

Template for

National Water Resources Protection Program Hungary

1. Country/Organization:

Please indicate your name, organization and country.

Réka GAUL

expert on river-basin management

Ministry of Rural Development

Hungary

Department of River Basin Management and Water Protection

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

Please indicate the title of the action on the implementation of which you are reporting. Those countries that committed to more than one action please kindly note that a template for reporting should be filled in for each action.

National Program for the Protection of Drinking Water Sources in Hungary.

3. Overview of progress made

(a) *Has the action been implemented?*

Yes / In progress / No

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

The National Drinking Water Source Protection Program (NDWSP) started in 1997 with the aim to protect vulnerable drinking water sources from contamination by human activities and to preserve the natural (good) quality of waters in wells of water works and the sources to be used for drinking water supply in the future (perspective drinking water sources). The requirements of drinking water source protection are set out in Gov. Decree 123/1997. (VII. 18.) Korm.

The scope of Gov. Decree 123/1997. (VII. 18.) Korm. covers the sources of water used for drinking water supply, the utilisation of mineral- and medicinal waters, both exploited or designated for future uses, further the facilities serving the treatment, storage and distribution of water for such uses serving at least 50 persons on a daily average.

Protection is ensured by the designation of protection zones around water abstraction facilities and the introduction and enforcement of restrictions within the protection zones and the establishment and operation of a monitoring system.

Financial support for the designation of protective zones and the implementation of the necessary measures serving the protection of water quality has been ensured from state budget and since 2007 from the Environment and Energy Operational Programme (EEOP) and other EU funds.

In Hungary at present 1740 public water sources are recorded out of which 903 are situated in areas sensitive to pollution from the surface (vulnerable drinking water sources) and more than 70 are recorded as perspective groundwater sources based on their favourable hydro-geological conditions. In addition to the above groundwater sources 16 surface water sources are used for drinking water supply.

So far around 44% of the sources for public drinking water supply (67% of vulnerable sources) have been secured by the delineation of protection zones, which provide almost 90% of public drinking water supply in Hungary.

Diagnostic works for the remaining dws. are to be scheduled to the amount of the available funds.

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

(up to 250 words)

The implementation of the actions of the program needs financial sources, elaboration of the rules for compensation, ammendment of the regulations for some specific cases

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

(up to 250 words)

The NDWSP is an ongoing program which has been not been fully implemented yet.

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

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

see reply in template on remediation program

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

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree

If agreeing, please elaborate how (e.g. European Union Directives, UNECE and other environmental agreements, Millennium Development Goals, Commitments made within the "Environment for Europe" process) (up to 250 words)

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

Yes / No

Please elaborate (up to 250 words)

The experience shows that most of countries applied running programs, projects and actions which would have been established anyway because of other reasons/requirements.

further see comments at template on remediation program