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Pilot Project - Atmospheric Precipitation -
Protection and efficient use of Fresh Water:
Integration of Natural Water Retention
Measures in River basin management

*Synthesis of the
Danube Regional Workshop*

28-29/01/2014, Szentendre, Hungary

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REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER



Note to the reader

This note was prepared by Jovanka Ignjatovic and Imola Koszta (REC) with input provided by rapporteurs and facilitators from the work group sessions and contribution received from speakers and other workshop participants.

Rapporteurs & Facilitators: Andras Kis and Gabor Ungvari (REKK), Imola Koszata and Jovanka Ignjatovic

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Table of Contents

- Note to the reader..... 2
- a. The NWRM initiative in a nutshell..... 4
- b. Objectives of the workshop..... 4
- 2. NWRM in the XXX Region..... 6
- a. Main features of NWRM implementation in the Region 6
- b. Main challenges and issues with respect to NWRM implementation in the Region 9
- 3. Feedback on NWRM project tasks 10
- a. Task 1: the database and other project tools..... 10
- b. Task 2: the regional fora..... 10
- c. Task 3: the proposed guidance 11
- 4. Key messages and lessons learnt for advancing with the NWRM project..... 11
- Annex I - Workshop Agenda 13
- Annex 2 – List of participants 18

1. The context

a. The NWRM initiative in a nutshell

In the context of the EU Green Infrastructure Policy, there is an increasing policy interest in the so-called Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM) for improving the water status on hydromorphology and diffuse pollution. NWRMs have been brought to the water policy arena because of their potential contribution for water management¹, among other important contributions to attain environmental policy objectives. More specifically, “among the measures that can greatly contribute to limiting the negative effects of floods and droughts, is green infrastructure, particularly natural water retention measures. These include restoring and maintaining floodplains and wetlands, which can hold water in periods of abundant — or excessive — precipitation for use in periods of scarcity. Green infrastructure can help ensure the provision of ecosystem services in line with the EU Biodiversity Strategy. Reducing soil sealing is another measure that can diminish flood risks. These measures should be included in both RBMPs and [Flood Risk Management Plans] (FRMPs) and, as mentioned, should become a priority for financing under the [Common Agricultural Policy] (CAP), Cohesion and Structural Funds” (COM (2012) 673).

To respond to this interest, DG ENV launched a dedicated study entitled **Pilot Project - Atmospheric Precipitation - Protection and efficient use of Fresh Water: Integration of Natural Water Retention Measures in River basin management**. This study has a dual aim:

- To develop sound and comprehensive **European (web-based) knowledge on NWRM**. The knowledge base will structure available information on technical, environmental, socio-economic, governance and implementation aspects of NWRM, mobilizing existing practical experiences, studies and stakeholders’ knowledge.
- To contribute to the development of an **European NWRM “community of practice”** by bringing together all parties interested in the design and implementation of NWRM the creation of partnerships and information exchange. This is achieved by the development of **four informal regional networks**: the Danube river basin, the Mediterranean sea region, Northern Europe/the Baltic Sea and Western Europe.

In close interaction with NWRM practitioners and experts, the initiative will ultimately produce a **NWRM practical guide** that can **support the design and implementation of NWRM** in Europe.

b. Objectives of the workshop

The Regional Workshops are part of the Regional Processes outlined above. The overall objectives of these workshops are to:

- Update participants on activities within the NWRM initiative;

¹ Other mentions to NWRMs in the Blueprint to Safeguard Europe’s Water Resources (COM (2012) 673), its Impact Assessment (SWD (2012) 382) or the Stella Report develop a particular aspect: NWRMs are a type of Green Infrastructure; NWRMs are one amongst other kinds of measures to enhance resource efficiency; etc.

- Consolidate the exchange of experiences and knowledge initiated in the regional networks and web fora, ultimately strengthening the regional networks.

