

Project summary

Project title: The Decrease of Water Pollution Sources in Prut river basin through the Promotion and Implementation of the Best Agricultural Practices.

Beneficiary country: Republic of Moldova

Organization name: Ecological Counseling Center Cahul

Cooperative partners: Mayoralty Slobozia Mare (local authority)

The area of Prut River, last tributary of the Danube River, represents a wetland of global importance. Recent studies confirm that agriculture continues to be the main source of water pollution in the Danube hydrographic basin, including azoth pollution (39%) and phosphorus pollution (32%).

Diffuse pollution, primarily emanating from agriculture, is comprised of 50% organic sources, divided as follows:

1. 70% animal growth
2. 10% human agglomerations
3. 20% fertilizers

The project ***“The Decrease of Water Pollution Sources in Prut river basin through the Promotion and Implementation of the Best Agricultural Practices”*** aims to contribute to the reduction of water pollution, especially to the reduction of the diffuse organic pollution in the Prut River Basin through promotion of Best Agricultural Practices, implementation of concrete demonstrative measures and empowering communities to take concrete measures.

The project objectives include:

1. Increasing the awareness, knowledge and interest of the population from localities along the Prut River (Cahul District), including Slobozia Mare, regarding reducing organic water pollution in the rural area, and the impact of this pollution on quality of life at local, regional and global level.
2. Raising the capacity of decreasing of diffuse sources of organic water pollution in community Slobozia Mare through facilitating the access to specific information regarding implementation of best agricultural practices, and through building a platform for manure composting.

For achieving these objectives the project will implement the following activities:

- Develop an awareness campaign of the population from localities along the Prut River, with a series of meetings with the local population and ecological lessons for teachers, students and pupils;
- Provide training for farmers on Best Agricultural Practices;
- Create a demonstrative garden with practical application of Best Agricultural Practices; and,
- Build a platform for manure depositing and composting.