

DANTE – Improving Administrative Procedures and Processes for Danube IWT

Project Summary

DANTE aims at identifying and eliminating administrative barriers for inland waterway transport (IWT) on the Danube & its navigable tributaries as a joint initiative of the private sector and the national public authorities responsible for these barriers. Good practices and guidelines for effective administration of IWT activities shall be developed with regard to the identified barriers. The proposed solutions will be discussed with the responsible authorities at national working tables, as well as in transnational ones. This matrix approach shall deliver quick solutions and a wide harmonisation of procedures and processes along the river. The monitoring system for collecting user experiences (supported by an online tool) will be a key element for successful project implementation. DANTE facilitates the work of EUSDR PA1a and is acknowledged by the EC/DG MOVE as part of their efforts to reduce administrative barriers in the transport sector. DANTE actively involves the Danube Commission (DC) and therefore also functions as platform of the related joint efforts of DC & EC. DANTE focuses on five thematic areas where administrative barriers are most evidently reducing efficiency of IWT operations, which are (i) Border Police, Tax & Customs, (ii) Navigation / traffic control authorities, (iii) Port authorities / administrations, (iv) Waterway and Canal administrations, (v) Other relevant authorities imposing barriers (e.g. health control, disaster management, etc.).

Project Main Objective

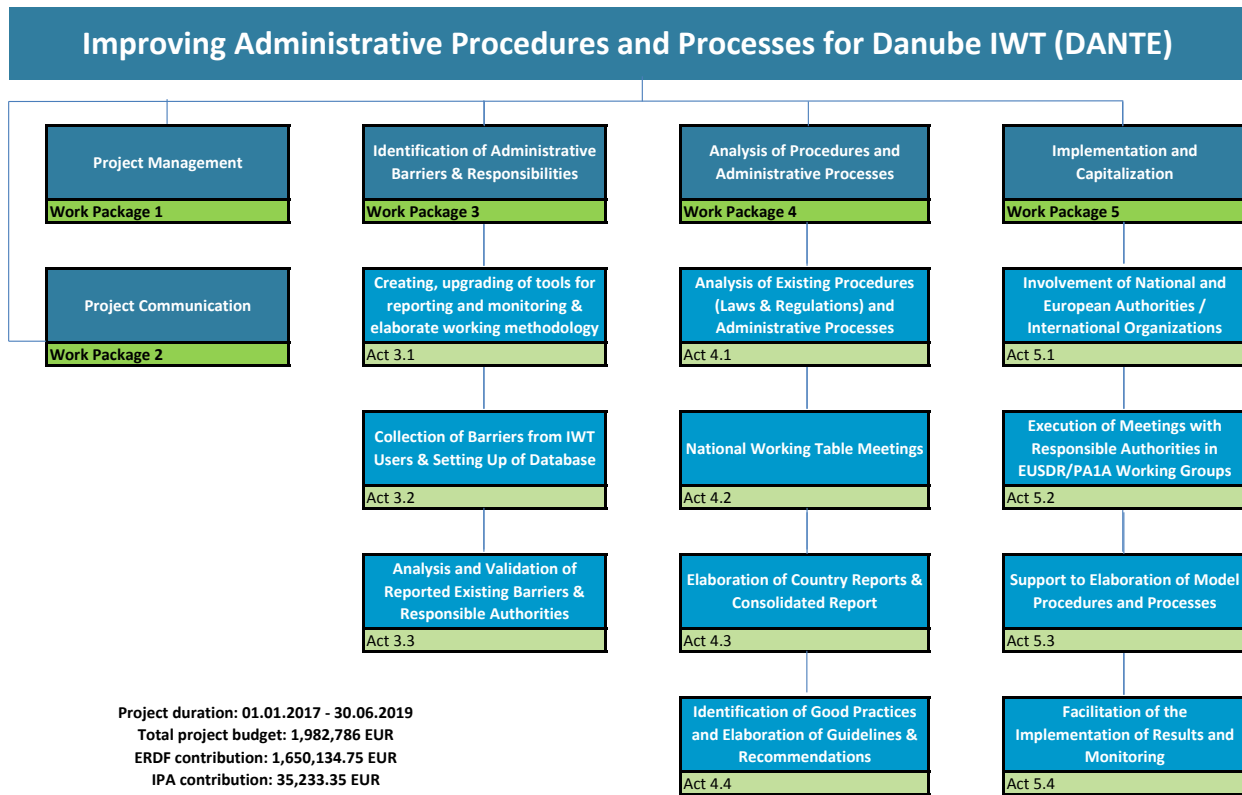
Administrative barriers and related fees in the logistics of goods and passengers on the Danube & its navigable tributaries are major obstacles for wide-scale and efficient use of the Danube as main transport axis of the region. The existence of these barriers reduces its economic and environmental potentials reducing economic growth and social welfare in the entire region. Tackling, mitigating and abolishing the most important administrative barriers in a coordinated and transnationally integrated manner is the main objective of the project. This shall lead into a better governance & management of this environmentally-friendly European core transport infrastructure and reduce the logistics costs of major industries depending on waterway transportation for their global competitiveness. DANTE shall function as a smart network of stakeholders supported by the EUSDR PA1a and important relevant national stakeholders in providing better framework conditions for inland waterway transport.

