



Promoting Replication of Good Practices for Nutrient Reduction and Joint Collaboration in Central and Eastern Europe

De-oxygenated “dead zones” in our water ways and oceans where life is almost non-existent, are estimated at more than 200 worldwide. There is widespread scientific agreement that changes in the global nitrogen cycle, primarily caused by agricultural activities are directly linked to these “dead zones” and other significant impacts (i.e., reduced penetration of light, outbreaks of nuisance species, shifts in the structure of the food chain, impairment of fisheries and habitat degradation) on our water resources. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) International Waters (IW) program – a global partnership among 178 countries, international institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector investing in trans-boundary water issues – has been promoting solutions to address increased nutrient releases and other “non-point source” runoff issues. There is a wealth of experience in nutrient reduction best practices and lessons learned in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) that needs to be replicated with the region and worldwide. However, it has not been collected, analyzed and summarized in a systematic way.

The Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF) in partnership with the Regional Environmental Center (REC) for Central and Eastern Europe is working with GEF on a two year project to:

- Prevent the resurgence of agricultural and non-agricultural non-point source nutrient releases
- Identify, capture, analyze and summarize best practices, lessons learned and technologies to reduce the impacts of nutrient loading in the region
- Demonstrate successful replication strategies by facilitating agricultural and wetlands pilot projects and transferring knowledge to policy makers in the region
- Disseminate and promote nutrient reduction best practices and successful replication strategies in the region, among key decision-makers, industries, stakeholders and the general public

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