



OPERAČNÍ PROGRAM  
ŽIVOTNÍ PROSTŘEDÍ



EVROPSKÁ UNIE  
Fond soudržnosti  
Evropský fond pro regionální rozvoj

Pro vodu,  
vzduch a přírodu

# 2008 Annual Report

May 2009

THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL FUND OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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## SUMMARY

As of the end of 2008, 7 calls had been announced under the Operational Programme Environment; in 2008 it was the 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> call. Interest in support from the operational programme was significant. As of 31 December 2008, 1430 projects were approved totalling EUR 1 151.8 million, i.e. 20% of the OP's allocation for the entire programming period. The largest number of projects was approved under Priority Axis 3 "Sustainable Use of Energy Sources", namely 585. Priority Axis 1 "The Improvement of Water Management Infrastructure and the Reduction of Flood Risks" accounts for the largest volume of approved funds where 222 totalling EUR 727.7 million were approved. As far as the amount of approved funds is concerned, very significant progress in allocating funds to a given area of intervention was achieved in Area of intervention 3.2., where the share of approved funds reached 66% of the allocation of this area of intervention for the entire programming period; the second most successful was Area of intervention 1.1 with approved projects totalling almost 40% of the allocation for the entire programming period. As of 31 December 2008, no project was completed. EUR 6.7 million had been paid out to beneficiaries in Priority Axes 3 and 4. No funds were submitted for certification. Detailed information about the financial progress of the programme including the rate of drawing of the allocation is presented in Annex 2 – Standard Monitoring Table. Intensive promotion of the OP and seminars for applicants were held all year round.



# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. *Identification*

<b>Operational programme</b>	<b>Objective concerned:</b>	Convergence
	<b>Eligible area concerned:</b>	NUTS I: Czech Republic – CZ0
	<b>Programming period:</b>	2007–2013
	<b>Programme number (CCI No):</b>	2007CZ161PO006
	<b>Programme title:</b>	Operational Programme Environment
<b>Annual report on implementation</b>	<b>Reporting year:</b>	2008
	<b>Date of approval of the annual report by the monitoring committee:</b>	28 May 2009

## 1.2. *Annual report preparation*

The Annual Report of the Operational Programme Environment 2008 was prepared by the Managing Authority – the Ministry of the Environment’s Department of European Union Funds. The Annual Report was approved by the Monitoring Committee of the OP Environment on 28 May 2009. In the preparation of the Annual Report of the OP Environment 2008, the Managing Authority followed both the requirements concerning its factual content as specified in Article 67 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 and the structure of annual and final reports on implementation as defined by Annex XVIII to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006, as well as the instructions of the National Coordination Body.

This report aims to summarise the basic information about the implementation and the progress of the OP Environment in the Czech Republic in 2008. The Annual Report summarises and describes the status of the OP Environment as of 31 December 2008.

Data for this report were drawn from IS MSC2007, IS SEF Central, the MoE’s own resources and the SEF’s statistical information. Data sources are indicated in individual tables. Financial data presented in the report is converted at the exchange rate of CZK 26.630/EUR (i.e. an exchange borrowed from the MSC2007 for January 2009).

## 1.3. *Characterisation of the OP Environment*

The Operational Programme Environment (hereinafter the OP Environment) is one of the Czech Republic’s sectoral programmes approved by the Commission for the 2007–2013 programming period. The OP Environment focuses on improving the quality of the environment and, by extension, the health of the population. It contributes to improving the



condition of air, water and soil, addresses the issue of waste and industrial pollution and supports both landscape management, the use of renewable energy sources and the establishment of infrastructure for environmental education and awareness. The OP Environment was prepared by the Ministry of the Environment pursuant to Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 175 of 22 February 2006 concerning the draft National Development Plan of the Czech Republic for 2007–2013.

**The global objective** of the OP Environment is environmental protection and quality improvement as one of the basic principles of sustainable development. Environmental quality is fundamental to the health of the population, while enhancing the attractiveness of the territory for life, work and investments. The attractiveness for investments results not only in improved employment but also in increased competitive sustainable economic growth in the regions.

**The strategic objective** of the OP Environment is environmental protection and quality improvement as the basic principle of sustainable development, with focus on meeting the EC legislation requirements in the environmental field as well as requirements ensuing from other international commitments of the Czech Republic. Environmental quality is fundamental to the health of the population, while enhancing the attractiveness of the territory for life, work and investments. The final result of the territory's attractiveness for investments is an increase in both employment and competitive sustainable economic growth in individual regions. Environmental protection and quality are also the essential themes within the implementation of the EU economic and social cohesion policy in the 2007–2013 programming period. Enhancing the attractiveness of member states, regions and cities through improving their accessibility, ensuring adequate level and quality of offered services and through maintaining or increasing their potential in the environmental field is one of the most important elements of Community Strategic Guidelines for the 2007–2013 period <sup>1</sup>.

**The OP Environment** forms a framework for the preparation of projects that may be co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (hereinafter the ERDF) and the Cohesion Fund (hereinafter the CF), whose global objective is to improve the individual environmental components and, by extension, support sustainable development, long-term competitiveness and employment in regions within the Convergence objective of the EU Economic and Social Cohesion Policy.

The OP Environment consists of **8 priority axes** that are further divided into areas of intervention. The basic structure of priority axes within the OP Environment is shown in the following table.

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<sup>1</sup> Cohesion Policy in Support of Growth and Jobs: Community Strategic Guidelines, 2007–2013 – COM(2005) 0299, Brussels, 5 July 2005



**Table 1: The structure of the OP Environment including the financing plan**

Priority axis / area of intervention No	Priority axis / area of intervention title	Fund	Share in allocation	EU contribution	Total public funding
<b>1</b>	<b>The Improvement of Water Management Infrastructure and Reduction of Flood Risks</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>40.44%</b>	<b>1 988 552 501</b>	<b>2 339 473 531</b>
1.1.	<i>The reduction of water pollution</i>	74.81 %	30.25 %	1 487 725 975	1 750 265 855
1.2.	<i>Drinking water quality improvement</i>	20.15 %	8.15 %	400 661 221	471 366 142
1.3.	<i>The reduction of flood risks</i>	5.04 %	2.04 %	100 165 305	117 841 534
<b>2</b>	<b>The Improvement of Air Quality and Reduction of Emissions</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>12.89%</b>	<b>634 146 020</b>	<b>746 054 141</b>
2.1.	<i>The improvement of air quality</i>	54.95 %	7.09 %	348 432 008	409 920 009
2.2.	<i>The reduction of emissions</i>	45.05 %	5.81 %	285 714 012	336 134 132
<b>3</b>	<b>Sustainable Use of Energy Sources</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>13.68%</b>	<b>672 971 287</b>	<b>791 730 926</b>
3.1.	<i>The construction of new facilities and the modernisation of the existing facilities with the aim to increase the use RES for heat generation, electric energy generation and for combined heat and electric energy generation</i>	54 %	7.37 %	362 591 123	426 577 792
3.2.	<i>The implementation of energy savings and the use of waste heat</i>	46 %	6.31 %	310 380 164	365 153 134
<b>4</b>	<b>The Improvement of Waste Management and the Rehabilitation of Old Ecological Burdens</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>15.79%</b>	<b>776 505 331</b>	<b>913 535 684</b>
4.1.	<i>The improvement of waste management</i>	67 %	10.58 %	520 258 572	612 068 908
4.2.	<i>The rehabilitation of old ecological burdens</i>	33 %	5.21 %	256 246 759	301 466 776
<b>5</b>	<b>The Reduction of Industrial Pollution and Environmental Risks</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>1.23%</b>	<b>60 605 709</b>	<b>71 300 834</b>
5.1.	<i>The reduction of industrial pollution</i>	100 %	1.23 %	60 605 709	71 300 834
<b>6</b>	<b>The Improvement of the State of Nature and Landscape</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>12.19%</b>	<b>599 423 825</b>	<b>705 204 500</b>
6.1.	<i>The implementation and management of the Natura 2000 network</i>	5 %	0.61 %	29 971 191	35 260 225
6.2.	<i>Support for biodiversity</i>	19 %	2.32 %	113 890 527	133 988 855
6.3.	<i>Recovery of landscape features</i>	13 %	1.58 %	77 925 097	91 676 585
6.4.	<i>Optimisation of the landscape water regime</i>	37.5 %	4.57 %	224 783 934	264 451 687
6.5.	<i>Support for the regeneration of urbanised landscape</i>	14.5 %	1.77 %	86 916 455	102 254 653
6.6.	<i>The prevention of landslides and rock avalanches, the monitoring of geofactors and the impacts of mining and extraction activities, and the assessment of non-renewable natural resources including groundwater resources</i>	11.0 %	1.34 %	65 936 621	77 572 495
<b>7</b>	<b>The Development of Infrastructure for Environmental Education, Consultancy and Awareness</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>0.86%</b>	<b>42 452 678</b>	<b>49 944 327</b>
7.1.	<i>The development of infrastructure for the implementation of environmental education programmes, the provision of environmental consultancy and environmental information</i>	100 %	0.86 %	42 452 678	49 944 327
<b>8</b>	<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>2.91%</b>	<b>143 209 747</b>	<b>168 482 055</b>



8.1.	<i>Technical assistance in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and supervision the operations of the OP Environment</i>	66%	1.92%	94 518 433	111 198 156
8.2.	<i>Other expenditures of TA for the OP E</i>	34%	0.99%	48 691 314	57 283 899
<b>Total</b>			<b>100%</b>	<b>4 917 867 098</b>	<b>5 785 725 998</b>
<b>Of that CF</b>			<b>85.72%</b>	<b>4 215 384 886</b>	<b>4 959 276 337</b>
<b>Of that ERDF</b>			<b>14.28%</b>	<b>702 482 212</b>	<b>826 449 661</b>

## ***1.4. Links of the OP to other documents***

### **National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF)**

The OP Environment will contribute, above all, to fulfilling the ‘Attractive environment’ strategic objective of the NSRF, namely through the ‘Environmental protection and quality improvement’ priority. Investments have direct influence on the quality of life of the population in the territory, affect its health, contribute to improving the attractiveness of the environment to investors through reduced external costs (negative externalities), contribute to the use of progressive, environmentally and energy sound technologies.

In addition, the OP Environment will contribute to the accomplishment of other strategic objectives: ‘A competitive Czech economy’ through creating the conditions for enterprise and investments and for reducing both the energy intensiveness of production and the consumption of primary fossil fuels, ‘Balanced territorial development’ through improving the living conditions and accessibility in less favoured regions, as well as to the ‘Open, flexible and cohesive society’ objective through creating quality conditions for work and life.

### **The Regional Development Strategy of the Czech Republic, the Integrated Urban Development Plan**

In evaluation, projects implemented within regions that are structurally affected or structurally weak and regions with unemployment high above average pursuant to Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 560/2006 of 17 May 2006 concerning the Regional Development Strategy of the Czech Republic and projects implemented within the Integrated Urban Development Plans pursuant to Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 883/2007 of 13 August 2007 receive a bonus of 10% of the total score that had been awarded.

### **National Lisbon Programme**

The National Lisbon Programme 2005–2008 (the National Reform Programme – NRP), which was drawn up by the Office of the Government in cooperation with the relevant departments and interest groups, establishes the Czech Republic’s priorities and measures for the given period in the macroeconomic, microeconomic and employment fields, the objective being to achieve higher economic growth and employment, while respecting the principles of sustainable development. The implementation of the NRP will contribute to accomplishing the objectives of the revised Lisbon Strategy. The grounds for the programme preparation were the European Commission’s Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs for 2005–2008. The OP Environment will contribute to accomplishing the goals in both macroeconomic and



microeconomic areas (e.g. to reducing the high material- and energy-intensity of production and to supporting environmental technologies). Emphasis will be placed on increasing the efficiency of energy use, the use of renewable energy sources, the use of secondary energy sources in industry, developing the use of municipal waste for energy recovery, as well as on heat generation from biomass.

## ***1.5. The description of the basic documents of the OP Environment***

### *The Programming Document*

The Programming Document of the OP Environment was adopted by the European Commission on 20 December 2007.

### *The Implementation Document*

The Implementation Document, i.e. its content, builds on the Programming Document of the OP Environment and details its principles in the form of a set of guidelines for the implementation and monitoring of the programme at the operational level of individual priority axes and areas of intervention. It specifies the circles of possible beneficiaries for the individual areas of intervention, the orientation of supported projects, monitored indicators etc. The Implementation Document was created concurrently with the Programming Document of the OP Environment and subsequently updated.

An amendment to the Implementation Document was approved at the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the OP Environment on 17 April 2008. Another amendment was approved through the ‘per rollam’ procedure on 23 June 2008.

An amendment to the Implementation Document was approved at the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the OP Environment on 10 November 2008. A new section entitled ‘The Code of Ethics’ was inserted and major modifications to sections ‘Public Aid’ and ‘Eligible Expenditure’ were made.

### *The Procedures Manual*

The Procedures Manual for the OP Environment is common to the Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body. The manual details all activities performed in the programme’s implementation. The Manual’s first edition was approved on 17 September 2007. Based on the findings of the compliance audit, the Manual was updated and the second version was published on 31 March 2008. In connection with the gradual implementation of the programme, there have been three subsequent updates modifying the individual sections of the Manual, namely as of 30 June 2008 – Section 7, as of 15 September 2008 – Sections 4, 8, 9, 10, 14 and as of 26 November 2008 – Sections 8, 12, 13.

### *Directive of the ME on submitting applications and granting aid*

The submission of applications within the OP Environment is subject to Directive of the ME on submitting applications and granting financial resources for projects from the OP Environment, including co-financing by the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic and the state budget of the Czech Republic – chapter 315 (the environment).



On 30 May 2008, new Directive of the ME No 5/2008 was issued, which superseded Directive No 7/2007 of 29 June 2007 including Supplement 1 to the Directive of 29 October 2007.

On 23 December 2008, updated Directive of the ME No 5/2008 was issued together with Supplement 1 to Directive No 5/2008.

#### *Binding Instructions for Applicants and Aid Beneficiaries*

The instructions for applicants contain a manual for preparing project applications, while the instructions for beneficiaries contain the rules for awarding contracts, the beneficiaries' obligations in relation to information and promotion measures for the public, guidelines for archiving documents and project monitoring. The document was updated as of 10 October 2008.

#### *Manual for Subsidy Applicants*

The Manual is the basic information material for potential applicants intending to submit project applications into the OP Environment. In the initial phase, it covers the identification of the specific project plan, its transformation into a written application, its submission in accordance with the requirements and guidelines of the Intermediate Body and the subsequent process of evaluation within defined procedures, including an outline of the key procedures in the project's implementation. The document was updated as of October 2008.

Special attention is focused on water-management projects. As aids to subsidy applicants, there are the following materials:

#### Methodological Guidelines for Applicants Detailing the Conditions of Acceptability of Water-Management Projects

The methodology is intended for applicants whose infrastructure is operated within the separate model by means of an operational contract with the operator. In addition, the document takes account of the general legal acts of European law pertaining to the provision of services of general economic interest, which also provide the basis for the requirements specified in the OP ENVIRONMENT.

#### Entry Catalogue of Performance Parameters for the area of drinking and waste water, including the parameters of the quality of services, and the identification of parameters that are suitable for applying sanctions, as well as proposed monitoring

The Catalogue serves as an auxiliary instrument for owners of water-management infrastructure that need to modify existing operational contracts or are about to start the preparation process for awarding the contract for the operation of water-management infrastructure. Performance indicators and their monitoring are one of the generally accepted methods that are increasingly popular in assessing compliance with the required quality standard of water-management services, i.e. at the adequate level, within a defined scope and in relation to a certain target group.

#### Financial Model for the Owners and Operators of Water-Management Infrastructure

- *The Financial Model and the Manual on the Financial Model*

The Financial Model was created taking into account the specified conditions listed in 'The Conditions of Acceptability of Water-Management Projects for the OP Environment in the 2007–2013 Programming Period' concerning the calculation of water and wastewater rates.



- *The Reconciliation Model for creating water and wastewater rates and the Manual on the Reconciliation Model*

It is recommended that the Reconciliation Model should be used in the ‘separate’ model of operation, where the owners of the assets of water-management infrastructure envisage subsidies to be drawn from the OP Environment between 2007 and 2013. This instrument is intended for the subsequent (ex-post) modification of tariffs based on an initial plan (ex-ante) that is created in the Financial Model for the Owners and Operators of Water-Management Infrastructure. The manual serves as the basis for tariff setting and is adjusted primarily to existing contracts.

Both financial models complement each other and should be used together.

### ***1.6. Potential aid beneficiaries***

The OP Environment is primarily intended for beneficiaries from the public sphere. The beneficiaries may include for example municipalities, cities, self-governing regions, allowance organisations, state enterprises, state organisations, organisational units of the state, churches and religious societies, NGOs and – in some areas of intervention – also business entities and individuals.

### ***1.7. Division of competencies between the Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body***

Pursuant to Government Resolution No 175/2006 of 22 February 2006, the Ministry of the Environment (the ME) is the Managing Authority for the OP Environment and is responsible for the programme’s implementation. Pursuant to the ‘Agreement on Delegating Some Activities and Competencies of the Ministry of the Environment as the Managing Authority of the Operational Programme Environment to the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic’ that was signed on 4 December 2007, the Managing Authority has delegated the performance of some activities to the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic (the SEF), which was entrusted with performing the operational level of management of the OP Environment functioning as the Intermediate Body for the 2007–2013 period.

Within the Ministry of the Environment, it was the Department of European Union Funds that was authorised to perform the function of the Managing Authority for the OP Environment . The Managing Authority performs the management function and is responsible in particular for drafting and submitting the OP and for providing methodological assistance. In addition, it reports the results of the OP’s implementation to the Commission and bears the overall responsibility for the OP Environment’s implementation.

Operational functions, the contact with applicants and beneficiaries, the processing of aid applications, as well as the payment and verification functions are delegated to the Intermediate Body pursuant to Article 60 (b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006.



