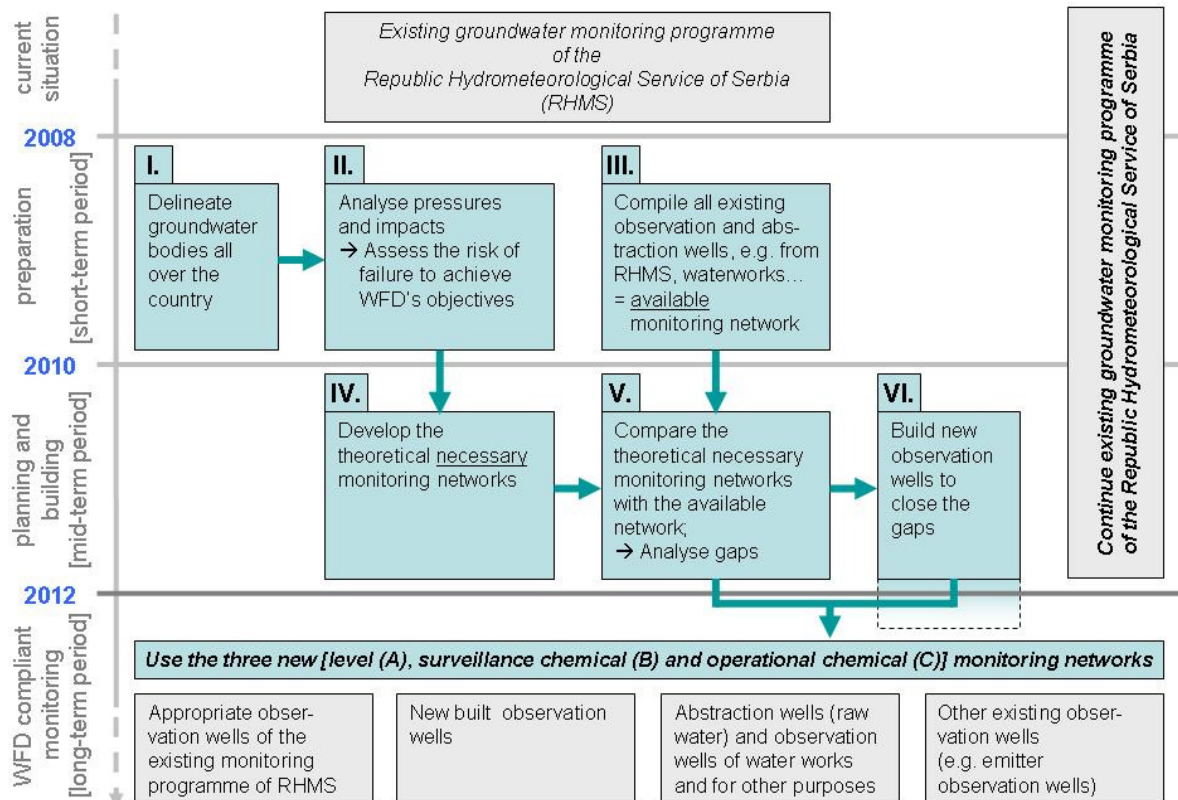


Figure 1: Approach for the amendments of the existing national monitoring programmes of ground waters in Serbia

The works on the new groundwater monitoring strategy water will be finalised at the end of March 2008.

Duration: 5 days

Participants: 1 STEs (Mr. G. Berthold RTA C. Ebel, Hydromet, staff of Institute Jaroslav Cerni, staff of the Directorate for Water, staff of the Institute of the Geological Service of Serbia, STEs mentioned under Activity 1.2.4).

Missions related to Activity 2.1.3:

Title: “Technical implementation plan for enhancing the monitoring system and the monitoring facilities (hardware).”

Under this activity the mission of STE Mr. Lechelt between 11.02.-15.02.2008 took place. Within this mission Mr. Lechelt completed the document with groundwater related specifications and elaborated a document comprising quality assurance aspects of collected monitoring data when using automated monitoring stations. The contents of the document is the link between this activity and the activity 2.2.3 which deals specifically with quality assurance issue concerning monitoring data. It is expected to finalize the works under this activity within his next mission until the end of March 2008. The benchmark is nearly reached. Part of the final document is currently being translated into Serbian.

