

| | European Danube Region Strategy EDRS |
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| Horizontal aspect 2 | <i>The mitigation of the social-economic and environmental consequences of climate change</i> |
| Name of the programme | 6. The mitigation of the effects of climate change in the Danube catchment area |
| <i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i> | <p>Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing society and the economy in our age, especially in the areas exposed to the extremities of the weather. These effects vary in their type and extent in the countries of the Danube catchment area. Therefore, it would be necessary to approach the road to solution with a uniform philosophy from the Black Forest as far as the Black Sea, and, by designating sample areas, compare the steps that are necessary to be taken in the interest of the mitigation of these effects. There are research projects underway in several areas (ESPO Climate, the Hungarian Változás Hatás Válaszadás (Change – Effect – Response) (VAHAVA) project, AGRISAFE, Water CoRe, etc.), the results of which can be used and specialised in the catchment area of the Danube.</p> <p>In connection with the topics of drought and climate change, expert-level negotiations and a related conference are organised during the course of the presidency. During the course of the Hungarian presidency, cooperation could be launched with the development of the projects directed at the mitigation of the negative effects of climate change. By 2012, the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) scheduled the development of a climate adaptation strategy.</p> <p>During the summer and the fall, an increase in temperature higher than the annual average can be expected in the area of the Carpathian Basin, and in general, the extent of the warming of the climate in the catchment area of the Danube will be greater than the global average. The water shortage as well as the drought has a direct effect on people, on the natural fauna and flora, and the sectors using and dependent on water, especially on water management and agriculture. The establishment of sustainable, competitive, cooperating agriculture keeping in mind the population retaining ability of the provinces as its target, is a common interest in the central and lower Danube Valley countries.</p> <p>The appearance of prognosticated changes and long-term droughts make the modification of the existing water systems, on occasion, the establishment of new water systems necessary. Through water retention of a greater extent and the regional re-channelling of water reaching areas that are unprovided for, it can be secured that the economic, environment protection and communal water-demands are continuously satisfied. TICAD project underway at present, developing the Tisza catchment area regional development strategy (Tisza Catchment Area</p> |

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| | <p>Development), with is being prepared in the European Territorial Cooperation in the South-East European Programme (ETC - SEE) with the participation of 5 countries (2009-2012). As part of the Danube catchment area, the recommendation planned in the European Danube Strategy is the continuation of this project under the name TICAD^{ADAPT}, which deals especially with adaptation against the effects of climate change (drought, floods).</p> <p>From the aspect of urban air quality, big cities are endangered by the emergence of heat islands. Smog alerts, the prevention of which is an important task, are increasingly more frequent every year. The international transfer of knowledge, the establishment of a satellite map system and common legal institutions are necessary.</p> <p>Through the realisation of sample programmes and projects, and the international sharing of experience, the aim of the programme is to increase the success rate of the measures taken against the effects of climate change, thus increase the adaptability of the region increasingly exposed to the effects of climate change. The aim is to step up together, in the interest of the re-establishment of the ecological balance, by securing the harmonious development of people, nature and the economy, as well as by reinforcing environment-conscious attitudes.</p> |
| <p><i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i></p> | <p>6.1. Homokhátság (Sand Ridge) - complex area management – The aim of the sub-programme, through keeping the residents in the area and improving their conditions of life (the isolated nature of farm life, the bad health and mental hygiene condition of the residents), is to support the maintenance of traditional sand farming and farm lifestyle – as a characteristically Hungarian cultural history treasure. On the other hand, solutions are to be found for the improvement of the operation of the ecological system and the water-management problems in the interest of the improvement of the conditions of farming.</p> <p>6.2. Living and liveable Tisza-region - Tisza Complex Sub-programme</p> <p>6.2.1. The development of the catchment area of Tisza - TICAD</p> <p>6.2.2. The climate adaptation strategy of the catchment area of Tisza - TICAD^{ADAPT} – by analysing the vulnerability against climate change, the sub-programme recommended puts the emphasis on the establishment of the adaptation strategy against the two main dangers characterising the catchment area: drying out and increasing flood risk, with the integration of area development, area management and water catchment planning.</p> <p>6.3. The minimisation of heat islands in the interest of a healthy environment and urban air quality – Its aim, by identifying the areas warming up, is to develop such long-range measures that mitigate the negative effects of heat islands, furthermore, to understand the space- and time-dynamics of the heat islands, both on small and large scale, which allows for the development of the energy-balance model of big cities and settlements.</p> <p>6.4. Securing the water-management conditions of a sustainable and competitive agriculture –To guarantee</p> |