## 2. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

### 2.1. Achievement and analysis of the progress

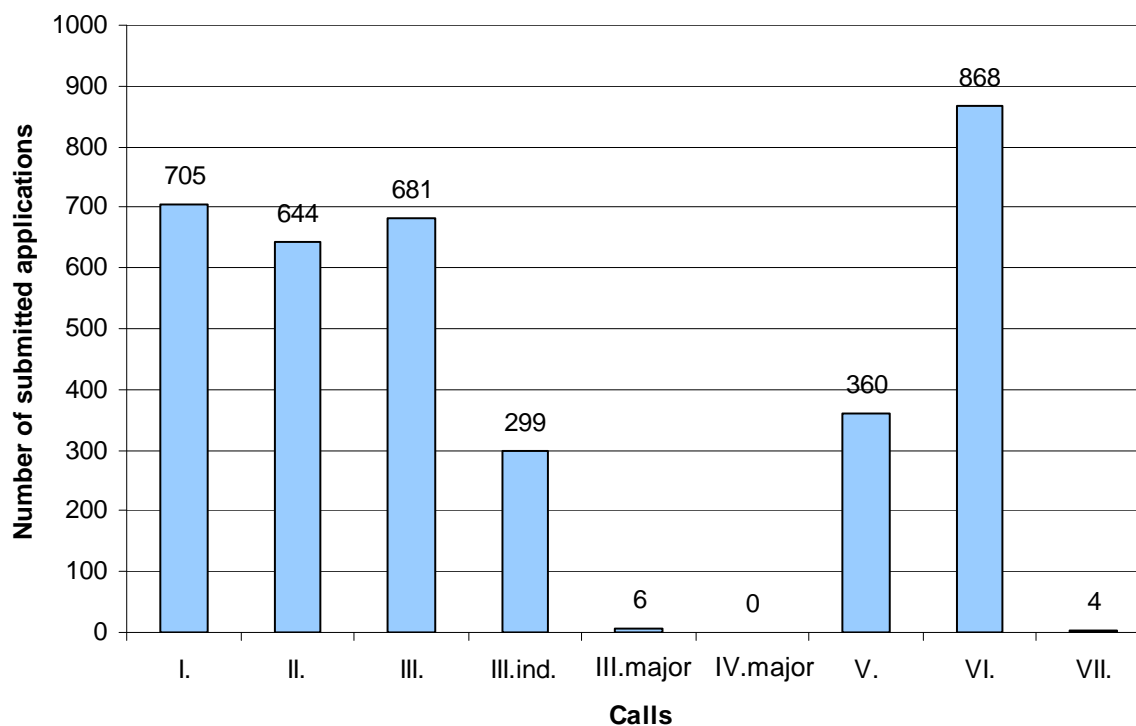
#### 2.1.1. Calls for applications

In 2008, four calls for applications were announced within the OP Environment, namely the 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> calls. The 4<sup>th</sup> call was intended for aid applications for ‘major’ projects. At the beginning of 2008, receipt of applications was still open for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> calls that had been announced for individual projects in 2007. Receipt of applications for the 3<sup>rd</sup> call for major projects continued until 19 December 2008. Receipt of applications for the 7<sup>th</sup> call that was announced in December 2008 continued until February 2009. Table 2 shows the overview of announced calls.

Since the 1st call, it was obvious that the interest among applicants was high. The largest number of projects were submitted within the 6th call. The comparison of the number of applications submitted within individual calls is shown in Chart 1.

As of 31 December 2008, 3567 project aid applications had been submitted within Priority axes 1-7 totalling EUR 2617.04 million.

**Chart 1: The comparison of the number of applications submitted within individual calls**





**Table 2: The overview of announced calls**

Call No	Date of announcement	Opening date for receipt of applications	Closing date for receipt of applications	Area of intervention	Allocation for call (EUR)	Submitted applications	
						Number	Amount of ERDF/CF aid (EUR)
I.	2007-06-28	2007-09-03	2007-10-26	1.1	/	96	275 339 390
				1.2	/	5	16 437 032
				2.1	/	12	2 409 185
				2.2	/	13	3 298 071
				3.1	/	28	14 884 879
				3.2	/	358	238 124 072
				4.1	/	161	58 413 094
				4.2	/	14	33 003 998
II.	2007-10-29	2007-11-19	2008-01-31	7.1	/	18	16 281 687
				6.1	/	7	1 612 655
				6.2	/	39	7 939 365
				6.3	/	66	3 919 592
				6.4	/	363	80 078 316
				6.5	/	143	19 484 473
III.	2007-12-21	2007-12-21	2008-01-31	3.2	/	681	247 938 767
		2008-03-03	2008-04-30	1.1	/	299	884 415 908
		2008-03-03	2008-12-19	1.1	/	5	422 617 757
		2008-03-03	2008-12-19	1.2	/	1	22 977 694
IV.major	2008-07-25	2008-08-01	2009-12-18	2.1	/	0	0
				2.2	/	0	0
				3.1	/	0	0
V.	2008-08-04	2008-08-11	2008-10-10	4.1	/	328	89 279 600
				4.2	/	24	12 904 975
				5.1	/	8	561 835
VI.	2008-09-15	2008-09-17	2008-11-13	1.1	/	2	5 750 382
				1.3	/	26	9 312 930
				6.1	/	10	13 796 695
				6.2	/	60	19 085 635
				6.3	/	90	5 642 328
				6.4	/	445	77 073 683
				6.5	/	210	22 007 443
				6.6	/	25	3 649 898
VII.	2008-12-08	2008-12-15	2009-02-23	1.1	/	4	4 508 135
<b>Total</b>						<b>3567</b>	<b>2 617 035 079</b>

Note: ind. – a call for individual projects (i.e. projects with total costs < EUR 25 million)

major – a call for major projects (i.e. projects with total costs > EUR 25 million)

Calls are announced for total public funding.

The allocation for a call is not defined for the OP Environment

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR

Projects submitted within the 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> calls were not approved until 2009.

Source: SEF-Central, as of 13.1.2009l



### **2.1.2. Deficiencies in project applications and in the subsequent project administration**

The most sensitive phase of project management is the preparatory stage and the submission of the application. The most significant mistakes that are also the most difficult to correct include inconsistencies in the submitted project documentation and an overestimated project budget. Most often, these mistakes occur when the subsidy applicant outsources the preparation of the application to an external supplier through a contract, delegating all responsibilities to such supplier.

An area that often tends to be underestimated is the selection of the contractor for implementing the project. Aid beneficiaries must proceed in accordance with the Act on Awarding Public Contracts No 137/2006 Sb., the ME Guideline and the Binding Instructions for Applicants and Beneficiaries.

Monitoring has shown that project implementation and financing are the least problematic stages of project management. On the part of the beneficiary, it is the lengthy submission of documents necessary for the issue of a Decision on Granting a Subsidy that shows to be the most problematic, which mainly applies to documents concerning the tender procedures for all eligible expenditure. Thus, for no reason, the applicant complicates their own situation, and while the implementation of the project is often already under way, the subsidy provider cannot start financing it due to the failure to present all necessary documents.

The most common mistakes in applications and projects including the recommendations for applicants/beneficiaries are listed in Annex 1.

### **2.1.3. Information on the Physical progress of the operational programme**

The physical progress of operational programmes is monitored through indicators that are set during the creation and the negotiation of the operational programme. Within the OP Environment, an evaluation project focusing on the set system of indicators is currently under way (for more see chapter 2.7.3 *Evaluation activities*) that will produce (as its output) recommendations for adjusting the set indicator system. Even now, preliminary results have shown that indicators that are based on statistical data of the Czech Statistical Office, the Czech Environmental Inspectorate, the Waste Management Information System and other institutions have not been chosen appropriately, especially due to the fact that it is impossible to obtain updated information as of a given date and to determine the share of the contribution in a given value on the part of the OP Environment. Most of the indicator values that are presented here are values for 2007, since data for 2008 is not available yet. Based on the project's output, a modification of the indicator system is being planned so that most indicators are filled directly by the beneficiary. The submitted report is still based on the existing indicator system.



**Table 3: Indicators at the level of the programme**

Type of indicator EU code NLI code	Name of indicator	Measurement unit	Data source	Value	2007	2008	Target value 2015	Total
Impact Core 30 21 02 00	Reducing greenhouse gas emissions (CO <sub>2</sub> eq. and kt)	t CO <sub>2</sub> eq. per capita per year	ME	Achievement	13.923 (2004)	14.4 (2006)	N/A	14.4 (2006)
				Baseline	13.923 (2004)	13.923 (2004)	N/A	13.923 (2004)
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	13.505	13.505
Impact 21 17 00	Population exposure to above-the-threshold concentrations of PM <sub>10</sub>	% of population	ME	Achievement	66 (2005)	32 (2007)	N/A	32 (2007)
				Baseline	66 (2005)	66 (2005)	N/A	66 (2005)
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	60 <sup>2</sup>	60 <sup>2</sup>
Result 23 11 00	Weight of pollution discharged by charged-for sources of COD <sub>Cr</sub>	t/year	CEI (CSO)	Achievement	20 613 (2005)	17 246 (2007)	N/A	17 246 (2007)
				Baseline	20 613 (2005)	20 613 (2005)	N/A	20 613 (2005)
				Target <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	18 000	18000

Note:

<sup>1</sup> The target values for the operational programme are given for the whole period, not annually.

<sup>2</sup> The '60% of population' target value for the indicator 'Population exposure to above-the-threshold concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub>' has only been achieved thanks to the contribution of the OP Environment.

Greenhouse gas emissions totalling 14.4 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> eq. per capita represent a slight increase on the preceding years. In view of the fact that the Czech Republic is an industrial country with a high proportion of energy-intensive productions (iron and steel production, chemical industry, cement and lime production, etc.), a high proportion of the use of solid fuels in energy and heat generation and a comparatively low (34.8%) proportion of nuclear power plants and RES, it is one of the countries with the highest specific greenhouse gas emissions in the EU. Another two indicators at the programme level are also indicators PO 1 and PO 2 (see the text).

**Table 4: Context indicators**

Type of indicator EU code NIL code	Name of indicator	Measurement unit	Data source	Value	2007	2008	Target value 2015	Total
Context 27 03 00	The proportion of environmental protection expenditure to GDP	%	CSO	Achievement	1.91 (2004)	2.0 (2006)	N/A	2.0 (2006)
				Baseline	1.91 (2004)	1.91 (2004)	N/A	1.91 (2004)
Context 27 01 00	Total environmental protection expenditure	CZK billion/year	CSO	Achievement	52.96 (2004)	63.45 (2006)	N/A	63.45 (2006)
				Baseline	52.96 (2004)	52.96 (2004)	N/A	52.96 (2004)



Statistically monitored environmental protection expenditure includes acquired investments (tangible investments) and non-investment costs (i.e. opex including for example wage costs, rent etc.) for environmental protection relating to activities whose main purpose is to capture, dispose of, monitor, inspect, reduce, prevent and eliminate pollutants. In 2006, the total expenditure for environmental protection reached CZK 63.5 billion, which represents an annual increase of 26.9%. In 2006 – from the viewpoint of programming orientation – the most funding was expended on waste management (CZK 28.8 billion), waste water disposal (CZK 14.3 billion) and air protection (CZK 7.45 billion). The proportion of total environmental protection expenditure in the GDP increased from 1.6% in 2003 to 2% in 2006.

#### 2.1.4. Financial progress at the programme level

The financial plan of the operational programme is shown as Table 1 in Chapter 1.3. The Standard Monitoring Table is attached as Annex 2.

As of 31 December 2008, 1430 projects had been approved totalling EUR 1 151.821 million. A total of EUR 6.722 million had been paid to the beneficiaries. The most funding had been paid in Priority axes 3 and 4. In Priority axis 5, no project had been approved by 31 December 2008, i.e. no funding had been drawn. While project implementation had been under way in Priority axis 8 (for details see Chapter 5), payment applications had not undergone the administrative process, which is why zeros are indicated in the table. No funds were submitted for certification. In 2008, the number of approved project proposals within Priority axis 8 – Technical assistance was 69. The amount approved in these project proposals was CZK 212 078 150, i.e. EUR 7 963 881.

**Table 5: Priority axes by source of funding (EUR)**

Priority axis	Expenditure paid out by the beneficiaries included in payment claims sent to the managing authority	Expenditure paid by the body responsible for making payments to the beneficiaries = (the relevant contribution from public sources)	Total payments received from the Commission
1 The Improvement of Water Management Infrastructure and Reduction of Flood Risks – expenditure of the CF type	299 096	299 096	125 009 797
2 The Improvement of Air Quality and Reduction of Emissions – expenditure of the CF type	35 055	35 055	39 846 100
3 Sustainable Use of Energy Sources – expenditure of the CF type	4 072 954	4 072 954	42 288 181
4 The Improvement of Waste Management and the Rehabilitation of Old Ecological Burdens – expenditure of the CF type	1 863 603	1 863 603	48 810 700



5 The Reduction of Industrial Pollution and Environmental Risks – expenditure of the ERDF type	0	0	3 802 227
6 The Improvement of the State of Nature and Landscape – expenditure of the ERDF type	434 466	434 466	37 682 231
7 The Development of Infrastructure for Environmental Education, Consultancy and Awareness – expenditure of the ERDF type	16 649	16 649	2 658 468
8 Technical Assistance – expenditure of the CF type	0	0	8 995 512
<b>OP Environment total</b>	<b>6 721 823</b>	<b>6 721 823</b>	<b>309 124 128</b>
Total figures for regions without transitional aid, the overall total	0	0	0
Overall total for ESF-type expenditure, if programme is co-financed by the ERDF	0	0	0
Overall total for ERDF-type expenditure , if programme is co-financed by the ESF	0	0	0

Source: MSC2007, as of 7.1.2009

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR

### List of obtained advance payments

In 2008, the paying and certifying authority received two advance payments for the OP Environment totalling EUR 309 124 128.19. The advance payments are detailed in the following table. No interim payments were received in 2008.

**Table 6: Received advance payments (EUR)**

Date of receipt of payment	Fund	Amount received (EUR)
23 January 2008	CF	105 384 622.15
	ERDF	14 049 644.24
14 April 2008	CF	168 615 395.44
	ERDF	21 074 466.36
<b>Total</b>		<b>309 124 128.19</b>

Note: The amount of the third – last advance payment corresponds to the financial amount of the first advance payment. The last advance payment is envisaged to be received in 2009. The total amount of advance payments will be EUR 428 558 394.58.

Source: MSC2007, as of 7 January 2009

### The N+3 / N+2 rule (by the end of 2010)

All liabilities from projects for the given programme will be cancelled by the European Commission (hereinafter the Commission) the following day after the lapse of the n+3/n+2 period, with ‘n’ being the initial year of the allocation. The n+3 rule applies to drawing the 2007 allocation, which means that this EU funding can be drawn against certification until the end of 2010. From the Commission’s perspective, all liabilities that will not have been covered by advance payments and for which no payment application will have been submitted will cease to exist.



**Table 7: The N+3 / N+2 rule (by the end of 2010) (EUR)**

N+3 rule as of 2010 – The Operational Programme Environment							
Financial allocation 2007–2013 ERDF/CF	Financial allocation 2007 ERDF	Advance payment made by ERDF/CF	Threshold value in respect of N+3 ERDF/CF	Certified by ERDF/CF	Balance ERDF/CF	The amount of certified expenditure as of 31 December 2008 ERDF/CF	Minimum performance of the N+3 rule including advance payment by ERDF/CF
A	B	C	D = B - C	E	F = D - E	G	H = F - G
4 917 867 098	610 175 305	428 558 395	181 616 910	0	181 616 910	0	181 616 910

If we subtract 3 advance payments of EUR 428.558 million from the 2007 allocation totalling EUR 610.175 million, payment applications in a minimum amount of EUR 181.617 million are left to be submitted to the Commission by the end of 2010. In that case, we will manage to fully use the 2007 allocation by the end of 2010.

While no expenditure had been certified as of 31 December 2008, liabilities from project applications had been recorded in a total amount of CZK 30 673 million, i.e. EUR 1 152 million. More than CZK 179 million had been paid, i.e. EUR 6 722 million. Priority axes 3 and 4 have the greatest share in both the Decisions and the funding that had been paid.

### Description of certified-expenditure planning

As of 31 December 2008, no funding had been submitted for certification. The first – ‘extraordinary’ certification is likely to be announced in September 2009.

One of the significant reasons why certification has not been announced yet is the fact that European Commission bodies still have not approved the report pursuant to Article 71 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 describing the assessment of compliance of management and control systems for the OP Environment. The above makes it clear that the certification process can be started as soon as the above report is approved. The mechanisms that are important for the fast start and the successful progress of certification have already been set and made ready.

### Cross financing

The use of cross financing pursuant to Article 34(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 is possible within Priority Axis 7 – The Development of Infrastructure for Environmental Education, Consultancy and Awareness. Cross-financing can be used for those investment projects that concern the purchase, renovation and development of centres and consulting offices and those investment projects that deal with their equipment as additional non-investment support to cover personnel costs related to environmental and education programmes to provide further education for different target groups (especially for the public, public administration, SMEs, etc.). This tool was not used as of 31 December 2008.



## 2.1.5. Information about the breakdown of use of the Funds

The following table categorises the aid within the OP Environment for the 2007–2013 period including the envisaged EU contribution. The categorisation is based on the approved OP Environment. The most funding had been drawn within priority themes 43 – Energy efficiency, co-generation, energy management, 44 – Management of household and industrial waste, 51 – Promotion of biodiversity and nature protection (including Natura 2000) and 50 – Rehabilitation of industrial sites and contaminated land.

**Table 8: Priority themes**

Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	Theme 4	Theme 5	EU contribution (EUR)	Achieved value <sup>1</sup> (EUR)
<i>Priority theme</i>	<i>Form of finance</i>	<i>Territory type</i>	<i>Economic activity</i>	<i>Geographic location</i>		
06 – Assistance to SMEs for the promotion of environmentally-friendly products and production processes	1	01,05	21	CZ0 except for CZ01	158 614 627	0
12 – Information and communication technologies	1	01,05	21	CZ0 except for CZ01	11 030 239	0
39 – Renewable energy: wind	1	01,05	8,21	CZ0	18 129 385	0
40 – Renewable energy: solar	1	01,05	8,21	CZ0	54 388 155	103 078,85
41 – Renewable energy: biomass	1	01,05	8,21	CZ0	235 682 275	0
42 – Renewable energy: hydroelectric, geothermal and other	1	01,05	8,21	CZ0	54 388 155	748 009,78
43 – Energy efficiency, co-generation, energy management	1	01,05	21	CZ0	565 383 317	50 437 135,10
44 - Management of household and industrial waste	1	01,05	21	CZ0	520 258 572	26 903 036,41
45 – Management and distribution of water (drinking water)	1	01,05	9	CZ0	400 661 221	255 973,28
46 – Water treatment (waste water)	1	01,05	9	CZ0	1 344 868 832	16 082 791,19
47 – Air quality	1	01,05	8,21	CZ0	252 317 000	403 400,19
48 – Integrated prevention and pollution control	1	01,05	8,21	CZ0	160 647 006	0
50 – Rehabilitation of industrial sites and contaminated land	1	01,05	21	CZ0	256 246 759	20 272 484,26
51 – Promotion of biodiversity and nature protection (including Natura 2000)	1	01,05	21	CZ0 except for CZ01	599 423 825	21 678 205,49



<b>53</b> – Risk prevention	1	01,05	21	CZ0	100 165 305	<b>0</b>
<b>75</b> – Education infrastructure	1	01,05	21	CZ0 except for CZ01	42 452 678	611 036,14
<b>85</b> – Preparation, implementation, monitoring and inspection	1	01,05	0	CZ0	94 518 433	4 122 912,56
<b>86</b> – Evaluation and studies; information and communication	1	01,05	0	CZ0	48 691 314	2 007 187,01
<b>Total</b>					<b>4 917 867 098</b>	<b>143 369 276,98</b>

Note: Codes are indicated according to Part A of Annex II to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006

<sup>1</sup> The achieved value represents the amount of funding for projects under execution, (i.e. status P45).

