

Summary of the Capitalization Workshop

Annual Forum 2017, Budapest

Venue: Bartok Room, Congress Centre

Date: 19 October 2017

Duration: 10:30 – 11:30

Moderator: PAC 4 HU Balazs Horvath

The aim of the workshop was to find out potential synergies among the projects grouped in the Thematic Pole 4 Water Management. **Capitalization** is the continual process which enables utilization of results produced by actions implemented by the projects. This process has plenty of benefits – it can manage knowledge, it puts results into the context and transforms achievements into durable values. Involvement and coordination within thematic poles shall streamline the links within the priority areas coordinators of the Danube Strategy.

Within the Thematic Pole 4 there are the following 4 projects grouped: **DriDanube** (project representative – Ms Andreja Susnik, Slovenia), **Danube Sediments** (project representative – Mr Peter Bakonyi, Hungary), **Camaro-D** (project representative – Mr Hubert Siegel, Austria), **JoinTisza** (project representative – Mr Gyorgy Ratfai, Hungary). All projects were approved within the 1st call for projects of the Danube Transnational Programme and their implementation started in January 2017. The Pole Leader is the EUSDR PA4, Water Quality, PAC.

After short introduction of project leaders by moderator, the projects representatives presented the main aims and outputs of particular projects:

Camaro-D project deals with integrated river basin management, both in terms of water resources and flood-risk, it is focused on land use impact on water regime, namely improving land use practices. There are 3 main outputs: to develop the strategy how to implement the land use plan covering the whole Danube Basin; to outline a roadmap considering necessary steps on national level and preparation of essential organization structure regarding water management.

Sediments project deals with sediments quantity since there has been observed the discrepancy between surplus and lack of sediments in the Danube Basin. Sediment management is a very important issue in the Danube Basin because currently it is not sufficiently involved in river management and the project is trying to close this knowledge gap. There are 3 main outputs: sediments management guidance, sediments management manual and report on sediments risk assessment.

Dri-Danube project increases the preparedness of inhabitants against drought. There are 3 main outputs: to harmonize drought monitoring (to have more accurate monitoring tools), to establish harmonized risk-assessment and training of trainers for drought user service.

JoinTisza project deals with river basin management and flood protection, it is an integrated project. It will ensure better embedding of flood risk management planning into the river basin management planning process. There are 3 main outputs: improve GIS database for the Tisza River and its tributaries, Final Draft of the update of the Integrated Tisza RBM Plan and two

pilot actions, first on urban hydrology and second on Drought and Climate Change with applying Shared Vision Planning method and public involvement.

Capitalization ideas presented by project representatives:

- **JoinTisza – Sediments**
JoinTisza urban hydrology is closely connected to Sediments.
JoinTisza can perfectly use sediments monitoring methodology
Danube Sediment Management Guidance can be used by JoinTisza as well
- **JoinTisza – Dri-Danube**
Drought management is a part of the JoinTisza project as well and this way it is linked to the Dri-Danube project.
JoinTisza urban hydrology is closely connected to Dri-Danube as well.
- **JoinTisza – Camaro-D**
Water resources in land use are the common purpose of projects JoinTisza and Camaro-D. Document produced about land use impact on water regime can be perfectly utilized by JoinTisza as well
- **Sediments – Camaro-D**
Camaro-D can integrate sediments issued with land use practices.
- **Sediments – Dri-Danube**
Dry periods affect sediment balance in rivers – clear connection between Sediments and Dri-Danube.
- **Camaro-D – Dri-Danube**
Clear interlinks between Camaro-D and Dri-Danube are visible in a way that the whole scope of land use issues are related with drought sphere.

After the presentation of synergies among projects by the projects' representatives, the questions were raised from the audience. The moderator led the discussion out of which emerged the following **conclusions of the workshop:**

- a) All 4 projects are very much interlinked, there are many very clear interactions.
- b) The projects organize common events to meet each other and exchange knowledge, (participated already to each other's kick off meetings and organized joint events already) however, it would be good if they exchanged progress reports as well.
- c) The list of partners and stakeholders is overlapping which is a very positive issue and helps a common understanding and spreading information among the projects.
- d) The results of the projects should survive also after the projects, the projects should not stop at the end of the programme. Sediments management will be included into river basin management plans and flood risk management plans. Tisza river basin management plan should be endorsed at political level and be used by stakeholders. Dri-Danube will search for some additional funds to ensure the sustainability of the project. Camaro-D will also focus on future development of the project.

- e) Integrated water management is a key issue. All water related problems need to be approached in integrated way.
- f) The main element of capitalization is to provide the transnational platform for the projects on outputs exchange.
- g) Moreover, the capitalisation should involve the projects in other Thematic Poles of the Danube Transnational Programme or outside. For example Interreg Central Europe Programme includes other projects contributing to the goals of the Danube Strategy (the FramWat project was mentioned). Therefore, it is important to look for synergies not only within the DTP.
- h) Next DTP calls should address the need of sufficient financing also for non-EU countries and in general, as clean water is crucial for the development of the Danube region, water management and protection should be provided with sufficient financing tools also in future financial frameworks beyond 2020.
- i) All 4 projects are connected to EUSDR Priority Area 4 – water quality. At PA4 Steering Group meetings provide an excellent platform for projects capitalization and experience exchange and as such the capitalization projects are invited to the PA4 SG meetings, at least once a year.
- j) Furthermore, PA4 provides a coordinative platform not only for the 4 DTP projects, but for other, closely connected water projects as well that are funded by different programmes. PA4 aims to collect information about the actual project results in the future, with the aim of preparing a consolidated leaflet.