

ANNEX 14: Danube Regional Project – Phase 1: APR 2003

UNDP ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT (APR)
UNDP/GEF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)
2003

OFFICIAL TITLE: Strengthening the Implementation Capacities for Nutrient Reduction and Transboundary Cooperation in the Danube River Basin
 (Short name: Danube Regional Project – Phase 1)

UNDP PROJECT NUMBER: RER/01/G32/A/1G/31 **GEF PROJECT NUMBER:** _____

DATE OF REPORT: 31 / 01 / 2003 *Date of Last APR:* _____

1. BASIC PROJECT IDENTIFIERS- Please enter all date (DD/MMM/YEAR)				
COUNTRY	Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, Serbia & Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine			
FOCAL AREA	International Waters			
OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME	GEF Operational Strategy for International Waters/ Waterbody-Based Operational Programme (#8)			
DATE OF ENTRY IN WP	May 11, 2001			
PRODOC SIGNATURE DATE				
DURATION (MONTHS)	Phase 1: 24 months			
1.1 BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION -Please limit to maximum 100 words.				
<p>The long-term development objective of the DRP is to contribute to sustainable human development in the DRB through reinforcing the capacities of participating countries to develop effective mechanisms for regional cooperation in order to ensure protection of international waters, sustainable management of natural resources and protection of biodiversity.</p> <p>The overall objective of the DRP is to complement the activities of the ICPDR required to strengthen a regional approach for solving transboundary problems. This includes the development of national policies and legislation, the definition of priority actions for pollution control, especially nutrient reduction, as well as the achieving of sustainable transboundary ecological conditions within the DRB and the Black Sea basin area.</p>				
1.2 BASIC FINANCIAL DATA - Please present all financial values in millions (e.g 3,502,000 = 3.502)				
	Funding Source	Institution Name (Acronym, if any)	Proposed Financing	Actual Financing
A. GEF FUNDING			5.000	5.000
B. CO-FINANCING	UNDP (TRAC)			
	UN AGENCY			
	GOVERNMENT (CASH)			
	GOVERNMENT (IN-KIND)	ICPDR	6.600	6.600
	BILATERAL DONORS			
	MULTILATERAL DONORS			
	REGIONAL BANKS			
	NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORG.			
	PRIVATE SECTOR			
	OTHER			
TOTAL COFINANCING			6.600	6.600
TOTAL FUNDING (A+B)			11.500	11.500

2. PROJECT PERFORMANCE

SRF Goal (*):	Environmentally sustainable development to reduce human poverty
SRF Sub Goal (*):	
Strategic Area of Support (*):	

(*) The UNDP Country Office will fill out these fields

Rating:

HS Highly Satisfactory

S Satisfactory

UPE Unsatisfactory, with some positive elements

U Unsatisfactory

X Not Applicable

2.1 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE- Please rate each objective, not each individual indicator.				
Development Objective	Indicators (Include Target Value & Time Frame)	Actual Level Achieved (please provide brief description)	2002 Rating	2003 Rating
The overall objective of the Danube Regional Project is to complement the activities of the ICPDR required to provide a regional approach and global significance to the development of national policies and legislation and to the definition of priority actions for nutrient reduction and pollution control with particular attention to achieving sustainable transboundary ecological effects within the DRB and the Black Sea area.	Overall Project Objective: At the end of Phase 1 of the Project, methodologies and concepts have been developed under the DRPC to introduce and implement legal and institutional mechanisms for efficient pollution control and reduction of nutrient loads to the Black Sea.	<p>All project components have been thoroughly discussed and agreed with the major stakeholders, including the ICPDR and its Expert Groups. The project team is participating in ICPDR Expert Group Meetings, and the respective components are being implemented using a participatory approach.</p> <p>16 of 20 components are under full implementation while the remaining 4 will begin shortly assuring that all expected outputs including the identified concepts and methodologies will be finalized by November 2003 (end of Phase 1.)</p> <p>The Danube Regional Project (DRP) is cooperating with the Black Sea Environmental Recovery Project (BSERP) in the frame of the Joint Working Group together with the ICPDR and the ICPBS. This is providing feedback to both projects and commissions to coordinate the activities and assist in reaching the overall goals.</p>	HS	X

2.1 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE- Please rate each objective, not each individual indicator.				
Development Objective	Indicators (Include Target Value & Time Frame)	Actual Level Achieved (please provide brief description)	2002 Rating	2003 Rating
		The DRP has also established cooperation with the World Bank/GEF Strategic Partnership and is working together with project staff from individual projects (Bulgarian Wetlands, Romania Agriculture Pollution Control etc.) on related activities.		
The specific objective of Phase 1 of the Project is to prepare and initiate basin-wide capacity-building activities with particular attention to creation of inter-ministerial committees, concept development for implementation of policies, legal and economic instruments, mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation and development of programmes for awareness raising and NGO strengthening.		<p>Concepts and methodologies for all project components have been discussed and are being prepared in cooperation with the ICPDR and other key stakeholders.</p> <p>Designated capacity building activities have been initiated and the training needs assessment is currently being conducted, as the basis for training programmes to be prepared by the end of Phase 1 and then be carried out in Phase 2.</p> <p>Activities related to policies, legislation and economic instruments and M & E are under implementation and will be available according to the implementation schedule.</p> <p>Public participation and NGO capacity building, as one of the main components of the GEF project has been given a strong emphasis. The Danube Environmental Forum (DEF) network is being strengthened and expanded and a strategic plan has been formulated, training activities have been initiated. It is expected that the level achievement will exceed expectations in the 1st Phase.</p>	HS	X
2.1.1 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS				
DO #	Assumption	Risk (measured as the probability that the assumption will not hold)		
1.	All countries participate under the ICPDR in implementing legal and institutional mechanisms for pollution reduction and sustainable water management.	In 2001 all Danube countries formally expressed their willingness to cooperate in fulfilling the obligations related to the EU WFD.		

2.1 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE- Please rate each objective, not each individual indicator.				
Development Objective	Indicators (Include Target Value & Time Frame)	Actual Level Achieved (please provide brief description)	2002 Rating	2003 Rating
		<p>The implementation of EU WFD has become top priority of the ICPDR and is being reflected in ICPDR Workplans and Strategies.</p> <p>The GEF Project, in cooperation with the ICPDR, is contributing to enhancing the capability of all involved countries to fulfil their tasks in frame of the EU WFD to assure a harmonized, consistent approach at the DRB level.</p> <p>The GEF project is especially focussing on supporting the EU non- accession countries to develop necessary legal and institutional mechanisms for pollution reduction, thus enabling them to fulfil timely the major tasks to implement the EU WFD.</p> <p>The GEF project is important for facilitating cooperation between national ministries (e.g. development of inter-ministerial co-ordination mechanisms) as well as between the 13 countries involved in the Danube project.</p>		