Due to the fact that EK issued the Information Note concerning Reporting on the cumulative allocation of the Funds by categories and its combination by codes in the 2nd quarter of 2009, data in this table are presented as of 16.6.2009 Source: SFŽP-Central,

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for June 2009, i.e. CZK 26,761 /EUR

### 2.1.6. Assistance by target groups

Within the OP Environment, account is taken of regions with concentrated state support (i.e. structurally affected regions, economically weak regions and regions with above-average unemployment) that are defined by the approved Regional Development Strategy of the Czech Republic for the 2007–2013 Period in accordance with Government Resolution No 560 of 17 May 2006. In the evaluation of project applications, these regions receive a bonus of 10% of the score. Projects that are included in the IUDP receive the same bonus.

### 2.1.7. Assistance repaid or re-used

As of 31 December 2008, no funds were returned due to non-compliance with the sustainability rule or due to irregularities.

#### Irregularities

Bodies involved in the OP Environment's implementation shall immediately report any suspected irregularities to the Managing Authority of the OP Environment.

If a suspected irregularity remains after an audit or a new suspected irregularity is identified, the Managing Authority shall prepare an irregularity report in MSC2007 that shall be sent in writing to the Paying and Certifying Authority (PCA), the Audit Authority (AA), the Audit Department of the Ministry of Finance and an AFCOS employees no later than on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the audit.

The Managing Authority shall prepare quarterly summaries of all newly suspected irregularities (or confirmed irregularities) and summaries of the investigation (hereinafter referred to as the “quarterly reports on irregularities”). These quarterly reports on irregularities shall be sent no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day after the end of each calendar quarter to an AFCOS employees and a copy shall be sent to the Ministry of Finance (the AA), the Audit



Department, and the PCA, in compliance with the Cashflow and Audit Methodology of Programmes Co-financed from the Structural Funds, the Cohesion Fund and the European Fisheries Fund for the 2007–2013 programming period.

Any unauthorised use of funds, even if it is not yet classified as an irregularity, shall be reported to the Audit Authority and the Paying and Certifying Authority.

As of 31 December 2008, no suspected irregularities were reported in the OP Environment.

## 2.1.8. Qualitative analysis

### 2.1.8.1. Analysis of the achievements

A total of 1430 projects with provided funding totalling EUR 1 151 822 195 had been approved as of 31 December 2008. The largest number of projects had been approved within Priority axis 3 Sustainable use of energy sources, namely 585. The amount of approved funding was highest within Priority axis 1 The improvement of water management infrastructure and reduction of flood risks, in which 222 projects had been approved totalling EUR 727 700 272. No project had been completed as of 31 December 2008. Intensive promotion of the OP and various training sessions for applicants were under way (see Chapter 6 and Annex 3 Fulfilment of the Annual Communication Plan of the OP Environment for 2008).

**Table 9: The status of approved and completed programmes of the OP Environment as of 31 December 2008**

Priority axis	Approved projects		Completed projects		Percentage of all completed projects in the allocation (%)
	Number	EUR	Number	EUR	
1	222	727 700 272	0	0	0
2	11	2 529 057	0	0	0
3	585	247 345 314	0	0	0
4	152	97 755 088	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0
6	393	64 500 331	0	0	0
7	3	2 794 035	0	0	0
8	64	9 198 099	0	0	0
<b>OP E total</b>	<b>1 430</b>	<b>1 151 822 195</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

*Note: The funding includes the total public funding, i.e. both EU and national resources.*

*Source: MSC2007, as of 7.1.2009*

*Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR*



### **2.1.8.2. Contribution of the OP Environment to horizontal objectives, fulfilment of partnership agreements and the Lisbon Strategy**

#### **Equal opportunities (Article 16 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006)**

The operational programme is designed in a way that ensures that the principles of equal opportunities between men and women and of non-discrimination in general are adhered to in all proposed areas of intervention within the programme. Equal opportunities between men and women in their social and professional development, i.e. equal opportunities regardless of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability etc. are an important element of the social dimension of sustainable development.

The OP Environment through its character is not directly targeted at the issues of equal opportunities, nevertheless, it also takes into account this cross-cutting theme and, during the programme implementation no discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation will occur. Within a project application, it is monitored during its implementation whether the project has a positive or a neutral effect on equal opportunities.

#### **Sustainable development (Article 17 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006)**

The programme specifically focuses on the environment as the main theme of sustainable development. This concerns, above all, reducing the energy intensity, introducing new, environmentally friendly technologies, and supporting environmental education, consultancy and awareness raising. The fulfilment of these objectives is described in the chapters on the progress of different priority axes.

Both horizontal themes represent cross-cutting areas that permeate the entire strategy of the operational programme.

#### **Partnership principles (Article 11 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006)**

Close cooperation with other public authorities, NGOs and the European Commission is achieved through the activities of the Monitoring Committee, whose members include representatives of the ME and the SEF, representatives of other ministries (e.g. the MRD, the MIT, the MF, the MT, the MA), as well as a delegated representative of regions, a representative of the Office of the Government, a representative of NGOs and others, as the case may be. In addition, representatives of the European Commission, the EIB and the EIF may take part in the meetings of the Monitoring Committee.

In connection with fulfilling the principle of partnership, an important role within the implementation structure is played by the Regional Working Groups that are established at the level of all NUTS III regions in the Czech Republic. The members of the Regional Working Group are the representatives of regional administration, the ME, the SEF and other departments, as the case may be. Regional Working Groups comment on accepted applications according to the regional structuring, namely from the perspective of their compliance with the development priorities and needs at the regional level.



## Expenditure associated with the Lisbon Programme

The Czech Republic is aware of the need for a competitive EU and the significance of the cohesion policy to the Lisbon Programme. In connection with the indicative breakdown of resources from the funds for each category, as stated in the OP, only approximately 22.32% of the Community support shall be allocated to the Lisbon type of expenditure. The reason for such relatively low allocation of resources for the Lisbon type of expenditure is – on the one hand – the fact that many environmental activities (in particular energy efficiency) that are classified as Lisbon type expenditure will be implemented within other programmes and – on the other hand – the fact that the OP takes account of the requirements for regional development, namely in the area of water treatment, pollution, protection of biodiversity and air quality, which do not necessarily have to be classified as Lisbon type expenditure.

**Table 10: Expenditure associated with the Lisbon Programme**

Code	Title of priority theme	Allocation (EUR)2007–2013	Drawn in 2008 (%) in relation to allocation 2007–2013
06	Assistance to SMEs for the promotion of environmentally-friendly products and production processes	158 614 627	0
12	Information and communication technologies	11 030 239	0
39	Renewable energy: wind	18 129 385	0
40	Renewable energy: solar	54 388 155	0
41	Renewable energy: biomass	235 682 275	0
42	Renewable energy: hydroelectric, geothermal and other	54 388 155	0
43	Energy efficiency, co-generation, energy management	565 383 317	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>1 097 616 153</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Proportion in the total EU contribution</b>		<b>22.32%</b>	<b>0</b>

*Note: The priority theme relates to Annex IV to Regulation 1083/2006 'Categories of expenditure' (Article 9 (3) of Regulation 1083/2006).*

*The 'Drawn in 2008' information represents the amount of funding of financially completed projects (status 'P6' pursuant to the IS MSC 2007) and indicates the cumulative figure by the end of 2008.*

*Source: MSC2007, as of 7.1.2009*

As of 31 December 2008, there was no financially completed project in the OP Environment, which is why there has been zero drawing in respect of the Lisbon Programme.



## **2.2. *Information about compliance with Community law***

### **2.2.1. Rules of economic competition**

Funding that is provided for the implementation of programmes financed by the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund is public funding and its provision is subject to the relevant rules concerning public support. The basic rules on the granting of public aid follow directly from Articles 87 to 89 of the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended by the Treaty of Lisbon amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community (hereinafter ‘the Treaty’). In accordance with the articles, any aid granted by a member state or through state resources in any form whatsoever which distorts or threatens to distort economic competition by favouring certain undertakings or the production of certain goods shall, in so far as it affects trade between member states, be incompatible with the common market. Exceptions to this basic rule are laid down in the Treaty on the EC.

In the implementation of the OP Environment, great emphasis is placed on all financial operations to be performed in accordance with both the Treaty and the instruments adopted under the Treaty in the area of economic competition.

For any assistance that is requested within the OP Environment, assessment is made as to whether it is – due to its nature – subject to public aid conditions. The nature of assistance is always assessed from the viewpoint of a specific project (i.e. from the viewpoint of the anticipated investment, e.g. infrastructure to be constructed and the related economic activities) as well as from the viewpoint of all of the applicant’s market activities. It must be determined whether the implementation of a specific project can influence competition, i.e. whether it can impact on potential intentions, opportunities and results of the applicant’s competitors in the relevant market.

Such assessment of public aid is the first step in determining the amount of aid in the OP Environment. The rules for awarding public aid under the OP Environment are governed by generally applicable regulations. Every project is subject to individual assessment. Individual assessment is to be used in particular in cases where the applicant is a body other than the bodies of state administration and self-government. If the project is subject to public aid conditions, the permissible aid intensity is determined based on the regulation that is relevant to the given type of project. It is to be expected that such intensity will be considerably lower than the maximum extent of support determined according to the general rules of the operational programme.

In the Czech Republic, protection of economic competition is implemented pursuant to Act No 143/2001 Sb., on the protection of economic competition and amending some acts, as amended. Should any suspicion concerning the violation of the rules of economic competition arise, the operations will be consulted with the Office for the Protection of Competition of the Czech Republic, i.e. the central authority of state administration responsible for oversight of compliance with the rules of economic competition.



## **2.2.2. Awarding public contracts**

For all bodies within the implementation structure of the OP Environment, the award of public contracts is subject to Act No 137/2006 Sb., on public contracts, as amended, which reflects European procurement directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC, and to the OP's supplementary rules.

The main principles of the act are based above all on the Treaty establishing the European Community and on the above Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC. These include especially the principles of:

- transparency,
- non-discrimination,
- equal treatment,
- mutual recognition and proportionality.

Instructions for beneficiaries concerning the award of public contracts are part of the 'Binding Instructions for Applicants and Supplementary Information for Aid Beneficiaries'. Furthermore, the 'Methodology for Awarding Public Contracts Pursuant to Act No 137/2006 Sb., on Public Contracts and the Methodology for Awarding Contracts Financed by EU Resources' have been published for beneficiaries.

One of the conditions for obtaining funds from EU resources is compliance with the obligations following from the legal framework governing public contracts. Compliance on the part of beneficiaries with obligations prescribed by the relevant laws on public contracts is supervised by the SEF. Compliance with these obligations is in the beneficiaries' interest because a detected violation in the use of awarded funds may be seen as an infringement of budgetary discipline and, by extension, may give rise to the obligation to return the awarded funds (the obligation to return funds). For this reason, the SEF recommends that all beneficiaries should rigorously respect the 'Methodology for Awarding Public Contracts Pursuant to Act No 137/2006 Sb., on Public Contracts and the Methodology for Awarding Contracts Financed by EU Resources' as amended, which is available at [www.opzp.cz](http://www.opzp.cz). For contracts awarded outside the procedures of laid down by the Act, beneficiaries shall respect the binding instructions for applicants issued by the SEF.

While awarding public contracts within Technical Assistance, the Managing Authority shall proceed according to Directive of the Ministry of the Environment No 15/2007 that lays down the procedure for awarding public contracts pursuant to Act No 137/2006 Sb., on public contracts under the conditions existing within the apparatus of the Ministry of the Environment, and also according to the Procedures Manual for the OP Environment. The Intermediate Body shall proceed according to internal methodological guidelines that are in compliance with Act No 137/2006 Sb., on public contracts, and also according to the Procedures Manual for the OP Environment.

## **2.2.3. Environmental protection**

Environmental policy of the EC is a cornerstone for the operational programme, which is clearly reflected in the definition of the global objective. The adoption of sustainable development principles and, by extension, the principles of environmental protection and



improvement is one of the prerequisites for the implementation of development activities with regional, national and European impact. Environmental aspects represent one of the basic criteria for the selection of projects. Emphasis is placed on conserving and revitalising natural resources, preventing environmental risks, promoting the ecological stability of the landscape and increasing the inhabitants' environmental awareness and their involvement in the decision-making process in a manner that respects the principles of sustainable development and the approximation to the EU standards. Emphasis is also placed on adherence to the 'polluter pays' principle.

Internationally, the operational programme is primarily based on:

- the Implementation Plan of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,
- the Sustainable Development Strategy of the European Union,
- the Sixth Environment Action Programme of the European Community,
- the Lisbon Strategy,
- the EU thematic strategies,
- Community Strategic Guidelines.

With regard to EC environmental legislation, compliance needs to be ensured in particular with the following directives: Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora; Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds; Directive (85/337/EEC) on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment – EIA; and Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. No project or preliminary procedure without EIA shall be supported within the OP Environment, provided that such obligation is imposed by Act No 100/2001 Sb., on environmental impact assessment, as amended. Furthermore, no project with negative EIA statement shall be supported either. In addition, the entire operational programme has undergone the SEA procedure.

#### **2.2.4. Regional policy**

The implementation structure takes account of regional policy in particular through the activities of the Regional Working Groups in which project applications are discussed from the perspective of the needs of the individual regions, and also through the inclusion of the representatives of regions in the committees of the operational programme (the Managing and the Monitoring Committees).

The regional viewpoint also enters into the evaluation of project applications, which also takes account of the definition of regions with concentrated state support for 2007–2013 approved by Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 560 of 17 May 2006 concerning the Regional Development Strategy of the Czech Republic. These regions include structurally affected regions, economically weak regions and regions with unemployment high above average.

In 2008, no cases of non-compliance with Community legislation were detected in the implementation of the operational programme.



### ***2.3. Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them***

#### Description of the management and control systems and the report pursuant to Article 71 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006

The Managing Authority – in cooperation with the Intermediate Body and other bodies that are involved in implementing the OP Environment – have prepared a description of the management and control systems under Article 71 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006. The document includes in particular the description of the organisational structure and of the main functions of all bodies that are involved in implementing the OP Environment, the method of setting the management and control systems and the overview of issued guidelines and instructions. The description of the management and control systems along with the report of the Audit Authority stating the results of the assessment of the implemented systems' compliance with Articles 58 to 62 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 were submitted to the Commission on 26 November 2008.

#### Support for individuals within Priority axes 2 and 3

In view of the deteriorating condition of air in the Czech Republic, which is largely attributable to local heat sources, the Managing Authority strived to incorporate support for individuals into Priority axes 2 and 3 of the OP Environment. The draft 'Guidance note on eligibility of energy efficiency and renewable energies interventions under the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund (2007-2013) in the building sector including housing', which was submitted by the European Commission for the September meeting of COCOF (a committee that coordinates EU funds), did not envisage any interpretation that would allow such support. However, in the draft regulation on the European Regional Development Fund, which reflects the changed economic and social conditions in the EU in connection with the economic crisis, the European Commission will – under certain conditions – allow such support. For the Managing Authority of the OP Environment, the approval of the draft would mean modifying the operational programme.

#### The information system

In 2008, the individual modules of the "SFŽP Central pro OPŽP" (SEF Central for OP E) information system (the parts of the single monitoring system of the Structural Funds in the 2007–2013 programming period) were extended in order to cover the entire project cycle. In addition, modifications were also made to the Bene-Fill web interface in order to simplify the submission of subsidy applications for major projects, thus making it possible for all materials to be presented in electronic form. At the same time, the export of data about major projects was adjusted for the purposes of data transmission to the IS of the Commission for project approval. Continuous tests of the individual parts of the system that are mutually connected were performed. A complete analysis of all arrays/data that are transmitted into MSC2007 has been scheduled for 2009.

#### Administrative capacities

The applicants' interest in the first calls has shown that the number of administered project applications and, subsequently, of approved projects will be several times higher than the number of applications in the OP Infrastructure. Therefore, the Managing Authority and especially the Intermediate Body increased the administrative capacities. Also, in view of the higher number of employees of the Intermediate Body and the limited capacity of the existing



building of the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic, a new location was selected to which the SEF could relocate its extended capacities.

#### The CZK/EUR exchange rate in submitting major projects to the European Commission

The guidelines set by the European Commission do not allow for major projects to be determined according to the current CZK/EUR exchange rate upon application registration. This is mainly a problem for projects that are submitted closely below the limit of EUR 25 million and which may become major projects due to exchange-rate fluctuations. It was clarified at meetings with the Ministry of Finance that the exchange rate that is valid at the time of the Managing Authority's decision approving support for the project was to be used. Based on this information, procedures were set within the OP Environment and subsequently implemented into the Procedures Manual.

#### Inadequate setting of the indicators of the OP Environment and their monitoring

During the initial phase of the programme's implementation, it became clear that it was necessary to elaborate in greater detail both the definitions of indicators at the programme level (which also followed from the European Commission's response in the position paper to the OP Environment) and the system of indicators at the project level. Therefore, an evaluation project was announced at the end of the year, whose output will be the review of the indicators performed by an external body and the assessment of their interconnection.

#### Conditions of acceptability of water-management projects in which infrastructure is operated within the separate operational model

With a view to elaborating the agreement with the European Commission onto the level of detailed guidelines and manuals, the Managing Authority set up a working group consisting of representatives of involved ministries and the professional public. In order to ensure the efficient and defensible performance of the agreement, such documents were drawn up as the Methodological Guidelines for Applicants detailing the conditions of Annex 7 to the OP Environment, the Catalogue of Performance Parameters and the Financial Model, which reflect the relevant part of the conditions of acceptability. During the entire year of 2008, the Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body cooperated intensively with both aid applicants and the professional water-management public in order to ensure the success of the practical implementation of the conditions of acceptability.

## ***2.4. Changes in the context of the operational programme implementation (if relevant)***

By the end of 2008, no legislative changes or unexpected facts had occurred that would affect the implementation of the operational programme.

In the monitored period, no specific measures were adopted in the OP Environment in connection with the financial and economic crisis.



## ***2.5. Substantial modification under Article 57 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (if relevant)***

In 2008, no substantial modification under Article 57 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 was noted.

