

June 27, 2018, Budapest

PRESS RELEASE

Your Road Safety is on Our RADAR

2,15 million EUR for improvement of the road infrastructure safety in Danube Region.

Better connected and energy responsible Danube Region is one of the four priority axes of the Danube Transnational programme. The cooperation tackles common challenges related to environmentally friendly, low-noise, low-carbon and safe transport systems in order to contribute to sustainable regional and local mobility, modal integration and intelligent transport.

Representatives of 10 partners from Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Moldova, Serbia, Slovakia, and Slovenia, met in Budapest to kick off with **RADAR - Risk Assessment on Danube Area Roads** project activities. The partnership is led by European Institute for Road Assessment – EuroRAP from Slovenia. The 36-month long project (June 2018 – May 2021) with the financial support of 2,15 million EUR for cooperation on improvement of the road infrastructure safety in the Danube region was approved by the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme 2nd call. The Programme is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance and European Neighborhood Instrument.

To overcome lack of institutional capacity, RADAR project aims to identify and reduce risk on roads. The project aims to enhance transnational cooperation in addressing risk on Danube area roads in order to overcome scattered road safety intervention in the region. Last but not least, the project RADAR is set to overcome the lack of professional know-how in tackling the high rates of casualties through practical demonstrations of road safety layout concept solutions.

The kick-off meeting of the RADAR project was held in Budapest and hosted by KTI, Institute for Transport Sciences Nonprofit Ltd. from June 25-26, 2018. Partners discussed existing good practices in improving road safety infrastructure in Danube area and Europe. Nikola Galović, Rotondo, presented how trainings will contribute to raising awareness and capacity building about road infrastructure safety. Extensive and vivid discussion was held about the Danube Road Infrastructure Safety Improvement Strategy and Action plans that was led by Steve Lawson, European Institute for Road Assessment – EuroRAP and Marko Ševrović, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences. Mr. Ševrović also presented pilot studies.

Olivera Djordjević, lead partner from European Institute for Road Assessment - EuroRAP about kick-off meeting and the start of the project: *This project is tackling the differences in road infrastructure safety levels between western and eastern EU countries. It will contribute to improving knowledge and capacities of all involved stakeholder in the Danube region to successfully address the road infrastructure safety. RADAR project will facilitate transnational knowledge and best practice sharing processes and make ready-to-use tools for improvements available in all national languages to governments in participating countries. I am very pleased that Danube Transnational Programme has acknowledged the need for improved road infrastructure safety in the Danube area and demonstrated potentials of RADAR in addressing the relevant issues.*

The RADAR kick-off meeting started a process of interregional exchange and cooperation addressing common challenges regarding improvement of the road infrastructure safety in the Danube Region. Project RADAR is focused on three specific objectives – (1) identifying and reducing risk on roads, (2) enhancing transnational cooperation in addressing risk on Danube roads, (3) demonstrating road safety layout concept solutions.

Three more public events are planned in the projects duration time. RADAR project will soon announce the 1st Danube Road Safety Conference date. Project outputs cover Road Safety Procedures Training Concept, Training Courses, Study Visits, Danube Infrastructure RS Improvement Strategy, Danube Infrastructure RS Improvement Action Plan, Action Plan Uptake National Workshops, Pilot Actions on Road Safety Thematic Areas, Databases on Pilot Actions.

SEE project SENSor showed that in 14 countries in South-East Europe, mostly involved in DTP, ca 60-70% of inter-urban roads are categorized high or very high risk. This shows the urgent need to address underperforming road safety performance in the Danube region, where fatality rates are generally higher than the EU average and road infrastructure quality and safety varies hugely from country to country. RADAR helps national governments in the Danube Region to identify the obstacles, reduce the risks, develop a strategy and raise awareness on road infrastructure in the region.

For more information about RADAR project please visit:

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/radar>

Contacts:

Olivera Djordjević, European Institute for Road Assessment – EuroRAP

Lead Partner

Dunajska cesta 128, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

e-mail: olivera.djordjevic@eurorap.org

Nina Petrič, Automobile and Motorcycle Association of Slovenia

Communications Manager

Dunajska Cesta 128A, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

e-mail: nina.petric@amzs.si

List of partners in RADAR – Risk Assessment in Danube Area Roads project:

- European Institute for Road Assessment – EuroRAP, Slovenia
- Automobile and Motorcycle Association of Slovenia, Slovenia
- University of Zagreb, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences, Croatia
- KTI Institute for Transport Sciences Nonprofit Ltd, Hungary
- General Automotoclub of the Czech Republic, Czech Republic
- Bulgarian Association for Road Safety, Bulgaria
- Austrian Road Safety Board, Austria
- Bosnia and Herzegovina Automobile Club, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Rotondo, Serbia
- Automobile Club of Moldova, Moldova
- Ministry of Infrastructure, Slovenian Infrastructure Agency, Slovenia
- Croatian Roads, a limited liability company for management, construction and maintenance of state roads, Croatia
- National Motorway Company, Ltd., Slovakia
- Public Company Roads of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure, Moldova
- South East Europe Transport Observatory, Serbia
- The Road and Motorway Directorate of the Czech Republic, Czech Republic
- European Union Strategy for Danube Region Priority Area 1b - Road, Rail and Air links, Slovenia
- Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs, Montenegro
- Road Infrastructure Agency (at the Bulgarian Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works), Bulgaria
- National Company For Roads Infrastructure Administration, Romania