2.1 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE- Please rate each objective, not each individual indicator.					
Development Objective	Indicators (Include Target Value & Time Frame)	Actual Level Achieved (please provide brief description)	2002 Rating	2003 Rating	
2.2 IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES -Please rate each objective, not each individual indicator.					
#	Immediate Objective	Indicators (Include Target Value & Time Frame)	Actual Level Achieved (please provide brief description)	2002 Rating	2003 Rating
1.	Objective 1: Creation of sustainable ecological conditions for land use and water management	At the end of the Project Phase 1, all Danube River Basin countries have reviewed policies and legal instruments in relation to ecological land use (River Basin Management) and water management and have prepared mechanisms to adapt their national legislation to international and EU standards.	<p>Policy guidelines for River Basin Management have been developed and fully harmonized with the ICPDR Work Plan for Producing the Danube River Basin Management Plan and activities on economic analysis, typology, ecological classification, GIS, groundwater assessment and public participation will be finalized during 2003.</p> <p>Concepts and methodologies related to policies and legal instruments for agriculture, industry and wetlands restoration are being developed and harmonized in the ICPDR Expert Groups and in their Work-Programmes. It is expected that by the end of 2003, the expected results will have been reached in all components.</p> <p>By fall 2003, the analysis and concepts for water tariffs and charges will be finalized and discussed with all major stakeholders as the basis for capacity building activities in the second phase of the project.</p>	HS	X

2.1 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE- **Please rate each objective, not each individual indicator.**

Development Objective	Indicators (Include Target Value & Time Frame)	Actual Level Achieved (please provide brief description)	2002 Rating	2003 Rating
<p>2. Objective 2: Capacity building and reinforcement of transboundary cooperation for the improvement of water quality and environmental standards in the Danube River Basin</p>	<p>Objective 2: Operational mechanisms for the monitoring of water pollution and control of emissions from point and non-point sources and a reliable information system under the ICPDR are designed and ready for implementation at the regional and national level to assess improvement of water quality and nutrient reduction in the Black Sea.</p>	<p>The main focus thus far has been to support the further development of the ICPDR Information System – Danubis. A User Survey finalized in 2002 identified necessary hardware upgrades of national systems as well as the scope of training programmes for users at national and regional level to be conducted. The hardware upgrade at national level will be finalized in spring 2003. The ICPDR responded by identifying national information facilitators in all DRB countries. The DRP conducted the first training for the National and Expert Groups Information Facilitators in Dec. 2002. The training courses will be carried out in all 11 countries by June 2003 assuring a regionally consistent approach for information management within the various activities of the ICPDR.</p> <p>Activities related to the TNMN (Danube Water Quality Network), EMIS Inventory Harmonization (Danube pollution inventories) and Accident Emergency Response (Danube Accident and Early Warning System) were launched in the last quarter of 2002 after the work programs were fully harmonized with the relevant ICPDR Expert Groups. Initial results are expected in Sept. 2003 as the basis for full implementation of improvements in Phase 2.</p> <p>The Joint Danube-Black Sea Technical Working Group has been revitalized, Work Plan for 2002/3 was elaborated with a focus on developing indicators, with an initial emphasis on environmental status indicators (in relation to GEF indicator guidelines.) The cooperation between the two projects and commissions continues to be very important for the overall coordination of activities in the region and essential for reaching the goals of the GEF Danube/Black Sea Programmatic Approach.</p>	<p>HS</p>	<p>X</p>

2.1 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE- **Please rate each objective, not each individual indicator.**

Development Objective	Indicators (Include Target Value & Time Frame)	Actual Level Achieved (please provide brief description)	2002 Rating	2003 Rating
<p>3. Objective 3: Strengthening of public involvement in environmental decision making and reinforcement of community actions for pollution reduction and protection of ecosystems</p>	<p>Objective 3: At the end of Phase 1 of the Project the Secretariat of the Danube Environmental Forum (DEF) is fully operational and national representations exist in all Danube countries. National NGOs are involved in project preparation and have identified community-based nutrient reduction projects to be financed under the GEF Small Grants Programme and have prepared at least two national awareness-raising campaigns.</p>	<p>Activities to strengthen public involvement in environmental decision-making are all being implemented with good initial results. The project together with the Danube Environment Forum (DEF), the umbrella network of Danube Basin NGOs, developed a strategy and a workplan for reinforcing the DEF which is now being implemented amongst NGOs in all Danube countries.</p> <p>The DEF Secretariat, in cooperation with its National Focal Points, prepared a leaflet and its first newsletter (now biannual), which were distributed in 11 countries. The national versions of these publications were prepared and they are also available at the DEF Web page (www.de-forum.org). The first DEF General Assembly was held in October, and 11 national DEF meetings will be held between April-June 2003 including training on nutrient reduction measures. The DEF network is now fully operational, capacity building activities underway and expected results of Phase 1 will be exceeded.</p> <p>The Small Grants Programme (SGP) is being designed together with the Regional Environmental Centre (REC), the sub-contractor with involvement of regional NGOs, DEF and the WWF.</p> <p>The first call for proposals will be ready in March 2003. By November 2003, the national and regional projects will be selected and ready for full implementation in all 11 countries with funding that should be made available in Phase 2. Efforts have been made to integrate the SGP with the activities to strengthen the DEF as well as with the DRP supported communication and public awareness raising activities. For example, based on National Training courses prepared and implemented by the DEF, the NGO community will be well prepared to respond effectively to the Small Grants Programme.</p>	<p>HS</p>	<p>X</p>

2.1 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE- Please rate each objective, not each individual indicator.				
Development Objective	Indicators (Include Target Value & Time Frame)	Actual Level Achieved (please provide brief description)	2002 Rating	2003 Rating
		Based on discussion among all stakeholders, it has become evident that a Development of a Danube River Basin Communication Strategy is important to enhance the information and communication flow in the Basin. By the end of 2003 it is foreseen that a Strategy has been agreed upon and during the second phase the Strategy will be implemented in the whole Danube basin.		
4.	Objective 4: Reinforcement of monitoring, evaluation and information systems to control transboundary pollution, and to reduce nutrients and harmful substances	Objective 4: At the end of Phase 1 of the Project, the ICPDR has conceptualized and developed its monitoring and evaluation system and has identified the indicators for pollution reduction and environmental status; knowledge on removal of nutrients and toxic substances is increased and economic instruments to encourage investments for nutrient reduction are developed at the national and regional level. Project support for the development of monitoring and evaluation system and identification of indicators have been harmonized with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) via the harmonization with the ICPDR Work Plan for producing the Danube River Basin Management Plan. Appropriate methodologies for the monitoring of nutrient reduction in wetlands is being assessed, guidelines prepared as the basis for establishing pilot monitoring programmes in phase 2. Collaboration has been established with the World Bank/GEF projects related to wetlands (Bulgarian Wetlands Project, Romania Agriculture Pollution Control Project and the Proposed Hungarian Reduction of Nutrient Discharges project.)	HS	X
OVERALL RATING			HS	X