The present workshop is the first to be held in the context of the Danube Regional Network; a second workshop will be held in July 2014. The two rounds of workshops are held in parallel in all four Regional Networks established under the NWRM initiative and have common overall objectives. This first round of workshops, in particular, aims at:

- Introducing NWRM
- Presenting the NWRM initiative and regional process;
- Sharing views on constraints, difficulties, factors for success that are relevant to the design and implementation of NWRM;
- Collect views on the structure of the knowledge base, and the facilities that are offered to users to extract information;
- Identify expectations vis-à-vis the practical guide to be developed as part of Task 3;
- Agree on follow-up steps for the regional network, while encouraging contribution to the case studies.

The present document provides a synthesis of the main elements and lessons learnt which emerged during the Danube Region Workshop which was held in Szentendre, Hungary on 28-29 of January 2014.

2. NWRM in the Danube Region

a. Main features of NWRM implementation in the Region

The Danube regional process was design to take into account the Danube specificities related to the implementation of NWRM, to provide case studies of NWRM applications in riparian countries, as well as to support the establishment of the regional NWRM network of practitioners and interested parties within the Danube River Basin and to raise awareness throughout the Danube River Basin on the potential role NWRMs can play in future WFD, FD or adaptation plans and strategies.

The Danube process focuses on the required characteristics of NWRM in order to initiate exchange of experiences related to the NWRMs, to learn about the current status and planned progress of developing and implementing a strategy and action plan on water management and to identify needs of authorities and key stakeholders regarding the preparation of the second WFD management cycle and the development of the 2nd DRBM Plan best deliver their intended benefits, and seeks to promote the discussion about Mediterranean specific challenges and priorities,

Mr. Balázs Medgyesy, Hungarian Commissioner for the EUSDR, who highlighted the link between the project and the EUSDR. He emphasized the relevance of the workshop for the EUSDR, as the project provides wide support for the development of RBMPs and their implementation. Also he expressed support to the project by fostering implementation in the Danube network and putting the results in practice.

The expectations are both ambitious and demanding and are targeted to create a community of practitioners on NWRM in the Danube Region that can take over the project's outcomes. For that reason, the workshop has been planned in full collaboration with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) and its technical experts.

Mr Raimund Mair, ICPDR technical expert, presented on-going activities in the Danube countries in the framework of the ICPDR, concerning links to the CIS and implementation of the NWRM in the 2nd RBM Plans.

The Danube community of practice on NWRM covers Austria, Germany/Bavaria (which is also part of the Western regional network), Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia (which is also part of the Mediterranean regional network), Romania and Bulgaria.

NWRMs "practice" experience from Austria was presented by **Dr. Veronika Koller-Kreimel**, Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Aquatic Ecology Subunit, concentrating on the perspective of an alpine country with focus on flood protection.

The workshop participants, in total 45 mainly senior experts, were representing EU Strategy for the Danube River (UESDR), competent authorities, academics and CSO, as WWF, IAD, GWP, etc. working in the field of water, agriculture, land use and environmental issues.

Landscape restoration program and integrated river basin management was presented by **Mr Michail Kravcik**, Chairman at NGO "People and Water", illustrating several concrete water retention solutions developed and implemented in Slovakia.

The relevant contributions are also welcomed and expected from other Danube non EU Member states as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine and Moldova.



During **the study visit** to the Szentendre-Pomazi plane wetland restoration participants had the opportunity to learn about the possibility of water retention, nature conservation and sustainable landscape management in the Budapest agglomeration. Information on complex landscape rehabilitation and utilisation proposals with an eye on ecological goals of the Szentendre-Pomázi plane was presented. These proposals offering a number of benefits

originating from water retention: climate regulation, flood protection, gentle landscape utilisation with a nature trail, grazing with native animal species and their exhibition, fishing, bathing in a lake were presented.

The Danube region network also benefits from experiences and practices from the other EU regions, which were presented and discussed during the plenary and Thematic Group Sessions (TGSs). In particular, examples from, the Netherlands, Poland and Mediterranean coast of Croatia have been shared and reliability in the Danube region have been elaborated.

Mr. Frank van Lamoen, Head of International cooperation Nature, Environment, Water and Climate Unit, Province North Brabant, Direction Ecology, presented practice in the Netherlands by focusing on NWRM implemented in the Province of North Brabant

The three **Thematic Group Sessions (TGSs)** were held in parallel discussing in details issues of effectiveness, costs and benefits when implementing the NWRMs concerning thematic matters of agriculture and forestry (TGS a), urban areas (TGS b) and natural areas (TGS c).

