



WASTEWATER TREATMENT IN DLHÉ NAD CIROCHOU CONNECTING STRUCTURALLY WEAK REGIONS TO THE SEWER NETWORK



Until now the residents of the eight recipient municipalities of the Swiss enlargement contribution have mostly collected sewage in septic tanks, which were regularly emptied, and the sewage then transported by road to treatment plants some distance away. © SECO

Only around 65% of the population of Slovakia live in houses connected to a sewer network. Switzerland has supported the municipality of Dlhé nad Cirochou with the construction of a 6.9 kilometre sewer network. This will give more than 1,100 inhabitants access to the municipality's waste-water system. In addition, the waste-water treatment system will be expanded, allowing waste water to be treated for a further 1,400 residents.

Water pollution remains a major environmental issue in the new EU member states. One of the reasons for this is the lack of waste-water systems. Only 65% of the population of Slovakia live in houses connected to a sewer system. A waste-water system was established in the municipality of Dlhé nad Cirochou in 2002. However, this only catered to half of the population.

PROTECTING WATER AND IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS

Switzerland has invested CHF 2.8 million into the expansion of the sewer system in Dlhé nad Cirochou.

- 6.9 kilometres of sewer network have been built.
- The capacity of the waste-water treatment system was almost doubled, allowing waste water from a further 1,400 inhabitants to be treated. The neighbouring community of Modra nad Cirochou also stands to benefit.
- An information campaign informed the people about the project and raised their awareness of the importance of protecting waterways.

The project helped Slovakia in its efforts to meet EU standards in terms of water protection. It also improved living conditions in the municipality.

OTHER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROJECTS

Within the framework of six projects, the enlargement contribution served to build or modernise some 90 kilometres of sewer network in eight Slovakian municipalities. 7,000 inhabitants had been connected to the sewer network by the end of 2016.

Switzerland has invested around CHF 27 million in waste-water projects in Slovakia. Three of the six projects were implemented in the focal regions of Swiss support, Prešov and Kosice in the east of the country.



Thanks to the enlargement contribution, about 10,000 residents from eight municipalities are now being progressively connected to the new sewage network.

© SECO



With the implementation of this project, the public sewage system in Dlhé nad Cirochou, including secondary sewage channels, is to be completed, and the capacity of the existing sewage treatment plant is to be increased. We have waited 15 years for this.

For the population, this means that the high cost for the periodic emptying of the existing and often leaky cesspits has been reduced and that waste water no longer seeps away into the ground. Thus the pollution of the groundwater in wells, which the population still uses for irrigation, is decreasing. As a smaller quantity of untreated and polluted water flows into the River Cirocha, it is now possible to maintain the quality of surface water.

From the perspective of the municipality and companies operating within its territory, the attractiveness of the region for housing and business has increased, as a result of which public revenues are increasing and jobs are being created. The expansion of the sewage system and the sewage treatment plant has also given rise to new business opportunities in the area of rural tourism.

Jan Kniz,
Mayor of Dlhé nad Cirochou

THE PROJECT IN BRIEF

SUBJECT

Wastewater treatment

COUNTRY

Slovakia

STARTING POINT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Only around 65% of households in Slovakia are connected to a sewer network .

PURPOSE

The living conditions in the municipality will be improved and water protected from contamination by expanding the infrastructure for collecting and treating waste water.

ACTIVITIES

The sewer system and waste-water treatment system were expanded. Awareness was raised among the general public by means of an information campaign.

TARGET GROUPS

Inhabitants and companies of the municipality of Dlhé nad Cirochou and Modra nad Cirochou

COSTS

Total project budget:
CHF 3.29 million
Swiss contribution:
CHF 2.8 million

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Municipality of Dlhé nad Cirochou

DURATION

2012 - 2016



Overall, a sewage network of about 90 kilometres has been updated or newly installed with the funds from the Swiss enlargement contribution. © SECO