Selective list of LIFE projects

Urban water management

SWITCH Conference, 24-26 January 2011, Paris

These projects have been awarded "Best"

Find more information on http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm

LIFE00 ENV/IT/000080	2001-2004	EU contribution: 469 374 €

'IMOS - Integrated Multi-Objective System for optimal management of urban drainage' (IT)

Objectives: The project uses real time multi-sensors (rain gauges, flowmeters, turbidity monitors, low cost meteorological radar), modelling activities (rain field forecasts and network modelling) and upgrades to infrastructure (sluice gates, pumping stations, volume rehabilitation, new SCADA system), to achieve the integrated multi-objective management of the drainage system in the urban environment of Genoa.

Forecast results were:

- Under ordinary conditions, an increased capability for treating first flush flows, controlling the pollution load to treatment plants and, consequently, safeguarding water bodies receiving wastewater;
- In emergencies, the now-casting of critical flows and their control (attenuation of flow peaks), through by-passes and temporary storage by water volumes.

Keywords: integrated management\ drainage system\ urban area\ water treatment\ modelling\ rain water\ flood protection

Beneficiary: Comune di Genova - Direzione servizi tecnico patrimoniali - settore idrogeologico (Local authority)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE00ENV/IT/000080

Project website: http://www.life-imos.com

LIFE02 ENV/D/000399	2002-2005	EU contribution: 782 264 €

'HydroStyx - Optimised environmental rainwater management systems in the sphere of the environmental engineering' (DE)

Objectives: The project aimed to use the capacity of sewer systems to develop internal retention ponds to store precipitation water during heavy rainfall. The installation of discharge brakes in the sewer systems would enable the management of this feature. This work sought to avoid the costs of installing intensive storage basins and to ensure a continuous and manageable discharge after heavy rainfall to the wastewater treatment plant. The project intended to establish a formal structure made up of two German towns, Stuttgart and Stockach, two Austrian towns, Gätzis and Feldkirch, and the German sewage association AZV Lamer Winkel to demonstrate the functioning of the procedure in different conditions.

Keywords: rain water\ waste water treatment\ urban wastewater

Beneficiary: GdBR / Europäische Kommunale Interessengemeinschaft (EKI) (Mixt enterprise)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE02ENV/D/000399

LIFE02 ENV/E/000182 2002-2005 EU contribution: 499 367 €

'MACROPHYTES - New Floating Macrophyte Green Filters (FMF) For the Mediterranean Region' (ES)

Objectives: The project aimed to demonstrate the effectiveness of an innovative system for the treatment of residual waters using floating macrophyte plants (FMPs). Macrophytes, which in their natural state are usually rooted, are made to float. Their filtration power, tested in a preliminary phase, proved to be higher than that of green filters which use rooted or floating plants in their natural state. The project also aimed to promote the new system in those Mediterranean regions where plants are not dormant in the winter. This system is especially suited for tourist areas, which are sometimes far from urban centres and where the population increases in the summer, a period when the filters are at the height of their activity. A further aim was to promote this new system of filtration in small communities and in various sectors such as livestock farming and industry as well as in urban areas. It is not subject to an economy of scale and costs little to implement and maintain.

Keywords: urban wastewater\ residual waste\ waste water treatment

Beneficiary: AYUNTAMIENTO DE LORCA (MURCIA) (Local authority)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE02ENV/E/000182

Project website: http://www.macrophytes.info

LIFE02 ENV/E/000183 2001-2004 EU contribution: 320 021 €

'DROPAWATER - Durable Regions On Peripheal Areas for Water Reduction' (ES)

Objectives: The main objectives of the project were:
To reduce the potable water consumption in the Autonomous City of Ceuta; To prove that this reduction is possible with three concrete actions: Installation of telemeters, Detection of leaks and; Better exploitation of subterranean water for cleaning streets and watering gardens; To improve the efficiency of the potable water supply network; To involve citizens (general population, young people and businessmen) in a responsible reduction of water consumption; To spread the results of the project to other peripheral or ultra peripheral cities or regions who are have the same problem and to exchange experiences at the National, European and International levels; To promote a modification in the current local legislation in order to oblige the installation of remote meters in new buildings.

