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Danube Transnational Programme DIONYSUS

**Integrating Danube Region into Smart & Sustainable
Multi-modal & Intermodal Transport Chains**

D.T1.4.2. Active participation in policy and logistic events (Yearly Activity Report)

2022

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Executive Summary

During the year 2021, the members of the Dionysus Project Consortium participated in several relevant policy and logistics events, that addressed the interconnectivity with the EaP corridors.

Throughout these active participations, the project partners provided presentations, held business meetings and facilitated business cooperation in view of increasing cargo flows and transport on the Danube.

Expanding the use of the Danube waterway to new markets and new clients requires commercial and political efforts as well as a comprehensive promotion. Container transport clearly represents a possible new market for the Danube. There is free capacity available on the Danube for the development of container transport and connections with strong industrial region in Southeast Europe also exist. These aspects can be taken as favourable conditions. At the same time, there is a number of unfavorable conditions as well, such as, the lack of adequate container handling infrastructure in ports, the need for vessels to be adapted to navigate in low water periods, administrative and political obstacles, long container transit times, lack of information among shippers regarding inland navigation container transport.

Interconnecting the Danube corridor and thus the Danube waterway with the EaP corridors and tapping the cargo potentials will provide DR industries with new and commercially attractive business opportunities thus generating socio-economic benefit.

One of the most important topics of the events for 2022, was the transport of goods after the COVID – 19 pandemic. The discussions addressed the current situation in ports, overcoming the challenges and future development plans.

Another important topic was the Ukrainian-Russian war, its effects on the traditional transport routes and logistic chain and last but not least the efforts carried out by the neighbouring countries in view of ensuring the exports of Ukrainian grains and cargoes. It was pointed out during most of the participations and dedicated events that the inland waterways, i.e. the Danube, remain the most efficient and green environmental friendly mean of transport.

Also, the partners from USPA mentioned that due to events that took place in Ukraine in 2022, they didn't have the opportunity to organize or participate in relevant political and logistical activities related to D.TI.4.2.

Events: Year 2022

| Nr. Crt. | Event Name | PP who attended / Period / Location | Participants: | Information (presentations) available at: |
|--|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| 1. | Constanta Port Day | MPAC/12.05.2022/Budapest, Hungary PGA/12.05.2022/Budapest, Hungary | 150 participants | https://www.portofconstantza.com/pn/ro/home |
| <p>Event description: The potential of Constanta Port and containerized transport on the Danube between the Central European countries together with the Black Sea and Caspian Sea areas were highlighted on 12 May in Budapest, during the event “Constanta Port Day” that reached its 14th edition. The event was organized by the MPAC. On this occasion, MPAC presented to the participants in the transport industry from Hungary the opportunities offered by the Port of Constanta for the transit of cargo, as well as the advantages that makes it the most important hub for the Central and Eastern European area. Representatives of PGA attended the event and had the opportunity to exchange information with relevant institutions and partners from Danube Region.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Event description:</p> | | | | |
| 2. | Constanta Port Day | MPAC/22.09.2022/Novi Sad/Serbia PGA/22.09.2022/Novi Sad/Serbia | 200 participants | https://ro.linkedin.com/in/constant-a-port-ab680b1a4 |
| <p>Event description: After a break of two years, Constanta Port Day has returned to Serbia, with the representatives of the port of Constanta once again having the opportunity to meet Serbian partners and to ensure cooperation in the area. The event became the meeting point of the most important actors in the area in the field of transport, logistics and agribusiness, this edition being attended by 200 delegates, representing 68 companies from Serbia, Croatia, Montenegro, the Netherlands and Switzerland. During the official programme, PGA held the presentation on results, development projects and future plans.</p> | | | | |
| 3. | Eastern European | MPAC/11.10.2022/Budapest, Hungary | 250 participants | https://mlszkszu.hu |

