



The Polish Humanitarian Organisation Water-Sanitation Programme in Grozny – Chechnya.

Since 2000 PHO provides inhabitants of Grozny with pure, 100% secure water. Over 50% of the Grozny's population are beneficiaries of **the PHO Water Programme**, which is being implemented in cooperation with UNICEF, UNHCR, ICRC, local institutions and authorities.



The main goals of the *PHO Water Programme* are:

- to improve the overall water situation in Grozny, through strengthening access to safe potable water for significantly higher number of the population, thus reducing the rate of water borne diseases among the residents. PHO provides 105 000 people with quality potable water (San-Epid Grozny makes regular tests of water produced by PHO). The water produced by the PHO is free of charge (meanwhile many people buy potable water, which is delivered by private carriers).

Beside the private sector, the beneficiaries of the **Water Programme** are:

- 30 000 school and pre-school children and teachers;
- 23 000 students of universities and colleges;
- 11 000 hospital patients and medical staff;
- 41 000 Temporary Accommodation Centers inhabitants and local residents.



The capacity of the PHO water treatment units set in two bases (WNS-1 and K-2) is in average 700 m³ a day. All 5 PHO water treatment units in two bases were manufactured by *JOSAB*, a company from Sweden.

There are 250 PHO water distribution points in Grozny, filled with potable water on regular basis by 20 trucks. 127 of these points - water pillows were manufactured by the company *EVEN PRODUCTS*.



• **The Sanitation Programme**

Another PHO project in Chechnya is Sanitation Programme, whose principal objective is "Improving the sanitation condition in Grozny and other regions of Chechnya". Since December 2001 PHO built 228 double pit latrines in 59 locations in Grozny and other sites in Chechnya. From April 2002 PHO covers operational costs of one sewage truck. Each day 10,3 m³ of sewage is being disposed. PHO distributed 360 garbage

containers in 114 different locations; the containers are regularly emptied by four PHO garbage trucks.

To save potable water, whose purification process is expensive, PHO built 34 hand operated water pumps, which provide beneficiaries with technical water, which can be used for household purposes.

The overall wat-san situation

After the second Chechen War, because of the huge scale of damage in water and sewage system in Grozny, a high risk of diseases and epidemic spread occurred.

The bombardments caused heavy damage not only in the city (most of the buildings until now are completely destroyed), but also in the city infrastructure – the water and sewage systems were completely damaged - even nowadays, however the war was officially finished five years ago, there is a general lack of potable water.

Because both systems often share the itineraries, thus their overall condition causes serious contamination of water. Also the supplies of water is very irregular, only 3% of the Grozny's population have access to running water at their households, 48% use water which is available from taps on streets (and often does not meet hygienic standards).

Water coming from the water system in Grozny is contaminated not only by the sewage, but also by oil and oil-related pollutions (in the past, Grozny was the centre of the refinery industry in the Northern Caucasus). After heavy bombardments, most of the oil from the refinery's tanks got into the soil, and polluted the underground sources of water.

- Our Donors: European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO) (www.europa.eu.int/comm/echo), UNICEF (www.unicef.ru), Lions Club International (Sweden) (www.lionsclub.se), CCFD (www.ccf.asso.fr).
- Our partners: ICRC (www.icrc.org), UNHCR (www.unhcr.ru), JOSAB (www.josab.com).

More information about our field activities you will find on our website:

www.pah.org.pl

Polish Humanitarian Organisation (abbr. PHO; Polish: Polska Akcja Humanitarna) is an NGO operating since December 1992: first as the EquiLibre Foundation and since 1994 as Polish Humanitarian Organisation Foundation. Our mission, goals and objectives are:

- to assist the victims of war, natural disasters and extreme poverty
- to provide assistance to refugees and expatriates seeking shelter in our country

to contribute to the development of a society capable of helping itself.

The Headquarter of the Foundation is located in Warsaw. There are also 3 regional offices in: Krakow, Lodz and Torun and 3 field missions in: Chechnya, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka (since December 2004, after the Tsunami had destroyed most of natural sources of water, PHO decided to start the Water Programme in Sri Lanka).

Main funding sources of PHO are: grants, service donations, public collections, donations in kind.

In the Northern Caucasus PHO has been present since 1995, since 2000 PHO has the Permanent Mission in Chechnya/Insgushetia.