

SHARED BASIN - SHARED DESTINY: THE EXAMPLE OF THE ICPDR



*20th International Conference Europe-INBO
Session 5 – Transboundary & International Cooperation
28th September 2022*

Welcome to the most *international* River Basin in the World!



ICPDR Countries



Germany



Austria



Czech Republic



Slovakia



Hungary



Slovenia



Croatia



Bosnia & Herzegovina



Serbia



Montenegro



Romania



Bulgaria



Rep. of Moldova



Ukraine



European Union



EU Member States (9)

Non-EU Member States (5)

The Danube River Protection Convention (DRPC)

- Full name:
Convention on Co-operation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the River Danube
- Main objective:
ensure that surface waters and groundwater within the Danube River Basin are managed and used sustainably and equitably.
- Scope:
legal instrument for co-operation and transboundary water management in the Danube River Basin
 - Came into force in October 1998 when ratified by the 9th signatory
 - 11 Danube countries are signatories
 - 15 Contracting parties (14 countries that have more than 2000 km² of the basin and the European Commission)

The Danube River Protection Convention (DRPC)

Based on the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses (Helsinki, 1992)

- A document that involves:

- the establishment of the ICPDR

- the mandate for the ICPDR to:

- ensure conservation, improvement and rational use of surface waters and groundwater
- reduce inputs of nutrients and hazardous substances
- establish preventive measures and control hazards
- set up measures to reduce the pollution loads entering the Black Sea from sources in the Danube River Basin



The DRPC as the Legal Mandate of the ICPDR



Sustainable & equitable use of water



Protection of water & ecological resources



Reduce nutrients & hazardous substances



Manage floods & ice hazards

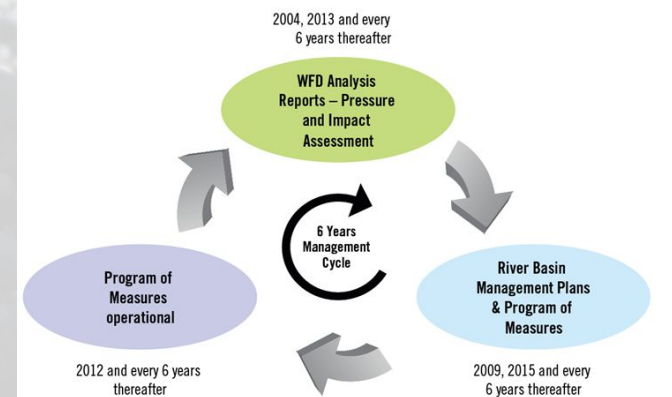
ICPDR: platform for **transboundary cooperation** on water management:

- Implementation of the **DRPC**(1998)
- Coordination of the implementation of EU **Water Framework** Directive (2000) & EU **Floods** Directive (2007)

EU Water Framework Directive – Key Principles

- Integrated water management, taking into account and addressing all pressures and impacts
- Management unit is the hydrological river basin
- Achievement of environmental objectives (good water status/potential) is a legal requirement
- Development of River Basin Management Plans including Programme of Measures for achieving WFD objectives
- 6 years management cycle
- Public participation requirements

Main implementation steps for the EU Water Framework Directive *FIGURE 1*



EU Floods Directive – Key Principles

- The aim of the Directive is to reduce and manage the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.
- Management unit is the hydrological river basin.
- Development of Flood Risk Management Plans.
- 6 years management cycle.
- Public participation requirements.