Keywords: environmental awareness\ groundwater\ water shortage\ water saving\ urban area

Beneficiary: AGUAS DE CEUTA EMPRESA MUNICIPAL (ACEMSA) (Public enterprise)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE02ENV/E/000183

Project website: http://www.acemsa.es

LIFE02 ENV/UK/000144 2002-2005 EU contribution: 1 010 345.75 €

'Smurf - Sustainable Management of Urban Rivers & Foodplains' (UK)

Objectives: The SMURF project aimed to reduce pollution and flooding on the River Tame. Methods and technologies used in the project could possibly be adapted and applied to other places in the UK and the rest of Europe. The project's specific objectives were to:
- Implement a sustainable land-use and water management plan in the urban floodplain;
- Improve of the amenity, ecological status and sustainable drainage of the river basin;
- Involve local citizens in the planning and urban river basin;
- Establish ecological objectives for the river system and a transferable sustainable indicators set;

- Develop a detailed land-use planning model to govern future redevelopment in the floodplain;
- Demonstrate how small-scale modifications can significantly improve a heavily modified waterway.

Keywords: flood protection\ industrial area\ urban area\ river management\ land use planning\ social participation

Beneficiary: Environment Agency (Public enterprise)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE02ENV/UK/000144

Project website: http://www.smurf-project.info/

LIFE03 ENV/E/000164 2003-2006 EU contribution: 691 565 €

'OPTIMIZAGUA - Demonstration of water saving for watering uses through the experimentation of artificial intelligence integrated in traditional systems of water control' (ES)

Objectives: The general objective of the Optimizagua project was to find methods for reducing the water abstraction levels in southern European Countries. A specific objective was to demonstrate and measure the savings in water used for different cultures through the use of prototypes which combine and integrate artificial intelligent and clean technologies (wind power and solar power for the energy supply of devices) with traditional systems of water control. The application of these technologies should allow watering only where necessary and where climate conditions are suitable for efficient irrigation, thereby avoiding irrigation tasks if it is raining and/or it is windy and/or temperatures are extreme. Further objectives were to:
- Save water up to 35-50% in different watering applications through four pilot actions orientated to test and validate the prototypes according to the different watering uses (agriculture 'maize and wheat' as well as private and public green spaces' irrigation), moistening requirement by types of crops and rainfall average.
- Analyse and parameterise under environmental cost/benefit indicators optimal models for various applications in watering uses.
- Minimise the present water deviations generated by exceeding the minimum required by the crops.
- Disseminate models and results of each tested application to a targeted public (farmers, local authorities and architects).

Keywords: water saving\ water resources management\ water shortage\ climate change\ Agriculture

Beneficiary: FUNDACION SAN VALERO (NGO-Foundation)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE03ENV/E/000164

Project website: http://www.life-optimizagua.org

LIFE03 ENV/NL/000467 2003-2007 EU contribution: 674 652 €

'VERBAL - The Vertical Flow Reed Bed at Leidsche Rijn. A natural way to filter urban water.' (NL)

Objectives: This LIFE project, known as Verbal, aimed to demonstrate a successful system for improving the quality of relatively clean surface water for a complete urban area that could last at least 30 years. It sought to test a 1 ha filter to define the optimal set up of a future 6 ha vertical reed bed filter in the residential area Leidsche Rijn. It also sought to design a general applicable model for the design, maintenance and control of vertical flow reed beds in other settings. The project hoped to show the effectiveness of a vertical flow reed bed filter at removing phosphate from surface water. It also expected to remove some nitrates, bacteria, heavy metals and suspended solids.

