

Submission report

The material is submitted for a government session as initiative material in relation to the need to adopt systematic measures and steps for a real reduction in flood risk, focusing upon the area of flood prevention and addressing given tasks in an inter-departmental and inter-sectional - integrated approach. Sustainable provision of flood prevention can only be achieved in the simultaneous reduction of flood risk and risk of drought, whilst the main factors for achieving real and measurable results are an improvement in the landscape structure, an improvement in land resources management, an improvement in rainwater management in the landscape and the application of an integrated approach in the coordination of departmental policy in order to achieve a synergic economic, social and environmental effect via integrated management of the landscape. The proposed approach supports saving public resources, developing employment, improving environmental quality, increasing competitiveness of settlements and regions, and improving the quality of life of citizens.

Draft principles, rules and framework conditions for preventative measures against floods, decreasing flood risk, risk of drought and other risks related to a sudden, natural disaster, and integrated management of river basins (hereinafter "principles") address the aims and tasks of the Government manifesto in the area of agriculture and the environment. The material proposes addressing the proposed principles via the creation of an inter-departmental economic Programme for Landscape Revitalisation and Integrated River Basin Management in the Slovak Republic (hereinafter "Programme") and for ensuring a reduction in flood risk in the Spring months of 2011, the preparation of an Implementation Project for this Programme for selected rural areas during October 2010 to December 2010.

The material consists of draft principles for sustainable protection of areas against floods, principles of integrated water and land resources management and draft framework conditions for providing integrated management of river basins. The material fully supports the Floods Directive and Water Framework Directive and their more effective implementation within the conditions of the Slovak Republic. The principles of sustainable protection of the area against floods and the principles of integrated water resources management were formulated in a town and village environment which, together with their citizens, are most affected by the consequences of flooding as well as other extreme weather events.

The material points to the fact that the method of managing the landscape and water and natural resources in river basins has a decisive influence upon the height of flood risk and risk of drought. These risks are further accumulated and, within international approaches, they are influencing the management of water and land resources. In these terms, the material formulates the principles, rules and framework conditions for a systematic solution of issues in a given area.

The material has a beneficial impact upon employment, the environment, reducing flood risk and reducing public expenditure for remedying the consequences of flooding from public resources.