

Summary Minutes 18th Steering Group Meeting of EUSDR PA4 4 November 2019, Budapest, Hungary

The objective of the meeting was (1) to provide information on recent activities of EUSDR PA4 -PA5, ICPDR, ICSRB, Carpathian Convention (2) Current status of the Action Plan revision process PA4; cooperation with different partners and organizations (Carpathian Convention, Global Water Partnership, etc.) (3) Introduce results of closed and finalised DTP projects in relation to the PA4 Action Plan.

The meeting was held back to back with the second EU-macro-regional workshop on water (held on 5 November 2019) and with the first Danube region workshop on agriculture and water (held on 6-7 November 2019) to promote synergies of events. The meeting was hosted by the General Directorate of Water Management. Over twenty participants were present at the meeting: representatives from Austria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia participated as well as delegates of the European Commission, the DSP New, EUSDR Priority Area 5 (environmental risks), the ICPDR, the Sava Commission (ISRBC), Sediment project management, the Dri-Danube, Camaro-D, Proline-CE, Tidy up and the JOINTISZA project representatives were present at the meeting. Detailed list of participants is attached in Annex 1.

1. Opening of the meeting

Mr **Balázs Horváth HU PAC** opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. He announced that two workshops are organized back-to-back with the SG meeting, one on macro-regional water cooperation and one on water and agriculture. Mr **Vladimir Novak SK PAC** also welcomed the participants. The agenda was adopted.

The national coordinator of **EUSDR Hungary, Mr Viktor Oroszi** welcomed the participants present at the event. The EUSDR Action Plan will be renewed in the coming months and the new programming period will start. He emphasised that this period is important in light of the new programming, and that the 2nd Task Force Meeting of the DTP will be held soon as well as a HU-SK and HU-RS CBC Committee meetings. We will need to contribute to the programming of the CBC programmes. He drew attention to the new EUSDR PA4-PA5 brochure of water Success Stories from 2017-2019 and to the joint event celebrating 20 years of cooperation with ICPDR as a side event of the Budapest Water Summit held in October 2019.

2. Information about EUSDR PA4 and PA5 ongoing activities

2.1 EUSDR PA4

Ms Kurecova and Ms Vranovska from the PA4 team jointly presented information about the main PA4 activities since the last SG meeting as of 16 April 2019 as follows:

EUSDR events

On 23-24/05/2019 PAC/NC meeting was held, the 8th EUSDR Annual Forum was held on 27-28/6/2019 in Bucharest. A PAC seminar (2nd PAC call for proposals) was held on 13/06/2019 in Budapest Hungary. A trilateral meeting took place on 5/9/2019 in Budapest about plans for PAC2 proposal for 2019-2022 and the status of the PA4 Action Plan revision. An NC/PAC workshop to the Action Plan revision was organized on 24/9/2019 in Vienna, Austria.

Other events with EUSDR participation

- The 1st national workshop of the MEASURES Project was held on 30 / 2019 in Bratislava, Slovakia.
- The Danube Water Conference was held on 20/05/2019 in Vienna, Austria.
- The Final Conference to the projects Camaro-D and Proline-CE was held on 03/06/2019 in Vienna, Austria.
- ICPDR 31th PM EG meeting was held on 09/10/2019 in Bratislava, WRI, Slovakia.
- Sediments Balance Workshop on 21/10/ 2019 and Sediments National Stakeholders Workshop were held on 24/10/2019, in Bratislava, WRI, Slovakia.
- ICPDR 5th RBM EG meeting was organized on 29- 30/10/2019 in Budapest, Hungary.

Project preparation

Finished/final state:

1st DTP call: JOINTISZA, DanubeSediment, DriDanube, Camaro-D - capitalization of results

Under implementation:

- 2nd DTP call – SIMONA (sediment quality), Danube Floodplain, Measures (sturgeon)
- INTERREG Central Europe – DEEPWATER-CE (MAR solutions)
- 3rd DTP call passed to 2nd round:
- Danube Hazard (hazardous substances)

Submitted:

- HORIZON2020 - ValueInDrops (VALorisation and Utilisation of thE INtegrateD waterR management in BOreal, Pannonia and Continental biogeographic regionS)
- LIFE programme – Public stimulation to support the water use adaptation measures in order to mitigate the climate change impacts - LIFE-CLIMWATER (LIFE19 GIC/SK/001306)

Contract signed:

- project on Environmental Assessment for Natural Resources Revitalization in Solotvyno through the preparation of a complex monitoring system (REVITAL I), HUSKROUA ENI CBC Programme 2nd call – the project started on 01/09/2019

PA4 LoR for projects – OPTAIN, AquaPinka.

