Water retention measures within the project for the recovery of damaged landscape mitigate climate change related risks of floods and drought, foster biodiversity, assist local economy by green grow than promote communities' responsibility for their environment.

Project duration: August 2012- September 2015

Budget: 1 431 535 EURO

EU contribution: 690 267 EURO

REVITALIZATION OF THE CLIMATE IN DRIED - OUT COMMUNITIES IN SLOVAKIA VIA HYDRO - CLIMATE RECOVERY

The Project is implemented due to the support of the European fund LIFE+Environment policy & Governance

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Increased water run-off in damaged forest and urban lands is a cause of its deficit and a serious problem of sustainable development. Entire chains of environmental functions are affectedin such ecosystems.

Therefore, it is useful to promote a green infrastructure ina country. Green infrastructure absorbs part of the rainwater from intense precipitation and releases it in times of drought. Document „A Blueprint to Safeguard Europe's Water Resources“ released by the European Commission in November 2012 promotes water retention and green infrastructure. This concept is applied in Ondavka watershed as a pilot projectin Slovakia.

Adaptation to the climate change requires:

- implementation of water retention measures as a part of integrated water management
- application of innovative green-infrastructure technologies of water retention
- involvement of local communities in protection of their environment (new job opportunities for local residents)

Measures applied in the project “Hydro-Climate Recovery" are:

- indent on forest and field roads
- wooden and log check-dams in erosion grooves, ravines and temporal streams
- stone and gabion check-dams
- retention ponds and reservoirs
- rainwater gardens in urban areas