Invitation

Danube Forecasting Forum 2023

Budapest, 10-11th October 2023.

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the EU Strategy of the Danube Region (EUSDR) Environmental Risks Priority Area, International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) and EU Joint Research Center (EU JRC), we have the pleasure of inviting you to the biennial Danube Forecasting Forum (DAFF) in 2023.

Background information

Reliable hydrologic data provides the basis for a dependable flood forecasting system in the Danube Basin. While it is important to have a proper emergency plan in the countries most afflicted by the flood risk, it is still more important to have a sound forecasting system which can increase the preparation time and therefore save human lives and social estate. A forecasting system that is based on the cooperation between the Danube Basin countries. That was the main of the Danube River Basin Enhanced Flood Forecasting Cooperation project (hereafter: DAREFFORT project).

During the three year implementation period it was established a standardized international hydro-meteorological data exchange platform which can improve the quality and efficiency of national forecast services. That improvement is still feeding in a public near real time system – DanubeHIS by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) – that provides data for flood risk management or for any water related scientific activities.

During the implementation of the DAREFFORT project the partners collected also the inputs from stakeholders and other interested parties in national expert workshops and results of professional discussions the international level by the Danube Forecasting Forums (DAFF), what was held two times (2019 & 2021).

Based on the importance of the forecasting in terms of the flood protection activities further cooperation was agreed among the parties that DAFF will be organized by EUSDR PA5 (2023), ICPDR (2025) and EC JRC – EFAS (2027).

The DAFF is giving a platform for water professionals (hydrologists, meteorologist and civil engineers) from different countries in the Danube basin. This allows discussing the current problems of modern hydrology, which are important within the Danube basin, namely the forecasting, floods, water management, water security, climate, and flood prevention.

Objectives

The aims of the DAFF are:

- to maintain a discussion platform for and to promote the cooperation among the Danube flood forecasters
- to support the flood forecasting and flood risk management in the Danube River Basin
- to improve and adopt new models and techniques for hydrological forecasting and parameters at different time and space scales for general floods and especially for flash floods

Organizational Partners:

EU Strategy of the Danube Region (EUSDR) Environmental Risks Priority Area

International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)

EU Joint Research Center (EU JRC)

Target group of the Forum:

Hydrological Services, Flood forecasting representatives

Registration

The event is open for experts without a registration fee, however, it requires registration. Please note that accommodation and travel arrangements should be covered by participants.

Please use the following link for the registration:

https://forms.gle/WhUw8tatgru5ZcAx7

Deadline for registration: 04/10/2023

Presentations

If you would like to contribute to the event with a presentation, please let us know by sending the topic of your proposed presentation to the following email addresses:

Laszlo.Balatonyi@mfa.gov.hu,

Agnes.Barber@mfa.gov.hu

igor.liska@icpdr.org

Deadline for sending your proposals: 07/10/2023

Best regards:

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Draft Agenda of the
Danube Forecasting Forum (DAFF) 2023

10/10/2023, Tuesday

11:00 Registration and Networking

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch

12.30 Welcome remarks
Viktor Oroszi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (EUSDR national coordinator, Hungary)

12.40 – 14.00 Keynotes
(20 minutes each)

- László Balatonyi (EUSDR PA5) -
- Peter Salamon (EU JRC) - Recent and future new developments for EFAS-Danube (Copernicus Emergency Management Service), Summary from the EFAS Conference
- Clemens Neuhold (ICPDR) - Flood forecasting on the Danube River basin level

14:00 – 14:20 Coffee break

14:20 – 15:50 Challenges and Solutions in Flood Forecasting I.
How do we forecast floods? Panel discussion involving experts and stakeholders on the challenges faced in flood forecasting. Identification of potential solutions and collaboration opportunities. Round presentations, country by country (15 minutes each)

- Successful transboundary cooperation for data exchange and forecasting, Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System, Mirza Sarač, (**ISRBC**)
- International cooperation in flood forecasting in Austria, Clemens Neuhold **(Austria)**
- Uncertainties in hydrological modelling - stochastic forecast, CHMI **(Czech Republic)**
- Analyses of precipitation input data for the hydrological forecasting system of SHMU- Hana Hlaváčiková (presenter), Eva Kopáčiková, Kateřina Hrušková, Danica Lešková **(Slovakia)**
- The spatial distribution of atmospheric precipitation in Slovakia during different types of synoptic situations in the period 1991-2020 – Martin Halaj (presenter) Danica Lešková **(Slovakia)**

15:50-16:10 Break

16:10 – 17:40 Challenges and Solutions in Flood Forecasting II.

- Ongoing Developments of the National Hydrological Forecasting and Warning System András Csík, OVF **(Hungary)**

- Ongoing Developments of the National Hydrological Forecasting and Warning System", Marius Matreata, NARW **(Romania)**
- Flood forecasting in Croatia, Darko Barbalić **(Croatia)**
- Flood forecasting system in the Sava River watershed in Bosnia and Herzegovina (**Bosnia and Herzegovina**)
- Presentation expected from Bulgaria/Germany/Moldova/Slovenia/Ukraine

17:40 – 18:00 Food for thoughts: András Szöllősi-Nagy (NUPS) - Innovation in Hydrological Forecasting and Early Warning Systems

19.00 Dinner and networking event

11/10/2023, Wednesday

9:00 – 10:30 Case studies, project initiatives
Presentations on best practices, data sharing mechanisms, and improvements in flood forecasting. Project initiatives related to flood forecasting in the Danube River Basin Region on various areas to improve flood management, early warning systems, and community resilience.

