

How WECF is working

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WECEF
Women in Europe for a Common Future



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WECF network in EU + EECCA region



Situation in the EECCA countries - Rural Areas

(Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kirgistan, Uzbekistan, Kazachstan, Tadjikistan)

- More than half of rural people are not connected to a sewage system or central water supply
- Pit latrines are used for sanitation
- Wells or unprotected sources are used for drinking water
- People are engaged in subsistence agriculture
- Main problems: Increasing poverty, unemployment, perspectivelessness, lack of services.



Garla Mare, Romania 3500 inhabitants



**1200 households
with pit-latrines
in yard**



**Water from
400 private
wells
78 public wells**



**2001-2003 MATRA project
“Safe drinking water”,
construction of dry u.d.
toilets
WECF-M&S**



2005 Evaluation

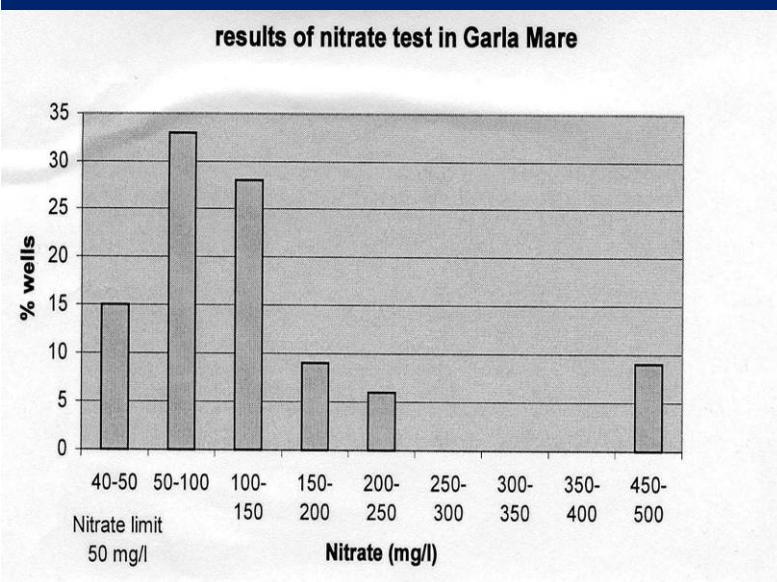
Situation in rural areas of Bulgaria and Romania - 1



Well water is partly contaminated by high nitrate levels, pesticides



Results of investigation: *Extreme high levels of nitrates and faecal bacteria*



- **Nitrate:** average 120 mg/l (EU limit 50 mg/l)
- **Faecal bacteria:** Acc. to EU guideline water would not even be safe for bathing



Health effects:

Immediate: *intestinal, parasite diseases, diarrhoea, blue-baby-disease (methaemoglobinemia)*

Long- term: *thyroid*

Sources of pollution: *Latrines and agriculture*

Pit latrines in people's gardens

In general the latrines are not sealed and not emptied

Bad maintenance of wells

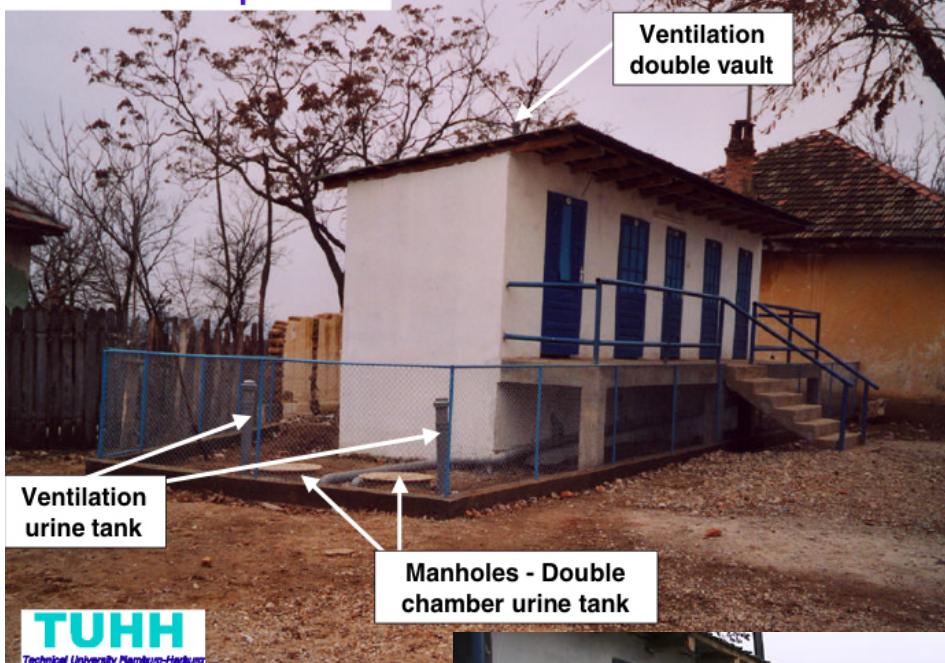
Intensive agriculture;
livestock in yards