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| | the safety of food production, the securing of the conditions of sustainable water management, the prevention of water damage of a sufficient level, flood and inland water protection, the management of the risk of water shortage and drought (water retention, water storage, irrigation, saving water, etc.), as well as adaptation to the effect of climate change, are key issues. |
| <i>Other countries potentially affected</i> | In the interest of the establishment of common adaptation strategies, the countries of the Danube catchment area can join the two programmes with one sample area each with similar features: The Homokhátság project is conducted primarily in Hungarian-Serbian cooperation; the common adaptation strategy can be formed with the participation of Romania and Bulgaria, countries with extensive agricultural areas exposed to significant climate change effects. The TICAD ^{ADAPT} project is conducted with the countries of the Tisza catchment area; the project can be joined by Germany and the Czech Republic, countries with subsidiary Danube catchment areas fighting increasing flood threats. The minimisation of the heat islands affects primarily the big cities of the Danube region. |
| <i>Obligation (in terms of law etc.)</i> | Government decrees with respect to Homokhátság, the National Regional Development Plan, the National Climate Change Strategy The Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Regional Planning (CEMAT) – Tisza Convention; Flood Risk Management Directive number 2007/60/EC; |
| <i>Complimentarity with the Danube strategy</i> | Horizontal aspect: the mitigation of the social, economic and environmental effects of climate change |
| <i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i> | The residents and farmers of the Danube catchment area as a target group The water management sector, regional and settlement development and management, the role-players of the agricultural sector as co-operating partners |
| <i>Vision/effects/results</i> | Exchange of experience in the activities against climate change and planning; the re-establishment of ecological balance; the conscious development of the relationship of man, nature and economy; the improvement of climate and environment consciousness; the improvement of the quality of urban life; the improvement of the operational ability of natural systems; |
| <i>The source of the financing of the programme</i> | Cohesion Fund, European Regional Development Fund, European Agricultural and Regional Development Fund |
| <i>Term of implementation</i> | The establishment of a cooperation programme by using the existing studies – 2011 The preparation of sample projects on the basis of uniform approach – 2012 |

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| | Action plan for the period after 2013-14 |
| <i>The level of preparedness of the programme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i> | Sub-programmes and projects, foundation studies prepared for the area of the Homokhátság TICAD – project currently underway under the title the regional development of the Tisza catchment area can be considered a precedent |
| <i>Relationship with other projects</i> | 2. Sustaining the values of our living waters in the Danube catchment area |

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| Name of the sub-programme | 6.1. Homokhátság – complex regional management |
| <i>Potentially affected countries</i> | Hungary, Serbia |
| <i>Territorial limitation</i> | The settlement of Duna-Tisza köz Homokhátság (the affected settlements of Pest County, Bács-Kiskun County and Csongrád County) and the northern settlements of the Vojvodina, Serbia |
| <i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i> | In recent years, the basic problem of the water balance of Homokhátság can be experienced to an ever increasing extent, with is in connection with the extreme water conditions of the two big rivers basically affecting the water balance of the region (the Danube and Tisza), especially in the case of the Danube, the deepening of the bed of the river; the ever increasing effects of this and those of the areas turning into deserts as the consequence of global warming, and the dramatic experiences of the scientific research carried out to explore these phenomena constitute the precedents. The phenomena indicated above basically endanger the economy of this area, based primarily on agricultural production, and the related food industry, and through that, the ability of Homokhátság to keep its population locally. Based on the priority programme recommendation of DARFT, the Government made a decision about the realisation of two priority projects aimed at water retention and water supplementation, of an amount of 4 billion HUF. |
| <i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i> | The government decrees with respect to Homokhátság, the National Regional Development Concept, |
| <i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i> | By talking into account the Water Framework Directive defined by the European Union, the solution of water supplementation and water retention in the affected Hungarian and Serbian areas. Common underground water-base. |
| <i>Parties affected by the subprogramme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i> | Directly affected is the population of 63 settlements in the area of 4,936 km ² , defined according to the narrower professional restriction, but in a wider sense (not affected by every Homokhátság criterion), the population of 136 settlements in an area of 9,919 km ² in Hungary. In addition to the foregoing, the areas of the northern settlements of the Vojvodina, Serbia (primarily the area of Subotica). Water Management and Environment Protection Central Directorate, Environment Protection and Water Management Directorates; National Park Directorates; Water Management Associations; the budgetary organisations and institutions of local and local minority self-governments; business enterprises under 100% self-government ownership. |
| <i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i> | Commissioned by the Ministry of Environment and Water, the feasibility study draft prepared by Terra Stúdió Kft. compiled a project package utilising solution possibilities embracing every area of area and regional development, also based on earlier research. In addition to the projects containing the application of primarily water retention (the retention and utilisation of precipitation water, inland water, cleaned |