| Nr. Crt. | Event Name | PP who attended / Period / Location | Participants: | Information (presentations) available at: |
|--|---|---|-------------------------|---|
| | Intermodal Conference | | | |
| <p>Event description: Eastern European Intermodal Conference was dedicated to transport logistics in the EU, and in particular in the Carpathian Basin, which is and will be significantly changing in the near future, and if all the actors are involved, the whole logistic chain can benefit from the results. The target was represented by commodity owners (producers of goods, issuers of goods), freight forwarders, road transport companies, intermodal terminals.</p> | | | | |
| 4. | X Logistics & Transport Annual Conference | MPAC/02.11.2022/Be lgrade, Serbia PGA/02.11.2022/Belg rade, Serbia | 150 participants | https://logistikaitransport.com/luke-i-terminali/dan-luke-konstanca-u-novom-sadu/ |
| <p>Event description: By participating in this event, MPAC intended to maintain the presence of the Port of Constanța on the event market dedicated to transport and logistics in Serbia, especially river transport (an extremely dynamic and diversified market), which was affected lately by the lack of investment in river transport infrastructure. PGA participated at the conference and during the session „Ports and terminals“ held the presentation on achieved results and development projects.</p> | | | | |
| 5. | IGC Webinar | MPAC/29.11.2022/on line | 60 participants | www.igc.int |
| <p>Event description: Webinars organized by the IGC are topical in nature and provide a unique opportunity for a diverse range of international experts to exchange views and provide scenarios on grains, oilseeds, rice and pulses market developments. In line with the Grains Trade Convention, which seeks to further international cooperation, to promote the expansion of international trade and to contribute to market transparency in order to enhance world food security, webinars are open to the public. The second webinar discussed the logistical aspect of the grains movement addressing the way to get back all category of vessels in the Black Sea, the investment needs for the deep sea ports as well as investment for the agri-food sector in the region.</p> | | | | |
| 6. | 3rd PLATINA3 (Platform for the implementation of a future inland | FTTE/ 10th and 11th of February, 2022 / online | 102 participants | https://platina3.eu/event/brussels/ |

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|---|--|---|--------------------------------|--|
| | <p>navigation action programme) Stage Event - the Brussels sessions</p> | | | |
| <p>Event description: The 3rd PLATINA3 Stage Event – the Brussels sessions was attended by IWT policy makers of different horizons, professionals from demand and supply side, interested NGOs, research and academic experts. Participants were discussing the themes like preparation of the inland waterway transport to adapt to a changing climate, modal shift and decarbonisation, EU emission label and energy index for vessels, as well as the regulatory pathway towards a zero-emission fleet. FTTE team member (Vladislav Maraš) gave a presentation about container transport as a possible new market for the Danube. This presentation was based on the outcomes and lessons learnt from the research carried out within the DIONYSUS project. We pointed out that there is free capacity available on the Danube for the development of container transport and connections with strong industrial region in Southeast Europe also exist, what can be considered as favorable conditions. At the same time, there is a number of unfavorable conditions as well, such as, the lack of adequate container handling infrastructure in ports, the need for vessels to be adapted to navigate in low water periods, administrative and political obstacles, long container transit times, lack of information among shippers regarding inland navigation container transport.</p> | | | | |
| 7. | <p>Blue Wave Week “Innovation for the sustainable use of marine and maritime resources in our Seas”</p> | <p>FTTE /7-9 June, 2022/ Budva, Montenegro, Hybrid</p> | <p>174 participants</p> | <p>https://blueair.adri.oninterreg.eu/news/blue-wave-week-montenegro-2022-innovation-for-the-sustainable-use-of-marine-and-maritime-resources-in-our-seas</p> |
| <p>Event description: The event was organized in a way to improve the institutional capacities of the Adriatic-Ionian region in defining a common approach to the implementation of the Smart Specialization Strategy (hereinafter S3) Blue Growth (hereinafter BG) policy at the macro-regional level. It also served as a mean for the exchange of experiences and opportunities for cooperation between different countries in terms of providing support for the development of innovations and technology transfer. Within the Event Workshop “Clustering workshop on Blue Economy projects: Areas of Blue Growth Opportunities”, FTTE team member (Vladislav</p> | | | | |