Recent study: Underneath villages groundwater nitrate pollution more severe than underneath agricultural land

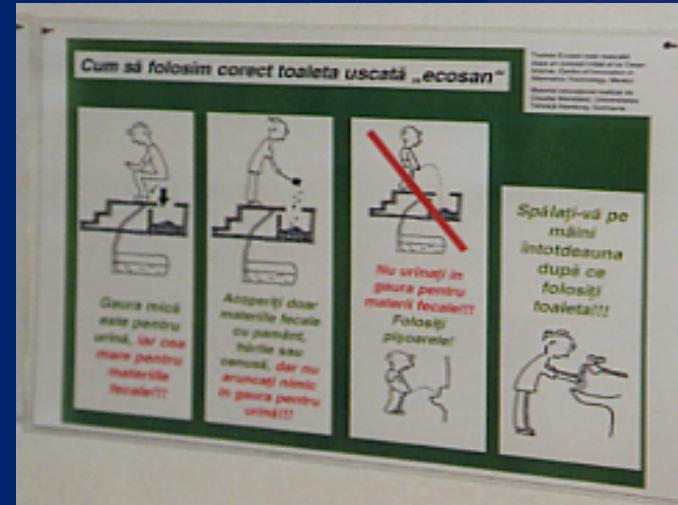


Double vault dry urine diverting toilets for school in Garla Mare

Design: Hamburg University of Technology



Wash basins and filters installed in schools and dispensary



Training in school on how to use the UDD toilets



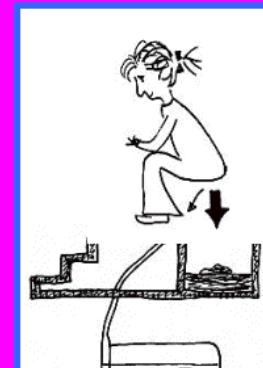
How to ensure sustainability?

- Own contribution of beneficiaries
- Village committee
- Awareness raising and trainings
- Integrated approach to water, agriculture and health



Cum să folosim corect toaleta uscat „ecosan“

Toaleta Ecosan este realizată după un concept în baza lui Cesar Anseu, Centre of Innovation in Alternative Technology, Mexic
Material educațional realizat de Claudia Wendland, Universitatea Tehnică, Hamburg, Germania



Gaura mică este pentru urină, iar cea mare pentru materiile fecale!!!



Acoperă doar materiile fecale cu pamânt, hârtie sau cenus, dar nu arunci nimic în gaura pentru urină!!!



Spăla-i-vă pe mâini întotdeauna după ce folosiți toaleta!!!

Local needs

- Poverty reduction
- Provision of fertilizer
- Comfort
- Status
- Integrate with priority topics e.g. Water
- ‘Development committees’
- Participatory approach based on local needs

It happened that household toilets end up as chicken house

- Pilot phase – no demonstration available
- Technical problems – freezing
- Lack of post monitoring
- Ecosan too top down?
- Lack of ownership?
- Beneficiaries not well chosen

Barriers

- Sanitation not a direct priority
- Sanitation is a taboo
- Poverty
- Dependency on slaps from China
- National /EU Legislation



Acceptance of Urine as Fertiliser by Farmers and Authorities



Photo: Crepa, Burkina Faso

Principles to Avoid Failing of Sanitation Projects

- ✓ Promoting behaviour change
- ✓ Reaching schoolchildren
- ✓ Giving families a choice
- ✓ Community planning and management
- ✓ Cost sharing
- ✗ A narrow focus on technology
- ✗ Ignoring the family as a whole
- ✗ 'A one system fits all approach'
- ✗ A top-down approach
- ✗ Limited access to funds and credits

Scientific Literature

Build on empirical data

Many studies have shown (even statistically) that participatory projects are more successful in achieving their goals than ‘Top Down’ projects

‘One study of 25 completed World Bank agricultural projects found that continued success was associated clearly with local institution building’ (Pretty, 2003).

