



The Hungarian Presidency of the
EU Strategy for the Danube Region

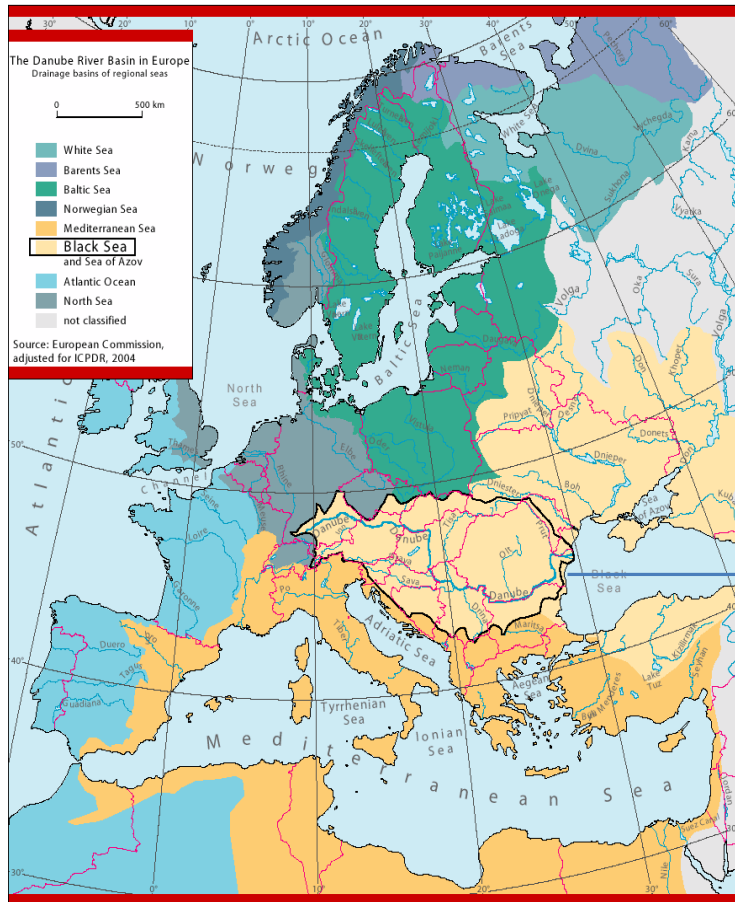
The European Union Strategy for the Danube Region: climate and disaster risk reduction

Károly Gombás
16.11.2017, Budapest



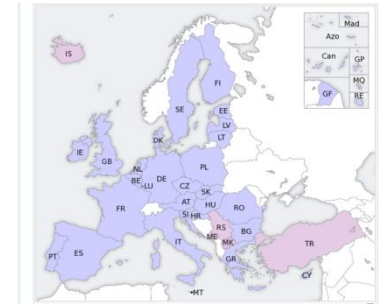
Project co-funded by European Union funds (ERDF)

The Danube River Basin District within the European Union



Characteristic numbers:

- 10% of Europe
- 801,463 km²
- 83 mil inhabitants
- 19 countries



Most international river basin in the world.



Danube River Basin District within the “Danube Region”



European Union level: Working Group on Floods (WG-F)



Danube basin, „level A”



**Flood Protection
Expert Group (FP-EG)**

**Environmental Risks
Priority Area (PA5)**



Macro-regional strategies of the EU

- 3 NOs of EU communication in relation of macro strategies
 - NO new institutes,
 - NO new acts
 - NO new funding sources
- Objectives should be embedded into existing legal frameworks, programmes and financing tools (EU level, regional, national, pre-accessing)
- Multi level governance should foster the cooperation between stakeholders from different levels without the creation of new decision making bodies.



Danube Region Strategy



The Hungarian Presidency of the
EU Strategy for the Danube Region



9 EU Member States

- Austria
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Germany (Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria)
- Hungary
- Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia

3 Accession Countries

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Montenegro
- Serbia

2 Neighbourhood Countries

- Moldova
- Ukraine (4 districts)

- ☐ Hungarian EU Presidency in 2011
- ☐ 2nd macro-regional strategy of the EU
- ☐ Hungarian EUSDR rotating Presidency in 2017