Participants: 1 STE (STE M. Lechelt, staff of Hydromet, RTA C. Ebel)

Missions related to Activity 2.1.5:

Title: "Development of a field handbook of methods for the collection, preservation and transportation of water samples."

Mr Nuber completed the handbook (2 missions between 21.01-25.01.08 and 04.02.-08.02.2008) the draft of the "Field Handbook of Methods for the Collection, Preservation and Transportation of Water Samples". The handbook describes elements of the sampling procedure/process, the logistics, its requirements and necessary modifications. This approach was chosen since the international and national standards for sampling water and sediments are well known by the Serbian partners.

The elaborated final document is translated and was sent to the Serbian partners and is currently being agreed by the Serbian partners. An agreement is expected until the end of March 2008.

Duration: 10 days.

Participants: 1 STE (STE Mr. T. Nuber, RTA C. Ebel, staff of Hydromet).

2D – TIMING AND DELAYS

Table 2: Time schedule of the project

Project Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Component 0: Project Coordination																									
0.1 Project set-up	x																								
0.2 Kick-off meeting		x																							
0.3 Coordination with other projects and the ICPDR	o																								
0.4 Wrap-up workshop																									
Component 1: Strengthening the institutional capacity of the Directorate for Water and related institutions																									
Sub-component 1.1: Assessment of institutional capacities and planning of training activities																									
Activity 1.1.1: Assessment of the institutional structures and review of achieved training by the WD and Hydromet in the field of River Basin Management Planning				x																					
Activity 1.1.2: Establishment of joint working group with WD and Hydromet					x																				
Activity 1.1.3: Formulation of a training plan												x													
Activity 1.1.4: Preparation of training materials												o													
Sub-component 1.2: Implementation of training for the pilot application of RBMP issues																									
Activity 1.2.1: Introduction of conceptual issues for the implementation of the WFD											o														

Table 2 (cont.): Time schedule of the project

Project Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Activity 1.2.2: Characterisation of the river basin district, review of the environmental impact of human activity and economic analysis of water use										O														
Activity 1.2.3: Formulation of a monitoring programme of surface water and ground water status according to WFD and Serbian legal requirements in the small river basin										O														
Activity 1.2.4: Formulation of the programme of measures (Art. 11 WFD) for the RBMP										O														
Activity 1.2.5: Mapping out water resources in the pilot river basin with the help of GIS techniques									O															
Activity 1.2.6: Study tour on surface and groundwater monitoring and the use of GIS and						X																		
Sub-component 1.3: Development of action plans for the alignment of legislative, administrative and financial measures in the water sector																								
Activity 1.3.1: Gap analysis of the existing legal framework in the water sector in Serbia												X												

cont. Table 2: Time schedule of the project

Project Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Activity 1.3.2: Preparation of the transposition of the UWWTD and Nitrates Directives										○														
Activity 1.3.3: Upgrading administrative structures for enforcement										○														
Activity 1.3.4: Development of a financial plan										○														
Sub-component 1.4: Human resources development																								
Activity 1.4.1: Restructuring of the administrative units responsible for human resource development																					○			
Activity 1.4.2: Elaboration of a human resource development strategy														○										
Sub-component 1.5: Design of a WFD public awareness programme																								
Activity 1.5.1: Assessment of obstacles and opportunities for public participation in the implementation of the WFD						○																		
Activity 1.5.2: Design of a multi-level awareness strategy														x										
Activity 1.5.3: Implementation of the public awareness programme															○									

