

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Secretariat

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Conference Services

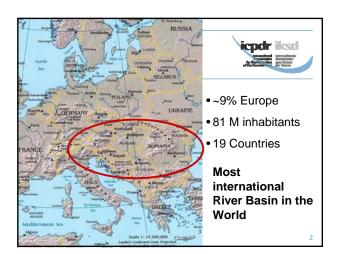
Sixteenth OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum - Part 1: "Maritime and inland waterways co-operation in the OSCE area: Increasing security and protecting the environment" Vienna, 28- 29 January 2008

Session III Inland waterways co-operation

Cooperation in the Danube River Basin Combining the Interests of Navigation and Environmental Protection Philip Weller, ICPDR Executive Secretary







The Danube is heavily used

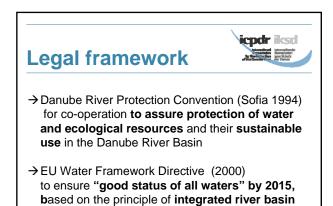


- Drinking water for over 20 M people
- Water for irrigation agricultural land
- Water for industrial production
- Water for mining
- Water for power production
- Water for cooling atomic power stations
- Waterway for inland navigation
- Recreation

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but it is of ecological inportance

- Ecosystem high in biodiversity
- Home for key species: Danube sturgeons
- Important intact natural areas (Kopacki rit, Danube Delta, etc.)
- Critical ecological services: flood protection, cleansing, water, water recharge



management and stakeholder participation



ICPDR -

International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River

to implement the goals of the Convention:

- → Strengthen international cooperation
- ➔ Ensure sustainable water management (conservation, rational use of surface waters and ground water)

icpdr iksd

Transferd Brendinger

- → Control floods
- → Reduce pollution loads to the Black Sea

to implement the EU Water Framework Directive:

→ Develop the Danube River Basin Management Plan







Consensus building process



- ⇒ Inland navigation can contribute to making transport more environmentally sustainable ...
 - ⇔ but it can also have significant impact on river ecosystems
- ⇒ Intensive, cross-sectoral consensus-building process
- ⇒ Over 12 months period
- Joint statement on principles and criteria for sustainable navigation (incl. infrastructure development and maintenance)

Consensus building process



The Joint Statement is a guiding document

- ⇒ for the development of the `Joint Programme of Measures' requested by the EU WFD
- ⇒ for the maintenance of the current inland navigation infrastructure
- ⇒ for the planning and the investments in future infrastructure and environmental protection projects

Consensus building process



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Participating Partners:

- Ministries of Environment, Water Management, ...
- Ministries of Transport, Energy, Development, ...
- DG Environment, Transport, TEN-T Coordinator Office
- International Organisations: SECI, ...
- National Orgnisations: Tina Vienna, ...
- NGOs: WWF, DEF, IAD, PIANC, EBU, Danube Tourism Commission, ...
- Scientific Institutions: Universities



Application in specific projects



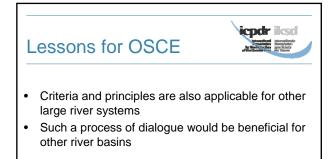
e.g.

- Straubing Vilshofen DE
- Project east of Vienna AT
- Serbian Master Plan on Inland Navigation RS
- Calarasi / Braila RO
- Calarasi / Iron Gate RO/BG
- Bystroye Canal UA
- Hydropower projects between RO and BG

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Actions for OSCE



- Promote the Joint Statement on Guiding Principles
- Help to develop more detailed guidance on specific issues
- Support the implementation activities in specific projects
- Assist using such a process (e.g. Volga River Basin)

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