The TGS on Agriculture and Forestry (TGS a) was chaired by Mr Gábor Ungvári, REKK, who provided general introduction regarding implementation of NWRMs in agricultural and forestry sectors.

A Case study on “Agriculture and Land Use in Lonja Field in Croatia was then presented by Prof. Dr. Milan Mesic and Aleksandra Jurišić (Faculty of Agriculture, HR).

The discussion concerning the Croatian case study focused on how water retention measures can be integrated into complex problem of an area with rapid social changes and whether NWRM’s can contribute to improve the social situation in a deteriorating area.

Details of the Polish small retention program were discussed. The program started in 1995 with the aim to create 965 mill.m³ retention capacities. The results show the overwhelming share of small reservoir creation. 5% of the programs focused on soil storage, 10% on forests. The financial sources were mainly provided by the regions. The driving force behind the implementation of the program was to cope with the threat of future droughts / water shortage situations. To draw further conclusions on the measures’ effects only limited direct monitoring information exists, case by case approach is needed.

Discussion on the information need to induce change on the level of the policy process was carried out. The detailed information of a measure may not prove useful to project performance by transferring it, but they prove useful to serve as an example what could be the goal/condition of a successful implementation elsewhere.

The TGS on Urban Areas (TGS b) was chaired by Mr Andras Kis (REKK), who provided general introduction regarding implementation of NWRMs in urban areas.

Speakers, Mr Milan Suchánek from Czech Republic and Ms Mira Shalabi from Croatia were talking about NWRM concerning “Drainage Area Study of the city of Hradec Kralove and its utilization for urban planning” and “contribution of constructed wetlands2, respectively.

Ms Gorana Ćosić-Flajsig presented cooperation between Croatia and Slovenia on analysing inadequate water quality of the Vonarje/Sutlansko lake and possibility of restoration and utilization concerning rivers between Slovenia and Croatia that did not fulfil its intended reservoir role.

Each presentation was followed by a brief presentation specific Q & A session, while the last third of the TGS was devoted to a discussion of urban NWRMs, their benefits, implementation challenges, and instruments that could help their penetration. An additional, unplanned short presentation was offered by Michal Kravcik, Slovakia, on the relationship of the local water cycle and urban NWRMs.

The TGS on Natural Areas (TGS c) was chaired by Ms Jovanka Ignjatovic (REC), who provided general introduction regarding implementation of NWRMs in natural areas.

Mr Peter Bakonyi (HU) was talking about NWRM in Flood Management, current actions and further plans, all based on his expertise and insight as long lasting *chairman of the Flood Protection Expert Group of the ICPDR and coordinator of the Priority Area 5 of the EUSDR.*

Ms Irene Lucius shared experience which WWF has gained through years implementing various floodplain restoration projects in the Danube basin, while Mr Ulrich SCHWARZ (IAD) was talking about restoration potential for floodplains in the Danube River Basin.

Ms Ileana Vasilescu, senior adviser in the Ministry of Environment and Climate Changes was talking about the Romanian experiences in practical green Infrastructure case. Her presentation was focused on political measures in water management with particular example of governmental decision to support a Programme of economic and ecological replanning of Romanian sector of the Danube Flood Plain on 2006.

Ms Veraddina Pavlova from Bulgarian Ministry of Environment and Water presented several concrete case studies on wetlands restoration and conservation concerning natural water retention measures.

The presentations provided for the participants and for the project team demonstrated diversity of sources of information as well as related studies on NWRMs and facts of already implemented case studies, lessons learnt.

