**Full project title:** Establishment of River Information System in the Bulgarian part of the Danube river

**Short project title:** (acronym) BULRIS  
**Project logo:**

**Project website:** [www.bulris.eu](http://www.bulris.eu)  
**Project ID:** PA1A012

**Need and added value for Danube Region Strategy:**

There is a prognosis for the increasing of the traffic intensity along the Danube river (TEN-T priority project 18). One of the components defined in the White Paper which will make waterborne transport more reliable, effective and accessible is the establishment of a highly effective communication system for navigation assistance along the national maritime system.

The river information services (RIS) concept aims at introducing the information services, which will contribute to the planning and the management of traffic and transport operations. The introduction of RIS contributes not only to better traffic safety and efficiency but at the same time it increases the efficiency and the safety of the transport operations.

The project achieved the following goals:

- Establishment of the necessary infrastructure in 16 communication points along the Danube River
- Establishment of River information center in Ruse
- Expansion of the range of the services and the system
- Implementation of new technologies and improvement of the system

**Objective(s) of project:**

The general objective of the project was the harmonization of the traffic information services management on Inland Waterways.

As EU Member-state Bulgaria has the obligation to establish a RIS system, which is a part of the trans-European network concerning the technical guidelines for the planning, implementation and operational use of river information services in order to ensure an effective and safe navigation on the inland waterways.

Specific objectives were:

- Establishment of telecommunication infrastructure of the RIS in the Bulgarian part of the Danube River – BULRIS, which ensures full and permanent data and voice traffic from Florentin station to Silistra station and the RIS Center
- Establishment of conditions for interaction with other information systems, servicing the other modes of transport
- Construction of a modern building for the RIS Center in Bulgaria

**Conducted project activities:**

Construction and delivery of equipment for building and starting the exploitation of RIS.

**Transboundary impact:**

The BULRIS is part of the common European RIS.

**Project beneficiaries / target groups:**

The project was directed at the following groups of stakeholders:

- Transport: Shipping operators, Inland Waterway Administration, Port operators, Fleet management
- Public Administration: Environmental protection, Custom services, Border police
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Bulgarian citizens and foreign tourists traveling on Danube River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Trade: Logistic operators, freight and passenger operators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Inland waterway freight operators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transit vehicles and passengers in the Bulgarian part of the Danube</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Business enterprises from the Danube Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Investors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Status and Time Frame

**Current project phase:**
- [ ] Definition (e.g. project idea, abstract)
- [ ] Preparation (e.g. project proposal, feasibility study)
- [X] Implementation
- [ ] Completion

**Start date:** 2007  **End date:** 2013

**Notes:**
- 

### Project Team

**Project leader:** Bulgarian Ports Infrastructure Company

**Project partner(s):** -

**Contact person:**
- **Name:** -
- **Organisation:** Bulgarian Ports Infrastructure Company
- **Address:** Shipchensky Prohod Blvd. 63, Sofia, Bulgaria
- **Phone:** -
- **E-Mail:** -
- **Website:** http://www.bulris.bg/

### Financing

**Available:**
- [X] Yes
- [ ] Partly
- [ ] No

**Total budget:** 18,000,000 EUR

**Source(s) and amount (potential sources for project ideas):** (please tick a box and provide further info)
- [X] National/regional funds: National budget – 4,400,000 EUR
### Project Data Sheet

#### IFI loans:
- [ ]

#### Private funds:
- [ ]

#### Other:
- [ ]

### PROJECT ENVIRONMENT

**Project cross-reference:** —

**Cross-reference ID(s):** —

**Strategic reference:** The project is included for financing and implementation in Operational Programme on Transport 2007-2013.

**Relevant legislation:** Directive 2005/44/EC

**Other:** —

### EUSDR EMBEDDING

**Relation to other Priority Areas of the Danube Region Strategy:**

- [x] PA1b: To improve mobility and multimodality – Road, rail and air links
- [ ] PA02: To encourage more sustainable energy
- [ ] PA03: To promote culture and tourism, people and people contacts
- [ ] PA04: To restore and maintain the quality of waters
- [ ] PA05: To manage environmental risks
- [ ] PA06: To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils
- [ ] PA07: To develop the knowledge society through research, education and information technologies
- [ ] PA08: To support the competitiveness of enterprises, including cluster development
- [ ] PA09: To invest in people and skills
- [ ] PA10: To step up institutional capacity and cooperation
- [ ] PA11: To work together to promote security and tackle organised and serious crime

### EUSDR COMPLIANCE

**Compliance with targets of the Danube Region Strategy:**

- [x] Increase the cargo transport on the river by 20% by 2020 compared to 2010.
- [ ] Solve obstacles to navigability, taking into account the specific characteristics of each section of the Danube and its navigable tributaries and establish effective waterway infrastructure management by 2015.
- [ ] Develop efficient multimodal terminals at river ports along the Danube and its navigable tributaries to connect inland waterways with rail and road transport by 2020.
## Project Data Sheet

### Compliance with actions of the Danube Region Strategy:

(please tick a box)

- [X] Implement harmonised River Information Services (RIS) on the Danube and its navigable tributaries and ensure the international exchange of RIS data preferably by 2015.
- [ ] Solve the shortage of qualified personnel and harmonize education standards in inland navigation in the Danube region by 2020, taking duly into account the social dimension of the respective measures.
- [ ] To complete the implementation of TEN-T Priority Project 18 on time and in an environmentally sustainable way.
- [ ] To invest in waterway infrastructure of Danube and its tributaries and develop the interconnections.
- [ ] To modernise the Danube fleet in order to improve environmental and economic performance.
- [ ] To coordinate national transport policies in the field of navigation in the Danube basin.
- [ ] To support Danube Commission in finalising the process of reviewing the Belgrade Convention.
- [ ] To develop ports in the Danube river basin into multimodal logistics centres.
- [ ] To promote sustainable freight transport in the Danube Region.
- [X] To implement harmonised River Information Services (RIS).
- [ ] To invest in education and jobs in the Danube navigation sector.

### Affiliation to thematic working group of Priority Area 1a of the EUSDR:

(please tick a box)

- [ ] Waterway infrastructure and management
- [ ] Ports and sustainable freight transport
- [ ] Danube fleet
- [X] River Information Services
- [ ] Education and jobs

### Other Relevant Issues

| Project requirements: | – |
| Follow-up project: | – |
| Any other issues: | – |