## ***2.6. Complementarity with other instruments***

### **2.6.1. Links of the OP Environment to other financial instruments of the Community**

#### **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development – EAFRD**

Within the framework of the Rural Development Programme, whose Managing Authority is the Ministry of Agriculture, projects in rural areas will be financed from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development with emphasis placed on landscape maintenance in agricultural and forest management, protection of water and water resources, some projects relating to both the protection of natural resources and environmental protection, and compensation in connection with the implementation of the Natura 2000 system.

In conformity with the NSRF, the demarcation lines within the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development are defined as follows:

- In the area of renewable energy sources, agricultural entrepreneurs are supported within the framework of the EAFRD.
- In the area of water-management infrastructure, construction and modernisation of water supply and sewerage networks including waste water treatment plants, for agglomerations with a population equivalent (PE) of less than 2 000, support from EAFRD is granted for projects outside areas that require special protection as defined by the OP Environment.
- In the area of other technical infrastructure development, which would concern waste management, no projects will be supported within the Rural Development Programme.
- In the area of water management measures in the landscape, land adaptations are supported within the framework of the EAFRD where the aid beneficiaries are Land Offices.
- In the area of forest management, the bodies conducting business in forests of private persons and municipalities are supported within the EAFRD.

#### **European Fishing Fund – EFF**

In accordance with the NSRF, the demarcation lines within the European Fishing Fund are defined as follows:

- In the area of pond management, water reservoirs are supported within the EFF in accordance with Article 29 of the Regulation on EFF.
- In the area of fish migration routes, legal entities are supported within the EFF whose revenues are generated from business activities performed in their own name, at their own responsibility and risk.



- In the area of spawning locations for fish, operations are supported within the EAFRD whose eligible expenditure does not exceed CZK 1 million.

The OP Environment is not linked with any other EU financial instruments, such as the EIB, EAGF etc.

### **JASPERS (Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Region)**

This is a joint initiative of the European Commission, the European Bank for Economic Reconstruction and Development and the European Investment Bank. Through free technical assistance of its experts, the initiative assist member countries in the preparation of major infrastructure projects not only in the preparatory phase, but also during the evaluation of the projects at national level . JASPERS offers to cover especially the technical, economic and financial aspects of the project.

JASPERS assistance in the OP Environment can be characterised at two main levels – assistance for applicants and assistance for the Managing Authority.

Applicants can use the services of the expert team (in particular prior to submitting the application to the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic) for the preparation or the assessment of a feasibility study, the preparation of the project's financial and economic analysis, the assessment of the project's technical solution from the perspective of its cost-intensity, cooperation on the preparation of the application into the OP Environment etc. In addition, the expert team's environmental specialists also address the issues of NATURA 2000 and EIA within the assessed projects.

The Managing Authority of the OP Environment uses the JASPERS initiative for the assessment of all projects that exceed the limit of EUR 25 million (i.e. 'major projects') and for selected individual projects (total costs do not exceed the limit of EUR 25 million). After the project's submission to the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic, the major-project application including the relevant documentation is assessed by experts in two stages, namely prior the project's acceptance and after its acceptance, however, before the project's approval at the Managing Committee. The outcome of the application's assessment by JASPERS experts, the 'Action Completion Note', is part of the application that is submitted to the European Commission for approval. In the case of individual projects, project applications are only submitted for assessment in substantiated cases and based on a decision by the Managing Authority.

Since the start of the work of the JASPERS team in the Czech Republic, JASPERS experts have provided consultancy in the environmental sector to more than ten major projects, with the greatest emphasis of the experts' activities being placed in particular on assessing multivariant project solutions, evaluating cost intensity, assessing project objectives (from the economic, social and environmental benefit perspective etc.) and revising project applications of the Cohesion Fund in line with the methodological guidelines of the OP E and the requirements of the European Commission for the 2007–2013 period.

### **Integrated Urban Development Plan (IUDP)**

In their evaluation, projects that are implemented within the Integrated Urban Development Plans pursuant to Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 883/2007 of 13 August 2007 receive a bonus of 10% of the total score that had been awarded. As of 31 December 2008, the advantaged bonification was not used in any project.



## **2.6.2. Setting the technical interface of the OP Environment and the other operational programmes**

### **Regional operational programmes**

The OP Environment has several links to the regional operational programmes. In the area of brownfields, the OP Environment will support those operations that will contribute to remediation of the contaminated locations. In case the location is not contaminated seriously, revitalisation may be supported from regional operational programmes or within the framework of the OP Enterprise and Innovation. The relevant department of the ME will determine whether the location is contaminated or not. Operations in the area of public greenery that are carried out in cities and in rural areas and that support biodiversity within the urbanised environment will be financed from regional operational programmes. The OP Environment addresses the other environmental aspects.

### **Thematic operational programmes**

There are links to the OP Enterprise and Innovation in the area of brownfields, where it depends on whether the location is contaminated seriously or not, which is assessed by the ME. Further, there are links to aid in the area of energy efficiency. Business entities will be supported from the OP Enterprise and Innovation. In the area of air protection, which aims to reduce emissions and improve air quality, support from the OP Environment will be granted to projects focusing primarily on environmental protection.

Such activities will be funded by the OP Technical Assistance which will be implemented for all operational programmes without discrimination. Technical Assistance within the OP Environment is intended for the specific needs of this operational programme.

With regard to energy savings, there are links to the Integrated Operational Programme, whose orientation is, however, set completely differently to the OP Environment. While the Integrated Operational Programme focuses on revitalising panel houses, the OP Environment focuses on reducing the emissions of pollutants and improving air quality.

The OP Environment reckons on the development of infrastructure for environmental education and awareness. The use of the cross-financing tool has been introduced in order to directly ensure the provision of environmental education and the interconnection with investments in this infrastructure. Other activities in education will fall under the OP Education for Competitiveness.

Specific relationships and links to the above operational programmes and the definitions of their interfaces are provided in the Programming Document of the OP Environment for the relevant areas of intervention.



### **2.6.3. Synergic links between the OP Environment and other operational programmes**

In Priority axis 7, the OP Environment focuses on building up infrastructure for the implementation of environmental education programmes. These investment projects can be appropriately supplemented with activities that are implemented within the Priority axes of the OP Education for Competitiveness (OP EC).

Measures in the areas of intervention of these two programmes can be implemented independently of each other. However, in order to produce synergy, the activities of the OP Environment need to be implemented first (infrastructure for environmental education and consultancy) with the activities of the OP EC being implemented subsequently (educational activities).

It has been agreed at the working level that the operational programmes' Managing Authorities will exchange information about implemented projects that have synergic links and include the information about synergies into published calls.

## **2.7. *Monitoring arrangements and continuous evaluation***

Monitoring is an integral part of both the programming and the project cycles. Monitoring aims to continuously determine the progress in the implementation of programmes, i.e. projects, and compare the obtained information with the initially envisaged plan. As opposed to evaluation, monitoring is a systematic activity that is carried out during the entire period of the programme's duration. Monitoring data are essential to carrying out all types of evaluations. The performance measurement system is designed on the principle of defining measurable indicators that make it possible to monitor the programme's implementation and to evaluate its efficiency in relation to set targets.

### **2.7.1. Monitoring system**

The monitoring of both the OP and the data exchange with the European Commission uses the single monitoring system for the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund that ensures monitoring at all implementation levels (central, executive, applicant/beneficiary). The basic means of ensuring the uniformity of the monitoring system consists in defining both the extent of obligatory data and the binding procedures for their gathering and transfer at all implementation levels, as specified by the Monitoring Methodology for SF and CF Programmes for the 2007–2013 Programming Period.

The monitoring system is conceived as a three-level unit of inter-communicating information systems. At the central level it is the MSC2007 information system, at the executive and at the beneficiary levels it is the IS "SFŽP Central pro OPŽP" (IS SEF for the OP E). The central level of the monitoring system is operated on the technical equipment of the NCA, the executive and the beneficiary levels on the technical equipment of the SEF. Electronic data exchange between the Czech Republic and the Commission is ensured through data transfer from the MSC2007 information monitoring system to the Commission's database SFC2007.



The IS “SFŽP Central pro OPŽP” is being built up in a way that will meet the requirements of the Monitoring Methodology for SF and CF Programmes for the 2007–2013 Programming Period, while meeting the specific needs of the Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body of the OP E concerning the operational programme’s management.

The system allows for submission of applications and operational communication between beneficiaries and employees of the Intermediate Body to take place via the Bene-Fill web interface. The unique functionality of the IS “SFŽP Central pro OPŽP” is the graphically designed project workflow that displays the exact status of the project including all links and subsequent activities associated with the project’s administration, while also allowing the communication between involved employees to take place directly within the environment of the information system.

In 2007, the setting of individual monitoring system modules was performed at the executive level and data transfer tests were carried out. Despite that, several adjustments had to be made to the IS “SFŽP Central pro OPŽP” during full operation in 2008 in order to improve the quality of data transferred to the central level.

In 2008, modifications were also made to the Bene-Fill web interface in order to simplify the submission of subsidy applications for major projects, thus making it possible for all materials to be presented in electronic form. At the same time, the export of data about major projects was adjusted for the purposes of data transmission to the IS of the Commission for project approval.

## 2.7.2. Monitoring committee

In 2008, two meetings of the Monitoring Committee of the OP Environment were held.

**The third meeting** of the Monitoring Committee was held on 17 April 2008. At this meeting, an amendment to the Implementation Document was approved. The activities that had been carried out within Technical Assistance were presented and the plan for the use of funding from OP E Technical Assistance for 2008 was introduced. Another item on the agenda was a presentation concerning the Report on the Progress of the Implementation of the OP Environment. The status of the programme’s implementation was evaluated as positive, taking place at an extraordinary pace. Furthermore – for information purposes – the draft Communication Plan of the OP Environment was presented, which was subsequently submitted to the Commission for approval.

**The fourth meeting** was held on 10 November 2008. At the beginning of the meeting, amendments to both the Rules of Procedure of the MC of the OP Environment and the Implementation Document of the OP Environment were approved. Further, information about the Indicative Annual Evaluation Plan of the OP Environment for 2009 was presented. The members approved the said plan by consensus. As part of the overview of the OP Environment’s implementation status, the Report on the Progress of the Implementation of the OP Environment as of 15 September 2008 was presented. The status of the operational programme’s implementation was evaluated as highly positive. Within the following item of the agenda, the plan for the use of OP E Technical Assistance for 2009 was approved and information about the projects and the use of funding in Priority axis 8 was presented. At the end, a representative of the ME gave a presentation on the Communication Plan of the OP Environment that had been approved by the European Commission, and introduced the



communication activities for 2008 and the Communication Plan of the OP Environment for 2009.

### **2.7.3. Evaluation activities of the OP Environment for 2008**

On 10 November 2008, the Indicative Annual Evaluation Plan of the OP Environment for 2009 was discussed and approved at the Monitoring Committee, including a list and a brief description of planned evaluation activities.

On 17 December 2008, upon the signature of the contract, the project entitled 'The Indicators of the OP Environment' started. Based on a public tender procedure, DHV CR, spol. s r.o was selected to implement the project. The project has two phases, the output of the project's first phase will be a document containing the precise definitions of indicators at all levels of the OP Environment. This stage will also include a more detailed elaboration of the so-called environmental indicators, including examples of project types and activities that meet the indicators. The output of the project's second phase will be a document containing the summary evaluation of the existing system of indicators and recommended modifications to the existing system of indicators, including the final completion of the aggregation map.



### **3. IMPLEMENTATION BY THE PRIORITY AXES**

#### ***3.1. Priority Axis 1 - THE IMPROVEMENT OF WATER MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE REDUCTION OF FLOOD RISKS***

##### **3.1.1. The Global and Specific Objectives of the Priority Axis**

**The global objective** for the 2007–2013 period is to improve the condition of the surface water and groundwater, improve the quality of the drinking water supply for the population and reduce flood risks.

**The specific objectives of the Priority Axis are as follows:**

##### *1. Surface Waters and Groundwater*

The specific objective is to significantly decrease the amount of pollution discharged into the surface water and groundwater.

The objective will be realised by a reduction of discharged pollution through construction, modernisation and intensification of waste water treatment plants, through the related construction and renovation of sewerage systems, and through a reduction of impacts of area and diffusion pollution sources on water quality level allowing their trouble-free use for human consumption and the life of aquatic ecosystems. To allow a choice of proposals of effective measures and to control their efficiency, systems monitoring the amounts and quality of water, including support for instrumentation and technologies for modern methods of chemical and biological analyses, including building of information and evaluation systems will be established and/or modernised.

##### *2. Drinking Water*

The specific objective is making the supply of drinking water meet quality indicators, both in the quality and the amount.

The objective will be realised through the extension and modernisation of water treatment plants, water conduits and distribution networks.

##### *3. Reduction of Flood Risks*

The specific objective is to reduce flood risks.

The objective will be realised through the processing of flood risk maps and creating plans for their management, the extension and improvement of a prediction and warning service systems and implementation of flood control measures in the landscape in a near-to-natural manner, including the establishment and modernisation of operational information systems.



### 3.1.2. Achieved Progress and its Qualitative Analysis

#### 3.1.2.1. Calls for Priority Axis 1

As of 31 December 2008, total 4 calls for project applications within the framework of Priority Axis 1 were announced (2 calls in 2007 and 2 calls in 2008). In 2008, it was the 6th and the 7th call. More detailed information regarding the announced calls is mentioned in Chapter 2.1.1.

#### 3.1.2.2. Physical progress of Priority Axis 1

The following Table mentions the indicators for Priority Axis 1, the monitoring of which was defined in the Programming Document OP Environment. The indicators show the progress in achieving the objectives of the Priority Axis. It was already mentioned in chapter 2.3.1 that it is impossible to provide current values for certain indicators. Therefore, latest available values are shown in the Table (the year specified).

**Table 11: Indicators relating to Priority Axis 1 – Improvement of the Water Management Infrastructure and the Reduction of Flood Risks**

Indicator type EU Code NCLI Code	Indicator title	Unit of measure	Data source	Value	2007	2008	Target level 2015	Total
Result 23 11 00	Amount of the discharged pollutants for COD <sub>Cr</sub> (methodology of 2005) <sup>2</sup>	t/year	CEI, Czech Environmental Inspectorate (CSO, Czech Statistic Office)	Achieved	20 613 (2005)	17 246 (2007)	N/A	17 246 (2007)
				Starting	20 613 (2005)	20 613 (2005)	N/A	20 613 (2005)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	18 000	18000
Result 23 12 00	Amount of the discharged pollutants – Phosphorus total (methodology of 2005) <sup>2</sup>	kg/year	CEI (CSO)	Achieved	18 200 (2005)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Starting	18 200 (2005)	18 200 (2005)	N/A	18 200 (2005)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	15 000	15000
Result Core 26 23 02 00	Additional population served by waste water projects	Number in million of the population	CSO (MoE)	Achieved	8.215 (2006)	8.344 (2007)	N/A	8.344 (2007)
				Starting	8.215 (2006)	8.215 (2006)	N/A	8.215 (2006)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	8.956	8.956
Result Core 25 23 01 00	Additional population newly connected to water supply for the public consumption	Number in million of the population	CSO, Czech Statistic Office (MoE)	Achieved	9.483 (2006)	9.525 (2007)	N/A	9.525 (2007)
				Starting	9.483 (2006)	9.483 (2006)	N/A	9.483 (2006)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	9.618	9.618



Result 23 06 00	Number of new, reconstructed and intensified WWTPs for population over 2000 EP	Number of WWTPs	CSO (MoE)	Achieved	0 (2005)	0	N/A	0
				Starting	0 (2005)	0 (2005)	N/A	0 (2005)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	350	350
Result 23 07 00	Length of new and reconstructed sewerage systems	km	CSO (MoE)	Achieved	0 (2005)	6.595	N/A	6.595
				Starting	0 (2005)	0 (2005)	N/A	0 (2005)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	120	120
Result 23 08 00	The number of modernised and new water treatment plants	Number	CSO (MoE)	Achieved	0 (2005)	N/A	N/A	N/A
				Starting	0 (2005)	0 (2005)	N/A	0 (2005)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	10	10
Output 23 21 00	The number of flood control bodies (commissions) connected to flood prediction, reporting and warning systems	Number of commissions	MoE	Achieved	20 (2006)	N/A	N/A	N/A
				Starting	20 (2006)	20 (2006)	N/A	20 (2006)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	100	100
Output Core 31 26 01 00	Number of projects (aimed at reducing flood risks)	Number	MoE	Achieved	0 (2007)	0	N/A	0
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	200	200

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> The Operational Programme does not have the values defined for a year but rather for the whole period.

<sup>2</sup> Indicators Amount of the discharged pollutants - COD<sub>Cr</sub> - and Amount of the discharged pollutants – Phosphorus total - are identified according to the departmental Annual Statement on Watercourses Pollution – Waters (MoE) 3-01. Only levels for sources subjected to charges for a given indicator are presented here, which means that the presented amount of the pollutants is only part of the pollutants discharged from these sources.

The limits of charges defined by Water Act No 254/2001 Coll., are set so that in the case of meeting the defined concentration and mass levels (reaching good level of waste water treatment) the indicator concerned ceases to be subjected to charges.

CORE indicator 32 (260200) – Number of the population protected by flood control measures has not been included as there exist no statistical data for this indicator.

The amount of the discharged pollutants for sources subjected to charges in the Czech Republic shows a decreasing trend, which is obvious both in the indicator COD<sub>Cr</sub> and in the indicator Phosphorus total. The pollution is to be subjected to charges if limits specified in Annex 2 to Act 254/2001 Coll. are reached. The limits are the minimum limit amount and the minimum limit concentration (both reached at a time) (3000 kg/year and 3 mg/l). In regards to the discharged pollution (phosphorus total), none of the source exceeded the limits in 2007:



therefore, zero is shown in the amount of phosphorus pollution subjected to charges. Based on the statistical data for the whole republic, the number of PE newly connected to water supply systems is higher (compared to the previous year), which indicates a long-term increase. The same trend is seen in the number of newly connected PE to sewerage systems (in 2007, it was 80.8% of the population in the CR.. The value of the indicator “Length of new and renovated sewerage systems” reflects the data stated in project applications although the table says (by mistake) that the source of data is the CSO. As of 31 December 2008, no project focused on reduction of flood risks was approved.

