

1st Danube:Future Workshop

CHALLENGES AND POTENTIALS FOR A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE DANUBE REGION: CONTRIBUTING TO HORIZON 2020

Announcement

VENUE: Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, AUSTRIA

DATE: April, 8th-10th 2015

AIM OF THE WORKSHOP: The international workshop aims to identify challenges and potentials for research to create a knowledge base for the sustainable development of the Danube Region. This workshop will lead to a policy document identifying main research issues and ways to address them.

Problem-driven research is interdisciplinary and reaches out to society - the latter is often called transdisciplinary research. As the humanities and social sciences have not yet brought their full potential into sustainability research, we specifically encourage members of these communities to consider a contribution.

BACKGROUND

The Danube:Future network has been developed since 2012. Danube:Future is a unique combination of existing and future regional, national and supra-national initiatives in interdisciplinary sustainability research combined with capacity building and networking. It contributes to the sustainable development of the Danube River Basin (DRB) with a particular focus on the contribution of the environmental humanities and social sciences.

Danube:Future is a joint endeavor of the **Danube Rectors' Conference** and the **Alps-Adriatic Rectors' Conference**, thus tapping the largest pool of institutionalized knowledge in the DRB. The project will generate a knowledge base for the DRB's sustainable development by adding a much-needed humanities and social science perspective to current approaches to sustainability.

Sustainable development of the DRB involves dealing with natural and cultural heritage both as an opportunity and as a challenge. We hope to pave the way for creation of green jobs and strengthening civil society organizations, thus enabling the DRB countries to cope with the Grand Challenges of the future as identified in EUROPE 2020 and take steps towards a more sustainable development of their regions and states.

www.danubefuture.eu
workshop@danubefuture.eu

Danube:Future is coordinated by Alpen-Adria-Universität-Klagenfurt, the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU), the University of Trieste and the University of Novi Sad. It was adopted as a flagship project of the EU-Danube Region Strategy, Priority Area 7 Knowledge Society, on September 24th, 2013.

THE 2015 WORKSHOP

In April 2015, we will take the next step. Due to generous financial support by the **Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt-Wien-Graz** and the **Central European Initiative** (Cooperation Fund 2014), we are able to hold a **first International Workshop on the role of cultural and natural heritage for the sustainable development of the Danube Region.**

Workshop participants are expected to contribute actively to a **White Paper** addressing the research needs in this context, with special emphasis on the **humanities** and **social sciences**. Ideally, they have participated in Framework Programs of the European Union before and have expertise in the development of research programs. They should also have some familiarity with sustainability studies and interdisciplinary research environments.

A first version of the White Paper will be circulated by mid-March 2015. During the workshop, we invite short (max 10 minutes) presentations on potential or already existing projects with a bearing on the subject.

The Presidents of the Danube Rectors Conference and the Alps-Adriatic-Rectors Conference will be provided with the White Paper by the end of April. The White Paper will also be presented to relevant bodies of the Danube Strategy.

We encourage your timely application using the form provided.

We are seeking a limited number of participants from all countries of the Danube basin. Organizers will seek to involve participants from different countries. If you are not able to participate in the Workshop, but interested in contributing to the White Paper, please let us know!

The **workshop is free of charge**. With the financial support of the Central European Initiative - Cooperation Fund 2014, we will be able to cover the costs of accommodation (2 nights) and meals and will, in case of problems of potential participants to finance their travels, do our best to provide travel support upon application. At this time, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to cover the travel costs, but we are positive that some financial support will be available.

Deadline for applications is January 15th, 2015.

All applications should be sent by mail to workshop@danubefuture.eu.

Participants will be notified of their acceptance by February 25th, 2015.

The participants have to register at the official website: www.danubefuture.eu >> user/register.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Wednesday 8th: arrival of participants between 17.00 and 18.00; 18.00 welcome lecture & welcome dinner.

Thursday 9th (9.30 - 18.30): Presentation of White Paper and potential projects, discussion.

Friday 10th (9.30 - 16.00): Discussion and presentations continued, wrap up with final version of the White Paper endorsed by participants.

Organizers:



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