



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION PROGRAM

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SUB-PROGRAMS

INFORMATORY SUMMARY ON THE TASKS PERFORMED BETWEEN 1997 AND 2004

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Introduction

The handling of nationally significant environmental pollutions started as a particular individual task at the beginning of the 1990s (f. e. environmental state assessment of soviet military sites and the cleaning of contaminated sites, the settling of environmental damage left behind after the privatisation of companies). The general definition of environmental damages summarising Hungarian and international experience appeared already in the act of environmental protection. The National Environmental Program and as a part of it the National Environmental Remediation Program (OKKP) dealing with the remediation of permanent environmental damages and contaminated sites left behind was elaborated based on the Act LIII of 1995 On the General rules of Environmental Protection.

Aims of the OKKP are to explore the contaminations left behind and accumulating in the geological medium (soil) and groundwater in the foregoing centuries, to gain information on the scale of threat, contamination and damage to groundwater and geological medium; to reduce the risk of contamination in endangered areas, as well as to facilitate the reduction or elimination of contamination in polluted areas. In the framework of the OKKP the survey of pollution sources and polluted sites, as well as their countrywide inventory – not depending on liability conditions – is carried out on the basis of which the National Remediation Priority List forming the foundation of individual remediation tasks is compiled and the sub-programs are prepared.

The elimination of environmental damages left behind and belonging to state responsibility is carried out in the framework of the sub-programs co-ordinated by the ministers in charge.

Along with the Countrywide Inventory and with the financial support of the OKKP the elaboration of the sub-programs, the assessment of the remedial tasks belonging to the responsibility of the ministries and the elaboration of the time and financing schedules started in 1997. These preparatory documents supported the decision-making processes of the ministries' remedial tasks.

Between 1997 and 2004 most of the ministries assessed the remedial tasks in the areas under their management and several of them could successfully start the implementation of individual remediation projects based on these assessments.

The aim of the current summary is to give a comprehensive overview on the results achieved by the ministries in the frame of the sub-programs between 1997 and 2004. The current summary was compiled with the help of the final reports elaborated on the basis of the agreements concluded with the different ministries.