

Development concepts for the water sector in rural communities in Romania



The municipality Văliug urgently needs a modern water catchment system (Photo: COPLAN AG)

Background

In Romania, efforts to develop water management infrastructure have been concentrated mainly on large cities and their surrounding areas - with the result that disparities between urban agglomerations and rural areas in the quality of water supply and waste water disposal are growing.

The development of water management infrastructure adapted to local conditions in rural areas is an essential prerequisite for the long-term sustainable development of these areas. Water supply and waste water disposal systems must therefore be expanded and/or technically upgraded to sufficient standards.

This project was prompted by the finding that many relatively sparsely populated regions of Romania with attractive landscapes often lack the infrastructure they need to develop along sustainable and environmentally sound lines.

Furthermore, as member of the European Union, Romania is obliged to implement Directive 91/271/EEC on urban waste water treatment and Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption.

Project

The aim of the project was to lay the foundations for the planning of water management infrastructure projects in close cooperation with the Romanian local authorities in the project area. To safeguard the particular attractiveness of the area, it was necessary to take environmental and nature conservation concerns in particular into account in water management planning. In addition, advice was given as to potential sources of funding for the various projects.

For the municipalities Tomești, Pietroasa and Fârdea in the county Timiș and Brebu Nou und Văliug in the county Caraș-Severin in western Romania, site-adapted proposals were developed as examples of how water supply and waste water disposal can be improved as well as for water and flood protection, and recommendations were given for actions to implement them. For each municipality, the proposals and recommendations were summarized in a municipal development concept for the water sector and translated into Romanian.

- Target country: Counties Timiș and Caraș-Severin
- Duration: 11/2010 – 12/2011
- Beneficiaries: Municipal decision-makers, administrative district offices, in particular mayors and local councils of the municipalities Brebu Nou, Fârdea, Pietroasa, Tomești and Văliug
- Implementing organisations: COPLAN AG, COPLAN CAI SRL
- Project number: FKZ 380 01 260