

CONVENTION FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR INLAND NAVIGATION ON THE DANUBE

4th CO-WANDA NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2014

HEADING TO THE LAST QUARTER

Over a year and a half has passed since CO-WANDA was officially launched in October 2012. Since then quite a few significant milestones have been passed and achievements accomplished:

In the last period, major emphasis was put on research in the fields of waste prevention & pre-treatment, infrastructure development and refinement of financial schemes to provide technical input for the **International Danube Ship Waste Convention**. Findings were strongly supported by real time investigations (interviews, questionnaires, study visits) and pilot actions in the whole Danube area – reaching from the mountain river section in Austria to the maritime area in Romania.

At the end of 2013 the draft version of the International Convention was presented for the first time. It provides the transnational legal foundation for proper ship waste management containing user-friendly and state-of-the-art solutions.

CONSORTIUM MEETING IN GIURGIU

Within the frames of the 1st Consortium Meeting held at the end of November 2013, the port of Giurgiu was visited. The Romanian project partner APDF introduced one of the possible options available for ship waste management: the combination of a collection vessel and an onshore waste reception facility.

At the Meeting the draft version of the **International Danube Ship Waste Convention** was presented for the first time and discussed by the Project Consortium.



Visit of a mobile collection vessel, Giurgiu (RO)

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

One of the most important implementation strategies of the CO-WANDA project is the involvement of relevant stakeholders on all levels. Different communication channels and strategies provide information to all target groups, reaching from project observers to national skippers and crew. With the progression of the project, it has become increasingly necessary to provide national stakeholders with more detailed information and to have problematic issues also discussed on national level. In addition to the briefing, the use of suggestions of the stakeholders was a primary aim of the discussions. In Budapest, the Hungarian partner (KTI) held an information forum on the 15th of January for

the Hungarian members of the International Implementations Board (IIB). In Austria, a joint stakeholder event of the two SEE projects CO-WANDA and HINT¹ was organized by via donau on 11th February, 2014. This national event focused on the current status of the projects implementation, as well as funding possibilities for the Inland Waterway Sector. Furthermore the participants got an insight into the successfully implemented pilots for the free collection of oily and greasy ship waste with an Electronic Vignette System. Passenger and cargo vessel operators, infrastructure providers (waste and ports) as well as the concerned authorities actively contributed with valuable inputs.

2ND INTERNATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION BOARD MEETING

With the project coming closer to its end, emphasis is increasingly put on the development of the **International Convention** which is the core objective of the project. In this perspective, the second meeting of the International Implementation Board took place in Bratislava on 25th February 2014. Besides providing information about the project progress and its current status, the goals of the meeting were to actively discuss the preparation of the International Danube Ship Waste Convention in working groups, work out crucial aspects for implementation and give recommendations for the Consortium. In order to give all participants an overview about each of the working groups, project results, overall progress as well as experience gained within the transnational pilot actions for the collection of oily and greasy ship waste and input presentations were given to the audience prior to the group discussions.



Participants of the 2nd IIB Meeting, Bratislava

The updated, refined version of the draft Convention including the recommendations and suggestions of the experts of the IIB meeting will be subject to a final coordination at the 3rd IIB meeting which is scheduled to take place on 9th July 2014 in Vienna.

¹ For further information please visit <http://www.hintproject.net/>.

PILOT IMPLEMENTATIONS

During the summer of 2013, the collection of results from pilot projects for waste collection launched in Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Romania and Bulgaria further broadened the view over the current situation of ship waste management along the Danube. Besides the gathering of as-is data, the purpose of free waste collection services for oily and greasy ship waste was especially the testing of the Electronic Vignette System (EVS), developed within the project to support the administration of ship waste collection. More than 150 ships registered for these pilot actions. In the period from July until December 2013 over 400m³ of bilge water, 25 m³ of waste oil and 2000 kg of greasy and oily solid waste were disposed of in the participating countries. The positive acceptance of the initiation is confirmed by the large number of participants and the positive feedback. Pilots are still ongoing in Austria, Croatia, Romania and Bulgaria. Additionally to the pilots, surveys about on-board waste management options and habits helped to determine a waste reception network most compliant with the requirements.

A Pilot for the feasibility of River Information Services (RIS) in supporting ship-borne waste management procedures was been carried out in Hungary and Romania (a third Pilot is planned in Serbia). The results of the tests are under evaluation and will help to combine RIS and EVS in the future and contribute to provide the highest support for waste reception facility operators, skippers and administrative personnel.

