

## PROJECT INFORMATION

State as at: Dezember 2009

# Workshop for bulgarian communities on Capacity-Building as to the exploitation of Structural Funds



Building up of sewerage systems is one example for which communities can apply for Structural Funds.  
photo: Franz Haindl / pixelio

## Background

Bulgaria was admitted to the European Union as member state on 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2007 and has contracted to transpose the ‚acquis communautaire‘ into national law.

On 7<sup>th</sup> November 2007, the European Commission approved the sectoral operational programme environment (OP Environment).

Approximately 22 % (around 1.8 billion Euro) of the total EU money invested in Bulgaria under the Cohesion policy 2007-2013 is available for the improvement of environmental conditions in bulgarian regions.

The application of Structural Funds conforming to the law has been identified as a particular challenge in the new EU member states. Therefore, especially the necessary know-how in local regions has to build up step-by-step.

## Project

To support communities, which are the main target group of the OP Environment, in the submission of contributions on environmental protection in Bulgaria and to enable them in the implementation of european environmental presets a German-Bulgarian exchange of experiences and transfer of know-how will be carried out.

Within a two-days workshop, planned with approximately 30 participants from the communities of Rudozem, Madan, Nedelino and Zlatograd in the region of Smoljan in early February 2010, the development of sustainable environmental projects from Structural Funds will be imparted to local authorities.

Speakers from Germany will present best practises on the development, the application and the realisation of projects from Structural Funds. Selected project areas will be water / wastewater, emission protection, renewable energies, environmental education, and restoration.

- Funding: Advisory Assistance Programme of the German Federal Environment Ministry
- Project identification: 380 01 222
- Region: Bulgarien
- Duration: 12/09 – 02/10
- Project management: Umweltbundesamt
- Project partners Germany: emcra - Europa aktiv nutzen, Agentur Choudhury
- Project partners Bulgaria: Gemeinde Rudozem