

CONVENTION FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR INLAND NAVIGATION ON THE DANUBE

CO-WANDA 1ST NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2012

LET THE PROJECT BEGINN...

On the 1st of October 2012, eleven partners successfully started the project 'CO-WANDA' (COvention for WAste Management for Inland Navigation on the DANube). Co-funded by the EU South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme as one of 37 approved projects out of 342 applications, the follow-up project of WANDA (WAste Management for Inland Navigation on the Danube) was officially kicked-off by over 30 persons in Vienna on 10 October 2012.

Building on the conclusions of the recently finalized 3-year-project 'WANDA', the key objective of the CO-WANDA initiative is to draft an International Convention for Ship Waste Management that will be valid for all Danube riparian countries. The experts of the project consortium (representing nine Danube countries) will perform a multitude of tasks in the following 24 months of the project, which will facilitate the implementation of a cross-border, modern, state-of the art ship waste management system along the Danube.

via donau - AT 	APDF - RO 	PLOVPUT - RS 
VUVH - SK 	APDM - RO 	ODESSA RSA - UA 
KTI - HU 	EAEMDR - BG 	South RDA - MD 
RSOE - HU 	PAV - HR 	

...BUILDING A FUNDAMENT...

Pioneer project WANDA clearly outlined the need for action in the field of ship borne waste management and to achieve uniform, cross border harmonized management along the Danube. Along these lines, the follow-up project **CO-WANDA** now aims at elaborating the groundwork for a legally binding, international treaty.

Successful transnational cooperation will play a key role in developing such a convention where EU as well as non-EU member states such as Croatia, Serbia, Moldova and Ukraine are involved.

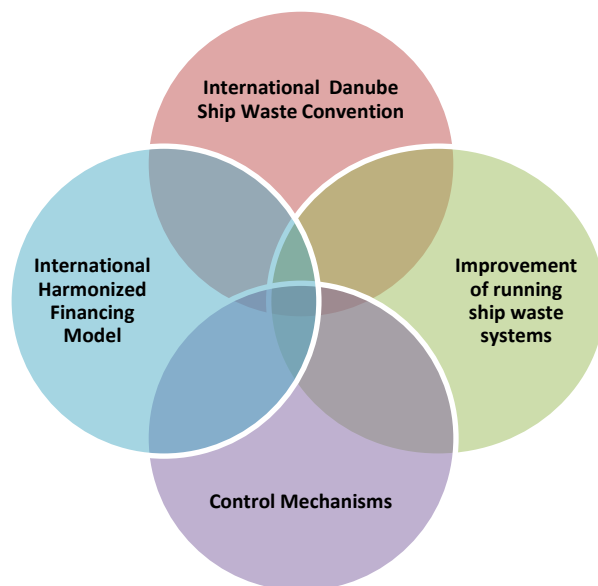
The as-is situation highly differs in the Danube riparian countries – showing existing and well-functioning infrastructure but also underdeveloped or missing facilities. Thus, one of the key points of **CO-WANDA** is the **ADVANCEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT** of the existing **SHIP WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**. In close cooperation with the IWT-sector waste-related onboard activities especially focusing on waste prevention, know-how transfer and service-improvement will be examined. Hereby, adequate measures will be identified and users' needs integrated. Furthermore, the project will provide infrastructure development concepts which will serve as a basis for the establishment of a **STATE-OF**

THE ART NETWORK OF SHIP WASTE RECEPTION FACILITIES for the future along the Danube River, thus strongly reducing the risk of illegal discharge and contributing to the protection of the ecosystem Danube.

PILOT TESTS will be conducted, aiming at acquiring real-life data and practical experiences for further assessment and monitoring. Special focus will be put on the incorporation of users such as skippers & fleet operators in the conduction of the pilot tests. Vessels participating in the CO-WANDA pilot actions will be equipped with vignettes free of charge, giving them the warranty for the disposal of their oily and greasy ship borne waste at predefined waste collection points. In this context the use of vignettes as a possible way for a Financing Model for ship waste management will also be investigated. Furthermore, **RIVER INFORMATION SERVICES (RIS)**, which carry a great potential in supporting predictive ship waste disposal, will be tested comprehensively. Applications will be developed and practically applied, that can support skippers and fleet operators as well as operators of waste reception



facilities in their shipborne waste disposal process .



A **LEGALLY BINDING, INTERNATIONAL TREATY** is necessary to achieve uniform, cross-border harmonized ship waste management along the Danube. For the start, an *International Implementation Board* (IIB) will be formed, consisting of national and international experts and stakeholders. The IIB will strongly support the preparation of an **INTERNATIONAL DANUBE SHIP WASTE CONVENTION** (IDSWC) by defining rules and basic administrative procedures for ship waste handling, facilitating its implementation on national level and providing joint follow up measures for the

Danube as a whole.

...FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT.

The project consortium comprises eleven partners operating in the field of inland navigation, waterway infrastructure services or transport and water research, representing a well-balanced mix of ports, waterway and regional administration units as well as research institutes.

An enhancement of the project's quality is especially achieved through the involvement of external observers (Danube Commission, International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine, International Sava River Basin Commission, Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Bilgenentwässerungsverband), giving feedback, advice and significantly contributing to the success of the project, sharing their rich experience in the field of inland waterway transport and environmental protection.



The CO-WANDA Consortium at the Kick-off Meeting in Vienna

Two years of pioneer work in the field of ship borne waste management are lying ahead, starting with defining the conceptual approach. The first meeting of the International Implementation Board is scheduled for spring 2013, setting the first milestone for the preparation of the IDSWC, followed by the implementation of pilot tests in summer 2013.

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