2.2.1 IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS		
IO #	Assumption	Risk (measured as the probability that the assumption will not hold)
1.	All countries participate under the ICPDR in the implementation of EU WFD and other Directives for pollution reduction.	
	Common approach of countries in EU WFD implementation	The GEF project, in the frame of and together with the ICPDR, is providing important technical and administrative assistance to DRB countries in fulfilling their obligations for implementing the EU WFD. For non-accession countries, the GEF project is one of the most important mechanisms to prepare for WFD implementation. Therefore particular support is given to non-accession countries to overcome administrative and technical constraints. Initial project activities related to WFD are also identifying gaps in capacities and mechanisms which the GEF project will work to address in Phase 2. Based on these efforts, the risk that the common approach in EU WFD implementation will not be undertaken is minimized. The countries are expressing their high appreciation for the provided support.
	Willingness of governments to accept new concepts for nutrient reduction policies and legal instruments	Administrative and technical constraints (e.g. delays in development and implementation of reform and policies in specific sectors) are being addressed by the Project and the ICPDR through the successful support provided to stakeholders and other organizations at national and regional level. The commonality of goals of nutrient reduction with the objectives of the WFD, provides an excellent basis for minimizing the risk that countries will not be willing to accept new, appropriate concepts for nutrient reduction.
	Favorable economic conditions for introducing changes in industry, agriculture and land use sectors	Economic growth or economic recovery will not follow the projections in all countries. Nevertheless, thus far during project implementation, economic growth in most Non-EU countries in the DRB has exceeded the growth in EU countries. Therefore the project efforts and resources will be focused, to the degree possible, on assisting the non-accession countries to develop institutional capacities to respond to economic and environmental challenges in the region.
	Willingness and commitment of government and economic authorities to introduce economic incentives	The GEF project has designed a thorough analytical framework for the assessment and design of water tariffs and fees, taking into account different national conditions. This focus on economic soundness and social acceptance of the new concept will create commitment of governments and initiate cooperation of economic authorities.

2.2.1 IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS		
IO #	Assumption	Risk (measured as the probability that the assumption will not hold)
	Cooperation of stakeholders at national and regional level	This risk has been and will continue to be minimized by GEF project activities to enhance public involvement in environmental decision-making, by greater efforts to build public awareness of priority environmental problems in the DRB and potential solutions.
	Access to information and data in all Danube Countries	The technical support given by the Project and the ICPDR to harmonize collection and dissemination of information on hydrological, social and environmental data at the national level will assure availability and harmonized results. Intensive training and assurance of broad involvement of all ICPDR structures in DRP information management further minimize such risk of disparities and difference in quality of information.
2.	National Experts are proactively participating in the implementation of the DRPC and Governments have provided sufficient funding for the operation of national Info System.	
	Cooperation among ministries at national levels and willingness of governments to accept concept of Inter-ministerial Coordinating Mechanisms	Coordination, cooperation and information flow among ministries varies from country to country. The project activity will facilitate development of inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms for nutrient reduction, as well as the implementation of the EU WFD and other Directives.
	Close cooperation of different ICPDR Expert Groups at national and regional level and agreement on information, monitoring and data harmonization	National commitment and national capacities to provide required data is being reinforced by the technical assistance given to the respective ICPDR Expert Groups, through active participation of national experts in the execution of the project and through capacity-building activities of the DRP.
	National data availability	Through close cooperation with national institutions and experts in the project implementation and through technical assistance provided for data collection, in particular supporting the non-accession countries, the risk of unequal quality, comparability and compatibility of data will be reduced.
	Commitment of all governments to give priority to accident pollution issues and transboundary communication	Project support to improve the accident risk inventories will increase the awareness of governments on potential locations of accident pollution as well as possible consequences, with the desired result of giving greater priority to addressing these problems.
	Willingness and commitment of stakeholders to make links to the ICPDR Information System – Danubis	The project will enable all stakeholders to fully use the ICPDR Information System (Danubis) through providing equipment at national and central level, and through training programs to improve users skills.

2.2.1 IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS		
IO #	Assumption	Risk (measured as the probability that the assumption will not hold)
	Close cooperation of the Expert from the both commissions in the Joint D-BS WG	Supporting the work of the Joint Danube-Black Sea working group and cooperation with the BSERP, the ICPBS and ICPDR respectively according to an agreed work plan and expected outputs, is decreasing the risk of unequal commitment and means of the ICPDR and Black Sea Commissions in implementation of the MoU.
	Willingness of Experts to participate and accept training activities focused on developing management skills	Organizing efficient, effective and content “relevant” training for the EG members, based on a sound needs assessment (which is currently being conducted by the project training specialist) will increase commitment and willingness from the side of experts and the ICPDR to participate and accept training and development of management skills.
3.	The DEF has the necessary personnel and commitment to play its role efficiently in the DRB.	
	Willingness and commitment of national NGOs to participate in the activities of the DEF	The strengthening of the DEF network, in particular DEF National Focal Points and the increase of DEF members as well as the improvement of the network structures (webpage, newsletter, leaflet, email exchange networks etc.) in the respective DRB countries will reinforce the information flow among the NGOs at regional and national level thereby supporting their activities..
	Professional knowledge of NGOs in pollution issues and adequately trained staff available	Emphasis will not only be given to the “traditional” NGO agenda (nature protection, conservation) but technical issues related to nutrient reduction and toxic pollution will equally be addressed through the DEF's organization of 11 national level training workshops for the training of NGOs at regional and national level, with focus on nutrients reduction.
	Acknowledgement of nutrients and toxics reduction objectives in the Small Grants Programme by NGOs	
	Interest of governments and other stakeholders in public participation and awareness raising issues and mutual cooperation of governmental bodies and NGOs	The project is developing a comprehensive Communications strategy that will effectively identify and prioritize activities to be organized by the DRP later in Phase 1 and throughout phase 2, that will lead to greater involvement of governments and NGOs in pollution reduction activities. The project is further supporting the ICPDR in developing a the public participation component of the Danube River Basin Management Planning process required by the WFD at the regional, national and local levels.

2.2.1 IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS

IO #	Assumption	Risk (measured as the probability that the assumption will not hold)
4.	Cooperation of all countries and organizations, in particular the EU, in the development and application of indicators for project monitoring and evaluation.	
	Introduction of EU environmental parameters and agreement of Countries on selected indicators	The risk of using different methodologies for interpretation of project results and a system of indicators in countries is minimized due to commitment of countries to undertake common approach in EU WFD implementation.
	Understanding of the need to restore wetlands for pollution reduction	Scientific and economic conditions to improve nutrient removal capacities in wetlands are being analysed by the project and methodologies and concepts for use of wetlands for pollution reduction are being developed.
	Support from the Danube Countries for innovative economic instruments in long-term perspective	The risk that “Pollution trading” is for some contracting parties (EU) not an option to be considered will be minimized if the concept of pollution trading will be broadly discussed and understood and by detailing the technical as well as economic requirements of such proposed schemes.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

Please list three main challenges experienced during implementation. Please describe adaptation approaches or remedial action either already taken or planned to solve them

1) Harmonization of UNDP/GEF Project Activities with ICPDR activities (Secretariat, Expert Group Work plans, respective national activities etc.)

Given the complexity and scope of ICPDR activities it is a challenge for the UNDP/GEF to harmonize GEF project objectives and activities with those of the ICPDR. The harmonization of activities has however been successfully coordinated. The project has, together with the Expert Groups, developed the Work-Programmes and TORs for all project activities such that the respective efforts are being synchronized. Sub-contractors are being involved in the work of the Expert groups at an early stage and all activities are being further developed within this frame. The Stakeholders involved in the Project and the ICPDR have expressed highly appreciation of this method of organizing the work.

