#### **Current activities** of the ICPDR



#### Progress in the EUSDR PA4 and PA5 related activities



**Adam Kovacs** 

## Main Activities RBM EG (1/5)



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#### **Water Balance activities**

- HU and RS lead countries; several meetings of core drafting group organised in last months
- Project concept (EoI) "Development of a harmonized water balance modelling system for the Danube River Basin" transmitted to Interreg DRP 1st Call on 21 November 2022 with the following objectives
  - a) improved data management for the water balance calculations (a data repository with a toolbox and a new data management strategy),
  - b) the state-of-the-art, open-source water balance model for the Danube River Basin,
  - c) and elaborated water balance scenarios for the Danube River Basin and 4 selected shared sub-basins.
- PPs or ASPs from all Danube countries (20 PPs and 13 ASPs)
- Many thanks to lead countries, lead partner and all experts for the huge efforts in bringing the proposal together!

## Main Activities RBM EG (2/5)



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## Joint Statement Meeting and Mixed Environment Transport External Expert Team (METEET)

 13th Joint Statement meeting was organized in Sept 2022 in Budapest; ongoing discussions amongst ICPDR, DC and ISRBC and special item in ICPDR OM-25

#### **Sustainable Hydropower activities**

- Organisation of the next Hydropower Workshop in 2024, preparation of a first concept in RBM EG in spring 2023, important topics to be addressed (based on RBM EG discussion)
  - Conflict of interest between a legitimate demand for more renewable energies, especially hydropower, and the equally legitimate and necessary objectives of the EU Green Deal and the Biodiversity Strategy
  - Issue of environmentally friendly hydropower production technologies having a minimal impact on aquatic ecosystems
  - Hydropower in time of increasing drought periods and how to coordinate different water use needs in times of droughts (energy, agriculture)? How to close the implementation gap for mitigation measures?

## Main Activities RBM EG (3/5)



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#### Nature conservation and biodiversity (MA EG)

ICPDR Biodiversity Report to be prepared, chapter 6 on number of taxa (WFD elements: benthic algae, phytoplankton, aquatic macrophytes, macroinvertebrates, fish; zooplankton, invasive alien species)

#### **Sturgeon activities**

- EUSDR Fish Migration Workshop (12 October 2022 Bratislava, SK) with an exchange on We Pass results and information Gabcikovo and Meeting of the National Focal Points of the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons (5-6 October 2022, in Strasbourg, FR) on implementation of the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons (Bern Convention 2018)
- BLUE CORRIDOR project proposal (EoI) submitted to DRP Call
- Close cooperation with **DSTF**, DSTF General Assembly (5-6 December 2022, Vienna)
- LIFE Boat4Sturgeons (2022-2029) focusing on:
  - Construction & operation of two ex situ facilities (AT & HU), Creation of a genetic autochthonous and diverse broodstock of the remaining four Danube sturgeon species, State of the Art reproduction, rearing & release throughout the basin, A first standardized population monitoring scheme throughout the partner countries into one database, Scientific investigations & teaching and Dissemination actions throughout the basin.

### Main Activities RBM EG (4/5)



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#### Sturgeon activities (continued)

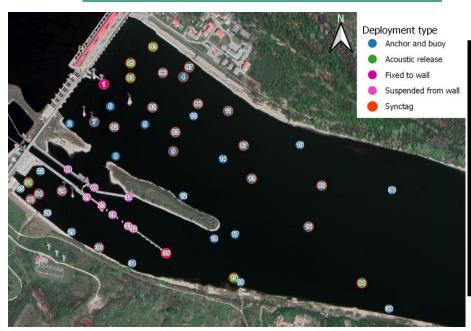
#### We Pass 2 (2021-2024)

- Fish monitoring activities: spring & summer 2022 monitoring season was successfully completed
- Next steps:
  - 1) Preparation of the **monitoring data for evaluation**: Over 27 million detections ("pings") have been recorded on the hydrophones. The filtering process is ongoing, data needs to be postprocessed and prepared for evaluation (e.g., separated with regards to fish and species, migration times and prevailing flow conditions etc.).
  - 2) In parallel the **flow and HPP operation data will be evaluated together with the water temperature** data recorded by the hydrophones.
  - **2D hydraulic model** with the actual prevailing turbine flows that occurred during the time stamps will be run.
  - 4) The fish tracks can then be "overlayed" with the 2D hydraulic model results (both are georeferenced) and a spatial analysis will be applied to produce the "heat maps". First results that cover the full bandwidth of discharge conditions during the monitoring period and the maps shall be available in spring 2023.
- Meeting with Hidroelectrica and EPS, 8-11 November 2022 and Stakeholder Workshop planned for 1-2 February 2023 (ICPDR ES, ICPDR HoDs RO and RS)

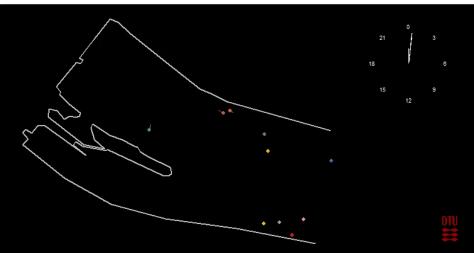
#### Main Activities RBM EG (5/5)



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Receiver array (spring/summer 2022)



First 12 hour data from 10 fish moving in the receiver array (autumn 2021)