PA4 activities and Upcoming PA4 joint events:

- Brochure on project results – PA4-PA5 EUSDR Success Stories was compiled in October 2019.
- Brochure on plastic pollution of rivers in the Danube region was completed in October 2019.
- Updated study on Water Related Themes in EU Macro-regional Strategies was prepared in October 2019.
- The second macro-regional workshop on water will be organized by EUSDR PA4 and Interact on 5/11/2019, Budapest, Hungary.
- The workshop on sustainable agriculture will be jointly organized by EUSDR PA4 with the ICPDR and the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Interior on 6-7/11/2019 in Budapest, Hungary.
- Study on pharmaceuticals in water will be finalized by December 2019.

Other linked future events with PA4 participation:

- ICPDR 22th Ordinary Meeting, 10 – 11/12/2019, Vienna, Austria
- PACs meeting – 10/02/2020, Zagreb, tbc
- Joint NCs/PACs meeting – 11/02/2020, Zagreb, tbc
- Joint NCs/PACs meeting – 07/05/2020, Zagreb, tbc
- Training for PACs in Identifying Synergies and Stakeholder Involvement – 10/2020

Other plans:

- Implementation of revised Action Plan actions
- Cooperation in the frame of the Capitalization process – „Water management Thematic Pole” - DanubeParksConnected, MEASURES, SIMONA, DanubeFloodplain, DAREFFORT projects
- Joint organization of Pillar B events in 2019
- Focus on project funding, post 2020, embedding of EUSDR into EU funding schemes
- Emerging issues (microplastics, pharmaceuticals)
- Strengthening capacity building, involved in project preparation, implementation, networking
- Stronger involvement of SG members
- ICPDR expert group meetings participation.

Mr Balázs Horváth PA4 PAC added to the presentation that a new memorandum of cooperation was signed with GWP-CEE in 2019.

He mentioned further that the Budapest Water Summit (BWS) was held on 15-17 October 2019 in Budapest with 2300 participants including 30 ministerial delegations and several bilateral water discussions. The adopted Budapest Appeal contain detailed recommendations related to the implementation of SDG6. Important side events of the BWS were organized with EUSDR PA4 participation, presentation, namely the workshops on “Celebrating 25 years of successful transboundary cooperation” together with the ICPDR and “Who is at the table? Mobilising for a water secure world”- convened by the Global Water Partnership. EUSDR PA4 PAC was participating in the panel of both side events providing information about the activities of the PA. PA4 participated at the Carpathian Convention Climate group discussions and will look for possibilities of joint activities.

Participants were reminded that the first day of the Croatian EUSDR presidency just started on 1 November 2019.

Ms Zsuzsanna Kocsis-Kupper presented the second PAC proposal for 2020-2022, that is to be in line with the Revised Action Plan. The second PAC proposal is planned to be adopted by the DTP by the end of the year and its implementation shall start in 2020. Ms Kocsis-Kupper further added that PA4 will continue to focus on funding, post 2020, on emerging issues (such as microplastics, pharmaceuticals), will strengthen further capacity building, will be involved in project preparation and networking. Called attention to stronger involvement of SG members and mentioned that the PA4 website was renewed and available at: <https://waterquality.danube-region.eu/>.

2.2 EUSDR PA5

From EUSDR PA5 **Mr László Balatonyi PACHU** introduced the main PA5 tasks under the revised Action Plan. He mentioned that the cooperation with ICPDR in 2020-2022 will focus on preparation of the update and publishing of the update of the Flood Risk Management Plan for the Danube River Basin Districts (DFRMP) and development of projects supportive to the implementation of this DFRMP.

PA5 through its participation at ICPDR FP EG meetings will provide an active contribution to ongoing DFRMP related project activities and to development of proposals of new projects supporting achievement of objectives of DFRMP. He presented detailed plans of the Revised Action Plan and planned PA5 activities and emphasised the Pilot study on coordination of Operative Flood management Plans in the Danube Basin. He called attention that further details (including strategic projects) are available in the renewed PA5 website at: <https://environmentalrisks.danube-region.eu/projects/>

Remarks:

- Mr Stania (A) suggested to shift the name of the PA from environmental risks to natural disasters and mentioned that this issue was already brought up at previous PA5 meetings.

