

EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)

Second Stakeholder Seminar of the Water Quality (PA4) and the Environmental Risks (PA5) Priority Areas

"EUROPEAN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE WATER SECTOR"

CZECH REPUBLIC

Jiří Chrpa

Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic

The Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic

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- Established 1.1.1990, Central state administrative authority and supreme inspection authority in environmental affairs
- The agenda encompasses also water-related issues and protection of the water environment:
 - ▣ Protection of natural water accumulation
 - ▣ Protection of water resources and the quality of groundwater and surface water
 - ▣ Environmental impact assessment of activities and their consequences, including transboundary...



Ministry of the Environment
of the Czech Republic

Water strategy and water needs

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- Instead of a national water strategy, in the CZ the national enterprises managing the basins of the biggest rivers have their own strategies



Czech priorities in the water sector

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- **Sound/integrated management of water resources**, to reach the objectives set by the **Water Framework Directive** and **Flood Directive** which is done by implementation of River basin management plans and flood risk management plans
 - ▣ In the **next 6 years** the relevant authorities will implement the programs of measures to reach the objectives of the above mentioned directives

Czech priorities in the water sector

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- **Water protection - State Environmental Policy of the CZ**
 - Achieve good ecological and chemical status of **surface water**, achieve good chemical and quantitative status of **groundwater** bodies and ensure the protection of water in protected territories
 - Remediate **contaminated sites**, solve the problem of **agrochemicals** (eutrophication)
 - Restoration of the natural landscape **water regime** (and ecological stability, ecosystems) – **erosion control**, rescue and **nature-friendly (natural) flood protection measures**, defragmentation of watercourses
 - **Efficient use of water** and protection of water resources

Too much, or not enough water?

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- The CZ has already done a lot in the field of **flood protection** (important further) and also in the **wastewater treatment**
- In recent years CZ experienced also another phenomenon – the **drought**
 - ▣ **New document: „Příprava realizace opatření pro zmírnění negativních dopadů sucha a nedostatku vody“** (freely translated: „Preparing of the realization of measures to mitigate negative impacts of drought and water scarcity“)
 - ▣ Setting the basis for preparation of the **Concept of protection against the effects of drought** in the Czech Republic is the outcome of the intersectional commission founded by the **Ministry of the Environment** together with the **Ministry of Agriculture**, approved by government in **July 2015**
 - ▣ The aim of this document is to begin processing of **comprehensive, long-term strategy to ensure the protection of the Czech Republic against the harmful effects of water scarcity and drought, to be finished by June 2017**

- OPŽP (**OP Environment**) 2014-2020 builds on the priority areas of the EUSDR
 - ▣ PA 2 „To encourage more sustainable energy“
 - ▣ PA 4 „To restore and maintain the quality of waters“
 - ▣ PA 5 „To manage environmental risks“
 - ▣ PA 6 „To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils“

Projects and experiences

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- **START Call 2 projects**
 - Quantification of morphological changes in river channels and its impact on flood risk – **MORCHFLOOD** (PA 5, University in Ostrava)
 - Preserving wildlife corridors in mountains as green infrastructure in the Danube Basin – **ConnectGREEN** (PA 6, Friends of the Earth Czech Republic, Olomouc branch)
 - Proposed together by partners from the Parties of the Carpathian Convention within the Framework of Interreg Danube
 - One of the main objectives is to improve the restoration and management of mountain ecological corridors including **threatened wetland habitats of transnational relevance in the region**
- EEA and Norway Grants project of the Ministry of the environment
 - **Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetlands in the Czech Republic**
 - **Carpathian Wetland Initiative**, regional initiative of the Ramsar Convention
 - Effective conservation and wise use of wetlands

Projects and experiences

- Several projects on the **Dyje** (Thaya) and **Morava** (March) rivers
 - ▣ Cooperation with Austria and Slovakia
 - ▣ Flood forecasting system, automating crisis data exchange in the hydrological catchment area, nature friendly flood measures, water pollution monitoring
- Trilateral Ramsar Platform (CZ + SK + AT)
 - ▣ Wetland at the confluence of the Morava, Thaya and Danube rivers
- Central European Flood Risk Assessment (**Ceframe**) project
 - ▣ Flood risks and flood prevention
 - ▣ Operation program Central Europe; Austria (leading), Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, approved 2010, also MŽP
- Adaptation to flood risk in the Labe – Elbe river basin (**Label**, 2008 – 2012, OP Central Europe; DE, CZ, AT, HU), also MŽP

Other information

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- **The Czech Presidency of the Carpathian Convention 2014 – 2017**
 - One of the priorities: **integration of the objectives and initiatives of the Carpathian Convention into EU Strategy for the Danube Region** – synergies
 - Development of local, regional and international cooperation in the field of landscape protection and care of the landscape, green infrastructure and ecological connectivity – this also offers the possibility of **improving synergies with ICPDR eg. in the cautious management of the upper tributaries of the Danube and increase retention capacity and improving water quality**
 - Development of cooperation with the Alpine Convention
- **2016 – Czech presidency of ICPDR**





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Thank you

Webpage: www.mzp.cz
E-mail: jiri.chrpa@mzp.cz
Telephone: + 420 267 122 075