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To improve mobility and multimodality: Inland waterways

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**EUSDR PA1a**  
**21<sup>th</sup> Steering Group Meeting**  
online | 28th September 2022



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**Welcome**

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## Changes in the PA1a Coordination team

Departing of  
DI Vera Hofbauer



As of 1st January 2022  
Head of the Transport Section

➔

New Austrian PAC  
DI Markus Simoner



Leader of Department  
W 2 – Navigation – Technical and  
nautical issues

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## Changes in the PA1a Coordination team

Departing of Cristina Cuc  
Romanian PAC Team



Departing to  
The Ministry of Regional Development and  
Public Administration

➔

Other members of the  
Romanian PAC Team  
remaining:

- Mihaela Mocanu (PAC)
- Monica Patrichi (Technical Secretariat)

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## PA1a Steering Group Rules of Procedure – possible adaptation

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## PA1a Steering Group Rules of Procedure

First RoP elaborated in 2011, since then a new “Action Plan” was developed and six permanent Working Groups were established.

Proposed main change:

**Art. 5 - Meeting organization**

(1) The SG meets at least ~~twice a year~~ three times in 24 months. PACs are in charge of convening the meetings of the SG and shall inform the members of the SG about the venue and date of the next SG meeting at least one month in advance.

The adapted Rules of Procedure will be circulated via e-mail among the PA1a Steering Group members for approval.

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## Information about new PAC Call in Danube Region Programme

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## EUSDR PA1a – holding the course since 2010

The activities of the Austrian-Romanian PA1a Coordination Team are co-funded by the European Union:

- Steering Group Meetings
- Working Group Meetings
- participation in PA1a stakeholder events (e.g. cooperation with Danube Commission, ICPDR, DG MOVE, thematic conferences)
- development of policy recommendations (e.g. Danube Ministerial Conclusions)
- support to projects
- embedding efforts (anchoring PA1a's objectives in funding programmes)

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## EUSDR PA1a – PAC Projects

2012-2014	Technical Assistance Contract from DG REGIO
2015-2017	Technical Assistance Contract from DG REGIO
2017-2019	DTP PAC Support project
2020-2022	DTP PAC Support project
2023-2028	DRP PAC Support project

→ each PAC Project offers the opportunity for new prioritization of PAC activities (focus on embedding, focus on support to projects,...)

→ PAC Project was submitted on 23<sup>rd</sup> September

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# Work Programme until 2028 – thematic priorities of the individual PA1a Working Groups

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## Six thematic areas – six actions – six Working Groups



**Action 1: Contribute to improve waterway and port infrastructure & management**



**Action 2: Foster business development**



**Action 3: Facilitate fleet modernisation**



**Action 4: Support the further roll-out and enhancement of River Information Services**



**Action 5: Contribute to the enhanced quality of education and jobs**



**Action 6: Contribute to the simplification, harmonisation and digitalisation of administrative processes**

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## 1. Waterway and port infrastructure & management

Working Group	Targets post 2020	Actions post 2020
<p><b>WG1</b> Waterway and port infrastructure &amp; management</p>	<p><u>Target 1</u> <i>To optimally manage and improve navigability conditions as well as landside infrastructure in a harmonized and environmentally sustainable way</i></p>	<p><u>Action 1.1</u> Facilitate management of inland waterways in order to provide “Good Navigation Status” and adequate fairway conditions on the Danube and its navigable tributaries</p> <p><u>Action 1.2</u> Foster the application of an integrative approach in the set-up of navigation projects in order to contribute to the achievement of “Good Ecological Status” and “Favourable Conservation Status”</p> <p><u>Action 1.3</u> Contribute to service-oriented constructional infrastructure, aimed at the optimisation of lock operation, as well as the availability and quality of mooring places and bridge clearances where necessary</p> <p><u>Action 1.4</u> Contribute to better multimodal accessibility of inland ports and transshipment sites to other transport modes and their hinterland</p>

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**Priority measures until 2028:**

- Fairway Rehabilitation and Maintenance Master Plan (FRMMP):  
Continuation of the policy-project-cycle
  - Monitoring of implementation status of FRMMP by means of National Action Plans
  - Project support
  - Organisation of political commitment → Danube Ministerial Meetings
  
- Port entrances as obstacle to navigation (draught restrictions)
  - Identification of problematic port entrances (in conjunction with waterway users)
  - Approaching responsible port authorities/infrastructure owners/Ministries of Transport to define the borders of maintenance responsibilities
  - Defining required measures to resolve bottlenecks and responsibilities for the provision of user information

