



THE OPENING EVENT

Meeting:	The Opening event
Date:	07/04/2022
Venue:	Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Resavska 13-15 st. hall 1

Event Overview

The Opening event regarding the project "EU support to reforms in water sector services" took place on 7th of April 2022 in the premises of Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Resavska 13-15 st. hall 1, from 9h until 14.30h.

The event was opened by Mr. Boris Šćekic, Project Director, welcoming all participants and introducing the speakers. The participants were addressed by Mr. Dalibor Joknić, Secretary of Association for communal services of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Ms. Vedrana Ilić, Assistant Minister, Sector for International Cooperation and European Integration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Mr. Antoine Avignon, Program Manager of the Delegation of the European Union to Serbia and Ms. Nataša Milić, Director of Republic Water Directorate.

Key experts, Mr. Matin Wolff and Mr. Yavor Dimitrov presented the project, its purpose, objectives, expected results and benefits and the role of stakeholders. Ms. Jadranka Ivanova, environmental approximation expert, proceeded with the presentation on the experience of North Macedonia in water reform process and pointed the key lessons learnt.

Mr. Predrag Bogdanović, representative of the Association for water technology and sanitary engineering, presented the association, activities relevant for the water sector and the data collected through the work of the association. Non-key experts on the project, Ms. Dragana Vasić, Mr. Zeljko Mitrović and Ms. Sanja Vemić provided the overview of the previous programs aimed at improving the water services of the public utility companies in Serbia. During the presentation of previous programs, Ms. Maja Medenica, shared experience of the PUC "Belgrade waterworks and sewerage" related to participation in Institutional Support Program.

The official ceremony of signing the Memorandums of Understanding between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management - Republic Water Directorate, Public Utility Companies and Local Self-Governments took place at the end of the event. In total, seventeen (17) Memorandums of Understanding were signed at the event with the following PUCs and LSGs:

- PUC "Vodovod" Kraljevo and City of Kraljevo
- PUC "Napredak" Sokobanja and Municipality of Sokobanja
- PUC "Raska" Raška and Municipality of Raška
- PUC "Blace" Blace and Municipality of Blace
- PUC "Vodovod" Užice and City of Úžice
- PUC "Naissus" Niš and City of Niš
- PUC "Vodovod Krusevac" Kruševac and City of Kruševac
- PUC "Vodovod i kanalizacija" Loznica and City of Loznica
- PUC "Zelen" Arilje and Municipality of Arilje
- PUC "Elan" Kosjerić and Municipality of Kosjerić
- PUC "Ivanjica" Ivanjica and Municipality of Ivanjica



- PUC "Nas dom" Požega and Municipality of Požega
- PUC "Rasina" Brus and Municipality of Brus
- PUC "Vodovod-Šabac" and City of Šabac
- PUC "Vodovod" Čacak and City of Čacak
- PUC "Vodovod i kanalizacija" Subotica and City of Subotica
- PUC "Vodovod" Smederevo and City of Smederevo

Seventy three (73) participants attended the event, including representatives of the eighteen (18) pilot PUCs and LSGs, PUC "Beogradski vodovod i kanalizacija" Belgrade, PUC "Vodovod i kanalizacija" Kragujevac, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Finance, U.S. Embassy in Serbia, Embassy of France in Serbia, Embassy of Spain in Serbia and Montenegro, USAID, UNDP, Association for water technology and sanitary engineering, Waterworks and Sewerage Association of Serbia. Additionally, journalists from three (3) national and one (1) local media covered the event and the press release of the event was published on the "EU za tebe" web platform.

The event gathered stakeholders relevant for the water sector reform process, to meet with relevant target groups and to be informed about the project, its purpose, objectives, expected results and benefits and their role in it, with the detailed explanation of the project activities and further efforts. The event additionally provided opportunity for the networking between national and local level institutions and project team, and by signing Memorandum of Understanding the commitment and participation of the pilot LSGs and PUCs was confirmed. Delegation of the European Union in Serbia and the beneficiary institutions assessed the event as successful, with the good representation and positive response from all participants.







Attachments:

- Agenda
 Participant's list
 Presentations







AGENDA

Opening event of the EU-funded project "EU support to reforms in water sector services "

Belgrade, Thursday, **7**th **April 2022**Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Resavska 13-15 st, 11000 Belgrade
Hall 1

9:00 - 9:30	Registration
9:30 - 10:00	 Introductory speeches: Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia Ministry of Finance, Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
	Delegation of the European Union in the Republic of Serbia
10:00 - 11:30	 The first part – Project presentation Policy issues in the water reform process - Martin Wolff, Key Expert 1 Capacities on central and local level - Yavor Dimitrov, Key Expert 2 Reform of water sector services, experience of North Macedonia – Jadranka Ivanova
11:30 - 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 - 13:00	The second part – Main stakeholders and issues in water sector services • Association of Water Technology and Sanitary Engeenering • Cooperation with local self-governments and public utility companies – Project team
13:00 - 14:00	Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony
14:00 - 15:00	Refreshments

Presentations will be held in English and Serbian language, with simultaneous translation provided.

NOTES REGARDING COVID-19: During the event, recomended COVID-19 protection measures will be respected, including wearing masks and using hand sanitizers.







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No. Br.	Name and surname Ime i prezime	Organization Organizacija	e-mail address e-mejl adresa	Telephone number	Signature
1.	Aleksandar Aleksic	KfW	Aleksandar.Aleksic@kfw.de	Broj telefona	Potpis
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3.	Aleksandar Jovanović	Grad Kruševac			Squeet A
4.	Aleksandar Mitrović	JKP "Ivanjica", Ivanjica	AMITROVICE TRPINAMICA. RS	032/662 549	DII3/14 1
5.	Aleksandar Protić	JKP "Vodovod", Kraljevo	aleksandar.sasha.protic@gmail.com	064/891-20-24	MITTER - S
	Aleksandar Šmit	JKP "Drugi oktobar", Vršac	aleksandar.smit@oktobar.rs	060/84-35-028	3
	Ana Ristić	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede, šumarstva i vodoprivrede	ana.ristic@minpolj.gov.rs	011 3610 329	harshi





