

Public awareness campaign - communication forums

Within the public awareness campaign three communication forums were held in Vrbas, for different interest groups and with different goals. The first and the second forum were held on 25 February 2010 (in different times) at the Municipality of Vrbas. Both were the technical forums.

The first one was attended by 10 representatives of institutions and 12 representatives of the population living along the Grand Backa Canal (GBC). The aim of the Forum 1 was to establish communication between institutions and representatives of population from Vrbas and Kula, who lives along the GBC on the necessity of connection to the new sewerage network which leads to the CWWTP. The second forum was attended by 20 representatives of institutions and 6 representatives of the industry from Vrbas and Kula. The aim of the Forum 2 was to establish communication between institutions and representatives of industry from Vrbas and Kula, polluters of the GBC, on the necessity to connect pretreated industrial waste waters to the CWWTP. The third forum was held on 24 February 2010 in the premises of the Municipality of Vrbas. Forum 3 was related to protected natural resources in the municipality of Vrbas (JegriĀka and ĀEarnok). Forum focused on the promotion of clean environment - protection of nature and communication was held between institutions which manage those natural resources and the people who live near them. There were present 9 representatives of the institutions - managers and 8 representatives of the population living in the border zone of protected areas from Vrbas. Summary impressions following the three forums is that it has achieved impressive progress since the beginning of the project. It is extremely important that the UNDP launched this initial forums and it should continue to work in the future as needed. The plan was that the Municipality of Vrbas and PWMC "Vode Vojvodine" organize future forums. Dialogue that was launched is useful and through it informations can be exchanged related to the implementation of the project. This would achieve a better understanding between the implementing institutions and beneficiaries and participants in the "Remediation of the GBC" project. Forums provide transparent information and encourage cooperation of all participants in a project. All participants showed great interest in further active work in the Forums.