

Regional Cooperation in the Danube Basin leading to development of the River Basin Management Plan

International Conference on Regional
Cooperation in Transboundary River Basins
Dushanbe, 30 May – 1 June 2005

Juerg Staudenmann, Water Governance Advisor
UNDP Regional Centre Bratislava

*Ivan Zavadsky, Project Manager
Danube Regional Project*



ICRC 2005
Dushanbe, 30 May – 1 June 2005

THE DANUBE RIVER BASIN

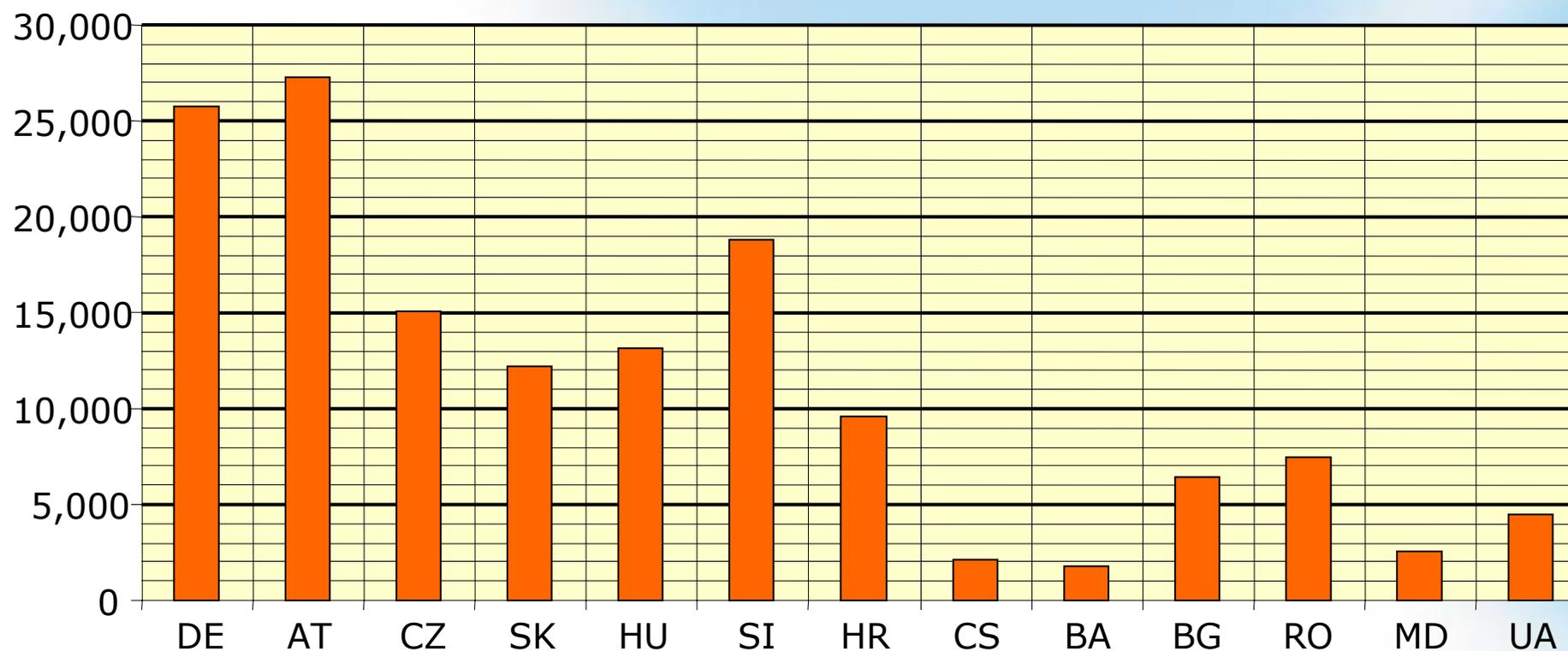
the most international basin in the world

- » 10% of Europe
- » 81 Mio Inhabitants
- » 18 Countries
- » diverse cultures
- » particular situation of transition countries and new EU members and candidates
- » regional social and economic disparities



Economic Indicators

GDP on PPP, 2002, €/capita



COOPERATION IN THE DANUBE RIVER BASIN

Danube River Protection Convention – DRPC

- » The legal frame for co-operation to assure protection of water and ecological resources and their sustainable use in the Danube River Basin
- » signed: 29 June 1994, Sofia / in force: 22 October 1998