- Mr Balatonyi mentioned that there are two options: (1) to rename the PA or to change the member and the staff? The discussion is open, but the procedure also depends on what countries think about it.
- Ms Thalmeinerova, Ministry of Environment, SK wondered whether the discussion progressed since the last PA5 SG meeting. If there is a demand to include chemical hazard accidents? Question is on whether e-learning is available only in EN?
Mr Balatonyi replied that the next PA5 SG meeting will be held on 18 December 2019 and that they will consider the language versions, but currently only EN language is available.

3 Information about the EC, ICPDR, Carpathian Convention, Sava Commission, DSP-new ongoing activities

3.1. EC activities

Mr. Kirill Dimanopoulos from DG Regional Policy provided a short information about the EC activities in relation to MRS and water. He highlighted that there was a time to update the Action Plan as it was dated back from 2010. The most important rule of the “3 NOs” to transform them into “3 YESses”. Need to convince the political level to support the MRS. He shared a presentation from DG Environment EU water policy. Main priorities: water and environment seem to be very important, EU water policy overview: there is a significant increase of « green » ambition!

A European Green Deal means an overarching priority of the new Commission, its announced deliverables are:

- Climate Neutrality for Europe by 2050
- European Climate Law
- Biodiversity Strategy for 2030
- Towards Zero Pollution Ambition
- Circular Economy Action Plan
- Farm to Fork initiative
- Sustainable Investment Plan

Priority in financing green issues, zero pollution vision. “For the health of our citizens, our children and grandchildren, Europe needs to move towards a zero pollution ambition”. This entails a cross cutting strategy for the protection of citizens’ health from environmental degradation and pollution addressing:

- Air and water quality
- Hazardous chemicals
- Industrial emissions
- Pesticides and endocrine disruptors

The Commission assessed: main areas governance, monitoring status assessment and classification, heavily modified water bodies, economic analysis. (Commission Report on the Second River Basin Management Plans, 26 February 2019 COM(2019) 95 final

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/impl_reports.htm

EU water today: 40% in good ecological status, 38% in good chemical status, groundwater 74% in good chemical status and 89% in good quantitative status (WFD simple map viewer:

<https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/explore-interactive-maps/water-framework-directive-2nd-rbmp>

EU state water Europe

Significant progress in reducing pressures, better monitoring, but slower progress than expected

Long standing problems: agriculture, hydro-morphology, persistent chemical uneven implementation, monitoring

New problems: pharmaceuticals, microplastics, climate change, the price for water is still not right

Legislation could be more efficient

Pharmaceuticals strategic approach adopted in March 2019.

Proposal for a Regulation on water reuse (Currently in ordinary legislative procedure):

- Introducing minimum requirements for reuse in agricultural irrigation and Parametric values for quality of reclaimed water & monitoring requirements (Annex I) addressing HEALTH risks
- Key risk management tasks (Annex II) addressing ENVIRONMENTAL risks & potential additional health risks

Drinking Water Proposal of the Commission adopted in 2018 (Co-decision ongoing)

New elements:

- Updated/new parameters based on WHO Report
- Better protection through risk-based approach
- Improved access to water
- Improved access to information.

3.2 ICPDR activities

Mr Ádám Kovács presented the main ongoing activities of the ICPDR. He stressed that the 50th RBM EG meeting was held last week where discussions were mainly focussed on the WFD implementation issues. An updated interim overview on the Significant Water Management Issues in the DRBD is being developed whose outcomes will be addressed in the 3rd DRBM Plan. The report will provide aid for the development of a target-oriented 3rd DRBM Plan including an updated Joint Programme of Measures by 2021.

The second draft of the **updated SWMI report** will be finalized by the RBM EG based on the latest inputs received. The consolidated version will be presented and adopted at the OM-22 in December 2019, followed by public consultation.

The ICPDR started developing the **DRBMP Update 2021**. The structure and outline of the plan has been elaborated and discussed at RBM-50 and will be adopted at OM-22. The main steps and timeline of the technical work:

- Data collection for the first the draft plan: autumn 2019 – spring 2020
- Draft assessments and draft report: by autumn 2020
- Data revision and completion: spring 2021
- Final assessments and final report: by autumn 2021

Sustainable agriculture. The draft guidance document on sustainable agriculture is being updated. Many useful comments were received, and the majority of the inputs were incorporated. Best case examples and CAP RBM synergies were added, clearer explanation for CAP SP design and drought management aspects were also included. What is still missing is that cost efficiency figures and more specific policy recommendations.