### 3.1.2.3. Financial Progress of Priority Axis 1

**Table 12: Distribution of Financial Allocation within Priority Axis 1 to Individual Areas of Action**

Area of Intervention	Title of the Area of Intervention	EU Fund	EUR (million)
1.1	Reduction of Water Pollution	CF	1 487.726
1.2	Drinking water quality improvement	CF	400.661
1.3	Reduction of flood risks	CF	100.165
<b>1</b>	<b>Improvement of Water Management Infrastructure and Reduction of Flood Risks</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>1 988.552</b>

**Table 13: Financial Implementation of Priority Axis 1 Related to Total Allocation (EU + national resources) (EUR)**

Area of Intervention	Total Allocation 2007-2013	Finances covered by Decision/ Contract from Allocation 2007-2013	Implemented expenditure from Allocation for 2007-2013	Expenditure paid to Beneficiaries	Amounts submitted for Certification	Certified Expenditure submitted to EC
1.1	1750265855	690685954	299096	299096	0	0
1.2	471366142	37014317	0	0	0	0
1.3	117841534	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Priority Axis 1</b>	<b>2339473531</b>	<b>727700272</b>	<b>299096</b>	<b>299096</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: MSC2007, as of 7 January 2009

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR

The total allocation of Priority Axis 1 is EUR 2 339.5 million while the biggest part goes to the Area of Intervention 1.1 - Reduction of Water Pollution, which is caused by the necessity of investments in the development and renovation of waste water treatment plants in order to reach the conformity with Directive 91/271/EEC. In this Area of Intervention, biggest progress in drawing of financial support is seen – projects equal to nearly 40% of the allocation for this Area of Intervention for the whole period has been approved already. Under the entire Priority Axis 1, projects equal to 31% of total allocation for PA 1 have been approved. Implemented and paid out expenditures equal 0.01% of total allocation for PA 1. The call for project applications in the Area of Intervention 1.3 was announced in September 2008 and the approval process has not been completed before the end of the year.



### 3.1.2.4. A characteristic project of Priority Axis 1

**Project title:** Kublov Sewerage System

**Applicant:** Municipality of Kublov

**Description of the project:** The municipality of Kublov is situated in the western part of the Beroun District. It is incorporated in the Protected Landscape Area “Křivoklátsko”. The project deals with development of a new sewerage system of total length 9.044 km and a new mechanical and biological waste water treatment plant of capacity 1000 PE. The sewerage system will comprise new sections of gravitational sanitary sewers. The project will serve for collection and treatment of waste water at the capacity for 700 EP.

**Current state of the project:** At present, intensive work activities are in progress in particular on the waste water treatment plant: earthwork and WWTP monoblock have been completed; technologic equipment for the WWTP will be supplied in May, followed with installation and putting the technologic devices in operation in November 2009. Within the development of the sewerage system, at present just the sewer S1 is under development (536 metres have been implemented already).

**Implementation period:** 12/2008 – 2/2010

**Total expenditures:** CZK 68 015 058.80

**Eligible expenses:** CZK 67 083 356.48

**Assistance from CF/ERDF:** CZK 57 020 853.00

**Assistance from SEF/state budget:** CZK 3 354 167.82

**Paid out amounts:** 0

#### Project indicators:

Indicator title	Unit of measure	Current value	Target level
Length of new sewerage systems	km	0.536	9.044
Capacity of WWTPs	EP	N/A	1000
Number of PE newly connected to WWTP services	EP	N/A	700
Amount of discharged waste water	thousand m <sup>3</sup> /year	N/A	52.20
Reduction of discharged pollution in BOD <sub>5</sub> indicator	t/year	N/A	21.25
Reduction of discharged pollution in COD <sub>Cr</sub> indicator	t/year	N/A	42.43
Reduction of discharged pollution in insoluble substances	t/year	N/A	18.76
Reduction of discharged pollution in N <sub>total</sub>	t/year	N/A	1.05
Reduction of discharged pollution in P <sub>total</sub>	t/year	N/A	0.61



*Construction of iron-concrete structures*



**3.1.2.5. Significant Problems Encountered and Measures Taken to Overcome Them**

No significant problems were noted.



## **3.2. *Priority Axis 2 – THE IMPROVEMENT OF AIR QUALITY AND REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS***

### **3.2.1. The Global and Specific Objectives of the Priority Axis**

**The global objective** for the 2007-2013 period is to improve or maintain the air quality and reduce emissions of the basic pollutants to the air with an emphasis on the use of innovative environmentally friendly methods of energy generation, including energy savings.

**The specific objectives of the Priority Axis are as follows:**

- Reduce the population's exposure to the concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub> and concentrations of PM<sub>2,5</sub> exceeding the ceiling limits,
- Reduce the population's total exposure to the concentrations of pollutants exceeding the ceiling limits,
- Reduce the acidification of ecosystems and vegetation,
- Reduce emissions of primary particles of precursors of tropospheric ozone and of secondary particles.

### **3.2.2. Achieved Progress and its Qualitative Analysis**

#### **3.2.2.1. Calls for Priority Axis 2**

As of 31 December 2008, total 2 calls for project applications were announced within Priority Axis 2 (a call for individual projects in 2007 and a call for major projects in 2008). In 2008, it was the 4th call. More detailed information regarding the announced calls is mentioned in Chapter 2.1.1.

#### **3.2.2.2. Physical progress of Priority Axis 2**

The following Table mentions the indicators for Priority Axis 2, the monitoring of which was defined in the Programming Document OP Environment. The indicators show fulfilling the objectives of the Priority Axis. It was already mentioned in Chapter 2.3.1 that current values of certain indicators are not available: therefore, latest available values are shown in the Table (the year specified).



**Table 14: Indicators relating to Priority Axis 2 – Improvement of Air Quality and Reduction of Emissions**

Indicator type EU Code NCLI Code	Indicator title	Unit of measure	Data source	Value	2007	2008	Target level 2015	Total
Impact 21 17 00	Population over-exposure to high concentrations of PM <sub>10</sub>	% of the population	MoE	Achieved	66 (2005)	32 (2007)	N/A	32 (2007)
				Starting	66 (2005)	66 (2005)	N/A	66 (2005)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	60	60
Result 21 23 00	Emissions of primary particles and precursors of secondary particles	kt/year (in the potential of particle formation)	MoE	Achieved	468 (2005)	472.6 (2007)	N/A	472.6 (2007)
				Starting	468 (2005)	468 (2005)	N/A	468 (2005)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	434	434
Output Core 28 21 01 00	Number of projects	Project	MoE	Achieved	0 (2007)	11	N/A	11
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	607	607

Note:

<sup>1</sup> The Operational Programme does not have the values defined for a year but rather for the whole period.

The Priority Axis is characteristic with two indicators whose values are provided from statistic data. In 2007, 32% of the population in the Czech Republic were exposed to concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub> exceeding the ceiling limits. Compared to the year 2006 (62%), this value means a considerable decrease, which was probably caused by more favourable meteorological and dispersion conditions in 2007. The level of the emissions of primary particles and precursors of secondary particles in 2006 is slightly higher than in 2005 despite the fact that the objective is to reduce the emissions of these substances. One should keep in mind that the value in 2006 comprises also emissions generated by transport to other countries and emissions of solid pollutants from farm animal breeding. As of 31 December 2008, total 11 projects focused on improvement of air quality were supported.

### 3.2.2.3. Financial Progress of Priority Axis 2

**Table 15: Distribution of Financial Allocation within Priority Axis 2 to Individual Areas of Action**

Area of Intervention	Title of the Area of Intervention	EU Fund	EUR (million)
2.1	Improvement of air quality	CF	348.432
2.2	Reduction of emissions	CF	285.714
<b>2</b>	<b>Improvement of air quality and reduction of emissions</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>634.146</b>



**Table 16: Financial Implementation of Priority Axis 2 Related to Total Allocation (EU + national resources) (EUR)**

Area of Intervention	Total Allocation 2007-2013	Finances covered by Decision/ Contract from Allocation 2007-2013	Implemented expenditure from Allocation for 2007-2013	Expenditure paid to Beneficiaries	Amounts submitted for Certification	Certified Expenditure submitted to EC
2.1	409920009	1865484	35055	35055	0	0
2.2	336134132	663573	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Priority Axis 2</b>	<b>746054141</b>	<b>2529057</b>	<b>35055</b>	<b>35055</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: MSC2007, as of 7 January 2009

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR

The total allocation of Priority Axis 2 amounts to EUR 746 million. Higher progress was achieved in the Area of Intervention 2.1 where the portion of approved finances in the allocation for this Area of Intervention equals 0.5%. Within the entire Priority Axis 2, projects equal to 0.3% of the total allocation for PA 2 were approved. The portion of implemented and paid out expenditures is still rather low.

#### 3.2.2.4.A characteristic project of Priority Axis 2

**Project title:** Provision of gas supply for the boiler house and regulation for the heating system in the Basic School in Kralovice

**Applicant:** Town of Kralovice

**Description of the project:** The subject-matter of the financial assistance was the implementation of the project focused on reduction of the emissions and on energy savings in the (separate) boiler house that serves for the Basic School in Kralovice. The measure deals with a complex renovation of the boiler house using brown coal. The new source of heat comprises two boilers using natural gas. Regulation, measurement and construction work on the boiler house was included in the subject-matter of the assistance.

**Current state of the project:** the construction work has been completed

**Implementation period:** 7/2008 – 12/ 2008

**Total expenditures:** CZK 4 960 610

**Eligible expenses:** CZK 4 162 138

**Assistance from CF/ERDF:** CZK 3 537 817

**Assistance from SEF/State budget:** CZK 208 106

**Paid out amounts:** CZK 3 745 923



**Project indicators:**

Indicator title	Unit of measure	Current value	Target level
Newly achieved concentration of NO <sub>x</sub>	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	80	80
Newly installed source capacity	MW	0.88	0.88
Reduced emissions- CO	t/year	N/A	15.27
Reduced emissions - NO <sub>x</sub>	t/year	N/A	0,87
Reduced emissions of primary particles and precursors of secondary particles	t/year	N/A	5.74

*A view of the boiler house*

*Three-draft low-temperature boiler*



**3.2.2.5. Significant Problems Encountered and Measures Taken to Overcome Them**

No significant problems were noted.



### **3.3. *Priority Axis 3 – THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF ENERGY SOURCES***

#### **3.3.1. The Global and Specific Objectives of the Priority Axis**

**The global objective** for the 2007 – 2013 period is the sustainable use of energy sources, in particular renewable energy sources promotion of energy savings. A long-term objective is to increase the use of renewable energy sources in electric energy generation and heat generation and a larger use of waste heat.

**The specific objectives of the Priority Axis are as follows:**

- Increase the capacity for RES-based heat and electric energy generation,
- Increase the use of waste heat and increase energy savings,
- Reduce energy consumption for heating,
- Substitute fossil fuel combustion and decrease environmental pollution.

#### **3.3.2. Achieved Progress and its Qualitative Analysis**

##### **3.3.2.1. Calls for Priority Axis 3**

As of 31 December 2008, total 3 calls for project applications were announced within Priority Axis 3 (2 calls for individual projects in 2007 and a call for major projects in 2008). In 2008, it was the 4th call. More detailed information regarding the announced calls is mentioned in Chapter 2.1.1.

##### **3.3.2.2. Physical Progress of Priority Axis 3**

The following Table mentions the indicators for Priority Axis 3, the monitoring of which was defined in the Programming Document OP Environment. The indicators show fulfilling the objectives of the Priority Axis.



**Table 17: Indicators Relating to Priority Axis 3 – Sustainable Use of Energy Sources**

Indicator type EU Code NCLI Code	Indicator title	Unit of measure	Data source	Value	2007	2008	Target level 2015	Total
Result Core 24 36 03 00	Increase of capacity for RES-based energy generation	MW	CSO	Achieved	0 (2007)	0.508	N/A	0.508
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	600	600
Result 36 40 30	Reduction of the energy consumption	TJ/year	MoE	Achieved	0 (2007)	47.044	N/A	47.044
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	430	430
Output Core 23 36 01 00	Number of projects	Project	MoE	Achieved	0 (2007)	585	N/A	585
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	1 500	1500

Note:

<sup>1</sup> The Operational Programme does not have the values defined annually but rather for the whole period.

At present, the data showing the increased capacity of the production of energy from RES-based sources is not available. Nevertheless, there is a value known directly from the supported projects, and that the “Increase of capacity for RES-based energy generation”, i.e. the 0.508 MW. The value “Reduction of the energy consumption” derived directly from the supported projects amounts to 47.04 TJ/year (as of 31 December 2008). By the end of 2008, total 585 projects dealing with increasing of the capacity for production of energy from renewable energy sources were supported under Priority Axis 3.

### 3.3.2.3. Financial Progress of Priority Axis 3

**Table 18: Distribution of Financial Allocation within Priority Axis 3 to Individual Areas of Action**

Area of Intervention	Title of the Area of Intervention	EU Fund	EUR (million)
3.1	Construction of New Facilities and the Modernisation of the Existing Facilities with the Aim to Increase the Use of Renewable Energy Sources for Heat Generation, Electric Energy Generation and for Combined Heat and Electric Energy Generation	CF	362.591
3.2	Realisation of Energy Savings and the Use of Waste Heat	CF	310.380
<b>3</b>	<b>The sustainable Use of Energy Sources</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>672.971</b>



**Table 19: Financial Implementation of Priority Axis 3 Related to Total Allocation (EU + national resources) (EUR)**

Area of Intervention	Total Allocation 2007-2013	Finances covered by Decision/ Contract from Allocation 2007-2013	Implemented expenditure from Allocation for 2007-2013	Expenditure paid to Beneficiaries	Amounts submitted for Certification	Certified Expenditure submitted to EC
3.1	426577792	6873144	66752	66752	0	0
3.2	365153134	240472170	4006202	4006202	1706102	0
<b>Total Priority Axis 3</b>	<b>791730926</b>	<b>247345314</b>	<b>4072954</b>	<b>4072954</b>	<b>1706102</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: MSC2007, as of 7 January 2009

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR

The total allocation of Priority Axis 3 is EUR 791.7 million. Great progress in drawing of the finances has been noted in the Area of Intervention 3.2 where projects equal to 66% of the allocation for this Area of Intervention for the whole period were approved. The progress is caused by big interest in financial assistance intended for heat cladding of schools and public buildings. In addition, in this Area of Intervention, the biggest portion of implemented expenditures and paid out finances against the allocation for the given Area of Intervention within the entire OP Environment is seen, equal to 1.1%.

#### 3.3.2.4.A characteristic project of Priority Axis 3

**Project title:** Construction work on the Basic School in Starovičky

**Applicant:** Municipality of Starovičky

**Description of the project:** The subject-matter of the project is the construction work on the Basic School in Starovičky in order to lower the heat loss. The construction work deals in particular with improvement of thermal and technological parameters of the building – replacement of windows and doors, heat cladding along the walls and on the roof above the 2nd ground floor.

**Current state of the project:** The construction work on the project has been completed

**Implementation period:** 7/2008 – 11/2008

**Total expenditures:** CZK 3 457 288

**Eligible expenses:** CZK 2 874 036

**Assistance from CF/ERDF:** CZK 2 442 930

**Assistance from SEF /State budget:** CZK 143 701

**Paid out amounts:** CZK 2 586 631



**Project indicators:**

Indicator title	Unit of measure	Current value	Target level
Surface area of heat cladding construction (hole infilling + peripheral wall + roofs)	m <sup>2</sup>	1438	1438
Reduction of the energy consumption	GJ/year	N/A	288
Reduction of the CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	t/year	N/A	15.58

*Construction work on the school heat cladding Implementation completed*



**3.3.2.5. Significant Problems Encountered and Measures Taken to Overcome Them**

No significant problems were noted.



### ***3.4. Priority Axis 4 – THE IMPROVEMENT OF WASTE MANAGEMENT AND THE REHABILITATION OF OLD ECOLOGICAL BURDENS***

#### **3.4.1. The Global and Specific Objectives of the Priority Axis**

The **global objective** for the 2007-2013 period is to improve waste management, reduce waste production and to remove old ecological burdens.

**The specific objectives of the Priority Axis are as follows:**

- Reduce specific waste production independently on the level of economic growth,
- Utilise waste to the maximum possible extent as a replacement for primary natural resources,
- Minimise the negative effects on human health and the environment in waste management,
- Rehabilitate serious old ecological burdens.

#### **3.4.2. Achieved Progress and its Qualitative Analysis**

##### **3.4.2.1. Calls for Priority Axis 4**

As of 31 December 2008, total 2 calls for project applications were announced within Priority Axis 4 (1 call in 2007 and 1 call in 2008). In 2008, it was the 5th call. More detailed information regarding the announced calls is mentioned in Chapter 2.1.1.

##### **3.4.2.2. Physical progress of Priority Axis 4**

The following Table mentions the indicators for Priority Axis 4, the monitoring of which was defined in the Programming Document OP Environment. The indicators show fulfilling the objectives of the Priority Axis. It was already mentioned in Chapter 2.3.1 that current values of certain indicators are not available: therefore, latest available values are shown in the Table (the year specified).



**Table 20: Indicators relating to Priority Axis 4 – The Improvement of Waste Management and the Rehabilitation of Old Ecological Burdens**

Indicator type EU Code NCLI Code	Indicator title	Unit of measure	Data source	Value	2007	2008	Target level 2015	Total
Impact 22 03 00	Proportion of recycled wastes	%	WMIS – Waste Management Information System	Achieved	61 (2004)	80.8 (2007)	N/A	80.8
				Starting	61 (2004)	61 (2004)	N/A	61 (2004)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	75	75
Result 24 02 00	Area of rehabilitated old ecological burdens	hectare	MoE	Achieved	0 (2007)/14 (OPI 2006)	0	N/A	0
				Starting	0 (2007)/14 (OPI 2006)	0 (2007)/14 (OPI 2006)	N/A	0 (2007)/14 (OPI 2006)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	100	100
Result 22 04 00	Volume of municipal waste (production)	1000/t/year	WMIS	Achieved	4000 (2006)	3846 (2007)	N/A	3846
				Starting	4000 (2006)	4000 (2006)	N/A	4000 (2006)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	5 000	5000
Result 22 08 00	Proportion of municipal waste used	% of total annual municipal waste productions	WMIS	Achieved	29.5 (2006)	30.7 (2007)	N/A	30.7
				Starting	29.5 (2006)	29.5 (2006)	N/A	29.5 (2006)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	50	50
Output Core 27 22 01 00	Number of projects (Priority Axis 4.1)	Project	SEF	Achieved	28 (2004)	143	N/A	143
				Starting	28 (2004)	28 (2004)	N/A	28 (2004)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	250	250
Output 24 02 01	Number of projects (Priority Axis 4.2)	Project	MoE	Achieved	2 (2004)	9	N/A	9
				Starting	2 (2004)	2 (2004)	N/A	2 (2004)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	50	50

Note:

<sup>1</sup> The Operational Programme does not have the values defined annually but rather for the whole period.



