

GENERAL PROJECT INFO	
Dataset ID	ECCG 7 - Best Practices in Cross Border Youth Involvement
Project title	“Danube Art Master” International School Competition& Danube Day-related Programme
Project acronym	DAM&DD
Project centre	Eco Counselling Centre Galati, Romania
Associated programme	The “Danube International Day-June 29” 2004-2014; ECCG’s Environmental Education , Information and Awareness Programme
Beginning date	Each year starting with 2004 - 2014 included
End date	n/a
Ongoing	Yes
LOCATION	
Geographical coverage	national
Area Type	Danube River Basin of Romania
Sea-area	n/a
Coastal zone	n/a
DESCRIPTIONS	
Best Practice Summary	<p>In Romania, whose territory lies up to 94% within the Danube River Basin, GOs, schools and NGOs have constantly brought attention upon the vital significance of the need to get to know and to protect the Danube ecosystems ever since the first Danube Day edition back in 2004, year after year. By securing the protection for the Danube ecosystems, the Black Sea ecosystems started to recover within the past decade or so almost reaching the planned 1990 level of pollution. The efforts all the DRB countries as early as 1991, whether EU Member States or Non-EU MS, have started to pay off even if the results were slowly visible; cleaner water, thriving flora and fauna, better informed population and many activities all of them focused on learning how to secure better protection to the aquatic environment.</p> <p>In 2004*, the International Commission for the Protection of Danube River (ICPDR) initiated and launched the basin-wide programme addressed to the younger generation (mainly aged 8th to 16th, but sometimes even younger), specifically to be organized by national Focal Points of the 13-country network Danube Environmental Forum (DEF). In 2004 countries celebrated ten years since the Danube Convention was signed;it entered into force in 1998). Complementary to countless conferences, workshops, forums mainly targeted at the decision makers’ Community (GOs, business sector), the ‘DANUBE ART MASTER’ (DAM) International SCHOOL COMPETITION has largely contributed to secure an increased awareness among the younger ones , creating and preserving an artistic touch. The programme was thought over as an artistic contest following an information class presentation and a field trip to a nearby water body, an approach that the organizers insisted upon. Each and every one of the DAM editions generated more and more creativity among children and teenagers and even larger participation was secured by the years.</p> <p>The Eco Counselling Centre Galati (ECCG), Global Water Partnership for Central and Eastern Europe (GWP CEE), DEF member organizations, associations, nautical clubs, governmental bodies and cultural centres, all have promoted the Danube Day and DAM .</p> <p>All the DAM organizers’ efforts were guided, provided funds, registered</p>

and promoted by the ICPDR and GWP CEE on the Danube basin level each year. Once the 13 national winners were identified, they were invited to either Vienna or Budapest for the DAM International Winner' Award usually in September, all costs covered by ICPDR, GWP CEE and donors. International publicity was always provided to the winners, by the countries' Delegations to ICPDR, NGOs, schools, teachers and students, not to mention their artistic artwork usually displayed at Vienna International Centre, e.g. Awards were offered both nationally and internationally in a wide range of items: books, notebooks, camera, schoolbags, cloth bags, calendars, etc. etc.

The ECCG have organized successful DAM-related events within the last eleven (11) years, and, thanks to an extended partnership and association with many entities, GOs and NGOs, the school competition became larger and larger making it difficult to secure the needed funding. Each year there was something different in the approach matrix:

- Power point presentations/ Lectures (Danube Survey II in 2007, Prut River Basin Plan, NATURA 2000 sites in Romania and in Galati County, Danube Delta, Sturgeons' issue, etc.
- street events with leaflets and posters' distribution to the public,
- interactive games for the younger participants (6-12 yrs old),
- DVDsfilm watching about the Earth Assets, Deltas & Lakes, The Danube River,
- artistic performances, drawing competitions,
- jigsaw puzzles (such as 'I love Danube', 'Compost', 'Water is Life'),
- games such as the 'Thread of LIFE', cartoons, all greatly enjoyed by everybody as the thousands of DAM picture collections and proof for.

ECCG has always expressed its gratitude for cooperation with the regular partners and media: GWP CEE, GWP Romania, Water Authorities such as ABA Prut River Iasi, Museum Complex of Natural Sciences Galati, Romania, the Education Inspectorates all over the country, Free Journalists' Association in Galati, VOX TV Station, RTV Station, and the Galati Radio station, and many others. An overall statistics prove that thousands of participants and artworks pile up thanks to the ICPDR's initiative in 2004 and NGO's enrollment.

One condition is always needed to secure continuity of the past eleven years dedicated to the Danube Day and DAM: LOVE, CARE and RESPONSIBILITY of Us ALL: the Mighty Danube River, tributaries, lakes, ponds, and wetlands so generously provide for services, food and entertainment to many of the more than 80 million people who inhabit the DRB District. More information at: www.icpdr.org , www.gwpcee.org , www.cceg.ro

Keywords

Danube River Basin, Black Sea Basin, Danube Day-June 29th , DAM competition, yo8unger generation

Data theme

Water-related issues: conservation, protection; nature-related issues: biodiversity, scarcity

Project centre	Eco Counselling Centre Galati, as Romania's Focal Point within the DEF network
Role of research centre	Lead NGO
Other partners and countries	<p>Global Water Partnership, Romania (GWP Ro)/Water Authorities: ABA Prut, Iasi Romania, Regional Water Operators/Museum Complex of Natural Sciences, Galati, Romania/DEF member organizations in Romania and other NGOs as well.</p> <p>Multimedia: Galati TV stations, freelancer journalists, the Independent Journalists' Association in Galati, Radio Romania International.</p> <p>Funding: The International Commission for the Protection of Danube River (ICPDR)/Global Water Partnership for Central and Eastern Europe (GWP CEE)/Donors, mainly in the form of items: school stuff, water measuring devices, T-shirts, caps, badges, linen bags.</p>
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ADMINISTRATION	
Completed by	ECCG
Collating-centre	Eco Counselling Centre Galati, Romania
Latest-update	15/03/2015