

**Short-term and Medium-term measures for
effective waterway maintenance of the
Bulgarian – Romanian section of the
Danube river**

Bulgarian – Romanian section of the Danube River

- The common Bulgarian-Romanian section of the Danube river spans from rkm 845.650 to rkm 374.100 over a total of 471 km
- It is part of the Lower Danube and is classified as a class VII waterway of international importance
- This section of the river is one of the most well-preserved natural sectors and is characterized by great water-bed width, shallows, numerous islands, and intensive morphological processes
- Considerable seasonal water level variation is also observed (about 8 metres)



Navigation problems along the Bulgarian section of the Danube river with regard to the low water periods in 2011

- Insufficient depths during the low water periods due to the nature conditions;
- The water quantities in the upper Bulgarian-Romanian section are directly dependent upon the operation of the Iron Gates I and II hydro-technical facilities;
- Absence of combined hydro-technical facilities able to stabilize the navigation channel in the long run to prevent the negative impact of the banks and riverbed.



Measures undertaken by the Bulgarian state for effective waterway maintenance in 2011

- In the period July - October 2011: A total of 61 corrections to the fairway trajectory were made and an entirely new fairway on 4 occasions was drawn;
- Limitation of the allowed dimensions of vessels and convoys passing through the critical areas;
- To ensure safe navigation conditions and better outline of the fairway, 116 floating signals were used;
- 150 hydrographical pictures of critical sections were made using echo sounders;
- Increased monitoring for compliance with the requirements for ensuring safety of navigation

Future short-term and medium-term measures

Short-term measures

1. Improving the communication between all parties concerned from both the public and private sectors;
2. New software for hydro-graphic pictures to be provided
3. A greater number of floating signs to be deployed

Medium-term measures in the 2013 - 2015 period

Projects:

- Improvement of the navigational systems and topohydrographic measurements along the Danube River
(financed under OP “Transport” 2007-2013)
- Danube WATER integrated management (WATER)
(financed under the CBC Programme “Bulgaria-Romania” 2007-2013)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

**Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications
of the Republic of Bulgaria**