Keywords: environmental impact of agriculture\ decontamination\ eutrophication\ urban area

Beneficiary: Hoogheemraadschap De Stichtse Rijnlanden (Local authority)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE03ENV/NL/000467
Project website: http://www.zuiveringsfilter.nl

LIFE05 ENV/IT/000868	2005-2008	EU contribution: 294 714 €

'PERBIOF - A new technology for treating municipal and/or industrial wastewater with low environmental impact' (IT)

Objectives: The PERBIOF project aimed to develop at demonstration scale an innovative technology for treating municipal and/or industrial wastewater. The technology was based on a submerged biofilter that operates in a 'fill and draw' mode. In this biofilter all the phases of the biological treatment (i.e., carbon removal, nitrogen removal, secondary sedimentation) were carried out in a single operative unit. The proposed technology is characterized by high depuration efficiencies (more than 10 times higher than conventional ones) and very low sludge production.

The following results were expected in comparison with conventional technologies: a greater conversion capacity (up to 6-10 times) and lower reaction volumes (this means smaller plants with lower environmental impact); a reduction of sludge production by up to 10 times in the case of municipal wastewater and up to 40 times for tannery wastewater; a 50% reduction in treated effluent toxicity; and finally, a 40% saving in operating costs, increasing the competitiveness of potential industrial stakeholders (even SMEs) that will adopt such a new technology.

Keywords: waste water treatment\ urban wastewater\ industrial waste water

Beneficiary: Istituto di ricerca sulle acque consiglio nazionale delle ricerche (Research institutions)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE05ENV/IT/000868
Project website: http://www.perbiof-europe.com

LIFE05 ENV/IT/000894	2005-2008	EU contribution: 673 673 €

'ESTRUS - ENhanced and SUstainable TReatment for URban Stormwater' (IT)

Objectives: The ESTRUS project aimed to demonstrate the sustainability and cost-effectiveness of existing DTS systems for storm water runoff in harbour infrastructures and industrial sites. In these areas, traditional treatment solutions, such as first flush detention tanks, are too costly or unfeasible due to lack of space. The innovative component of the ESTRUS project consisted of a full-scale treatment solution (hydraulic and chemical/physical) using an approach that had been tested within a laboratory situation.

The project research focused on, and compared findings from two methodologies. One approach first analysed the storm water in a drainage system without DTS devices to provide a baseline. A DTS device was then introduced into the drainage systems to assess the difference in pollutant capacity of the water runoff. The LIFE team referred to this approach as a "time shifted monitoring campaign".

Another approach analysed the storm water in two different branches of a large drainage system, only one of which was equipped with DTS filters. Data from both branches of the drainage system were compared simultaneously to assess the difference in pollutant capacity of the water runoff. The LIFE team referred to this approach as a "time concurrent monitoring campaign". This system allowed the project to analyse and compare the DTS device's performance against the same type of water runoff as in the baseline, and at the same time.

Keywords: rain water\ harbour\ water treatment\ urban area\ pollutant elimination\ industrial area

Beneficiary: Comune di Genova - Assessorato alle Politiche Ambientali (Local authority)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE05ENV/IT/000894

Project website: http://www.estrus.it

LIFE05 ENV/UK/000124 2005-2007 EU contribution: 1 446 648 €

'MAD but better - The demonstration of high rate enzyme hydrolysis as the safest and most environmentally friendly way to treat sewage for the land recycling' (UK)

Objectives: One treatment method known as MAD (Mesophilic Anaerobic Digestion) lent its name to this project, MAD but better, because the beneficiary set out to demonstrate that an adaptation of the process using high rate enzyme hydrolysis is the safest and most efficient way to enhance treatment of sludge for recycling on the land. The new system is based on an entirely natural microbial cycle. It harnesses the actions of a series of bacteria to accelerate the mineralization process of complex organic matter, to return nutrients to the soil while destroying pathogens. The resulting soil conditioner or fertilizer was expected to exceed the strictest current and predicted European safety standards, as well as being faster to produce. Methane given off as a by-product of the method was to provide all the power needs of the system, plus more for onward supply to the grid. A final aim of the project was to disseminate results throughout Europe to help overcome negative perceptions of the risks associated with using sludge on the land and to promote the new system as the safest, most cost-effective and sustainable option for dealing with the ever-increasing problem of sewage sludge.

