



REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
for Sumadija and Pomoravlje



# **Access to water and sanitation for all as priority for regional policy development**



# Content of the presentation

- About the Regional Economic Development Agency for Šumadija and Pomoravlje
- REDASP contribution to implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health
- The equitable access score card in Serbia – the role of REDASP



# History, founders

- REDASP was founded and started activities in **2002**.
- Non-profit Ltd, Public-private partnership
- Founders:
  - *11 units of local government*
  - *Regional Chamber of Commerce*
  - *2 associations of entrepreneurs*
  - *CSO*
- REDASP is an accredited regional development agency  
– part of the system for support of regional development



# Territory scope

- **Two districts** – Šumadija and Pomoravlje
- **Two cities**, urban and administrative centers of the districts: Kragujevac, Jagodina
- **11 municipalities** – local self-governments
  
- Area - **5001km<sup>2</sup>**
- Population – **560.000 inhabitants**





# Basic principles

- Management of equal territorial development through enhancement of partnerships of relevant stakeholders on local, national and international level
- Starting point and Basis for work:
  - Regional sustainable development strategy
  - Three-annual operational action plan
  - Annual action plans based on implementation of priority projects



## Best practice of inter-municipal and cross-sector cooperation

- Project ***“Integrated water management system in Pomoravlje District”***
- the project coordinated by REDASP;
- investment of 36 million EUR



## Why is the Protocol on Water and Health important for us?

- **Access to water and sanitation** - precondition for sustainable and equal regional development
- Access to water and its quality - a precondition of numerous production processes, thereby opening the possibility of a significant influx of investment to the territory
- Access to the regulated and controlled systems of waste water treatment increases investors' interest in a territory
- Access to drinking water and sanitation is precondition to general health of population, which contributes to its ability to work and productivity



## REDASP contribution to implementation of Protocol on Water and Health

- Cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection and REDASP started in 2013 with several joint initiatives
- *June 2015* - REDASP became a member of the Joint Committee for Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health
- *July 2015* – completed and agreed upon the proposal of the project “ Situation analysis and access to healthy drinking water to schoolchildren in rural areas of Sumadija and Pomoravlje” – project approved, contracted and implementation started on 01.02.2016.





## REDASP contribution to implementation of Protocol on Water and Health

- Active participation in the monitoring and reporting of the Action Plan for the realization of national objectives for the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health
- Conducted a survey on activities implemented in 2015 on the whole territory (13 local governments and 13 public utility companies). The results of the survey indicate the situation on the ground
- REDASP - the partner of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection and of the Joint Committee in organizing two local WHO workshop with the aim to promote the Protocol and to obtain information about the situation on the ground; Participation in the final national WHO workshop



# The equitable access score card in Serbia – the role of REDASP

## WHY REDASP?

- Integration with the territory, good knowledge of local conditions - the possibility of effective adjusting to local competencies, opportunities and limitations - "self-assessment"
- Already established and continuous communication with national and local stakeholders of all three sectors (public, private, civil)
- Experience in setting up the organizational structure for implementation of "score-card" analysis (REDASP team for communication with relevant stakeholders, external experts, the network of stakeholders)



# The equitable access score card in Serbia – the role of REDASP

## WHY REDASP?

- Wide participation integrated into our operational work
- Experience in organizing workshops
- "Territorial partnership" of stakeholders is the starting mechanism in the implementation of all our projects
- Because we know how to create an effective optimization of resources - time, people, finances
- Capacity to achieve defined targets
- Ability to influence decision-makers and the public water policy at local and national levels
- Involvement of REDASP is a guarantee for sustainability of the initiated process

# The equitable access score card in Serbia – the role of REDASP

What will we insist on during implementation of the "score-card" analysis:

- Raising awareness of public and of relevant stakeholders about the importance of the Protocol on Water and Health
- Promotion of access to public drinking water and sanitation as part of basic human rights
- Identifying the status of and barriers to vulnerable and marginalized groups
- Geographical disparities, gaps between urban and rural areas
- Use the results to track progress (not to compare with others )



# The equitable access score card in Serbia – the role of REDASP

## Challenges

- Activate the end users of drinking water and sanitation services
- Access to civil society (not enough organised nor active at the local level)
- Access to relevant data relating to vulnerable and marginalized groups
- Access to data relating to homeless people, users of public facilities (prisons, public spas and toilets, refugee camps, people living in unsanitary facilities)
- Expertise to analyze the collected data (necessary engagement of external national experts)
- Setting realistic goals for improvement of the existing condition



## Next steps

***Sustainability of the process through  
monitoring of achieving the set targets at  
local and national level***



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!!!**

***Mrs. Jasminka Luković Jagličić***