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ліа зеке		e-mejl adresa	Telephone number Broj telefona	Signature
	UNDP	ana.seke@undp.org		Potpis
Ana Veljković	JKP "Napredak", Sokobania			
Anias D. V.		<u>direktor@jkpnapredak.rs</u>	064/84-99-264	Alsomole L
Anica Dačković	Ministarstvo zaštite životne sredine			2. Attuer
ntoine Avignon	FUD			J. Matures
	EUD	antoine.AVIGNON@eeas.europa.eu		
ana Miladinović- Stojanović	Ministarstvo građevinarstva, saobraćaja i infrastruktura	biljana.miladinovic@mggi gov		AAA
oban Vujović				
	- Naska Naska	sujouich 740 quail.	064/1615499	Mydeel
din Bulatovic	IFC	V CeO (4)	7101111	111
A n	Anica Dačković Itoine Avignon Ina Miladinović- Stojanović ban Vujović	Anica Dačković Ministarstvo zaštite životne sredine EUD Ma Miladinović- Stojanović Ministarstvo građevinarstva, saobraćaja i infrastrukture ban Vujović JKP "Raška", Raška	Anica Dačković Ministarstvo zaštite životne sredine EUD antoine Avignon EUD Ministarstvo građevinarstva, saobraćaja i infrastrukture ban Vujović JKP "Raška", Raška julijana.miladinovic@mgsi.gov.rs	Ministarstvo zaštite životne sredine EUD antoine Avignon EUD Ministarstvo građevinarstva, saobraćaja i infrastrukture ban Vujović JKP "Raška", Raška direktor@jkpnapredak.rs 064/84-99-264 antoine.AVIGNON@eeas.europa.eu biljana.miladinovic@mgsi.gov.rs 064 8094 728





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Br	ille i prezime	Organization Organizacija	Serbia, Resavska 13-15 st., hall 1 e-mail address	Telephone number	Signature
15.	Bojana Jovanović	Ministarstvo građevinarstva, saobraćaja i infrastrukture	e-mejl adresa	Broj telefona	Potpis
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17.	Boris Šćekić	Eptisa	bscekic@eptisa.com		1
18.	Botić Saša	JKP "Vodovod", Smederevo			78
19.	Damir Kondić	Udruženje vodovoda i	s.botic@sdvodovod.co.rs		
		kanalizacije Srbije Pokrajinski sekretarijat za	damir.kondic@vikns.rs		
0.	Darko Milanković	regionalni razvoj.	darko.milankovic@vojvodina.gov.rs		
	Dejan Gajić	U.S. Embassy Belgrade	gajicd@state.gov		





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No. Br.	Name and surname Ime i prezime	Organization Organizacija	Serbia, Resavska 13-15 st., hall 1 e-mail address	Telephone number	Cignot
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24.	Đorđe Milić	Eptisa			1500
25.	DARMO Dragan Kuzmanović	JKP "Blace", Blace	ikpblace@mts.rs		list of Part
26.	Dragana Mitrović	Grad Vršac	2000000	069 877 07 12	Kury.
7.	Dragana Vasić	Eptisa	Long	1	
8.	Duško Ljujić	JKP "Vodovod", Užice	dusko.ljujic@vodovod.uzice.rs	Jakoo.com	Dragane Va

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No. Br.	Name and surname Ime i prezime	Organization Organizacija	Serbia, Resavska 13-15 st., hall 1 e-mail address	Telephone number	Signature
29.	François-Xavier Kowandy	Ambassade de France en Serbie	e-mejl adresa <u>francois-</u>	Broj telefona	Potpis
30.	Goran Gavrilović	JKP "Vodvod i kanalizacija" Kragujevac	xavier.kowandy@diplomatie.gouv.fr	064-85-40-777	Mar G
31.	Goran Milosavljević	JKP "Naissus" Niš			Jan H
32.	Ivan Parezanović	Grad Kruševac	protokol@krusevac.rs		Mult
33.	Ivana Đuranović- Veselinov	Embassy of Spain in Serbia and in Montenegro	IDJURANOVIC@comercio.mineco.es		4 ligery
4.	Jadranka Ivanova	ENNS		045250234	line duant Verler
5.	Jasmina Lapčević	Opština Blace			

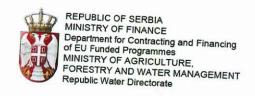




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No. Br.	Name and surname Ime i prezime	Organization Organizacija	e-mail address e-mejl adresa	Telephone number Broj telefona	Signature
36.	Jelena Krstić	Ministarstvo zaštite životne sredine	Jelena.Krstic@ekologija.gov.rs	011/3120-114	Potpis
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38.	Jovan Beč	Grad Smederevo	BECJOUANGS & ghpi. con	664/5649789	3061
39.	Jovan Knežević	JKP "Drugi oktobar", Vršac			1000
10.	Jovan Miladinović	Grad Loznica	jmiladinovic@loznica.rs		H
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43.	Maja Medenica	JKP "Beogradski vodovod i	maja.medenica@bvk.rs	Broj telefona	Potpis
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14.	Maja Mirčić	Ministarstvo privrede	maja.mircic@privreda.gov.rs	011/3642905	Majahagessy
45.	Marija Janković	JKP "Vodovod", Kraljevo	hidrash@yahoo.com	063/10-82-473	11 1
46.	Marija Lazarević	Republička direkcija za vode	marija.lazarevic@minpolj.gov.rs		nt v.
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8.	Marta Mihailović				Make -
		Republička direkcija za vode	marta.mihailovic@minpolj.gov.rs		V Versau non t
9.	Martin Wolff	Eptisa	mmwolff@waterreform.rs	00 436 99 1185 9239	Whersaumut





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50.	Milan Marjanović	JKP "Rasina", Brus	e-mejl adresa	Broj telefona	Potpis
F.4		rasina , Brus	madzoni87@gmail.com		It that
51.	Milan Nenadić	JKP "Zelen", Arilje			
52.	Milana Hadžić	Eptisa			Cly s
53.	Milena Miletić				Mela Bac
	Which a Whetic	JKP "Elan", Kosjerić	elan@nst.co.rs	031 781 058, 069 8256 378	Melensee u by
54.	Milica Jović	Opština Kosjerić		370	iewPC D
5.	Miljko Kragović	JKP "Naš dom", Požega			Florit
		,			I A MARINA
5.	Miloš Katić	Eptisa	mkatic@eptisa.com		





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No. Br.	Name and surname Ime i prezime	Organization Organizacija	e-mail address	Telephone number	Simost
57.	Miloš Stojanović	JKP "Vodovod", Užice	e-mejl adresa	Broj telefona	Signature Potpis
58.	Mirjana Đoković	Grad Čačak	mirjanadjokovic@cacak.org.rs	064/864-31-94	(Plus jost)
59.	Miroslav Tadić	UNDP	miroslav.tadic@undp.org	30-7/ 504-31-34	M. Grewtelf
50.	Miroslava Hero Gon	Udruženje vodovoda i kanalizacije Srbije			11 6 6
51.	Momčilo Mitrović	Opština Ivanjica			Acro-Gog M.
2.	Nataša Milić	Republička direkcija za vode	natasa.milic@minpolj.gov.rs	011 2013 360	
3.	Nebojša Jakovljević	JKP "Vodvod i kanalizacija", Kragujevac			le tang