2) How to Assure that non-EU Accession countries can and will participate in implementing the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).

Currently only 6 of the 11 non-EU members are officially EU Accession countries. Therefore it is a specific, constant challenge for the project to work to assure that non-accession countries have the commitment and the means to work towards WFD implementation.. Major efforts and resources from the Project and the ICPDR are being focused on assisting the non-accession countries to develop institutional and administrative capacities through financial and technical support.

The efforts of the project so far, have strengthened the synchronization of implementation efforts.

3) Capacity Building. A specific challenge is that capacity building needs in the DRB, and with key Danube stakeholders far exceed the resources (and the scope) of the DRP. The project has sought to respond to this challenge by first developing a comprehensive training needs assessment as the basis for setting priorities and then developing and conducting appropriate training and capacity building activities.

4) Ensuring that the Capacities of NGOs are enhanced by the Implementation of the Small Grants Programme (SGP.) It has been a challenge to design and structure the SGP such that it maximizes the potential to strengthen DRB NGOs at both the national as well as the regional level in their capacity to address pollution reduction issues. The project has placed a particular effort to integrate the Danube Environmental Forum (DEF) into SGP implementation.

4. LESSONS LEARNED/GOOD PRACTICE

Please describe briefly the key lessons and examples of good practice that have resulted from project implementation during the year.

1) Establishing Excellent Cooperation with the ICPDR and its structures (co-executing agency and primary beneficiary) and Improving Administrative and Technical Capacities to Cooperate. The ICPDR was formed to implement the Danube River Protection Convention (DRPC) and is since 2000 the platform for coordinating the implementation of the EU WFD in the DRB.

The cooperation between the DRP and the ICPDR is excellent as the GEF project is proactively working together with the ICPDR at various levels, the Secretariat, the respective ICPDR Expert Groups and respective National Governments. The project participates, together with relevant contractors where appropriate, in all Expert Groups Meetings organized by the ICPDR. In this way the GEF Project has the full overview and understanding and can thereby provide the best assistance and input to the further development of the work. Further, these commonly implemented activities serve to improve administrative and technical capacities at the National level based on guidelines and requirements set by the ICPDR and the Project. In this way, the GEF project plays a catalytic role in stimulating DRB countries to meet their commitments to the DRPC and increasingly the WFD. This encourages national governments to develop appropriate structures for regional cooperation which is facilitating the strengthening of good governance in the Danube River Basin.

2) Linking Global Environment issues to EU Water Framework Directive. A key lesson learned is the benefit of a close link between global environmental objectives and an appropriate legislative framework. The EU WFD represents, perhaps, the most comprehensive water legislation in the world. It provides an excellent basis for the implementation of the DRP given commonly shared principles such as a basin-wide holistic approach, ecosystem management etc. By linking project activities closely with the WFD and its implementation, the DRP is both increasing the ability to meet global environmental objectives in the frame of the project, but also establishing the basis for the sustainability of project results as well as the mechanisms for ongoing improvements after the life of the project.

3) Appropriate Level of Public Participation. The DRP has put a large emphasis on supporting increased public participation in DRB cooperation. An important lesson learned is that it is critical to focus on developing appropriate public participation mechanisms and strategies given specific level of activity (regional, national, sub-basin, local.) The DRP is developing grassroots level (bottoms-up) activities via the Small Grants Programme, as well as is supporting the development of the Danube Environmental Forum (DEF) which, as a regional network is capable of working at all levels, sub-basin, national or local levels through its constituent members. The provisions of the WFD provide an opportunity, based on legislative requirements, to enhance public participation within the frame of the ICPDR and its parties for the first time. This will occur concretely by incorporating adequate public participation activities and mechanisms into the process for developing the Danube River Basin Management Plan. Emphasis here will be first at the regional (ICPDR or top) level. However, guidance will also be developed, to assist national governments to incorporate public participation in river basin management at the sub-basin, national and local levels. In addition to the above-mentioned activities, there are considerations to develop a specific project component to improve access to information for key stakeholders and to enhance their abilities to address priority sources of pollution (hot spots) in the DRB.

4) Developing Appropriate Training Activities. By first undertaking a training needs assessment, the DRP learned that training activities need to build *institutional capacities* (ICPDR, DEF etc.) as well as to build *technical capacities* (nutrient reduction, wetland rehabilitation, reduction of toxic substances etc.) to assure increase of knowledge and capacity to act for water management and pollution control. The training needs assessment also serves as the basis to prioritize training needs given limited resources (human and financial.)

5. SYNERGIES, DEMONSTRATION AND CATALYTIC EFFECTS

5.1 Have there been any interactions/synergies with similar projects in the country/region during project preparation and/or implementation?

The DRP in cooperation with the BSERP, has revitalized the Joint Danube – Black Sea Working Group to coordinate the implementation of the MoU with the cooperation and guidance of the Danube and the Black Sea Commissions.

The DRP has also established good cooperation with respective projects in the World Bank/GEF Partnership Programme related to specific technical issues (e.g. Bulgarian Wetlands project, Romanian Agriculture Pollution Control project, Hungarian Nutrient Reduction project, Moldova Agriculture project etc.)

The DRP, in cooperation with the ICPDR and the ICPDR representatives in the 4 Sava countries (Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia & Montenegro), has successfully worked to integrate activities being supported within the Stability Pact Sava Basin Initiative. Based on these intensive efforts, these activities should be coordinated within the frame of the DRP supported pilot river basin management plan for the Sava in the future. DRP activities in support of the implementation of the EU WFD, are being coordinated with the work of the respective EU level expert groups who have been charged with providing guidance on how to implement respective elements of the WFD in relation to the EU Common Implementation Strategy for the EU WFD.

The Danube-Black Sea Task Force (DABLAS), supported by the EU, is working to identify and then prioritise investment projects for the municipal sector with a focus on nutrient reduction in the Danube and Black Sea basins representing an important synergy to the DRP.

The DRP has begun consultations with the GEF IW Learn project about potential collaboration with initial focus on the support of the information technology capacities of NGOs (DEF) in the region.

*5.2 Describe efforts to disseminate lessons and transferring knowledge that have had or are expected to have demonstration and replication effects.**

The project web page has been established in early stage of the project, in order to disseminate existing available documentation related to the project, as well as to inform the stakeholders and the public on the context of the project and progress of implementation. In addition to that the project web page facilitate exchange of information among consultants and other project stakeholders through its working area.

Further qualitative step in developing the ICPDR Information System was initiating the process of creating new national and EG structures – information facilitators, who will be responsible in the future for managing the content of the information area at national level and Expert Groups level. In this context the first training of facilitators was organized in December 2002, with participation of the national facilitators from 12 Danube countries and all ICPDR EGs.

The training courses at national level are starting in March 2003 to strengthen the Danubis user skills and capacities of the ICPDR EG members at national level.

5.3 How has the project contributed to bringing about policy or legislation changes in the country, changes in the Implementing Agency or other donor strategies- or private business practices- to give stronger emphasis to global environment issues?

