

WANDA NEWSLETTER

Waste Management for Inland Navigation on the DANube

GENERAL INFORMATION

WANDA – “**W**Aste management for inland **N**avigation on the **D**Anube” is a transnational project funded by the South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme (SEE) of the European Union. The three-year project, which was approved in June 2009, comprises nine partners (via donau - AT, Water Research Institute Bratislava - SK, Institute for Transport Sciences Non Profit Ltd. - HU, National Association of Radio Distress-signalling and Infocommunications - HU, National Company Administration of Danube River Ports J.S.Co Giurgiu - RO, Maritime Danube Ports Administration - RO, Executive Agency for Exploration and Maintenance of the Danube River – Russe - BG, Public Institution Port Authority Vukovar - HR and Directorate for Inland Waterways – PLOVPUT - RS) from seven countries which are operating in the field of inland navigation, waterway infrastructure services or transport and water research. The consortium is coordinated by via donau – Austrian Waterway Company as Lead Partner. An enhancement of the project’s quality is achieved through the involvement of external observers (International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, Danube Commission, Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine, Water- and Shipping Directorate South, International Sava River Basin Commission). These organisations support WANDA with feedback and advice on issues of strategic relevance.

The overall objectives of WANDA are the concerted development and exemplary implementation of preventive measures to ensure an environmentally sound approach in the handling of shipborne waste. Therewith inland navigation as a sustainable mode of transport shall be advanced while reducing potential risks for the balance of valuable river ecosystems.

The activities of WANDA include the elaboration of harmonised **national ship waste management plans** and the implementation of **pilot actions** for the collection and treatment of hazardous and other ship wastes along the Danube. Furthermore, an **international financing model** will be developed for charging and refinancing the services of the waste management system.

PROJECT STATUS

The official kick off meeting of WANDA took place at the end of August 2009. More than 20 participants representing the WANDA Project Partner Organisations met in Vienna to set up strategies for their future collaboration. Since the kick-off meeting, the efforts have been aimed at starting the implementation phase of the project. Thus, on 12 and 13 November 2009, planned activities and basic working documents were officially presented to the directors of the partner organisations as well as to the external observers.

Another milestone during fall 2009 was the launch of the **WANDA Website** - www.wandaproject.eu - which provides detailed information about project activities, the partnership consortium, external observers as well as the SEE Programme. In the **service area**, contact details in each country are provided and one can sign up for the **WANDA Newsletter** to stay up-to-date on the project.

By clicking on **download area**, you can access the 1st edition of a **WANDA Folder**, now available in **English, Bulgarian and Serbian**. The **Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian, Croatian and German** editions will soon follow. Newsletters and Press releases are also provided in this section of the website.

A **link list** provides easy access to the WANDA partner organisations as well as to the observers, the SEE Programme and selected areas of the European Union.

The Website is being updated permanently; the service area will be extended, information – e.g. about the status of pilot activities - will be comprised and shall enable a quick overview about executed activities and the project status.

NEXT STEPS

Within the next months, ship waste management concepts will be elaborated. For this purpose the national framework conditions were reviewed and **status reports** composed. In January a report about **international framework conditions** is being prepared. The next steps will be the organisation of a transnational workshop for the preparation of the ship waste management concepts, which shall be finished during 2010.

For the planning of pilot actions, which will be implemented in the Upper and Lower Danube region, first concept papers have already been elaborated. At the end of January 2010 two workshops will be held for the Lower Danube Region as well as for the Upper Danube Region in order to plan further steps **for implementation and harmonization of pilot activities.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about WANDA please visit our WEBSITE (www.wandaproject.eu) or contact

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