Implementation of Climate Change Adaptation Strategy into River Basin Management Plans: DANUBE
The Danube River Basin

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The Danube: Framework conditions

- **Legal framework** for cooperation **in place** (Danube River Protection Convention, signed 1994) - ICPDR established
- 14 countries and EU are **Contracting Parties** to the Convention
  - Both Directives require **internationally coordinated management plans** for the basin-wide level
  - 1\textsuperscript{st} Danube River Basin Management Plan (WFD): Adopted in 2009
  - Joint Programme of Measures currently under implementation
  - Updated 2\textsuperscript{nd} Danube River Basin Management Plan (WFD): 2015
  - 1\textsuperscript{st} Danube Flood Risk Management Plan: 2015 – in line with WFD cycle
Part A: ICPDR – coordination on Danube basin-wide level
Part B: Sub-basin and/or national level
Part C: Management units within country
Participation in international expert groups of country representatives and stakeholders
December 2012: Danube Climate Adaptation Strategy adopted

Contents:
1. Introduction
2. Framework conditions
3. Climate change scenarios
4. Water-related impacts
5. Vulnerability
6. Overview of possible adaptation measures
7. Guiding principles on adaptation and integration into ICPDR activities
8. Next steps
Danube Climate Adaptation Strategy

Strategic approach

- Danube Climate Adaptation Strategy does not include a separate programme of measures!
- Making best use of **existing structures and water management planning instruments**
  - EU *Water Framework Directive* and EU *Floods Directive* are main tools for adaptation
  - ICPDR Expert Groups and Task Groups mandated to **incorporate Climate Adaptation** in Danube River Basin and Danube Flood Risk Management Plan
  - **Cyclic and adaptive** approach (6-years cycle)
- Strategy includes Guiding Principles (from CIS Guidance Document No. 24), supporting ICPDR Expert Groups and Task Groups in adaptation
Adaptive approach for adaptation – time horizons

Danube Climate Adaptation Strategy adopted (2012)

2nd WFD & 1st FD planning cycle 2015-2021

3rd WFD & 2nd FD planning cycle 2021-2027

Both Plans currently under preparation!
Integration of Climate Change Adaptation in Management Plans

- Integration of climate change adaptation in coordinated 2nd Danube River Basin Management Plan (WFD) and 1st Danube Flood Risk Management Plan
- Draft Plans to be available by December 2014
- 6 months public consultation (January 2015 – June 2015)
- Finalisation and adoption in December 2015
- Planned two-fold approach:
  - General chapter on overarching activities (information on strategic approach, steps taken for integration, etc.)
  - Incorporation of climate adaptation in specific relevant chapters (i.e. pressures assessment, monitoring programmes, adaptation measures as part of Joint Programme of Measures, etc.)
Indication of relevant chapters for incorporation of climate change adaptation in 2nd Danube River Basin Management Plan (similar approach foreseen for 1st Danube Flood Risk Management Plan which is also under preparation)
Mainstreaming adaptation in different IPCDR Expert Groups

ICPDR Expert Groups were mandated to fully integrate adaptation in water management planning processes.
Mainstreaming of adaptation: Questionnaires

- Targeted questionnaires for each ICPDR Expert Group
- Staring point: Scenarios, expected impacts and Guiding Principles for adaptation as included in Danube Climate Adaptation Strategy, addressing:
  1. Climate modelling, projections, scenarios, potential impacts and uncertainty
  2. How to build adaptive capacity for management under climate change?
  3. Water Framework Directive (WFD) and adaptation
  4. Flood risk management and adaptation
  5. Drought management, water scarcity and adaptation
- Matrix on relevance of Guiding Principles for different Expert Groups
- Basis for development of targeted questionnaires
Planned next steps

- Finalisation of targeted questionnaires for each Expert Group
- Discussion of questionnaires in upcoming Expert Group Meetings, composited by national and sector/NGO representatives
- Incorporation of results from questionnaires in different chapters of
  - Draft 2\textsuperscript{nd} Danube River Basin Management Plan and
  - Draft 1\textsuperscript{st} Danube Flood Risk Management Plan
- Publication of draft Plans and 6 months public consultation, including joint stakeholder workshop in spring 2015
- Incorporation of feedback and update of Plans
- Finalisation and adoption by ICPDR in December 2015
- 2015-2021: Implementation of adaptation measures
- (2018: Update of Climate Adaptation Strategy foreseen)
Thank you for your kind attention!