Priority Area 1a – To improve mobility and multimodality: Inland waterways



2nd Working Group meeting for Priority Area 1a of the EUSDR

Vienna, 15/16 March 2012 Reinhard Vorderwinkler







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Status Quo of implementing EUSDR Priority Area 1a

- Ongoing collection of information on projects related to PA 1a (project data sheets and project summaries)
- Set-up & operation of PA 1a website: www.danube-navigation.eu preparation of new design and relaunch in May 2012 (including IWT project database)
- Development of background information & draft "Road Maps" for implementation of EUSDR actions related to Priority Area 1a – Inland Waterways
- Support of EC ad hoc initiative on improvement of Danube waterway infrastructure maintenance
- Preparation of "flagship project" on Innovative Danube Vessel





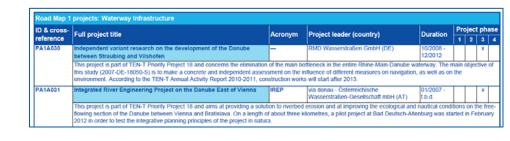


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Ongoing collection of projects related to PA 1a

Currently about 80 [ongoing] projects/project ideas collected for topics waterway infrastructure, waterway management, ports & sustainable freight transport, fleet modernisation, River Information Services, education & jobs



An overview on the current status is available in the form of **project** summaries on PA 1a website: www.danube-navigation.eu)









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Set-up & operation of PA 1a website:

www.danube-navigation.eu

- Current and continuous **information** about **ongoing activities** in PA 1a (news, events, meetings)
- **General information** about European Danube Region Strategy PA 1a Governance structure, targets and actions related to Inland Waterways
- **Documents** (agenda, presentations, lists of attendance, etc) related to Working Group (WG) and Steering Group (SG) meetings
- Overview on the **current status** of projects / project ideas related to PA 1a









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Number of identified projects related to PA 1a*

















River Information

Services



TOTAL	31	9	20	12	6	3	81
Definition	5	2	4	2	0	1	14
Preparation	16	2	9	6	2	1	36
Implementation	10	3	7	2	3	1	26
Completion	0	2	0	2	1	0	5

^{*} Status of 15th March 2012



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What happens with project ideas?

- Projects/project ideas can be forwarded to PACs 1a at any time: → eusdr-projects@via-donau.org (project data sheet & project overview: www.danube-navigation.eu)
- Project ideas are evaluated by the Steering Group (SG): Is the project idea in line with the Danube Region Action Plan (contents check)?
- In case of a positive evaluation, the project receives a "Letter of Recommendation" (LoR) by the SG, which is forwarded to the EC respectively to the corresponding European funding authorities
- ➤ LoR does **NOT** automatically mean **EU** funding formal criteria of project proposals have to be fulfilled corresponding to the respective funding programmes
- Mechanism still to be established by EC and MS how to integrate the LoR in concrete funding decisions (for the new funding period 2014-2020)



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Topics for "Road Maps": How shall the EUSDR Inland Waterway related actions be implemented?

Clustering of 10 actions on inland waterways → 6 "Road Maps"

- 1. Waterway infrastructure (2 actions)
- 2. Waterway management
- 3. Ports & sustainable freight transport (2 actions)
- 4. Fleet modernisation
- 5. River Information Services
- 6. Education & jobs

In addition two horizontal resp. political "Road Maps": National IWT Policies (7.) and Revision of Belgrade Convention (8.) → Discussed in SG







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Long-term

Development of background information for Road Maps

- Thematic background information for discussion in Working Groups and as basis for the elaboration of the Road Maps
- Consideration of relevant EU policy (e.g. NAIADES Action Programme) and of all actors (EC, countries, industry, NGO's)

Legislative Instruments

Support Instruments Recent development

Short-term **Policy Instruments**

Medium-term

Responsibilities









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Discussion about draft "Road Maps"

- 1. Presentation of **thematic background information** per **action field** (Waterway infrastructure, Waterway management, Ports & sustainable freight transport, Fleet modernisation, River Information Services, Education & jobs)
- 2. Presentation of **draft Road Maps** for **PAC 1a**: What are the **main activities** and **specific tasks** of **PAC 1a** with regards to the implementation of the action fields?
- 3. **Discussion** with **stakeholders** in **Working Group** meeting about general expectations, priority topics, missing elements and draft Road Map
- 4. **Finalisation & agreement** of **Road Maps** with Danube Region countries & EC in next **Steering Group** meeting (3/4 May 2012)





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Support of EC ad hoc initiative on improvement of Danube waterway infrastructure maintenance

