

Stakeholder oriented flood risk assessment for the Danube floodplains



Project partners

MM – Ministry of Environment (RO)
UBA-A – Federal Environment Agency Austria Ltd. (AT)
VD – via donau, Austrian Waterway Company (AT)
MOEW – Ministry of Environment and Water (BG)
UACEG – University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy - Sofia (BG)
VKKI – Central Directorate for Water & Environment (HU)
VITUKI – Environmental Protection and Water Management Research Institute (HU)
DEF – Danube Environmental Forum (HU)
ISPRA – Higher Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (IT)
TUCEB – Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest (RO)
RWNA – “Romanian Water” National Administration (RO)
DDNI – “Danube Delta” National Institute for Research and Development (RO)
CESEP – Centre for Environmentally Sustainable Economic Policy (RO)
SWME – Slovak Water Management Enterprise, state enterprise (SK)
CroWa – Croatian Waters, Legal entity for water management (HR)
IJC – “Jaroslav Cerni” Institute for the Development of Water Resources (RS)
JVP SV – Public Water Company „Srbijavode“ (RS)
JVP VV – Public Water Management Company “Vode Vojvodine” (RS)



MAFWM – Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (RS)
RHMSS – Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia (RS)

Observers:

ICPDR – International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (AT)
JRC – European Commission - DG Joint Research Center (IT)
BfG – Bundesanstalt für Gewässerkunde (DE)
LfU – Bavarian Environmental Agency (DE)
RPT BWL – Regional Council Tübingen (DE)



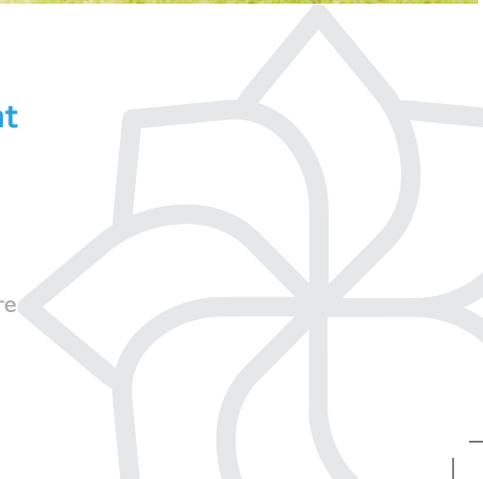
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Danube Floodrisk

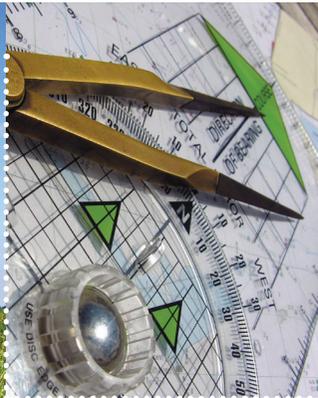
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Jointly for our common future



Danube Floodrisk Project Summary

By taking steady actions today
we'll be more peaceful tomorrow.



The Danube is one of the **most important** natural axes in South-East-Europe. It links most of the countries in the SEE area. Thus the improvement and good examples of **transnational** cooperation of all countries at this river will be a brilliant **signal** for the whole region. This project has a far reaching **strategic focus** beyond risk management and could really become a flagship project for the SEE programme. It will **improve** safer sustainable conditions for living environment and economy in the Danube floodplains. It **integrates** stakeholders and different acting groups and disciplines.

Flood risk increases with ongoing climate change. Despite the fact that flood events are natural processes, which occurred in the past and will also occur in the future the



situation gets worse, especially in terms of financial losses. The increase of industrial and urban settlements in floodplains during recent years and decades, which causes an accumulation of values in areas at risk, leads to immense damages in case of flooding.

The catastrophic flood events 2006 in the Danube Basin in particular reveal the vulnerability of our society against extreme natural events. However, the question of occurrence of an event is closely related with the question of the risk, i.e. the consequences (damages) resulting from this event. With the increase of population and industrialization, the settling areas and land use activities spread in floodplain

areas seeming protected or hardly affected. Economic values behind dykes and flood protection structures accumulate more and more, hence they increase significantly the potential damage of extreme flood events.

It is a matter of all Danubian countries involved to counter this development of flood risks. Partners from the Danube countries proposed a three years EC Interreg Project for the Danube flood risk delineation, which may contribute with knowledge to understand the processes and which provide the tools to improve risk management in practice. The Danube Floodrisk

project is focusing on the most **cost-effective** measures for flood risk reduction: risk assessment, risk mapping, involvement of stakeholders, risk reduction by adequate spatial planning.

Risk reduction in large international river basins can only be achieved through **transnational**, interdisciplinary and stakeholder oriented approaches within the framework of a joint transnational project. **Practice** has shown that starting this kind of cooperation is difficult, due to practical, political and financial reasons. If incentives exist, like the transnational cooperation programme, the start up can



be successful. The long term process will be self-running after the starting phase.

The project will bring together scientists, public servants, NGOs and stakeholders who develop jointly a scalable system of flood risk maps for the Danube River floodplains. Transnational methodology and models will be defined and implemented for **flood risk assessment and mapping**. This results in proposals for flood mitigation measures, adjustments of spatial development plans, assessment tools for economic development in flood plains and raised **awareness** of

flood risk of stakeholders, politicians, planners and the public. Infrastructures at risk like industry, power stations and supply infrastructure will be considered in the project.

19 institutions all along the Danube countries, central public bodies, universities, research institutes and operational agencies, NGOs are implicated in the project.

The lead partner – Ministry of Environment, Romania – and all the project **partners** are **committed** to use the high class expertise not only to achieve the technical objectives of the project, but to serve as an **example** of synergy and cooperation between countries and institutions and, equally important, to contribute in a **professional**, communicative and **friendly** manner to the **life** improvement of **people** living along the Danube river.