Two Management Plans for the Danube River Basin

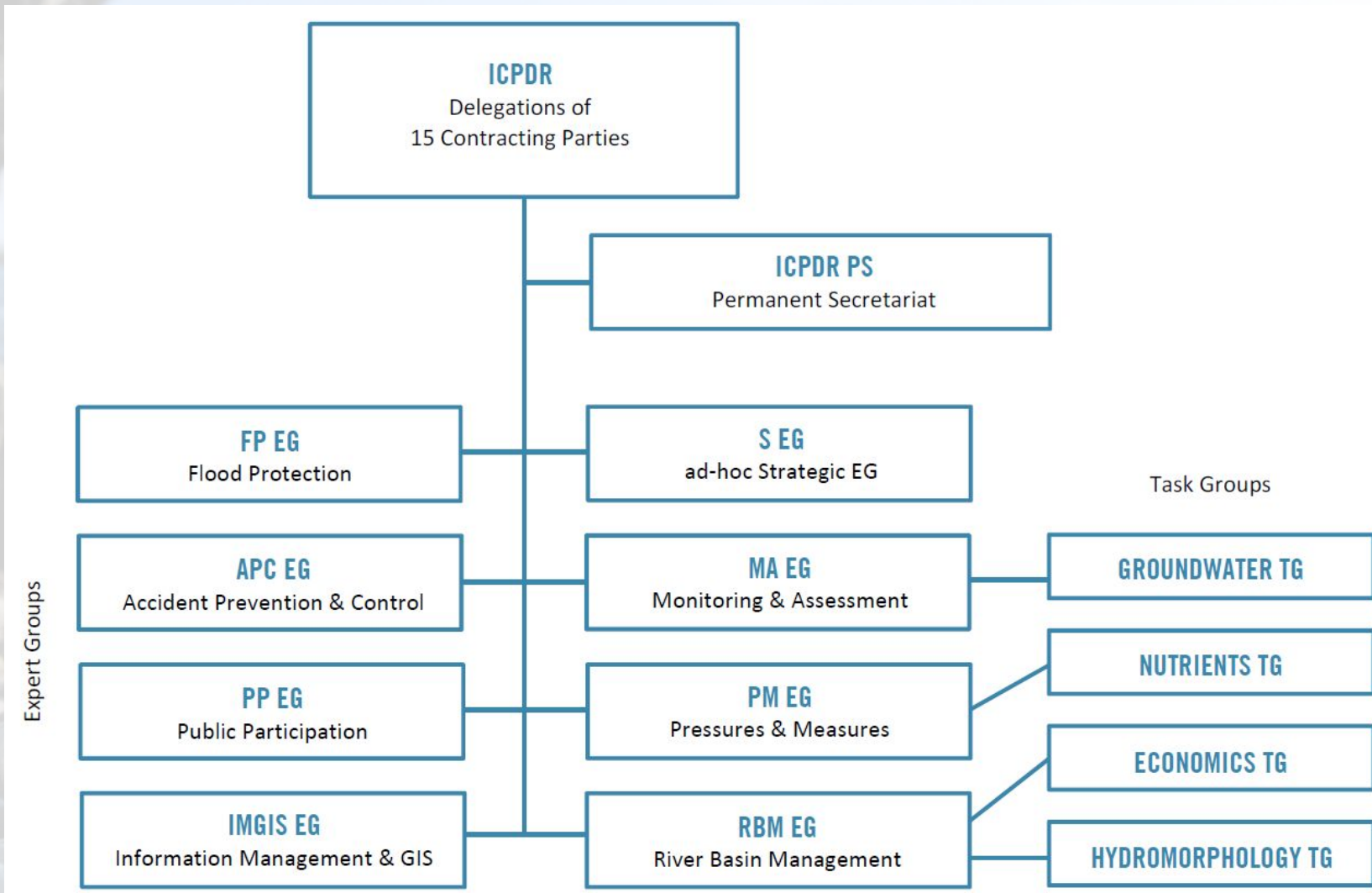


Danube River Basin
Management Plan
Update 2021



Danube Flood Risk
Management Plan
Update 2021

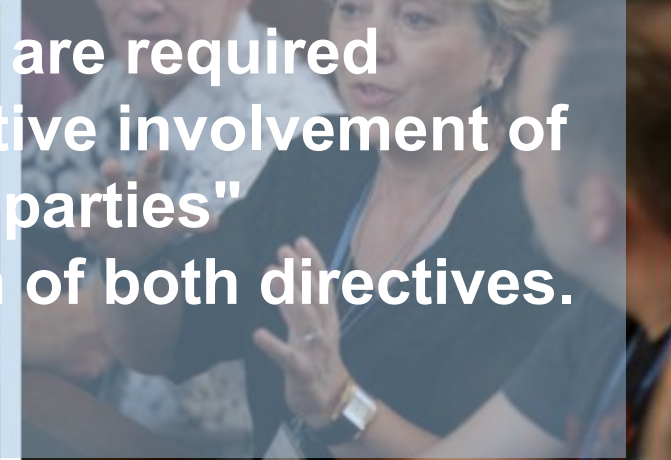
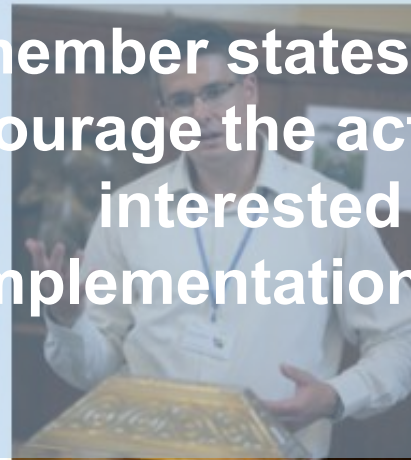
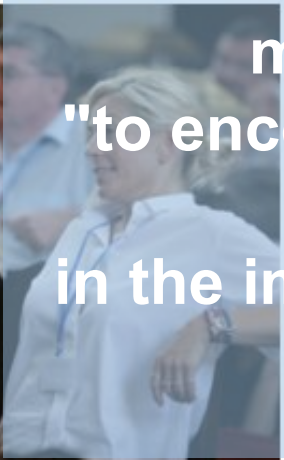




