

Public involvement in the process of setting targets

Workshop on collecting good practices
on target setting and reporting
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Case summary

-limited response from the public-

- * Romania – National Report 2010 and 2013 (art. 6 and 7 of the Protocol)
- * Process of setting targets - through implementation of EU Directives – contribution to implementation of Protocol
- * Public involvement and dissemination of information:
 - a process based on other consultation processes
 - a process subject to public consultation under Protocol
- * Consultation on official sites of DWFF and NAAR and its branches – limited feedback
- * Possible reason: public involvement in other consultation processes related to water/health/environment

Why is it a good practice?

- * Successful implementation of the Protocol
- * Collaboration and participation of all parties needed
- * Ensuring broad coverage and involvement
- * Local/county authorities – a key role in developing projects/measures in water and sanitation infrastructure
- * Local trainings (project) on water aspects and water related diseases

Overcoming challenges

- * *What were the main barriers/challenges?*
 - Human and financial resources for activities
 - Limited interest of public
- * *How were they overcome?*
 - Using the existing platforms, structures, tools
 - Regular information exchange, shared document
 - Building partnership between different authorities and local communities
 - Focusing on the specific target groups
 - Cooperation and support of professional associations
 - National water authorities and public involvement

Success factors and lessons learned

- * Outcomes of other consultation processes
- * Relying on consultative body on water management
- * Cooperation with professional association – added value to the process – Romanian Water Association
- * Specific trainings for conducting activities on pp
- * Appropriate management of pp process
- * PP process and publications developed under Protocol, close cooperation with NGOs
- * Public participation - the earliest stages of setting targets process

How to replicate this practice

- * Regular contacts during the process: decision-makers and key stakeholders, NGOs and civil society
- * Result: a proper consultation process
- * Meetings with local communities – responses to their concerns
- * Non-technical languages needed, sharing information
- * Communication channels open to public
- * Cross sectoral cooperation - important and challenging.