Next step: additional update will be done for the workshop in November 2019, after which the guidance document on sustainable agriculture will be finalized by the ICPDR. However, it will be still an interim report since the discussions on CAP are still on-going at the EU level. The guidance document will be discussed in detail on a workshop on 6-7 November 2019, where EUSDR PA4 colleagues will provide

assistance in providing a welcome note, moderating and reporting about the drought management breakout sessions.

Point source monitoring campaign within the Joint Danube Survey 4: A successful WWTP sampling campaign was carried out in the frame of the Joint Danube Survey 4. Treatment plants in 11 countries have been sampled (one per each country), the samples will be analysed in different labs for a large range of substances and by several analytical methods.

Hazardous substances: The Danube Hazard m3c project proposal is being developed on monitoring, modelling and managing hazardous substances pollution including capacity building. The Expression of Interest was submitted to the DTP office in March 2019 for the 3rd call of DTP. Official support was provided by ICPDR through a resolution at the Ordinary Meeting in December 2018 and by EUSDR Steering Group of the Priority Area 4 through a Letter of Recommendation (February 2019). The project consortium was invited to submit a full proposal (3rd October 2019) with request of reconsideration and justification of monitoring costs, reformulation of project specific objectives and redistribution of tasks between partners (less responsibility for LP).

Demonstration TMF training course for the north-eastern DRB: A project focusing on capacity building on safety issues of the tailings management facilities for the north-eastern DRB countries is being implemented in cooperation with the German Environment Agency. The main aims of the project are deepening the knowledge of invited operators, inspectors and experts on TMF management, further enhancing and completing a previously developed detailed checklist method and integrating land use planning aspects to hazard assessment methods (risk index). In October 2019, an international training event was held in Cluj, Romania including lectures, site visit and desk exercises on TMF safety. In addition, an international workshop will be organised for the DRB countries, UNECE region and other river basin organizations. It is expected that the participating countries will develop follow up national programs (by using the train the trainer approach).

Questions/remarks: -

3.2. Sava Commission (ISRBC) activities

Mr Samo Groselj introduced the ongoing activities of the Sava River Basin Commission, mentioning about the following main achievements and ongoing work:

Meeting of the Parties:

8th MOP held in Sarajevo (BA), 24 October 2019: Flood management -Approved the Sava FRM Plan
River Basin Management: Reconfirmed strong commitment to ensure adequate human and financial resources for the further development of the 2nd Sava RBM Plan

Accident Prevention and Control: reconfirmed the commitment to undertake final harmonization of the Protocol on Emergency Situations.

Cross-cutting issues

- Encouraged SC and Parties to undertake further activities related to the CCA
- Committed undertake all activities necessary to secure the proper functioning and maintenance of the Sava GIS and Sava HIS
- Welcomed efforts of the SC in development of sustainable tourism
- Welcomed messages from the 8th Sava Youth Parliament.

Sava RBM Plan

Sava 2nd RBM planning cycle current status:

- Activity on data gathering is ongoing with a deadline for the first cycle until September 6, 2019

- Project proposal on Development of technical basis for international river basin management planning in the Sava River Basin: An innovative filling of gaps in transboundary water management submitted to Norwegian/EEA Grant- submitted on July 4, 2019
- LP: Environmental institute (SK)
- PP: Institute for water (SI), Croatian Waters, Zagreb University of applied science (HR), Water Administration, Ministry for agriculture (ME), Institute for water management (Fed BA and BA RS), JRC (RS)
- EP: NILU (NO), ISRBC, ICPDR (Int.), NORMAN (FR)

2nd Sava River Basin Management Plan- application for WBIF under development

- Sediment issues

Template for Information on planned dredging- HR, RS and SI sent data for 2019.

