



PROJECT INFORMATION

Integrated water and sanitation safety plans in small systems in Republic of Moldova and Bosnia and Herzegovina

Updated: May 2026



Small water supply in Tornjoš village

Source: The Institutes of Public Health of Kikinda and Serbia

Background

The provision of safe drinking water and sanitation services to the public requires the use of risk assessment and management frameworks e.g. Water Safety Plans and Sanitation Safety Plans. An integrated water and sanitation safety plan (iWSSP) is a practical approach which was piloted in the project “Integrated water and sanitation safety plans in small supplies in Serbia”. In Europe, rural and underserved communities have less access to safe sanitation than to safe drinking water. Both the Republic of Moldova and Bosnia and Herzegovina are facing similar challenges. Implementing iWSSP in both countries is expected to deliver lasting benefits to the communities and stakeholders regarding safe drinking water and sanitation.

Project details

The project's goal is to have an advanced safe water and sanitation service provision in selected small supplies in rural areas in the Republic of Moldova and Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is done by implementing iWSSP at pilot sites in both countries. It is important to build the capacity of safe water supply and sanitation services at local community and national level. This is accomplished by providing training workshops and in-depth support during implementation. This will identify public health risks associated to water and sanitation systems. Based on project outputs (knowledge and tools), local communities, water suppliers, sanitation service providers and public health institutes at regional and national level are able to scale the approach up to additional rural communities and decision-making authorities. This will ultimately sustain good water and sanitation safety, including added benefits to the environment and population health in both countries.

Project countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Moldova

Duration: 09/2025 – 01/2028

Beneficiaries: National Agency for Public Health (Republic of Moldova), Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations & Institute of Public Health (Bosnia and Herzegovina), pilot sites' communities, water suppliers and sanitation providers

Implementing organisation: Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)

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Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP)

for environmental protection in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and other countries neighbouring the European Union – a programme of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

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