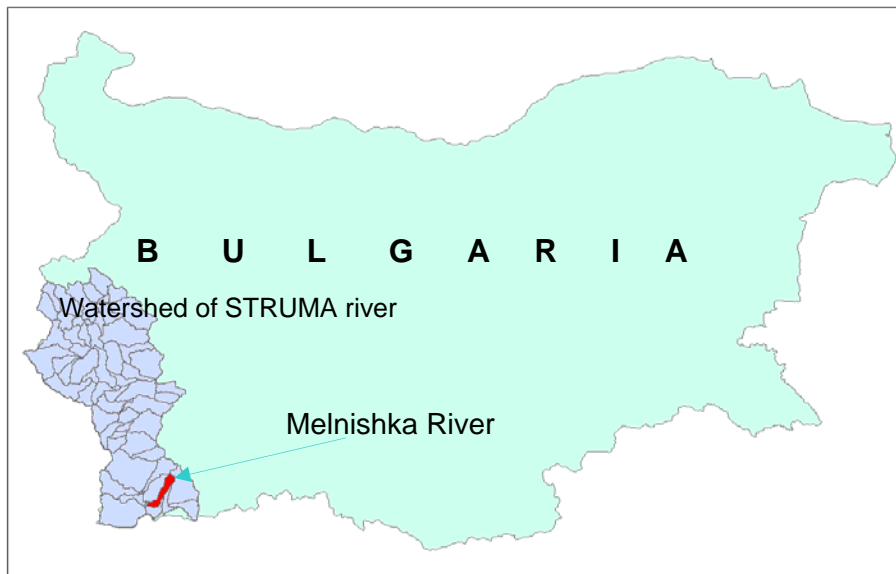


Test-bed “Rojenski Potok” (Bulgaria)



Location of the test bed



Torrent Rojenski potok (a tributary of the Melnishka river)

The area of catchment's basin Rojenski potok is ca. 2.0 km². Pliocene sediments cover the whole watershed basin, which is very strongly eroded. The torrent Rojenski potok is one of the tributaries of the Melnishka River – typical torrential water current. It is situated in the region of Sredna Struma and covers part of the western slopes of Pirin Mountain, which are among the mostly eroded in the country.

Geological setting of the test-bed

- Basic rock: sediment formations – sands, gravels, conglomerates and stones
- Relief: average inclination 40 %
- Average altitude: above sea level 515 m
- Hydrographical network density: 5,5 km/km²
- Specific relief: earth pyramids, steep slopes, gullies, ridge-like watersheds

Upper parts of gullies are usually circus-shape and the banks are covered with contemporary erosion forms. This makes possible the fast flow of waters and their concentration in main current. Relief and uncovered slopes are also basic prerequisites for sudden floods of this tributary.



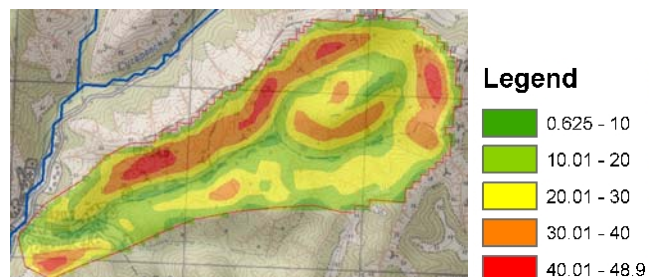
Fig.: The main torrent bed – secondary hollow out

The stabilisation system in the main current of the torrent includes six barrages and five check dams (thresholds).



In the lower part of the torrent Rojenski potok is situated the small town Melnik. This tributary cause damages during the often floods because the main torrent bed crosses the town. The part of the main bed is in the artificial channel, but another part passes on the town streets.

The figure on the right side shows the distribution of the watershed area on slopes Share of watershed area according to inclination.



State policy for the protection of the population and the national economy from disasters

State policy and activities – strong points:

- Relatively good density of meteorological points in the country.
- Developed system of monitoring points in main water flows.
- Since 2004, unite information form for information exchange during disasters, accidents and catastrophes in the regions has been developed.
- Bulgaria participates in the European system for warning of floods.
- New laws have been adopted for protection during disasters and management during crises (2006).
- State structures responsible for protection of population and national economy from disasters, accidents and catastrophes:
 - Permanent commission for protection of population during disasters, accidents and catastrophes at the Council of Ministers.
 - Ministry of state policy for disasters and accidents. General Department National Service “Civil Protection” is within the system of this ministry.

- Regional governors and mayors have responsibility for the management during disasters and accidents.
- Permanent commissions for protection of population during disasters, accidents and catastrophes in ministries, administrations, regions and municipalities.
- Normative documents, related with activities for reduction and elimination of consequences of disasters.