- Prediction of flash floods in Serbia using SEEFFGS products (Dejan Vladikovic. Dejan Vladikovic, RHMZ, Serbia)
- Flash flood Indicator & forecasting in the Czech Republic
- "Real World Lab Danube – Horizon DIRECTED" (Christopher Genillard)

- Generation of a flood susceptibility map of evenly weighted conditioning factors for Hungary, tbc
- Flood event on river Una and Sana in December 2022.
- **Presentation expected from Bulgaria/Germany/Moldova/Slovenia/Ukraine**

10:30-10:45 Coffee break

10:45 – 11:00 László Balatonyi (EUSDR PA5) - Most recent developments and planned actives in the Danube River Basin
11:00 – 11:50 Brainstorming on further cooperation possibilities – moderated by András Csík, OVF

11:50 – 12:00 Closing of the DAFF 2023 event – EUSDR, ICPDR & EU JRC
Summary of key insights and takeaways from the forum's sessions. Announcement of the next Biennial Danube Forecasting Forum.

12:00-13:00 Lunch break, light lunch

Practical information

1. Registration

Please use the following link for the registration:

https://forms.gle/AeDsEVwBN9jipWDr8

2. Emergency info

Overall, Budapest is a cosmopolitan city that is safe for visitors.

In case of emergency dial 112.

3. Currency

The official currency in Hungary is **Hungarian Forint**. There are several options (banks, exchange kiosks) for exchange money if you need cash. However, in most places cards and contactless payment methods are accepted.

4. Travels

4.1. Flights

There is an international airport in Budapest.

Airport name: Budapest Liszt Ferenc International Airport

Airport location:

https://www.google.com/maps/place/Budapest+Nemzetközi+Repülőtér/@47.4407177,19.2385225,13.28z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x4741c1a4fe39860b:0x4ca4f6a650439aa1!8m2!3d47.4384587!4d19.2522958

https://www.bud.hu/en

Transfer from the airport will NOT be organized by the host organization. All arrivals will have to take care of their own transfers.

- **Public transport**

Public transport provides easy access to the city centre from Budapest Airport. The bus stops are located on the arrivals level, between the two terminals.

100E –shuttle service providing a direct connection between Ferenc Liszt International Airport and Budapest city centre

Bus line 100E provides a direct, convenient, economical and fast connection between Liszt Ferenc International Airport and Deák Ferenc Square, a key transport hub on the Pest side of the city.

The buses run around the clock, every 7-9 minutes on busy Mondays, Fridays and Sundays, every 10 minutes on other days with less traffic, and every 30-40 minutes between 1.00 and 3:00 in the morning.

100E passenger drop-off points on the way to the city centre:

- Kálvin tér metro station
- Astoria metro station

- Deák Ferenc tér metro station

100E boarding points in the city centre on the way to the airport:

- Deák Ferenc tér metro station
- Astoria metro station (this stop is served only between 00:12 and 04:32 in the morning)
- Kálvin tér metro station

Attention! Passengers require a special ticket for bus line 100E: the airport shuttlebus single ticket costs 1,500 HUF. Other types of tickets or passes are NOT accepted on this direct service.

200E – regular, scheduled public transport service to the city

Bus line 200E operates day and night between Terminal 2 and Kőbánya-Kispest metro station. At night, the route is extended to Határ út station. BKK single tickets, multi-day travelcards or passes are required for travel. (Please note that the airport shuttle bus single ticket is not accepted!)

At night (23:00-4:00), bus 200E operates to Határ út station, from where night bus lines 914, 914A, 950 and 950A will take you to the city centre.

Key stops of bus line 200E:

Ferihegy vasútállomás (railway station): transfers available to the network of MÁV-Start Hungarian State Railways, to reach Nyugati pályaudvar (Western railway terminal) in the city centre, or the cities of Szolnok, Debrecen, Nyíregyháza and Szeged in the eastern part of Hungary.

Kőbánya-Kispest M: transfers to MÁV-Start trains and to buses serving East and South Pest.

Határ út M: transfers to several daytime and night buses to South Pest.

For more information please visit: https://bkk.hu/en/ https://go.bkk.hu/

- **Airport Shuttle from BUD Airport**
  miniBUD is the official airport shuttle service provider for Budapest Airport. Customer service and sales points: BUD International Airport Terminal 2A and 2B arrivals level

  AIRPORT SHUTTLE miniBUD

  Web page: https://www.minibud.hu (Reservation is not needed)

- **TAXI**

Recommended Taxi: FŐTAXI tel: +36 1 2 222 222 (Reservation is not needed)

Web page: https://fotaxi.hu/?lang=en

4.2. Train

Train stations in Budapest: depending on your departure point, there are two main train stations which receives international trains: Keleti (https://goo.gl/maps/BtQvwF96jBMKBwXJA) and Nyugati Station (https://goo.gl/maps/o7YoJf4xm8A6F6g49). However, if you arrive from the west, Kelenföld Station (https://goo.gl/maps/6QwqeUi3ggJySiSP6) is the nearest station to the venue.

Web page: https://www.mavcsoport.hu/en

4.3. Car

The venues are easily accessible by car:

- It is mandatory to buy a vignette for using motorways in Hungary – you can buy a vignette online here
- You can buy vignette from petrol stations (MOL, OMV etc.)

5. Conference venue

The venue of the conference will be **Mercure Budapest Castle Hill**
Link: https://all.accor.com/hotel/1688/index.en.shtml
Address: Budapest, Krisztina krt. 41-43, 1013

6. Accommodation

The following accommodations are suggested as they are close to the venue of the event.
Please note, that accommodation is not covered by the organizers.