

Water



International Cooperation

**Proceedings from the Workshop on
International Cooperation in the Danube Region**

Online – 5th November 2020

www.waterjpi.eu/international-cooperation/international-cooperation-workshop/

Prepared by the French National Research Agency
(Claire TREIGNIER, Esther DIEZ-CEBOLLERO, Véronique BRIQUET-LAUGIER)

Further information: ic4watersecretariat@agencerecherche.fr

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Disclaimer

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List of Abbreviations/Acronyms

ANR	French National Research Agency
BSC	Black Sea Commission
CSA	Coordination and Support Action
DANUBIUS RI	DANUBIUS Research Infrastructure
DSP	Danube Strategy Point
DTP	Danube Transnational Programme
EC	European Commission
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures
EUSDR	EU Strategy for the Danube Region
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
IC	International Cooperation
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
JPI	Joint Programming Initiative
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
RDI	Research, Development and Innovation
SDGs	Sustainable development Goals
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SRIA	Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda
UN	United Nations
Water JPI	Joint Programming Initiative on “Water Challenges for a Changing World”

Executive Summary

The Water Joint Programming Initiative, Water JPI (www.waterjpi.eu), entitled “Water Challenges for a Changing World”, was launched following a decision of the Competitiveness Council on 6 December 2011¹. As of June 2019, the Water JPI membership includes a total of 23 member countries and three observer countries, which collectively represent 88% of European public research, development and innovation investment in water resources. The Water JPI is dedicated to tackling the ambitious grand challenge of achieving “sustainable water systems for a sustainable economy in Europe and abroad”.

The Water JPI, as part of its supporting Coordination and Support Action [IC4Water](#)² is looking at opportunities to develop a common strategy for International Cooperation (IC) with other European initiatives. IC4Water was launched in January 2017 and is funded by the European Commission under Horizon 2020. IC4Water aims to implement joint activities in a dedicated effort to reinforce IC in research, development and innovation to address global water challenges.

The present report contains the proceedings of the Workshop on international cooperation in the Danube region held online on 5 November 2020.

It aimed at exchanging with international initiatives and governmental institutions of the Danube region interested in RDI joint activities to

- strengthen / develop the Water JPI international network in this region;
- plan and implement, on a voluntary basis, joint research programmes and actions;
- elaborate on the overall strategy on the Danube regional issues related to water.

This should help collect views from possible partnering countries and regional initiatives and proposing models for further cooperation and possible types of actions.

The workshop discussions highlighted the following:

- There is room for cooperation between the Water JPI and regional initiatives/ institutions as there is common interest in certain thematic areas, going from climate change adaptation to water pollution and the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus.
- There are a number of Danube-specific RDI questions that should be addressed in the future so as to respond to current and emerging water-related challenges. There should be a continuing dialogue between Danube initiatives and Water4All to reflect upon those needs in future implementation plans.
- Cooperation could take place through the launch of mobility actions, capacity-building, specific programmes for young researchers, and information sharing. In this regard, the set-up of a specific working group for the sharing of information was put forward by participants.
- Public participation is at the heart of the successful implementation of solutions for water policy and management.

Based upon the different discussions and recommendations, the Water JPI coordination team will propose several lines of action that will be submitted to the Water JPI Governing Board (further details in the “Conclusions” section; section 4).

¹ [Council conclusions](#) on the launching of the joint programming initiatives on “Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans”, “Urban Europe – Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions”, “Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe”, “Water Challenges for a Changing World” and “The Microbial Challenge – An Emerging Threat to Human Health” – Adoption 17424/11 of 29 November 2011.

² <http://www.waterjpi.eu/implementation/supporting-projects/csa-ic4water>

1. Introduction

The Water Joint Programming Initiative, Water JPI (www.waterjpi.eu), entitled “Water Challenges for a Changing World”, was launched following a decision of the Competitiveness Council on December 6th 2011³. As of June 2019, the Water JPI membership includes a total of 23 member countries and three observer countries, which collectively represent 88% of European public research, development and innovation investment in water resources. The Water JPI is dedicated to tackling the ambitious grand challenge of achieving “*sustainable water systems for a sustainable economy in Europe and abroad*”.