In 2007, 80.8% of waste (out of the total waste production in the Czech Republic) was used, out of which the material use (recycling) was 78.7%. The use of waste in the CR during the 2002 – 2006 period was showing a considerably increasing trend, which means that the use of waste was increased by more than 40%. In 2007, there was minor drop that is considered for rather a confirmation of the development in this area. During 2002 – 2007, the production of waste fell down and the production of municipal waste fell down as well. The production of communal waste for the period concerned dropped from 4 615 thousand tonne (in 2002) to 3 846 thousand tonne (in 2007). Compared to the situation in 2006, the total portion of used communal waste in 2007 was slightly higher: it was 30.7% of the entire production of waste, out of which 21% was material use (recycling) while the energy use was 9.7% of the entire production of waste. As to the end of 2008, the area of rehabilitated old ecological burdens was equal to zero. Within the Priority Axis 4 (as of 31 December 2008), total 143 projects dealing with waste management, and 9 projects focused on the rehabilitation of old ecological burdens were supported.

### 3.4.2.3. Financial Progress of Priority Axis 4

**Table 21: Distribution of Financial Allocation within Priority Axis 4 to Individual Areas of Action**

Area of Intervention	Title of the Area of Intervention	EU Fund	EUR (million)
4.1	Improvement of Waste Management	CF	520.258
4.2	Rehabilitation of Old Ecological Burdens	CF	256.247
<b>4</b>	<b>The Improvement of Waste Management and Rehabilitation of Old Ecological Burdens</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>776.505</b>

**Table 22: Financial Implementation of Priority Axis 4 Related to Total Allocation (EU + national resources) (EUR)**

Area of Intervention	Total Allocation 2007-2013	Finances covered by Decision/ Contract from Allocation 2007-2013	Implemented expenditure from Allocation for 2007-2013	Expenditure paid to Beneficiaries	Amounts submitted for Certification	Certified Expenditure submitted to EC
4.1	612068908	61715364	1764607	1764607	2592603	0
4.2	301466776	36039723	98996	98996	0	0
<b>Total Priority Axis 4</b>	<b>913535684</b>	<b>97755088</b>	<b>1863603</b>	<b>1863603</b>	<b>2592603</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: MSC2007, as of 7 January 2009

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR

The total allocation of Priority Axis 4 amounts to EUR 913,536 million. Under the Priority Axis, the approved projects represent 11% of the total allocation for PA 4. Up to now, the implemented and paid out amounts have not been very high.



#### 3.4.2.4.A characteristic project of Priority Axis 4

**Project title:** Scrapyard in Hrušovany u Brna

**Applicant:** Municipality of Hrušovany u Brna

**Description of the project:** Construction of the scrapyard including the technologic equipment – containers, a universal loading machine and a chipping machine.

**Current state of the project:** The construction work has been inspected (approved); the scrapyard has been set in operation

**Implementation period:** 7/2008 – 4/2009

**Total expenditures:** CZK 16 764 055.75

**Eligible expenses:** CZK 16 764 055.75

**Assistance from CF/ERDF:** CZK 14 249 447.00

**Assistance from SEF /State budget:** CZK 838 202.75

**Paid out amounts:** CZK 15 087 649.75

#### Project indicators:

Indicator title	Unit of measure	Current value	Target level
Scrapyard capacity	t/year	360	360
Surface area of the scrapyard	m <sup>2</sup>	1967	1909

#### *Technologic equipment – chipping machine Interior area*



#### 3.4.2.5. Significant Problems Encountered and Measures Taken to Overcome Them

No significant problems were noted.



### 3.5. *Priority Axis 5 – REDUCING INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS*

#### 3.5.1. The Global and Specific Objectives of the Priority Axis

The **global objective** for the 2007-2013 period is to reduce industrial pollution and environmental risks.

The **specific objectives of the Priority Axis** are as follows:

- The development and innovation of technology contributing to a reduction in industrial pollution,
- The development of information systems on environmental pollution.

#### 3.5.2. Achieved Progress and its Qualitative Analysis

##### 3.5.2.1. Calls for Priority Axis 5

As of 31 December 2008, 1 call for project applications was announced within Priority Axis 5 (5th call announced in 2008). More detailed information regarding the announced calls is mentioned in Chapter 2.1.1.

##### 3.5.2.2. Physical progress of Priority Axis 5

The Table (below) shows indicators for the Priority Axis 5 whose monitoring was specified in the Programme Document OP Environment. The indicators show fulfilling the objectives of the Priority Axis. With regard to the fact that as of 31 December 2008 no project applications under the Priority Axis were approved zero values are present.

**Table 23: Indicators relating to Priority Axis 5 – Reducing Industrial Pollution and Environmental Risks**

Indicator type EU Code NCLI Code	Indicator title	Unit of measure	Data source	Value	2007	2008	Target level 2015	Total
Result 26 05 00	Number of facilities applying the methodologies developed within the supported projects	Facility	MoE CENIA (Czech Environmental Information Agency)	Achieved	0 (2007)	0	N/A	0
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	300	300
Output 26 07 00	Number of projects	Project	MoE	Achieved	0	0	N/A	0
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	250	250

Note: <sup>1</sup> The Operational Programme does not have the values defined annually but rather for the whole period.



### 3.5.2.3. Financial Progress of Priority Axis 5

**Table 24: Distribution of Financial Allocation within Priority Axis 5 to Individual Areas of Action**

Area of Intervention	Title of the Area of Intervention	EU Fund	EUR (million)
5.1	Limiting of Industrial Pollution	ERDF	60.606
<b>5</b>	<b>Reducing Industrial Pollution and Environmental Risks</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>60.606</b>

**Table 25: Financial Implementation of Priority Axis 5 Related to Total Allocation (EU + national resources)**

Area of Intervention	Total Allocation 2007-2013	Finances covered by Decision/ Contract from Allocation 2007-2013	Implemented expenditure from Allocation for 2007-2013	Expenditure paid to Beneficiaries	Amounts submitted for Certification	Certified Expenditure submitted to EC
5.1	71300834	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Priority Axis 5</b>	<b>71300834</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: MSC2007, as of 7 January 2009

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR

The total allocation of Priority Axis 5 is EUR 71.3 million. As for the Priority Axis 5, only 1 call has been announced, under which 8 project applications have been submitted. As to 31 December no Decision on subsidy has been made (i.e. none of the projects has been approved yet). For this reason, the financial implementation of the Axis equals zero.

#### 3.5.2.4.A characteristic project of Priority Axis 5

As of 31 December 2008, no project within this Priority Axis was approved.

#### 3.5.2.5. Significant Problems Encountered and Measures Taken to Overcome Them

No significant problems were noted.



### **3.6. *Priority Axis 6 – IMPROVING THE STATE OF NATURE AND THE LANDSCAPE***

#### **3.6.1. The Global and Specific Objectives of the Priority Axis**

**The global objective** for the 2007-2013 period is to stop the decline of biodiversity and to improve the ecological stability of the landscape.

**The specific objectives of the priority axis are as follows:**

- Implementation of the Natura 2000 system,
- Recovery and protection of natural and near-to-natural biotopes and endangered plant and animal species,
- Recovery of the ecological stability of the landscape,
- Optimisation of the landscape water regime,
- Regeneration of the urbanised landscape,
- Prevention of landslides and rock avalanches, monitoring of geo-factors and impacts of mining and extraction activities and assessment of non-renewable natural resources, including groundwater resources.

#### **3.6.2. Achieved Progress and its Qualitative Analysis**

##### **3.6.2.1. Calls for Priority Axis 6**

As of 31 December 2008, total 2 calls for project applications were announced within Priority Axis 6 (1 call in 2007 and 1 call in 2008). In 2008, it was the 6th call. More detailed information regarding the announced calls is mentioned in Chapter 2.1.1.

##### **3.6.2.2. Physical progress of Priority Axis 6**

The following table mentions the indicators for Priority Axis 6, the monitoring of which was defined in the Programming Document OP Environment. The indicators show fulfilling the objectives of the Priority Axis.



**Table 26: Indicators relating to Priority Axis 6 – Improving the State of nature and the Landscape**

Indicator type EU Code NCLI Code	Indicator title	Unit of measure	Data source	Value	2007	2008	Target level 2015	Total
Result Core 29 24 01 00	Acreage of revitalised areas	km <sup>2</sup>	MoE ANCLP (Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the CR)	Achieved	0 (2007)/ 0.7 (OPI 2006)	4.52	N/A	4.52
				Starting	0 (2007)/ 0.7 (OPI 2006)	0 (2007)/ 0.7 (OPI 2006)	N/A	0 (2007)/ 0.7 (OPI 2006)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	10	10
Result 25 09 00	Percentage of Czech sites of Community importance prepared to be declared as SPAs or for contractual protection, of the total number of Czech sites of Community importance placed on the European list	%	MoE ANCLP	Achieved	0 (2007)	3.01	N/A	3.01
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	80	80
Output 25 01 00	Recovery of stable landscape water regime and of elements of ecological stability	Project	MoE	Achieved	0 (2007)	209	N/A	209
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	15	15
Output 26 08 00	Number of projects	project	MoE	Achieved	0 (2007)	393	N/A	393
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	150	150

Note:

<sup>1</sup>The Operational Programme does not have the values defined annually but rather for the whole period.

The indicator “Acreage of revitalised areas” is an aggregate indicator that represents 8 partial indicators of the OP Environment. As of 31 December 2008, its value amounts to 4.52 km<sup>2</sup>. By the end of the year, the indicator showing the portion of sites of Community importance was equal to 3.01%. As of 31 December 2008, 209 projects focused on recovery of stable landscape water regime and of elements of ecological stability were supported. Under the Priority Axis 6, total 393 projects have been supported.



### 3.6.2.3. Financial Progress of Priority Axis 6

**Table 27: Distribution of Financial Allocation within Priority Axis 6 to Individual Areas of Action**

Area of Intervention	Title of the Area of Intervention	EU Fund	EUR (million)
6.1	The Implementation and Management of the Natura 2000 Network	ERDF	29.971
6.2	Support for Biodiversity	ERDF	113.891
6.3	Recovery of Landscape Features	ERDF	77.925
6.4	Optimisation of the Landscape Water Regime	ERDF	224.784
6.5	Support for the Regeneration of Urbanised Landscape	ERDF	86.916
6.6	The Prevention of landslides and Rock Avalanches, Monitoring of Geo-Factors and Impacts of Mining and Extraction Activities and Assessment of Non-Renewable Natural Resources, Including Groundwater Resources	ERDF	65.937
<b>6</b>	<b>Improving the State of Nature and the Landscape</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>599.424</b>

**Table 28: Financial Implementation of Priority Axis 6 Related to Total Allocation (EU + national resources) (EUR)**

Area of Intervention	Total Allocation 2007-2013	Finances covered by Decision/ Contract from Allocation 2007-2013	Implemented expenditure from Allocation for 2007-2013	Expenditure paid to Beneficiaries	Amounts submitted for Certification	Certified Expenditure submitted to EC
6.1	35260225	1897241	0	0	0	0
6.2	133988855	7347694	64834	64834	242643	0
6.3	91676585	2932760	4241	4241	0	0
6.4	264451687	38515132	344839	344839	125163	0
6.5	102254653	12288369	14233	14233	0	0
6.6	77572495	1519135	6319	6319	0	0
<b>Total Priority Axis 6</b>	<b>705204500</b>	<b>64500331</b>	<b>434466</b>	<b>434466</b>	<b>367806</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: MSC2007, as of 7 January 2009

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR

The total allocation of Priority Axis 6 amounts to EUR 705.205 million. Approved projects have reached 9% of the total allocation for the Priority Axis. The progress is caused by the interest on the side of applicants for projects within the Areas of Intervention 6.4 (the portion of approved projects in the allocation for this Area of Intervention is 14.6%) and 6.5 (the portion of approved projects in the allocation for this Area of Intervention is 12%). These projects deal with the optimisation of the landscape water regime, mainly development and renovation of retention spaces, and with regeneration of the urbanised landscape as well. For now, the other financial indicators of the implementation of this Priority Axis are rather low.



### 3.6.2.4. A characteristic project of Priority Axis 6

**Project title:** Revitalisation of the Hostákovský Stream

**Applicant:** Lesy České republiky, s.p. (Forests of the Czech Republic)

**Description of the project:** The subject-matter of the financial assistance is the development of the spillway dam in the cadastral area of Hostákov. The dam will comprise a lake with a dike, a safety overflow and a discharge system. In the area above the dam, water pools will be established and minor water bodies will be revitalised. Planting wood species is included too.

**Current state of the project:** The construction work has been completed

**Implementation period:** 8/2008 – 1/2009

**Total expenditures:** CZK 2 287 376.00

**Eligible expenses:** CZK 1 896 742.00

**Assistance from CF/ERDF:** CZK 1 612 230.70

**Assistance from SEF/State budget:** CZK 94 837.10

**Paid out amounts:** CZK 1 707 067.80

#### Project indicators:

Indicator title	Unit of measure	Current value	Target level
Total length of the revitalised water body	m	100	100
Total volume of the accumulating area of the lake or polder at HMAX	m <sup>3</sup>	18 480	18 480
Total water area of renovated or newly established water bodies at HMAX	hectare	0.875	0.875
Total area of rehabilitated or newly established wetland biotope	hectare	0.025	0.025

*The pool and the revitalised water body with bank vegetation*



*Detail: The dike of the lake*



### 3.6.2.5. Significant Problems Encountered and Measures Taken to Overcome Them

No significant problems were noted.



### ***3.7. Priority Axis 7 – THE DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, CONSULTANCY AND AWARENESS***

#### **3.7.1. The Global and Specific Objectives of the Priority Axis**

**The global objective** for the 2007-2013 period is to establish a nation-wide and available network of environmental education and awareness raising centres, information centres and environmental consultancy centres and further development of environmental consultancy activities.

**The specific objective of the Priority Axis:**

Ensure high-quality infrastructure (material-technical background) for the implementation of environmental education programmes, for environmental consultancy and for the provision of environmental information. In addition, the provision of a selection of high-quality specialised materials for environmental education, consultancy and awareness and nation-wide implementation of environmental consultancy in the Czech Republic.

#### **3.7.2. Achieved Progress and its Qualitative Analysis**

##### **3.7.2.1. Calls for Priority Axis 7**

As of 31 December 2008, 1 call for project applications was announced within Priority Axis 7 (1st call announced in 2007). More detailed information regarding the announced calls is mentioned in Chapter 2.1.1.

##### **3.7.2.2. Physical progress of Priority Axis 7**

The following table mentions the indicators for Priority Axis 7, the monitoring of which was defined in the Programming Document OP Environment. The indicators show fulfilling the objectives of the Priority Axis.



**Table 29: Indicators relating to Priority Axis 7 – The Development of Infrastructure for Environmental Education, Consultancy and Awareness**

Indicator type EU Code NCLI Code	Indicator title	Unit of measure	Data source	Value	2007	2008	Target level 2015	Total
Result 26 11 00	Number of purchased, constructed, renovated and furnished premises for the centres	Centre	MoE	Achieved	0 (2007)	1	N/A	1
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	30	30
Output Core 36 06 01 00	Number of projects	Project	MoE SEF	Achieved	0 (2007)	3	N/A	3
				Starting	0 (2007)	0 (2007)	N/A	0 (2007)
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	70	70

Note:

<sup>1</sup> The Operational Programme does not have the values defined annually but rather for the whole period.

As of 31 December 2008, 1 centre providing ecological education was established under Priority Axis 7 while total 3 projects focused on life-long education were supported.

### 3.7.2.3. Financial Progress of Priority Axis 7

**Table 30: Distribution of Financial Allocation within Priority Axis 7 to Individual Areas of Action**

Area of Intervention	Title of the Area of Intervention	EU Fund	EUR (million)
7.1	Development of Infrastructure for Implementation of Environmental Education Programmes, Provision of Environmental Consultancy and Environmental Information	ERDF	42.453
<b>7</b>	<b>Development of Infrastructure for Environmental Education, Consultancy and Awareness</b>	<b>ERDF</b>	<b>42.453</b>

Within this Priority Axis, it is possible to use the cross-financing instrument. For more details see Chapter 2.1.4. This instrument was not used as of 31 December 2008.



**Table 31: Financial Implementation of Priority Axis 7 Related to Total Allocation (EU + national resources) (EUR)**

Area of Intervention	Total Allocation 2007-2013	Finances covered by Decision/ Contract from Allocation 2007-2013	Implemented expenditure from Allocation for 2007-2013	Expenditure paid to Beneficiaries	Amounts submitted for Certification	Certified Expenditure submitted to EC
7.1	49944327	2794035	16649	16649	0	0
<b>Total Priority Axis 7</b>	<b>49944327</b>	<b>2794035</b>	<b>16649</b>	<b>16649</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: MSC2007, as of 7 January 2009

Financial amounts in EUR are converted using the valid exchange rate for January 2009, i.e. CZK 26.630/EUR

The total allocation of Priority Axis 7 amounts to EUR 49.944 million. Approved projects represent total 5.6% of the allocation for PA 7 for the entire programming period. For now, the implemented expenditure and the paid out amounts are rather low.

#### 3.7.2.4.A characteristic project of Priority Axis 7

**Project title:** Regional Centre for Ecological Education – Stage II

**Applicant:** Ekocentrum Paleta, o.s.

**Description of the project:** The Regional Centre for Ecological Education has been built since 2003. The stage I was completed in May 2007. This project deals with the follow-up stage of the project - development of necessary exterior facilities and equipment for ecological-educational programmes and for eco-consultancy. The subject-matter is a separate building – lecture house and necessary surrounding areas, with a photovoltaic roof and landscaping.

**Current state of the project:** The construction work has been completed

**Implementation period:** 5/2008 – 12/ 2008

**Total expenditures:** CZK 8 380 100

**Eligible expenses:** CZK 8 380 100

**Assistance from CF/ERDF:** CZK 7 123 085

**Assistance from SEF/State budget:** CZK 419 005

**Paid out amounts:** CZK 5 206 964

**Project indicators:**

Indicator title	Unit of measure	Current value	Target level
Number of purchased, built and renovated facilities	pieces	1	1
Floorage - renovated	m <sup>2</sup>	161.350	161.350



*General view of the Centre for Ecological Education*



**3.7.2.5. Significant Problems Encountered and Measures Taken to Overcome Them**

No significant problems were noted.



## 4. MAJOR PROJECTS

Major projects in the environmental sector are defined as expenses of an operation comprising a number of works, activities or services that are intended to achieve an indivisible task of a particular economic or technical character, having clearly defined objectives, provided their total expenses exceed EUR 25/50 million.

In the preparation of major projects, the JASPERS initiative is applied. More detailed information is mentioned in Chapter 2.8.1.

In 2008, 5 major projects at the national level were approved by the Managing Authority. For more detailed information refer to Table 32. As of 31 December 2008, none of the approved projects was submitted to the Commission.

The up-to-date Indicative List of Major Projects for the whole period is shown in Annex 4.



