



# SHARP

Sustainable Hydro Assessment & Groundwater Recharge Projects



## NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 / December 2010

**SHARP OVERVIEW & KEY CONTENTS**

**SHARP PARTNERSHIP**

**MEETING IN EDINBURGH / UK**

**SHARP NETWORK**

### SHARP — saving and protecting water resources for future generations!

**The overall objective of SHARP is to save and protect existing water resources for future generations.**



SHARP focuses on the exchange of knowledge on innovative techniques to protect groundwater resources.

Groundwater is one of our most important natural resources. Only 1% of all the water on Earth is available for human use and over 98% of this is groundwater. Groundwater is also a crucial source of drinking water, supplying three out of four EU citizens. European economies also tap into groundwater for industrial cooling and agricultural irrigation. Protecting our groundwater is essential to ensure a safe clean water supply across Europe in the future.

With climate change playing havoc with water supplies, some areas of Europe are facing shortages of drinking water, drought, or inconsistent supplies of water for agriculture and industry. Still other areas are facing floods and severe rainfall. The impact is being felt on the groundwater supplies which provide most of Europe's

drinking water, with both the quality and quantity of groundwater decreasing significantly.

The Network shares the expertise within the SHARP partnership and participates in the analysis of existing innovative technologies and strategies. The partners will exchange practical know-how and also determine know-how demand concerning key contents like general groundwater management tools, artificial groundwater recharge technologies, groundwater monitoring systems, strategic use of groundwater resources for drinking water, irrigation and industry, techniques to preserve water quality and quantity, drinking water safety plans, risk management tools and water balance models.

The examples of the Lead Partner experienced in increasing groundwater quantity and quality and its storage, characterized by low-tech technology and moderate investments, will be followed by, e.g. East Scotland, Malta and North Aegean Region.

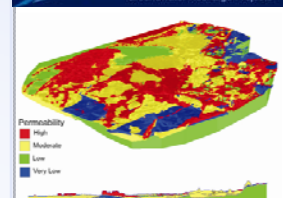
Finally, SHARP aims at influencing the regional policies of its partners by proposing sustainable groundwater management techniques to remediate and save the quality and quantity of groundwater reservoirs for future generations.

### Successful transnational cooperation!

SHARP Partners Meeting and Seminar including the 2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Group Meeting took place with 22 participants in October 2010 in Edinburgh, UK. The Meeting was organized by PP7 IRR1 in cooperation with the Lead Partner.

The meeting addressed administrative as well as technical issues with a special reference to the experiences and results regarding the 1<sup>st</sup> reporting period and expectations and to do's for the next SHARP reporting period.

Detailed presentations on project status quo, existing know-how, realised practices, experiences & good practices and partners regional, local demands & problems to be solved in the course of the project have been presented. Expert discussions on technologies and possible partner interactions have been discussed and agreed.



## SHARP Network

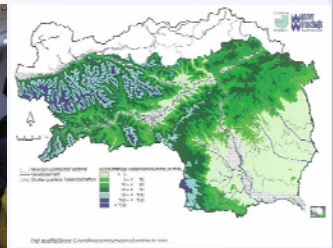
The Network shares the expertise within the SHARP partnership and participates in the analysis of existing innovative technologies and strategies. Furthermore, WATERPOOL highly appreciates receiving feedback on its currently applied technologies in saving, storing, improving and enriching groundwater reservoirs. Together with the partner Graz AG water supply (AT) it hosted one of the study visits in Graz, during which several expert discussions regarding artificial ground water recharge and related research took place.

SHARP is also considered as an ideal preparatory for an European wide action on Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) to be developed within the Water Supply and Sanitation Technology Platform (WSSTP) and applying different technologies for recommendations adjusted to the need of particular regions.

SHARP project is also linked to the project DIKTAS - Dinaric Karst Transboundary Aquifer System which is a GEF regional project, implemented by UNDP and executed by UNESCO. DIKTAS is an activity initiated by the

aquifer-sharing states and supported by Global Environment Facility (GEF) to improve understanding of transboundary groundwater resources of the Dinaric region and to facilitate their equitable and sustainable utilisation, including the protection of unique karst groundwater dependent ecosystems. The core project partners are four countries of the Dinaric region, namely Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro.

Another link for SHARP has been made to Serbia where the "CURRENT STATE AND POTENTIAL OF ARTIFICIALLY, RECHARGED GROUNDWATER SOURCES IN SERBIA" was described by Zoran Stevanovic from Faculty of Mining & Geology, University of Belgrade & Milan Dimkic from Jaroslav Cerni Institute for the Development of Water Resources, Belgrade.



## SHARP — project details

### SHARP is implemented by:

- WATERPOOL Competence Network GmbH (AT), Lead Partner
- Region of Western Macedonia (EL)
- Region of North Aegean (EL)
- Regional Agency for Rural Development of Friuli-Venezia Giulia (IT)
- Local Councils' Association (MT)
- Institute of Meteorology and Water Management - Wroclaw Branch (PL)
- International Resources & Recycling Institute (UK)
- Saxon State Office for the Environment, Agriculture and Geology (DE)
- Graz AG water supply (AT)



**SHARP project duration:** January 2010 — December 2012

**Total SHARP budget:** EUR 1,871,978.50

**ERDF contribution:** EUR 1,466,579.97

**SHARP is implemented through the INTERREG IV C Programme, co-financed by the ERDF**

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