PRESS INFORMATION

Facts and Figures about the Danube River Basin

The Danube River Basin is the catchment area of the second largest river in Europe and covers over 800,000km² in 18 different countries, connecting Eastern and Western Europe. This makes it the world’s most international river basin. More than 81 Mio people - with different cultures, histories and languages - from the Black forest in Germany down to the shores of the Black Sea, call the Danube Basin their home.

The Danube river and its more than 300 tributaries serve many demands, as for example supply for irrigation, drinking water, power production, fisheries etc. Agricultural and industrial activities have led to increased pressure on the water. Water pollution has drastically undermined the Danube's biodiversity. Since rivers know no borders, it is only through a joint effort of the Basin countries that environmental problems of the Danube River Basin can be addressed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Danube in short:</th>
<th>The Danube River Basin in short:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length: 2.780 km</td>
<td>Size: 801.463 km² (ca. 10% of continental Europe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigable length: 2412 km</td>
<td>Inhabitants: 81 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual water discharge: 202 bn m³ (average 6,460 m³/sec)</td>
<td>Size of the Danube Delta: 679.000 ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main tributaries: Tisza, Sava, Inn, Morava, Drava, Velika Morava, Iskar, Siret, Prut</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18 countries make the Danube River Basin the most international river basin in the world

Connecting Eastern and Western Europe, the Danube and its basin includes portions of 18 countries. Germany (DE), Austria (AT), Czech Republic (CZ), Slovakia (SK), Hungary (HU), Slovenia (SI), Croatia (HR), Bosnia-Herzegovina (BA), Serbia-Montenegro (CS), Romania (RO), Bulgaria (BG), Moldova (MD), Ukraine (UA) as well as Switzerland, Italy, Poland, Albania and Macedonia (with very small shares).
The share of the different countries (%) of the Danube River Basin area¹
(Switzerland, Italy, Poland, Albania and Macedonia are not included)

International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)
The International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) is an international
organisation consisting of 13 cooperating states and the European Union. Since its establishment in
1998, the ICPDR has grown into one of the largest and most active international bodies of river basin
management expert in Europe. ICPDR deals not only with the Danube itself, but with the whole Danube
River Basin, which includes also its tributaries and the ground water resources.

The ultimate goal of the ICPDR is to implement the Danube River Protection Convention (DRPC) and
make it a living tool. Its ambitious mission is to promote and coordinate sustainable and equitable
water management, including conservation, improvement and rational use of waters for the benefit of
the Danube River Basin countries and their people. The ICPDR pursues its mission by making
recommendations for the improvement of water quality, developing mechanisms for flood and accident
control, agreeing standards for emissions and by assuring that these are reflected in the Contracting
Parties’ national legislations and applied in their policies.

Further information and contact:
International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) ikp (Communication & PR)
Permanent Secretariat Ms. Yvonne Masopust
Ms. Jasmine Bachmann T: +43 524 77 90 15
T: +43 26060 5738 F: +43 524 77 90 5
M: +43 664 2140626 E: yvonne.masopust@ikp.at
F: +43 26060 5895 www.ikp.at
E: icpdr@unvienna.org
www.icpdr.org