International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River - ICPDR

- » Mechanism for cooperation
- » 13 contracting parties, including EC

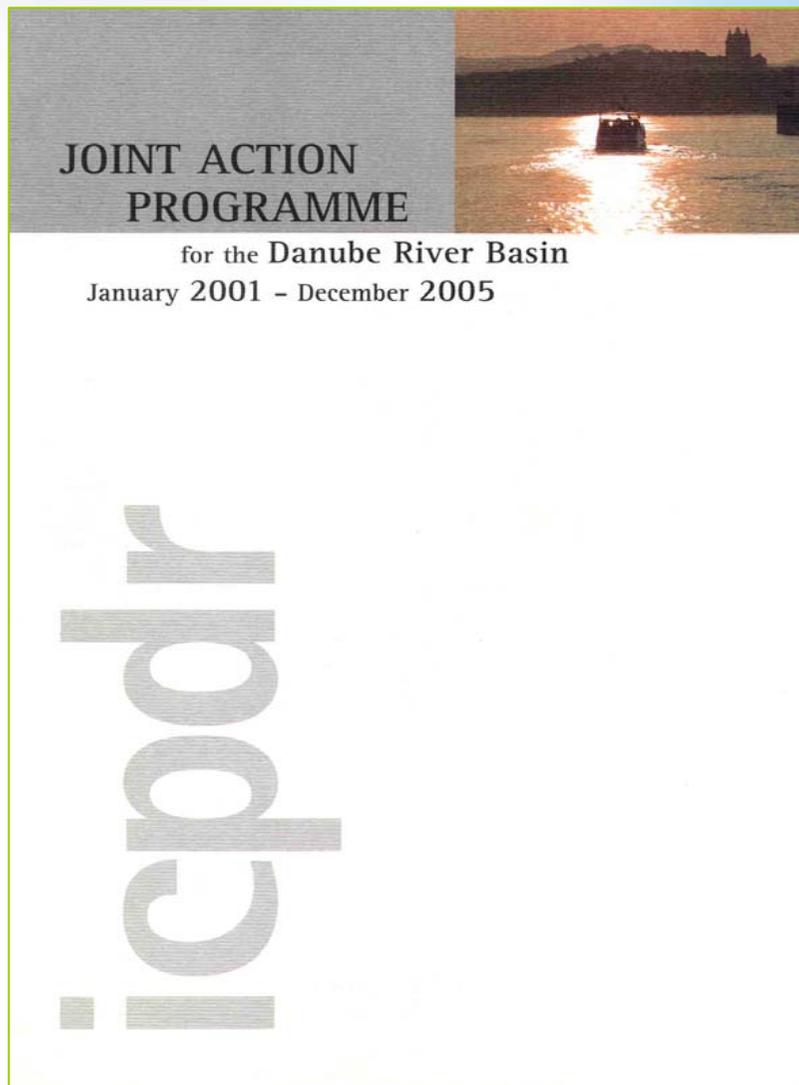


DANUBE RIVER PROTECTION CONVENTION

Objectives

- » Ensure sustainable and equitable water management
- » Ensure conservation, improvement and the rational use of surface waters and ground water
- » Control discharge of waste waters, inputs of nutrients and hazardous substances from point and non-point sources of emissions
- » Control floods and ice hazards
- » Control hazards originating from accidents (warning and preventive measures)
- » Reduce pollution loads of the Black Sea from sources in the Danube catchment area





JOINT ACTION PROGRAMME

ICPDR Policy for Pollution Abatement



ICRC 2005
Duschanbe, 30 May – 1 June 2005

POLICES AND STRATEGIES OF THE JAP

- » Emission inventory and pollution reduction
- » Restoration of wetlands and flood plains
- » Transnational Monitoring Network (TNMN)
- » Priority substances/recommendations on BAT & BEP
- » Accident warning system (AEWS) and prevention
- » Flood control and sustainable flood prevention
- » Domestic and basin wide water balance
- » River Basin Management and implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive



INVESTMENTS AND EXPECTED RESULTS OF THE JOINT ACTION PROGRAMME

Investments (Total = 4.6 billion USD):

» Municipal wastewater collection & treatment:	3.709 billion USD
» Industrial waste water treatment:	0.276 billion USD
» Agricultural projects and land use:	0.113 billion USD
» Rehabilitation of wetlands:	0.323 billion USD

Nitrogen reduction:

» from point sources :	58,600 t/y
» from diffuse sources :	60,000 t/y
» total emission reduction :	22 %

Phosphorus reduction:

» from point sources :	12,000 t/y
» from diffuse sources :	4,000 t/y
» total emission reduction :	33 %



GEF SUPPORT IN THE DANUBE BASIN

GEF Danube – Black Sea Strategic Partnership

- » country related investment projects (World Bank-GEF Investment Fund for Nutrient Reduction)
- » UNDP/UNEP Black Sea Project
- » UNDP Danube Regional Project
- » other GEF and donor interventions targeting nutrient reduction



DANUBE REGIONAL PROJECT

Overall and Longterm Objectives

- Primary Goal: to reduce pollution loadings into the Danube River and its tributaries, in order to improve water quality and restore ecosystems of the Danube – Black Sea Basin and to strengthen transboundary cooperation among countries in this region.
- 2 Main approaches:
 - **Support ICPDR & its Member States**, through strengthening the ICPDR Structures, activities and policy development;
 - **Strengthen Public Involvement** in addressing Key Environmental Problems through supporting the NGOs (DEF network), public awareness activities, communication strategy, small grants programme and access to information.



