



WECF ecosanitation projects in Romania

Results, Recommendations

Olivia Radu, WECF

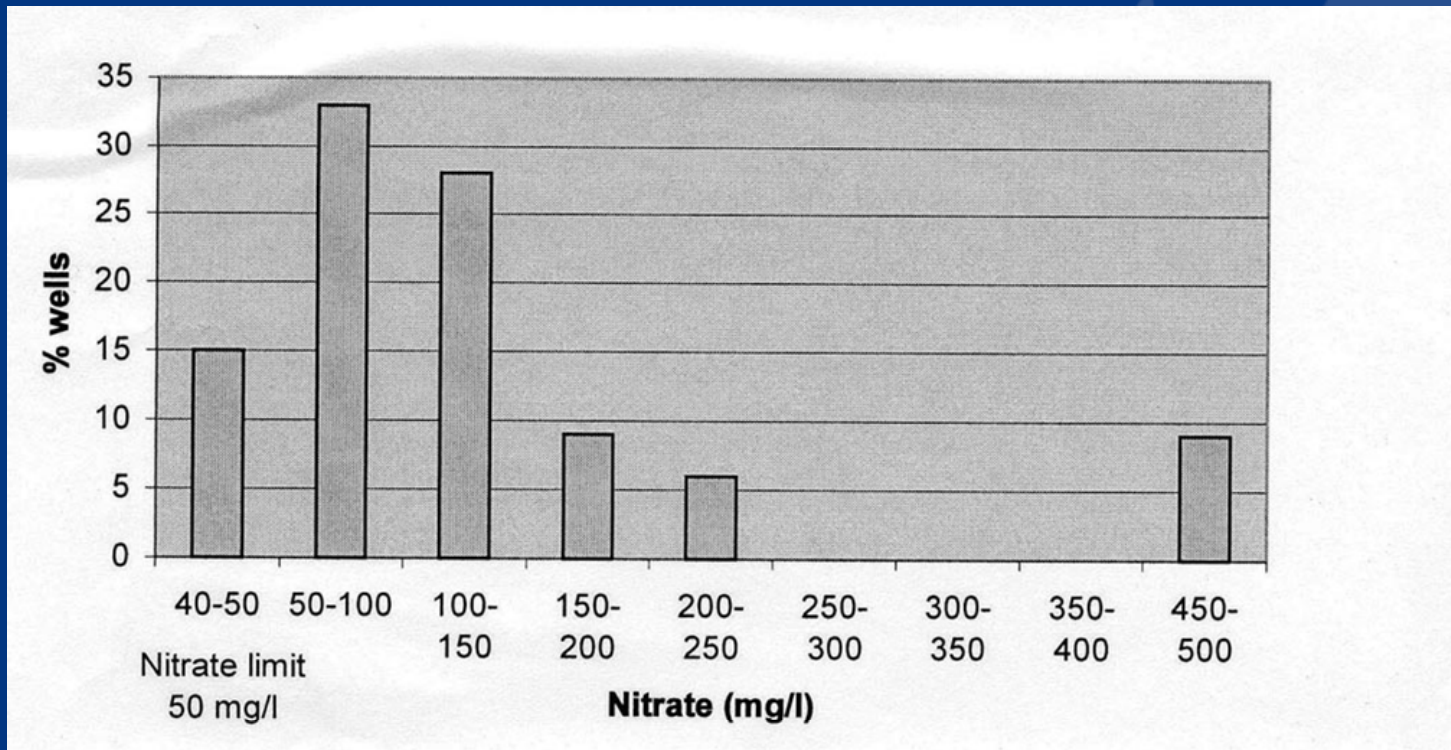
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Garla Mare Village Romania

- 3500 inhabitants
- All 480 drinking water wells polluted with nitrates and human faeces bacteria from pit latrines