Public Participation & Transparency



Art. 14 (WFD)
Art. 9 & 10 (EFD)



member states are required
"to encourage the active involvement of
interested parties"
in the implementation of both directives.

The ICPDR Public Participation Toolbox



- 24 Observer Organisations
- A dedicated Public Participation Expert Group
- Outreach activities across a broad spectrum
- Educational tools and flagship events (Danube Day)
- Public information
- Stakeholder consultation
- Social Media
- Inter-sectorial dialogue
- Branding campaigns
- 3 Pillars for our action**



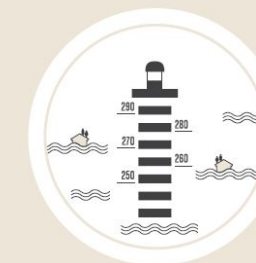
Cleaner

cleaner water



Healthier

a healthier home for aquatic
animals and plants



Safer

a safer environment for people to
live without the fear of floods

Conclusion: What The ICPDR experience has shown

The ICPDR has technical information and expertise –
working both in and out of the EU

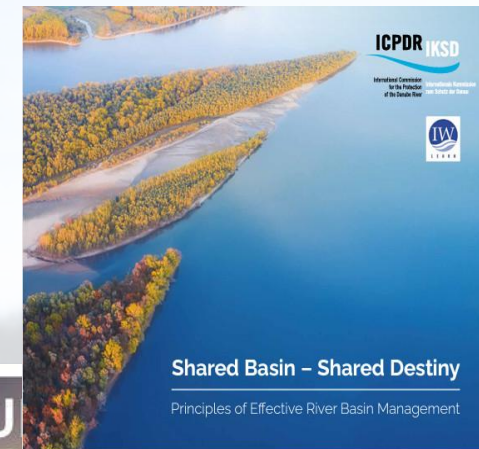
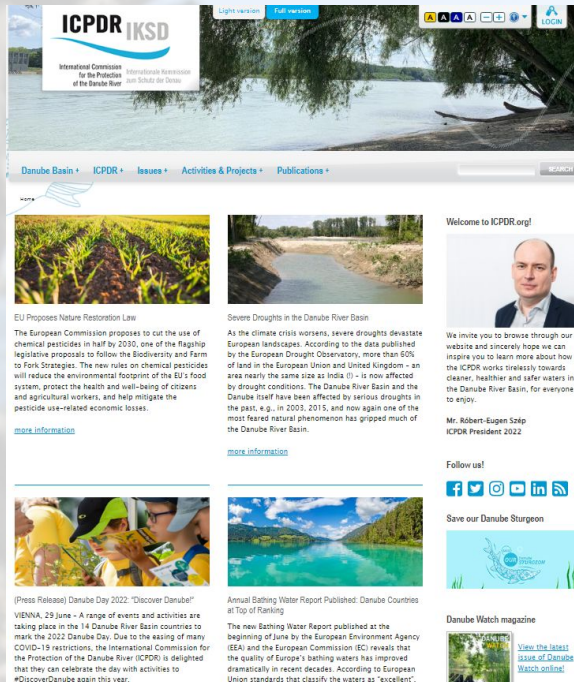
We navigate among sectors establishing solutions-oriented dialogue with
navigation, agriculture, hydropower and more – because we deal with
issues that matter to them in their daily lives

Communicating in an understandable international language for the
broader public, without losing sight of the scientific facts

Cross-fertilising new innovations and research, and finding synergies
towards ground-breaking work (e.g. JDS4 river monitoring)

Experience we can be proud of –
working for the Danube River Basin and its People

Find out more...



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<https://www.linkedin.com/company/icpdr-international-commission-for-the-protection-of-the-danube-river>

Further reading & ICPDR publications