

# OUTPUT FACT SHEET

## Pilot actions (including investment, if applicable)

Version 2

<b>Project index number and acronym</b>	CE983 FramWat
<b>Lead partner</b>	PP1 WULS
<b>Output number and title</b>	O.T3.3 - PILOT ACTION: testing the method how to calculate and analysis N(S)WRM costs on river basin scale
<b>Investment number and title (if applicable)</b>	-
<b>Responsible partner (PP name and number)</b>	PP 6 Limnos
<b>Project website</b>	<a href="https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/FramWat.html">https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/FramWat.html</a>
<b>Delivery date</b>	12.2019

### Summary description of the pilot action (including investment, if applicable) explaining its experimental nature and demonstration character

The pilot action concerned three catchments located in three countries (Croatia, Hungary, and Poland) with diverse character and challenges. Pilot action (D.T3.3.1) tested developing approach on how to calculate costs on a river basin scale. NWRM are being more and more dispersed within the river basin, thus their assessment from financial point of view is getting increasingly complex and goes beyond the administrative boundaries. Evaluating costs on a catchment-scale required development of robust (simplified) approach, which acknowledges uncertainty when evaluating a set of measures. Pilot action main application was to determine the investment costs on a river basin scale for implementation of NWRMs and to provide a feedback for finalization of an approach (D.T3.3.2). Cost analyses were carried out after the Concept plan (AT2.3) was finalised. Work consisted of following activities: collection and creation of databases of price measures (average cost per unit of measure) and pricing basis (costs of the typical group of works), guidelines development, basic dimensioning, testing and report delivery. The activity leader prepared a series of instructions, carried out online meetings and reviewed results. The pilot action was influenced by a number of specifics of NWRMs and required collaboration of various experts (agriculture, forestry and hydrotechnical engineering, economics). The pilot action was set as cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary. Planning approach has been an innovative and important step moving from commonly accepted financial arrangements focusing on single measure cost assessment towards fostering the financial resources and political will to translate WFD objectives into reality. However, level of detail of cost assessment remains the live issue across the approach and pilot action confirmed this. A degree of pragmatism is required here. Cost assessment of NWRMs investment costs on three pilot catchments demonstrated the extreme vulnerability related to local (specific) conditions and expert judgment.

### NUTS region(s) concerned by the pilot action (relevant NUTS level)

Pilot action was conducted by project partners in three pilot catchment: Bednja, Tisza and Kamienna. The total implementation area was 5.601 km<sup>2</sup>.

### Investment costs (EUR), if applicable

Not applicable.

### Expected impact and benefits of the pilot action for the concerned territory and target groups and leverage of additional funds (if applicable)

The idea of cost analysis of NWRM is consistent with the broader developmental ambitions - acceleration of NSWRM implementation (WFD objectives). Approach (D.T3.3.2) builds on pilot action (D.T3.3.1) and will be used and implemented in CE Region by policy officers, planners, water managers, etc.

The pilot action

- supports planning process, including financial planning,
- supports financial justification of NWRM,
- supports prioritization over a longer time period in a context of the basin planning,
- facilitates a more efficient allocation of resources,
- determines financially acceptable options, and
- contributes to the assessment of relationship between NWRM efficiency and the economic integration.

The abovementioned qualities directly impacts all three pilot catchments. At the same time they indirectly impact the CE region in terms of approach development.

The goal is to reach a beneficial and cost-effective decision. Broad scope of benefits derived from pilot action occur; besides economic benefits also environmental benefits (improved water quality,...), reduced costs (enhanced flood management,...) and benefits beyond river management (wider cooperation and integration).

Main river basin target groups for cost assessment application on a river basin scale are local and national authorities aiming to fulfil both environmental and management objectives. The results of these pilot actions were not yet disseminated, but plan to be in the final project period. It is important to recognize that pilot action provides support to institutional development and capacity building. Feedback was collected through collaboration with institutions, agencies, local authorities and experts (stakeholder engagement) during cost assessment activities.

### Sustainability of the pilot action results and transferability to other territories and stakeholders.

The approach document (D.T3.3.2) would summarize experience from testing (D.T3.3.1) on three pilot river basins: Bednja (Croatia), Middle Tisa (Hungary) and Kamienna (Poland). The tested approach would become part of the Guideline (O.T3.1), published on DSS (O.T3.4.1) and available to stakeholders. In addition, results of pilot action would be disseminated in the next project period. For this to be achieved, a broad engagement of stakeholder groups is required. These actions are therefore considered to be sustainable while their application should be broadly encouraged.

The pilot action can also be transferred to other territorial settings, but needs to be managed carefully and linked to the challenges of developing NWRM (concept) plan of the river basin. Knowledge on the pilot action can be considered as achieved desirable outcomes.

## Lessons learned and added value of transnational cooperation of the pilot action implementation (including investment, if applicable)

### Lessons learned:

- It is possible to assess costs, based on limited information, but results should be used with care.
- Cost assessment should only be done by the experienced expert;
- The results are not based on detailed design - only indicative values for planning purposes are considered, not for project development;
- Increasing uncertainty over time (price change with time);
- Use of unit costs per measure (e.g. cost of buffer per m<sup>2</sup>) can lead to big mistakes;
- Pilot action reflects regional prices.

### Added value:

- Pilot action encourages debate on how to secure political commitment and financial resources for NWRM implementation;
- Cost assessment emphasizes how important is to adopt a long-term perspective. It allows the authority to make realistic long-term plans;
- Pilot action responds to NWRM cost-efficiency questions across the region;
- It fosters implementation of the WFD by MS - support the preparation of environmental financing strategies for NWRM;
- Three pilot cases in different territorial setting provide valuable experience for the region.

### Contribution to/ compliance with:

- relevant regulatory requirements
- sustainable development - environmental effects. In case of risk of negative effects, mitigation measures introduced
- horizontal principles such as equal opportunities and non-discrimination

Pilot action contributes to decision-making process addressing common implementation strategy for the EU WFD (integrated river basin management for Europe). Establishing link between NWRM efficiency and cost is important step toward removal of this major barrier and eventual change of management practice. Building on the lessons from pilot action, effective planning including NWRM contributes to a range of environmental goals (Bednja river - flood protection, Tizsa and Kamienna river- water quality). The emphasis is on maintaining river health and ensuring the sustainable development. The concept of horizontal alignment is covered through cost assessment of investment costs of measures outside the water sector (agriculture, forest).

### References to relevant deliverables (e.g. pilot action report, studies), investment factsheet and web-links

If applicable, additional documentation, pictures or images to be provided as annex

Three reports of deliverable DT3.3.1 from pilot action - testing the approach how to do NWRM cost analysis on basin scale, using examples from 3 countries (CW, WULS, MTDWD).