

ICMET objectives in the project:

- The increasing of information level of decision factors from Romania and Bulgaria directly involved in the issue of environment policies for pollution control
- The air quality monitoring for sustainable protection of the environment in cross border area Romania-Bulgaria.

Project activities in responsibility of ICMET Craiova:

- Evaluation of the existing situation within RO-BG cross-border region in the field of ambient air quality assessment monitoring (Activity 4.1);
- Drawing up the cross-border network configuration for ambient air quality monitoring (Activity 4.2);
- Achievement and testing of cross-border network for ambient air quality monitoring (Activity 4.3);
- Information and publicity (Activity 4.4).

Project results:

- One study which will include joint inventory of pollution sources, assessment of existing networks and establish of the common needs;
- One joint technical project of the air quality monitoring network;
- One joint air quality monitoring network;
- A website for accessing to the information related to the monitoring air quality in cross-border area;
- Two workshops on air quality assessment.



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Partners in the project:

LEAD PARTNER

General Inspectorate for Emergency Situation - Romania

PARTNER 2

Fire Safety and Civil Protection Directorate General - Ministry of the Interior - Bulgaria

PARTNER 3

National Environmental Guard - Romania

PARTNER 4

Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water -Veliko Tarnovo - Bulgaria

PARTNER 5

Research, Development and Testing National Institute for Electrical Engineering - ICMET Craiova - Romania

PARTNER 6

Ministry of Environment and Forestry - Romania

PARTNER 7

University of Craiova, Innovation and Technological Transfer Center CITT - Romania

PARTNER 8

St.Cyril and St.Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo - Bulgaria

„Joint Risk Monitoring during Emergencies in the Danube Area Border“



Workshop: „Air Quality in the Danube Border Area“

17 May 2012

Investing in your future!

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Common borders. Common solutions.

The nowadays dynamics of our surrounding environment, globalization trends and manmade activities, all of these lead to the increase of risk of natural disasters and industrial accidents and therefore our lives, property and nature are placed under constant threat. Unfortunately, in the recent years natural disasters and accidents all over the world have become more frequent, causing major damages and catastrophic consequences upon the population, infrastructure, economy and natural and cultural heritage surroundings. This creates the need for planning and coordination of joint activities, which aim at overcoming climate change challenges, responding to and managing the consequences of disasters.

This project shall contribute to achieving the overall strategic goal of the CBC Romania-Bulgaria Programme by bringing together the efforts of the relevant institutions responsible for disasters prevention, management, reaction and mitigation in order to find a common solution. Moreover, the activities envisaged in the project shall assist for strengthening the capacity of protection the people's lives, health, infrastructure and cultural heritage located in the cross-border area. Through the implementation of the "soft" measures and investment component planned under the project, both countries shall develop better and more efficient approaches for prevention, reaction, management and mitigation of disasters consequences. Also, the public awareness and ecologically responsible behavior will be promoted and increased.

The project aims at ensuring a positive significant impact, sustainable change and durable improvement within the eligible zones (both in Romania and Bulgaria) and also in eligible neighboring areas.

Also, the project envisages the development of a joint integrated system for efficient monitoring and disaster consequences mitigation, along Danube River border area. We would like to stress out that the issue of

preventing emergencies and rapid and efficient intervention for the mitigation of all disaster consequences represent a priority for Romania and Bulgaria, moreover being also a major issue for the international community, and therefore for the European Commission. Furthermore, the project's sustainability shall be guaranteed by the interoperability provided by the purchased equipment, joint trainings and common procedures developed during the project lifetime.

During the workshop "**Air Quality in the Danube Border Area**", specific results identified after analyzing the monitoring network will be presented and plans and measures for developing the air quality monitoring network in cross-border region will be debated.

Environmental policy plays an important role among EU concerns and it represents nowadays one of the most important political aspects at EU level. The harmful effects on human health, vegetation and ecosystems, determined by their exposure to pollution, impose a join approach of all European countries regarding the ambient air quality assessment.

The air quality assessment in cross border area imposes a joint approach of both countries because the air pollution is not a local problem. One of the project target is the continuous and in real time information of decision factors regarding the air quality. The data will be posted on a web-site available in romanian, bulgarian, in english. The air quality assessment will be done on the basis of criteria and methods common for all EU states, with a view to create the premises necessary for issuing consistent and solid decisions and policies for pollution control. The project proposes to connect the physical infrastructure of the common border on air quality monitoring and communication services as a basis for effective cooperation, in accordance with the program strategy.

Current links between the two countries on air quality in a cross-border context were reinforced by the Phare Cross Border Cooperation projects (CBC) from 1999 to 2003 and will be further developed in the new project.

The project aims to ensure a positive significant impact, sustainable change and durable improvement within the eligible areas in both Romania and Bulgaria by

developing a joint integrated system for efficient monitoring and disaster consequences mitigation along Danube river and border area and by creating an automatic network for ambient air quality monitoring, which will allow the ambient air quality assessment on the basis of some criteria and methods common to all EU countries, regulated by the Directive 2008/50/EC, with a view to formulate some consistent and solid decisions and policies for pollution control.

The project will cover the entire common border, that is 630 km and will positively influence the safety and health of 5.1 million inhabitants which are currently in both sides of the Danube River and will protect biodiversity. Structures involved in the project are representative of both Bulgaria, but also of Romania, which are in fact the only structures with responsibilities in such situations, the project offering the possibility of taking joint decisions and developing common inspections, control, monitoring and intervention procedures.