This project, as a "mature" GEF International Waters (IW) project, builds on the successes of earlier GEF project activities (1994-1999) including key GEF IW requirements such as the Transboundary Analysis, Strategic Action Plan and Pollution Reduction Programme (which later served as a key inputs into developing the ICPDR's 1st Joint Action Programme 2001-2005). Based on the results of the latest Pollution Reduction Programme (1997-1999) the Project, in assisting the ICPDR provides support in developing new regional policies and facilitating legislative and policy changes in the participating DRB countries.

Furthermore GEF project activities support the EU Accession process and the implementation of key EU legislation such as the WFD, Nitrates Directive, IPPC etc. In this sense the GEF project provides a vehicle for non-accession countries to prepare for implementation of the EU WFD. It also provides the mechanism for the harmonization of efforts to implement the EU WFD throughout the DRB.

Based, to a significant degree on the results of previous GEF interventions in the Danube (and the Black Sea) there is currently an EU initiative to prioritize investment projects in the Danube and Black Sea areas known as DABLAS which has, as a key objective, the reduction of nutrient pollution in the Danube and the Black Sea.

6. PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES

Please mention any partnerships/strategic collaboration agreements established with other institutions, civil society organizations or the business community in order to achieve project objectives. If the project works with a private –for profit- organization , please also respond to questions on Annex I at the end of this questionnaire.

The DRB has been focusing on working with existing regional institutions, the ICPDR, and of course, the European Union and its relevant structures, as well as regional NGO networks (Danube Environmental Forum, WWF-Danube-Carpathian Programme, Global Water Partnership for Central and Eastern Europe, etc.) that can work at the regional, sub-basin, national as well as, often, local levels in the DRB.

The DRP has developed cooperation with some NGOs such that they are either responsible for the implementation of specific project components or have significant roles to play in their implementation e.g. the wetland components (WWF), public participation (Global Water Partnership for Central and Eastern Europe), DEF (involvement in the Small Grants Programme).

7. RESOURCES LEVERAGED

Apart from the co-financing contributions reflected in the budget, how has the project mobilized additional financial resources for either addressing global environmental concerns or financing baseline activities during implementation? Please indicate the amounts and sources of leveraged resources.

NOT APPLICABLE

8. SOFT ASSISTANCE

Soft assistance contributes to the outcome and/or outputs. This section aims to identify activities or issues conducted not envisaged in the workplan yet with concrete results ensuring progress towards the outcome. This section of the PIR/APR contribute to the CO reporting section on “advocacy and policy dialogue” and allows the country office and the project to work in the same direction in advocacy and dialogue. If soft assistance is not an issue for the project or too sensitive to address, this section can be left empty

NOT APPLICABLE

9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Type of Report	Date (DD-MMM-YR)	Report Available/comments
Field Visits		
Annual Project Review	21-02-03	Yes
Tripartite Review	21-02-03	Yes
Mid-Term Evaluation		
Final Evaluation		

10. FINANCIAL INFORMATION- From project start-up to date of this report.

<i>Cumulative planned disbursement (\$millions)</i>	US\$ 5,0
<i>Cumulative actual disbursement (\$millions)</i>	US\$ 2,1 (including contracted obligations)
<i>Timing of disbursements (percentage of planned vs. actual expenditures)</i>	60% vs. 40%
<i>Date/Period of First Disbursement</i>	December 2001

11. PROCUREMENT DATA

Note : For projects or project components executed by UNOPS this section *must not* be filled in - data will be provided by UNOPS headquarters-

Please report the **US\$ value (in Thousands)** of UNDP/GEF Payments to Supplying Countries for Procurement in GEF Donor Countries. Please enter Project **expenditure** from project start up to the date of this report into the matrix against the donor country **supplying** the personnel, sub-contract, equipment and training to the project. Please report only on contracts over US\$ 2000.

Supplying Country (only donor countries)	Personnel (in US\$)	Sub-contracts (in US\$)	Equipment (in US\$)	Training (in US\$)	Total (in US\$)

12. AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR GOVERNMENT AND NGO EXECUTED PROJECTS

NOT APPLICABLE

The UN Board of Auditors has established that an annual audit is necessary for all Nationally Executed and NGO Executed GEF projects, whose expenditures for the calendar year (January - December) exceed \$20,000. Expenditures below that amount are subject to normal UNDP audit procedures, which is once in the project's lifetime.

According to the above regulations, please indicate:

- For which calendar year's expenditures, an audited financial statements have been issued;
- Which will be next calendar year for which an audit will next occur:
- Date of Submission to HQ UNDP Office of Audit and Performance Review, National Execution Audit Section:
- If the report has not been received from the Government or NGO, please comment on actions taken by the Country Office to ensure compliance.
- If the Audit Report contains negative comments, please indicate what actions have been taken by the Government or NGO.

13. NGO INVOLVEMENT

PLEASE ENTER THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION INTO THE TABLE BELOW FOR EACH NGO INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT:

Full Name: Please list the full name of the NGO.
 Acronym: The official initials of the NGO's name.
 Type: Please refer to PIR instructions for "Type" classification.
 Role: Please refer to PIR instructions for "Role" classifications.
 Activity: Brief description of services provided by NGO.
 \$ Value: USD \$ value (in Thousands) of contracted project services assigned to NGO (if applicable).

<i>Full Name (Do not give acronym only!)</i>	<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Project Stage</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>\$ Value of contracted services</i>
Danube Environmental Forum	DEF	IGO	Full	Provider of Project Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGO Network Development and Capacity Building 	US\$ 220,000
World Wildlife Foundation	WWF	IGO	Full	Provider of Project Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetlands • Communication Strategy • Land Use 	US\$ 266,000
Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe	REC	IGO	Full	Provider of Project Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Grants Programme design and implementation 	US\$122,000

PLEASE INDICATE FACTORS THAT HAVE FACILITATED OR CONTRIBUTED TO NGO INVOLVEMENT:

High level of commitment from organisations and key persons involved.

PLEASE INDICATE FACTORS THAT HAVE CONSTRAINED NGO INVOLVEMENT:

No major contains during the first year of the project

Annex 1

Private Sector Involvement in UNDP-GEF Projects under Implementation

NOT APPLICABLE

As part of the PIR process it is important to ascertain the degree to which UNDP-GEF projects work with private (for-profit) companies beyond that of the traditional sub-contracting relationship. This refers to companies, which contribute to a project as opposed to receive financing from it.

A. If the project is benefiting from such private sector resources please answer the following five questions for each company involved in the project.

1. What is the **name and type** of company (local, national, multi-national)?
2. What **economic sector** does the company work in (e.g. tourism, fisheries, forestry, agriculture)?
3. What **resources/benefits** is the company bringing to the project and how do they **help achieve the project objectives**? This could include:
 - *Reduce industrial impact on the environment* such as pollution, deforestation and habitat loss and exhausting natural resources through adopting best practices and working more closely with governments and local communities.
 - *Advice on viability of a sustainable livelihood* particularly during the early stages of project implementation.
 - *Support for community development* through the provision of industry unique technical and commercial (marketing, financial planning) expertise, transfer of technology such as old equipment, investment in infrastructure to assist micro-enterprise development, access to existing markets and provision of new ones through offering to purchase goods from project beneficiaries
 - *Engage in national policy dialogue with governments* to inform on sector planning which will facilitate development
 - *Provide small to medium grants as co-financing* either specific activities as agreed in the project document or for general project budget.
4. **How is the company being involved in project implementation** (being consulted as part of project activities, working jointly on project activities, participating in steering committees, carrying out parallel activities with project beneficiaries)?
5. **What benefit is the company deriving** from contributing to the project?