During the last session on **Building common understanding**, future steps and synergies between the project and the existing regional initiatives and actions were discussed. Concerning the **coordination of actions between the project and ICPDR**, Mr. Raimund Mair indicated as an opportunity the integration of the project results in the planning process of the WFD and the FD, namely in the PoM or in the upcoming Danube FRMP. Results and certain elements of the project can be taken on-board in different chapters of the plans, such as the one on hydromorphological issues, or how to address nutrient reduction etc. He highlighted that there is a clear need to coordinate implementation of the WFD and FD, and it is clearly stated also in the FD. He mentioned the EU resource document which points out these linkages, adopted by the Water Directors last year in December and might be interesting source of information for the project. In the upcoming Danube RBMP it is planned to have

a specific chapter on the linkage between the WFD and the FD. He stressed that it would be useful to have a look at the results of the project, maybe to point out certain planning principles also which could be highlighted in both upcoming management plans. The draft plans will be finished at the end of 2014, and public consultation is planned for first half of 2015, which is a real opportunity to further mainstream and disseminate the different benefits resulting from NWRM. Further possibility would be the joint technical WS on the coordination of the planning of WFD and the FD in beginning of 2015, where the project results could be presented. Also joint public consultation events for the people working on both issues are planned, giving further opportunity to communicate the results. He drew attention to the possibilities from the EUSDR, as there is a specific action line under Priority Area 5, a specific project idea on wetlands and floodplains. He suggested that it would be worth to follow-up and use possibilities to get more concrete transboundary projects running in the Danube region in which the results of the current project could feed into. Furthermore it would be very useful to share the project results in the different Expert Groups (EG) in the ICPDR, most prominently the Flood Protection EG, RBM EG, Hydromorphological Task Group, having national experts on-board it would be a logical entry point to disseminate the project results and to create awareness.

Representatives from other regions (Westerns, Baltic and Mediterranean) also summarized possibilities for synergies and coordination between their activities and the project. Mr **Frank van Lamoen** stated that the measures implemented in the Danube region are much alike to the ones in the Western region, what differs is the geographical setting, regional circumstances and the governance systems. Looking at implementation it is good to have an exchange on technical things, however if you want to change the attitude towards natural water retention from really technical oriented way to a more natural way, support from financing instruments and governance systems to work together with other parties is needed. He pointed out that besides sharing information to the central guide/database it would be worth to try to define some real cooperation projects in the coming years and to set up cooperation in a specialized field, a sort of market place to start implementing measures. Mr **Marek Gielczewski** (Poland) mentioned as cooperation point the issue of efficiency of the measures, how different is the effort in different conditions, how precise the measures should be described. He also added that the Baltic region can learn from the Danube region, as through ICPDR the countries have a more formal cooperation. Ms **Mira Shalabi** (Croatia/Mediterranean region) mentioned as an interest the application method of the best solutions and practices to all regions, and emphasized the importance of the information dissemination.

At the end of the workshop Mr Benoît Fribourg-Blanc summarized and gave hints for next steps within the project. He informed the participants that the networks are expected to continue after the lifetime of the project. In the project implementation connection to the WFD and FD implementation will be fostered in order to better target the measures towards the legislation implementation. He ensured the participants that the summary and conclusions from all the regional workshops will be disseminated to the whole audience.

b. Main challenges and issues with respect to NWRM implementation in the Region

1. Administrative/legal constraints

2. Economic aspects occurring due to change of land use, balance offered by the green infrastructure has to be found
3. Financing
4. Investments
5. Maintenance, including institutional and organisational set-up
6. Lack of knowledge and interest
7. Land planning process
8. Safety and health considerations
9. A key message of literature was reinforced: density (space) a critical limiting factor in many settlements (UA)

3. Feedback on NWRM project tasks

a. Task 1: the database and other project tools

There was some concern about the sustainability of the database. A large effort is being devoted to the production and population of the database, but it was not clear to participants how the database would be maintained after the completion of this project.

Need for indication of semi-quantitative information in the table, i.e. how much the particular measure can contribute to the objectives (significant, medium, minor benefit etc.). It is important to highlighting the contribution of different measures to the legal/policy obligations as it would be an “incentive” to implement these measures.

Mr Frank van Lamoen considered that the definition is not so important; the bottom-line is to be able to retain/store your water somewhere in the system, either in a natural or non-natural way. He highlighted the importance of where to place the measures in a catchment area/system.

