



Mixed Environment Transport External Expert Team (METEET) on Integrated Planning of Inland Waterways Transport Projects

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METEET 8 Training Handout

The 8th Workshop on Integrated Planning of Inland Waterways Transport (IWT) Projects, is taking place, in the form of webinar, on November 25-26, 2021, hosted by the Ukrainian Ministry of Infrastructure, and Ukrainian Seaports Administration (USPA).

The goal of the Workshop, held by the Mixed Environment Transport External Expert Team (METEET) on Integrated Planning of Inland Waterways Transport (IWT) Projects was to assist competent authorities of Ukraine in the field of inland waterway transport, as well as other national and local environmental authorities and key stakeholders to gain a more comprehensive overview about EU policies both in the field of inland waterway transport and environment, and to foster an integrated approach when developing infrastructural projects in the field of inland navigation.

General outline and guidance for integrated planning of IWT projects:

1. Basic guidance in the field of Transport:

- EU Strategy 2020,
- White Paper on Transport,
- Good Navigation Status,
- documents from the UNECE,
- recommendations from the Danube Commission.

2. Basic guidance in the field of Environment:

- Danube River Protection Convention, ESPOO Convention, Convention on Biological Diversity, RAMSAR Convention, Aarhus Convention,
- EU policies on environment:
 - Birds Directive,





- Habitats Directive (special focus on Appropriate Assessment and the proper handling of mitigation and compensation),
- WFD (special attention to the Article 4(7)),
- Flood Risk Directive,
- SEA and EIA
- Platina Manual on Good Practices in Sustainable Waterway Planning (2010),
- the Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin (2007).

3. Two case studies provide approaches for Integrated Planning:

- Project East of Vienna (Austria) showing improvement of navigation conditions with new river training structures and changed sediment management in combination with restoration measures for enhancement of environmental conditions, accompanied by extensive stakeholder involvement,
- Project on the free flowing part of the Danube River from Backa Palanka to Belgrade (Serbia) presenting a strategic regional approach on selection of critical sections, multicriteria analysis for intervention options, establishment of a stakeholder forum and transparency of planning process;

4. Performing a stakeholder analysis, also considering different roles of stakeholders, as preparation for an integrated planning process and a stakeholder management strategy.

5. Structuring and organizing an integrated planning process based on the recommendations of Platina Manual.

Along a virtual project in open interdisciplinary and multi-sectoral group discussions it could be demonstrated that an early structured stakeholder analysis is of great benefit for all actors in planning and implementation. It helps with risk identification and response planning as well as sustainability of a project when stakeholders are properly involved. But this needs some extra budget and cross-sectoral team work at the very early stage, before the project budget is usually available.

Following the guidance provided by Platina Manual, the integrated planning and implementation process is to be organized in a structured way. For organizational, technical and environmental procedures detailed flow charts are applicable.

