



## Community manure platforms in Romania

### COUNTRY

Romania

### PROJECT PROMOTER

Project Management Unit - World Bank / Ministry of Waters and Forest

### FUNDING

National funds, EUR 100 000 000

### DURATION

2000

### CONTRIBUTION TO

- generating environmental benefits
- creating value through improved production methods or processing technology
- creating value through increased cooperation among value chain actors

### KEYWORDS

Adding value, agriculture, bio-based waste, by-products, cooperation, manure management, Nitrates directive

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### WEBSITE

<https://apanoastra.ro/>

### The initiative

Small-scale farming is very common in Romania, but the small scale also means that there is limited capacity for managing animal dung. This initiative was set up to enable small farmers to carry out good manure management in line with the Nitrates Directive.

To this objective, communal manure platforms were built and equipped with, among others, tractors, trailers, a manure spreading machine and a manure tanker. Initially, concept notes, feasibility studies and technical projects were funded by a World Bank loan and the platforms were managed by the municipality. Farmers may request for the manure to be collected from their site and composted at the platform before being spread back onto the fields.

### Sustainability

A monitoring and reporting system is in place. Target indicators include measuring captured nitrogen and reducing irregularities related to cross compliance. The desired outcome is to see a reduction in the eutrophication of rivers, lakes and the Black Sea.

The platforms are operated by the municipalities and it is up to them to decide if the activities should be subsidised or not from the local budget. The initiative is linked to the Nitrates directive and the cross-compliance.

### Lessons learnt and recommendations

Such initiatives require a combination of actions. Behaviour change is key and investments should be complemented with information dissemination, awareness raising and training that is addressed to farmers and other stakeholders.

Monitoring and evaluation are also essential. Statistical data and the results of surveys should be used to adapt and adjust project actions as necessary.

### RESULTS

- ✓ The initiative contributes to nutrient pollution control and achieving standards set out in the Nitrates directive. It goes beyond water protection, as it also helps to support small-scale farming, local producers, short chain production and agri-environment schemes.
- ✓ Achieved: pollution mitigation with around 300 tones pure N/year.
- ✓ Expected: pollution mitigation with around 600 tones pure N/year.
- ✓ 300 individuals directly employed in/by the initiative.