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| | sewage water, natural water courses) and the natural and artificial possibilities of water supplementation (e.g. channels, reservoirs), projects generating the changes necessary in the farming and conditions of the quality of life of those living in the Homokhátság settlements are dominant. |
| <i>Vision/effects/results</i> | <p>The substantial improvement of the circumstances of life and work of those living in the Homokhátság, the mitigation of the water balance problems due to climate change, and the improvement of the conditions of farming can be expected from the implementation of the projects.</p> <p>An important effect is the preservation of the treasures of land and environmental protection, stopping, if possible, reversing the process of the area turning into a desert.</p> <p>Among the possible consequences, we must count on the justified modification of the agricultural product structure, the structural change of the economy and the substantial improvement of the population supporting ability of Duna-Tisza-közi Homokhátság.</p> |
| <i>Cost requirement of the subprogramme</i> | The total cost of the projects in the feasibility study is 180 billion HUF |
| <i>The term of implementation</i> | 2010-2020 |
| <i>The level of preparedness of the subprogramme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i> | <p>The feasibility study is at disposal. The implementation of two priority projects is underway.</p> <p>The other projects are at different levels of development.</p> |

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| Name of the sub-programme | 6.2. Living and livable Tisza mente |
| Name of the project | 6.2.1. The development of the Tisza catchment area TICAD (<i>running project</i>) |
| <i>Potentially affected countries</i> | Slovakia, the Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, Hungary |
| <i>Territorial limitation</i> | The Tisza catchment area |
| <i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i> | <p>The background of the project is a CEMAT treaty, which was signed by the ministers of the affected countries responsible for regional planning, and which brought together the affected ministries and planning institutions in the interest of the common goal, the development of the Tisza. The project idea developed step by step at the joint work meetings.</p> <p>According to the recommendation, the project – in which the five affected countries take part as participants – harmonises the integrated regional developments implemented in the catchment area, promotes the emergence of the sustainable economic structure, the optimal use of natural and cultural resources, the balanced development of competitive growth areas, and increases the establishment of the internal and external functional relationships of the settlement network.</p> <p>The aim of the project is the preparation of a trans-national complex development strategy, regional development and management plan and a common political opinion.</p> |
| <i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i> | The Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Regional Planning (CEMAT) – Tisza Convention |
| <i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i> | <p>The close to 158,000 km² catchment area of the Tisza affects five countries (Romania, the Ukraine, Slovakia, Hungary and Serbia). International cooperation is indispensable for the complex solution of the severe problems emerging.</p> <p>The social and economic problems, which span over administrative boundaries, are closely related to the natural features of the territory. Mutual transfer of knowledge can be secured by the establishment of a cooperation network extending to the five countries in the catchment area of the Tisza, embracing the regional leaders, research places, central and local authorities, and civil organisations.</p> <p>The realisation of the uniformly accepted strategy, developed during the course of joint work, secures the increase of the internal potential of the area, the improvement of the social and economic environment, and the development of infrastructural systems.</p> |
| <i>Parties affected by the subprogramme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i> | The target groups of the project are the national governments, regional authorities, regional development agencies, self-governments and civil organisations. At the same time, these organisations are also the most important interested parties of the project, together with the local entrepreneurs, especially the small and medium-sized agricultural, industrial and servicing enterprises, and the people living and working in the area. |