What is participation?

To enable people to take their development into their own hands

Different levels of participation:

- 0. Top down implementation
- 1. Information
- 2. Consultation
- 3. Deciding together
- 4. Acting together
- 5. Supporting independent community initiatives

Degree of control

How to ensure participation

- ✓ Building trust
- ✓ Building local capacity
- ✓ Facilitate group learning
- ✓ Valuing and making use of local knowledge
- ✓ Putting local people as experts
- ✓ ‘Farmers First’

Methodologies for participation

Facilitation of development

- **Research** - PRA's; Ranking; Village mapping, Brainstorming, Venn-diagrams, Problem/Objective trees, etc
- **Planning** – PRA's Ranking, Community action planning, etc.
- **Awareness raising** – PHAST, WSP, Nitrate testing
- **Implementation** – Village/project Committees, Community action planning

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST)

PRA is a family of approaches and methods to enable local people (rural and urban) to express, enhance, share and analyze their knowledge of life and conditions, to plan and act

From local to global level



México 2006 IV Foro Mundial del Agua



Acciones
locales
para un
reto global





Ecosan study visit, Mexico, to Cesar Anorve

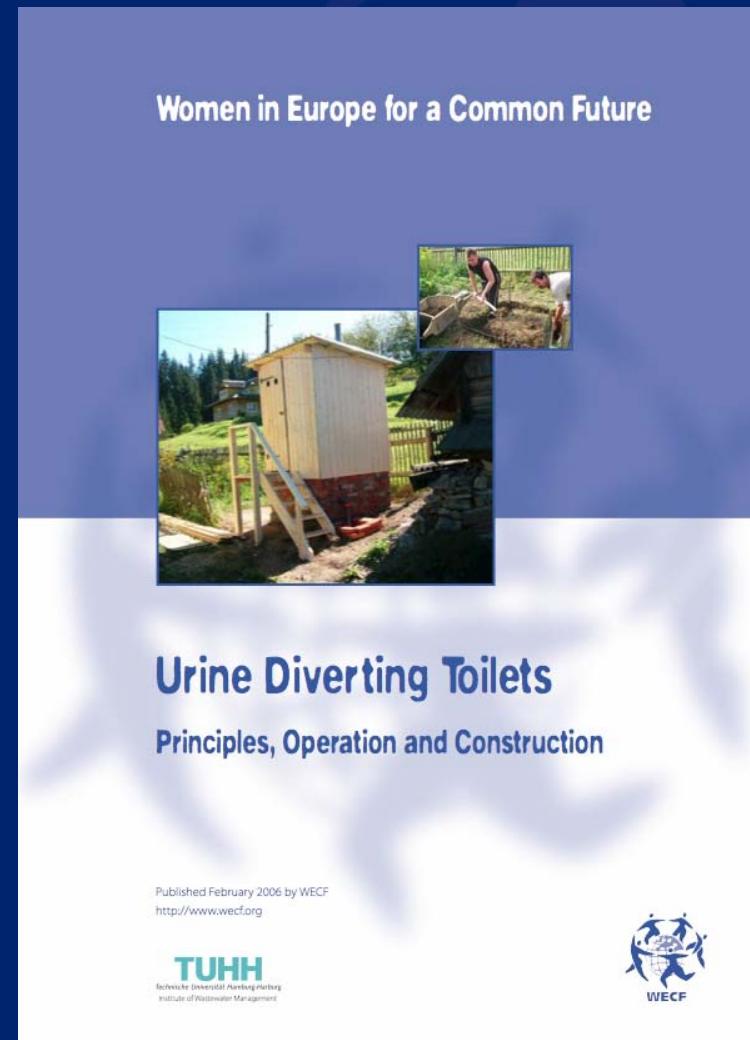


New Publications

To download: [www.wecf.eu
/publication](http://www.wecf.eu/publication)

- ✓ Poster: the benefits of ecological sanitation
- ✓ Brochure: Urine diverting toilets, principles, operation and construction
- ✓ Case Study: From pit latrine to ecological toilet

www.wecf.eu



2008 - Year of sanitation

- **MDG nr. 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability**
 - **Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation**
 - **EU funds go to centralized sanitation systems; maintenance costs can not be covered**
 - **Rural areas no priority**
 - **EU cohesion funds don't include <2000 inhabitants**
 - **No adequate legislation for use of human excreta**

