



**DANUBE
WATER
PROGRAM**

Smart policies, strong utilities, sustainable services

Danube Water Program Update

This newsletter updates readers on the activities financed by the Danube Water Program. The program supports policy dialogue and capacity development to achieve Smart Policies, Strong Utilities, Sustainable Services in the water supply and wastewater sector in the Danube Region. The program is jointly run by the World Bank and IAWD, the International Association of Water Supply Companies in the Danube Catchment Area, with funding from the Government of Austria.

NEWSLETTER / June 2016

PROGRAM NEWS

Changes in World Bank team

The IAWD and World Bank teams congratulate David Michaud, current World Bank Program Leader for the Danube Water Program, on his job promotion within the World Bank. Although we will miss David, we wish him all the best for his new assignment, which he will start in Washington D.C. in July. David will oversee the World Bank's water engagement in Eastern and Southern Europe and we hope to continue seeing him often in the region's capitals!

Furthermore, we are looking forward to the new World Bank Program Leader Patricia Lopez, who will take over David's position in mid-August. Patricia Lopez is currently leading the World Bank's water services policy and operational engagement in Ecuador, and will be relocating to Vienna in August.

The Bank team will be complemented by Elvira Broeks Motta, who will also join the Vienna-based team as a Program Analyst in August. Elvira will replace Angelika Heider, who regrettably left the team by end of May.

A warm welcome to the team!

New Danube Water Program brochure out now!

The new Danube Water Program brochure was launched in May. It works as an excellent snapshot of the activities supported by the Danube Water Program and provides a perfect overview on the results achieved during the Program's first phase (2013-2015), and the expectations for the second phase (2016-2018).

Have a look into the new brochure [here!](#)

DANUBIS.org water platform further revamped

The [DANUBIS.org](#) water platform has been improved dramatically within the last month! Check out the new features on [DANUBIS.org](#) and in the new [brochure](#) just published!

Interested in how your utility company is doing compared to others in the region? Looking for the next training on Non-Revenue Water? Need the latest report on wastewater treatment in the European Union? It's all on [DANUBIS.org!](#)

[DANUBIS.org](#) is an interactive knowledge space – everyone can upload new resources, events or news. Check it out yourself and join the [DANUBIS.org](#) community. Stay in touch by subscribing to the daily or weekly update, by registering as a [DANUBIS.org](#) user and by joining the [DANUBIS.org LinkedIn group!](#)

For more information on the platform or in case of any questions, please contact [Katerina Schilling!](#)

Announcement on Competitive Grants Award Process

IAWD announces that 13 applications from 47 received have been chosen to be further evaluated and negotiations will begin to receive a Competitive Grant financed from the Danube Water Program.

The grant awards (up to 50,000 Euro) will be provided to applicants from 10 different countries. The list of the projects chosen to be further evaluated as well as additional information can be downloaded as pdf from our [website](#).

Call for Grants for Strengthening Water Utility Associations Opened

IAWD has announced that the call for grants for strengthening the National Water and Wastewater Associations is now open and applications for funding (from each National Association) can be received up to the end of September 2016. The grants are focused on implementing elements of the Association business plans and for those associations without a business plan helping them prepare one and carry out needed activities.

The Call for Applications can be found on the [website](#).

Concept Note on rural service providers approved

The Concept Note for the study on "Services beyond the public utility service areas" has been approved by the World Bank after internal review, and is available on the [website](#). The piece will look at the current mechanisms for service provision among those areas and populations not covered by public supply. It will particularly focus on Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania and Ukraine. The contracting of experts in the different countries is ongoing, with secondary and primary data collection taking place in the summer and fall of 2016. It is expected that the study would be completed in spring 2017.

For further information, please contact [Susanna Smets](#), who will lead the implementation of this study on the Bank's side.

IAWD NEWS

New Knowledge Management and Capacity Building Coordinator to join the IAWD Technical Secretariat

Katerina Schilling has been hired as the new Knowledge Management and Capacity Building Coordinator of IAWD. Her work will be focused on maintaining and improving the DANUBIS.org water platform as well as the management of D-LeaP, the Danube Learning Partnership for sustainable water and wastewater services.