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No. Br.	Name and surname Ime i prezime	Organization Organizacija	e-mail address e-mejl adresa	Telephone number	Signature
64.	Nenad Nikolić	Grad Niš	Nenad.Nikolic@gu.ni.rs	Broj telefona	Potpis
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66.	Nevena Miloradović	Ministarstvo zaštite životne sredine	Nevena.Miloradovic@ekologija.gov.rs		President
67.	Predrag Bogdanović	Udruženje za tehnologiju voda i sanitarno inženjerstvo (UTVSI)			Bydado
58.	Predrag Maslar	Opština Arilje			72000
9.	Rade Nedeljković	JKP "Rasina", Brus			1. 11
0.	Radica Koceva				Jell





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71.	Radomir Jaćović	JKP "Raška", Raška	komunalno@ptt.rs	Broj telefona	Potpis
72.	Radoslav Bukelić	Grad Subotica			May
73.	Sanja Vemić	Eptisa	sanja vemic@yahoo.com		
74.	Šanta Čaba	JKP "Vodovod i kanalizacija", Subotica	caba.santa@vodovodsu.rs		
75.	Siniša Bralić	Eptisa			
6.	Slavoljub Vujadinović	JKP "Elan", Kosjerić			A.
7.	Snežana Ostojić Paunović	UNDP	snezana.ostojic.paunovic@undp.org		Goral 1





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78.	Srđan Nedeljković	Grad Užice	, duresu	8roj telefona 064/8493/04	Potpis
79.	Stefanie Rauprich	KfW	Stefanie.Rauprich@kfw.de		Magnoul
80.	Stojković Srđan	JKP "Vodovod", Smederevo	s.stojkovic@sdvodovod.co.rs		
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32.	Tatjana Todoroska	Eptisa	ttodoroska@eptisa.com	00389 71 205 052	600
3.	Tia Leber	U.S. Embassy Belgrade	<u>LeberTM@state.gov</u>		
4.	Valentina Milosavljević	Opština Brus			Haracu





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85.	Vedrana Ilić	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede, šumarstva i vodoprivrede	vedrana.ilic@minpolj.gov.rs	011 3610 465	Potpis
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87.	Vladimir Milosavljević	JKP "Vodovod Kruševac", Kruševac	poslovnisekretar@vodovodks.co.rs	00381 64 88 52 161	
88.	Vladimir Nedeljković	JKP "Vodovod - Šabac", Šabac	vladimirn@vodovodsabac.rs		D. M. a. 2.
39.	Vojislav Kotlajić	JKP "Zelen", Arilje	jkpzelen.gis@gmail.com		B Novement
00.	Yavor Dimitrov	Eptisa	ydimitrov@waterreform.rs	00 359 88 8209 008	
1.	željko Mitrović	Eptisa		062770968	chill)

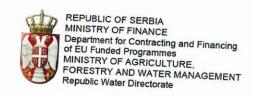




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92.	Zoran Pantović	JKP Vodovod Čačak	o meji duresa	Broj telefona	Potpis
93.	Zorica Korać	UNDP	zorica.korac@undp.org		Manuell
	CICHOVIĆ ACERSANDA	MEP	ACEUSANDAR CIRNOVICED	062/16-28-914	March
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DORAUIC	OPSTINA PASIPA	TIDANA. PADEVICA	064/8122042	W
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	Ime i prezime Gray Otson Newslav PETROVIZ ALEXSANDRA GLASNOVIE TIDANA PAJENIĆ DOLJENIĆ TPAZKO CTAH BUNDO APRIJENODIM	Name and surname Ime i prezime Organization Organizacija Gragolson USAID NINGRAV PETROVIZ HIEKSANDRA GLASNOVIE NIOAMA PAJENIĆ OPSTINA PAJEA POLJENIĆ TPAJEO THIRRILL KPATYZEISM	Ime i prezime Organizacija e-mail address e-mejl adresa SIOTSM DISGODO NILOWOGLAV PETROVIZ HIERSANDRA GLASHOVIE NEHN GLASHOVIE NEHN TIDANA PAJELIĆ OPSTINA PAJELA POLEVIC TPAJEN TORANA. GOV. ES BUNDO PRAMENOMIK NORUTUKO VISNJO DUGODIC PODIC	Interpretation Organization Org





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106.	Célène Itériches	French Elongy	celine he id - 0	Broj telefona	Potpis
107.	SASA-BOTTE	JET YO BOXOB	de l'esor, sou fr.		
108.	Conjuy Goral	JKP, Vodovod" Smoderevo		0648285904	
109.	Ana Agatorović	Beta	anaagatorovicti oo agmail.	G6007130112	
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EU SUPPORT TO REFORMS IN WATER SECTOR SERVICES NEAR/BEG/2020/EA-RP/0063

OPENING SEMINAR

POLICY ISSUES for WATER REFORM PROCESS, CHALLENGES and CAPACITIES on CENTRAL and LOCAL LEVEL

Belgrade, 7th April 2022



This propert is funded by #EY
3A TEFF

PROJECT DETAILS

Project commencement date: 27 January 2022

Implementation period: 24 months (January 2022 – January 2024)

Funded by: The European Union (represented by the Delegation of the

European Union to the Republic of Serbia)

Contracting authority: The Government of the Republic of Serbia, represented by the Ministry of Finance, Department for Contracting and Financing of

EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

Beneficiary: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

End recipient: Republic Water Directorate

Contractor: EPTISA Servicios de Ingenieria SL in consortium with

Eptisa Southeast Europe d.o.o.

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PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Overall project objective:

• The quality of life of citizens by raising environmental standards in Serbia to approximate EU levels improved.

Purpose of the project:

 To improve the efficiency of water services and to support the implementation of the requirements for cost recovery both at central and local level.



