

PROJECT FACTSHEET

Bosnia and Herzegovina November 2019

WASTEWATER GRADIŠKA (WWGR)



The Wastewater Collection and Treatment Gradiška (WWGR) Project aims to ensure the sustainable collection and treatment of the municipal wastewater of the City of Gradiška in an environmentally hygienic manner and, at costs affordable for citizens. This is to contribute to the improvement of the hygienic situation of the population and the protection of the environment, specifically drinking water sources and the River Sava in Gradiška and downstream localities. Additionally, the project will strengthen the operational and management capacities of the Public Water Utility related to wastewater collection and treatment, and address the challenges related to the development of skills of the staff of water utilities needed to manage, operate and maintain wastewater treatment facilities.

IMPROVING WASTEWATER SERVICES AND QUALITY OF WATER IN THE RIVER SAVA

Only 41% of the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) have access to wastewater services and only 15% of the population is covered by wastewater treatment. This is far below the required level to ensure a clean and healthy environment and reach standards as set in the directives of the European Union. Approximately 47% of the urban and suburban population of Gradiška is connected to the municipal sewage network, while the local communities surrounding Gradiška are not. The municipal wastewater is being discharged into the River Sava without any treatment. The discharge of untreated wastewater leads to considerable pollution of water in the river and health risks for the population.

IMPROVING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS IN THE WASTEWATER SECTOR

The project addresses the key challenges in the wastewater sector in Republika Srpska (RS) through the transfer of know-how from Switzerland, and a policy dialogue to strengthen the framework conditions and foster the development of skills needed for a functioning wastewater sector. This will result in tariff reform to cover wastewater treatment costs, solutions for the disposal of sludge from the wastewater treatment plants, and mandatory training for the staff of the Public Water Utilities. The Aquasan Network in BiH will lead the policy dialogue, advise the authorities at entity and municipal levels and further develop its service portfolio for skills development through the cooperation with the Swiss Water Association (VSA).



THE CITIZENS IN GRADIŠKA AND DOWNSTREAM RIVER SAVA BENEFIT FROM THE PROJECT

The project entails the construction of a wastewater treatment plant, and rehabilitation and extension of the municipal sewage network and main collectors. Additionally, support to the Corporate Development of the Public Water Utility will enable its commercial sustainability. Low scale measures for integrated urban development are planned, e.g. the construction of 6.0 km bike lane along the River Sava. The project will positively affect over 100,000 people in Gradiška and downstream settlements.

LARGE-SCALE INVESTMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

The Wastewater Gradiška project is being implemented from 2019 to 2024, ensuring investments of 15.3 million Euros. The Government of Switzerland will donate 4.3 million Euros and German Government will donate 10.3 million Euros through the German Development Bank (KfW). The City of Gradiška will contribute 0.7 million Euros. The project is a continuation of the ongoing partnerships of the Swiss Secretariat for Economy (SECO) with KfW and with the Aquasan Network in BiH.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND CONTACT DETAILS

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Cooperation with Eastern Europe, Western Balkans Division
Freiburgstrasse 130, 3003 Bern
Tel. +41 (0)58 462 22 12
E-Mail: deza-oza@eda.admin.ch
www.sdc.admin.ch

State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO
Holzikofenweg 36
CH-3003 Bern
Tel. +41 58 462 56 56
Fax +41 58 462 27 49
www.seco.admin.ch

THE PROJECT IN BRIEF

NAME:

Wastewater Collection and Treatment Gradiška (WWGR) Project

DOMAIN:

Democratic Governance, Municipal Services and Justice

THEME:

Governance, Institutions and Decentralization

LAND/REGION:

Bosnia and Herzegovina

PARTNERS:

Swiss Water Association (VSA) and Aquasan Network in BiH – Implementation Consultant
The City of Gradiška and Public Water Utility
BiH Ministry of Finance and Treasury
RS Ministry of Finance
RS Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
RS Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology
Public Institution Vode Srpske
German Development Bank KfW – Implementation Partner
German Government (grant)

STARTING POINT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Approximately 47% of the urban and suburban population of Gradiška is connected to the municipal sewage network, while the local communities surrounding Gradiška are not. The municipal wastewater is being discharged into the River Sava without any treatment. The discharge of untreated wastewater leads to considerable pollution of water in the river and health risks for the population.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the project is to ensure the collection and treatment of the municipal wastewater of the City of Gradiška in an environmentally hygienic manner and, at costs affordable for the citizens. Additionally, the project will support the Corporate Development of the Public Water Utility to enable its commercial sustainability. Engagement in the policy dialogue and the transfer of know-how from Switzerland will strengthen the framework conditions and foster the development of skills needed for a functioning wastewater sector.

TARGET GROUP:

The City of Gradiška and its Public Water Utility

COSTS:

15.3 million Euros

DURATION

2019-2024