

## CZECH REPUBLIC

### Farm's performance, restructuring & modernisation

#### Location

k.ú. Benátky

#### Programming period

2014 – 2020

#### Priority

P2 – Competitiveness

#### Measure

M04 – Investments in  
physical assets

#### Funding (EUR)

Total budget 270 818  
EAFRD 134 055  
National/Regional 136 763

#### Project duration

2016 – 2017

#### Project promoter

State Land Office

#### Contact

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#### Website

[www.spucr.cz/](http://www.spucr.cz/)

Creation of a bioreserve consisting of a small reservoir, a retention basin, and an adjacent strip of vegetation to improve water retention in an intensively farmed area.

### Summary

The small municipality of Venice (German Venice) is located in the north-eastern part of the historical region of Bohemia and is intensively farmed. Intensive farming has contributed to a series of environmental problems. The area is affected by rapid surface water drainage, resulting in a lack of water retention, flooding after heavy rains and poor soil drainage.



The municipality, in cooperation with the board of representatives of landowners, initiated a project for the construction of a bioreserve consisting of a small reservoir, a retention basin, as well as an adjacent strip of vegetation with trees and shrubs. In addition, fruit trees were planted next to an existing path and a new grass path was created alongside a nearby stream.

### Results

The reservoir has reduced the flow of runoff and flooding, and with the vegetation it has created a valuable conservation element amidst the intensively farmed landscape.

Overall, the bioreserve will help increase the retention capacity of the basin, which is surrounded by approximately 61 ha of arable land owned by six agricultural companies.

The construction of the grass path has improved access to the agricultural land for farm machinery as well as the bioreserve.

Biodiversity in the area has improved after the project.

## Context

The municipality of Venice nad Jizerou is located in the north-eastern part of the historical region of Bohemia and it has 121 inhabitants. To the west of the village flows the East Bohemian river Bystřice, while the river Mlakovská svodnice flows through the village. The area is intensively farmed, which has had negative impacts on the environment, including rapid drainage of surface water causing lack of retention, flooding after heavy rains and poor soil drainage. It has also had a negative impact on animal migration and the ecological stability of the area.

## Objectives

The project aimed to improve water management, reduce erosion problems and enhance the overall environmental condition of the area.

## Activities

The project was initiated by the municipality and the board of representatives of landowners as part of a complex land consolidation process. The bioserve was assessed to be the priority of the Common Facility Plan. Based on that assessment, the municipality applied as the beneficiary to the State Land Office. The project proposal was approved in July 2016 and was completed in June 2017.

The project involved the construction of a bioserve consisting of a small reservoir with a permanent water level and retention basin, as well as an adjacent strip of vegetation (trees and shrubs). The normal capacity of the reservoir is 4 695 cubic metres; at its maximum capacity it is 9 233 cubic metres. The shore zone that was developed is approximately 0.15 ha and the vegetation strip covers approximately 1.1 ha. The area was planted with 59 trees

and 1 308 bushes, including Tilia, Prunus domestica, Alder, Hornbeam, Populus, Quercus, Acer, Prunus spinosa, Crataegus etc. In addition, fruit trees were planted alongside the existing Želkovice path and a new grass path was created along the Mlakovská stream.

The project features are now owned by the Benátky municipality. This means that the municipality is committed to their subsequent care, e.g. maintenance of the fences, managing the vegetation, mowing, repellent coating of the planted trees. The municipality is also responsible for managing the reservoir's water level and for checking the basin on a regular basis.



## Main results

The reservoir has reduced runoff water flow and flooding, and along with the vegetation, has created a valuable conservation feature amidst the intensively farmed landscape. Overall, the bioserve will help increase the retention capacity of the drainage basin for approximately 61 ha of arable land around the reservoir, which are owned by six agricultural companies.

The new grass path along the Mlakovská stream has improved access to the land for agricultural machinery as well as the bioserve.

The realisation of the project has resulted in a significant increase of biodiversity within the area.

## Additional sources of information

[www.spucr.cz/frontend/webroot/uploads/files/2017/12/bc\\_na\\_mlakach\\_v\\_k7310.u7310\\_benatky7310.pdf](http://www.spucr.cz/frontend/webroot/uploads/files/2017/12/bc_na_mlakach_v_k7310.u7310_benatky7310.pdf)