- Starting point: Low water period on Danube September – November 2011 and related poor condition of Danube waterway infrastructure
- Navigation came to a complete standstill due to low water levels on the lower Danube for about 40 days
- Estimated losses of about 6 million € for the navigation sector, in addition lost of trust in Danube navigation as a reliable and cost-effective means of transport & higher safety risks
- Request by the navigation industry and Austrian Chamber of Commerce: Need for immediate action in order to prevent similar situation as happened in summer/autumn 2011



Danube near Calarasi, Romania, December 2011





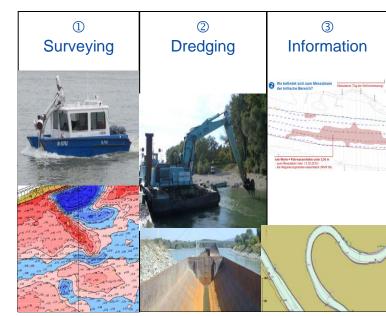


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Support of EC ad hoc initiative on improvement of Danube waterway infrastructure maintenance

- Action taken by EC (DG REGIO and DG MOVE): Letter to all Ministries of Transport in the Danube Region (27.02.2012): "Danube Navigation A priority of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region"
- Discussion within next SG meeting of PA 1a (3/4 May – attendance of Commissioner Hahn) and preparation of national reports on status quo & improvement measures
- High-Level meeting EC Danube Region countries on 7-8 June on the occasion of the Transport Council







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Preparation of EUSDR "flagship project": Innovative Danube Vessel

- Study commissioned by PAC 1a (via donau) on behalf of DG REGIO
- Overall objective: Elaboration and development of innovative vessel and technology solutions with high potential for implementation on the Danube
- Analysis of solutions derived from existing R&D projects with respect to their potential for implementation and further development in the Danube region
- Provision of recommendations for further technology development within the framework of the Danube Region Strategy
- Project duration: 18 months (until end of 2013)











Figure 3.5: Urea tank in the aft ship





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Next steps

- Finalisation of thematic Road Maps of PAC 1a and agreement within SG
- Creation of project database for PA 1a until May 2012 (available online at <u>www.danube-navigation.eu</u>)
- 3/4 May 2012: SG Meeting for PA 1a
- 24/25 May 2012: Annual PA 1a Stakeholder Forum (Bucharest)
- June 2012: First implementation report of PAC 1a to the EC
- Autumn 2012: WG and SG meetings of PAC 1a



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What do we expect from you in this Working Group meeting?

We would like to invite you to **actively participate** & to give us your **feedback / input** on the presented actions/activities in order to implement the EUSDR Action Plan in the field of Inland Waterway Transport

- Are all the relevant actions/activities covered in your opinion? What do you miss?
- Where do you see the priorities?
- What shall we generally consider? Do you have any general remarks / considerations with regards to the actions?
- What are your expectations related to the EUSDR and to PAC1a?
- How do you want to get involved?

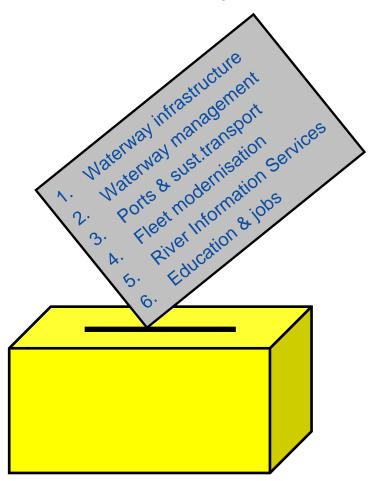




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Collection of your feedback / opinion



- Feedback based on our thematic presentations
- Principle: One thought per card if possible.
- Please indicate per card the referred topic (numbers 1 to 6, see picture)
- > Time: 30 min

What are your expectations on the EUDRS and PAC1a?



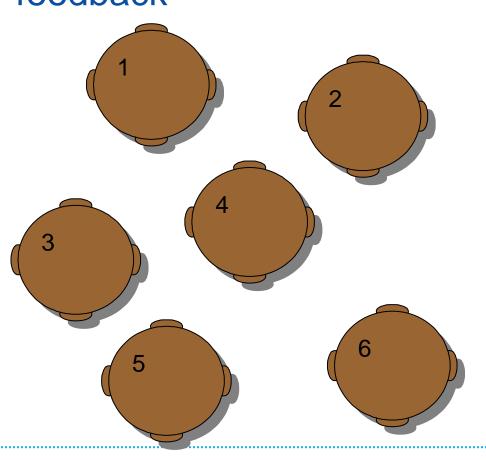




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Round table discussion on identified issues from your feedback



- Discussion of each topic (1-6) on separate tables (WG) supported by moderators
- Discussion based on your feedback of the first day provided on cards
- Presentation of conclusions in the plenary and common final discussion