B. If the project has not involved companies but could benefit from their resources please explain, given sufficient resources, **what could be potentially done within the project to develop such partnerships.**

Annex 15: Danube Regional Project: Tranche 1 Objectives / Success Criteria / Progress

Objectives	Success Criteria (Objectively Verifiable Indicators)	Expected outputs at the end of phase 1 (Sources of Verification)
<p><u>1. Long-term Development Objective:</u></p> <p>The long-term development objective of the proposed Regional Project is to contribute to sustainable human development in the DRB through reinforcing the capacities of the participating countries in developing effective mechanisms for regional cooperation and coordination in order to ensure protection of international waters, sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity.</p> <p><u>2. Overall Objective:</u></p> <p>The overall objective of the Danube Regional Project is to complement the activities of the ICPDR required to provide a regional approach and global significance to the development of national policies and legislation and to the definition of priority actions for nutrient reduction and pollution control with particular attention to achieving sustainable transboundary ecological effects within the DRB and the Black Sea area.</p> <p><u>The specific objective of Phase 1 of the Project</u> is to prepare and initiate basin-wide capacity-building activities with particular attention to creation of inter-ministerial committees, concept development for implementation of policies, legal and economic instruments, mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation and development of programmes for awareness raising and NGO strengthening.</p>	<p>Overall Project Objective: At the end of Phase 1 of the Project, methodologies and concepts have been developed under the DRPC to introduce and implement legal and institutional mechanisms for efficient pollution control and reduction of nutrient loads to the Black Sea.</p>	<p>All 20 components have been fully implemented (and/or ready to be further implemented in phase 2 of the project) All expected outputs including the identified concepts and methodologies have been finalized.</p> <p>All progress reports and evaluation reports as well as summary reports of ICPDR meetings and resolutions are available. As well as National reports on the process of implementation of legal and institutional instruments.</p>

Objectives	Success Criteria (Objectively Verifiable Indicators)	Expected outputs at the end of phase 1 (Sources of Verification)
<p>3. Purpose of the Project:</p> <p>Further, the Danube Regional Project shall facilitate project implementation by providing a framework for coordination, dissemination and replication of successful demonstration that will be developed through the implementation of investment projects.</p>	<p>Objective 1: At the end of the Project Phase 1, all Danube River Basin countries have reviewed policies and legal instruments in relation to ecological land use (River Basin Management) and water management and have prepared mechanisms to adapt their national legislation to international and EU standards.</p>	<p>Policy guidelines for River Basin Management have been developed and fully harmonized with the ICPDR Work Plan. The production of the Danube River Basin Management Plan and activities on economic analysis, typology, ecological classification, GIS, groundwater assessment and public participation have been finalized.</p> <p>Concepts and methodologies related to policies and legal instruments for agriculture, industry and wetlands restoration have been developed and harmonized in the ICPDR Expert Groups and their Work-Programmes.</p> <p>By fall 2003, the water tariffs and charges study have been finalized and discussed with all major stakeholders as the basis for capacity building activities in the second phase of the project.</p> <p>Project progress and evaluation reports will be available, as well as National reports on existing and proposed policies, legal instruments and measures for compliance.</p>
	<p>Objective 2: Operational mechanisms for the monitoring of water pollution and control of emissions from point and non-point sources and a reliable information system under the ICPDR are designed and ready for implementation at the regional and national level to assess improvement of water quality and nutrient reduction in the Black Sea.</p>	<p>The ICPDR Information System has been successfully developed, national and regional trainings have been organized to assure a regionally consistent approach for information management within the various activities of the ICPDR.</p> <p>Activities related to the TNMN (Danube Water Quality Network), EMIS Inventory Harmonization (Danube pollution inventories) and Accident Emergency Response (Danube Accident and Early Warning System) have been fully harmonized with the relevant ICPDR Expert Groups. Initial results are expected in Sept. 2003 as the basis for full implementation of improvements in Phase 2.</p> <p>The Joint Danube-Black Sea Technical Working Group has been revitalized, indicators have been developed (in relation to GEF indicator guidelines.)</p> <p>Working area of the ICPDR Information System showing concepts and design of monitoring systems for water quality, emissions and emergency warning are available, in addition to Reports from the MLIM and EMIS Expert Groups</p>

Objectives	Success Criteria (Objectively Verifiable Indicators)	Expected outputs at the end of phase 1 (Sources of Verification)
	<p>Objective 3: At the end of Phase 1 of the Project the Secretariat of the Danube Environmental Forum (DEF) is fully operational and national representations exist in all Danube countries. National NGOs are involved in project preparation and have identified community-based nutrient reduction projects to be financed under the GEF Small Grants Programme and have prepared at least two national awareness-raising campaigns.</p>	<p>The Work Programme and the Strategy of the DEF have been implemented in all Danube countries. Training courses have been organized to prepare and assist the NGOs for participation in the Small Grants Programme.</p> <p>Reports on staffing and operation of the DEF Secretariat as well as List of national NGOs adhering to the DEF and of National DEF Focal Points will be available.</p> <p>The Small Grants Programme has been designed and based on the first call for proposals(March 2003), national and regional projects will be ready to be implemented.</p> <p>National lists of projects to be financed in the frame of the GEF Small Grants Programme (second phase) will be available.</p> <p>A Communication Strategy have been prepared for the Danube Basin, this will be ready for implementation in the second phase of the project.</p>
	<p>Objective 4: At the end of Phase 1 of the Project, the ICPDR has conceptualized and developed its monitoring and evaluation system and has identified the indicators for pollution reduction and environmental status; knowledge on removal of nutrients and toxic substances is increased and economic instruments to encourage investments for nutrient reduction are developed at the national and regional level.</p>	<p>Project support for the development of monitoring and evaluation system, and identification of indicators have been harmonized with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the ICPDR Work Plan for producing the Danube River Basin Management Plan.</p> <p>Appropriate methodologies for the monitoring of nutrient reduction in wetlands have been assessed, guidelines have been prepared as the basis for establishing pilot monitoring programmes in phase 2. Collaboration has been established with the World Bank/GEF projects related to wetlands (Bulgarian Wetlands Project, Romania Agriculture Pollution Control Project and the Proposed Hungarian Reduction of Nutrient Discharges project.)</p> <p>The Pollution Trading study has been developed.</p> <p>The Concept of M&E system indicators (process stress, status) developed and accessible in DANUBIS working area will be available as well as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report on methodological approach and programmes to assess nutrient-retention capacities of wetlands; ▪ Report on economic instruments to facilitate investments in nutrient reduction projects; ▪ Pollution Trading Study.

