



CHALLENGES FOR INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN ROMANIA

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Abstract

This study presents an overview of the current activities and results undertaken within the CEEX SIWMANET project dealing with an assessment of the actual challenges for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) implementation in Romania, seen especially in relation with the R&D system and the need to develop especially the cooperation, training and participatory processes that are required for actual implementation in which the universities may play an important role in terms of catalyst and active partners. The **integrated** approach considers, in association with specific policies and legal frameworks, **multidisciplinary research** (sciences, engineering, management), **education and training, communication, public participation and cooperation** at both national and international scale, embedded in an overall approach that consider WATER flow and usage in its whole cycle of **supply, use and reuse/recycling**, affected either by natural or human factors.

The SIWMANET project objectives and activities were discussed especially in relation with the context of IWRM implementation in Romania, as well as of national and international cooperation. The methodology used for this study is represented by the social survey using questionnaires, data and bibliographic information analysis. The participatory approach adopted by the SIWMANET consortium so as to develop a common vision and implementation plans is based on the application of *European Awareness Scenario Workshop Methodology* (EASW®) for the most important stakeholders of IWRM, i.e. water resources management agencies, municipalities, water users (industry), environmental protection agencies, policy makers, NGOs and universities.

Keywords: integrated water resources management, water supply, wastewater treatment, recycling
