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“WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT: Infrastructure Development and Financial Planning” Study Tour to Lithuania



SAVE organized a 6-day study tour to Lithuania for fifteen water managers, technical experts and local leaders from across the island, including Alsancak, Lapta, Güzelyurt, Lefke and Famagusta. The purpose of the tour was to provide concrete, hands-on exposure to waste water management and treatment options that could be applied in northern Cyprus. The study tour offered its participants a unique opportunity to visit Vilnius and seven other municipalities in Lithuania as well as the Lithuanian environmental authorities to see how they have used the latest methods and technologies to improve wastewater management and comply with EU regulations.

SAVE works to build local capacity to better protect and manage Cyprus’ valuable natural and cultural resources. The tour to Lithuania was organized as part of the environment and natural resources management task of **SAVE**, which is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Small to medium size waste water and drinking water treatment plants, pumping stations and water companies that comply with the size and structure of Cyprus were observed. The group was briefed about the main policy objectives in water quality, water and waste water infrastructure and implementation of EU water and waste water sector requirements in Lithuania for cities and municipalities of similar size and resources as those here. The pros and cons of implementing what was observed in Cyprus were also discussed.

Mr. Mustafa Sidal on his return said that they were impressed with everything they saw. Surely the implementation of all they have observed is not feasible but they have gained some valuable insight to the water and waste water management and will look into the systems and procedures in place and ways to upgrade these in compliance with EU regulations and local needs.

The group visited Vilnius city, capital of Lithuania. Its waste water treatment plant serves its population of 553,061. The group also visited seven other municipalities in total. The program was very fruitful in terms of technical information as well as in organizational terms. **SAVE** will have follow-up work regarding waste water treatment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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