- 14 countries
- 100 million inhabitants
- 1/5 of the EU territory

Danube Region Strategy



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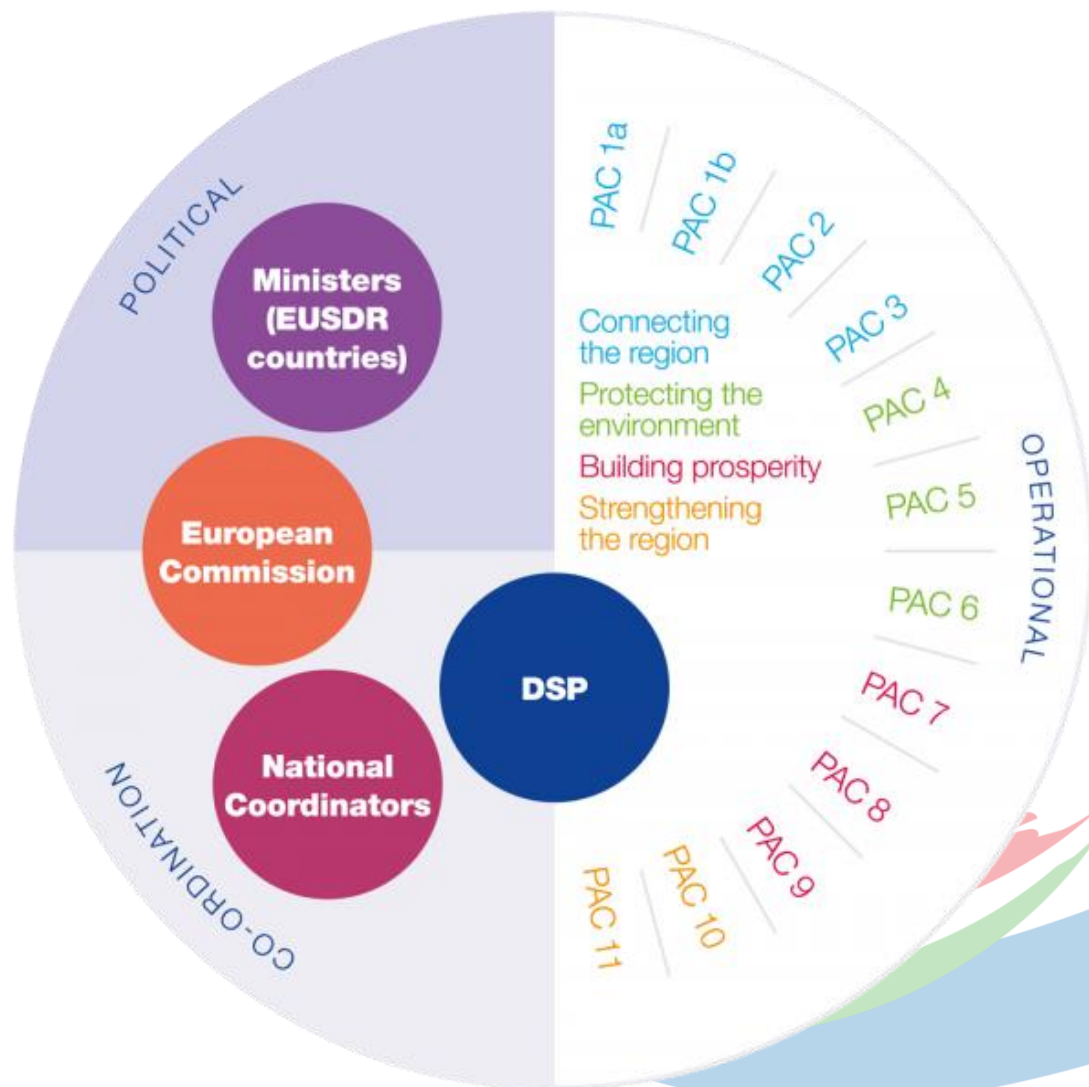
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Harmonization of territorial developments under 4 pillars and 12 priority areas



Connecting the Danube Region			Building Prosperity in the Danube Region		
PA 1/a	To improve mobility and multimodality - Inland waterways	Austria and Romania	PA 7	Knowledge society	Serbia and Slovakia
PA 1/b	To improve mobility and multimodality - Road, rail and air links	Serbia and Slovenia	PA 8	Competitiveness	Baden-Württemberg and Croatia
PA 2	Sustainable energy	Czech Republic and Hungary	PA 9	People and Skills	Austria and Moldova
PA 3	Culture and Tourisms	Bulgaria and Romania			
Protecting the Environment			Strengthening the Danube Region		
PA 4	Water quality	Hungary and Slovakia	PA 10	Institutional capacity and cooperation	Austria and Slovenia
PA 5	Environmental Risks	Hungary and Romania	PA 11	Security	Bulgaria and Germany
PA 6	Biodiversity	Germany and Croatia			



