



Smart policies, strong utilities, sustainable services

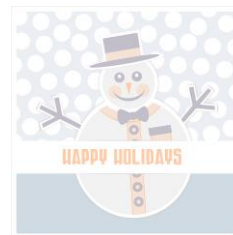
Danube Water Program supports policy dialogue and capacity development to achieve Smart Policies, Strong Utilities, Sustainable Services in the water supply and wastewater sector in the Danube Region. The program is jointly run by the World Bank and IAWD, with funding from the Government of Austria.

NEWSLETTER / December 2016

PROGRAM NEWS

Season's Greetings

We - the team of the Danube Water Program - would like to express our appreciation to all our supporters. Thank you for a very successful year! We wish you pleasant holidays and send you the best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!



Competitive Grants progressing with their implementation

IAWD (DWP) is progressing with implementation of the 11 contracted grants. One example of the good implementation start is the grant on asset valuation methodology, which has started with an initial workshop mid-October 2016 and succeeded to raise interest of the other water operators in Bulgaria – as valuation of the assets is starting to be a legal obligation in the country. Further information on the initial workshop can be found [here](#).

DWP Photo Contest - win a free registration to PI2017 and DWC 2017 - DEADLINE EXTENDED!

The DWP launches a photo contest to gather new and representative pictures for DWP public relations material. The best picture will be awarded with a free registration for the [IWA PI2017](#) and the [Danube Water Conference 2017](#) (for more information on both events, please see IAWD News). [Further Information](#)

Roundtable of Water Utility Associations, 27-28 October 2016

The [Roundtable of Water Utility Associations](#) convened in Vienna on 27-28 October 2016. The focus of the meeting was the final establishment of the Danube Learning Partnership (D-LeaP). Ten representatives of water utility associations as well as the team of the Danube Water Program, and GIZ, reviewed the final drafts of the D-LeaP Governance Documents, included comments and proposed final changes. Furthermore, the state of D-LeaP offerings was presented and potential hubs declared their interest in one or more of the offerings. The Technical Partners for the Commercial Efficiency (Valu Add) and Energy Efficiency (Econoler) programs have been selected following the meeting and the development of the curriculum of these topics has begun. [Further Information](#)

News on the Water Operators' Partnership cooperation of the water utility providers of Budapest and Subotica

Within the framework of the international programme of UN-Habitat agency through the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA), Subotica Waterworks and Sewage Water Utility organized as another milestone of the Hungarian-Serbian water cooperation a one-day workshop for Serbian and Hungarian professionals at the city hall of Subotica on 9 December 2016. [Further Information](#)

Benchmarking Workshop IB2015

The Benchmarking Workshop IB2015 took place on 23-25 November 2016 in Budva, Montenegro. The Coordinators for the Utility Benchmarking Program, and the representative of the European Benchmarking Cooperation Peter Dane and the Head of the IAWD Technical Secretariat Philip Weller, met in Podgorica, Montenegro to discuss the future of utility Benchmarking in the Danube Region. The coordinators from the Hubs in Bulgaria, Ukraine, Kosovo and Albania, and Ex-Yugoslavia agreed to continue the efforts to support utilities in benchmarking and develop further the efforts through the Hubs. [Further Information](#)

Ukraine Utility Benchmarking Program - Final Workshop, Kiev, 16-17 January 2017

The Ukraine Utility Benchmarking Program will organize its final workshop involving 14 utilities who have used the EBC platform to upload and analyse utility performance data. The workshop will take place in Kiev on 16-17 January 2017. For more information please contact [Viktoria Iskova](#).

Danube Water Conference 2017 - Save the Date!

The Danube Water Conference 2017 will be held in Vienna on 17-18 May 2017 and will be jointly organized with the IWA Specialist Conference on Benchmarking and Performance Assessment (15-17 September 2017, [PI2017 website](#)). The Program Outline will be available in early 2017.

EVENTS AND NEWS FROM THE REGION (More [@DANUBIS.org](#))

The Budapest Water Summit, 28-30 November 2016

In the frame of the Budapest Water Summit 2016 conference and exhibition about 2000 scientists, politicians and experts representing close to 120 countries consulted on the protection of our water resources.

Representatives of the world nine largest development banks also participated in the event and committed themselves to double the amount spent for water related investments over the next five years. The final document of the event - the Budapest Water Summit 2016 Messages and the Policy Recommendations - is also emphasizing the appreciating role of water preservation in the future. [Further Information](#)

RENEXPO Water & Energy - Western Balkans, 25-27 April 2017

From 25th - 27th of April 2017 the number 1 meeting place for international industry, investors and experts RENEXPO® WATER & ENERGY goes bigger, wider and higher. A brand new trade fair, conferences and side program-concept welcomes on 2.000m² more than 100 companies worldwide and around 2.500 regional and international experts. The new set-up unites the topics WATER & ENERGY in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Albania and Croatia. [Further Information](#)

IWA Young Water Professionals Workshop - Wasser Berlin International, 29 March 2017

The Austrian and German IWA Young Water Professionals Chapters organize their second joint workshop "Water Management 4.0 - Challenges and Opportunities" at Wasser Berlin International on 29 March 2017. The workshop will be delivered in english and further information will be provided in early 2017. For more information please contact iwaywp.workshop.wasserberlin17@gmail.com.



[Danube Water Program](#)