

ENVIROMAGAZÍN

Summary 4/2004

From the Table of Contents

4	Implementation of the new Water Act
6	Integrated watershed management in the conditions of the Slovak Republic
8	Legal regulations in the field of flood protection
10	Flood prevention programme of the Slovak Republic (SR) up to 2010
12	POVAPSYS in practice
14	Expert assistance in the preparation of priority preventive flood measures in SR
16	Summer flood in 2004 in eastern Slovakia
18	European initiatives for flood prevention and damages mitigation
20	Successful revitalisation requires high expertise
22	After-flood Danube river
24	Selected hazardous substances according to SEVESO II (2)
25	The poetry of Malý Dunaj
26	Slovakia has its first Mural – Global
27	Economic sectors in the process of environmental aspects implementation in sector policies
28	About respect for grass and about Slovak mowers in the world
30	Basic principles of long-term development of forest management in Slovakia (II)
32	Historical bases of environmental policy and environmental legislation (III)
34	Photo competition
	Enclosure

Association of Cities and Villages (ACV) and the Ministry of Environment of SR have common interests in the field of flood protection

Dana Gregorová, MoE SR

Minister of Environment of SR Mr. László Miklós informed journalists at a press conference about the September meeting with ACV representatives devoted to problems connected with the Act on flood protection, which is in preparation. He stated that after the first reading in the Parliament ACV had raised serious objections against this Act. Therefore 15 to 20 amendments were approved at the meeting so that cities and villages feel increased interest of MoE SR, because interests of the Ministry, watershed managers and municipalities are absolutely identical, the Minister stressed.

(page 2)

Water – the giver of life and nature element

Marián Supek, MoE SR

According to the general director of Water Division of MoE SR Marián Supek, water was and is a necessary condition of human civilisation development. From times immemorial people settle near rivers representing sources of drinking and service water. At present, provision of sufficient quantity of water, especially clean drinking water, is the most serious problem of mankind and in future the situation will be even more critical not only because of growing water requirements but also because of increased pollution of water bodies.

(page 3)

Implementation of the new Water Act
Eleonóra Bartková, MoE SR

The new Water Act (entered into force on 1 July 2004) relates to all forms of water bodies, water protection, rights to waters and their recording, water constructions and rights and duties to plots directly connected with waters. Legal institutions, that have a long-term tradition in Slovakia and are connected with water handling, are included in the new Water Act. The author of the article brings information about the process of the Water Act preparation and implementation.
(page 4-5)

Integrated watershed management in the conditions of the Slovak Republic
Anna Gajdová, Research Institute of Water Management, Bratislava

Integrated watershed management follows from the fact that water is an integral part of ecosystem, nature source and at the same time social and economic goods, the quantity and quality of which depends on the method of its use. The way to complex care provision and to the utilization of ground and surface waters leads through integrated management. The article informs about principles of integrated watershed management, about water planning, watershed management as well as about the programme of measures ensuing from analyses carried out within water planning.
(page 6-7)

Legal regulations in the field of flood protection
Ján Kadubec, MoE SR

Flood protection in Slovakia and concrete tasks and obligations of individual participants of flood protection are governed at present by regulations from the 70-ties of the last century based on experience from the catastrophic flood at the Danube river in 1965. The new Water Act creates legal conditions for the development of a special regulation for flood protection in the form of an act. The draft act on flood protection sets a scope of powers and tasks of state administration bodies, municipalities, flood committees and rescue services in the field of flood protection as well as rights and duties of legal entities and natural persons in coordination of activities connected with preventive measures in flood protection, in rendering assistance during flood activities and in evaluation of flood consequences.
(page 8-9 and 19)

Flood protection programme of the Slovak Republic (SR) up to 2010
Dušan Abaffy, MoE SR

Slovak Government approved in January 2000 the Flood protection programme of the Slovak Republic up to 2010. Subsequently, in 2001 the Government ordered the Ministers of Agriculture, Interior and Environment to update the time schedule of the programme. The Minister of Finance was directed to ensure funds for the programme implementation. The article is mapping the implementation of flood abatement measures, evaluates fulfilment of the Flood protection programme and informs about conditions of flood abatement measures funding in future.
(page 10-11)

POVAPSYS in practice

Katarína Hajtášová and Andrej Slančík, Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute (SHMI)

Flood warning and forecasting system (POVAPSYS) of the Slovak Republic is a large-scale project requiring the participation of many experts, technicians and researchers. The project is a part of the Flood prevention programme of the SR up to 2010 approved by the Slovak Government in January 2000. Its goal is to improve sufficiently the quality of outputs of the meteorological and hydrological service in case of floods affecting larger territorial units. One of the main parts of POVAPSYS system is the SHMI monitoring network.