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WATER REFORM IN SERBIA SECURING WATER SERVICES

The Republic Water Directorate (RWD) - in line with EU standards - is driving the reform in the water sector in the country

With this EU supported WATER REFORM Project (2022-2023)

- the reform process will be significantly accelerated
- $\ ^{\bullet}$ through the introduction of a water regulatory body / mechanism
- as one of the key objectives of the Project

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Implementation of EU WATER POLICIES

EU Water Framework Directive (WFD)
Drinking Water Directive (DWD)
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD)

- ➤ Ensure provision of SAFE DRINKING WATER
- > Increase Water Management Capacity
- > PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT
- from the adverse effects of UWW through collection and treatment prior discharge to recipient waters
- ➤ Cost Recovery System under EU WFD requirements
- WFD Article 5: Economic analysis of water uses
- WFD Article 9: Recovery of costs for water services
 principle of recovery of the costs of water services
 - principle of recovery of
 polluter pays principle



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Challenges in meeting Serbian and EU objectives for water services provision

- Substantial investments are needed to secure reliable water services
- Water companies need to develop capacity to operate & maintain both <u>existing</u> and <u>future</u> infrastructure
- Overall objectives to assist the relevant authorities reforming the existing system concerning
 - Organisational
 - Managerial
 - Financial
 - Operational aspects at <u>Local level</u>

in order to enable effective and efficient management of water services

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CHALLENGES (2/2)

Assessment of the service providers will most probably indicate that the level of water supply service is generally good ... moreover, many measures are already being taken to improve performance

However, a number of weaknesses will certainly be identified in some cases:

- Insufficient data and information concerning water supply and wastewater collection networks
- Greater control on network operations needed
- Slow enforcement of invoice collection
- Need for tariff reviews
- Some PUCs with substantial debts and liabilities
- Need for develop internal information management
- Independent / separate systems in remote (rural) locations which should be merged into bigger systems

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ACTION Needed (1/3)

The project will set out a **PROGRAMME OF REFORM**(s) to make sure that **consumers** pay a fair price for high quality water services

A new **legal framework** for setting up the regulatory mechanism / body will be developed as foundation for this reform.

- Reforms will lead towards better efficiency
- Motivating efficient use and pollution reduction

These new \mbox{legal} requirements (including institutional, technical & financial management tools) will call for :

- Significant improvements in the management of water service provision, incl. preparation & implementation of
 - IMPROVEMENT PLANS
 - SECTOR REORGANISATION ROADMAP
 - BUSINESS PLANING
 - PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SYSTEM

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ACTION Needed (2/3)

Establishment of a Water Regulatory Body

- (i) to oversee these improvements and
- (ii) to regulate the prices that are charged to the consumer

- Water Regulator as part of the (existing) energy regulator
- Water Regulator as (new) stand-alone institution
- Other options considered feasible

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ACTION Needed (3/3)

Multiannual (business / investment) plans for service improvement

 to be prepared and implemented by every PUC / Water Company on regular (3-6) year basis



Water Companies must charge a fair price for water services

under the scrutiny of the Water Regulator

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WATER REFORM DIALOGUE (1/2)

KEY CHANGES will need to be introduced in a number of areas and practical implementation steps will need to progress with involvement of all relevant stakeholders

- The complexity of the reforms in the sector requires intensive efforts in the short term (project duration 2022 - 2023)
- Support from different stakeholders will be needed and will be provided through this (and related) projects, development partners and IFIs active in the sector – to increase the capacity of all parties in the water sector to meet the new requirements, both at LOCAL and CENTRAL level
- The national (water sector) investment programme, using both national and donor funds, will need to be harmonized / streamlined with the evolving regulatory requirements in order to modernize the water services infrastructure and achieve EU standards

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WATER REFORM DIALOGUE (2/2)

This all together will bring substantial changes

- in the way that water service providers operate
- and as well in <u>public awareness</u>, <u>perception</u>, <u>attitude</u> and <u>willingness to pay</u> for improvements

Different projects will need to work closely together to provide a platform for

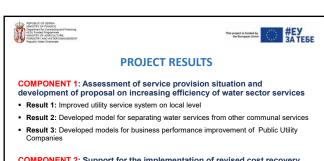
• constant <u>dialogue</u> between the competent <u>water authorities</u> and the <u>public</u>

On that understanding the Water Reform Project aims to initiate a

'WATER REFORM DIALOGUE'

so that stakeholders as well as the public are actively involved and understand the reforms.

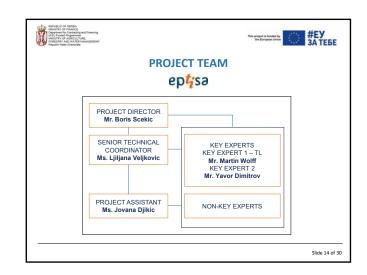
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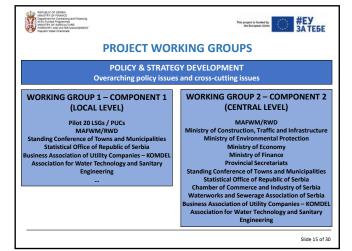


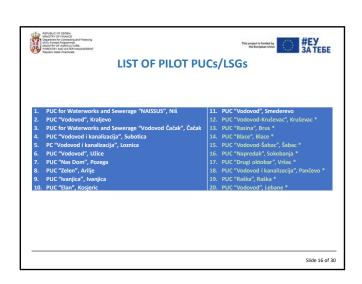
COMPONENT 2: Support for the implementation of revised cost recovery requirements (including implementation of Tariffs Methodology) and establishment of a water pricing regulatory system

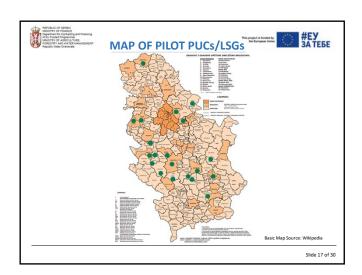
- Result 4: Tariffs methodology and water services pricing system developed
- Result 5: Developed model for the establishment of the Regulatory body Regulator
- Result 6: Strengthen capacities on local level regarding introduction of the Regulatory body Regulator

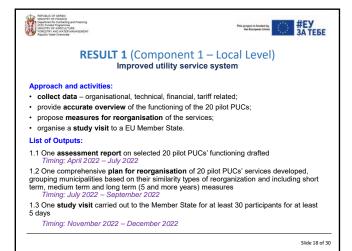
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RESULT 2 (Component 1 – Local Level)

Developed model for separating water services from other communal services

Approach and activities:

- analyse the overall performance of the water sector;
- recommend separation of the water services from the other PUC services;
- develop criteria for regionalisation and propose a road map;
- draft legal analysis on the aspects of the proposed reorganisation of the water services.

List of Outputs:

- 2.1 One Report with **analysis of overall performance** of the sector, identification of main challenges sector is facing, main reasons for underperformance, incl. recommendations *Timing: May 2022 September 2022*
- 2.2 One Assessment report with recommendations for separating water and wastewater services from other services in public utility companie
 Timing: May 2022 – September 2022
- 2.3 Developed document with **criteria for regionalization**, identifying options and opportunities and a road map for achieving clustering and potential regions/service areas *Timing: July 2022 November 2022*
- 2.4 Drafted **legal analysis** of the aspect of the proposed reorganization of water services, development of draft laws and secondary legislation





RESULT 3 (Component 1 – Local Level)

Developed models for business performance improvement of PUCs

Approach and activities:

- · prepare multi-annual business plans for the water services of the PUCs;
- establish **performance indicators** for the water sector;
- base business plans on measures for improvement to achieve the performance targets;
- · train key PUCs' staff on performance indicators and benchmarking.