**Table 32: Overview of Major Projects Approved by the Managing Authority as of 31 December 2008**

PA	AI	Call	Project Title	Approved by Managing Authority	Total value (CZK)	Current Exchange Rate (EUR/CZK)	Conversion (in EUR)	Total Eligible Expenses
4	4.2	1 <sup>st</sup> call Individual projects	Rehabilitation and recultivation of an old ecological burden – Diamo s.p., the locality of Mydlovary – chemical treatment plant and sludge bed K IV/D	23 Jan 2008	702 935 983	26.58	26 446 049	587 001 899
1	1.1	3 <sup>rd</sup> call Individual projects	Chebsko-Environmental Measures	24 Nov 2008	646 156 125	24.48	26 395 266	425 594 261
1	1.1	3 <sup>rd</sup> call Individual projects	The Pardubice BWWTP Modernisation	24 Nov 2008	641 903 850	24.48	26 221 563	429 882 811
1	1.1	3 <sup>rd</sup> call Major projects	Water Protection of the Dyje River Basin – Stage II	11 Dec 2008	1 709 203 415	25.18	67 879 405	1 209 613 815
1	1.1	3 <sup>rd</sup> call Major projects	Water Quality Improvement in the Upper Morava River Basin - Stage II	11 Dec 2008	1 934 848 198	25.18	76 840 675	1 362 735 694



## 5. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### 5.1. Introduction

#### Priority Axis 8 - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

**The global objective** of Priority axis 8 for the 2007 – 2013 period is to ensure due implementation of the OP Environment. The Technical Assistance is implemented in accordance with procedures given by Chapter 16 of the Procedures Manual for the Operational Programme Environment.

Two areas of intervention are implemented in the Operational Programme Environment within the framework of the Technical Assistance:

#### *Area of Intervention 8.1.: Technical Assistance in the Preparation, Implementation, Monitoring and Supervising the Operations of the OP Environment*

This area of intervention focuses on financing the activities that support effective management and monitoring of implementation of the OP Environment, provision of sources for reporting to the European Commission, ensuring qualified inputs for ex-ante evaluation, ongoing and ex-post evaluation and assistance in preparations and evaluation of the projects so as they are defined in Article 46 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006.

**The specific objective** of the area of intervention is to reach responsible and effective programme administration, maximise the programme quality and effectiveness of its implementation, control the progress and ensure regular reporting on the programme implementation.

Within the area of intervention it is possible to support the projects oriented on:

- 1) Preparation and implementation,
- 2) Monitoring,
- 3) Audits and controls.

#### *Area of Intervention 8.2.: Other Expenditures of Technical Assistance for the OP Environment*

This area of intervention focuses on financing the activities such as evaluation, studies, information and communication within the framework of the programme as they are defined in Article 46 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006.

**The specific objective** of the area of intervention is to provide efficient technical assistance for all the relevant actors in the process.

Within the area of intervention it is possible to support the projects oriented on:

- 1) Information a promotion, organisation of seminars,
- 2) Evaluation, reports, studies,
- 3) Monitoring system,
- 4) Other expenses.



The aid within the Priority Axis 8 is provided in the form of a subsidy from the Cohesion Fund with the maximum limit of 85% of the total eligible expenses. The final beneficiaries are the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic and the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic.

The financial allocation is divided between the MoE CR and the SEF CR in the relation 1:1. Distribution of the financial allocation within the Priority Axis 8 is shown in the following Table.

**Table 33: Distribution of Financial Allocation under Priority Axis 8**

Organisation	Allocated resources 2007 - 2013 total (million EUR)	EU Fund (million EUR)	National co- financing (million EUR)
MoE	47.259	40.170	7.089
SEF	47.259	40.170	7.089
<b>Total Area of Intervention 8.1</b>	<b>94.518</b>	<b>80,340</b>	<b>14.178</b>
MoE	24.346	20.694	3.652
SEF	24.346	20.694	3.652
<b>Total Area of Intervention 8.2</b>	<b>48.691</b>	<b>41.387</b>	<b>7.304</b>
<b>Total Priority Axis 8</b>	<b>143.210</b>	<b>121.728</b>	<b>21.481</b>

The portion of the financial allocation intended for the Priority Axis 8 amounts to 2.48% of the total allocation of the OP Environment for the 2007 – 2013 period.

As of 31 December 2008, total 36 employees participated in the implementation of the OP E within the framework of the Managing Authority (adjusted to full-time jobs). These employees are continuously educated in all areas connected with the implementation of the OP E.

## **5.2. Drawing from the Technical Assistance in 2008**

The total allocation of the Technical Assistance of the OP Environment for the 2007 – 2013 programming period amounts to EUR 143 209 000.

- In compliance with the Procedures Manual, work on 22 projects was commenced within the competence of the Intermediate Body (SEF CR).
- As for the competence of the Managing Authority (MoE), implementation of 47 projects was commenced.

The number of the approved project proposals amounted to 69 in 2008 (47 for the MoE and 22 for the SEF). The approved sum in these project proposals amounted CZK 212 078 150 (CZK 142 763 500 for the MoE and CZK 69 314 650 for the SEF), thus EUR 7 963 881. Of the total allocated resources for the Priority Axis 8 (2007 – 2013) 5.56% was requested in 2008.

The number of concluded agreements /contracts<sup>2</sup> amounted to 61 (41 for the MoE, 20 for the SEF). The sum reimbursed from the resources of the MoE/ SEF amounted in total to CZK

<sup>2</sup> Number of projects for which the agreement or contract has been signed already or resources have been drawn in another manner (e.g. a budgetary measure when drawing the resources for salaries).



92 272 494 (CZK 38 899 324 for the MoE and CZK 53 373 170 for the SEF), thus EUR 3 464 983.

In 2008, CZK 55 374 926<sup>3</sup> for the SEF and CZK 0 CZK for the MoE was reimbursed from the Cohesion Fund, thus EUR 2 079 419.

## 5.2.1. Area of Intervention 8.1: Technical Assistance in the Preparation, Implementation, Monitoring and Supervising the Operations of the OP Environment

### 5.2.1.1. Individual project proposals within Area of Intervention 8.1 Approved in 2008

The two Tables (below) show project proposals approved in 2008 within the Area of Intervention 8.1 by the Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body.

**Table 34:: Project proposals under Area of Intervention 8.1 approved in 2008 (MoE)**

Project title	Anticipated expenditure (CZK incl. VAT)
Technical and organisational ensuring – Stage I	50 000 000
Translation work for the OP Environment for the 2007-2010 period	1 900 000
Purchase of an automobile SUV (Sport Utility Vehicle category), a passenger car (lower medium category) and costs of the operation	3 570 000
Lawyer´s service, consultancy and organisation of selection procedures in the 2008 – 2013 period	4 500 000
Study on environmental impacts of stationary combustion sources and specification of their technical and emission parameters	590 000
Analysis of financial resources available- agreements of water management services	1 260 000
Study on environmental benefits of the measures to take within the Area of Intervention 2.2. The Reduction of Emissions	950 000
Ensuring of workshops in order to establish necessary absorption capacity for the OP E, Priority Axis 2 – The Improvement of Air Quality and Reduction of Emissions	600 000
Study to ensure cost-effective drawing of financial support intended for air protection	2 368 100
Study of alternatives for renovation of existing power plants and heating plants with regard to BAT requirements	500 000
Optimisation of the reduction of emissions CO <sub>2</sub> by means of renewable energy sources	350 000
Study on the potential of energy generated from wind power in the Czech Republic and problems related to integration of windmill generating station in the distribution and transfer system	350 000
Portal – information in the area of waste management (including a calculator tool for mayors)	250 000
Lawyer´s service in the 2008 – 2010 period	1 200 000
Information and technical support to introduction of separated collection of biologically degradable wastes and development of a plant for usage of biologically degradable wastes in order to ensure due	1 900 000

<sup>3</sup> In 2008, a part of finances paid out in 2007 was reimbursed.



implementation of the OP E – Priority Axis 4.1.	
Evaluation of updated Implementation Document and Assessment Criteria for area dealing with energy savings and renewable energy sources	190 400
Operating expenditure of the ANCLP during the OP E administration in 2008	1 350 000
Analysis of competitive strength of renewable energy sources for heat generation	500 000
Elaboration of expert opinions on applications for funding from the OP E – Priority Axis 1	238 000
Expert support to the ANCLP (or SEF, respectively) for the purposes of evaluation of measures proposed under the Priority Axes 1 and 6	1 500 000
Study on necessity and Methodology for preparation, evaluation, approval process and implementation of the Integrated Urban Development Plan - Environment	1 000 000
Expert opinions by the CGS (Czech Geological Survey) on applications for funding from Priority Axes 6 and 1 for projects under OP E	1 990 000
Study on necessity and use of environmental centres in the Czech Republic	1 900 000
Purchase of office equipment in the 2008 – 2010 period	1 750 000
Ensuring optimal management and control systems for supervision of projects funded from the OP E	3 927 000
OP E indicators	300 000
Videoconferences	650 000
Consultancy in the area of communication and promotion of the Operational Programme Environment	3 700 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>89 283 500</b>

Source: MoE, SEF

**Table 35: Project proposals under Area of Intervention 8.1 approved in 2008 (SEF)**

Project title	Anticipated expenditure (CZK incl. VAT)
Updating the models used in financial and economic analysis	2 380 000
Provision of a supplier in order to find a new residence for the SEF	238 000
Expert evaluation of an OP E application – Stage I	1 650 000
Adjustment of evaluation procedures – applications for funding under the Priority Axis 6 OP E	238 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 506 000</b>

Source: MoE, SEF

#### 5.2.1.2. Drawing Financial Allocation of Technical Assistance within the Area of Intervention 8.1

The total amount of the allocation for the Area of Intervention 8.1 intended for the 2007 – 2013 period amounts to EUR 94 518 000 (MoE + SEF). In 2008, 32 projects were commenced in the Area of Intervention 8.1 (28 projects for the MoE and 4 projects for the SEF), with the budget costs of CZK 93 789 500 (CZK 89 283 500 for the MoE and CZK 4 506 000 for the SEF), thus EUR 3 521 949. 3.73% was requested of the total allocation of the Area of Intervention 8.1.

In 2008, the total amount of the resources drawn in the Area of Intervention 8.1 was CZK 61 769 418 (CZK 28 412 726 for the MoE and CZK 33 356 692 for the SEF), thus EUR 2 319 543.



## 5.2.2. Area of Intervention 8.2: Other Expenditures of Technical Assistance for the OP Environment

### 5.2.2.1. Individual project proposals within Area of Intervention 8.2 Approved in 2008

The two Tables (below) show the project proposals approved in 2008 within the Area of Intervention 8.2 by the Managing Authority and Intermediate Body.

**Table 36: Project proposals under Area of Intervention 8.2 approved in 2008 (MoE)**

Project title	Anticipated expenditure (CZK incl. VAT)
Minor expenses related to the implementation of the OP E	1 000 000
Minor expenses related to the implementation of the OP E during the 2009-2011 period	4 000 000
Purchase of IT for evaluation of projects submitted under the Priority Axis 6 and administration, implementation, monitoring and supervising of the OP E	3 500 000
Purchase of the SW necessary for administration, supervising, monitoring and implementation of the OP E	1 800 000
Purchase of a data product, "Aggregated layer of soil erosion threat in the CR including user environment of the geoinformation system SOWAC GIS	2 142 000
The Living Heart of Europe	3 831 800
Expenses of mobile phones and mobile internet connections (2008-2013)	3 600 000
Protection against floods - Brno 2008	1 985 000
Ensuring of implementation of the "Web Application for Use of the Form for Classification of Priorities in Relation to Old Ecological Burden while submitting applications for opinion of the MoE within the OP E"	600 000
Documents for monitoring and evaluation of the Priority Axis 2 of the Operational Programme Environment	2 270 000
Analysis of necessity and use of environmental consultancy centres and consultants in the Czech Republic	1 900 000
Audit and verification of the Mott MacDonald output	476 000
Proposal on introduction of a position of an independent regulatory body in the area of water management services in the Czech Republic	238 000
Operation of the OP Infrastructure web presentation	50 000
Methodology for elaborating an economic analysis in projects within the Priority Axis 2 – The Improvement of Air Quality and Reduction of Emissions and the Priority Axis 3 – The Sustainable Use of Energy Sources	238 000
Provision of publicity objects intended for promotion of the Operational Programme Environment	1 500 000
OP E Information Centre	10 100 000
Employee education for 2009 - 2011 period	12 750 000
Seminars for support and promotion of the Area of Intervention 4.2 – The Rehabilitation of Old Ecological Burdens OP E	1 500 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>53 480 800</b>

Source: MoE, SEF



**Table 37: Project proposals under Area of Intervention 8.2 approved in 2008 (SEF)**

Project title	Anticipated expenditure (CZK incl. VAT)
Communication and promotion OP E – 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage: Exhibitions and fairs	4 736 200
Communication and promotion OP E – 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage: Advertisement	15 470 000
Communication and promotion OP E – 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage : Newspaper	2 618 000
Eco- pioneers – a series of documents to promote the OP E measures in the Czech TV	1 900 000
Updating the library SEF CR	160 000
Communication and promotion OP E – 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage	3 070 200
Purchase of GPS navigation systems	200 000
Communication and promotion OP E – 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage – Partnership	908 000
Seminars for business entities, public administration and non-governmental non-profit organisations	684 250
Methodological guidelines for assessment on sewer systems	650 000
Ensuring consultancy for development and optimisation of the information system OP E 1 <sup>st</sup> Stage	2 000 000
Ensuring high-quality technical background for the Intermediate Body as a precondition for due implementation of the OP E	16 000 000
Solution for hot backup of ORACLE for the IS OP E	3 510 500
Completion and operation of the application SEF - Central OP E	7 735 000
Manual – Forced ventilation and possibility to recuperate waste heat in buildings used for educational purposes	238 000
Manual – Preparation and development of compost processing plants	170 500
Manual – Preparation and development of local biogas stations with use of the experience from Vysoké Mýto	238 000
PRINT – Communication and promotion - Stage III	4 520 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>64 808 650</b>

Source: MoE, SEF

#### 5.2.2.2. Drawing Financial Allocation of Technical Assistance within Area of Intervention 8.2

The total amount of the allocation for the Area of Intervention 8.2 intended for the 2007 – 2013 period amounts to EUR 48 691 000 (MoE + SEF). In 2008, 37 projects were commenced in the Area of Intervention 8.2 (19 for the MoE and 18 for the SEF), with the budget costs of CZK 118 289 450 (CZK 53 480 800 for the MoE and CZK 64 808 650 for the SEF), which is EUR 4 441 962. 9.12% was requested of the total allocation of the Area of Intervention 8.2.

The total amount of the resources drawn in the Area of Intervention 8.2 in 2008 was CZK 30 503 076 (CZK 10 486 598 for the MoE and CZK 20 016 478 for the SEF), thus EUR 1 145 440.



### **5.3. *Examples of Successful Projects***

#### **MoE: The Analysis of Funds Available in order to Settle the Deficit in Sourcing Following from the Conditions for Drawing from the OP E set forth by the European Commission for Water Management Contracts Agreed with entities whose contracts of operation are valid after 2022**

The application for funding of the project was considered on 17 March 2008. The main project objectives were:

- Analysis of problem agglomerations in relation to the conditions in the OP E, in regard to the duration of the contracts of operation (i.e. contracts of operation valid after 2022) and with consideration to compliance with Council Directive No 91/271/EEC, on urban waste water treatment,
- Analysis of financial resources available for problem agglomerations beyond the OP E, with focus on budgets of the owners of the infrastructure, possible direct participation of the operators in the investments, state budget, SEF, European funds (taking into account the potentials and limits of budget chapters),
- Analysis of sociable affordability in terms of water tariffs,
- Preliminary analysis of currently valid price regulation in the area of water supply and sewer services,
- Research in activities by the Prague Authority and verification of a possible separate solution for the central WWTP.

Based on the analysis, the MoE submitted the material to be considered by the government, where the total amount of necessary subsidy was submitted to the government (the subsidy that cannot be provided from the OP E for the reason of non-compliance with the conditions of acceptability approved by the government in the Resolution No 1481 of 24 November 2008).

Anticipated expenditure: CZK 1 260 000

Final eligible expenses: CZK 1 253 070

#### **SEF: Communication and promotion OP E – Stage 2: Exhibitions and fairs**

The theme of the project “Communication and promotion of the OP Environment” was considered by the SEF CR management meeting on 4 February 2008. It was concluded that the locality for the implementation of the project will be the Czech Republic. The main objective of the project was to ensure proper implementation of the Operational Programme Environment, mainly in the Area of Intervention 8.2 in order to enhance the knowledge and communication within the Programme.

The specific objective of the project was to increase the awareness of the OP E among the professionals and the public during the period of February – January 2009, in particular, presentation of the OP E at the occasion of selected exhibitions and fairs in 2008/2009. Among others, it was: FOR WASTE (April 2008) – Praha Letňany, ENVI (May 2008) – Brno, INFOTHERMA (January 2009) – Ostrava.



**Table 38: Exhibitions where OP Environment was presented**

Exhibition	Description of the exhibition	Duration of the presentation (days)	Exhibition indicators
FOR WASTE	3 <sup>rd</sup> international fair for waste management, recycling, industrial and community ecology	3	Number of exhibitors: 311 Number of visitors: 10 730
ENVI Brno	Ecological fair in Brno, 14 <sup>th</sup> international water management exhibition	3	Number of exhibitors: 317 Number of visitors: 9278
INFOTHERMA	16 <sup>th</sup> international exhibition for heating , energy savings and use of renewable energy sources in small and medium buildings	4	Number of exhibitors: 351 Number of visitors: 25 900

Source: MoE, SEF

Anticipated expenditure total: CZK 3 980 000.00  
 Final eligible expenses: CZK 2 449 445.72  
 Reimbursed from the ERDF - 85%: CZK 2 083 813.86  
 Reimbursed from the SEF - 15%: CZK 367 731.86

Within the project of Communication and promotion OP Environment – Stage 2: Exhibitions and Fairs, the general objectives have been achieved successfully. Based on the promotion of the OP E at the above –mentioned international exhibitions and fairs, the general knowledge and awareness of the OP E has been enhanced on the side of professionals and the public. Every year, the numbers of visitors of the exhibitions and fairs are high. In 2008, the above-mentioned exhibitions and fairs were attended by numerous important personalities and visitors, not only from the Czech Republic but from other countries as well.



