
Terms of Reference of the Flood Protection Expert Group (FP EG)



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International
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zum Schutz
der Donau

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(FP EG) of the ICPDR

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The FP EG is an Expert Body of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR).
- 1.2 The ToR provide the mandate to the FP EG to take action in the subject areas described below. The ToR also provide guidance to the work, which the FP EG is expected to undertake, and to its general working arrangements.

2. Objective (Mission statement)

The overall objective of the FP EG is to develop and coordinate the actions outlined by the ICPDR Action Programme for Sustainable Flood Protection as well as those required by the implementation of the European Floods Directive at the Danube River Basin District level.

3. Responsibilities

- 3.1 The FP EG is responsible for initiating, guiding and ensuring the successful completion of the work required under its ToR.
- 3.2 The FP EG will report regularly to the ICPDR and its Standing Working Group on the implementation of ongoing activities, on proposed activities and the results achieved.
- 3.3 Establishment - subject to the approval of the ICPDR or its Standing Working Group - and guidance of time limited Task Groups to provide needed input to fulfil the tasks listed below.
- 3.4 Proposed activities with policy or financial implications for the ICPDR must be approved, in advance, by the ICPDR.

4. Main tasks of the FP EG

The FP EG is entrusted to carry out the following main tasks:

- 4.1 Supporting and coordinating preparation of the flood action plans in sub-basins in line with the Action Programme for Sustainable Flood Protection in the Danube River Basin and ensuring any necessary updates after their publishing;
- 4.2 Basin-wide coordination of the implementation of the European Floods Directive, giving particular attention to a harmonized approach in preparation of preliminary flood risk assessment, flood hazard maps and flood risk maps and flood risk management plans;

- 4.3 Elaboration of recommendations for a common approach in the assessment of flood-prone areas and evaluation of flood risk;
- 4.4 Development and improvement of data exchange;
- 4.5 Strengthening of efficiency and operability of Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems at the basin-wide level ensuring interlinking of the national or regional systems and supporting the further development and operation of the Danube Flood Alert System as a part of the EFAS;
- 4.6 Cooperation with the RBM EG on all aspects of integration of the Danube River Basin District Management Plan and the Flood Risk Management Plan for the Danube River Basin District;
- 4.7 Coordination of the reporting requirements under the EFD on the Danube River Basin District level, thereby taking into account the reporting tool of the EC, the 'Water Information System for Europe' (WISE). This task shall be closely coordinated with all relevant EGs, in particular the IM/GIS EG.
- 4.8 Coordination of the activities in the Danube River Basin with the relevant EFD implementation activities at the European Union level.
- 4.9 Preparation, as appropriate, of project proposals in support of its tasks.
- 4.10 Review its ToR on a regular basis and propose amendments for approval by the ICPDR.
- 4.11 Preparation of appropriate information for dissemination to interested bodies and the public about FP EG activities in close cooperation with the PP EG.
- 4.12 Development of a Work Program for future activities of the FP EG. This will be prepared according to the requirements of the ICPDR and should include action(s) planned for the following year (in detail) and for subsequent years (in outline);

5. Cooperation with other ICPDR bodies

The FP EG will collaborate closely with all other EGs. The FP EG has a coordinating function in the preparation of all necessary steps for the implementation of the EU Floods Directive (i.e. the development of the Flood Risk Management Plan for the Danube River Basin District).

6. Membership

- 6.1 The FP EG consists of the representatives as nominated by the Contracting Parties to be a standing member of the FP EG. Additional experts may also participate in meetings if their particular specialist knowledge is required.
- 6.2 Each Contracting Party may propose candidates (one or more) to participate in time-limited Task Groups organised to address specific issues.
- 6.3 Representatives of other organisations may become accredited observers to the FP EG and/or its Task Groups by following the relevant procedures of the ICPDR relating to observer status.

7. Working Arrangements

The general working arrangements for the FP EG are provided by the ICPDR Rules of Procedure.