

ABSTRACT

Implementation of the Nitrates Directive in Romania

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The EU Nitrates Directive, approved in 1991, is the expression of the EU response towards prevention and reduction of the nutrient pollution from agricultural sources, based on the experience of the old Member States. However, the EU expansion towards East-Europe implied also a full takeover of the EU legislation for the newcomers. As Romania has not only large intensive farms, but also still a consistent small-farming sector, this Directive brought certain challenges. Communal investments, awareness campaigns and knowledge transfer networks were part of the solution, while consolidation of the monitoring and control system still has to continue as part of the efforts for the consolidation of the institutional capacity.

