



WATER AND COSTAL AREAS

Bulgarian National Audit Office audits the prevention and overcoming the consequences of floods

SAI Bulgaria

During the period 2010 - 2014, 2632 floods were registered in Bulgaria, causing casualties and damages worth over 222 million Euros. The costs for the state budget to overcome the consequences exceed 163 million Euros. Scientists predict an increase in the number and of the intensity of potential future flooding.

The BNAO launched two audits on this topic in 2015. They will be finished by March 2016.

The audit on the effectiveness of prevention and actions to overcome the effects of the floods is focused on the results of the activities of the Ministry of Interior, regional and municipal administrations for the period from 2012 to 2014.

The expected contribution of the audit is to assess the effectiveness of the actions taken to prevent and overcome the consequences of floods for the effective implementation of the National Programme for Protection against Disasters.

The audit on the implementation of the Procedure BG161PO005/12/1.20/02/29 - Development of management plans for flood risk covers the period 2012 – 2015.

The aim of the procedure is to provide financial support for the development of the necessary documents in accordance with Directive 2007/60 / EC for the assessment and management of flood risks, envisaging the development of a methodology for analyzing the cost-benefit assessment of the measures in the plans for the management of flood risks; creation of a digital relief model; development of a national catalogue of measures and national priorities, introduction of an information system.

The audit includes assessment of the implementation of the projects funded under the procedure and examining to what extent the measures and action plans may contribute

to limiting the risk of adverse consequences for the population and the environment from the harmful effects of water.

For further information, please contact Eva Galabinova at e.galabinova@bulnao.government.bg and Bulgarian NAO at intrel@bulnao.government.bg.

How to prevent further pollution of the biggest lake in the Balkans?

SAI Albania

Lake of Shkodra is the biggest lake in the Balkans, with a surface of 368 square km and residing by two thirds in Montenegro and one third in Albania, in the northwest of the country. Close by the lake there lies the biggest city in northern Albania, the city of Shkodra. The lake is heavily polluted due to the city's and surrounding villages' discharge of waste waters in the lake during the past two decades.

Many citizens of Shkodra and environmental experts of the country have raised their voice in the Albanian media, to denounce such pollution. Acknowledged with the situation, ALSAI lately conducted an audit on drinking water supply and waste water management for the state entities of Shkodra region to see opportunities to protect Shkodra Lake from further pollution.

While auditing the performance of the State enterprise supplying drinking water and managing waste water channels in Shkodra region, ALSAI auditors found out that the project entitled "Water supply and protection of Shkodra Lake" was not going in the right direction in two of its components, the first component having to do with cleaning, rehabilitating and maintaining the waste water system of Shkodra town, as well as of the villages of Shiroka, Zogaj and Dobraq (the ones being in the coastline of Shkodra lake). In April 2015, the audit report was delivered to project authorities, containing 22 recommendations on how to improve the situation. From April 2015 until now, project authorities have reacted to ALSAI recommendations and there is hope the waste water discharge in the Lake will be diminished until there will not be any more waste water to pollute the lake, for the good of Shkodra region inhabitants and many tourists visiting the site.