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# ICPDR Status Report

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International Commission  
for the Protection  
of the Danube River

Internationale Kommission  
zum Schutz der Donau

## EUSDR PA 04 13th Steering Group Meeting



ICPDR Secretariat  
Edith HÖDL & Adam KOVACS

# ICPDR Presidential Handover Event 23 January 2016, Vienna



- **The European Union** took over ICPDR Presidency for 2017



**Mr. Peter Gammeltoft**  
ICPDR President 2017

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# The EU Presidency

- The **priorities** of the EU Presidency in 2017:
  - better **coordination with different sectors** (e.g. navigation, agriculture, hydropower) and integration of the DRBMP implementation into other policy areas
  - **agriculture** of particular importance for the EU (better cooperation, regular meetings at EU and national director level)
  - support to non-EU MS to use **available funding** in the most efficient way, speeding up measure implementation process, support investment and capacity building needs
  - increasing the **visibility of the ICPDR** on EU level to gain increased attention outside the water community (better integration, water friendly measures)

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# Initiatives of the EC to support JPM implementation

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- Workshop on available **funding instruments** for non-EU MS
  - Identifying funding gaps at the national level and concrete capacity building needs
  - Influencing the interim review of existing funding mechanisms and providing feedback for the next programming period
  - Potentially organised in Brussels in summer 2017, EUSDR involvement
- Establish **capacity building mechanism** for non-EU MS
  - Setting up a mechanism for the ICPDR contracting parties including several (3-5) workshops throughout the next two-three years period
  - Feedback from the ICPDR EGs and TGs on national needs to be linked to the Work Programs

# EUSDR PA 04 related ICPDR activities

- **Significant Water Management Issues** in the DRB
  - Organic pollution – workshop on waste water management
  - Nutrient pollution – sustainable agriculture
  - Hazardous substances – modelling and monitoring
  - Accident prevention – accident risk, tailings
  - Hydromorphology – sturgeon related activities
- **Integration issues** with other sectors
  - Adaptation to Climate Change in the DRB
  - Sustainable Hydropower Development



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# Waste water management

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- **Workshop** on financing and capacity strengthening
  - Financing: investment planning, how to better absorb funds, operational costs, cost-recovery and affordability
  - Capacity building: management, administration and operational capacity, sludge reuse, small treatment facilities, fourth treatment stage
  - Investigation on country needs
  - Workshop in Bucharest in autumn 2017 (October)
- **Cooperation** with IAWD, World Bank and EC
- **Report and public brochure** to be elaborated on the outcomes



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# Sustainable Agriculture

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- Development of a **guidance document** on sustainable agriculture to **reduce nutrient pollution** from diffuse sources in the DRB
  - To recommend sound policy instruments, programs and targeted, cost-efficient agricultural measures
  - To ensure fresh and marine water protection and competitiveness of agriculture & vitality of rural areas
- Compilation of agricultural **knowledge base** (policy implementation and economic study) – to be finalised in autumn 2017
- **Questionnaire** related to nutrients related policies and measures implementation in agriculture
- Spring 2018 and 2019: **two workshops** to be organised for stakeholder discussions towards the guidance

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# Hazardous substances

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- Closing **knowledge gaps** as priority (stepwise approach)
- Development of a **pre-study** for hazardous substances pollution in the Danube River Basin
  - Pre-selecting substances of interest, defining case study areas, choosing appropriate model, investigating data availability, develop project proposal
  - Application for Danube Strategic Project Funds for further support
- Implementation of a **large project** (HORIZON 2020, DTP 3<sup>rd</sup> call?)
  - Implementing smart monitoring, basin-wide modelling, measures
- Cooperation with **SOLUTIONS Project** on waste water treatment plant monitoring (specific sampling and analysis)



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# Accident prevention

- Finalisation of the **inventories** of accident risk hot-spots (Accident Risk Sites and Contaminated Sites)
- **Technical report** to be finished in autumn 2017
- **Public report** called Accident Prevention and Control in the DRB in 2018
- Planned project on **tailings management facilities** related to mining and industrial tailing activities
  - basin-wide risk assessment on tailing ponds and prioritisation
  - regional training courses for operators and inspectors
  - Investigation on country support and needs

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# Sturgeon related activities

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- **LIFE Sterlet Upper Danube** - restoring sterlet populations in the upper Danube ongoing; led by BOKU Vienna, duration: Sept 2015 to Dec 2021, financed by EU LIFE
- **MEASURES** - Managing and rEstoring Aquatic bio-corridors for migratory fiSh species in the danUbe RivEr baSin (draft project title), *former REVISTUR* (to be submitted to the 2nd call of the DTP)
- Draft Terms of Reference for **Feasibility Study on Fish Migration at Iron Gates** approved at last ICPDR OM in December 2016
  - funding programmes to develop and implement the Feasibility Study to be checked by RO and RS (e.g. Romania-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2014-2020)

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# Adaptation to Climate Change

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- ICPDR Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (2013) and its knowledge base to be **updated by 2018**
- Germany, Austria and Serbia as **lead countries**
- Main work **phases**:
  - 2017: Update of scientific research study from 2011 (Munich University)
  - Beginning of 2018: Climate Change Adaptation Workshop, discussing the latest scientific findings and providing input for the update of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
  - During 2018: Update of Climate Change Adaptation Strategy with involvement of relevant ICPDR Expert Groups and adoption at OM in 2018

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# Sustainable Hydropower Development

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- ICPDR **Hydropower Workshop** from 28 to 29 March 2017 in Vienna (60 participants, international organisations, NGOs/observers)
- Workshop **objectives**:
  - to gain an overview on the latest policy developments with regard to renewable energy, water management and the environment
  - to share practical experiences, innovative solutions and scientific research results or the mitigation of environmental impacts
  - to discuss practical examples for strategic approaches for ecological restoration of existing facilities and for new hydropower development
- Presentations and final **Workshop Report** on DANUBIS:  
<https://danubis.icpdr.org/share/15678/7c4caa4fe759ad199e1107bc91af5393>

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# Thank you for your attention!

**ICPDR** **IKSD**

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For more information please visit the ICPDR website:

<http://www.icpdr.org>

