

# The PEP

At the pan-European level the promotion of cycling is supported by the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP). THE PEP Vienna Declaration explicitly recognizes the benefits of cycling and calls for the implementation of a pan-European Master Plan for Cycling Promotion, which was adopted by 41 member countries of UNECE on May 18, 2021.

See more at <https://thepep.unece.org/>



## Project Partners

COUNTRY	ORGANIZATION
AUSTRIA	Environment Agency Austria
CZECHIA	Partnership for Urban Mobility
HUNGARY	KTI Institute for Transport Sciences Non Profit Ltd.
SLOVAKIA	Ministry of Transport and Construction of the Slovak Republic
SLOVENIA	Ministry of Infrastructure
CROATIA	Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure
ROMANIA	National Institute for Research and Development in Tourism
BULGARIA	Bulgarian Association for Alternative Tourism
SERBIA	Danube Competence Center (DCC)

The project is initiated and supported by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology.

## Contact

**Lead Partner**  
Environment Agency Austria  
Agnes KURZWEIL  
[agnes.kurzweil@umweltbundesamt.at](mailto:agnes.kurzweil@umweltbundesamt.at)

**Project coordination**  
Andreas FRIEDWAGNER  
[a.friedwagner@verracon.at](mailto:a.friedwagner@verracon.at)

**Website**  
<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/danube-cycle-plans>

## Danube Cycle Plans

Policies, plans and promotion for more people cycling in the Danube region

A stream of cooperation

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/danube-cycle-plans>

**Partnership**  
9 project partners from 9 countries

**Priority Area**  
Better connected and energy responsible Danube region

**EU-Funding Programme**  
Danube Transnational Programme

**EU co-funding (85% of the total eligible costs)**  
ERDF: 1,29 Mio. €  
IPA: 0,14 Mio. €

**Project Duration**  
01.07.2020 – 31.12.2022

**Lead Partner**  
Environment Agency Austria

**Financing Scheme**  
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)  
Instrument for PreAccession Assistance (IPA)

**Total Project Budget**  
1,68 Mio. €

## Background

**Cycling** has become more and more **popular** in recent years. However, conditions for cycling in the Danube region differ a lot. Some countries already have significant share of its population cycling, whereas in other countries the importance of cycling for transport, health, environment and/or the economy is barely recognized so far. Cycling is often treated as a **side topic** – in **transport policies** as well as for most **official professional education** where future planners, etc. don't get sufficient training on cycling. Cycling infrastructure development especially at national and transnational level **lacks coordinated planning, funding** and **implementation**.

## Project

The project's **main objective** is to **contribute** to the **promotion of cycling** as an integral part of an environmentally-friendly and safe transport system and means to improve accessibility of urban and rural areas in the Danube region. The **project** provides a comprehensive approach summarizing activities to provide **policy instruments** leading to further action, **adequate infrastructure** and **awareness raising activities** addressing all key actors dealing with cycling in a direct and indirect way.



## Project Activities

- **The development of National Cycling Plans based on a common transnational Danube Cycling Strategy**

This activity is derived from the lack of national and transnational support and coordinated action to promote cycling. For a coordinated development process, national cycling working groups (NCWG) shall be set up involving the key actors for cycling promotion.

- **Define a Danube cycle route network, infrastructure standards and adequate financial support**

Because cycling infrastructure development is fragmented and often does not meet cyclists' needs, the project aims at defining transnationally harmonized cycle route networks for the participating countries and the Danube region, common infrastructure standards and adequate financial support from national and transnational funding schemes.

- **Increase the awareness of relevant stakeholders for the needs of cyclists and increase their capacity to promote cycling**

As cycling is often still treated as a side topic in professional education, this activity aims at increasing the awareness of relevant stakeholders for the needs of cyclists and increase their capacity to promote cycling. Instead of classical trainings, the project focuses on informing, motivating and inspiring relevant stakeholders consider the needs of cyclists when they are doing their jobs.

## Main outputs

- **1 Danube Cycling Strategy**
- **5 new and 4 updated National Cycling Plans**
- **1 common Danube Cycle Route Network**
- **9 National Cycle Route Networks**
- **9 established National Cycling Working Groups**  
(1 in each country)
- **Mentoring sessions facilitating know-how exchange**  
(2 for each of the 5 mentee countries)
- **5 new National Cycling Conferences**
- **Danube Cycling Ambassadors**
- **Inspiration events in each country**

