

Our Opinion – Our Danube

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



THEMATIC AREA 2 - Hydromorphological Alterations & Integration Issues



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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

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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

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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!