Keywords: sewage sludge\ urban wastewater\ waste water treatment

Beneficiary: United Utilities plc (International enterprise)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE05ENV/UK/000124

LIFE06 ENV/DK/000229 2006-2009 EU contribution: 1 966 027 €

'TREASURE - Treatment and re-use of urban stormwater runoff by innovative technologies for removal of pollutants' (DK)

Objectives: The project aims at demonstrating technologies that efficiently reduce diffuse urban pollutant loads onto receiving waters. With respect to pollutant loads from households and industries there are effective technologies while tackling pollution from urban run-off waters is not largely addressed. Especially phosphorus and toxic substances and their removal from the urban run-off waters will be addressed.

The projects aims at reducing the outflow of toxic substances, mainly heavy metals and organic micropollutants, originating and charged with stormwaters in urban areas, by 80-90 %. The technologies used present robust and technically simple interventions, which should be easily adopted in the existing urban land-use structures. The pilot activities will be run in three different urban structures in Aarhus, Odense and Silkeborg.

Keywords: urban area\ pollutant elimination\ rain water\ water treatment

Beneficiary: Silkeborg Kommune (Municipality of Silkeborg) (Local authority)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE06ENV/DK/000229

LIFE07 ENV/S/000908 2009-2013 EU contribution: 1 582 932 €

'GreenClimeAdapt - Green tools for urban climate adaptation' (SE)

Objectives: The objective of the GreenClimeAdapt project is to demonstrate appropriate technology to deal with climate adaptations in urban areas. Experiences from Canada and the UK will be applied within a number of innovative environmental management tools, such as open storm water systems, green facades and a new type of 'green roof'.

A 45 ha industrial area in south-east Malmo will serve as a "Green Climate Adaptation area" in which the appropriate technologies will be tested. This area will include a storm water system that

should retain up to 90% of rainfall over a 10-year period, in doing so greatly reducing flooding risks. Sedimentation and filtration ponds will also be used in the area to clean run-off water prior to its re-use.

The Green Climate Adaptation Area will include climbing plants on two buildings that will be grown to provide shade on the wall facades. The plant shading will act as a natural cooling mechanism for the buildings and the vegetation cover is furthermore expected to improve the efficiency of photovoltaic panels. Results from evergreen and deciduous plants will be monitored and compared to assess optimum noise and temperature parameters.

Conclusions from the project will assess the potential role that appropriate technologies can play in cooling European cities, saving lives and avoiding energy consuming air conditioning devices.

Keywords: modelling\ rain water\ flood protection\ urban area\ climate change-adaptation

Beneficiary: City of Malmö (Local authority)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE07ENV/S/000908

LIFE08 ENV/LV/000451 2010-2012 EU contribution: 334 560 €

'HydroClimateStrategyRiga - Integrated Strategy for Riga City to Adapt to the Hydrological Processes Intensified by Climate Change Phenomena' (LV)

Objectives: The main objective of the project is to create the means necessary to ensure that hydrological processes intensified by climate change phenomena in Riga are adequately investigated and incorporated in the city's planning system. This hopes to mitigate their current and future impact on Riga's economy and society, nature and biodiversity, water resources and human health. The project plans to carry out detailed studies of the hydrological processes affecting Riga and their current and potential impacts. Workshops of specialists and local stakeholders will feed into these findings, leading to a report. The beneficiary will learn about best practices in identification, planning and management of flood risk zones in three European cities facing similar challenges: Rotterdam (the Netherlands); Antwerp (Belgium); and Hamburg (Germany). They will also share the results of the work in Riga. The project will define flood-protection priorities for each of six flood-risk zones around the city and for the city as a whole. Possible measures and activities will be evaluated, and their cost-effectiveness assessed. The work will lead to the agreement of a Flood Risk Management Plan for Riga City, which will recommend protection measures and also necessary changes in the city's planning documents. Publicity and awareness-raising measures around flood risks and management will include a website, printed publications, events and media work. Specific targeted workshops will seek to feed stakeholder opinions into the project planning.