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<http://dunaregiostrategia.kormany.hu/>
<https://www.danube-region.eu/>



Danube Region Strategy and PA5 - Environmental Risks

Introduction of the current activities and focal topics



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Károly Gombás
HU coordinator, 16.11.2017, Budapest

Environmental Risks Priority Area (PA5)



HU Coordination

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Mr. Károly GOMBÁS

Priority Area Coordinator

RO Coordination

Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests

Mr. Gheorghe CONSTANTIN

Priority Area Coordinator

Website: <http://www.danubeenvironmentalrisks.eu/>

Colleagues in MFA-HU: Beatrix Kosztyi, Viktor Oroszi (Danube.Envirisks@mfa.gov.hu)

Colleague in MAP-RO: Manuela Miron (manuela.miron@map.gov.ro)

The first period between 2014-2016 was closed. New work programme for 2017-2019 period have been elaborated. The coordination is financed by a DTP project.



Environmental Risks Priority Area (PA5)



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Actions of PA5

1. To develop and adopt one **single overarching floods management plan at basin level** or a set of flood risk management plans coordinated at the level of the international river basin
2. To support **wetland and floodplain restoration as an effective mean of enhancing flood protection**, and more generally to analyse and identify the best response to flood risk (including “green infrastructure”)
3. To extend the coverage of the European Floods Alert System (EFAS) system to the whole Danube river basin, to step up preparedness efforts at regional level (including better knowledge of each other's national systems) and to further promote **joint responses to natural disasters and to flood events in particular, including early warning systems**
4. To strengthen **operational cooperation among the emergency response authorities** in the Danube countries and to improve the interoperability of the available assets
5. To continuously update the existing database of **accident risk spots (ARS Inventory)**, contaminated sites and sites used for the storage of dangerous substances
6. To develop **rapid response procedures and plans in case of industrial accidental river pollution**
7. Anticipate regional and local **impacts of climate change** through research
8. To develop **spatial planning and construction activities** in the context of climate change and increased threats of floods

Period 2017-2019

DTP PA5 project elements (technical assistance)

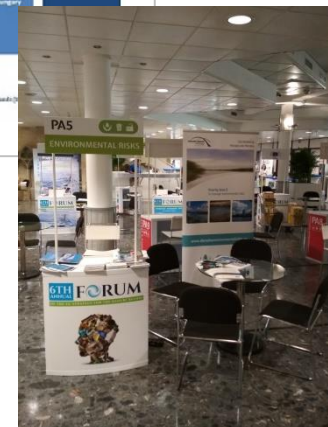
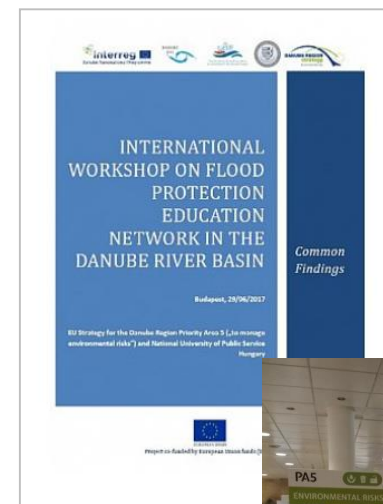
- **Output 2.1: Development of CCA Strategy-Update2018**
- *A2.1: Cooperation with GWP CEE's IDMP: historic **droughts** event database , review of 5 EU policies from drought management point of view*
- *A2.2: Support of a special international issue of **a scientific journal on climate change through research** (PA5 Action7)*
- *A2.3: Contribution with expertise to the **ICPDR Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2018 Update** (participation on meetings, proofreading/comments)*
- **Output 2.2: Pilot study on coordination of OFMPs (**operative flood management and civil protection plans**) in the DB**
- *A2.4: Pilot study on coordination of OFMPs in the Danube Basin, workshop and study tours (MD, UA)*
- **Output 3.1: Strategic network**
- *Cooperation with other EUSDR PAs and with other international organizations and EU institutes (ICPDR, JRC, CC, GWP, ISRBC, EC DGs, 3 macro-regional strategies)*