Michal Kravcik mentioned experience from Slovakia concerning development of water retention measures. The issue of flood prevention is related to the damage of landscape and development of parameters easily understandable by people is important. Looking at the principle, the goal is not to build measures, but to save water in nature and to recharge water in the system, after which the process concerning the type of measures can be developed.

Gabor Ungvari considered that when facing barriers in implementation of the measures we have to think in another way, first there is knowledge on the effect of water retention which somehow drives the common sense and which is what policies are based and what ordinary people can accept as a guidance in their life. When somehow these are integrated into their lives this is when we can practice good policies. Different countries are in different phases of understanding the complex problem dealing with water retention. He emphasized that taking in consideration the different levels of the countries is crucial as otherwise it might result in failed policies at international, national and local level. He raised the question how to structure the diverse information what is experienced now.

b. Task 2: the regional fora

Participants were satisfied with the regional workshop and asked to be updated about the project progress and products development regularly. Next workshop should continue with identification of

good practices and extend the thematic scope on other sectors and cross-cutting issues, in particular navigation and tourism.

c. Task 3: the proposed guidance

There is a need for a more clearly explained purpose, objective and relevance in regard to the proposed guidance, as well as the targeted users.

Agnes Tahy raised the question concerning terminology of “flood protection” and “flood defence”, and considers that the project might be a good opportunity to distinguish between “flood defence” and “flood protection” when water retention measures are used in flood protection.

Frank van Lamoen drew attention that we shouldn’t focus only on flood defence when looking at these measures, as there is also water shortage and buffering water for later use.

Irene Lucius suggested another option for terminology to be used: flood management, which implies that complete defense, is not possible. She made reference to Veronika Koller-Kreimel’s presentation, namely to the statement that NWRM don’t always have positive impact on water quality, and she pointed out that this should be looked into the definition as this fact is depended on how you define water retention measures. Concerning the cost-benefit of ecosystem services she said that it is true that we reach the limits of valuation of ecosystem services, but it is very important not to talk only about monetary values, but also about other values.

Peter Bakonyi suggested using the term of flood risk management, as it includes prevention activities during the event, flood fighting, flood defence, flood management, and post-event activities as well, covering the whole activity circle done during flood management.

4. Key messages and lessons learnt for advancing with the NWRM project....

Concerning the **proposed list of measures** and question if all relevant types of measures have been captured, there was a suggestion to include a “*peat bogs*” and to distinguishing the two terms/measures “wetland restoration and creation” as in line with the Natura 2000, legal obligation for restoration might occur.

Cross-cutting issues between sectors, including navigation are important and have to be taken into consideration, as well as coordination with urban planners. Urban / natural / forestry / agricultural NWRMs – they overlap, not always distinct, e.g. interact through the local water cycle. In addition incorporation of IWRM approach in other sectors is needed, but taking into account environmental, social and cultural aspects

While talking about **benefits** from implementing NWRM and good practices, participants were stressing the key benefits as: Less pressure on eco- systems; Nutrient recycling by constructed wetlands; Constructed wetland can be good to screen specific pollutants (but not all); Visual benefits; Lower flood risk; Local water retention; Water quality & quality protection; Water recycling by constructed wetlands and Sustainability of drainage systems / city development.

There is a need for precise definition and further elaboration of economic value of ecosystem services that should be included in case it is applicable, indicating the positive economic impact of

natural water retention measures, and how the role of agriculture is seen in terms of ecosystem services. Building resilience towards climate change was also stressed as another important aspect of NWRM.

In relation to *instruments to promote NWRM*, participants were discussing about positive (and negative) effects of various instruments, emphasising particularly:

1. Financial incentives
2. Legislation (requirements and standards) is absolutely essential
3. Analyse the current obstacles and identify which legal instruments need review
4. Using more creatively for mobilizing existing funds and directing allocation of funds for NWRMs in the new programming period.
5. Prioritization approach/studies, as it gives a strong position to search for funds
6. Clear studies and arguments in order to reach political commitment for sustainability as ecology is the long term economics
7. Importance of basic understanding of catchments/river stretches and of the retention possibilities. Keep existing retention areas open
8. Crucial importance of exchange of information and education, otherwise even the best instruments may not work
9. Knowledge presented in a clear understandable way to the decision makers is the key
10. Awareness raising and communication of the different approaches
11. RBMP/FRMP promote NWRMs - solidarity principle, transboundary aspect of NWRMs
12. Partnership agreement/bilateral agreement on water management issues between countries – good basis for further planning and implementation