Keywords: urban planning\ modelling\ risk management\ water resources management\ flood protection\ climate change-adaptation

Beneficiary: Riga City Council (Local authority)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE08ENV/LV/000451

LIFE08 ENV/IT/000413 2010-2013 EU contribution: 1 136 705 €

'INHABIT - Local hydro-morphology, habitat and RBMPs: new measures to improve ecological quality in South European rivers and lakes' (IT)

Objectives: The project aims to integrate information on local hydromorphological features into practical measures to improve the reliability of implementation of RBMPs in southern Europe. The focus is on rivers and lakes in two areas in Italy, covering a wide range of environmental features and water body types. The outcome of the project will serve as a basis for the implementation of RBMPs over larger areas in Italy and, possibly, the whole of Europe. More specifically, the project has the following objectives:

· To improve RBMPs covering a number of water body types, which are representative of Italian water courses and lakes, through the introduction of innovative measures that account for

hydromorphological and habitat information;
· To quantify the natural variability in undisturbed conditions of selected hydromorphological, habitat and physico-chemical features, which are known to have a significant effect on biological communities i.e. BQEs. Biological attributes for selected BQEs will be assessed accordingly;
· To quantify factors that affect ecological status classification;
· To put into practice the latest approaches and methods for the collection of WFD-compliant data, classification of ecological status and technical implementation of management plans in the study catchments; and
· To update existing management plans to include measures related to hydro-morphological and habitat condition.
Keywords: river\ water monitoring\ management plan\ water resources management
Beneficiary: Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - Istituto di Ricerca sulle Acque (Research institutions)
Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE08ENV/IT/000413

LIFE08 ENV/D/000021 2010-2014 EU contribution: 1 729 675 €

'MAFPlan - Management plan to prevent threats from point sources on the good chemical status of groundwater in urban areas' (DE)

Objectives: The overall goal of the project is to develop and implement an optimal strategy for integral groundwater investigation and efficient remediation of the key causes of pollution. A municipal groundwater management plan will be drawn up to further substantiate the framework of recommendations given by the guidance document of the WFD. The plan will aim to achieve a quantitative overview of contaminant mass flow rates for the whole area under consideration; to localise hot spots in a second step and then subsequently identify the main sources of pollution and related liable causers. Finally risk management strategies and remedial action plans are to be defined.
The specific goals of the project are to:
Verify innovative characterisation technologies according to the upcoming EU-ETV (environmental technological verification) scheme;
Demonstrate software application for 3-D visualisation of complex underground characteristics;
Test and evaluate a model-based methodology to define and assess appropriate sets of information for a well-defined decision basis in order to minimise the need for technical investigation measures;
Assess contaminant mass flow rates and identify key sources of pollution and related liable polluters in the project area;
Compile EU-wide applicable recommendations for action for groundwater risk management in urban areas;
Increase awareness among the general public and the commercial sector for groundwater protection issues. Three public workshops on dedicated technical aspects and an international conference on the GWD implementation process are planned. The vitreous aquifer will also become a public exhibition in Stuttgart.
Keywords: urban area\ environmental assessment\ groundwater\ management plan\ diffuse pollution\ \ water resources management
Beneficiary: Landeshauptstadt Stuttgart, Amt für Umweltschutz (Local authority)
Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE08ENV/D/000021

LIFE08 ENV/GR/000551 2010-2012 EU contribution: 1 083 362 €

'PURE - From Treated Wastewater to Alternative Water Resources in Semi-Arid Regions' (GR)