- **Output 3.2: Flood protection training scheme**
- *A3.3: Facilitating the organization of a **flood protection training** and enlargement of an education network (DR Oper&Cooper measure Nr.6)*
 - *International conference session on flood protection experiences, techniques and technologies*
 - *Special issue on flood protection experiences of a scientific journal*
 - *Workshop for higher education institutes for networking, curricula development, identifying funds/scholars*
 - *E-learning material related to flood protection (InterFloodCourse, DAREFFORT)*
 - *International flood protection postgraduate training*
- **Output 4.1: Supported and/or generated projects**
- *A4.1: Identification of strategic issues:*
 - *Number of SMF projects identified (December, 2017)*
 - *Leaflet about PA4/5/6 **support for projects** with LoRs*
 - *Letter of recommendations to new project ideas (14+6 so far)*

Period 2017-2019

Executed PA5 project elements so far

- **Cooperation with other EUSDR PAs** and with other international organizations and EU institutes (ICPDR, JRC, CC, GWP, ISRBC, EC DGs, 3 macro-regional strategies)
- **International conference** session on flood protection experiences, techniques and technologies 05/07/2017
- Special issue on flood protection experiences of a **scientific journal** 18/10/2017
- **Workshop for higher education institutes** for networking, curricula development, identifying funds/scholars 29/06/2017
- Intention to create e-learning material related to flood protection (InterFloodCourse, DAREFFORT)
- Leaflet about PA4/5/6 support for projects with LoRs
- Letter of recommendations to new project ideas (14+6)



EUSDR PA5 supported projects in 2017



- Ongoing supported projects
 - DriDANUBE, Danube Sediment, JOINTISZA , CAMARO-D
- Project development:
 - **InterFloodCourse** (subsidised DSPF project)
 - LP: National University of Public Services
 - Aims to develop e-learning material in flood protection
 - **DAREFFORT** (submitted to DTP 2nd call)
 - Focuses on better data share among countries, HU-LP
 - ICPDR DanubeHIS system elaboration support



- Support for projects DTP 2nd call: **Danube Floodplain, DAMWARM**
- Upcoming calls: **DTP Seed Money Facility (SMF), CENTRAL EUROPE 3rd**

PA5 topics for DTP Seed Money

- **Coordinate the operative flood management and civil protection plans** considering the benefits of the civil protection mechanisms for the shared flood basins or stretches of common interest to better use the available resources.
- **Safety of the critical water infrastructure on shared river basins, contingency planning for failure (havaria management)**
- **Basin/Sub-basin wide (technical/professional) resource management masterplans to facilitate adaptation** of the Danube countries **to climate change and to support anticipating local and regional impacts of climate extremities**
- **Improve the capacities to tackle accidental pollution risk** at the transboundary, regional and basin level, **including development and/or modernization of plans, equipment** (including monitoring capacities), **information and warning systems and joint trainings**, taken also into account the effects of climate change

Highlight of steps towards milestones

- **PAC coordination to discover synergies**
- **Priority areas are projects themselves with definite tasks to carry out in between 2017-2019**
- **INTERREG programme with the same extent – Danube Transnational Programme, project to be generated**
- **Letter of Recommendation (LoR), projects, SMF, project financing conferences**
- **Basin wide survey to define needs and cooperation with ICPDR**
- **Education curricula established and workshop/project generated**
- **Policy review on droughts and climate change adaptation (GWP)**
- **Publications for better understanding flood risk management and climate change**

<http://www.danubeenvironmentalrisks.eu>



EVENTS



"Better institutions for more resilient regions and cities" @ European Week of Cities and Regions

Tuesday, 10th October 2017 @ 2:30 pm



4th Danube Participation Day

Tuesday, 17th October 2017 @ 9:00 am



7th Meeting of the Danube Local Actors Platform

Wednesday, 18th October 2017 @ 9:30 am



6th Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Wednesday, 18th October 2017 @ 11:00 am

EUSDR Environmental Pillar - Stakeholder Seminar

Posted by Viktor Orozsi, Thursday, 31st August 2017 @ 1:58 pm

In order to highlight the environmental related topics on the occasion of the EUSDR Annual Forum the Hungarian PA6 (Biodiversity and Landscapes) Steering Group Members initiated the organization of a side event just one day before the main event (in the afternoon on 17 October 2017), hosted by the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture. The seminar will be realized in cooperation with EUSDR PA4 (Water quality) and PA5 (Environmental risks) priority areas.

[READ MORE](#)

Interreg Central Europe 3rd call for proposals and Annual Conference

Posted by Viktor Orozsi, Friday, 25th August 2017 @ 4:41 pm



Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE will offer around 60 million EUR ERDF for new transnational cooperation ideas during its third call for proposal which will be opened at the 21st of September 2017 at the 20th Annual Conference in Berlin.

