

# European funding opportunities in the water sector

## Second Stakeholder Seminar of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region Water Quality (PA4) and Environmental Risks (PA5) Priority Areas

Budapest, 19-20 November 2015

Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Conference Room  
1027 Budapest, Bem rakpart 47.

### CONCEPT

#### Background

Water is essential for human health and well-being, food and energy production, social and economic stability, and for protecting and maintaining healthy ecosystems. Enhancing cooperation and building partnerships at the local, national and transboundary levels is critical to address freshwater-related challenges. The EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) provides a **comprehensive cooperation platform** and offers an opportunity for alignment of funding with cohesion policy instruments and other potential sources.

The Danube Region is a major international river basin and ecological corridor. This requires a regional approach to nature conservation, spatial planning, regional development and water management. The Hungarian leadership of the Strategy's Water Quality and Environmental Risks Priority Areas decided to hold its stakeholder conference in Budapest on 19-20 November 2015 paying special attention to the issue of funding possibilities.

#### Objective and expected outcome

The aim of the conference is to provide an overview about the water-related Priority Areas, to present the results achieved and to provide information about funding instruments. Furthermore, the conference offers a possibility for partner search presenting country needs and assists in the alignment of funding procedure for future project beneficiaries by promoting further project ideas. The main output of the Conference discussions will be summarised, demonstrating the water-related project experiences and expectations in the Danube macro-region.

**The language spoken during the event is English.**

## AGENDA

Thursday, 19 November 2015

**8.45 – 9.30 REGISTRATION** (to enter the building, please bring your ID/passport with you)

### **SESSION I.**

Chair: Mr Matija Vilfan, Head of the Danube Strategy Point

**9.30 – 9.40 Welcome address:** Mr István Joó, Ministerial Commissioner, EUSDR National Coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary

**9.40 – 10.15 Keynote presentations: Water and environmental risks in the Danube region**

Mr Marco Onida, Coordinator EU Strategy for the Danube region (EUSDR), Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

Mr Frantisek Kolocany, EUSDR National Coordinator, Department of Cross-sectional Activities, Government of Slovakia

Ambassador Silvia Davidoiu, EUSDR National Coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romania

**10.15 – 11.00 State of play in the water and environmental risks sector – achievements and issues to further tackle**

#### ***Priority Area 4 "To restore and maintain the quality of waters" of the EUSDR (PA4)***

Mr Vladimir Novak, Priority Area Coordinator from Slovak Republic

Dr László Perger, Priority Area Coordinator from Hungary

#### ***Priority Area 5 "To manage environmental risks" of the EUSDR (PA5)***

Ms Olimpia Negru, Priority Area Coordinator from Romania

Mr László Kóthay, Priority Area Coordination Team Hungary

#### ***JRC Water Nexus***

Mr Fayçal Bouraoui, Unit H 01 – Water Resources Unit, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

#### ***EU Water Framework Directive and EU Floods Directive - Programmes of Measures 2015-21***

Mr Károly Gombás, ICPDR, Flood Risk Management Plan for the Danube Basin

Mr Raimund Mair, ICPDR, Danube River Basin Management Plan

#### ***Questions and Answers***

**11.15 – 11.40 COFFE BREAK**

## SESSION II.

Chair: Zsuzsanna Kocsis-Kupper, advisor to the EUSDR PA4 Priority Area Coordinator

### 11.40 – 13.15 Financing possibilities in the water sector available in the 2014-2020 period

Key Features and Opportunities of Financial Instruments under **ESI Funds** 2014-2020, Mr Matija Vilfan, Head of the Danube Strategy Point

**Horizon 2020:** focus on Water innovation under the new call

**LIFE:** water priorities, Zsuzsanna Kocsis-Kupper, NEEMO External Monitoring team

**Central Europe Programme** and water projects: Monika Schönerklee-Grasser, Head of Evaluation and Monitoring Unit; Joint Technical Secretariat of the Central Europe Transnational Programme

Strengthen transnational water management and floodrisk prevention, improve preparedness for environmental risk management in the frame of the **Danube Transnational Programme:** Alessandra Pala, Head of Joint Secretariat of the Danube Transnational Programme

**Cross Border Cooperation Programs,** Ferenc Márkus, International Director, Széchenyi Programme Office

**European Investment Advisory Hub** Sebastian Hyzyk

#### **Questions and Answers**

13.15 – 14.15 LUNCH BREAK

## SESSION III.

Chair: Andrea Vranovska, EUSDR PA4 Priority Area Coordination Team of the Slovak Republic