GEF DANUBE – BLACK SEA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP Investment Fund

- » US\$70M GEF grants in 3 tranches (2001-2003)
- » Combination of investments and policy reforms in individual countries
- » Focused on nutrient reduction from municipal, industrial and agricultural sources
- » Focused regional framework for countries' investments addressing eutrophication
- » Catalytic effect among donors: DABLAS, EU ISPA and associated country funds, DISF, BSIF, bilateral donors



EU WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE

Key driver for integrated river basin management

- » sets **uniform standards** in water policy and integrates different policy areas involving water issues,
- » requires a **river basin approach** for the development of integrated and coordinated river basin management,
- » stipulates a **defined time-frame** for the achievement of the **good status** of surface water and groundwater,
- » introduces the **economic analysis of water use** in order to estimate the most cost-effective combination of measures in respect to water uses,
- » includes **public participation** in the development of river basin management plans (active involvement of stakeholders, non-governmental organizations and citizens/communities).



EU WFD

Key Problems Identified

Danube Basin Analysis (WFD Roof Report)

Approved at the Ministerial Meeting –
Vienna, 13 December 2004



ICRC 2005
Duschanbe, 30 May – 1 June 2005



The Danube River Basin District

River basin characteristics, impact of human activities and economic analysis required under Article 5, Annex II and Annex III, and inventory of protected areas required under Article 6, Annex IV of the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)

Part A – Basin-wide overview

Short: "Danube Basin Analysis (WFD Roof Report 2004)"

The complete report consists of

Part A: Basin-wide overview, and
Part B: Detailed analysis of the Danube river basin countries

15 November 2004

Reporting deadline: 22 March 2005



ROOF REPORT

Content

- » Detail characterisation of surface and ground waters
- » Identification of pressures and their causes, key problems:
 - » Pollution (organic, nutrient load, and hazardous substances)
 - » Hydro-morphological alterations due to flood protection, power generation, navigation, etc
 - » Other anthropogenic pressures
- » Assessment on rivers, lakes, coastal waters and their ecosystems
- » Inventory of protected areas (biodiversity)
- » Economic analysis of water uses
- » Public information and consultation



NEXT STEPS

in EU WFD Implementation

- » Fill knowledge/data gaps (monitoring programme '06; update analysis '08; link pressure – economic analysis)
- » Harmonise methodologies, or make approaches compatible
- » Prepare programme of measures (for water bodies at risk to comply with environmental objectives by '09)
- » Develop Danube RBM Plan (draft '08, finalized & published by 2009)



CONCLUSIONS

- » DRB Countries made significant progress over the last decade in establishing the necessary mechanisms for successful **transboundary coordination and cooperation**
- » The **EU WFD**: driving force and useful mechanism for support of integrated water resource management
- » **Major challenges** to achieve sustainability in the Danube Basin:
 - » Agricultural practices and future development of the sector towards less intensive and less polluting production
 - » Investments needed for sufficient treatment of wastewater from municipalities
 - » Strategies for industrial development to prevent harmful discharges
 - » Transportation policy respecting natural hydro-morphology of the rivers
- » The **ICPDR**, with support of the EU and GEF (through UNDP) is a successful forum for dialogue, coordination and action



THANK YOU!

...for more information:

Danube Regional Project: www.undp-drp.org

ICPDR: www.icpdr.org

UNDP: www.undp.sk



ICRC 2005
Duschanbe, 30 May – 1 June 2005



GEF DANUBE – BLACK SEA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Summary of objectives

1. Adopting and implementing of new policies, institutional and regulatory measures for nutrient reduction,
2. Implementing investment projects for water pollution reduction,
3. Capacity building for water pollution management including monitoring systems,
4. Adopting of legal mechanisms at national and regional level (Conventions) to control nutrient releases to the Black Sea,
5. Reinforcing international cooperation for nutrient reduction measures,
6. Implementing pilot project for nutrient reduction with active involvement of stakeholders.



DANUBE REGIONAL PROJECT

Overall and Longterm Objectives

Long-term Development Objective

- » Contribute to sustainable human development in the DRB through reinforcing the capacities of the participating countries in developing effective mechanisms for regional cooperation and coordination in order to ensure protection of international waters, sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity.

Overall Objective

- » Reduce nutrient loadings into the Danube River and its tributaries, in order to improve water quality in the Danube, and in the Black Sea. The DRP is designed to complement and support the activities of the ICPDR.



DANUBE REGIONAL PROJECT

A Summary of Project Activities

- » **Strengthening Institution(s)** – regional level (ICPDR), national level, other stakeholders;
- » **Improving Management Tools** – river basin management, Danube GIS, economic instruments;
- » **Developing Policies** – agriculture, industry, land-use and wetlands, phosphate detergents;
- » **Promoting Public Participation** – NGO strengthening, Small Grants Programme, public participation and access to information;
- » **Implementing Pilot Projects** – river basin management, agriculture, wetlands



ROOF REPORT

Key Problems Identified

Pressures and Impact Assessment in the DRB

- » Organic pollution due to insufficient treatment of waste-water from municipalities
- » Nutrient loads still well above the levels of 1955
- » Hazardous substances
- » Hydromorphological alterations