Data and information exchange

•Sava GIS (www.savagis.org) and Sava HIS - www.savahis.org

- o RBM, FRM and HMI related data available
- o Integration of module for navigation- ongoing
- o Integration of module for APC- planned
- o Annexes to the Policy on the exchange of hydrological and meteorological data and information in the SRB should be modified- new proposal prepared- to be confirmed on the meeting with directors of NHMS

3rd DTP call for proposals: Inter-sectoral approach with hydropower and navigation sectors for operative flood prevention measures in Sava River Basin – INAS and Danube EcoTOURism as a tool for promoting environmental conservation and sustainable use of natural and cultural heritage in riverine landscapes of the Danube region -Were not selected for 2nd step!

SHELTER project

•Sustainable Historic Environments hoListicreconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community based Resilience –SHELTER was **approved under the EU Horizon 2020 (WP 2018-2020)**

•Main objective:

–To establish cross-scale, multidimensional, data driven and community based operational knowledge framework for heritage-led and conservation-friendly resilience enhancement and sustainable reconstruction of historic areas to cope with climate change and natural hazards

•Project Partners:

- Fundacion Tecnalía research & innovation (ES) -Lead Partner
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization –UNESCO(FR)
- ISRBC (24 in total)

•**Duration:** 48 months (01 Jun 2019 –31 May 2023)

•**Open Lab 2: Sava River Basin** (SI, HR, BA, RS, ME and AL)

Type of hazard: Floods worsened by climate change (increase of intense precipitation)

Public participation

•8th Sava Youth Parliament, Held in Sotla/Sutla River Basin (SI/HR), May 31- June 1, 2019

–Theme: Let's cooperate for water!

–Participants: 2 secondary schools per Sava country, ICPDR (Peter Kovacs), Representative of Croatian Waters, FRISCO project, Kozjansko regional park, Representative of 1st international conference of professors of geography

Priority activities in FY 2019

- Signing of the MoU on cooperation concerning regular functioning and maintenance of the Flood Forecasting and Warning System in the Sava River basin-Operational functioning of the Sava FFWS

- Preparation of the new Strategy on implementation of the FASRB
- Continuation of development of the 2nd Sava RBMP
- Further activities in navigation development
- Maintenance and upgrade of Sava GIS & HIS
- Sustainable development issues (tourism...)

3.4 Carpathian Convection (CC)

Mr Sándor Szalai was presenting on behalf the CC Secretariat and summarized that the CC has several documents, publications in connection with water quality. He mentioned the signed Memory of Understanding: recalled that the CC and the ICPDR Tisza Group to further strengthen cooperation in areas of mutual interest. He referred to the 26th September 2019, Ministry of Interior, Budapest, Hungary: Memorandum of Understanding for strengthening Tisza River Basin cooperation towards the implementation of the updated Integrated River Basin Management Plan for the Tisza River Basin supporting the sustainable development of the region.

Topics of interest: detection of flood formation areas, climate change impacts on hydrological regimes and forests in the mountains: special situation of the Carpathian Basin, land use, land use changes in the mountains: remote sensing based observing system to follow the land use changes, runoff modelling effects of the LUC on the streamflow and sedimentation of rivers. Plan actualizing the topics till mid-November 2019, there will be a WS in 2020 and a project submission in 2021.

Ideas for activities:

Microplastic in the Carpathians, establishing biomonitoring, Waste-water treatment in small settlements, Agricultural good practices in mountainous areas, Natural Water Retention Measures including urban water retention, Water balance, erosion, Soil degradation and Flash floods.

Climate ADAPT: The development of a Carpathian webpage under the European Climate Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT) has been started and continuously developed. This is a European Commission initiative aiming to support Europe in adapting to climate change by providing/sharing available information on the topic. There is a new publication on Outlook on climate change adaptation on the Carpathian Mountains.

Questions/remarks:

Q: Ms Thalmeinerova, Ministry of Environment, SK: What is the main focus of the Carpathian Convention?

A: The basic decision-making body is the COP in UNEP Vienna. There are many working groups. CC Adaptation WG is the youngest. There is a signed agreement with PA4, PA5, PA6, PA2.

3.5. DSP new

Ms. Michaela Florea from DSP new was thanking the PAs for cooperating and making things better. She informed the SG that changes occurred in Vienna: Robert Lichtner is the new coordinator now, new project officers replacing former ones, Mr Schicker retired. **Evaluation** – final report prepared on 17th June 2019 on effectiveness, communication and stakeholder involvement is available on the EUSDR website.

