

European funds for flood protection measures in Smolyan



Source: © Municipality of Smolyan



Name	Smolyan
Country	Bulgaria
Inhabitants	39 079 (2014)
Climate impact(s)	FLOODS

Adaptation measures financed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion and cleaning of the riverbed • Reconstruction and upgrading of the existing flood protection walls • Construction of new flood protection walls
Financing source(s)	EU funds and local government funds
Financing type(s)	Direct funding and co-funding of adaptation-related measures
Financing mechanism(s)	EU ERDF funding mechanism

Summary description

In response to flooding damage in Smolyan's Ustovo neighbourhood in 2005, the city implemented a number of flood protection measures that presumably have already paid off during the wet year of 2014. The project included widening of river banks, reinforcing existing protection walls and constructing new walls.

The costs of the combined flood protection measures amounted to EUR 477 259. Smolyan provided a small part (5 %) of the total sum from the municipal budget. The majority of funding (85 %) originated from the EU through the ERDF Operational Programme Regional Development 2007-2013 'Support For Small-Scale Measures To Prevent Flooding In Urban Agglomerations'. Municipal experts took care of the implementation. The city submitted the project proposal to the Ministry of Regional Development, the managing authority of this programme. When it granted the project, it drafted a contract with the municipality of Smolyan. In the next phase, an open contracting procedure was started for the construction works. The construction company answered directly to the municipality, who in turn reported to the ministry.

Main challenge for implementation

Illegal buildings on the construction site, including barns and gardens, had to be demolished before work could start.

Main success factor for implementation

Municipal experts had access to all the information required for the project, including preliminary studies and technical designs. The land on which the measures are being implemented is owned by the municipality and it was easy to obtain building permits.

Contact Economic Development, Tourism, International Programmes and Projects Directorate Email: smol@abv.bg	Long version on Climate-ADAPT https://goo.gl/FDQuvH	QR code
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