[READ MORE](#)

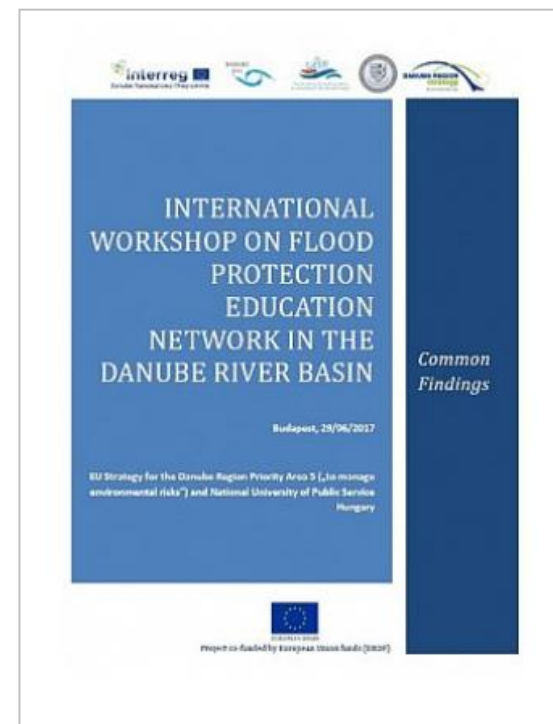
Annual Forum Expo registration

Posted by Viktor Orozsi, Wednesday, 23rd August 2017 @ 5:10 pm



Register and secure your booth as an exhibitor until 15 September!

[READ MORE](#)



EUSDR Priority Area 4: Water Quality

Targets

1. **Achieve the management objectives** set out in the Danube River Basin Management Plan;
2. **Reduce the nutrient levels** in the Danube River to allow the recovery of the Black Sea ecosystems to conditions similar to 1960s;
3. **Elaborate a Danube Delta Analysis Report** as a step towards completion of the Delta management Plan;
4. **Elaborate, adopt and implement sub-basin management plans**, such as Sava, Tisza and Prut sub-basins
5. **Secure viable populations** of Danube sturgeon species

Main activities 2017-2019

- strengthening sub-basin activities,
- facilitate the efficiency of waste water treatment in the basin (specific focus on non-EU countries),
- challenges in relation to hazardous substances, and substances that are problematic for Danube Regions,
- better integration of agriculture sector in water management (strengthening cooperation with agricultural sector),
- updated solutions in the assessment of new sustainable human development activities towards the Danube Region development (in accordance with the Article 4.7 of the WFD),
- river continuity interruption (reintroduction of sturgeon species in the Danube and its tributaries and sediment issues).

Examples of past PA4 activities related to climate change

- International conference on the **Effective Utilization of Water Resources in the conditions of climate change (Drought and Water Scarcity)** - 17/18 May 2016, Bratislava, Slovakia

<https://www.danubewaterquality.eu/news/conference-on-drought-and-water-scarcity>

- SEE project **CC-WaterS (Climate Change and Impacts on Water Supply)**

Policy makers and water suppliers are required to develop sustainable management practices for water resources, considering existing and future influences of climate change. CC-WaterS identified and evaluated resulting impacts on availability and safety of public drinking water supply for several future decades. Elaborated measures to adapt to those changes build the ground for a Water Supply Management System regarding optimization of water extraction, land use restrictions, and socio-economic consequences under climate change scenarios for water suppliers in South-Eastern Europe. The joint actions to produce this technical system performed on a transnational level in the Alps, Danube Middle and Lower Plains and coastal areas representing different SEE-characteristic climates and topography.

<http://www.ccwaters.eu/>

Ongoing DTP projects related to climate change

JOINTISZA – Strengthening cooperation between river basin management planning and flood risk prevention to enhance the status of waters of the Tisza River Basin

- Contains a drought and climate change pilot action and an urban hydrology pilot action
- <http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/jointisza>

DRIDANUBE – Drought risk in the Danube region

- Aims to increase the capacity of the Danube region to adapt to climatic variability by enhancing resilience to drought
- <http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/dridanube>

CAMARO-D – Cooperating towards advanced management routines for land use impacts on the water regime in the Danube river basin

- One of the main goals is harmonizing and improving the protection of water resources against negative impacts of land use and climate change as well as reduction of flood risk.
- <http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/camaro-d>

Thank you for your attention!



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<http://dunaregiostrategia.kormany.hu/>

<https://www.danube-region.eu/>

<http://www.danubeenvironmentalrisks.eu/>