cont. Table 2: Time schedule of the project

Project Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Component 2: Support for the upgrading of the water monitoring system in Serbia																									
Sub-component 2.1: Enhancing monitoring system and laboratory capacity																									
Activity 2.1.1: Review of the existing monitoring programmes and facilities (measuring stations, i.e. monitoring sites) for surface water, groundwater and hydrological observations, i.e. water level.											X														
Activity 2.1.2: Redesign of the monitoring programme and observation network and sampling design for surface water, ground water and hydrological observations, i.e. water level.				O																					
Activity 2.1.3: Technical implementation plan for enhancing the monitoring system and the monitoring facilities (hardware)				O																					
Activity 2.1.4: Training of personnel involved in water monitoring																									
Activity 2.1.5: Development of a field handbook of methods for the collection, preservation and transportation of water samples.												O													
Activity 2.1.6: Technical implementation plan for enhancing the laboratory equipment and capacity				O																					

cont. Table 2: Time schedule of the project

Project Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Activity 2.1.7: Training of laboratory staff in processing / handling of samples and analytical techniques																								
Sub-component 2.2: Enhancing organisational capacity of institutions undertaking water monitoring																								
Activity 2.2.1: Assessment of intra- and inter-institutional communication procedures and data management								X																
Activity 2.2.2: Improvement of communication between the institutions by the elaboration of standard communication /reporting procedures and systems										O														
Activity 2.2.3: Quality assurance/control of the documentation of monitoring results and data																		O						

Legend of the table:

- tick box x = activity accomplished,
- tick box mission O = activity started and ongoing,
- grey tick box = activity planned,
- black tick box = delay of activities of exceeding 3 months

Recuperation of delays

Delays in activity 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3 and 1.2.4

“Formulation of the characterisation report, monitoring programme and programme of measures”

The work under this activity has started in this reported quarter. The works comprising the characterization and monitoring programmes are under way. The reaching of the benchmark is uncertain, since the necessary works under the given understaffed situation of the Directorate for Water might not allow the full achievement of the benchmark in the regular project period. For reaching the benchmarks an extension of 3 months of the project is proposed. The Serbian partners promised to organise the necessary works carried out by the institutions and expertise appropriately. If necessary, works will be outsourced by the Serbian partners contracting suitable assistance.

Delays in activities 1.3.2

“Preparation of the transposition of key directives”

With regard to activity 1.3.2 the flood water Directive was very late selected for the preparation of transposition into national legislation in Serbia. That is why the relevant expert couldn't be involved into the project in time and the delay was given.

Delays in activities 1.3.3

“Upgrading administrative structures for enforcement”

German experts involved in activity 1.3.3 wanted to discuss the possible new administrative structure for the water management in Serbia with the Serbian Water Director to receive agreement in an early stage of the work. Due to the change of the Serbian Water Director it was not possible to carry out this discussion before end of January. Now the experts are eager to elaborate the report that is expected for April 2008.

Delays in activity 1.4.1

“Restructuring of the administrative units responsible for human resource development”

The core team is identified and now the work for the achievement of the results will start.

Delays in activity 1.5.1

“Assessment of obstacles and opportunities for public participation in the implementation of the WFD”

Meanwhile the report is finalised and submitted to the EAR. This activity is done.

Delays in Activity 2.1.1

”Review of the existing monitoring programmes and facilities”

The review of the existing monitoring programmes and facilities of activity and recommendations benchmark concerning necessary works for reformulating the groundwater and surface water monitoring programme are approved and were merged in a common document. Final presentation will be done together with the benchmark document of activity 2.1.2. The reaching of the benchmark is not endangered.

Delays in Activity 2.1.2

”Redesign of the monitoring programme and observation network and sampling design for surface water”

The activity is delayed since the baseline material for groundwater had to be produced before the “Strategy for the Redesign of the Groundwater Monitoring Programmes in Serbia” can be reformulated. The work on the “Strategy for the Redesign of the Surface Water Quality Monitoring Programmes in Serbia is finalized.

The works for on the new groundwater monitoring strategy are 80% done. The monitoring programme of the Kolubara river basin (see activity 1.2.3) is being done using the in Serbian working copy of the draft of the strategy. The works concerning the elaboration of the “Strategy for the Redesign of the Groundwater Water Monitoring Programmes” in Serbia will be finalized by the end of March 2008. The reaching of the benchmark is not endangered.

Delay in Activity 2.1.3

”Technical Implementation plan for enhancing the monitoring system and the monitoring facilities”

The works will be finalized by the end of March 2008.