List of Outputs:

- 3.1 One assessment report the Public Utility services sector, including Business plan for 20 pilot PUC in selected municipalities/towns (tasks, responsibilities, analysis of technical and financial performance, operational improvement planning, financial improvement planning, investment planning, scenario analysis and plan optimisation)

 Timing: August 2022 April 2023
- 3.2 Guidance documents on **establishing performance indicators** / benchmarking delivered *Timing: August 2022 December 2022*
- 3.3 At least 1 training for at least 15 participants delivered per pilot PUC and representatives from the towns/municipality for establishing performance indicators and benchmarking Timing: November 2022 October 2022





COMPONENT 1 - Local Level MAJOR CHALLENGES

Provide diligent data collection for proper analyses and assessments

- > Develop standardized questionnaires and checklists for data collection
- Verify data via cross-checks and initial benchmarking across the PUCs

Develop adequate measures for reorganization of the PUCs

- > Group Municipalities/PUCs by similar patterns of performance and needed measures
- > Utilise in-country and EU provisions and experience

Propose convincing concepts for separation and regionalisation

- > Integrated approach to the water reform at local and central level is crucial for success
- \succ Base the proposal on sound legal analysis and development of the respective documents

Organise business planning as multi-annual tool for improvement

- ➤ Link business planning with performance indicators and achieving performance targets
- > Gain understanding that business planning is a process

Ensure smooth implementation of further application of EU water quality standards

- ${\boldsymbol{\succ}}$ Set performance indicators targets in line with the best EU standards
- > Establish performance indicators based mechanism to measure progress

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RESULT 4 (Component 2 – Central Level)

Tariffs methodology and water services pricing system developed

- assess the existing system, highlighting eventual gaps and inconsistencies;
- develop new improved uniform system, methodology and water tariff model;
- elaborate IT software application for calculation of water tariff:
- deliver focused training on the revised water tariff methodology/model

List of Outputs:

- 4.1 One study on current water tariff system/methodology and development of new improved water tariff methodology Timing: June 2022 November 2022
- 4.2 One IT software application for calculation of water tariff developed Timing: October 2022 February 2023
- 4.3 At least 3 two-days **trainings** for implementation of **IT software** application for calculation of water tariff for the Regulator and for participants from local and central level Timing: April 2023 - October 2023
- 4.4 At least 1 two-day **on-the-job trainings** per pilot LSGs/PUCs on the procedures for approval and setting the prices for water services for application of the revised methodology *Timing: April 2023 October 2023*





RESULT 5 (Component 2 – Central Level) Developed model for the establishment of the Regulatory body - Regulator

Approach and activities:

- analyse the regulatory practices in similar Member State countries and in Serbia;
- select the most appropriate system for Serbia and develop the Regulator's set-up; elaborate dedicated IT software application for the Regulator's procedures;
- · deliver focused training for the newly established Regulatory body

List of Outputs:

- 5.1 One Report on water services regulatory practices in EU Member States and regulatory practices in Serbia with selection of most appropriate regulatory system for Serbia Timing: July 2022 October 2022
- 5.2 Document on of Regulator's institutional and organisational set up drafted - January 2023
- 5.3 At least 3 internal developed procedures for the Regulator (such as application, assessment and approval/rejection of Tariff Adjustment Plans and Business Plan Evaluation Protocol, Audit of Calculations, Sensitivity Analysis, Key Performance Indicators Benchmarking, Affordability, etc.) Timing: September 2022 January 2023
- 5.4 One IT software application for the Regulator procedures developed Timing: January 2023 May 2023
- 5.5 At least 2 on-the-job trainings related to the IT tool application for Regulator delivered Timing: April 2023 September 2023

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RESULT 6 (Component 2 – Central Level)

Strengthen capacities on local level regarding introduction of the Regulatory body – Regulator

- assess training needs at central and local level; draft an integrated Training Programme;
- draft the legal basis or establishment of the Regulator;
- organise workshops for the water tariff system and a study visit to a EU Member State List of Outputs:
- Training needs assessment document (Regulator; PUCs; national authorities and other stakeholders relevant for implementation of the Water Tariff System) developed Timing: April 2022 January 2023
- 6.2 At least 3 **two-day workshops** for the Regulator; PUCs; national authorities and other stakeholders relevant for implementation of the Water Tariff System, develop training materials Timing: January 2023 - September 2023
- 6.3 At least 100 brochures developed Timing: January 2023 September 2023
- Drafted Legal basis for the establishment of the Regulator including draft Systematization and Organization Act Timing: September 2022 February 2023

6.5 One **study visit** carried out to the Member State for at least 20 participants for 5 days





COMPONENT 2 - Central level MAJOR CHALLENGES

Make a smooth transition to the new tariff system

- > Carefully study the existing tariff systems across the PUCs/LSGs (strengths/weaknesses)
- > Design the new uniform system based on the (increased) capacity of the stakeholders
- > Propose gradual transition to the new system

Select the most appropriate water regulatory system for Serbia

- > Study the water regulatory practices in similar EU Member States
- Assess the most applicable option (definitive/consultative; independent/integrated, etc.)

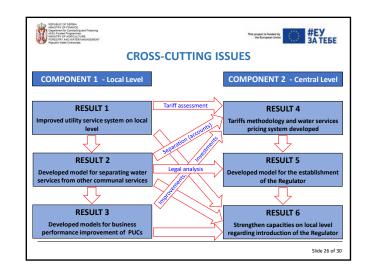
Elaborate user friendly and functional IT software applications

- > Initial IT solutions will be Excel based to enable easy adjustments in their implementation
- > Decisions will be made on further full-fledged IT software applications

Establish sound legal ground for the set-up of the Regulator

- > Precisely balanced organisational structure and functions of the regulatory body
- > Systematization and Organisation Act drafted with close consultations with stakeholders Dedicated capacity building for all the relevant stakeholders
- > Training Programme will be done after focused training needs assessment
- > Address the actual needs on local and on central level

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KEY ISSUES / RISKS

#ЕУ

- Key issue: Complexity of the sector and consequently of the impacts of the reform process EFFECTS: CHALLENGED PRIORITIES OF THE STAKEHOLDERS; LOW COMMITMENT IN THE REFORM PROCESS
- OUR APPROACH: INITIATE REGULAR SHARING OF KEY INFORMATION; ESTABLISH PSG AND WGS + (STRATEGIC) WG

Key Issue: Lack of legal framework for reforms in the water sector

- EFFECTS: THE PROCESS OF REFORM IS NOT SUSTAINABLE: INVESTMENTS IN THE SECTOR ARE NOT SECURE
- OUR APPROACH: LEGAL PAPERS BASED ON THOROUGH LEGAL ANALYSIS; INVOLVEMENT OF THE KEY STAKEHOLDERS