## 5.4. Indicators relating to Priority Axis 8

**Table 39: Indicators relating to Priority Axis 8**

Indicator type EU Code NCLI Code	Indicator title	Unit of measure	Data source	Value	2007	2008*	Target level 2015	Total
Output 48 01 00	Number of projects <sup>2</sup>	Project	MoE	Achieved MoE	2	43	N/A	43
				Achieved SEF	11	31	N/A	31
				Achieved total	13	74	N/A	74
				Starting	0	12	N/A	N/A
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	140	N/A
Result 48 02 00	Total implemented expenditure for the implementation of projects within Technical Assistance <sup>3</sup>	CZK million	MoE	Achieved MoE	0.650	39.549	N/A	39.549
				Achieved SEF	42.129	95.502	N/A	95.502
				Achieved total	42.779	135,051	N/A	135.051
				Starting	0	42.779	N/A	0
				Planned <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	4 000	4 000

Note:

<sup>1</sup> The Operational Programme does not have the values defined annually but rather for the whole period.

<sup>2</sup> The indicator “Number of projects” shows the number of projects for which the resources were drawn i.e. those with invoicing.

<sup>3</sup> The indicator “Total implemented expenditure for the implementation of projects within Technical Assistance” shows the amount that was drawn (i.e. invoiced) within the Technical Assistance.

\* The values shown in the “2008” column show result values (cumulated for the 2007 – 2008 period).

## 5.5. Drawing from the Technical Assistance in 2007 – 2008

The total allocation of the Technical Assistance OP Environment for the 2007 – 2013 programming period amounts EUR 143 209 000.

The number of approved project applications during the 2007 - 2008 period amounted 89 (50 for the MoE and 39 for the SEF). The amount approved for these project applications amounted CZK 395 424 150 (CZK 145 363 500 for the MoE and CZK 250 060 650 for the SEF), thus EUR 14 848 823. Out of the total allocation for the Priority Axis (2007 – 2013), 10.37% was required during the 2007 - 2008 period.



The number of agreements /contracts <sup>4</sup> amounted 74 (43 for the MoE, 31 for the SEF). The sum paid from the MoE/ SEF amounted total CZK 135 052 084 (CZK 39 549 533 for the MoE and 95 502 551 for the SEF), thus EUR 5 071 426.

During the 2007 – 2008 period, CZK 55 374 926<sup>5</sup> was reimbursed from the Cohesion Fund for the SEF and CZK 0 for the MoE, thus EUR 2 079 419.

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<sup>4</sup> Number of projects for which the agreement or contract has been signed already or resources have been drawn in another manner (e.g. a budgetary measure when drawing the resources for salaries).

<sup>5</sup> In 2008, a part of finances paid out in 2007 was reimbursed



## 6. INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

### 6.1. *Introduction*

In accordance with Article 69 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 on general provisions, the member state must ensure for each of the operational programmes sufficient publicity and ensure information of the public about the objectives and significance of the operational programmes. The Managing Authority OP Environment has elaborated the Communication Plan OP Environment and, pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006, the Plan was submitted for approval by the European Commission within four months from the Operational Programme confirmation. The Commission sent their comments on the Communication Plan, the comments were incorporated, and the Communication Plan OP Environment (hereinafter “CoP OP E”) was approved by the Commission on 20th August 2008.

The CoP OP E determines the objectives of the information and publicity activities of the OP Environment, target groups, communication tools and procedures to evaluate the effectiveness. It is used as a guidelines how to provide information about opportunities offered by the European Union and member states to applicants, beneficiaries and other target groups and, further, how to inform the public about the role of the European Union and the member states in the financial aid provided and about the results.

Pursuant Article 7 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006, the Managing Authority is responsible for publication, electronically or otherwise, of the list of beneficiaries, the names of the operations and the amount of public funding allocated to the operations. This information is provided on the website [www.opzp.cz](http://www.opzp.cz) in the section „Accepted and Approved Applications“.

### 6.2. *Fulfilling the Communication Plan*

The activities of the Ministry of Environment as the Managing Authority of the OP Environment and the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic as the Intermediate Body of the OP Environment from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008 are described in the following chapter and in Annex 3.

#### 6.2.1. On- line Communication

##### *Website*

The main source of information about the OP Environment for all target groups is the website [www.opzp.cz](http://www.opzp.cz). The operation of the website was commenced in 2007. The website provides latest information related to the implementation of the OP Environment, calls for applications for financial assistance, entire documents related to the implementation of the Programme, information about submitted project applications and approved projects, information about seminars and trainings, records from meetings of the Monitoring and Managing Committees, including the statutes, rules of procedures and lists of members, issued publications, etc. The applicants and the public may find direct contacts to the Managing Authority and Intermediate Body and they can use the e-mail address [dotazy@sfzp.cz](mailto:dotazy@sfzp.cz).



The number of unique visits, i.e. the number of the visitors who browsed at least one page of the website [www.opzp.cz](http://www.opzp.cz) is 8 thousand/month (on average). The number of visitors per month, i.e. each access to at least one page by a visitor who had not connected for at least one hour is (on average) nearly 25 thousand. 176 thousand of web pages have been visited. In 2008, there were nearly 100 thousand of unique visits and 298 thousand of visits. Total 2.11 million of pages were visited.

A direct link to the website of the OP Environment is in the website MoE [www.mzp.cz](http://www.mzp.cz), SEF [www.sfzp.cz](http://www.sfzp.cz) and in the website related to the previous programming period [www.opinfrastructure.cz](http://www.opinfrastructure.cz).

The website of the Community Support Framework, [www.strukturalni-fondy.cz](http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz), is visited by (average) 55 thousand of visitors per month. As for the tab OP Environment, it is accessed by 2 490 visitors.

#### *Information web portals*

Information about the OP Environment is continuously provided by ten web portals that regularly load the news from the website OP Environment (for example, the [www.enviweb.cz](http://www.enviweb.cz), [www.dotaceonline.cz](http://www.dotaceonline.cz), [www.edotace.cz](http://www.edotace.cz).)

## **6.2.2. Media Communication**

#### *Press conferences*

As for the period concerned, there was one press conference on 1 April 2008 at the occasion of 100 days of the OP Environment.

#### *Press releases*

As for the period concerned, there were 17 press releases. They all are available on the website of the OP Environment.

#### *Promotion in newspaper*

In 2008, the *Hospodářské noviny* newspaper published 2 appendices (one related to water management, the other covering RES). In addition, 6 advertisements to promote the calls were published.

Based on press monitoring, there were 10 – 20 articles mentioning the OP E every week.

#### *Media campaigns*

There was no media campaign during the period concerned. TV and radio broadcast featured the Director of the State Environmental Fund, vice-directors of the SEF, and the Director of the EU Fund Department MoE, speaking about partial themes of the OP Environment.



### 6.2.3. Publication activities

#### *Programme documents, methodology, guidelines and manuals*

For the needs of potential applicants for financial assistance and of the public, 1 000 pieces of the Programme Document and 3 000 pieces of the Manual for Applicants were published-

Entire valid documents are available in the electronic form on [www.opzp.cz](http://www.opzp.cz). In 2008, the following electronic versions of the documents were made available:

- Methodology for Applicant that explains the conditions of acceptability in the area of water management projects
- Financial Model for owners and operators of water management infrastructure and a Manual to the Financial Model
- Updated version of the Binding Guidelines for Applicants
- Binding Models for elaboration of financial and/or economical analysis for water management projects

#### *Leaflets, posters and brochures*

For the purposes of distribution at exhibitions and fairs, promotion and educational events, 8 types of leaflets with information about Priority Axes 1-7 and about the OP Environment in general were created ( total 190 thousand of them were printed) . In addition, 30 thousand of cards to provide a direct contact to the Call Centre of the OP Environment were printed. For foreign visitors, leaflets were printed in the English version (300 pieces).

#### *Reports, studies, analyses*

No reports, studies or analyses were published during the period concerned.

#### *Magazine*

The PRIORITA Magazine is designed for mayors, public administration, and local administration and legal and physical entities that plan to draw subsidies from the OP Environment. The objective of the magazine is to provide information about new opportunities for drawing, offer the readers experience in drawing of subsidies from towns, and guide potential applicants through the difficult legislative points in an understandable way. The PRIORITA Magazine is distributed for free, and it is possible to subscribe from the website of the OP Environment.

In 2008, four issues of the PRIORITA Magazine were published. In April, it was the first issue of 10 thousand pieces, followed by a re-print of 3 thousand pieces. This issue was covering in particular the water management infrastructure i.e. the Priority Axis 1. The second issue of the PRIORITA Magazine was published in June (10 thousand pieces). It was covering mainly the Priority Axis 4. In October, the third issue focused on the Priority Axes 6 and 3 was published in the amount of 10 thousand again, providing answers to frequently asked questions as well. The last issue of the year 2008 (same edition) was published before Christmas: it was focused on the Priority Axis 1, problems related to procurement, and analysis of approved projects by the regions of the Czech Republic.



## 6.2.4. Direct Communication

### *Database mailing*

As for the website [www.opzp.cz](http://www.opzp.cz), there are 2 264 registered users who are regularly sent information about the OP Environment. In 2008, 107 information emails were sent out.

### *Green Line*

Every work day, the SEF operates a free of charge telephone and e-mail consulting centre for entities interested in funding from the OP Environment. Outputs from the centre (frequently asked questions and answers) are available at <http://www.opzp.cz/sekce/180/nejcastejsi-otazky-a-odpovedi/>.

In 2008, the operators from the Call Centre responded to 13 504 telephone and 3 307 e-mail questions.

### *Info centres at regional offices*

Fourteen regional SEF offices accept applications and check them for formal correctness. In addition, the regional offices provide basic information about the OP Environment.

During the monitored period, a pilot project of Regional Consultancy and Information Centres was implemented. The main purpose of the centres was to search for potential applicants, especially among small municipalities, help them prepare new projects and provide professional consulting. 22 centres and their services were provided for free.

### *Meetings and coordination meetings*

The first meeting of the Work group for publicity, promotion and technical assistance was held on 14 April 2008. They dealt with coordination of information and publicity activities and with informing about projects funded from the Priority Axis 8 – Technical Assistance of the OP Environment. Consequent meetings were held on 30 June and 12 September 2008. At the last meeting of the year, the work team was split: the Work Group for Evaluation of Technical Assistance Projects met on 6 October 2008 while the Work Group for the Technical Assistance under the OP Environment met on 29 October. In addition, there were numerous working meetings of the Managing Authority and Intermediate Body.

### *Internal education*

All MoE employees operating in the EU Funds Department were trained in information systems MSC2007 and SEF Central. Depending on particular needs, the employees were trained in the area of structural funds, procurement and soft skills. The employees attend language courses and PC courses.

The employees of the SEF were trained in the SEF Central information system and, further, in the area of procurement, building act, ISO standards, presentation skills, and models for financial analysis, presidency of the CR in the EU Council, methodology for applicants and technical supervision of the investor.

### *Representatives participating in conferences, exhibitions and fairs*

In May 2008, the representatives of the MoE and SEF took part in the ENVI Fair Brno: there was an exposition and a consultancy centre OP Environment. The OP Environment display



stand offered personal consultations and consultancy, seminars focused on themes that applicants consider very difficult, and lectures (as a part of the fair programmes). The Fair was focused mainly on the area of water management and waste management. Nevertheless, the OP Environment display stand offered comprehensive information for the theme of improving the state of nature and the landscape.

In mid April, there was the biggest fair focused on waste management in the Czech Republic in Letňany (Prague), the FOR WASTE Fair. The SEF representatives established a consultancy centre for the OP Environment and lectured in seminars.

From 21 August to 26 August, there was the “Země živitelka” (Mother Earth) Fair in České Budějovice, where the SEF in collaboration with the MoE presented the possibilities for drawing from the OP Environment. The SEF experts provided personal consultations.

The conference covering European funds for environment, held on 28 February in Brno, was organised by the Ministry of the Environment, State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic, Association of municipalities, owners of water management infrastructure, and VUT (Technical University in Brno).

In addition, SEF employees presented the OP E at the following occasions:

- 21 and 22 April, Ostrava - 8<sup>th</sup> “Waste 21 – Waste Management in the states of central Europe“ Conference, where the opportunity to draw from the OP Environment for waste-related projects was presented
- Seminar - “Power Engineering – Efficient and Sustainable “ (organised by the Health Town National Network on 13 May;
- 4<sup>th</sup> national conference of the “Association of Power Engineering Auditors” held on 20 and 21 May in Prague. The conference was held under the concept “Energy savings – the main task for power engineering auditors;
- Seminar for owners of water management infrastructure, held on 20 June;
- Seminar “Operational Programme Environment – Present state and prepared calls for renovations of sources and buildings”, held on 22 July at the residence of the Regional Authority of the Zlín Region, organised by the Energy Agency of the Zlín Region;
- Seminar “Possible support for enterprise – Operational Programme Environment and the Development Programme for Rural Areas” held on 28 August in Hradec Králové. It was organised for entrepreneurs by the Chamber of Commerce CR;
- Conference “EU Funds for Czech Municipalities in the 2007-13 Period” organised by the Regional Consultancy Agency and Association of Local Government and held on 11 September in Telnice u Brna;
- “Seminar on subsidies intended for renovation of schools and kindergartens” organised within an international conference “Passive House 2008” by the Centre for Passive House in collaboration with the SEF, held on 30 October in Brno Fair Site (Výstaviště);
- Conference with international participation – “Operation of water supply and sewer networks”, held on 4 – 5 November in Liberec;
- Conference with international participation - “Water Bodies 2008“, held on 25 – 26 November in Hradec Králové;



- Seminar “Subsidy Opportunities for Municipalities with population below 2000”, organised by the Chamber of Commerce and the Social Council in Chomutov region, held on 11 December in Chomutov;
- Workshop “Regional Development Marketing” held on 17 December, organised by the Administration of the Šumava National Park and Protected Landscape Area in Kašperské Hory.

In August 2008, at the occasion of the international film festival of young film makers, the “Fresh Film Fest” in Karlovy Vary, the audio-visual signature of the OP Environment was chosen. The signature will be used as a complementary item at press conferences, expert seminars, presentations and promotion events or short TV spots.

#### *Our own workshops, seminars, meetings*

The Ministry of the Environment organised 5 seminars focused on support to the absorption capacity under the Priority Axis 2 – THE IMPROVEMENT OF AIR QUALITY AND REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS (Kladno – 29 July, Ústí nad Labem – 14 August, Ostrava – 21 August, Hradec Králové – 26 August, Brno – 28 August).

The State Environmental Fund of the CR organised the following events:

- 6 March – Conference “European Funds for Water, Air and Nature”, focused particularly on the Operational Programme Environment. There were nearly 200 representatives of municipalities and companies.
- Seminars for 3 regions and their public administration bodies, non-profit organisations and entrepreneurs, called “Subsidies from the Operational Programme Environment for the Regions of Zlín / Ústí / Central Bohemia”, held on 26 August in Otrokovice, 11 September 2008 in Ústí nad Labem ( 25 September in Milovice n. L., respectively) . The topics were future calls for the years 2008 and 2009, the experience from the first year of the OP Environment, information and practical advice for applicants from the particular region, examples of projects, and personal consultations.
- 9 October in Liberec – seminar for local government in the Region of Liberec on possibilities to draw from the OP Environment.
- Seminar “OP E as an effective source of support” organised for representatives of public administration, entrepreneurs and non-profit organisations, held on 14 October in Znojmo.
- Seminar “OP E for non-profit and church organisations”, held on 4 November in Prague and on 2 December in Brno.
- Seminar “OP E for entrepreneurs” held in Prague on 4 November, in Brno on 12 November and in Ostrava on 18 November.



## 6.2.5. Other Tools

### *Publicity objects*

The State Environmental Fund has created nearly 66 thousand of publicity objects, such as pens, notepads, textile and paper bags, and racks for leaflets. In addition, 95 thousand of minor objects were created, such as stickers, Green Line cards and chewing gum paper.

### *EU Flag*

The EU flag was flying in front of the residence of the Managing Authority MoE pursuant to Commission Regulation 1828/2006 of Article 7 Sec. 2 (c) for one week, starting 9 May.

### *Digital media*

Documents for meetings of Monitoring and Managing Committees are prepared on CD.

### *Standard graphic style*

The Graphic Manual for promotion and publicity for the OP Environment was made available on 19 June. The Manual deals with binding examples of information measures and rules for use of the EU symbol and of the logo of the OP Environment, while use of graphic elements for provision of a unified visual style are defined.

In most of printed materials (invitation, press releases, etc.) an information banner is used, comprising entire binding publicity features (the logo OP Environment, the symbol of the EU and the slogan of the Operational Programme, “For Water, Air and Nature“). The banners and the logo are available in the section “Documents to load” on the website [www.opzp.cz](http://www.opzp.cz).

The beneficiary’s obligations related to the publicity and promotion are set forth in the Decision on Provision of Subsidy, in Binding Guidelines for Applicants and Beneficiaries, and in the Graphic Manual for promotion and publicity of the OP Environment.

### *Other*

The SEF compiled a short film about the OP Environment that offers initial brief information about the Operational Programme. It is available on the website of the OP Environment.



## 7. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AA	Audit Authority
AFCOS	Anti Fraud Co-ordination Structure
AI	Area of Intervention
ANCLP	Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic
BAT	Best Available Techniques
BOD <sub>5</sub>	Biological oxygen demand
CF	Cohesion Fund
CGS	Czech Geologic Survey
COD <sub>Cr</sub>	Chemical oxygen demand
CR	Czech Republic
CWWTP	Central Waste Water Treatment Plant
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
EAGF	European Agricultural Guarantee Fund
EC	European Commission
EC	European Communities
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIB	European Investment Bank
EIF	European Investment Fund
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
EU	European Union
IB	Intermediate Body
IS	Information System
IT	Information Technologies
IUDP	Integrated Urban Development Plan
MA	Managing Authority
MC	Monitoring Committee
MF	Ministry of Finance
MIT	Ministry of Industry and Trade
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoE	Ministry of the Environment
MoT	Ministry of Transport
MRD	Ministry for Regional Development
NCA	National Coordination Authority
NNO	Non-governmental Non-profit Organisations
NRP	National Reform Programme
NSRF	National Strategic Reference Framework
OP	Operational Programme
OP E	Operational Programme Education for Competition Strength
PA	Paying and Certification Authority
PA	Priority Axis
RCIC	Regional Consultancy and Information Centre



RES	Renewable Energy Sources
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment (of a document, a plan)
SEF	State Environmental Fund of the CR
SF	Structural Funds
SOWAC GIS	Geoinformation System for Soil and Water Conservation
SUV	Sport Utility Vehicle
SW	Software
TA	Technical Assistance
WSSS	Water Supply and Sewerage Systems



## **8. ANNEXES**

- Annex 1      The most frequent errors in applications and projects including recommendations for applicants/beneficiaries
- Annex 2      Standard Monitoring Table
- Annex 3      Fulfilling the Communication Plan
- Annex 4      Indicative List of Major Projects