

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

BMP Case Study

Overview

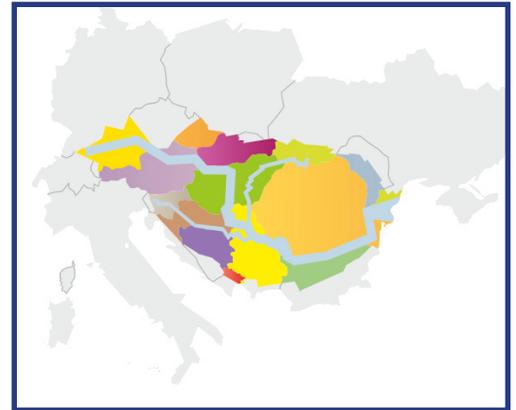
Name: Danube River Basin: Boosting Capacities for Nutrient Reduction and Transboundary Co-Operation

Location/Terrain: Danube River Basin (17 countries)

Crop(s): Various crops and livestock production

Nutrient(s): Nitrogen and phosphorous

Rationale: Nitrogen and phosphorus levels from agriculture, municipal and industrial sources have seriously degraded the Black Sea ecosystem.



Issue(s) of Concern/Challenges:

Nitrogen and phosphorus levels from agriculture, municipal and industrial sources have seriously degraded the Black Sea ecosystem, disrupted fisheries, reduced biodiversity, posed threats to humans and resulted in billions of dollars of losses to the economies of Black Sea littoral countries.

Practice Objectives:

The objective is to reduce nutrient loading into the Danube River and its tributaries and to improve water quality in the Danube and Black Sea.

Practice Description:

All farmers larger than 5 hectares and/or 5 animal units should calculate their resource economy every year by April 1 of the preceding year and covering at least the resource economy for nitrogen and phosphorus. Farmers should ensure soil sampling every five years. Crop rotation and fertilizing plans should be prepared every year for all larger farms.

Livestock numbers should be limited to ensure that nitrogen content in the manure is no more than 170 kg/ha. There should be storage capacity for at least six months of production of livestock manure at the farm. Spreading manure from October 15 to March 1 should not take place. Proper technology and technique should be used for spreading livestock manure.

Outcomes:

- Reduced nitrogen by 14 tonnes/year on eight demonstration farms
- Reduced phosphorus by 2 tonnes/year on eight demonstration farms
- Published guidance documents for nutrient reduction in wetlands

- Restored wetlands and carried out land-use change pilots
- More than 100 small grant projects launched aimed at reducing nutrients at community level

Significance:

This project was established as a component of the Global Environment Facility's strategic partnership on nutrient reduction in the Danube/Black Sea Basin. It collaborated with 17 countries to employ best management practices.

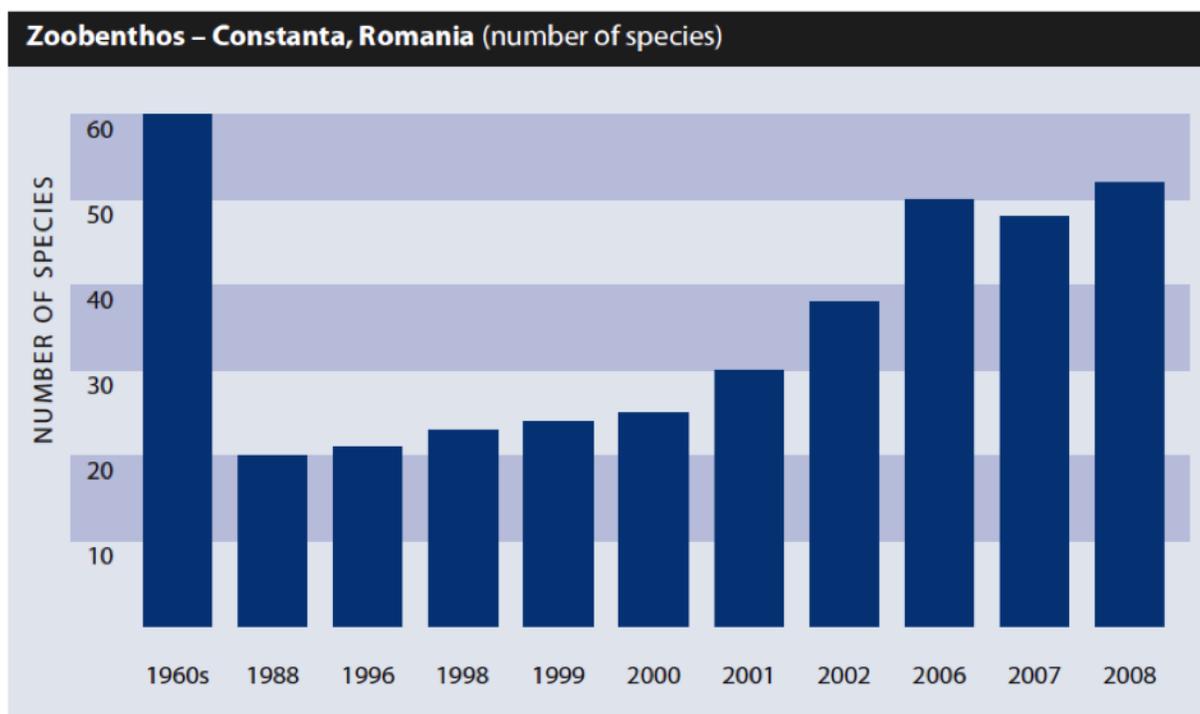
Data/Graphs:

Investments:

Global Environment Fund: USD 17.24 million

Country co-financing: USD 19 million

TOTAL: USD 35 million



For more information, please contact Chuck Chaitovitz at chuck.chaitovitz@gef.org or visit www.gpa.unep.org/index.php/global-partnership-on-nutrient-management.