



Healthier

habitats and ecosystems
for aquatic plants and animals



Safer

with less damage
from floods



Cleaner

reduced pollution from settlements,
industry and agriculture



Guarding against high waters

Although floods are natural events and part of the water cycle, they cause massive damage and risk to human lives. The ICPDR has made flood prevention a priority from its very beginnings, and facilitates the implementation of the EU Floods Directive.

The Danube Flood Risk Management Plan, adopted in 2016, addresses all phases of the flood risk management cycle and focuses particularly on prevention (preventing damage caused by floods by avoiding construction of houses and industries in present and future flood-prone areas or by adapting future developments to the risk of flooding), protection (by taking measures to reduce the likelihood of floods or the impact of floods in a specific location such as restoring flood plains and wetlands) and preparedness (providing instructions to the public on what to do in the event of flooding).

Cross-border solidarity

Efficient cooperation with all neighbouring countries, including coordinating joint actions on transboundary rivers during flood and ice defence, is not only essential to prevent floods but also to implement **The Solidarity Principle**. Countries should share responsibilities fairly when measures are jointly decided for the common benefit, and measures should not be applied when their extent or impact would significantly increase flood risks in the countries upstream or downstream.

Did you know?

The Danube River Basin has been the site of many disastrous floods in the past – recent massive floods occurred in 2002, 2006, 2010, 2013 and 2014.

The work of the Danube countries and the ICPDR continues to bring together all stakeholders in the region to find a balance between the needs of the people living in the basin, and the needs of the river itself.



International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River / ICPDR

To learn more about the ICPDR and its work, visit: www.icpdr.org

Contact: secretariat@icpdr.org



Alerting downstream neighbours

Accidents can happen in the blink of an eye. But thanks to an upgraded Accident Emergency Warning System, messages about those accidents can be sent just as quickly.

The **Accident Emergency Warning System** is activated whenever there is a risk of transboundary water pollution, or threshold danger levels of hazardous substances are exceeded. The system's warning messages to downstream countries help national authorities put environmental protection and public safety measures into action. The ICPDR Secretariat maintains the central communication system, which is integrated with the ICPDR information system Danubis.

Achieving basin-wide goals

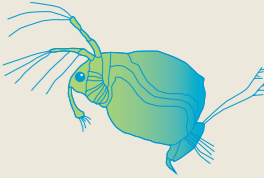
In just under 25 years, the ICPDR has reached many milestones on its path to achieving its targets for cleaner, healthier and safer waters.

- Organic emissions have been cut to half the levels of 2005
- Nutrient pollution from phosphorus has been cut by 30%
- Nitrogen emissions have been cut by 10%
- The Joint Danube Survey has closed most information gaps on hazardous substances
- Over 120 fish migration aids have been built to restore continuity and 50,000 ha of wetlands reconnected
- New sewer systems have been built to ensure good chemical status of groundwater bodies

Committed to the future of the Danube

ICPDR IKSD

International Commission
for the Protection
of the Danube River
Internationale Kommission
zum Schutz der Donau



The work of the ICPDR to face the region's challenges

The goal of the ICPDR is to achieve a cleaner, healthier and safer Danube River for all citizens to enjoy.