Objectives: The project will transform an existing network of pipelines that is currently distributing

treated wastewater for irrigation in an uncontrolled way into an upgraded system that provides high quality alternative water resources for irrigation in accordance with the principles of the Water Framework Directive. The new system will be a state-of-the-art wastewater distribution system with 35 000 m of pipelines, at least three advanced wastewater treatment units, and a complete online monitoring system. This will give the highest possible effluent quality, with everything monitored and controlled with a minimum human effort and with the greatest possible efficiency. The system will be a socially-fair - especially in economic terms - means of distributing an important alternative water resource. The project will also produce detailed planning, financial and management information for the future implementation of similar systems elsewhere. Overall, the project will produce and disseminate a prototype approach and management plan for a sustainable, environmentally-significant, safe, publicly-accepted wastewater reuse and utilisation system that could be applied in all semi-arid areas.

Keywords: waste water treatment\ water reuse\ environmental performance\ management plan

Beneficiary: Municipal Enterprise for Water & Wastewater of Chersonissos (Public enterprise)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE08ENV/GR/000551

LIFE08 ENV/E/000099 2010-2013 EU contribution: 773 916 €

'AQUAVAL - Sustainable Urban Water Management Plans, promoting SUDS and considering Climate Change, in the Province of Valencia' (ES)

Objectives: The principal aim of the AQUAVAL project is to introduce the use of sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) to the municipalities of Xativa and Benaguasil.

Specifically, the project will aim to: # Avoid combined sewer overflow in order to improve the water quality of the receiving water courses; # Avoid flooding within the urban areas during less heavy periods of rainfall, while taking into account the effect of climate change; # Reduce energy consumption; # Reduce 'hot spot' impacts in the two cities caused by large impermeable surfaces; # Exploit natural water resources (i.e. rainwater) by using it for example in irrigation, street cleaning, etc.; # Develop community environmental policy through the integration of environmental concerns into urban water policies, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Two demonstration sites are planned (one per municipality) to promote the use of SUDS regionally, nationally and in other areas of southern Europe. Sustainable urban water management plans will also be drawn up in both Xativa and Benaguasil.

Keywords: river\ waste water treatment\ urban area\ rain water\ \ water quality improvement

Beneficiary: Ayuntamiento de Xàtiva (Local authority)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE08ENV/E/000099

LIFE08 ENV/IT/000406 2010-2013 EU contribution: 1 456 173 €

'REWETLAND - Widespread introduction of constructed wetlands for a wastewater treatment of Agro Pontino' (IT)

Objectives: The project aims to contribute to the adoption of integrated strategies for a more sustainable use of water resources in the district of the Pontina plain. It plans to launch a vast water management initiative that creates synergies between institutions and enhances decision sharing and participation. The project also aims to set up an integrated environmental enhancement programme for the implementation of constructed wetlands (CW) and widespread biofiltering techniques along the reclaimed canals network. The CW pilots will test the system's ability to reduce water pollutants and increase biodiversity closely connected to the process of environmental restoration of the basin network of the Agro Pontino. An overall aim is to integrate specific objectives of sustainable water management with more general objectives of environmental enhancement. This aim will be achieved by:

Introducing a biofiltering system, through the reconstruction of the vegetation along the ditches;
Increasing vegetation along the ditches to improve soil protection against hydraulic risks;
Carrying out an environmental enhancement programme; and
Disseminating results and involving stakeholders.
Keywords: waste water treatment\ integrated management\ water resources management\ protected area
Beneficiary: Province of Latina (Local authority)
Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE08ENV/IT/000406

LIFE08 INF/IT/000308 2010-2012 EU contribution: 383 786 €

'WATACLIC - Water against climate change. Sustainable water management in urban areas' (IT)
Objectives: The main objective for this project is to achieve reductions in water and energy consumption within Italian urban areas via a combination of new fiscal and communication tools. A wide range of stakeholders will be involved in the process that will comprise the following technical actions: Introduction of new rules on urban planning to encourage greater use of technologies/strategies such as rainwater harvesting, grey water recycling and other techniques that will enable more sustainable urban water use; and Adoption of tariff schemes aimed at discouraging unwise water use.
Accompanying information efforts will aim to achieve the following: Improve knowledge and awareness among professional plumbing organisations about water saving techniques; and
Ensure effective awareness-raising campaigns are directed at the general public about issues such as sustainable water consumption and associated links with energy consumption.
Keywords: environmental awareness\ energy saving\ urban planning\ financial instrument\ water saving\ urban area\ water resources management
Beneficiary: AMBIENTE ITALIA SRL (Research institutions)
Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE08INF/IT/000308