Objective 1: Creation of sustainable ecological conditions for land use and water management		
Output / Activity	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Expected outputs at the end of the phase 1 (Sources of verification)
<p>Output 1.1: Development and implementation of policy guidelines for river basin and water resources management</p>	1. River Basin Districts are defined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Report – including final overview map (incl. sub-basins and sub-units) • Needs Assessment for a Danube GIS • Conceptual Design for the Danube GIS and Hardware and Software Survey • Final report including recommendations for next steps
	2. River basin management practices are identified and gaps and needs in relation of WFD requirements are clarified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop report of “kick-off” Workshop, including guidelines , formats, proposed methodologies, etc
	3. Methodology for preparation of RBD management plans is implemented in pilot river basins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Reports and Status Report on availability / quality of economic data for water use, data gaps, and existing national capacities to carry out specific tasks of the economic analysis • Synthesis Report
	4. Transboundary cooperation and coordination is enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on criteria for significant hydromorphological pressures and impacts and overview report on hydromorphological stress and impact analysis of the Danube River • Report on proposal of typology for Danube River and on criteria and metrics for the definition of reference conditions for the Danube • Report on overviews of ecological status assessment and classification systems existing in the DRB and on recommendations for harmonizing ecological classification systems according to WFD, with special emphasis on benthic invertebrates • Workshop: preparation of agenda, workshop material and report
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report: Analysis of the results of the groundwater questionnaires and a Concept for the Groundwater workshop • Report: workshop materials, agenda, background documentation • Report: synthesis of workshop, findings, recommendations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation for implementing available RBM plan guidelines in DRB pilot basin

Objective 1: Creation of sustainable ecological conditions for land use and water management		
Output / Activity	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Expected outputs at the end of the phase 1 (Sources of verification)
<p>Output 1.2: Reduction of nutrients and other harmful substances from agricultural point and non-point sources through agricultural policy changes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of ‘hot spots’ and assessment of legislation on point and non-point sources of pollution are updated 2. Review of hazardous agrochemicals and their impacts is worked out 3. Conventional and alternative agricultural practices and farming in line with EU requirements for central and downstream Danube countries are analyzed 4. National deficiencies in agricultural policy are identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated and completed inventory of pollution sources from agriculture in DRB • Report on agricultural policies and state of enforcement in DRB • Pesticide and fertilisers market products inventory • Report on the use of the pesticide and fertilisers market products • Study on deficiencies in land use and agriculture practices • Report on existing situation in policy development and implementation of BAP in DRB • Draft BAP concept • Workshop and workshop report • Final draft BAP concept
<p>Output 1.3: Development of pilot projects on reduction of nutrients and other harmful substances from agricultural point and non-point sources</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment of practical promotion of best agricultural practices and manure handling is updated 2. Alternative concepts for farming and manure handling in line with EU requirements for central and downstream Danube countries are elaborated 3. Needs for pilot activities in best agricultural practices are identified in UA, MO, RO, BG, SM and B-H 4. Understanding of decision makers and farmers on the need to introduce new concepts for animal farming and manure handling is addressed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of existing programs and projects • List of identified potential new pilot projects • Concept for introduction of BAP • Guidelines for manure handling (also in national languages) • Mechanisms for national structures (extension services) • Proposal on criteria and selection procedure for pilot projects • Pilot projects proposal • Consultation workshop and workshop documentation

Objective 1: Creation of sustainable ecological conditions for land use and water management		
Output / Activity	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Expected outputs at the end of the phase 1 (Sources of verification)
Output 1.4: Policy development for wetlands rehabilitation under the aspect of appropriate land use	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Areas for land use planning in pilot river basins are identified 2. Methodology and concepts for appropriate land use and wetland restoration are developed 3. Inappropriate land use at wetland restoration is discussed with stakeholders (workshop) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inception report • Protected Areas Inventory and Map • Methodology for Integrated Land Use Assessment • Pilot Projects identified and selected • Case studies on land use in selected pilot areas completed • Workshops in pilot areas • Final Concepts for appropriate land use • Information material on respective pilot areas (as defined in communication strategy) • Workshop with policy makers (as defined in communication strategy)
Output 1.5: Industrial reform and development of policies and legislation for application of BAT (best available techniques including cleaner technologies) towards reduction of nutrients (N and P) and dangerous substances	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated list of 'hot spots' and inventory on industries with outdated techniques and facilities (accidental risks), related to SIAs, are produced 2. Existing policies and legislation at the national level are collected and existing gaps with EU legislation are identified 3. Workshop programmes for BAT introduction are prepared 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated, complete basin-wide inventory • Agreed methodology for determining "hot spots and SIAs" • Updated List of Industrial hot spots and SIAs • A Report on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Outdated Techniques in up to 5 key industries,</i> - <i>Legislative and policy measures and enforcement mechanisms,</i> - <i>Gaps between EU and national legislation</i> • DRB Report on relevant complementary measures for the introduction of BAT • BAT network established and site visits completed • Workshops, training programmes, training materials on harmonization of EU and national policies and legislation on BAT prepared, target groups identified

Objective 1: Creation of sustainable ecological conditions for land use and water management		
Output / Activity	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Expected outputs at the end of the phase 1 (Sources of verification)
<p>Output 1.6: Policy reform and legislation measures for the development of cost-covering concepts for water and waste water tariffs, focusing on nutrient reduction and control of dangerous substances</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deficiencies in international comparison related to tariffs, metering, types of collection etc. are identified 2. Most appropriate cost recovery models and gradual tariffs reform are proposed for specific countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation and elaboration of an analytical framework for use in characterizing and assessing the advantage and disadvantages of using tariffs and effluent charges to finance water and waste water services
<p>Output 1.7: Implementation of effective systems of water pollution charges, fines and incentives, focusing on nutrients and dangerous substances</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Present systems of charges, fines and incentives is analyzed nationally and DRB-wide. 2. Alternative concepts for the introduction of incentive - based instruments for groups of DRB countries are identified 3. Institutional, economic and social capabilities to implement economic instruments are assessed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of broad strategies for tariff and effluent charges introduction and reforms given the prevalent conditions in the various countries of the region and taking into consideration the implementation plans of the EU accession countries • Summary and country specific memo, draft and final reports of the tariff and charges activities
<p>Output 1.8: Recommendations for the reduction of phosphorus in detergents</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of legal and institutional possibilities for introducing restrictive standards for detergents use in particular DRB countries is performed 2. Proposals of severe standards and implementation schedule for phosphorus reduction are developed 3. Proposals for enforcement and compliance are elaborated 4. Organization of workshops on phase out of phosphorus in detergents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the existing legislation, policies and voluntary agreements • Report summarizing and evaluating data received from detergents industry • Proposals for accomplishing a voluntary agreement between the ICPDR and detergents industry • Basin-wide conference for signing and implementation of voluntary agreement for P-free detergents prepared

