

REPORT ON THE "WATER SCIENCES WORKSHOP" RESULTS TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE PROPOSED CASEE PROJECT „WATER MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION IN THE DANUBE REGION"

The proposals are based on four keynote presentations and seven workshop presentations. All workshop presentations were conceived to solve water related problems in the Danube basin which are international and multidimensional. Two presentations delivered by Dr. Perger and Dr. Bakonyi (both from Hungary) were current and innovative, particularly in proposing an integrated water approach, synergies and final consensus. In the "Water Sciences" workshop the participants discussed materials which were supporting the following points:

1. The proposed CASEE Project must be based on existing legislation, in particular on the EU Water Framework Directive 2000, Danube Strategy Directive 2009, National Water Acts, Executive directives on floods and droughts, and other legislative documents.
2. The presented key-milestones reflecting priority areas should be highlighted and focused on the fact that water is exhaustible and vulnerable resource and the solution of controversial problems is based on the following issues:
 - Navigation versus landscape protection,
 - Building prosperity of the Danube region and adhering to the outlines for the nature protection (see ANNEX),
 - Preference of renewable energy sources and respecting migration of biota in river channels,
 - Usage of the Danube area for sports, recreation, free time and also respecting the environmental protection outlines,
 - Putting emphasis on waste water treatment in accordance with the EU legislation (establishment of a central water plant for the settlement of more than 2000 equivalent inhabitants),
 - Promoting Risk Management Plans for the situation of hydrological extremes (floods and drought),
 - Promoting the expertise of the participating CASEE universities in this proposed research project with particular reference to:
 - Bridging the gaps between controversial approaches,
 - Cooperation within the CASEE network and also out of it (other institutions, private sector, etc.),
 - Using the existing research granting policy for the case study development in the Danube region, if possible. EU COST project proposals seem to be the best next step,
 - Offering the CASEE participation at the Danube Region Strategy Steering Committee meetings which we consider to be a necessary step forward,
 - Consulting with institutions directly involved in the preparation of projects and studies of land and water strategy in the Danube region.

Godollo, April 29, 2011

Prof. Dr. Pavel Kovar

Prof. Dr. Kazimierz Banasik

CASEE Water Workshop chairmen

ANNEX: RIVER RESTORATION OUTLINES

- **Water quality** for a whole catchment, all tributaries, waste water treatment plants, self-purification (rapid-pools), etc.
- **Migration of biota** when there are no barriers that do not allow a longitudinal movement of benthos (invertebrates) and fish communities.
- Different **discharge capacities** between river reaches in open landscape and in intravilan (urbanised areas). Protection of people living there.
- Respecting a **proper land use** along river channels, flood plain only with permanent grassland, etc.
- River **network diversity** site view, longitudinal profile, cross-section profiles.
- **Riparian vegetation** to be used where possible in a river bottom, river banks, refugees for fauna, etc.