Annex I - Workshop Agenda

AGENDA

The 1st Danube Region Workshop

28-29 January 2014

REC Conference Center, Szentendre, Hungary

The aim of the regional workshop is:

- to support the establishment of the **regional NWRM network of practitioners and interested parties within the Danube River Basin**, complemented by an EU-wide web-based discussion forum that will establish links and synergies between the different regional networks;
- to link with the **Common Implementation Strategy (CIS) process**, by contributing to specific CIS working meetings and workshops;
- **to raise awareness** throughout the Danube River Basin on the potential role NWRMs can play in future WFD, FD or adaptation plans and strategies, producing **publication materials** and **linking to existing collective initiatives and networks** of experts, water managers and stakeholders;
- to **exchange experiences** related to the NWRMs and learn about the current status and planned progress of developing and implementing a strategy and action plan on water management;
- **to identify the needs** of authorities and key stakeholders regarding the preparation of the second WFD management cycle and the development of the 2nd DRBM Plan.

Organizer:

- The Regional Environmental Center (REC)

Support:

- ACTeon (France)
- REKK Kft (REKK Inc.) (Hungary)

27.01.2014

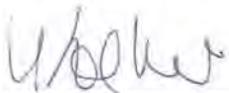
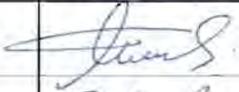
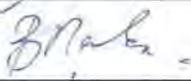
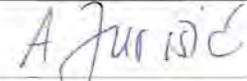
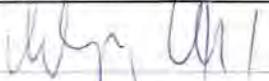
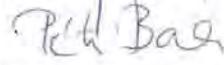
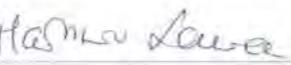
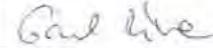
Arrival will be during January 27, 2014 or in the morning of January 28. Participants arriving by plane or train will be collected at Budapest Liszt Ferenc International Airport / railway station and transferred in groups to Szentendre.

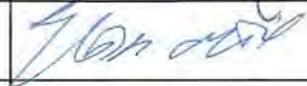
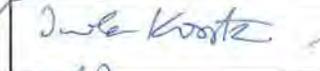
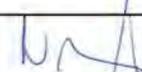
28. 01.2014	
10:00 – 10:30	REGISTRATION
10:30 – 11:00	I - LAUNCHING SESSION 1. Welcome Mr Radoje Lausevic, Deputy Director, Regional Environmental Center (REC) Mr Balázs Medgyesy, Hungarian Commissioner for the EUSDR 2. Opening remarks, goals of the meeting and introduction of participants Ms. Jovanka Ignjatovic, REC
11:00 – 12:00	II - THE CONTEXT AND MAIN ISSUES Chair: Ms. Jovanka Ignjatovic, REC 1. Overview of the NWRM project by Mr Benoît FRIBOURG-BLANC, OIEAU 2. NWRMs - Characterization and integration in river basin management planning by Mr Pierre Strosser, ACTeon 3. Guidance document on NWRM in river basin management & the integrated web-based tool by Mr Pierre Strosser, ACTeon <i>Discussions, all participants</i>
12:00 – 12:15	Coffee break
12:15 – 13:15	4. Linking to the CIS process in the Danube River Basin by Mr Raimund Mair, ICPDR technical expert 5. NWRMs “practice” example - Experience from the Netherlands by Mr. Frank van Lamoen, Head of International cooperation Nature, Environment, Water and Climate Unit, Province North Brabant, Direction Ecology, 6. NWRMs “practice” example - Experience from Austria by Dr. Veronika Koller-Kreimel, Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Aquatic Ecology Subunit <i>Discussions, all participants</i>
13:15 – 14:15	Lunch break
14:30 – 16:30	STUDY VISIT – Szentendre-Pomázi plane wetland restoration <i>Departure by bus (in case of bad weather presentation will be hold)</i>
16:30 – 16:45	Coffee break

