

1. Country/Organization:

Please indicate your name, organization and country.

Lukas Pokorny, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic

2. Title of the action committed to in 2011 (see the annex)

Application of user-pays and polluter-pays principles

3. Overview of progress made

(a) *Has the action been implemented?*

Yes / In progress / No

Out of the 623 million m³ produced in the Czech Republic in 2011, 486 mil. million m³ were invoiced to the consumers. While the percentage of inhabitants connected to a waterpipe increased, the amount of invoiced water decreased by 0,7 %. In absolute terms, the amount of water invoiced decreased by 0,9 l per person per day and is totally 88,6 l per person per day.

The income of the State Environmental Fund (SEF) related to the waste water and pollution discharges into surface waters exceeded the expected income by 19 % in 2011 mainly due to the increasing rate of monitoring and control of relevant subjects. Similarly, the income related to ground water withdrawals exceeded the expected income by 37,7 %, also due to increased control and monitoring. Thus, the trend of decreasing income from both areas was halted thanks to the increased monitoring and controlling activities of the SEF in close cooperation with the Czech Environmental Inspectorate.

(b) *What challenges were encountered during the implementation of the action?
What lessons were learned?*

Due to the organizational restructuring and a radical decrease in the number of experienced inspectors in 2010, the continuation of intense monitoring and controlling work will be difficult.

(c) *What future steps, if any, are planned in relation to the action implementation/follow up?*

4. Usefulness of the Astana Water Action

Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements and provide an explanation, as appropriate.

(a) *The Astana Water Action was useful to strengthen political support related to sustainable water management issues:*

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree

(b) *The Astana Water Action has helped my country to comply with its international obligations:*

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree

(c) *Would your country be interested in continuing to submit and monitor new actions within the AWA framework in the future?*

Yes / No