

**Annex 7.3.2 After-LIFE Communication Plan**



LIFE Project Number

**LIFE10 ENV/SK/086**



LIFE+ PROJECT NAME: “The impact of geological environment on health status of residents of the Slovak Republic”, Acronym “GEOHEALTH”

Coordinating Beneficiary: State Geological Institute of Dionýz Štúr



## After-LIFE Communication Plan

### 1. Introduction

The main project output can be summarized in the following highlight:

*„It is reported that the population of the Slovak Republic, living in the silicate geological environment (granites, crystalline schists, volcanics), shows significantly worse health status (increased mortality for selected diseases) and shorter life expectancy as a result of deficit contents of calcium and magnesium in geological environment, mainly in drinking groundwater. It is very likely that populations of other EU countries may face similar problems as well. Moreover, we find it necessary to keep people living in such unfavourable geological environment informed in order to carry out convenient measures (additional supply of Ca and Mg from other sources) to avoid these risks.“*

It is of high scientific significance as well as society-wide importance and thus after-life actions will be focused mainly on the continuous huge dissemination of the achieved results among public as well as scientific audience.

### 2. Dissemination among scientific audience

Dissemination among scientific audience will be carried out at the following main three levels:

- a. Active presentation of the results at seminars, conferences, workshops and publishing of scientific articles,
- b. Educational activities at Universities,
- c. Incorporation of the results into Slovak and EU legislation.

#### *a. Presentations and publishing of the project results*

The project team members will continue in next five years to present project results mainly in the form of oral presentations (at least 10 presentations) and to publish project outputs in Slovak as well as international magazines (at least 5 scientific papers). Within this subtask we will distribute for free the project final monographs among scientific communities (e.g. during seminars, conferences) to raise awareness about the project results and outputs. The financial costs for this subtask realized within the After-LIFE Communication Plan will be covered by the budget of the coordinating beneficiary (ŠGÚDŠ).

#### *b. Educational activities at Universities,*

The project team members work also as external pedagogues at two Slovak Universities: Comenius University in Bratislava – Faculty of Natural Sciences and Pavol Jozef Šafárik

University in Košice – Faculty of Medicine. They will continue to present the project outputs and used methodology of environmental and health data elaboration within their educational activities including students from the field of public health, environmental hygiene and environmental geochemistry. They will also continue to lead Diploma or Bachelor thesis (at least 1 Diploma and 1 Bachelor thesis) dealing with the environmental-health issue implemented within this project. All these activities will not require and financial costs.

*c. Incorporation of the results into Slovak and EU legislation,*

The project team members will be active in the field of legislation and revision process of the guideline for drinking water quality at national as well as EU level. We will act in various forms, mainly through active participation in related consultation meetings and electronic (e-mail) communication to raise awareness among concerned authorities (Ministry of Environment, Public Health Authorities, WHO) and highlight the importance of proposed measures (new limit values for Ca, Mg and Ca + Mg) to be incorporated into Slovak and/or EU legislation on drinking water quality. The financial costs for this subtask realized within the After-LIFE Communication Plan will be covered by the budget of the coordinating beneficiary (ŠGÚDŠ).

### **3. Dissemination among public audience**

Project team will disseminate project results to Layman audience mainly through electronic (e-mail) communication and presentations of the main outputs at various discussion forums according to the request and interest of residents. We plan realization of media work – at least 2 radio/TV shows and 2 newspaper articles (included as indicators 5 years beyond the project end within LIFE Indicators database – web tool). The main objective of this task will be the explanation of the potential risks associated with the unfavourable geological environment on the human health and how can they avoid these risks by simple measures. Within this task we will use Layman´s report for project dissemination among public to raise awareness about the project results and outputs. This report will be distributed among Layman audience (inhabitants) according to their interest, e.g. based on the e-mail or phone requests, during discussions etc. (the information on availability of this report for request is published on the project website).

The financial costs for this subtask realized within the After-LIFE Communication Plan will be covered by the budget of the coordinating beneficiary (ŠGÚDŠ).

### **4. Website**

The project website will be maintained at least for the period of five years after the project end. It will be regularly updated according to achieved outputs within the After-LIFE Communication Plan. The financial costs for this subtask realized within the After-LIFE Communication Plan will be covered by the budget of the coordinating beneficiary (ŠGÚDŠ).

### **5. Compilation of new project proposal**

The new project „Elimination of negative impact of low mineralized drinking water on human health in the Slovak Republic” will be compiled. The project background will be based on the results of the project GEOHEALTH with aim to improve health status of inhabitants by increasing of Ca and Mg drinking water contents (water sources used for public supply) at required levels. The new technique will be applied based on development and application of prototype for water re-carbonization.

This task will be arranged without any financial costs in free time of the project team members.