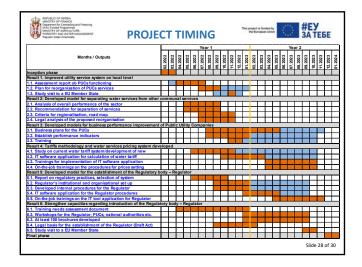
Key Issue: Difficulties in the process of PUC reorganisation

- EFFECTS: QUESTIONABLE PUC REORGANISATION; THE QUALITY OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED IS NOT SATISFACTORY OUR APPROACH: INTENSIVE COMMUNICATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS; INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKING
- Key Issue: Lack of decision on what kind of institution will be the Regulator

- EFFECTS: REGULATOR NOT ESTABLISHED; COST RECOVERY TARIFF PRINCIPLE NOT IN PLACE; LOWER POLITICAL SUPPORT
- OUR APPROACH: MULTI-SCENARIO ANALYSIS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGULATOR, BASED ON RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE

Key Issue: Transfer of knowledge and ensuring knowledge acquisition

- EFFECTS: LOW IMPACT OF CAPACITY BUILDING AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER; LACK OF INTEREST OF THE PARTICIPANTS TO THE TRAINING ACTIVITIES
- OUR APPROACH: APPLYING VARIOUS METHODS OF KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER, TAILORED ACCORDING TO TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT: PRACTICAL / FOCUSED WORKSHOPS, ON-THE-JOB TRAININGS, STUDY VISITS, ETC.







CONCLUSIONS

The project is aiming at complex reforms in the water sector of Serbia. This is a challenging process

- ✓ Many stakeholders are involved and they may have different views;
- Large amount of data has to be processed which may be time-consuming and to require involvement of various expertise;
- In order to be well accepted, the project outcomes have to be based on a solid ground, well communicated, fine-tuned and properly addressed to the beneficiaries;
- ✓ Tailored approach is needed for the different groups of stakeholders;
- Capacity building needs to be achieved through various methods from working closely with the stakeholders to organising events such as national level seminars and study tours abroad;
- ✓ Developing legal documents and elaborating software solutions shall be of greatest precision

PROPER COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY FOR SUCCESS.

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EU SUPPORT TO REFORMS IN WATER SECTOR SERVICES NEAR/BEG/2020/EA-RP/0063

Reform of water sector services. experience of North Macedonia

Jadranka Ivanova. environmental approximation expert

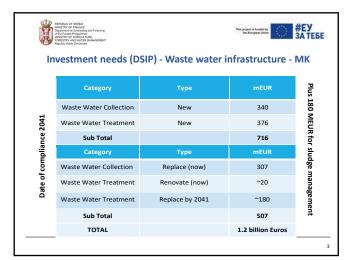
7th April 2022





Water Sector Development

- Law on Waters was prepared in 2004 and adopted in 2008
- Water Strategy adopted in 2011
- RBMP under preparation for all 3 (4) RB but no one formally approved
- In 2017 and 2010 rough cost assessment for compliance with water acquis was done that estimated app. one billion Euros:
 - 650 700 ME for implementation of UWWTD
 - 250 300 ME for Drinking water directive (DWD)







Water sector actors

- Who is going to receive all these investments?
 - State Bodies: MoEPP, MAFWE, MTC 10 %
 - Municipalities and Public Utility Companies (PUCs) - 90 %
- Are Municipalities and PUCs ready to receive and manage the new infrastructure in financial and sustainable manner?







Reasons for reform in waters - 1

- Obligation to build waste water treatment plants for each settlement above 2000 inhabitants (Law on Waters and UWWTD) $\,$
- DSIP estimated that we need to build 87 WWTPs out of which 16 WWTPs with tertiary - more stringent treatment for reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus will be required, while the rest of the WWTPs will use only secondary treatment;
- Use of IPA I funds (III Component) conditioned for establishment of sustainable water pricing system, which will generate enough revenue for operation and maintenance of new infrastructure (agreement between RNM and EC for financing waste water treatment plant in Prilep. Deadline - end of 2017)





Reasons for reform in waters - 2

- Tariffs Methodology was not mandatory
- Tariffs did not cover all costs, not revised at required frequency
- Part of revenue of PUCs was directed to other than water sector needs
- Majority of PUCs were performing with low efficiency and low quality of services





Reasons for reforms in waters - 3

- Water abstraction and pollution charges as foreseen in the Law on Waters were partially implemented
- Need for investment planning both on national and on PUCs level was neglected
- High political influence on the work of PUCs on local
- Need to increase the efficiency and quality of service provided by PUCs more than 75 % of water loses





Increasing water sector services sustainability

- Four main directions or goals in water sector reforms:
 - Improving cost recovery system
 - · Strategic planning of investment
 - Developing capacity at central level
 - · Developing capacity at local level
- Four (4) IPA I projects were implemented to support main directions
 - 27 PUC were supported with reforms and new tariffs application
 - RCEWS was supported with the new water tariff methodology







- Establishment of a Regulator for water service prices
- Two options were proposed for consideration for the Government:
 - · Water Sector Regulator as part of the energy sector regulator;
 - · Special Water Sector Regulator
- · The Law established the Regulator adding water sector functions to the Regulatory Commission for Energy and Water Services (RCEWS) of North Macedonia





Reform timetable - 1

- Law on Setting Tariffs on Water Services entered into force September 2016
- 2 new Regulatory Commissioners for Water in RCEWS were nominated in September 2016
- Methodology for Water Tariffs was adopted by May 2017 (by RCEWR) and amended in September 2018
- Starting day for PIU to apply to RCEWS for new tariffs -November 2016
- For PUCs serving areas more than 10 000 inhabitants the new tariffs was applicable from **January 2018**• For other PUCs – from January 2019





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Reform timetable - 2

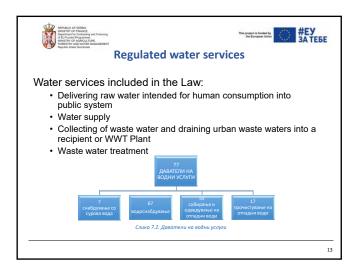
- · PUC apply for tariff for a period of three years with Tariff adjustment plan
- RCEWS sets a range of the tariff and benchmarks :
 - Minimum to secure maintenance and new investment
 - · Maximum to secure affordability
- · Municipal council (MC) decides on the exact tariff on proposal of the mayor
- If MC would not decide in 90 days then the RCEWS will set the exact tariff for the PÚC