Water challenges are global as recognised by UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) or the World Economic Forum⁴ (since 2015 - nearly 900 experts took part in the Global Risk Perception Survey) as the most important risk in terms of impacts to the economy and society in the upcoming years. Water crises, associated with the failure of climate change adaptation, are also perceived as more likely to occur. Global water requirements are projected to be pushed beyond sustainable water supplies by 40% by 2030⁵.

In this context, the outreach and opening of the Water JPI to third country partners is increasingly raising interest among the latter (with increasing activities of the beyond Europe countries in Joint Transnational Calls). Now the Water JPI, as part of its supporting Coordination and Support Action [IC4Water](#)⁶, is looking at opportunities to develop a common strategy for international cooperation (IC), in cooperation between the Water JPI members, European initiatives (such as the other JPIs) and International partners (such as the Belmont Forum, the Global Water Research Coalition, or targeted non-EU countries). **IC4WATER** therefore concentrates its activities on developing a strategy for IC development and on contacting the targeted countries, as identified during different workshops, to discuss possible cooperation models.

To date, the Water JPI has set up contacts and initiated Joint Actions, including Joint Transnational Calls, with several international partners, as outlined in **Figure 1**. There have been several Water JPI activities on IC, including two mapping exercises of international activities (2015 and 2019 - further details are available from the [Water JPI website](#)⁷).

³ [Council conclusions](#) on the launching of the joint programming initiatives on 'Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans', 'Urban Europe - Global Urban Challenges, Joint European Solutions', 'Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe', 'Water Challenges for a Changing World' and 'The Microbial Challenge - An Emerging Threat to Human Health' – Adoption. 17424/11 of 29 11 2011.

⁴ <http://reports.weforum.org/global-risks-2015/part-1-global-risks-2015/introduction/>

⁵ 2030 Water Resources Group, 2009.

