

SERBIA MONTENEGRO: A CASE STUDY ON COMMITMENTS-RELATED BEST PRACTICE OR LESSONS LEARNED IN SANITATION

1. Which specific WSSD or Agenda 21 commitment does your case study address?

The study refers to the Chapter 21 of Agenda 21.

2. Please briefly describe the essential characteristics of the case study you wish to share including the nature of activities undertaken.

Global Waste Water Study in Serbia & Pre-feasibility Study for Belgrade Waste Water Management: One of the main goals of the project “Global Waste Water Study in Serbia & Pre-feasibility Study for Belgrade Waste Water Management” was to form a detail overview of sewerage system conditions in Serbian municipalities. Wider framework of the Study included detail information about several related fields: basic demographic and geographic data, water distribution/consumption data, sewerage systems data, industry consumers, lists of the existing documents, etc.

3. Please explain the nature and characteristics of particular challenges and constraints faced, if any.

Collected data were used for categorization of municipalities with the respect to several aspect such as: condition of water distribution system, specific water consumption, water losses, sewerage systems, status on waste water treatment, plans for future WWTP or conditions of existing facilities, industrial pollutants and several others parameters.

The Study also contains a classification of river basins in Serbia with municipalities disposing their wastes to these basins. Classification has attached hierarchical numerical scheme, starting with the Danube River as the biggest river in the region.

4. What are the lessons learned in the process, positive and/or negative?

The consultative poll which was carried out, showed that in most of the Serbian municipalities there were not any data on measured waste water capacities and burdens. It is necessary to know the state of flows in canalization system, in order to establish the regular power and planning of future widening measures. Shortage of such information could lead to the wrong planning, ill-preparedness to deal with the critical canalization parts, as well as too high or too low cost projections. Certain legal regulations should also be prepared in order to help the “sanitation” sector.

5. What has been the impact of such a case in the area(s) concerned?

This study provides the basis for improvement in the field of waste water elimination in Serbia, which would enable:

- provision of reliable and sufficient drinking water supply
- health protection of the population
- water protection
- environmental protection
- protection from floods

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