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- Expert exchange regarding climate change adaptation options towards more resilient waterway management (if feasible)
  - Monitoring of pilot activities for flexible low water regulation methods
  
- Incident management in low water situations
  - Analysis of national measures of incident management (restrictions, fairway marking, etc.)
  - Expert exchange on best practices in dialogue with the shippers (in particular large fleet operators)

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## 2. Business development

Working Group	Targets post 2020	Actions post 2020
WG2 Business development	<u>Target 2</u> <i>Support transnational initiatives to promote inland waterway transport and business development in order to raise the modal share of inland waterway transport in the Danube Region</i>	<u>Action 2.1</u> Set up regular stakeholder meetings to identify waterway user needs on a continuous basis
		<u>Action 2.2</u> Conduct market analyses to identify promising market segments for Danube navigation
		<u>Action 2.3</u> Contribute to international business-to-business meetings aimed at raising modal share of inland waterway transport

**Priority measures until 2028:**

- Organisation of B2B events/platforms, possibly focussing on certain goods



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## 3. Fleet modernisation

Working Group	Targets post 2020	Actions post 2020
WG3 Fleet modernization	<u>Target 3</u> <i>Develop the Danube fleet in order to become more fuel-efficient and to reduce emissions of greenhouse gas and pollutants</i>	<u>Action 3.1</u> Monitor ongoing innovations in greening and fleet modernization technologies
		<u>Action 3.2</u> Contribute to the development of a roll out strategy to support the uptake and practical implementation of innovation and modernization measures in the Danube fleet

**Priority measures until 2028:**

- Support the uptake of green technologies by the shipping industry
  - Review of the CCNR technology pathways
  - Development of technology path specific for Danube navigation in order to increase investment security (in coordination with CCNR and the business sector)
  - Organisation of commitment from responsible national ministries for the proposed pathways



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## 4. River Information Services

Working Group	Targets post 2020	Actions post 2020
WG4 River Information Services	<u>Target 4</u> Implement harmonised River Information Services on the Danube and its navigable tributaries according to European legal provisions and ensure international data exchange	<u>Action 4.1</u> Promote creation and use of service-oriented, timely and intuitive user information on site and online on current and future fairway conditions
		<u>Action 4.2</u> Pursue establishment of enhanced traffic management with the help of improved traffic information
		<u>Action 4.3</u> Support establishment of RIS-based solutions for logistics and transport management purposes

**Priority measures until 2028:**

- Continuation of our focus workshops on Notices to Skippers (NtS) in the Danube Region (to improve timeliness and coding quality)
- Pursue the consolidation of national user information platforms and Fairway Information Services (Danube FIS) Portal in EuRIS



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## 5. Education and jobs

Working Group	Targets post 2020	Actions post 2020
WG5 Education & Jobs	<u>Target 5</u> Solve the shortage of qualified personnel and harmonize education standards for professions in Danube navigation	<u>Action 5.1</u> Support the Danube-wide application of EU Directive 2017/2397 on the recognition of professional qualifications
		<u>Action 5.2</u> Identify measures to increase the availability of nautical personnel
		<u>Action 5.3</u> Spread knowledge on Danube navigation to future decision makers and dispatchers of logistic supply chains

**Priority measures until 2028:**

- Systematic identification of reasons for the shortage of qualified nautical personnel in the Danube region
- Status quo and future demand of nautical personnel
- Development of (implementation of) stepwise action programme for Danube navigation



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## 6. Administrative processes

Working Group	Targets post 2020	Actions post 2020
WG6 Administrative processes	<p><u>Target 6</u> <i>Establish time-efficient, service-oriented and transparent administrative procedures, especially border controls, in the framework of navigation on the Danube and its navigable tributaries</i></p>	<p><u>Action 6.1</u> Harmonize and simplify border controls by means of guidance documents and an extended set of standardized control forms</p>
		<p><u>Action 6.2</u> Support the preparation of new digital tools to improve the efficiency of border controls</p>

Continuation of the agreed Work Programme



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## Priority measures agreed until 2025:



Priority Area 1a

CONTROL FORMS  
M1, M2

CONTROL PROCESSES  
M3, M4

GUIDANCE FOR SHIPPING COMPANIES  
M5



Priority Area 11

CONTROL DATABASE  
M6

DEPLOYED CONTROL PERSONNEL  
M7

TRANSPARENCY & GOOD GOVERNANCE  
M8



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