Results of nitrate tests – Garla Mare: no safe drinking water



Sources of pollution & Health Effects

- Sources of pollution:
 - *latrines*
 - *agriculture*
- Health effects:
 - *Immediate: intestinal, parasite diseases, diarrhoea,*
 - *blue-baby disease (methaemoglobinaemia)*
 - *Long-term: thyroid, brain dysfunction*

Demonstration School 2003



Town Hall 2006



5 Household ecosan toilets



Source: Stefan Deegner - TUHH



Next Steps - National Level

A4A project - Developing local production of decentralized ecological waste water and sanitation equipment for Romania (and Bulgaria):

- 1. Feasibility study on the potential for producing dry urine diverting toilets in Romania**
- 2. Workshop with potential producers of dry u.d. toilets**

Objective

- Establish the potential for producing dry u.d. toilets in Romania and Interest of potential entrepreneurs in starting dry u.d. toilets production

Activity 1

Feasibility study

Inventory of:

- “Demand” Side of the Market
 - indication of potential market/potential need
- “Supply” Side of the Market
 - Potential producers for EcoSan Products, prices
 - availability of materials for Ecosan toilets
- Enabling Factors to match Supply and Demand
 - indication of potential reuse of urine and faeces
 - education
 - legislation

Inventory: visits to school toilets



School toilet building



Results: Sanitation needs

1. 3,9 million dwellings use pit-latrines
 - 85% rural
 - 15% urban
2. > 11.000 schools without sewerage or any proper sanitation facilities
3. Wateraid, WHO
 - ✓ 10 million people do not have access to safe sanitation (no sewage, no septic tanks)
 - ✓ 7 million do not have access to safe drinking water

Facts-Finding Field Trip

Ceramic Industry:

- Traditional, Foreign Owners, Slow Decision-Making
- Pro-Active (One in Ro, very Promising, Understanding EcoSan Concept. They have already produced an EcoSan type with very little use of water)

Plastic Industry:

- Only for Squatting Toilets

Stainless steel:

- Not an option: high price of the type of steel and production costs

Opportunities identified in Romania for Ecosan

- Low cost solution (no water, no sewerage system, no taxes)
- Environmental friendly & sustainable solution (water saving)
- Comfort (no smell, flies)
- Potential large market due to climate change
- Lack on affordable sewage systems
- 2 way system for separation urine/faeces
- Agricultural re-use
- EU innovation

Main obstacles/ Weaknesses

- Sanitation has not the first priority
- No political support yet
- A new toilet is for many families (& schools) not affordable
- Lack of knowledge on hygiene
- Lack of knowledge on how to sanitize and use Ecosan products
- Use of human excreta not common in agriculture
- Special construction - compared to a simple pit latrine
- 2 way system for separation urine/faeces
- Lack of supporting legislation (national and EU)

Activity 2

Workshop – March 2007

Turnu Magurele, Romania

- Communicated the results of the survey
- Look for the possibilities of producing locally this type of toilets
- 90 Representatives of
 - local and central bodies
 - experts from different countries
 - rural communities and schools
 - local producers

Recommendations

- Cost Analysis on Trad. System, Septic Tanks and EcoSan
- Use the examples from WE/ attractive products
- Due to Climate Change effects make It an EU Issue
- Emphasis on Technical, Financial, Health Issues in Rural Areas
- Close to the EU Lisbon Agenda (economic strategy, EU innovations; Design, Re-Use of nutrients / resources)
- Opportunities, costs and people are needed for promotion
- Finding Support from International Institutions and Donors
 - FE (confirmed)
 - MATRA (Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
 - Romanian /EU Funds

Recommendations

- Develop local production of dry urine diverting toilets
- Partnership with CSR business
- Enlarging no of Demo Projects & the implementation areas & the type of demo projects
- Cooperation in use of organic fertilizers by farmers/village committees
- Demonstration gardens
- For the safe reuse of human excreta in agriculture - WHO guidelines; Lobby for regulation on the safe reuse of human excreta in agriculture
- Working groups of key actors on:
 - EU/domestic policy improvement
 - development of projects for rural areas



Thank you!