Experiences from the Danube River Basin

Focus on Public Participation

ICPDR
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AGENDA

✓ Where we are
✓ What we do
✓ How we do it
✓ Why we do it
Danube River Basin

We are here
Danube River Basin

Large variety of natural factors and socio-economic conditions
Contracting Parties

- Germany
- Austria
- Czech Republic
- Slovakia
- Hungary
- Slovenia
- Croatia
- Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Serbia
- Montenegro
- Romania
- Bulgaria
- Rep. of Moldova
- Ukraine
- European Union
Role of the ICPDR

Danube River Protection Convention: 29 June 1994, Sofia

- ICPDR (1998): implements the Convention
The ICPDR Approach

is based on two governing principles:

The basin-wide approach is the only approach to properly manage water resources

River Basin Management is the only functioning water management mechanism
The ICPDR backbone

The legal international mandate
The Expert Groups
Public participation
Role of ICPDR regarding WFD & FD implementation

**Part A** International, *basin-wide* level - the roof level (Danube)

**Part B** National level and/or the internationally coordinated sub-basin level for selected sub-basins (e.g. Sava and Tisza)

**Part C** Sub-unit level, defined as management units in the national territory (e.g. sub-catchment)
DRBM Plan – Update 2015

- Determines **priorities** for transboundary water management on the basin-wide level for the period 2015 to 2021
- **Status** assessment of water bodies
- Four **priority issues** identified (SWMIs)
- **Pressures** assessment, Joint Program of Measures, sources of **financing**
- **Intersectorial** dialogue and cooperation
- Intensive **stakeholder** dialogue
DFRM Plan

- Provides **conclusions** of the preliminary flood risk assessment
- Maps **flood hazard** and flood risks
- Determines **objectives** and provides measures
- Intensive stakeholder dialogue
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Coordination with the WFD
- Assessment of **impacts** of climate change
- **International** coordination
- **Solidarity** principle
WAIT! WE NEED TO CONSIDER ALL OUR STAKEHOLDERS!
Public participation as a legal requirement

Art. 14 (WFD), Art. 10 (FD)

Member states are required "to encourage the active involvement of interested parties" in the implementation of the directive.
Objective: get the full spectrum of opinions

- Extreme opinion 1
- Mainstream opinion: 50%+
- Extreme opinion 2
Beyond legal needs: Better together

Unilateral Decision

Public Participation

Implementation

Problem identified
Decision made
Gain from PP

After Creighton 2005
Public Participation Cycle

Public Information

ICPDR

Public

Public Consultation
The instruments of Public Participation

- 23 Observer Organisations
- A dedicated Public Participation Expert Group
- Outreach activities across a broad spectrum
- Educational tools
- Public information
- Stakeholder consultation
- Social Media
- Intersectorial dialogue
- Branding campaigns
Stakeholder Involvement:
23 Observers
Danube Day: June 29
Danube Box
Teacher’s handbook
Interactive CD-ROM, worksheets, etc.
National languages & English
www.danubebox.org
Danube Watch
Further information
✓ There can be no progress in water resources management without transboundary cooperation

✓ The basin-wide approach has a proven track record of success in water resources management

✓ Involving the public is a fundamental requirement
Thank you & Goodbye

See you soon on www.icpdr.org

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