Delays in Activity 2.1.4

”Training of personnel involved in water monitoring”

It was agreed on the last steering committee meeting that the training of the Serbian staff could take place in Serbia. With the help of the City of Hamburg and the German Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety a hydrological observation station on the Kolubara Basin in Beli Brod will be equipped with automated monitoring

equipment provided by the German partners. This station will be used for the training of the Serbian colleagues by the German STE. The training could take place as soon as the station can be equipped. This depends from the water level which has to reach a low level in the spring time.

Delays in Activity 2.1.5

“Development of a field handbook of methods for the collection, preservation and transportation of water samples”

The draft of the handbooks is available and it was sent for final commenting to the Serbian partners. The comments of the Serbian partners will be included by the Twinning office in the course of March 2008.

Delays in Activity 2.1.6

“Technical implementation plan for enhancing the laboratory equipment and capacity”

The final works are still pending (1 STE mission required) since the closing of this activity depends from the findings under activity 2.1.1 which is expected to end by the end of April 2008”.

Delays in Activity 2.1.7

“Training of laboratory staff processing/handling of samples and analytical techniques”

One seminar will be given until the end of the March. The limited availability of specialised German experts and the expressed wish of Serbian partners (Hydromet) to continue with the analytical training not earlier than March 2008 was respected. The laboratory of Hydromet was very busy until March due to internal tasks of accreditation works of their central lab.

The analytic training seminar comprising fingerprint oil spill detection can only be held at the beginning of July, since the capacity of the Federal Maritime Agenda in German is only available during this period. This underlines the necessity of the prolongation of the project.

Delays in Activity 2.2.2

“Improve communication between the institutions by the elaboration of standard communication/reporting procedure and systems”

The finalized report is in hand of the Serbian partners at the Water Directorate for commenting and finalization. The Benchmark will be reached and is not endangered.

2E ASSESSMENT

Overall assessment of progress

In spite of the Christmas time 103 expert days were realized during the reporting period. Obviously, it won't be possible to equalise the delays resulting from the first project months within the foreseen 24 months. The twinning team agreed to apply for an extension of the project for another 3 months. For the successful finalisation of the project the extension is essential and indispensable.

Referring to Component 1 the preparing of some training materials (1.1.4) are still pending. The activities 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.3.4, 1.4.1, 1.4.2 and 1.5.3 are on the way. The final report on Activity 1.5.1 will be submitted during March. All the resting activities are done.

Concerning Component 2 the benchmark documents for the activities 2.1.2, 2.1.5, 2.2.1, and 2.2.2 are produced and awaiting formal approval. The documents and works related to the benchmark of the activities 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.3 and 2.1.6 are under way.

The training of the laboratory staff (see activity 2.1.7) and the monitoring personnel with operating automated stations (2.1.4) can realistically only be provided if the project is extended by three months. This relates to the availability of the German experts for instrumental analytical equipment and the fact that the monitoring station in Serbia needs to be equipped prior to the training to take place.

The provision of sound parts of River Basin Management Plan by the Serbian partners (Activities 1.2.2, 1.2.3 and 1.2.4) seems not to be realistic in the remaining project quarter if the project is not extended.

On 13th of December 2007 the 6th Steering Committee Meeting took place. The minutes of this meeting are attached in the Annexes.

The Joint Working Group held their 9th meeting on 29th of January 2008 in the building of the Vode Vojvodina Company.

The project partners would like to express their gratitude to all the involved colleagues and contributors. It is also to express that they are well aware of the fact that the Serbian partners are burdened with heavy workload due to understaffing and are doing their best in this project under the given circumstances.

2F ANNEXES

List of annexes

Aid memoire of meeting with Serbian Vice-Minister for the Environment
Participants list of the flood protection workshop in Novi Sad
Participants list of the meeting concerning permitting procedures
Participants list of HR core team
Evaluation report on opinion pool
Minutes from the 9th meeting of Joint Working Group
Minutes of 6th Steering Committee Meeting
Quarterly Financial Report