Relevance of the project

Administrative barriers in the logistics of goods & passengers on the Danube waterway & its navigable tributaries are a major obstacle for the efficient and sustainable use of the Danube as main transport axis of the region. The abundant existence of administrative barriers reduces the economic and environmental potentials diminishing economic growth and social welfare in the entire region. Mitigating and abolishing the most important barriers in a coordinated and transnational manner is the core objective of the planned project and shall lead into a better governance of this European core transport infrastructure and reduce the logistics costs of major industries depending on cost-effective and low-carbon waterway transportation for their global competitiveness. The EC has made the fight of administrative barriers and the derived higher logistics cost, to one of their priorities in the current transport policy agenda. After consultations with DG MOVE and DG REGIO it was decided to use the implementation programme of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, the DTP and its Priority Area 1a as platform whereas the key stakeholders can be addressed and concrete solutions to the manifold existing barriers to be elaborated. The project shall function as a network of stakeholders supported by the EUSDR PA1a and all relevant national stakeholders from the public and private in providing better framework conditions for inland waterway transport as the most environmentally-friendly mode of transport in accordance with the PA1a objectives. Striving for a cleaner Danube region territory, the share of inland waterway transport needs to be increased by supporting stakeholders with measures that attract enterprises, freight and passengers to the inland waterways. DANTE addresses this need/challenge by setting a platform to simplify and harmonize the different requirements of the national authorities to develop and improve environmentally-friendly and low-carbon transport systems.

The strategic relevance of DANTE is also testified by the Letter of Recommendation issued on 30 October 2015 by the PAC of EUSDR PA1a.

Work Breakdown Structure



Partnership Structure – Covering the whole Danube River and the Sava

Lead Partner: Pro Danube International

ERDF Partners:

- Danube Commission
- Steinbeis Innovation gGmbH, Steinbeis-Europe-Center / DE
- iC consulenten ZT GesmbH / AT
- University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria (FHOO)
- Waterborne Transport Development Agency (ARVD) / SK
- Slovak Shipping and Ports JSC / SK
- Hungarian Shipping Federation (MAHOSZ)
- Hungarian Federation of Inland Waterway Freight Forwarders (MBFSZ)
- Romanian Ministry of Transport
- Romanian River Ship Owners and Port Operators Association (AAOPFR)
- Pro Danube Romania
- Constanta Port Business Association
- Port Authority Vukovar
- Bulgarian-Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

IPA Partner:

- Shipmasters Association of Serbia

Associated Strategic Partners:

- International Sava River Basin Commission
- Rhenus Logistics Austria GmbH
- Hungarian Federation of Danube Ports
- BRODOKOMERC NS d.o.o. / RS
- Port BULMARKET EAD
- Union of Romanian Inland Ports
- Danube Cruises Romania srl
- Danube Logistics SRL / MD
- Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure / HR
- Ministry of National Development / HU
- State Enterprise Ukrainian Sea Ports Authority
- Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic

Contact

Manfred Seitz – seitz@prodanube.eu

Alexandru Capatu – capatu@prodanube.eu

Robert Rafael – rafael@prodanube.eu