

Kick-Off Conference DANUBEparksCONNECTED

21.-22. Feb. 2017

Tuesday, February 21st - Morning Session

9:00 – 12:00 Kick-Off Conference

Location: Spiegelsaal der Kolping Akademie Ingolstadt, Johannesstr. 11 (Participants will be provided with a map on Monday to walk there themselves)

Moderation: Theresia Fladl

- 09:00 Welcome (*Lord Mayor Christian Lösel, District Administrator Roland Weigert*)
- 09:20 DANUBEPARKS - from cross-border cooperation to DANUBEparksCONNECTED
(*Carl Manzano, DANUBEPARKS President*)
- 09:40 Success stories in the EU Strategy for the Danube Region
(*Florian Ballnus, Priority Area Coordinator PA 6 Biodiversity*)
(*incl. statement by Veronika Sikova, Priority Area Coordinator PA 2 Energy*)
- 10:00 The Danube Transnational Programme and the expected role of
DANUBEparksCONNECTED (*Gusztáv Csomor, DTP Joint Secretariat*)
- 10:20 Coffee Break**
- 10:45 DANUBEparksCONNECTED – Bridging the Danube Protected Areas towards
a Danube Habitat Corridor (interview session)
- Overview (*G. Frank/Donau-Auen National Park, Austria, Project Manager*)
- Danube Wild Island Habitat Corridor (*Balázs Toth, Duna-Ipoly National
Park/Hungary*)
- Danube Free Sky (*Ion Munteanu, Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve/Romania*)
- Danube Riparian Forest Corridor (*Ivana Vasić & Bojan Tubić,
Vojvodinasume/Serbia*)
- Danube Dry Habitats (*Christiane Kotz, Landratsamt Passau/Germany*)

11:45 Press Conference (only directors)

12:00 Introduction afternoon session (*Rupert Ebner, Professional Member of the City Council of Ingolstadt*)

12:15 **Lunch Break**

Tuesday, February 21st - Afternoon Session

13:30 DANUBE FREE SKY - Bird conservation at powerlines: Using a unique and innovative way of marking high-voltage power lines by drone. (DANUBE PARKS in cooperation with Bayernwerk and Syker Engineering)
(depending on wind and weather conditions)

15:30 Excursion & Site visit: Danube Floodplains between Neuburg & Ingolstadt – conservation and restoration options

17:30 **Return to hotels**

19:00 Celebration Dinner

Location: Arco Schlößchen, Neuburg

22:00 **Bus transfer to the hotels**

Project Preparation Workshop WP3 & WP4 DANUBEparksCONNECTED

22. Feb. 2017

Location: Kolping Akademie Ingolstadt, Johannesstr. 11

Wednesday February 22nd

09:00 – 09:30 Coordination & Project Management (Project internal session)

Key note, Questions & Answers: *Gusztáv Csomor, DTP Joint Secretariat*

Participants: all DANUBEparksCONNECTED Partners

Moderation: Theresia Fladl

09:30 – 13:00 Workshop WP 4 Danube Free Sky

Participants: all Project Partners and external experts

Moderation: Theresia Fladl

Key note speeches

Electricity powerlines and the impact on bird collision – results and experiences from LIFE+ Energy, Slovakia,

Lucia Deutschová, Raptor Protection of Slovakia (RPS)

Technical solutions against bird collision, Oda Wieding, Landesbund für Vogelschutz (LBV)

10:30 Implementing DANUBE FREE SKY – objectives and activities

Ion Munteanu, DDBRA, Laura Bischof, Donau-Auen National Park & Georg Frank, DANUBE PARKS

11:00 Coffee Break

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Project co-funded by the European Union (ERDF, IPA funds)

11:15 World Café
Three World Cafés – 20 Minutes each

World Café I

Cooperation energy sector & conservation in the Danube countries, *Stoyka Titova, EVN Bulgaria (LIFE for safe grid) & Sven Aberle, Austrian Power Grid*
Experiences, synergies, good practice examples, and what DANUBE FREE SKY could deliver

World Café II

Methodologies of marking, *Lucia Deutschová, Raptor Protection of Slovakia (RPS) & Oda Wieding, LBV*
Experiences, standards and good-practice for the Danube

World Café III

Implementing DANUBE FREE SKY, *Ion Munteanu, DDBRA & Georg Frank, DANUBE PARKS*
Preparing activities, planning next steps, integrating cross-sector inputs

12:30 Rapport by World Café Leaders, Summary and Conclusions

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 – 17:00 Workshop WP 3 WILDislands

Participants: Project Managers and external experts

Moderation: Theresia Fladl

Key notes

Introduction WP 3: Milestones of work package implementation, Balázs Tóth, Duna-Ipoly National Park/Hungary & Georg Frank, DANUBE PARKS

Wilderness at European rivers, non-intervention management, Max Rossberg, European Wilderness Society

Presentation of WILDislands case sites (by selected project partners)

15:30 Coffee Break

15:45 Implementing WILDislands – Open Discussion

Balázs Tóth, Danube Ipoly National Park & Georg Frank, DANUBE PARKS

Topics

Establishment of WILDislands criteria

Next steps

Cross-sector cooperation

16:30 Next Steps DANUBEparksCONNECTED, Georg Frank, Stephanie Blutaumüller, DANUBE PARKS

17:00 Return to hotels

19:00 Joint Dinner / Farewell

21:00 (optional: Guided Night City Walk)