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|--|--|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Maraš) gave a presentation about the DIONYSUS project, its background, specific objectives, main results and links with the Blue Economy. | | | | |
| 8. | 20th International Conference on Transport Science, ICTS 2022 | FTTE / 23rd & 24th of May 2022 / Portorož, Slovenia | 150 participants | https://icts.sdzp.org/wp/ |
| Event description: Slovene Association of Transport Sciences, together with University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Maritime Studies and Transport and University of Split, Faculty of Maritime Studies organized a conference about transport, maritime and logistics science. FTTE team members (Danijela Pjevčević and Anita Abođi) took part to this conference. They used this opportunity to introduce the DIONYSUS project and its results to transport researchers coming mainly from Central and Eastern Europe. | | | | |
| 9. | 2nd Kotor International Maritime Conference (KIMC) | FTTE / 27-30 November 2022/ Kotor, Montenegro | 110 participants | https://www.kimc.ucg.ac.me/ |
| Event description: The idea behind KIMC is to provide an ideal academic platform for researchers to present the latest research findings and describe emerging technologies and directions in maritime sciences and shipping industry. Through numerous bilateral meetings, that took place during the KIMC2022, FTTE team members (Vladislav Maraš and Anita Abođi) introduced the DIONYSUS project and its outcomes to the various transport researchers mainly coming from the Adriatic region. | | | | |
| 10. | Danube Commission Expert Group on Ports | PDM/09.03.2022 MPAC/09.03.2022 | 60 participants /online | https://www.danubecommission.org/dc/en/2022/03/19/the-second-expert-meeting-for-the-development-of-ports-and-port-operations-em-ports-successfully-completed/ |

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|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| <p>Event description: DPN’s intervention initiated a fruitful discussion among experts from the Danube-riparian countries in view of applicability, economic viability, and environmental impact. It was concluded that OPS indeed has the capacity to play an essential role in the greening transition of Danube inland and seaports. The successful greening transition of Danube ports must be tackled as a joint transnational effort having the corridor approach as a priority, for which the DPN is ready to provide its full support.</p> | | | | |
| 11. | NAIADES Implementation Group | PDM/21.03.2022 | online | https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/expert-groups-register/screen/meetings/consult?lang=en&meetingId=37794&fromExpertGroups=true |
| <p>Event description: The role of this Expert Group is to provide advice and expertise to the Commission’s Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) in relation to inland navigation issues. Its tasks are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ to provide advice to the Commission for the preparation of legislative proposals and policy initiatives in the inland navigation sector. ○ assist the Commission in the implementation of the NAIADES Action Programmes. ○ give advice and provide input to the Commission in the preparation of the progress reports of the NAIADES Action programmes. ○ support the Commission with regard to the policy-making discussion concerning the EU transport policy in the inland navigation sector, including aspects related to governance and cooperation with international river commissions and other relevant international organisations. ○ provide input for the discussion of other topics of general interest for the sector, including, inter alia, the smooth integration of inland navigation transport in the TEN-T, the achievement of good navigation status, innovation and technological development issues, greening of inland navigation transport, new business models, innovative financing schemes or market enabling measures supporting modal-shift objectives. | | | | |

| Nr. Crt. | Event Name | PP who attended / Period / Location | Participants: | Information (presentations) available at: |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 12. | FAIRway works! & Preparing FAIRway 2 Advisory Committee | PDM/09.06.2022, Hybrid event | Approx. 50 | https://www.viadonau.org/en/company/project-database/fairway-works-in-the-rhine-danube-corridor/fairway-works-in-the-rhine-danube-corridor |
| <p>Event description: The aim of the meeting was to discuss the current status of both projects as well as their expected impact on the overall well-being of IWT. Important topics - such as the Upgrade of the Serbian Iron Gate 2 locks, Serbian Equipment for Good Navigation Status, Austrian Equipment for Good Navigation Status, as well as the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Facility were - just to mention a few - high on the agenda. Both actions are co-financed by the Connecting Europe Facility of the European Union and are implemented by the waterway management organisations of Austria, Croatia, and Serbia.</p> | | | | |