Conclusions:

- The major concrete achievement of EUSDR is the set-up of cooperation structures and partly the emergence of new cooperation patterns respectively partnerships
- The momentum of EUSDR has decreased, but in some PAs visible progress has been achieved
- To tie budgets and funding opportunities to the strategy is seen as a major point, which could raise the political interest
- The revision of the Action Plan has been explicitly raised as an opportunity to rekindle the political interest from the European level and strengthen the governance structures of EUSDR.
- There is a need to encourage the participation in SG meetings as well as the pro-active attitude of the SG members
- Lack of capacities and expertise as well as staff fluctuation of part of SG members are major obstacles
- Broader expert involvement (including academia or Civil Society Organizations) should be considered as capacity reinforcement
- Simplification within EUSDR structures and processes should become a deliberate objective, especially in order to reduce the administrative burden
- It is necessary to ensure adequate communication flows to work on cross-cutting issues.

Monitoring:

New Monitoring System will replace PAC reporting to EC and to DTP (Annex 1)

DSP will ask for feedback from PACs on the very first draft in November/December 2019

Relaunch SG Danuval in 1st Quarter of 2020

Presentation of first draft in 1st Quarter of 2020

Content of new Monitoring System:

- Recent general developments in the reporting period
- Core governance
- PA main activities
- Projects and Funding
- Policy Impact
- Opportunities and Challenges

Communication: Information campaign on the new website and on social media, participation in the exhibition organized as a side event of the AF.

Communication strategy: webinars (26 Sept and 22 Oct 2019) were organized.

Implementation report is underway for 2016-18.

New EUSDR websites: contract for hosting and maintenance of the EUSDR websites

new websites published in October 2019, extended communication activities, great results so far in all social media, newsletters, success stories brochure and joint calendar.

Planned activities:

- NC meeting 21-22 Nov,
- PAC meeting 10 February 2020
- Joint PAC/NC 11 Feb and 7 May 2020 Zagreb
- AF Oct 22-23 Zagreb

DSP is working on needs assessment and closer cooperation. Workshops and seminars on cross cutting issues (horizontal topics) are planned in the future.

Questions/remarks:

Q: Mr Horváth PA4 PAC HU considered important that DSP is planning to clarify the role of strategic projects.

A: The guidelines for listing the strategic projects is under development, it will be drafted in 2020. Input of PACs will be asked for.

Q: Mr Horváth also mentioned the need to assess the missing Non-EU countries, the reason why non-EU countries do not participate at the SG meetings?

A: Try to cluster the main issues for non-participation of some countries, to improve the participation of the members at SG, will make a direct contact via phone to provide further input.

Q: PAs would count on DSP to better communicate, as PAC members are not communication specialists.

A: Would count on PACs input on communication as topics are with the PACs, DSP will need to know what the main issues are, target groups and how to deliver messages better.

EC: In the Mediterranean program there is a horizontal communication project that covers many topics, could be seen as an example for communication if PACs has difficulties. The question of what a strategic project is: it is quite difficult to provide one ultimate definition.

4. Projects and LORs

4.1 Tidy up (Follow the plastic from source to the sea: Tisza Danube integrated action)

Mr. Hankó provided a presentation about the Plastic Cup and the new project proposal Tidy up:

Plastic Cup in numbers:

- 7 years
- 100 ships built from waste
- 403 monitored areas
- 68 contaminated areas
- 48 tonnes of waste removed
- 1740 participants
- Huge network of players involved!

Main organizers:

- Filmjungle.eu Society
- Hungarian Association of Environmental Enterprises

The proposal Tid(y)Up F(ol)low the Plastic from source to the sea: Tisza-Danube integrated action plan to eliminate plastic pollution of rivers was submitted to DTP 3rd Call, passed the first round.

The main objective is to achieve change in the regional plastic pollution attitude of local society and legislatures in order to improve the water quality of the Tisza river from source to sea.

Thematic WPs:

- Waste localisation and strategy for collection: micro- and macroplastic monitoring and sampling based on JOINTISZA JTS Manual and ICPDR JDS4. Transnational strategy for the improvement of river water quality.

- Pilot actions for awareness raising: pilot clean-up actions in the Tisza sub-basin and at the Danube downstream the Tisza estuary
- Involvement and legislation: local and transnational forums for policy discussion, and handbook with inputs to ASPs and (sub-)basin management plans
- Dissemination: Media, movies and floating awareness raising exhibition.