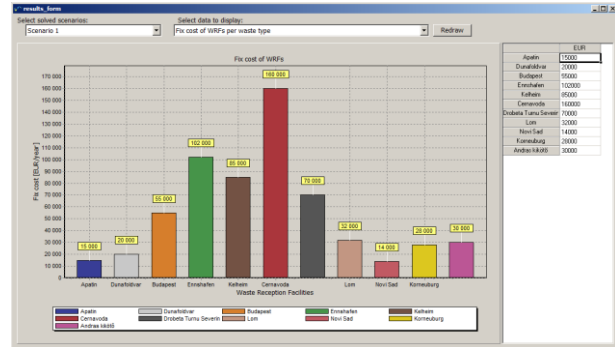
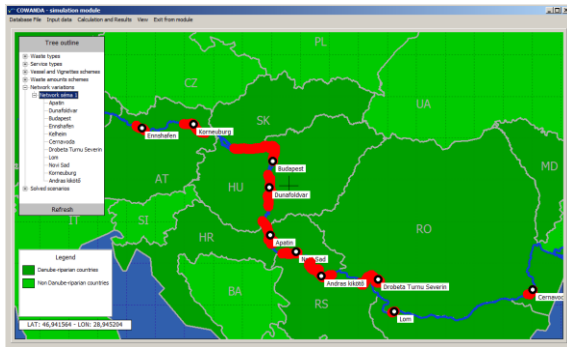


River Information Services – ECDIS © A. Bruckner

In the **Maritime Danube Ports** Inland-Waterway-, as well as sea-going vessels had the opportunity to dispose their ship waste in the ports of Tulcea and Galati. Furthermore, a web interface was developed in order to make online booking of waste reception services and electronic processing of data available.

SIMULATION SOFTWARE

The definition and operation of a proper network of waste reception facilities is a crucial task of the member states implementing the IDSWC. Therefore it is essential to determine a sufficiently dense network of facilities compliant with the legal as well as economic requirements (i.e. state of the art, low operating costs and high service standards). The optimal network (number and location of reception facilities that can meet the service needs and capacities) is influenced by numerous parameters, among which the simultaneous consideration is one very complex task. Therefore, KTI (HU) has developed a simulation software capable of the assessment of potential network variations. The methodology applied will be significant to ensure the revision and adaptation of the network as foreseen in the International Convention in order to define the best possible network of reception facilities.



Simulation Software for Infrastructure Development

NEW PROJECT PARTNER EPPO

Since end of 2013 the CO-WANDA Consortium has gained a new project member from Moldova. The partnership kick-off took place in November, 2013 in Giurgiu, Romania where the new partner EPPO – Environmental Pollution Prevention Office - had the first opportunity to join the partners during the Consortium Meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

POLE 9 - GREENER TRANSPORT SYSTEMS MEETING IN BUDAPEST

Within the SEE Capitalisation Strategy CO-WANDA project representatives are leading **Pole 9 – Greener Transport Systems**, mainly concerned with surface transport issues (rail, road, inland waterway and maritime transportation) and focus on smart, green, integrated and integrative transport modes in the SEE (South East Europe Transnational Cooperation) area. On 24 April, a Pole 9 Workshop will take place in Budapest, putting focus on thematic priorities of future programmes. For further information please contact Mr. Gerhard Schilk (gerhard.schilk@viadonau.org).

CONFERENCES

With the aim to introduce the CO-WANDA project to a broad audience, the consortium uses opportunities to appear on conferences covering topics such as transportation, logistics, navigation, environment and waste management. Following the PIANC SMART RIVERS CONFERENCE 2013 in Belgium, another article was submitted to the biennial **International Conference on Waste Management and the Environment**. This year, the event will be held in Ancona, Italy between 12-14 May 2014 (<http://www.wessex.ac.uk/14-conferences/waste-management-2014.html>). Another opportunity for such disseminate our project results activity will be the participation at the **7th European Inland Waterway Navigation Conference (EIWN)**, which will take place after the project final event in Budapest, from 10th – 12th of September (<http://eiwn.vrht.bme.hu/>).



CO-WANDA FINAL EVENT: SAVE THE DATE 9 SEPTEMBER 2014

After almost 24 months of innovative project work, the project will conclude at the **CO-WANDA Final Event** which will be held in Budapest on 9th September 2014. Hosted by KTI (HU) the event will unite national and international stakeholders as well as experts and interested parties from an interdisciplinary field of sciences and administrative levels.

For more information about the project, please visit the CO-WANDA website www.co-wandaproject.eu/ or contact the project team.

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