

Thematic Areas Background Document

Thematic Area 5: Communication and Public Participation

- Article 14 'Public Information and Consultation' of the EU Water Framework
 Directive "to encourage the active involvement of all interested parties in the
 implementation of the Directive"; Public information and consultation are also
 stipulated in Articles 9 and 10 of the EU Floods Directive ... At the ICPDR
 however, raising awareness and informing wider our stakeholder groups goes
 far beyond simply meeting legal obligations. Public consultations facilitated by the
 ICPDR at the basin-wide level pursue public participation through 5 key activities:
 - 1. Direct collection of comments, including observers & other stakeholders
 - 2. Stakeholder consultation workshop
 - 3. Social media campaign (#HaveYourSay, #OurOpinion#OurDanube)
 - 4. Online questionnaire
 - 5. Dissemination of information via website dedicated page, Danube Watch
- An important form of stakeholder involvement is online access to all planning documents throughout every stage of their development. Transparency is of the utmost importance.
- Maintaining a dialogue throughout the day-to-day execution of the plans is similarly vital, and the ICPDR seeks to constantly both inform the public and be informed by the public.
- The EU Floods Directive (Articles 6 & 10) also requires public access to the preliminary flood risk assessment, the flood hazard maps, the flood risk maps and the flood risk management plans.