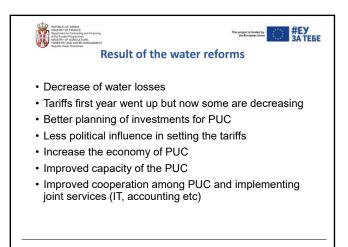


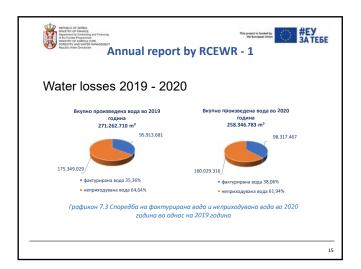
Law on Setting Prices for Water Services

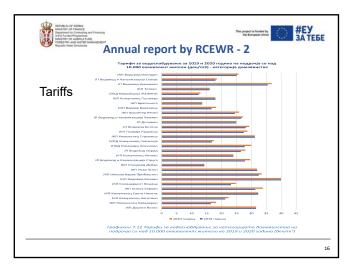
- **General Provisions**
- The Tariffs for Water Services
- The Water Service Tariff Regulatory Commission
- Tariff Setting (manner and procedure)
- Control and Surveillance
- Sanctions and fines
- Transitional and final provisions

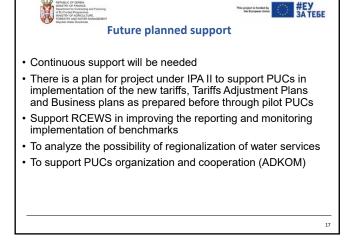
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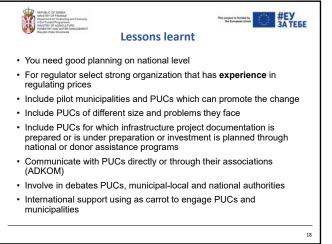
















Conclusions

- Very intensive and demanding process, heavy load on administrative resources of the Ministry
- Requires good cooperation among central level institutions but also with municipalities and PUCs
- Implementation requires intensive efforts in business planning and tariffs adjustment planning
- TA support is very important during reform period
- Positive impacts on the water services sector are obvious

The property of the following and Financing of EU Financing



Thank you for your attention!

Contact:

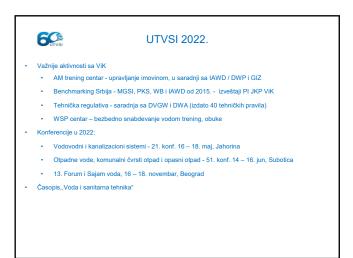
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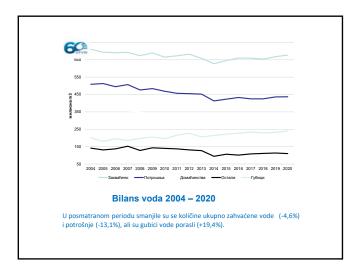


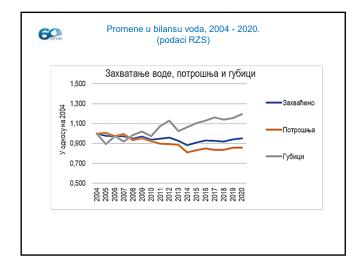


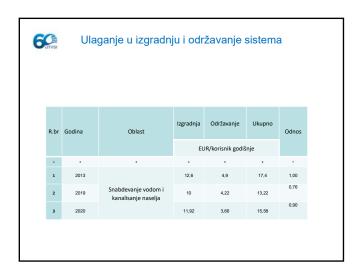


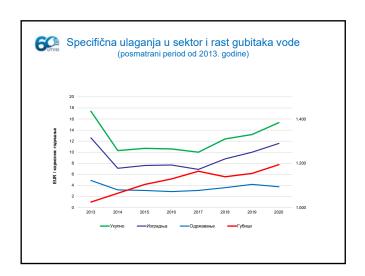


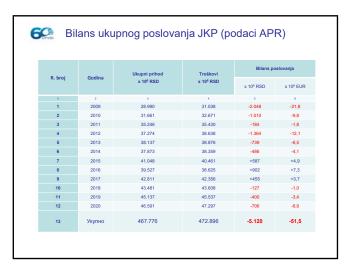


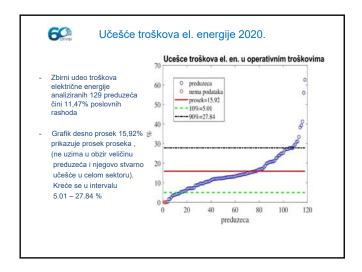


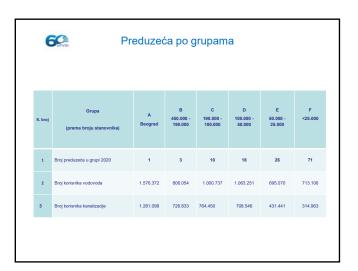










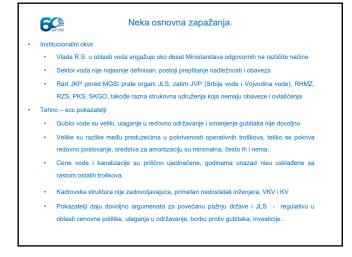


















EU SUPPORT TO REFORMS IN WATER SECTOR SERVICES
NEAR/BEG/2020/EA-RP/0063

SEMINAR

regarding the beginning of the project "EU support to reforms in water sector"

Review of programs aimed at improving water supply systems and companies in Serbia from 2000 to 2022

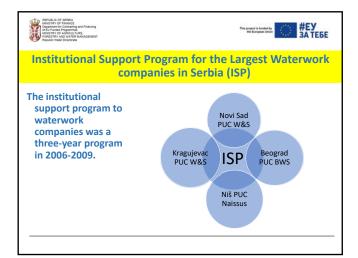
Привредна комора Србије, Београд 7. април 2022.





The first donor programs aimed at large water supply and water supply companies in Serbia

- The first internationally funded programs were KfW donor programs for Belgrade, Novi Sad, Nis and Kragujevac from 2000 to 2006
- The first and second phase donation of equipment for water supply systems and their maintenance
- PUCs were submitting indicators continuously... after 5 years of donation, it was found that losses (non-revenue water) are growing
- Then the third phase began the project to support PUCs







Objectives of the Institutional Support Program 2006-2009

- · Increasing revenue
- · More precise invoicing
- · Reduction of costs
- Improving self-financing capacity
- Defining maintenance priorities
- Improving invoicing, financial control and reporting
- Improving cost control





Focus of the Institutional Support Program 2006-2009.