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| | <p>The national and regional authorities, the other cooperating organisations and monitoring partners get an emphatic role in the project. In addition to this, the work meetings, conferences, community events and announcements, articles related to the pilot projects, serve the involvement of those interested. The community consultations allow for those interested, among them the civil organisations, to voice their opinions and take a role in the formation of the strategy as active participants.</p> |
| <i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i> | <p>Complex problems based on environmental, economic, infrastructural and social challenges must be faced in the Tisza catchment area, the sustainable solution of which requires international collaboration.</p> <p>The trans-national programme harmonises the integrated regional developments implemented in the catchment area, promotes the establishment of a sustainable economic structure, the optimal use of natural and cultural resources, the balanced development of competitive growth areas, and increases the emergence of the internal and external functional relationships of the settlement network.</p> <p>The aim of the project is the preparation of a trans-national complex development strategy, regional development and management plan and a common political opinion. During the course of joint work, the partners develop common methodology, prepare the analysis of regional processes, develop sample projects, establish a forum for the international cooperation of planners and decision-makers, and secure publicity.</p> |
| <i>Vision/effects/results</i> | <p><i>Results:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Common integrated strategy, common database (statistics, plans, programmes, research documents); - Tisza catchment area regional development webpage (in 6 languages); - 3 trans-national sample projects; teaching aids; - Document supporting a common development intention for the development of the Tisza catchment area; - 11 work meetings, seminars with 20-30 participants each; - 2 conferences with close to 50 participants each; - 1 integrated programme in support of planning (software), developed especially for the Tisza catchment area, - 10 publications in the partner countries. <p><i>Effects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community activity in the development of Tisza; - 60 regional development experts with experience; - International planning network among the planning institutes and the authorities; regional plan supported by the local authorities in three sample areas; continuous cross-border cooperation, regional development guidance in the sample areas; - 5 recommendations for the national policies; - A new, adaptable method for the multidisciplinary, integrated regional development of catchment areas. |
| <i>Cost requirement of the subprogramme</i> | <p>The complete budget of the project: 2,949,880 Euro ERFA grant requested: 2,307,397.25 Euro</p> |

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| | IPA grant requested for the Serbian partner: 200,000 Euro |
| <i>The term of implementation</i> | May 2009 – February 2012 |
| <i>The level of preparedness of the subprogramme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i> | The project is underway, at present in the examination phase. |

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| Name of the subprogramme | 6.2. Living and liveable Tisza region |
| Name of the project | 6.2.2. TICAD^{ADAPT} |
| <i>Potentially affected countries</i> | Hungary, Slovakia, the Ukraine, Romania, Serbia |
| <i>Territorial limitation</i> | Tisza catchment area |
| <i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i> | <p>In the period between 2009 and 2012, the TICAD project prepared within the European Territorial Cooperation in the South-East European Programme can be considered a precedent. At present, the project is being prepared with the cooperation of 5 countries, and its aim is to harmonise the integrated regional developments in the Tisza catchment area, to promote the emergence of the sustainable economic structure, to optimally use the natural and cultural resources, to develop the competitive growth areas in a balanced way, and to increase the establishment of the internal and external functional relationships of the settlement network.</p> <p>By analysing vulnerability against climate change, TICAD^{ADAPT} project recommended within the framework of the European Danube Strategy, puts the emphasis on the establishment of the adaptation strategy against the two main dangers characterising the catchment area: drying out and increasing flood risk, with the integration of area development, area management and water catchment planning, and the establishment of the harmony of the measures.</p> |
| <i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i> | <p>Water Framework Directive 2007/60/EC Flood Protection Directive The Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Regional Planning (CEMAT) – Tisza Convention</p> |
| <i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i> | The countries sharing the Tisza catchment area have already started the harmonisation of water catchment management planning (ICPDR), and regional development strategy planning (TICAD). The integration of these two professional areas with the cooperation of the participating countries is indispensable for the improvement of adaptability to the effects of climate change. |
| <i>Parties affected by the subprogramme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the residents of the complete Tisza catchment area, users of land, farmers • water management organisations, associations, self-governments affected, civil organisations, international organisations |
| <i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i> | <p>The exploration of the relationships of water catchment management and regional and land management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the analysis of the area-utilisation changes taking place in the Tisza Valley (historical overview, the evaluation of the vulnerability of present land utilisation, the exploration of the role and possibilities of land management in the improvement of adaptability) • the harmonisation of the water catchment management measures and the long-range land-utilisation recommendations |
| <i>Vision/effects/results</i> | Common adaptation strategy, harmonised – and not only structural – flood protection, the harmonisation of the residents, the natural |

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| | environment and the business activities, the organic development of the countryside. |
| <i>Cost requirement of the project</i> | |
| <i>The term of implementation</i> | To be submitted in the second half of 2012 |
| <i>The level of preparedness of the project</i> | Under development |

