

Project “Safe Drinking Water
for schoolchildren of Gozhuly
village, Ukraine”

“Mama-86-Poltava”
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Project background

- MAMA-86-Poltava dealt with drinking water problems in rural areas of Poltavaska Oblast since 2000
- more than 605 thousand residents (or 36% of the whole population of the oblast) use well water
- more than 107 thousand children (or 35% of all children of the oblast) use water from shallow wells
- more than 60 thousand children from the latter group (56%) use well water with high nitrates content
- Blue Baby cases in oblast for last years: 2004 – 9, 2005 – 8, 2006 – 7, 2007 – 5 (06.07)

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Project background

- v. Gozhuly, Poltava rayon, 3 km close to city Poltava
- 3,875 residents (1542 households), including 478 children (172 children under 6 and 306 children of the school age)
- 34% residents - centralized water supply
- 180 children attend the school in v. Gozhuly , 30 children attend the kindergarten
- 80% of the schoolchildren – dental fluorosis
- Old centralized water supply and canalization, 2 artesian wells for tap water are naturally contaminated by fluorine (7-7,5 times higher than norms), WW treatment unit is on emergency stage
- 448 shallow wells nitrate (>250-500 mg/l) and biologically contaminated, because of pit latrines and canalization

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A4A project for Gozhuly

- March 2005 - presentation of Case Study at WfW Working Conference, Soesterberg, the Netherlands
- 15 Nov 2006 - 15 May 2007 implementation by MAMA-86-Poltava & Kyiv with support of WfW and funded by A4A

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Activities implemented

- Monitoring Water quality
- Gathering and analysis of information about fluorine nitrates contamination and health effect in the rayon and oblast levels
- Work with experts on fluorine problems and preparation case study about fluorine in water of Poltava rayon
- Building well for 180 schoolchildren and 30 children from kindergarten
- Cleaning private wells
- Mapping
- Raising awareness on nitrates and fluorine contamination of water at local-oblast levels:
Publishing the 2 booklets on fluorine and nitrates problems
Publish 3 articles on drinking water problems: Mass media work
2 Round tables

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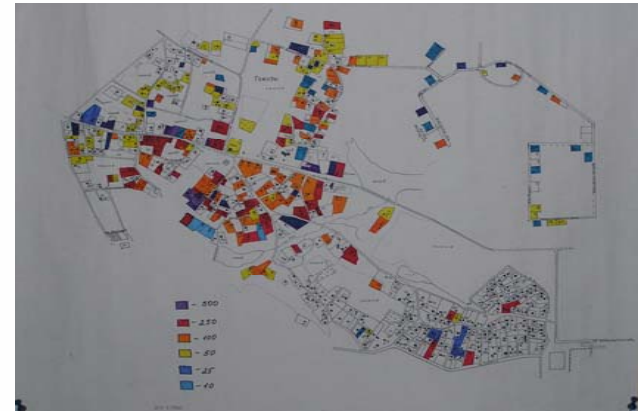
Evaluation of main project achievements

- 335 wells were tested on nitrate contamination
- 20 wells were cleaned up
- more than 150 dwellers improved directly the access to clean drinking water
- Near 1000 dwellers received the information about the nitrate pollution of water in their wells
- 210 children and the 30 persons of Gozhuly improved the access to safe drinking water

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Water monitoring



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Cleaning private wells

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Building well



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Information campaign



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Problems in the water supplying sphere:

- low awareness and inadequate understanding of water-related problems: fluoride contamination
- incomplete transferring of rural water supply and sanitation infrastructures to local authorities
- lack of rural WSS service provider structures - specialized on WSS infrastructure maintenance
- lack of laboratory capacity at the operational level
- lack of an adequate state program to support the development of rural settlements

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Thank you for
attention!

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