

## CZECH REPUBLIC

### Farm's performance, restructuring & modernisation

#### Location

Záhoří

#### Programming period

2014 – 2020

#### Priority

P2 – Competitiveness

#### Measure

M4 – Investments in physical assets

#### Funding (EUR)

Total budget 678 185

EAFRD 323 171

National/Regional 329 700

Private 25 314

#### Project duration

2017 – 2018

#### Project promoter

Státní pozemkový úřad/  
State Land Administration

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#### Website

[www.spucr.cz/aktuality-z-kraju/archiv/ustecky/vodoho-spodarske-opatreni-zim-zahori.html](http://www.spucr.cz/aktuality-z-kraju/archiv/ustecky/vodoho-spodarske-opatreni-zim-zahori.html)

**Building a reservoir to catch runoff water and provide protection against floods in a vulnerable area.**

### Summary

The village Záhoří is part of the municipality Žim and is located in a valley which was often affected by floods, caused by run-off from the surrounding fields and the roads built on the slopes of the nearby hills. In the last two decades, the situation worsened significantly due to the climate change and more frequent weather extremes.



In order to address this flooding problem, the project supported the reconstruction of three countryside roads (1155m, 649m and 464m) and the construction of a small pond of almost 1 hectare (9693 m<sup>2</sup>). The pond is filled by the local source/spring and the newly built rain water drainages mainly from the new roads.

### Results

Runoff water in the area is now well retained. The retention basin extends on 3.5 hectares around the pond.

The new infrastructure built prevent floods by directing the rain water in the pond.

The new roads allow for improved access to the fields and to the surrounding landscape in general.

The ecological balance in the area has been improved as now the pond attracts birds and the meadows have greater biodiversity.

### Lessons & Recommendations

- ❑ This public investment to improve the water regime in the area, encouraged local private land owners to invest in similar water retention and flood prevention infrastructure.
- ❑ Similar future projects should consider allowing good access to the ponds for visitors.
- ❑ The RDP administrative rules in the current programming period allow to submit the application for support after the selection of the provider of the investment. This allows to apply for finance that is equal to the actual cost of the project. This is considered as an important improvement for project planning.

## Context

The village Záhoří is part of the municipality Žim and is located in a valley which was often affected by floods caused by run-off from the surrounding fields and the roads built on the slopes of the nearby hills. In the last two decades, the situation worsened significantly due to the climate change and more frequent weather extremes. Some 50 years ago, a pond had been constructed in the area to protect the village from flooding. However, the pond had been abandoned long time ago.

## Objectives

The operational objectives of the project were:

- to build a reservoir where the original pond was.
- to reconstruct nearby roads as to direct the running water towards the reservoir. The reconstruction of the roads would also enable better access to the properties / fields in the area.
- to replant the area around the reservoir with suitable plants and trees species in order to restore the ecological balance at the spot.

## Activities

The project was preceded by land consolidation which took place in the cadastre of Žim in 2008-2012. At that time, land plots were exchanged between owners while taking into account the necessary future investments to improve the ecological balance in the area. Due to that land consolidation process, all of the land required for the renovation of the roads and works on the water basin around the old pond, had become property of the municipality Žim.

The technical documentation of the project was elaborated and completed in 2015. In 2016, the State land office (Státní pozemkový úřad) obtained the respective construction permits and selected the provider of the investment. The reconstruction of the countryside roads and the renovation of the pond were completed in 2017. The project reconstructed three countryside roads (1155m, 649m and 464m) and built a small pond of almost 1 hectare (9693 m<sup>2</sup>). The pond is filled by the local source/spring and the newly built rain water drainages (mostly associated with new roads).



Before the project

Project implementation

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## Main results

The planned goals were achieved as the pond and related works:

- Retained the runoff of water in the area. The retention basin extends on 3.5 hectares around the pond.
- Prevent floods by directing the rain water in the pond
- Improved access to the fields and to the surrounding landscape in general
- Improved the ecological balance in the area as now the pond attracts birds and the meadows have greater biodiversity.

In addition, the area around the pond can be used as a space for social and leisure activities for both locals and tourists, e.g. hiking, cycling, etc.

An old drainage stream was discovered during the construction, showing that the problem was recognised and dealt with in a similar way. After cleaning the old stream, the pond was filled by one third compared to what was expected. Thus confirming the rationality of the introduced technical measure.

## Key lessons

The (public) investment to improve the water regime in the area encouraged local private land owners to invest in water retention and flood prevention facilities in similar ways. It also stimulated other projects for the renovation of adhered private and public facilities (houses, farm buildings, chapels, stone or wooden fences etc.).

Similar future projects should consider multiple access to the water bodies (i.e. from more sides) for the public and to include a solid bank (stony) at least on one side of the pond.

The RDP administrative rules in the current programming period allow to submit the application for support after the selection of the provider of the investment. This allows to apply for finance that is equal to the actual cost of the project. This is considered as an important improvement for project planning.

## Additional sources of information

n/a