16:45 – 18:00	<p>III: THEMATIC GROUP SESSIONS (TGSs) – plenary</p> <p>Chair: Ms. Jovanka Ignjatovic, REC</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thematic presentation (e.g. on effectiveness, costs, benefits or implementation) by Mr Gábor Ungvári, REKK - NWRM 2. Integration of NWRMs into the Sava River Basin Management plan by Samo Groselj, ISRBC - Deputy Secretary for Protection of waters and aquatic ecosystem 3. Landscape restoration program and integrated river basin management in Slovak republic by Mr Michail Kravcik, Chairman at NGO “People and Water” <p><i>Discussions, all participants</i></p>
19:30 -	JOINT DINNER
29. 01.2014	
09:00 – 11:00	<p>III: TGSs continuation - Split in TGSs on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Synthesis presentation of issues by the TGS’s Chairs <p>a) TGS on Agriculture & Forestry</p> <p>Chair: Mr Gábor Ungvári, REKK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of NWRMs in agricultural and forestry sectors by Mr Gábor Ungvári, REKK - Agriculture and Land Use in Lonja Field by Prof. Dr. Milan Mesic and Aleksandra Jurišić (Faculty of Agriculture, HR) <p><i>Discussions, all participants</i></p> <p>b) TGS on Urban Areas</p> <p>Chair: Mr Andras Kis, REKK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of NWRMs in urban areas by Mr Andras Kis, REKK - Drainage Area Study of the city of Hradec Kralove and its utilization for urban planning by Mr Milan Suchánek (CZ) - Natural water retention measures, contribution of constructed wetlands, by Ms Mira Shalabi (HR) - Analysis of water quality of the reservoir Vonarje/Sutla Lake and possibility for restoration and utilization by Gorana Ćosić-Flajsig (HR/SI) <p><i>Discussions, all participants</i></p>

	<p>c) TGS on Natural Areas</p> <p>Chair: Ms. Jovanka Ignjatovic, REC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of NWRMs in natural areas by Jovanka Ignjatovic, REC - NWRM in Flood Management, bu Mr Peter Bakonyi (HU) - WWF’s experience in Danube basin floodplain restoration by Ms Irene Lucius (WWF) - Restoration potential for floodplains in the Danube River Basin, by Mr Ulrich SCHWARZ (IAD) - Practical case in green Infrastructure, Ileana Vasilescu (RO) - Experience in Wetlands restoration and conservation concerning natural water retention measures by Veraddina Pavlova (BG) <p><i>Discussions, all participants</i></p>
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 13:30	<p>IV: BUILDING COMMON UNDERSTANDING</p> <p>Chair: Ms. Jovanka Ignjatovic, REC</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reporting from the TGSs on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - demands for the catalog of NWRMs and practical guidance - main challenges in the implementation of the NWRMs in the region, - benefits and good practices, lessons learned - instruments to promote implementation of the NWRM in the region <p><i>Discussion, all participants</i></p> 2. Indication of possible synergies and coordinated actions between the project and ICPDR by Mr Raimund Mair, ICPDR 3. Synthesis of the discussions and next steps by Mr Benoît FRIBOURG-BLANC, OIEAU <p><i>Discussions, all participants</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Closing remarks, Ms. Jovanka Ignjatovic, REC
13:00 – 13:30	<i>Travel costs reimbursement</i>
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 17:00	DEPARTURE

Annex 2 – List of participants

PROJECT:	DGENV Unit C1						
PROJECT LEAD	OFFICE INTERNATIONAL DE L'EAU						
Service contract:	Pilot project - Atmospheric Precipitation - Protection and efficient use of Fresh Water: Integration of Natural Water Retention Measures in river basin management, Contract N° 07.0330/2013/659147/SER/ENV.C1						
MEETING OF:	1st Danube Region Workshop January 28-29, 2015			Location:	REC Conference Center, 2000 Szentendre, Ady Endre út 9-11.		
Main topic of the meeting or agenda							Agenda Attached
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