Our Opinion – Our Danube

ICPDR Stakeholder Consultation Workshop – 29th to 30th June 2021

THEMATIC AREA 2 - Hydromorphological Alterations & Integration Issues
Discussion highlights

- Hydromorphological conditions are to be tackled jointly within the integrated water management issues.
- Multiple factors hinder the implementation of hydromorphological measures, mainly multiple (conflicting) interest, low institutional capacity to implement projects.
- Hydromorphological aspects linked to ecological corridors (green measures) are transboundary issue.
- Paradigm shift is happening and need to be supported by further educational activities.
- Transdisciplinary discussion and research seeking common solution on cumulative pressures (drought, NBS, win-win measures, and integrated measures) is needed.
Call for Action

- Develop an action plan for improving the process of measures implementation within the next planning cycle.
- Improve the current knowledge-base on the potential increase of hydropower in energy portfolio of countries.
- Prepare the pipeline projects for incoming funding opportunities based on integrative approach.
- Continue developing practical guidelines on green measures application in tackling ecological and hydromorphological challenges.
- Support the management of conflicts rooted in the past hydromorphological alterations.
Summarizing messages

• Increase the level of ambition in integration issues, working closely with the relevant sectors, including agriculture and the general public

• Improve public communication by explaining how people can profit personally from measures such as restoration

• Increase funding available for hydromorphological issues at the level similar to investments targeting pollution

• Share the financial burden for project with international / basin wide benefits

• Support projects addressing more than one objective (seeking for synergies)

• Focus on improvement of existing status and preventing further deterioration of water status

• Talk more about solutions and potential instead of (only) problems. It is time for action!