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| Name of the subprogramme | 6.3. The minimisation of heat islands in the interest of uniform environment and the quality of urban air |
| <i>Potentially affected countries</i> | Primarily the countries along the river, but the research can also be extended to the countries of the catchment area |
| <i>Territorial limitation</i> | The big cities and settlements of the region |
| <i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i> | <p>At its meeting on 27 March 2008, in its resolution number 506/2008. (03.27.) Főv. Kgy., the General Assembly of the Capital Budapest, accepted that the Self-Government of the Capital Budapest, as the user of the results of the project, endeavours to participate in the project of the European Space Agency (ESA) entitled “Urban heat islands and urban thermography”. The project is aimed at the definition, development and presentation of services that unify the satellite observations – mainly TIR (Thermal Infra Red) – together with the meteorological stations on the earth, in the form of urban meteorological and climate models.</p> <p>By applying the urban meteorological and climate models, the heat island effect can be prevented, the risk of heat waves can be decreased and the energy efficiency measures can be implemented to a greater extent. The European Space Agency endeavours to perform the successful implementation of the project with the inclusion and cooperation of several big European cities, as the target area of the project is the urban environment, its target group is the urban self-governments.</p> <p>Its aim, through the identification of places warming up, is to develop such long-term measures that mitigate the negative effects of heat islands, as well as to understand the dynamics of the space and time-dynamics of the heat islands, in small and large scale as well, which allows for the development of the energy balance of big cities and settlements.</p> |
| <i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i> | EU legal regulations, national legal regulations, decisions of the capital |
| <i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i> | Based on the guidelines defined by the European Union, from the aspect of air quality, big cities are threatened by the emergence of heat islands. Every year, smog alerts, the prevention of which is an important task, are increasingly more frequent. |
| <i>Parties affected by the subprogramme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i> | <p>The residents</p> <p>At present, the cities of the macro region are not members but the project, in harmony with the other programmes, may promote the improvement of the climate relations of the region.</p> |
| <i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i> | <p>International transfer of knowledge</p> <p>Satellite map system</p> <p>The establishment of common legal institutions</p> |
| <i>Vision/effects/results</i> | The mitigation of the negative effects of heat islands, the decrease of smog condition, the development of the energy balance of big cities |

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| | and settlements. |
| <i>Cost requirement of the subprogramme</i> | |
| <i>The term of implementation</i> | 2010-2020 |
| <i>The level of preparedness of the subprogramme</i> | The implementation of the ESA project is underway. The other projects are at different levels of development, to be prepared. |

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| Name of the subprogramme | 6.4. SECURING THE WATER MANAGEMENT CONDITION OF SUSTAINABLE AND COMPETITIVE AGRICULTURE |
| Name of the project | 6.4.1. „Agricultural water-management” |
| <i>Potentially affected countries</i> | With the exception of Germany and Austria, all the countries of the Danube Region. Germany and Austria can support the implementation of the program by sharing their useful experience. |
| <i>Territorial limitation</i> | With the exception of Germany and Austria, all the countries of the Danube Region |
| <i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i> | <p>The establishment of sustainable, competitive, cooperating agriculture keeping in mind the population retaining ability of the provinces as its target, is a common interest in the central and lower Danube Valley countries. The basic condition of the solution of the problem is the policy handling water management taking into account ecological aspects and, within the framework of that, the satisfaction of ecological water demands as a priority.</p> <p>The agricultural economy of the new EU member states and non-EU member states of the Danube Region is loaded with structural tensions, its competitiveness is weak, and the utilisation of its natural and human resources falls behind its possibilities.</p> <p>In the field defined by the priority of the food, energy and environmental safety threesome, a new, conscious and harmonised adaptation strategy is needed. The adaptation constraint is not merely an agricultural interest, as no competitive agriculture can be imagined today without competitive processing, trade, training and research, innovation and a competitive system of institutions. The problems of agriculture and food industry in most of the new EU member states and non-EU member states of the Danube Region are at least as much horizontal as specific.</p> <p>As the organic part of agricultural and regional development, it is recommended to organise the future of agriculture and food production in the interest of four basic aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the preservation of food-production capacities and abilities, the maintenance of local provision and employment possibilities at an ever higher level; • guaranteeing a healthy environment and food safety; the preservation of the land, the fauna and flora, the production and the multi-coloured nature of the organically related provincial heritage and culture; • approaching the present production level of the EU-15-; • in the interest of the achievement of the above goals, the application of the material and intellectual sources to the improvement of efficiency indices, the increase of competitiveness. <p>To guarantee the safety of food production, the securing of the conditions of sustainable water management, the prevention of water damage of a sufficient level, flood and inland water protection, the</p> |