(page 12-13 and 17)

Expert assistance in the preparation of priority preventive flood protection measures in SR
Branislav Lipták, Slovak Water Management Company (SWMC), Banská Štiavnica

In September 2002, the European Commission provided the possibility of obtaining support for flood prevention projects from ISPA fund of the European Communities. A pioneering project in this field in the Slovak Republic is the project Expert assistance in the preparation of priority preventive flood protection measures in SR – in residential areas of the cities Bratislava, Banská Bystrica and Prešov. Slovak Water Management Company in Banská Štiavnica is the final beneficiary of the support in the amount of 853,000 EUR.

(page 14-15)

Summer flood in 2004 in eastern Slovakia

Vladimír Kunderát, Slovak Water Management Company, Košice

Eastern part of Slovakia is regularly affected by various types of floods - from local storm rainfalls up to floods caused by long-term precipitations affecting the whole region. Extreme rainfalls, flysch and fan-shaped watersheds of main rivers were determining natural factors also in the last flood in July of this year. The author of the article brings information about water management works at watersheds of the rivers Bodrog, Hornád, Bodva, Poprad and Dunajec.

(page 16-17)

European initiatives for flood protection and damages mitigation

Gabriela Babiaková, SHMI Bratislava and Martin Bačík, SWMC Bratislava

Character of floods and the extent of threats caused by them are characterised by a large variability. An extreme run-off situation is almost always a source of floods in land-locked countries. However, seaside countries are endangered by floods in rivers as well as at the seaside. Flood is a hydrological phenomenon ignoring state borders therefore an effort to improve flood protection measures is acquiring an increasing international dimension. The Action plan of flood protection in the Rhone watershed opened a new chapter in addressing questions of flood protection in Europe.

(page 18-19)

Successful revitalisation requires high expertise

Ján Lichý

The author of the article informs about practical experience with revitalisation of a part of the Borová brook above the village of the same name near Český Krumlov in the Blanský forest

protected landscape area. Revitalisation of the upper part of the stream resulted in a distinct aesthetic landscape element, safe diversion of flood flows by means of inundation, favourable transformation of high-flood-water wave and suitable biotope.
(page 20-21)

After-flood Danube river

Blažena Horváthová

The biggest known flood at the Danube, initiation of flood protection, the oldest known historical floods, information sources about historical floods and extreme hydrological phenomena, big floods at the end of the 18th and 19th centuries, floods at the Danube since 1897, flood marks – this is in brief the content of the article mapping in an interesting way the history of floods at the Danube.
(page 22-23)

Selected hazardous substances according to SEVESO II (2)

Katarína Palúchová, SEA

The theme of selected hazardous chemical substances continues in the second part of the series by ethylene oxide – its relation to the environment and its effects on human health.
(page 24-25)

Malý Dunaj (the Little Danube)

Martin Turčan

The poetry of Malý Dunaj (the Little Danube) by word and picture...
(page 25)

A manual for a green public procurement

Environmental service

The European Commission has published the manual on ecological public procurement to assist the public administration to think ecologically in products and services purchase.
(page 25)

Slovakia has its first Mural – Global

Ján Lichý

The world-wide project Mural – Global, inspired by findings of Agenda 21 concerning the support of artists in environmental protection and improvement, is the fulfilment of cultural – social objectives within urban and rural communities. Since this August we have Mural – Global – mural paintings also in Slovakia. An international team of artists created mural paintings in the East Slovak village of Poproč.
(page 26)

Economic sectors in the process of environmental aspects implementation in sector policies

Radoslava Kanianska, SEA

Constantly increasing economic growth is accompanied by the decrease of natural sources and by changes of the quality of environment. The issue of optimum link determination

between economic aspects and environment, between the needs of economic development and the necessity of environmental protection and improvement gains great significance. This can be proved by present EU initiatives, decisions and strategies. On the basis of indicators developed by EEA and OECD, the Slovak Environmental Agency in cooperation with MoE SR has been preparing indicator-based sector reports dealing with the impact of economic sectors (transport, energy, tourism, agriculture and forest management) on the environment in Slovakia. Individual reports are published in the enclosure to this Enviromagazin. (page 27)

About respect for grass and about Slovak mowers in the world
Lukáš Janoška

At the beginning of the article about the international symposium “The task of a scythe in the 21st century” with the participation of mowers from Pohorelá village, which took place this year in Austrian Molln, the author writes about traditions and significance of grass mowing in Slovakia. (page 28-29)

Basic principles of long-term development of forest management in Slovakia (II)
Ctibor Greguš, Institute of Forest Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences

The second part of the article deals with the principle of stability (statical and ecological), principle of ecologisation (including biodiversity), principle of economy and economic typification. (page 30-31)

Historical bases of environmental policy and environmental legislation (III)
Jozef Klinda, MoE SR

The author takes us to Egypt. He discovers various secrets and facts.... (32-34)

Photo competition

Two rainbows above a landscape.... Romantic natural phenomenon immortalized by Ivan Kňaze from Hradište. (page 34)

World heritage

Morocco – Medina in Fez, Mexico – pre-Columbus town of El Tajín, Lebanon – Baalbek, China – Chinese wall.

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