Objective 2: Capacity building and reinforcement of transboundary cooperation for the improvement of water quality and environmental standards in the Danube River Basin		
Output / Activity	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Expected outputs at the end of the phase 1 (Sources of verification)
Output 2.1: Setting up of “Inter-ministerial Committees” for development, implementation and follow-up of national policies legislation and projects for nutrient reduction and pollution control	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existing structures and mechanisms for implementation of environmental policies and legislation analyzed 2. Adequate structures proposed in cooperation with relevant ministerial departments 3. Inter-ministerial Committees established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplan and guidelines for analysis of existing inter-ministerial mechanisms for cooperation (national reports) • Summary of national report and analysis of findings • Concept paper and proposal for national implementation • Final Report on national implementation of coordinating mechanisms
Output 2.2: Development of operational tools for monitoring, laboratory and information management and for emission analysis from point and non-point sources of pollution with particular attention to nutrients and toxic substances	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water quality objectives and nutrient and toxics quality conditions are developed 2. Statistics of emissions from point and non-point sources for P and N are existing 3. Inventory of priority chemicals in line with EU is prepared 4. Laboratory equipment in selected countries is reinforced 5. Information system and network are improved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on water quality objectives for nutrients and on water quality standards for toxic substances • Methodological concept for stress and impact analysis computerized application • Report on analysis of the EMIS inventory • Report on Danube list of Priority Substances • Report on proposals for TNMN upgrade and proposal for SOPs for new determinands
Output 2.3: Improvement of procedures and tools for accidental emergency response with particular attention to transboundary emergency situations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National stations - PIACs for MD, UA, BiH, SM are planned and programme for implementation prepared 2. Inventory and assessment of high accidental risks spots are produced in all countries 3. DBAM is prepared for improvement to respond to pollution transport issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study (concept for calibration options and selection of pilot areas) • Workshop preparation, including relevant documentation • Draft Project Brief and TORs for DBAM calibration • Outline for the DBAM calibration manual • Recommendations for follow up activities to the ICPDR

Objective 2: Capacity building and reinforcement of transboundary cooperation for the improvement of water quality and environmental standards in the Danube River Basin		
Output / Activity	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Expected outputs at the end of the phase 1 (Sources of verification)
<p>Output 2.4: Support for reinforcement of ICPDR Information and Monitoring System (DANUBIS)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ICPDR Information System is fully operational with internal working area and public accessible area 2. Networking within DANUBIS by all ICPDR contracting parties is developing 3. Interactive DANUBIS web site is developing 4. Mechanisms for many users of having access to information are available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information System at the central level upgraded – integration of GIS and Cartographic Software, AEWS Software and other applications • Reporting format integrated into DANUBIS • Report on assessment of needs in terms of equipment and human capacities at national level prepared, including recommendations and detailed specifications for equipment • Linkages of GIS and other ICPDR Databases established and operational • Use of Information System at the national level facilitated and appropriate linkages established • 1st phase training carried out and appropriate manuals (training materials) available • Concept for 2nd phase of training prepared • Project web page developed and updated regularly
<p>Output 2.5: Implementation of the “Memorandum of Understanding” between the ICPDR and the ICPBS relating to discharges of nutrients and hazardous substances to the Black Sea</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint work programme for MoU is approved 2. Agreement of status indicators is reached 3. Joint AQC system is defined and agreed 4. Rules of reporting are developed 5. Agreement on regular meetings is concluded 6. MoU is signed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOR of the Joint Working Group and a work program for effective implementation of the MOU; • Status indicators to monitor nutrient and hazardous substances transport from the Danube and change of ecosystems in the Black Sea defined and agreed upon • Reporting procedure defined and agreed upon • Joint actions discussed and approved

Objective 2: Capacity building and reinforcement of transboundary cooperation for the improvement of water quality and environmental standards in the Danube River Basin		
Output / Activity	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Expected outputs at the end of the phase 1 (Sources of verification)
Output 2.6: Training and consultation workshops for resource management and pollution control with particular attention to nutrient reduction and transboundary issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training needs are assessed, training programmes and course materials are developed 2. Sub-contractors and organizations for training courses are identified and contracts are prepared 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training concept • Needs assessment • Training packages • Technical input from all other consultants • Methodological approach and knowledge of technical issues • Train – the – trainers courses

Objective 3: Strengthening of public involvement in environmental decision making and reinforcement of community actions for pollution reduction and protection of ecosystems		
Output / Activity	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Expected outputs at the end of the phase 1 (Sources of verification)
Output 3.1: Support for institutional development of NGOs and community involvement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Optimal operation of DEF secretariat is achieved 2. Training needs identified and programmes on environmental issues developed 3. Publications and materials for awareness raising on nutrient and toxics are conceptualized and prepared 4. Training courses and materials to reinforce NGO cooperation are prepared 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational DEF Secretariat • DEF board meetings and General assembly meeting • Strategic Development Plan and two year workplan • Half year progress reports • National workshop on nutrients and introduction small grants programme • National publications on nutrient reduction • Workshop on public participation in the DRB
Output 3.2: Applied awareness raising through community based “Small Grants Programme”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conditions and implementation mechanisms for Small Grants Programme prepared and disseminated (topics, criteria, timing) 2. Calls for a regional and two local grants programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A platform of participating organizations established • Structure of the grant programme designed and discussed in a meeting • Workshop for National REC offices and national DEF representatives (national NGOs) • Call for proposals prepared • Grants projects selected • Calls for Grants prepared and announced • Small grants selected at national level
Output 3.3: Organization of public awareness raising campaigns on nutrient reduction and control of toxic substances	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Realistic approach on organizing public campaigns is developed 2. Sufficient and reliable information for mass media purposes are prepared and published 3. Basin-wide documents are periodically published 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview paper on EIC (Education-Information-Communication) strategy • Draft EIC strategy for DRB • Workshop to discuss EIC strategy • Adapted national strategies • Public press and mass media materials on nutrients and toxic substances produced • Publication of scientific documents and regular journals or special issues on water management to improved information on objectives and targets of JAP and EGs Work Programmes

Objective 4: Reinforcement of monitoring, evaluation and information systems to control transboundary pollution, and to reduce nutrients and harmful substances		
Output / Activity	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Expected outputs at the end of the phase 1 (Sources of verification)
<p>Output 4.1: Development of indicators for project monitoring and impact evaluation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring and evaluation system for project implementation is developed 2. Indicators for emissions and water quality are reviewed to respond to nutrient concerns 3. Progress indicators for monitoring project implementation are developed 4. Impact indicators to evaluate environmental effects are defined 5. Environmental status indicators are developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of indicators for monitoring and evaluation • Concept for project evaluation • Assessment report of the existing monitoring networks for surface waters • Recommendation formulated for an approach to adapt the monitoring programmes to requirements of EU WFD considering GEF indicators
<p>Output 4.3: Monitoring and assessment of nutrient removal capacities of riverine wetlands</p> <p>Output 4.4: Danube Basin study on pollution trading and corresponding economic instruments for nutrient reduction</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Criteria for wetlands classification and observation priorities are defined 2. Methodological approach for assessment of nutrient removal capacities is developed taking into account results of other projects 3. Observation programme to assess annual removal capacities is designed and approved 1. Economic instruments for nutrient reduction analyzed elaborated 2. Assessment on legal and policy issues related to economic instruments in DRB countries 3. Needs and barriers for “pollution trading” studied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map of riverine wetlands • Methodology for assessment of nutrient removal capacity • Workshop • Report on results of pre-sampling • Observation program for nutrient removal • Analytical report on existing pollution trading concepts • Report on potential to establish pollution trading scheme in the DRB • Final report (including workshop summary)