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| | <p>management of the risk of water shortage and drought (water retention, water storage, irrigation, saving water, etc.), as well as adaptation to the effect of climate change are key issues.</p> <p>In the new member states of the Danube Region, one of the most important sources of agricultural water management developments at present is constituted by the grants that can be received within the framework of the EU regional development programmes. Therefore, the results of the examination within the framework of which the experts commissioned by the European Commission examined to what extent the aspects of water management, especially the support of the implementation of the requirements of the Water Framework Directive are enforced in the regional development programmes (Ecologic – Vito (April 2009) WFD and Agriculture Linkages at EU Level – Summary report on an in-depth assessment of RD-programmes 2007-2013 as regards water management, Final Report, 10-04-2009) are very significant.</p> |
| <p><i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Water Framework Directive of the European Parliament and the Council: 60/2000/EC; • The Directive of the European Parliament and the Council on the evaluation and management of floods 60/2007/EC. • 29/2008. (III. 20.) Parliamentary Resolution on the National Climate Change Strategy COM(2007) 414 final, 18 July 2007. Communication on the management of the challenge of water shortage and drought in the European Union, www.euparl.europa.eu COM(2008) 875 final, 19 December 2008, follow-up report on the Communication on water shortage and drought in the European Union (COM(2007)414), www.euparl.europa.eu Regional Development Committee (2008.06.02.) The opinion of the Regional Development Committee of the European Parliament on the management of the challenge of water shortage and drought in the European Union, www.euparl.europa.eu SEC(2007)993, 18.07.2007. Commission Working Document, Supplementary document to the Communication on the management of the challenge of water shortage and drought in the European Union, Impact study, www.euparl.europa.eu SEC(2007)996, 18.07.2007. Commission Working Document, Supplementary document to the Communication on the management of the challenge of water shortage and drought in the European Union, Summary of the impact study, www.euparl.europa.eu SEC(2008)3069, 19 December 2008, Commission Working Document to supplement the follow-up report on the Communication |

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| | <p>on water shortage and drought in the European Union (COM(2007)414 final), Working programme for the introduction of the measures related to the management of water shortage, www.euparl.europa.eu</p> <p>Spanish Directorate General for Water Ministry of the Environment, and Rural and Marine Affairs <u>Guidance</u>: How to adapt to climate change with regard to water issues and EU water legislation, <u>Third Draft</u>: 12 June 2009</p> <p>WFD CIS (17 November 2009) Common Implementation Strategy for the Water Framework Directive - River basin management in a changing climate – a Guidance Document, Draft version 5, File: 2.2a - Guidance document on Climate Change and Water.doc</p> <p>Water Scarcity and Droughts Expert Network (November 2007) Drought Management Plan Report Including Agricultural, Drought Indicators and Climate Change Aspects, European Commission, Environment, Technical Report -2008-023, www.euparl.europa.eu</p> <p>Water, Food and Environment – Dialogue on the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in agricultural water management in the CEE region, GWP, March 2004. p.39.</p> <p>The Flood Action Plan of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)</p> <p>Integrating water issues in Farm advisory services, A Handbook of ideas for administrations, Draft, December 2009</p> <p>Ecologic – Vito (April 2009) WFD and Agriculture Linkages at EU Level – Summary report on an in-depth assessment of RD-programmes 2007-2013 as regards water management, Final Report, 10-04-2009</p> |
| <i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i> | <p>The establishment of sustainable, competitive, cooperating agriculture keeping in mind the population retaining ability of the provinces as its target, is a common interest in the central and lower Danube Valley countries. The basic condition of the solution of the problem is the policy handling water management taking into account ecological aspects and, within the framework of that, the satisfaction of ecological water demands as a priority.</p> |
| <i>Parties affected by the subprogramme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i> | <p>The target groups of the project are the national governments, regional authorities, regional development agencies, self-governments, civil organisations and citizens.</p> |
| <i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i> | <p>The adaptation of the good practices providing the conditions of sustainable and competitive agriculture in the countries of the Danube Region, or the development of the methods of good</p> |