You can find her [contact](#) details and more information on our [website](#).

Newly established Cooperation with UN Habitat

In March 2016 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between IAWD and UN-Habitat to establish Water Operators' Partnerships (WOPs) in the Danube region. The aim is to develop new opportunities for IAWD and its members, improve the service quality in the region with the support of UN. The first WOP was launched in April 2016 between Budapest Waterworks and the Waterworks of Subotica in Serbia.

Eszter Torda joined the IAWD team as the manager of the UN-Habitat Programme. For more details on Eszter, please visit our [website](#).

Memorandum of Understanding signed with NALAS

During the XI NALAS General Assembly, held in Pristina on 14 and 15 April 2016, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between NALAS (Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South East Europe) and IAWD.

"I am happy that I was able to attend NALAS conference yesterday and learn about the challenges of local governments in the Region when it comes to investments. We are here to join actions, develop capacities and improve services to citizens", said Mr. Walter Kling on behalf of IAWD.

PROGRAM EVENTS

2017 Danube Water Conference – Save the Date!

The 2017 Danube Water Conference will be held on 18-20 May 2017 in Vienna and will be a jointly organized with the IWA Specialist Group Conference on Performance Indicators.

2016 Danube Water Conference – a short overview

The 2016 Danube Water Conference held on May 11-13 in Vienna was another milestone in the success story of the conference series. It brought together close to 200 stakeholders discussing the Double Challenge of meeting the EU *acquis communautaire* Requirements providing sustainable water and sanitation services to all.

In the frame of the conference, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the newly developed DANUBIS DCM (Data Collection and Management) Platform was signed between IAWD and four participating countries represented by their Managing Institutions (Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia) with the World Bank as a witness. Further information as well as the [conference report](#) and [pictures](#) can be found on our [website!](#)

Workshop on the DANUBIS DCM Platform

A workshop on the functionality of the regional data collection and management (DCM) of the DANUBIS water platform was held in Belgrade on 22-24 June 2016. It was established as a training session to provide staff of managing institutions with the capacity to launch, manage and use the DCM DANUBIS system for upload and analysis of data from the respective country.

In total, 10 people from five countries joined the 2.5 days workshop and were intensively trained to use the DCM platform for their further activities. IAWD and the World Bank thank the Belgrade Waterworks/UTVSI for kindly hosting the workshop. For further information on as well as participation in the Danubis DCM platform, please contact [Phil Weller](#), [Katerina Schilling](#) or [David Michaud!](#)

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS

D-LeaP Declaration of Intent signed at the DWC 2016

In the context of the Danube Water Conference a Declaration of Intent was signed between IAWD and the members of the Round Table of Water Utility Associations to establish the Danube Learning Partnership (D-LeaP).

The vision of D-LeaP envisages a Danube region where all citizens enjoy sustainable water and wastewater services. D-LeaP aims to achieve its vision by offering a sustainable and comprehensive set of learning and capacity-building programs to participating utility companies and sector professionals through the partnering national water associations.

Walter Kling, Secretary-General of IAWD, comments: „The signing of the declaration marks the start of concrete action by the members of the Round Table of Water Utility Associations. The partners will join IAWD as members and the Round Table develops to be one of the important networking platforms for the Danube and Balkan region!”

For further information on D-LeaP, please contact [Phil Weller!](#)

EVENTS AND NEWS FROM THE REGION (More events can be found on [DANUBIS.org](#))

Water and Jobs – Balkan Joint Conference and Exhibition

This year, the 4th Balkans Joint Conference and Exhibition, jointly organized by the Water Supply and Sewerage Association of Albania (SHUKALB) and the Water and Wastewater Works Association of Kosovo (SHUKOS), will be held in Tirana - Albania, on 2 - 4 November 2016. More Information can be found [here](#).

5th Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

The 5th Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region will be held in Bratislava, Slovakia on 4-5 November 2016. Further information can be found [here](#).

Disclaimer - The information is provided by the IAWD Technical Secretariat and World Bank staff. Please inform us (office@danube-water-program.org) of any errors in any of the information provided or contact us at the same address for further information.

www.danube-water-program.org