



European Union

**Interreg**  
CENTRAL EUROPE

**boDEREC-CE**

**12 institutions from 7 countries have been developing a tool to be used by waterworks throughout Central Europe**

**The cooperation takes place within the boDEREC-CE project with the main objective to prepare a system of integrated management of waterworks. This is to ensure even higher quality of drinking water.**

The activities of the institution assume a development of a detailed PPCPs monitoring plan, creation of a tool enabling optimisation of the water treatment process as well as preparing recommendations for legislative changes as regards the standards of drinking water and recommendations for engineering solutions.

### **PPCPs – a challenge of the future**

Along with the development of technology and consumerism, the subject of pollutants occurring in the environment which have not been monitored so far has been mentioned more and more often. Such substances include PPCPs (Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Products) as well as veterinary products. Detection and analysis of their possible trace presence in drinking water is the main task of the project. *“The boDEREC-CE implements an innovative approach, introducing pilot areas in Central European countries for the purpose of monitoring the pollutants occurring, mainly pharmaceuticals and personal care products. Their presence has been unknown still a few years ago, and the knowledge of that subject is not comprehensive. That will be solved by way of developing a common direction of actions and a policy at the EU level. Owing to the fact that the boDEREC-CE concentrates not only on testing the PPCPs behaviour, but also focuses a lot of attention on the assessment of the efficient elimination of such pollutants with the use of various potable water treatment technologies. The main result will be an innovative decision tool based on a model, which – considering the future legal thresholds – may be used as an early warning tool. The tool will be tested in various conditions in many European waterworks”,* emphasises the Project Leader, Josip Terzić of the Croatian Geological Survey, Department of Hydrogeology and Engineering Geology.

The project assumes analysing of water samples from the selected pilot areas, comprising water treatment plants, for the purpose of determination of PPCPs presence in raw water. Moreover, samples of treated water and water pumped into the mains will be tested as an initial element for the assessment of risk related to water supply.

The boDEREC-CE will cover 4 stages of activities:

- determination of pollutants present in the water environment,
- monitoring of pollutants,
- modelling of pollutants and use of models,
- reduction/elimination of pollutants present in the water environment.

## **Project social responsibility**

The boDEREC-CE project has a great social dimension. An important assumption is to improve awareness and continuously extend the subject knowledge. This refers not only to the companies managing waterworks and sewage systems but specifically to the society. *“People all over the world take more and more medicines every year. Today, we cannot imagine our lives without numerous cosmetic products. Although PPCPs are present in the water environment in trace concentrations, it is very important to apply some moderation in that regard. Use of natural cosmetics, reduction of addictions to pharmaceutical are actions which may be implemented by everyone of us”*, adds the Communication Manager - Joanna Czekaj of the Silesian Waterworks PLC.

Another project assumption will be to create an international Expert Board for the purpose of continuing cooperation among research institutions and waterworks.

The boDEREC-CE has been financed from the funds of the Interreg Central Europe Transnational Programme, which offers financial support to programmes contributing to the implementation of solutions being a reply to regional challenges in the area of innovativeness, low-emission economy, environment, culture and transport. The project is planned to be completed on 31 March 2022.