The project team would like to ask SG support in:

- **finding Ukrainian partner and/or strategic partner**
- **capitalising the previous projects of PA4, such as the JOINTISZA**
- **improving the proposal by comments!**

4.2 JOINTISZA

Balázs Horváth PA4 PAC HU and project manager at LP OVF summarized project information and highlighted the 15 years of cooperation in the TISZA basin. JOINTISZA is considered an important step towards the solution of integrated transboundary river basin management, as it elaborated an updated integrated Tisza River basin management plan. It collected a lot of new data and information, identified 61 win-win measures, cooperation was excellent with relevant partners from 5 countries. Main results included data collection and improved GIS as well as a series of new maps, activities related to climate change and urban hydrology as well.

5 ministers signed the Tisza MoU, net challenge is to continue with potential new projects.

4.3 DanubeSediment

Mr Péter Bakonyi presented the updates of this DTP funded project. Coordinated by Technical University Budapest, with a budget of 3,5 M EUR to improve sediment management. Information on sediment collection for all the monitoring sites. Activities finalized: 3 reports prepared, the project proposed harmonization of the methodology. The final project event will be held on 19 Nov in Budapest.

4.4. DriDanube

Mr Sándor Szalay presented the project updates. 27 partners, 1,9 M EUR to manage droughts, to improve emergency response with a Lead partner: Drought User service – common view on drought development in real time. Questionnaire was prepared, based on US standards, interaction with reporters on weekly bases. A risk map was prepared for the whole region. Final outputs are the risk maps for the whole region. DriDanube Strategy aims at going beyond present national mechanisms that regulate drought preparedness and response common strategic document to combat current partial and insufficient drought management to cover entire region. Decision: to provide a common drought management model for all participating countries.

DriDanube project has intention to increase technical capacities and elaborate more targeted water management policies taking into account water scarcity and droughts; results will be considered and used as input for further strengthening of RBMP (3rd DRMBP & 2nd DFRMP) according to the EU WFD; stronger link with EC and support with the preparation of drought related policy or other regional policy (EUSDR) advised.

Questions/remarks:

Q: Ms Thalmeinerova, Ministry of Environment, SK is there recommendation for drought?

A: There is an increasing impact, all the economical site.

4.5 Camaro-D and Proline-CE

Mr Csatári introduced the project results to the SG. Two projects in different programs connected by a common message. Common Lead Partner: Austrian Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism. He summed up that the project Camaro-D focused on land use impacts on water regime. (AT Federal Ministry, 14 partners, 2,6 M EUR.) A GAP-analysis about current land use practices and their impacts

on water management, SWOT-analysis (based on a questionnaire), Policy review about existing policy instruments/governance and their current practical Implementation, Best Management Practices (BMP): review + recommendations, by means of stakeholder workshops, interviews, expert teams and literature/previous project studies were prepared. BMP catalogues: Agriculture – arable land, Agriculture – grassland, Forestry and Spatial planning.

There are important contributions to the EUSDR Priority area 4 and 5: based on a process of know-how exchange, state-of-the-art techniques/methods, intensive stakeholder involvement; valuable source of information on the environmental challenges in the Danube river basin from the point of view of the CAMARO-D project scope. It provides possible solutions and mitigation measures for a wide range of challenges (best land use practices from an interdisciplinary field of expertise on water management, flood control and spatial planning).

4.6. REVITAL

Due to time constraints oral presentation by Mr László Perger was held: the project that was already introduced to the SG in previous years aims for environmental assessment for revitalization for natural resources in Soltvyno. The GA was signed on 1st September 2019 and the Kick-off meeting will be in November 2019.

5. AOB:

Mr Horváth thanked all members for active participation and reminded that the second workshop on EU macro-regional strategies on water will be held on 5 November 2019.

The minutes were compiled by Ms Kocsis-Kupper.




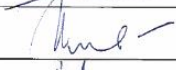


The presentations are available at:

<https://waterquality.danube-region.eu/18th-steering-group-sg-meeting-of-priority-area-4-pa4/>



18th STEERING GROUP MEETING
of the Water Quality Priority Area of the EUSDR
4 November 2019
Budapest

	Country/ Organisation	Name	Institute	Email/Tel/Fax	Signature
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3.	SI	Mr Mitja Bricelj	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning		
4.	BIH	Ms Biljana Rajic	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of B&H	Biljana.Rajic@mvteo.gov.ba	
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