
Public Participation Process 2009

icpdr **iksd**

International
Commission
for the Protection
of the Danube River

Internationale
Kommission
zum Schutz
der Donau



ICPDR Strategy for the Public Participation Process 2009:
Danube River Basin Management Plan incl. JPM

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//// Deutschland //// Österreich //// Česká republika //// Slovensko //// Magyarország //// Slovenija //// Hrvatska //// Bosna i Hercegovina //// Srbija //// Crna Gora //// România //// България //// Moldova ////

1. Background

In the context of efforts to promote the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in the entire Danube river basin, the ICPDR, in its role as coordinating platform, has put a special emphasis on the promotion of public participation and the implementation of certain public participation activities. These activities are carried out on the basis of the guidelines described in the Danube River Basin Strategy for Public Participation in River Basin Management Planning 2003-1009 and according to the approach stipulated in article 14 of the Directive and detailed in the EU CIS Horizontal Guidance Document on Public Participation.

According to article 14 of WFD the draft RBM Plans should be made available for comments since all, stakeholders and broad public as well, are to be actively involved before finalization of RBM Plans. In order to facilitate this, the following process is suggested for the consultation of the draft Danube River Basin Management Plan incl. the Joint Programme of Measures. This process has been designed under the assumption that the main focus of involving the public is given on a national level and that the respective national processes have been started in December 2008 already.

Note that all preparatory work has to be done by Monday, May 18, 2009, since the period for the public information process has been defined by the ICPDR from mid May until end July

Timeframe: starting now until end July (entire process finalised by end of 2009)

Four different channels for informing the public and receiving comments on the draft DRBM Plan are suggested based on the “Outline of the public participation activities of the ICPDR in 2008-2009 - to secure the active participation of stakeholders in the development of the Danube River Basin Management Plan” (IC/WD/370) approved by the OM in December 2008.

1. “round table discussions” with **selected stakeholder groups** – organized and conducted by the Secretariat, no budget included in this strategy since it is carried out in a parallel process on request by the EGs. These round table discussion have been organised on an ad-hoc basis since the beginning of the drafting of the Danube River Basin Management Plan (e.g. with representatives of the metallurgic industry, the detergent industry).

2. Providing comments to the DRBM Plan in form of simple e-mails - **mostly addressing professionals and representatives of professional stakeholder groups**
3. Providing comments to the DRBM Plan using the questionnaire (on-line or via email) - it should be formulated for the interested **public** and **professionals** with the possibility to be filled in and sent /put on-line -
4. Participation in the Stakeholder Forum to discuss the DRBM Plan - only for **invited stakeholders** (see below)

The comments received through this process have to be collected and sent to the RBM EG and all other relevant EGs by end of July. In addition, comments of international relevance received in the national consultation processes will be considered and filtered by the countries and also be given to the RBM EG. From August onwards the respective EGs will consider the comments and include the relevant ones in the final DRBM Plan.

2. Preparatory work

- update the ICPDR Stakeholder list (of 2005)
 - o mid April RBM EG, PM EG and PP EG comment and provide input to the list
 - o end March: final list ready
- letter to all stakeholders of the ICPDR Stakeholder List: inform about and invite to participate in the PP Process 09 (incl. invitation to the Stakeholder Forum)
 - o End February: letter ready
 - o April: 1st letter sent to all addresses
 - o beginning of May: reminder sent to all addresses
- simple and clear web page for posting the draft DRBM Plan, the on-line questionnaire and other information related to the PP Process 09
 - o end of March: page prepared and tested
 - o 18 May: draft DRBM Plan put online
- formulation of questions for the questionnaire
 - o mid April draft questionnaire ready
 - o end March: comments from other TEs
 - o 27 April: comments from PP EG, RBM EG and PM EG

- 18 May: questionnaire on the web page

3. Follow – up work:

- July: “Thank you” e-mails to be sent to all participants in the PP Process 09 in summer
- The procedure undertaken for the public participation will be summarised for the final DRBM Plan. This will also include an outline on what comments have been taken into account in the final version – to be placed on the ICPDR website
- End 2009: Final mailing to all stakeholder and informing them on the final DRBM Plan

4. Outline for the Stakeholder Forum

<u>Expected outcome:</u>	discuss and receive comments on Draft DRBM Plan incl. the JPM
<u>Expected number of participants:</u>	80 – 100 persons
<u>Duration:</u>	1,5 days, 29-30 June 2009
<u>Venue:</u>	Bratislava – location to be decided
<u>Main themes to be discussed:</u>	the 4 SWMIs (plus groundwater) from the DRBM Plan in 4 or 5 working sessions

Program outline:

- first day morning
 - welcome speech ICPDR President
 - overall plenary – PW
 - overall presentation Draft DRBM Plan
 - 4/5 introductory speeches on the main topics
- first day afternoon

- 4/5 working sessions on the main topics – with good, professional moderators
- second day morning
 - reports from the working sessions
 - wrap-up session – all comments are summarized (a lunch break between the two sessions is needed for preparing the final conclusions)

Notes:

- the forum has to be prepared with strong involvement of the ES and the ICPDR Secretariat and based on the input of the countries.
- the program proposal has to be drafted by the Secretariat and approved by the EG Chairs
- the materials to be discussed in the forum (draft DRBM Plan) should be sent well in advance to the participants
- the deadline for registration for the forum should be at least 2 weeks before its start

-end-