## Hazardous substances pollution



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### **Plastic pollution**



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#### Wastewater management



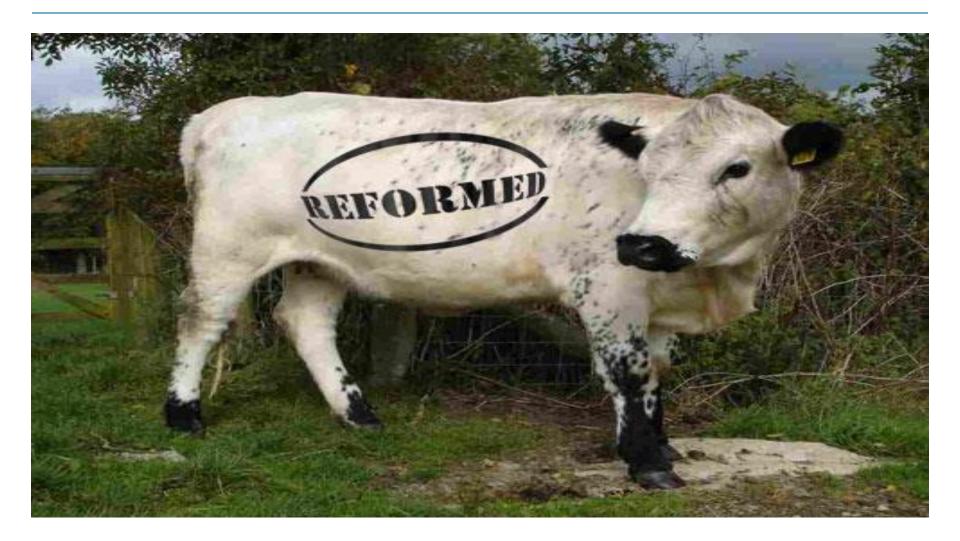
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### Sustainable agriculture



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## Flood risk management 1) – Danube Forecasting Forum



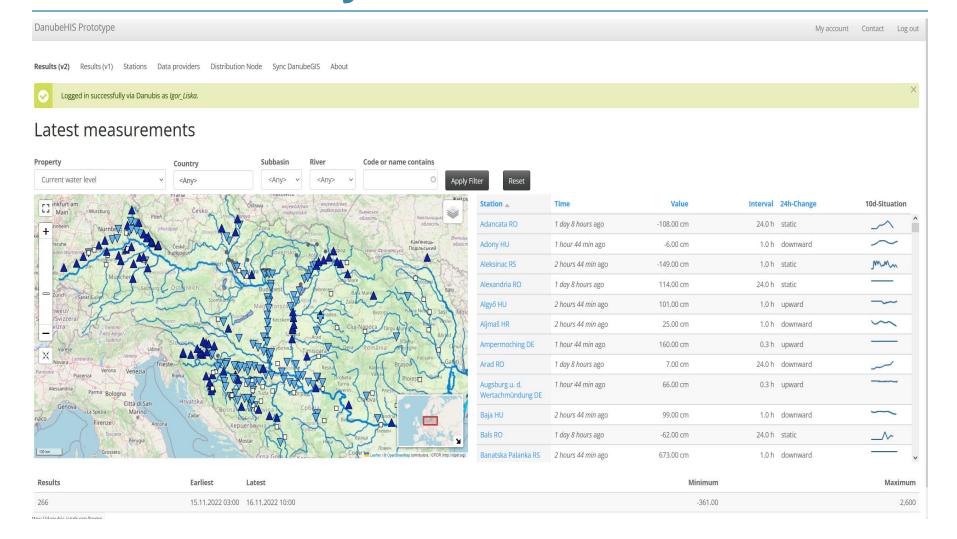
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# Flood risk management 2) - Danube Hydrological Information System



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## Accident prevention and control 1) - AEWS



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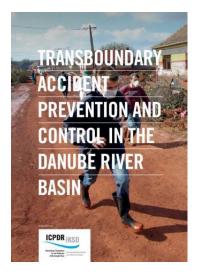


# Accident prevention and control 2) - Reports and publications



- Detailed technical report being developed on accident risk hot-spots and the related hazard/risk assessment methods, daft report available, comments to be collected
- Published informative summary report and a short brochure on accident prevention and control for dissemination to the interested public, available on the ICPDR website





## Accident prevention and control 3) - Cooperation



Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents

- Follow-up project on the TMF issue with EUSDR PA5, targeting several regions, focusing on preparedness and prevention (submitted to the new DRP call)
- Strengthening cooperation with the UNECE JEG, coorganizing workshops on accident prevention, early warning, potential pollution consequences of the war in UA; exchange with other river basin organizations



#### **Meetings & Events**



- ☐ International River Symposium Vienna, 27-30 November 2022
- ☐ 25<sup>th</sup> ICPDR Ordinary Meeting Vienna, 13-14 December 2022
- ☐ 38<sup>th</sup> PM EG meeting Munich, 4-6 April 2023
- ☐ 43<sup>rd</sup> FP EG Meeting Prague, 25-26 April 2023
- □ 57<sup>th</sup> RBM EG Meeting tbc, 26-27 April 2023



### Thank you for your attention!

ICPDR IKSD International Commission for the Protection

Internationale Kommission zum Schutz der Donau of the Danube River

For more information please visit the ICPDR website:

http://www.icpdr.org













