

PlasticFreeDanube

Macro plastic waste in and along the Danube



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PlasticFreeDanube

Project Facts

- ❖ Duration: 1 October 2017 – 30 September 2020
- ❖ 5 Project partners, 18 strategic partners
- ❖ Funding programme: [Interreg V-A Slovakia-Austria 2014-2020](#)
- ❖ Budget: EUR 1.23 Mil. / EU-Funding (ERDF): EUR 1.05 Mil.



PlasticFreeDanube

Project Partners

- ❖ **Lead Partner** – [Institute of Waste Management \(ABF-BOKU\)](#), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), Austria
- ❖ [Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and River Research \(IWA\)](#), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), Austria
- ❖ [via donau – Austrian Waterway Company](#), Austria
- ❖ [RepaNet o.z.](#), Slovakia
- ❖ [PISAS – Polymer Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences](#), Slovakia
- ❖ [Donau-Auen National Park](#), Austria



Strategic Partners

Austria

- ❖ [Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism \(BMNT\)](#)
- ❖ [Generation Blue](#)
- ❖ [Austrian Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology \(BMVIT\)](#)
- ❖ [City of Vienna, MA 45 – Water Management](#)
- ❖ [Regional Government of Lower Austria](#)
- ❖ [Environment Agency Austria](#)
- ❖ [Environmental Association of Lower Austria](#)
- ❖ [Environmental Education Austria](#)



Strategic Partners

Slovakia

- ❖ [Association of the municipalities Horného Žitného ostrova \(ZOHZO\)](#)
- ❖ [Vodohospodárska výstavba, štátny podnik](#)
- ❖ V srdci Európy, o.z. (NGO)
- ❖ [Enviwork, s.r.o.](#)
- ❖ [Slovak Chemical Society](#)
- ❖ [SEA – Science and Education Agency](#)
- ❖ [ENVIDOM – Association of Manufacture Appliances for Recycling](#)



Strategic Partners

International

- ❖ [International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River \(ICPDR\)](#)
- ❖ [Clean Europe Network \(CEN\)](#)
- ❖ [Association EcoStuff Romania](#)



Background

- ❖ Plastic waste in marine ecosystems has become a great environmental problem
- ❖ Rivers are recognized as main vectors of pollution although sources and pathways of plastic in the rivers and its environmental impacts are unclear



PlasticFreeDanube

→ Focus on macro plastic waste (> 5 mm)

Project aims

- ❖ Establishing a scientifically sound knowledge base
- ❖ Methodological approach on plastic waste in and along rivers
 - ✓ Sources
 - ✓ Quantities
 - ✓ Transport patterns
 - ✓ Environmental threats

Main Objectives

- ❖ Providing **methodologies, data** and a **manual** for assessment and monitoring of plastic pollution in the fluvial ecosystems
- ❖ Development of an **action plan** for the management of plastic waste and implementation of **pilot measures** against plastic pollution in the Danube
- ❖ **Raising awareness** of the general public and stakeholders about plastic litter pollution in rivers

Project Area

→ The Danube incl. its riparian area from the metropolitan areas of Vienna & Bratislava down to the hydropower plant Gabčíkovo (SK)



Project Structure

WP 1
Project
Management

WP 2
Communication

WP 3
Material Flow &
Transport
Modelling

WP 4
Sampling of
Plastic Waste

WP 5
Material
Composition &
Impacts

WP 6
Policy
Recommendations
& Pilot Measures

WP 7 Capacity
Building &
Awareness Raising

Project Structure & Core Outputs

WP3: Material Flow & Transport Modelling

- **Material flow & transport model** of plastic waste in and along the Danube

WP4: Sampling of Plastic Waste

- **Methodology** for **uniform collection and sorting** of macro plastic in and along rivers
- Data regarding **quantity & quality** of plastic waste

WP5: Material Composition & Impacts

- **Methodology** for a **qualitative analysis** of plastic material
- Data regarding **composition** of plastic waste

Project Structure & Core Outputs

WP6: Policy Recommendations & Pilot Measures

- **Action plan** for the management of plastic waste and recommendations
- **Pilot actions** against plastic pollution in and along the Danube

WP7: Capacity Building & Awareness Raising

- **Awareness raising campaigns** incl. education, training and teaching materials
- **Communication & information platform** against plastic pollution

→ Further information: www.plasticfreedanube.eu

Protect Nature – avoid pollution!

Contact

Austria

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