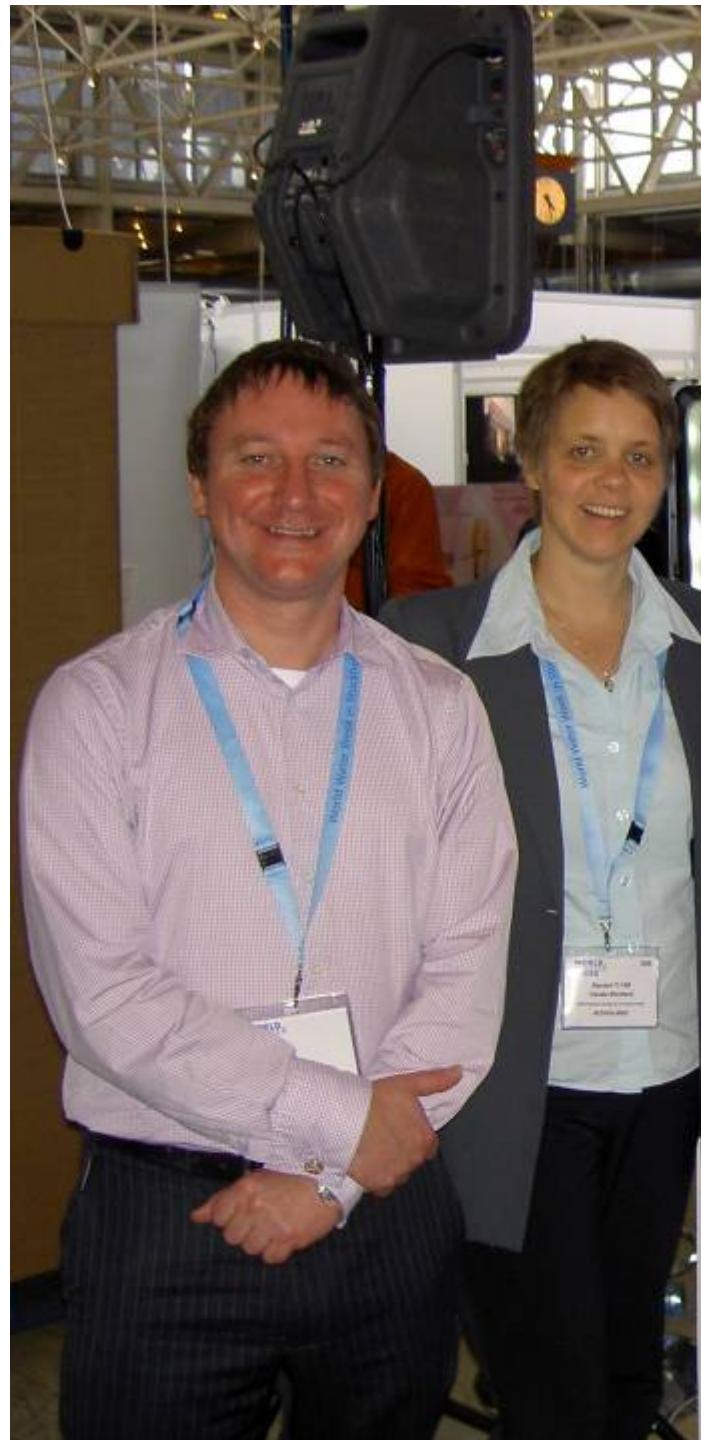
Overview on WECF activities related to the IYS 2008

More than 20 Million people in the EU lack Safe Sanitation

- High-Level Policy Dialogue on “EU Sanitation Policies and Practices” in Brussels, Belgium, on January 29, 2008
- High-Level Seminar “Europe’s Sanitation Problem” Stockholm World Water Week, on August 19, 2008

Stockholm World Water Week





Further activities

- Launch of a **Policy Paper on Sustainable Sanitation** “Safe Sanitation: a challenge we can meet together” by the German NGO Forum on Environment and Development, supported by more than 20 German and international organisations – August 2008
- In Preparation: **Regional Policy Dialogue on Sanitation in Kyrgyzstan**, on November 11, 2008, organised by WECF and regional partner NGOs
- World Water Forum in Istanbul 2009
 - European Document
 - Contribution submission until end of September



Thank you!