



International Association  
for Danube Research

## Report of the FLOODPLAIN ECOLOGY EG

by Ulrich Schwarz

11th Joint Meeting of IAD NR & EGL  
27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> May 2013, Bratislava/Slovakia



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## Activities of the EG Floodplain Ecology

### Meetings:

- Regular participation on the ICPDR HYMO EG meetings in Vienna: Main topics are the Danube Basin Management Plan and the measures taken until 2015, with special focus on morphological alterations and lateral connectivity (floodplains)
- Selected participation on meetings of the ICPDR FLOOD EG (only if in the vicinity of Vienna), with background to floodplain functions and flood mitigation/hydrological conditions
- JDS III preparatory meetings with focus on hydromorphological analysis together with Katarina Holubova, Water Research Institute Bratislava
- Meeting with Prof. Zyffka, Floodplain Institute in Neuburg regarding the possibilities for better cooperation alongside the Bavarian Floodplain conference
- Meeting with Erika Schneider, Floodplain Institute Rastatt, Mathias Scholz, UFZ
- Meeting with Gabor Guti, Danube Research Institute, Hungary

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### Publications:

- SCHWARZ, U. (2012d): Assessment of the Restoration Potential in the Mura-Drava-Danube Transboundary Unesco Biosphere Reserve. For WWF Austria, 167 pp., Vienna.
- SCHWARZ U. (2012c): Hydromorphological assessment and situation of floodplains in the Drava Basin. In Danube News, Bulletin of the International Association for Danube Research (IAD), May 2012, No. 25, Volume 14 pp. 9-14, Wilhering.
- SCHWARZ U., Grlica, D., Stumberger, B. (2012b): Hydromorphology Impact on riverine breeding birds along the Lower Mura and Drava. In: Danube News, Bulletin of the International Association for Danube Research (IAD), May 2012, No. 25, Volume 14 pp. 14-15, Wilhering.
- SCHWARZ, U. (2012a): Outstanding Balkan River landscapes – a basis for wise development decisions. For ECA Watch Austria/Euronature Germany/MAVA Switzerland, 150 pp and 101 pp. Separate Annex („River Catalogue“). Vienna

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### Poster presentations:

- 4th Bavarian Floodplain conference, Neuburg Danube: Poster of the Austrian Floodplain Inventory
- ÖbF (Austrian National Forests), presentation of the national floodplain inventory for a workshop on floodplain forests in Austria

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## Activities of the EG Floodplain Ecology

### Projects:

- Upcoming „National Floodplain Strategy for Austria“ a project for Lebensministerium in Vienna (start in September 2012)
- Project on flooding analysis of Balkan Poljes (only minor relevance for Danube basin, but relevant for many Danubian countries and directly related to karst river flooding systems (project of Euronature)
- Ongoing restoration planning within the Mura-Drava-Danube Transboundary Unesco Biosphere reserve: Based on the main study selection of several sites and preparation of Life proposals

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### Other activities:

- Regular excursions in the Danube national park for the University of Vienna, Department for geography with the title: 290248 EX Physiogeographische Exkursion - Inland: Die Donau im Raum Wien - Fluvialmorphologie, Flussbau und Naturschutz
- CEN membership (IUCN) for „Wetland ecosystem TG “ and „Natural risk management“
- Supporting CEN Standard development (Prof. Phil Boon, London): In the meantime CEN standards for the assessment of hydromorphological features are available for rivers, lakes as well as transitional waters and coastal areas

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