LIFE08 INF/SK/000243 2010-2013 EU contribution: 557 379 €

'WATLIFE - Enhancement of Public Awareness of the Importance of Water for Life, its Protection and Sustainable Use in Accordance with the Water Framework Directive' (SK)
Objectives: In order to prevent degradation of water resources, the project will focus on changing common water use practices in Slovakia, which are inefficient and polluting. This change will be achieved through greater awareness of water importance among the public and various stakeholders.
Expected results:
A media campaign will be launched targeting broadcast of 10 interviews on local and national TV and radio, three press releases and 10 newspaper articles. A short film (7 000 DVDs) will also be produced. Other promotional products will include t-shirts and leaflets;
An interactive exhibition will be installed at environmental centres and museums, and a website will be created for the public and schools. Other educational materials (e.g. picture books) will also be published;
Training sessions and excursions will take place for teachers and pupils;
Eight seminars will be held to increase the knowledge and motivation of 200 mayors and representatives of regional authorities. The project will initiate discussion on various water-related topics to look for common progress in water management (three workshops for water managers will be organised).
Keywords: environmental awareness\ consumption pattern\ water resources management\ preventive measure
Beneficiary: Vyskumný ústav vodného hospodárstva / Water Research Institute (Research

institutions)
Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE08INF/SK/000243
Project website: http://http://www.vuvh.sk/index.php/en_US/projekt-life/zakladne-informacie-o-projekte

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LIFE09 ENV/IT/000056	2010-2013	EU contribution: 942 370 €

'WIZ - WaterIZe spatial planning: encompass future drinkwater management conditions to adapt to climate change' (IT)

Objectives: The overall goal of the WaterIZe 'WIZ' spatial planning project is to integrate the protection and sustainable management of water in urban planning processes and local policy areas.

The project aims to incorporate long term analysis of drinking water management in urban spatial planning by creating a platform for local authorities to be involved in decision processes.

The project will contribute to the integration of the European Framework for Adapting to Climate Change into other local and EU regulations particularly in relation to future water management conditions. A network of the European projects within the water technology platform will be created and transnational co-operation on water management increased.

The project will involve citizens and SMEs in water governance: the aim is to increase public participation and understanding by the institutionalisation of drinking water management and to promote awareness. An innovative demonstration service will be available online allowing immediate knowledge of drinking water availability.

Expected main results include:

Implementation of a demonstration platform and institutionalisation of the relevant processes;

Project services (integrating and projecting existing information about drinking water demand trends, infrastructure capacity, investment costs, and climate change impacts on water resources) to be made available to at least 10 local planning authorities. These will incorporate projections of climate change impacts on water, drinking water management conditions, and economic analysis into their decision-making process;

A possible 50-80 authorisation procedures will be examined according to the project approach over the 18-month period that the demonstration platform will be active;

During an average decision process, five-to-10 people will approach (at different levels) the project themes i.e., examining climate change adaptation issues, pressure on water resources, demand management;

The WIZ service for citizens, professionals and organisations will be made available online, with a view to achieving an average 20-50 users/day over the 18-month period;

Web-enabled and mobile devices will be integrated with widely-used services (e.g. Google Earth) to enlarge the demonstration arena for both citizens and enterprises; and

Knowledge on the importance of a reliable method of water supply management will be disseminated to institutions at a local level.

Keywords: drinking water \ water resources management\ urban planning\ social participation\ climate change-adaptation\ decision making support

Beneficiary: (SME Small and medium sized enterprise)

Project summary:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.createPage&s_ref=LIFE09ENV/IT/000056