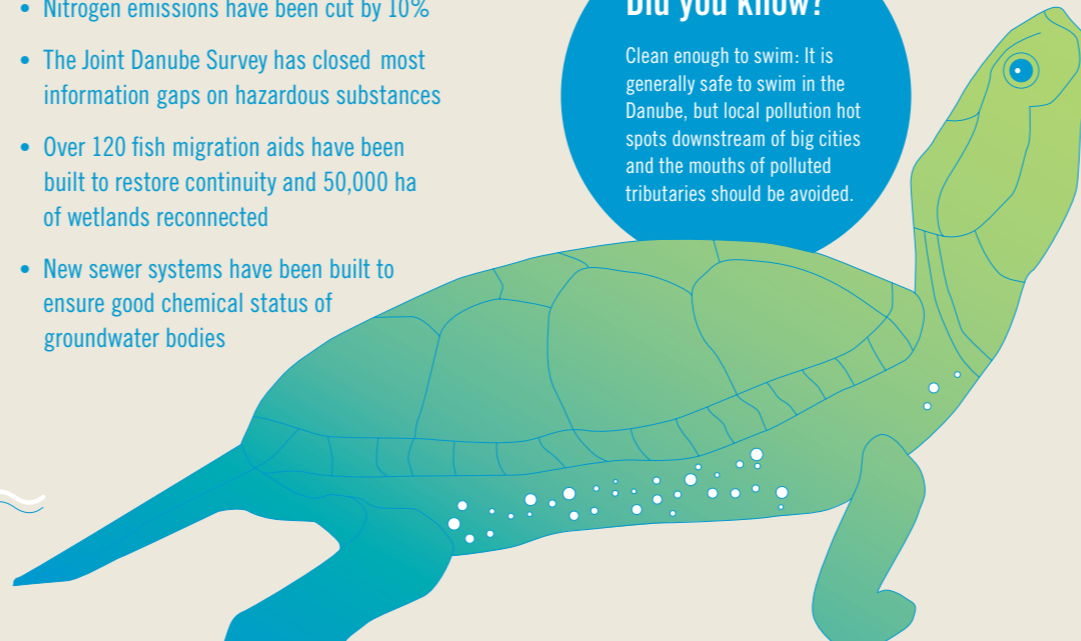
- **Cleaner Water** – reduce pollution from settlements, industry and agriculture
- **Healthier water and ecosystems** for aquatic plants and animals
- **Safer with less damage from floods**

Tackling pressures together

As a platform for cooperation, the ICPDR is constantly improving the tools used to manage environmental issues in the Danube Basin.

Did you know?

Clean enough to swim: It is generally safe to swim in the Danube, but local pollution hot spots downstream of big cities and the mouths of polluted tributaries should be avoided.



Assessing the status of the river

Water quality in the Danube has improved over the years, but there is still much work to be done to meet the region's goals for water status. To assess trends in water quality, the ICPDR oversees the **TransNational Monitoring Network**.

The network carefully monitors physical, chemical and biological conditions in the Danube and its tributaries, and provides an overview of pollution levels as well as long term trends for water quality in the basin. It is based on national monitoring programmes and includes 79 monitoring locations with up to three sampling points across the Danube and its tributaries.

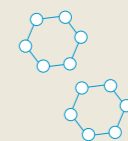
The world's biggest river expedition

As a basis for sound decision-making, Danube countries need high quality and comparable data. The **Joint Danube Survey** collects and analyses samples taken from the river to improve the validity and comparability of water quality data received from its regular monitoring programme, the TransNational Monitoring Network.

The survey is always a huge undertaking, involving several research ships, dozens of scientists and an intense, six-week sampling tour along the Danube and major tributaries. So far, surveys have been carried out in 2001, 2007 and 2013. The results of the survey are included in each cycle of the Danube River Basin Management Plan, and help Danube countries to select the right measures to solve problems in the basin.

Did you know?

Much of the scientific testing for the Joint Danube Survey, such as analysing water samples, is done in one of the ship-board laboratories as they survey the entire length of the Danube.



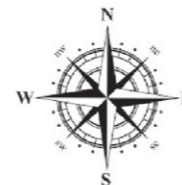
DANUBE RIVER BASIN DISTRICT OVERVIEW MAP



Produced by ICPDR, Vienna, 2018

This ICPDR product is based on national information provided by the Contracting Parties to the ICPDR (AT, BA, BG, CZ, DE, HR, HU, MD, ME, RO, RS, SI, SK, UA) and CH. EuroGlobalMap data from EuroGeographics was used for all national borders except for AL, BA, ME, where the data from the ESRI World Countries was used. Global Multi-resolution Terrain Elevation Data 2010 (GMTE2010) from USGS Seamless Data Distribution System was used as elevation data layer. Data from the European Commission (Joint Research Center) was used for the outer border of the DRBD of AL, IT, ME and PL.

Projection: ETRS89-LAEA
(Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)
Central Meridian: 20°0'0"E
Latitude of Origin: 47°0'0"N



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