### 14.15 – 16.00 Successful project examples and best practices in the water sector

Water Research Institute, Alena Kurecova, **Watlife:** Enhancement of Public Awareness of the Importance of Water for Life, its Protection and Sustainable Use in Accordance with the Water Framework Directive, **LIFE PLUS**

Corvinus University, András Kis, **Urban Water Footprint:** a new approach for water management in urban areas, **URBAN\_WFTP Central Europe**

General Directorate of Water Management, Miklós Szalay, **SEE River:** Sustainable Integrated Management of International River Corridors in SEE Countries, **South East Europe**

The National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management, Mary-Jeanne Adler **FLOODRISK:** Flood hazard and flood risk mapping in the Danube basin – experiences of a successful project, **South East Europe**

Europa Media/Geonardo, Gabriella Lovasz - how to establish water consortium for projects in the new calls (**FP7, H2020, Life**)

Carpathian Convention, Eleonora Musco - water and climate project experiences, networking in the Danube Region

#### **Questions and Answers**

**Friday, 20 November 2015**

**8.30 – 9.00 REGISTRATION** (to enter the building, please bring your ID/passport with you)

**MORNING SESSION**

Chair: Frithjof Ehm, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission  
Programme manager

**9.00 – 11.00 Networking facilities: development needs of the countries in the Danube Region  
Country specific needs assessment for future project consortiums**

**Austria**, Karl Schwaiger, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and  
Water management

**Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Amir Hujic, Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and  
Herzegovina

**Czech Republic**, Jiří Chrpa, Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic

**Hungary**, Károly Gombás, ÉDUVIZIG

**Moldova**, Gherman Bejenaru, State Hidrometeo Service, Ministry of Environment  
Republic of Moldova

**Romania**, György Deák, National Institute for Research and Development

**Serbia**, Sanda Simic, Serbian European Integration Office

**Slovakia**, Andrea Vranovska, Water Research Institute

**Ukraine**, Mike Nagorkin, Transcarpathian Agency for Investments, Innovations and  
Development, Ukraine

**Project ideas and partner search tips**

EIP Water and Horizon 2020: Boosting opportunities-innovating water, Ciprian Nanu EIP  
Water Secretariat Eastern Europe Desk

Cost-effective infrastructure development based on life cycle cost analysis, Károly  
Kovács, president of the European Water Association

Global Water Partnership, Richard Müller WaterInnEU (H2020): Applying European  
market leadership to river basin networks and spreading of innovation on water ICT  
models, tools and data.

Find a water partner- ACQUEAU- EUREKA, Gergely Mészáros EUREKA/ Eurostars National  
Project Coordinator

**Questions and Answers**

**11.00-11.30 COFFE BREAK**

## **NETWORKING SESSION with facilitation**

### **11.30-13.00 YOU take the floor – Partner search**

Local Water Security Action Planning, Radoje Lausevic, Deputy Executive Director for Environmental Programmes, Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)

Water Security / Environmental Education, Viktor Lagutov, EyeOnEarth Alliance

Multipurpose, multisectoral use of the novel DataCube approach in cross-border area supporting implementation of the DRS, Gabor REMETÉY-FÜLÖPP, HUNAGI Hungarian Association of Geoinformation (Former Secretary General of HUNAGI)

WQ Early Warning System in a pilot demonstration cross-border area, VRIC Veszprém Regional Innovation Center Nonprofit Ltd., Ms. Zsofia Kovacs, University of Pannonia

Spreading knowledge on sustainable use of water resources and flood resilience and resistance, Edit Karanović, President, International Scientific Forum “Danube – River of Cooperation, Serbia

Analysing and monitoring hydrological extremes: water scarcity and excess water, Dr. György Sipos, University of Szeged Department of Physical Geography and Geoinformatics

Advanced science and technology around the activated carbon systems, Edward Someus, Biochar S&T senior engineer, Terra Humana Ltd

Fisheries management, Halasi-Kovács Béla managing director, SCIAP Consulting Ltd

Make the difference: sampling and monitoring management approach, Winnie Huang, Eijkelkamp Soil & Water BV, the Netherlands

### **Informal networking in 4 groups with moderation**

- A. Water scarcity, regional drought management (János Fehér, Global Water Partnership)
- B. Water security, regional safety centres, floods (Viktor Lagutov, EyeOnEarth Alliance)
- C. Water quality innovations (Ciprian Nanu, EIP Water Secretariat)
- D. Water management: fisheries, resource efficient water management, groundwater (Jovanka Ignjatovic , REC-Béla Halasi-Kovács, SCIAP)

### **13:00-13:10 Concluding remarks**

### **13:10-14:10 FAREWELL LUNCH**