

Workshop 2 “Water – non-alternative source for life”

# „Invasive Alien Species as a serious threat to aquatic biosphere in the Danube River”

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# INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES -why?

- Non-native species whose introduction outside their natural range poses a threat to the environment, economy and human well-being.
- They are recognised as a second major and fast growing driver of biodiversity loss only to that caused by habitat loss and fragmentation.
- In Europe, 1/4 introduced intentionally, 3/4 introduced unintentionally.
- Underlying drivers: international trade and travel.



Chinese Mitten Crab, *Eriocheir sinensis*



Asian clam, *Corbicula fluminea*



Magnificent bryozoan, *P. magnifica*,

# DANUBE REGION

## **MAIN PART OF THE SOUTHERN INVASION CORRIDOR**

which links the Black Sea basin with the North Sea basin via the Danube–Main–Rhine Canal

**INTENSIVE COLONISATION**  
of aquatic alien species  
and their further spread

**FURTHER SPREADING**  
both north-west and  
south-east directions  
throughout the basin

**GROWING THREAT**  
to biodiversity,  
ecosystem services and  
human well-being in the  
Danube Region



# THE PA 6 FRAMEWORK

One of the targets in the **PA6 EU Strategy for the Danube Region** is:

Target: III.

*Encourage achieving significant progress in identification and prioritization of Invasive Alien Species and their pathways in order to control or eradicate priority species, to manage pathways and to prevent the introduction and establishment of new Invasive Alien Species in the Danube Region by 2020.*

# THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

## GLOBAL

### CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Aichi Target 9 under the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020

‘By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.’

## EUROPEAN UNION

**Adopted Target 5: *Combat Invasive Alien Species*** under EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020:

„By 2020, Invasive Alien Species and their pathways are identified and prioritised, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and pathways are managed to prevent the introduction and establishment of new IAS.”

# THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

## EUROPEAN UNION

### **REGULATION (EU) No 1143/2014**

of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species

- In force since 01 January 2015
- Focus explicitly on regional cooperation, on species of regional concern, and also on river basin cooperation between countries.

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2016/1141** of 13 July 2016 adopting a list of invasive alien species of Union concern pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council



# PILLAR II – cross cutting cooperation

The International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) acknowledges that IAS have become a major concern for the Danube River and their further classification and analysis are vital for effective river basin management and the implementation of the Danube River Basin Management Plan (ICPDR, 2009, and 2nd Danube River Basin District Management Plan – Update 2015).

These results and initiatives have demonstrated the strong necessity of cooperation and coordinated actions related to IAS in the DRB.

- Effective transboundary cooperation and information sharing
- Effective transboundary IAS risk assessment and management



# DANUBE REGION INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES NETWORK - DIAS

**ESTABLISHED** : October 2014 (Sofia, Bulgaria)

Organised by: EUSDR Priority Area 06 , IAD, ESENIAS & IBER-BAS

**AIM** - to facilitate the transnational and international communication and cooperation on issues related to invasive alien species in the Danube Region.

## **STRUCTURE:**

The upper Danube river:

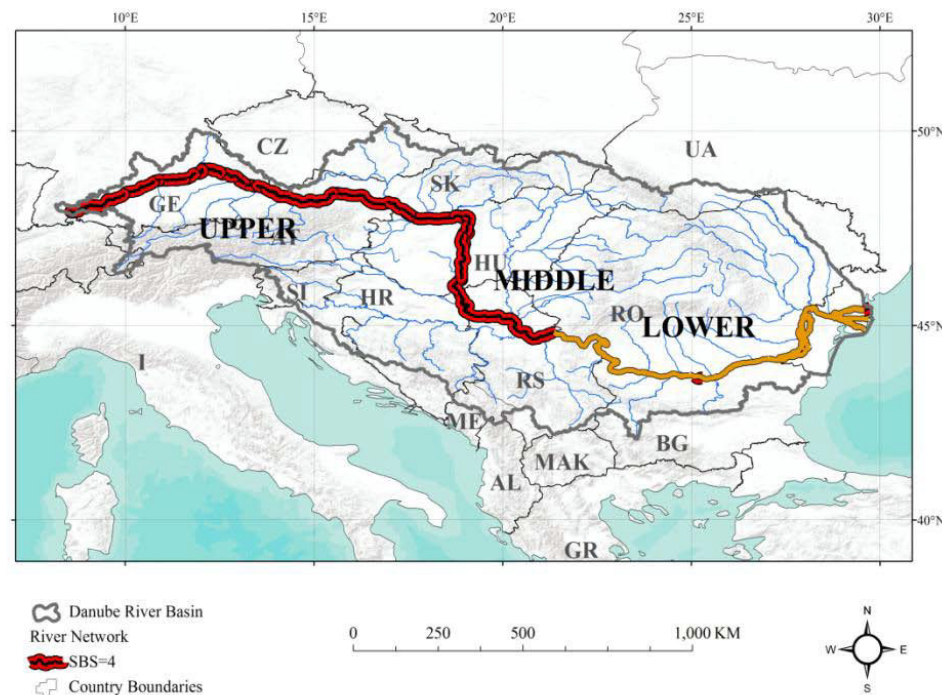
- DE, AT

The middle Danube river:

- CZ, SK, HU, SI, HR, BIH, ME

The lower Danube river, including the adjacent black sea region:

- RS, BG, RO, MD, UA, TR





# DANUBE REGION INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES NETWORK - DIAS

## **DIAS Mission statement**

The DIAS promotes an improved coordination among all actors in the thematic field of invasive alien species within the Danube Region. Politically independent, it brings together scientists, authorities and stakeholders and

- supports sharing of knowledge,
- formulates a strategy and work plan to efficiently tackle the issue of IAS in the Danube Region,
- considers and cooperates with existing European and global IAS networks and organizations,
- develops individual but coordinated projects in the single regions and
- promotes the transfer of knowhow and expertise to actors on all administrative levels

in a transnational context in order to contribute to a sustainable and livable future of the Danube Region.

# DANUBE REGION INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES NETWORK - DIAS

## **Core group:**

- responsible for DIAS coordination, building of the network, preparation of a mission statement, and proposal for network structure (governance, working groups)

## **DIAS Thematic Working groups** (under establishment):

1. Species and pathways – freshwater plankton
2. Species and pathways – freshwater benthic invertebrates
3. Species and pathways – freshwater fish
4. Species and pathways – plants and fungi
5. Species and pathways – terrestrial animals
6. Species and pathways – marine species
7. Risk assessment and management
8. Data management and early warning
9. Public awareness, communication and networking
10. IAS policy development and harmonisation

# DANUBE REGION INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES NETWORK - DIAS

## **Danube Region Invasive Alien Species Strategy**

Follow the requirements of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and the new EU Regulation on IAS prevention and management, and consider the demands of the region.

DIAS Strategy scope – set at different levels to match the complexity of the topic:

River basin scale/ aquatic and terrestrial species;

Cover the Danube Region as well as the adjacent region of the Black Sea, focusing on the main channel and selected pilot river basins or sections:

- estuary section of the tributaries
- the cut side-arms, temporary waters
- the floodplain regions (depending on the flood frequencies)

# DANUBE REGION INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES NETWORK - DIAS

## **The following key topics for future DIAS Strategy:**

Key topic 1: IAS - Species and interactions/ impact in the DRB

Key topic 2. Pathways of introduction in the DRB

Key topic 3. Information system and knowledge dissemination

Key topic 4. Risk assessment and prioritisation

Key topic 5. Early detection and rapid eradication

Key topic 6. Management and restoration

Key topic 7. Awareness raising and communication

## **DIAS Strategy content - Key topic:**

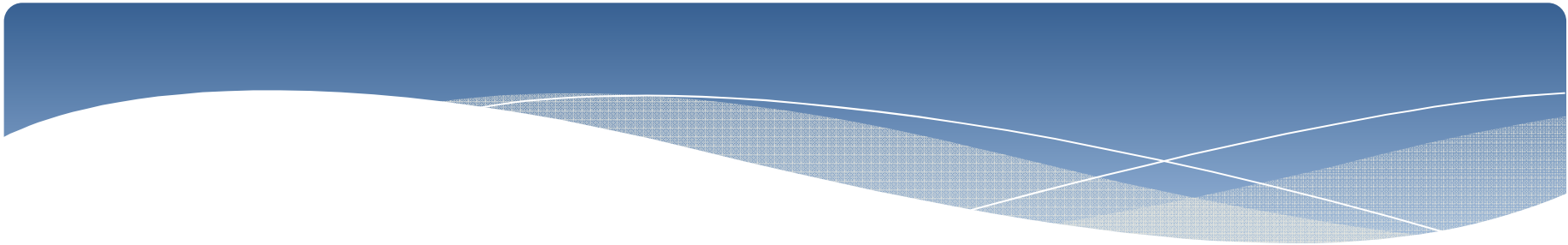
- ✓ Rationale
- ✓ Goals/ Objectives
- ✓ Measures and recommendations
- ✓ Region-specific requirements
- ✓ Relevant actors
- ✓ Links to EUSDR priority areas



## Next step:

**DIAS 4** will take place 15-16 of November 2016 in Sofia with the main goal to finalize the DIAS Strategy and work plan.





THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION