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| | <p>practices. The preparation and launch of sample projects in the countries joining the programme. The evaluation of the results of the sample projects and the dispersion of the good practise established and applied. The European initiatives and programmes to be taken into account upon the establishment of good practices:</p> <p>1) Taking into account the most important measures of the first “follow-up report” on the programme of the European Union launched for this purpose in the area of the management of the challenges posed by water shortage and drought [Communication number COM(2007)414] and the working programme developed for its implementation [SEC(2008) 3069]. Of these, the following are the most important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The correct pricing of water services• The more efficient distribution of the grant applicable to the solution of water-related problems (with the planning of land-utilisation and the initiation of the efficiency of water use)• The preparation and implementation of drought risk management plans• The establishment of new water-provision infrastructures (channels, reservoirs, etc.)• The application of water-efficient technologies and practices• The establishment of the culture of water-saving• The development of information and data collection <p>2) The execution of the tasks worded in the guidelines developed for the management of the effects of climate change as key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the effective management of uncertainties and scientific materials related to climate change,• the development of strategies that help the establishment of adaptation skills to the effects of climate change,• the management of special issues related to the risk of floods (inland water),• the integration of adaptation to the effects of climate change into the key issues of the planning of water catchment management,• the preference of measures supporting adaptation to climate change in the water catchment management plans,• the management of special issues related to water shortage and drought. <p>3) The above key issues are especially important in the countries of the Tisza catchment area. In the foundation documents of the Tisza Integrated Water Catchment Management Plan prepared so far, in addition to the four significant (water-environmental) water-</p> |
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| | <p>management problem groups worded in the Danube water catchment management plan (organic contaminant load, nutrition-load, hazardous materials, hydro-morphological changes) another three groups of problems were identified that are also significant at the water-catchment level of the Tisza:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• flood and inland water,• drought and water shortage,• climate change. <p>All three problem-groups identified in the water catchment management plan of the Tisza belong to the key problems of agricultural water management, thus it is very important that the experts of Hungarian agriculture and agricultural water management actively join the planning process of the integrated water catchment management of the Tisza. The establishment of sustainable but competitive agriculture is the common problem of all the central and lower Danube Valley countries. The basic condition of the solution of the problem is sustainable agricultural water management.</p> <p>Action programmes helping the enforcement of the increasing agricultural role of water management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the actions related to the introduction and enforcement of the action plans of the water catchment management plans;• the actions helping the execution of new requirements with respect to the management of flood and inland water risk in the area of agriculture;• actions in the area of agriculture helping the introduction and enforcement of EU initiatives related to dryness, drought and climate change• actions supporting the preparation of modifications to be introduced in the agricultural grant system after 2013;• the integration of the water-management aspects into the management consultancy service. <p>The harmonisation of the measures planned in the regional development programmes and the developments of infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We have to use the experiences of the evaluation of the regional development programmes in the preparation of the programmes of the member states for the period after 2013. Significant developments are to be carried out in agriculture and agricultural water management, however, these are to be planned and implemented with taking the environmental and sustainability aspects into consideration to the fullest. A significant part of the developments may influence the condition of waters along the whole Danube catchment area, thus the countries of the Region are to carry out the developments in the part falling onto the Danube catchment area in a harmonised manner. |
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| <p><i>Vision/effects/results</i></p> | <p><i>Results:</i> The establishment of good practices, experimental case studies; the re-establishment of the ecological balance; the conscious development of the relationship of man, nature and agriculture; the improvement of dryness, drought, flood risk, climate and environment consciousness. The enforcement of the policy handling water management taking into account ecological aspects and, within the framework of that, the satisfaction of ecological water demands as a priority</p> <p><i>Effects:</i> The establishment of sustainable, competitive, cooperating agriculture keeping in mind the population retaining ability of the provinces in the central and lower Danube Valley countries.</p> |
| <p><i>Cost requirement of the subprogramme</i></p> | <p>Not yet known</p> |
| <p><i>The term of implementation</i></p> | <p>The establishment of a cooperation programme – 2011-2012 The preparation of sample projects on the basis of a uniform approach – 2012-2014 The development and implementation of the action plan within the framework of the sample projects – after 2014</p> |
| <p><i>The level of preparedness of the subprogramme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Relationship with other programmes, projects</i></p> | <p>VaHaVa programme, Treasures of Our Living Waters Program, National Climate Change (NÉP)</p> |