**EUSDR Priority Area 4 “Water Quality” Coordination Team**

**invites you to**

**Fish Migration Restoration Working Meeting**

**held on 12 October 2022 in Water Research Institute, Bratislava, Slovakia under the auspices of the Pillar II (PA4 + PA5 + PA6)**

**Rationale**

According to the revised EUSDR Action Plan adopted by the European Commission in 2020, Priority Area 4 “Water Quality” (PA4) promotes measures to enable fish migration in the Danube River basin as stated in the Action 5. Activities within this issue are focused on the following:

1. raising broad public awareness and political commitment for the Danube sturgeons as flagship species for the Danube River basin and for the ecosystems and biodiversity of the Danube River basin as a whole;
2. fostering sturgeon conservation activities including protection of habitats, restoration of fish migration routes and ex-situ conservation measures; and
3. closing knowledge gaps concerning monitoring of pressures and planning of measures for fish migration in coordination with PA 6 (Action 3).

**Organizer**

EUSDR Priority Area 4 Coordination team, Water Research Institute and Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic

**Purpose**

Share relevant information on migratory fish restoration, e.g. methodologies and investigation results on behaviour of fish species; overview of ichtyocenoses in Middle and Upper Danube; technical solutions of fish pass designs, and experience and knowledge transfer from the Iron Gates to Gabčíkovo Water Structure.

**Meeting language is English.**

**Venue   
Výskumný ústav vodného hospodárstva**

**(Water Research Institute)**

Address: Nábrezie arm. gen. L. Svobodu 5

812 49 Bratislava

Slovak Republic

GPS: 48° 8´ 36.1366787” N

17° 4´ 49.9935722” E

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**Agenda**

***Moderated by: Danka Thalmeinerová, MoE SR***

9:00 – 9:30 Registration of participants

09:30 – 09:40 Welcome by PAC4 SK, PAC4 HU and ICPDR

*1st block*

09:40 – 09:55 Fish migration from EU perspective ***(Frank Vassen, EC DG Enviro) ONLINE***

09:55 – 10:10 Fish migration from ICPDR perspective: Outcomes from the DRBMP Update 2021 and ICPDR Sturgeon Strategy ***(Edith Hoedl, ICPDR)***

10:10 – 10:30 Movement and habitats of sterlet and other migratory fish in the Danube River ***(Gábor Guti, Széchenyi István University)***

10:30 – 10:50 Administrative/governance challenges in ensuring fish migration on the Danube River. Coordination between environmental risks management and hydro-morphological elements of the good water status (***Gheorghe Constantin, PAC 5)***

10:50 – 11:10 Activities and future vision of Danube Sturgeon Task Force ***(Beate Striebel, EUSDR PA6 DSTF)***

***11:10 – 11:30 COFFEE Break***

11:30 – 12:00 WePass and WePass2 projects - goals and achievements to date ***(Marq Redeker, CDM Smith)***

12:00 – 13:00 Discussion to the 1st block

***13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH Break***

*2nd block*

14:00 – 14:10 Protection of fish migration stated in Slovak Water Policy by 2030 ***(Marek Hausman TBC, MoE SR)***

14:10 – 14:30 Importance of fish conservation and connectivity restoration from biological viewpoint ***(Maroš Kubala, Water Research Institute)***

14:30 – 14:50 Technical proposals for fish passes ***(Beáta Hamar Zsideková, Water Research Institute)***

14:50 – 15:10Practical and financial aspects of fish migration measures ***(Water Construction, Slovakia)***

15:10 – 16:10 Discussion to the 2nd block

16:10 – 16:45 Wrap up, follow up and closure