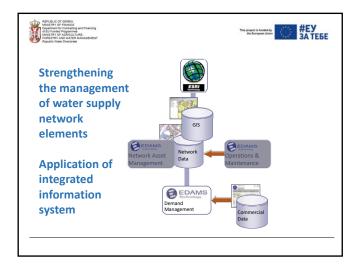
- Network element management and Network Lifecycle Management (Network Asset Management)
- Calculation and billing with the aim of increasing the efficiency of billing
- Business planning reporting, budgeting, cost centres, business indicators
- Water tariff study

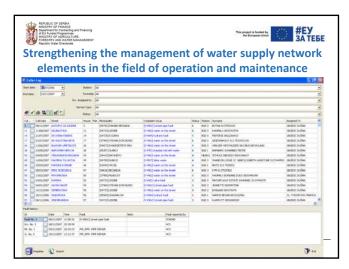


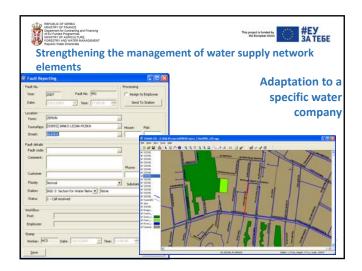


Network element management and Network Lifecycle Management (Network Asset management)

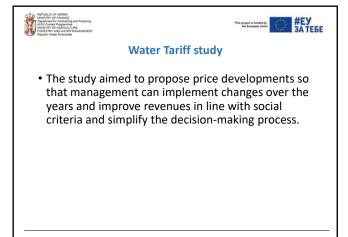
- Procurement and application of EDAMS system for network element management
- Establishment of a register of water supply network elements
- Consider doing the same for sewage
- Consider the possibility of procuring and implementing a network maintenance system and a water needs management system







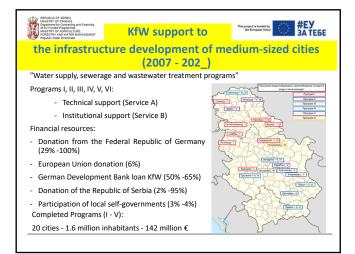






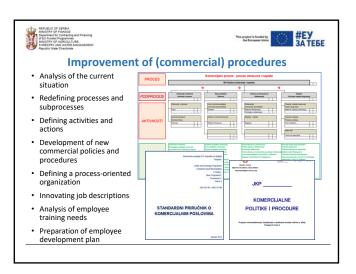
















• GOALS:

- ✓ Process-oriented organization
- ✓ Efficient organization in accordance with the real requirements of the process
- ✓ Optimal use of available resources
- ✓ Commercial policies and procedures adopted
- ✓ Innovated job descriptions
- \checkmark An analysis of the necessary knowledge and skills of employees was made for each job position
- ✓ Employee development plan developed (incorporated into the Annual Business Program through planned activities and costs)

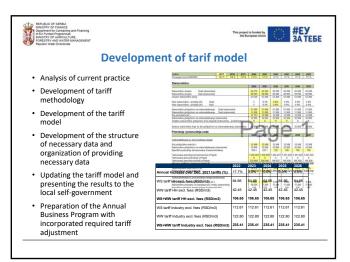






• GOALS:

- $\checkmark \\ Introducing an efficient cost centres structure$
- ✓ Precise separation of costs and incomes from activities
- ✓ Monitoring the coverage of costs by activities (water supply, sewerage, other activities)

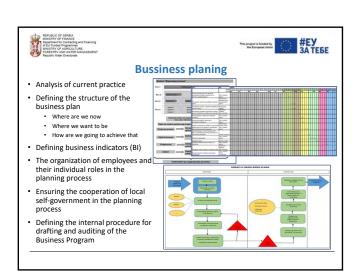




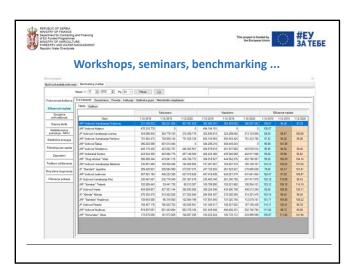


• GOALS :

- \checkmark Defined methodology in accordance with the legal framework
- ✓ Operational tariff model
- ✓ Full cost recovery provided
- ✓ Funds provided for regular maintenance and renewal of the system in accordance with the needs
- ✓ Provided socially acceptable tariff
- $\begin{picture}(60,0)\put(0,0){\checkmark Support provided for socially vulnerable categories of users}\end{picture}$
- ✓ Provided understanding of the methodology and support from the local self-government for the implementation of the necessary tariffs



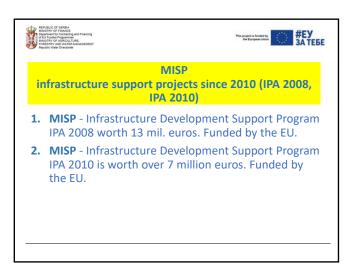
















MISP infrastructure support projects started in 2010. IPA 2008, IPA 2010

- Kolubara regional water supply project
- Morava, Velika Plana-Smederevska Palanka regional water supply
- Krusevac regional supply project Rasina district
- Leskovac, Sabac, Vrbas, Zrenjanin wastewater collection and treatment
- Raska water supply management





The main objectives of MISP

- Improved management of municipal infrastructure services
- Increased investment in infrastructure in line with the EU
- Environmental protection and sustainable economic development

How?

 Support to municipalities and PUCs during the entire process of implementing infrastructure projects





MISP results

Better services in the field of communal infrastructure support to the municipalities in PUCs reforms

- Cooperation between national, regional and local authorities legal and institutional reforms
- New laws / regulations, PUC reform strategy
- Inter-municipal cooperation in the provision of infrastructure services and the establishment of regional PLICs
- Management support in technical, financial and human resources - FOPIP





FOPIP improvement of financial and operational performance indicators

- Support to the existing PUCs
- Establishment of new regional companies
- Support in sustainable operation
- Support of regional companies for wholesale water supply and collection, contracts
- Organizational technical management, human resources, work procedures
- Financial management and business planning
- Tariff model and delivery price





Problems of FOPIP improvement of financial and operational performance indicators

- A novelty for decision makers
- The legal framework does not provide full support
- Partnership ... what do we get?
- Establishment of PUC operation and maintenance functions
- Inter-municipal cooperation, inter-municipal companies, contracts
- Sustainable pricing models





Improving the water sector and the work of PUCs is also necessary in order to make it easier for municipalities and PUCs to prepare and implement complex infrastructure projects

Preparation and implementation Wastewater project in Nis

- From 2006 to 2022, planning, project and tender documentation for the WWTP Nis (286,000 ES), 40 km of collectors and treatment of wastewater from the WWTP Medijana was prepared.
- Tenders for FOPIP and supervision were completed in 2021, and for the works in March 2022.
- The project will be funded by IPA2018 and local funds.