⁶ <http://www.waterjpi.eu/implementation/supporting-projects/csa-ic4water>

⁷ <http://www.waterjpi.eu/international-cooperation>

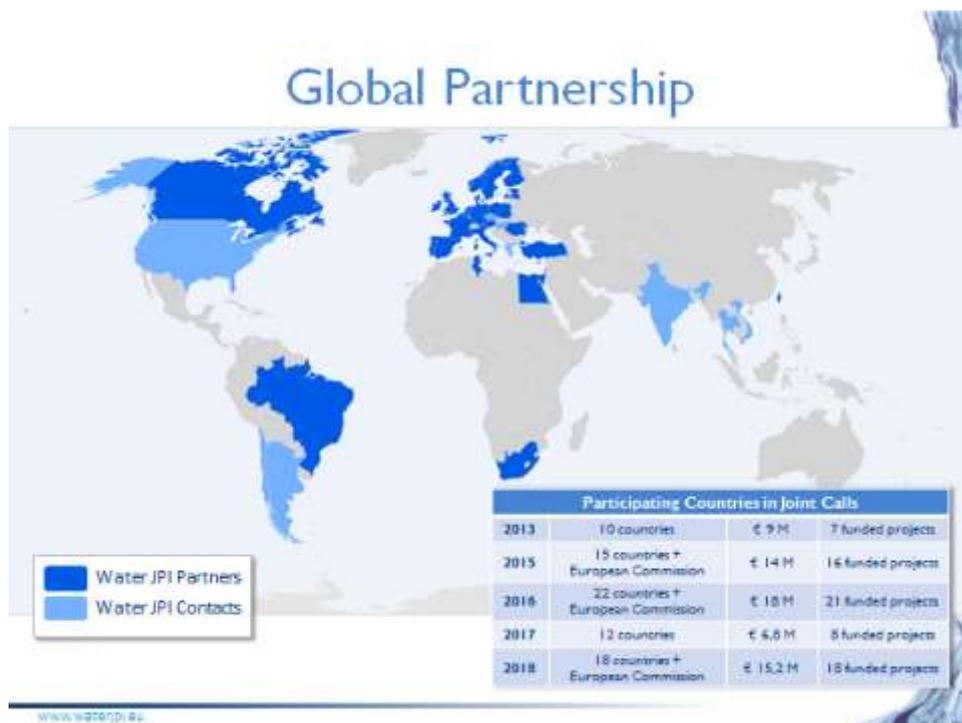


Figure 1. Water JPI current Joint Calls, partners and contacts.

Two workshops to develop “International Cooperation in RDI for tackling global water challenges” were organised in 2017 to discuss regional specificities and cooperation opportunities:

- Workshop dedicated to [Africa and the Mediterranean area](#) (Tangier, March 2017); and
- Workshop dedicated to [America](#) (Montreal, April 2017).

More recently, the Water JPI organised different workshops targeting various IC audiences in the context of Joint Actions developed by European initiatives:

- Workshop with [European peer initiatives “Towards a Common Strategy on International Cooperation”](#), Vienna in September 2018; and
- [Workshop targeted at the research community](#) (from both EU/Associated and non-EU countries) participating in the Joint Actions implemented by these initiatives involving international cooperation, Paris in June 2019.
- [Workshop on Future Cooperation in Research and Innovation with countries beyond Europe](#), Lisbon in December 2019.
- [Workshop on International Cooperation Towards a Common Strategy on International Cooperation](#), held virtually in May 2020.

This additional workshop aims at exchanging with international initiatives on the specific water-related issues in the Danube region with a view to developing or strengthening cooperation with relevant institutions and initiatives. The Danube River region is of utmost interest for the Water JPI because of its socioeconomic weight in Europe and the environmental challenges present in the area. Moreover, 4 countries are currently full members of the Water JPI (Austria, Germany, Moldova and Romania).

The Danube river basin homes more than 80 million people from 19 countries. Considerable differences for certain socioeconomic parameters (e.g. GDP, agricultural weight in national GDP) across countries account for different sources of environmental pollution. 56% of the Danube river is heavily modified; 27% of the river is not in good chemical status and 3 out of 11 transboundary groundwater bodies are experiencing significant nitrate pollution.

Specific water RDI questions were put forward by the Advisory Boards of the Water JPI. Those questions are reflected in the SRIA 2.0.

2. Methodology

2.1. Workshop objectives

The purpose of this workshop was to strengthen cooperation with the Danube Region as a way to respond more effectively to existing and emerging water challenges in the area.

By exchanging with international initiatives and governmental institutions of the Danube region interested in RDI joint activities, the workshop aimed at

- developing the Water JPI international network in this region,
- collecting views from partner countries and regional initiatives as regards key RDI needs and cooperation opportunities with the Water JPI
- proposing models for further cooperation and possible types of actions,
- planning and implementing, on a voluntary basis, joint research programmes and actions
- elaborating the overall strategy on the Danube regional issues related to water.

2.2. Workshop Audience

There were 28 attendees for this online workshop representing international initiatives (EU Danube Strategy Priority Areas 4 and 5, Danube Strategy Point, International Commission for Protection of the Danube River, Black Sea Commission, DANUBIUS Research Infrastructure, Danube transnational Programme, Danube INCO Net), Water JPI partners, scientists working on the Danube River. **Annex 1** provides a list of all the attendees.

2.3. Workshop Programme

The workshop programme is available in **Annex 2**. The workshop included a plenary session followed by two breakout sessions.

During the **morning plenary session**, 7 keynote speakers were invited to present international initiatives working in the region as well as their perspectives on international cooperation.

During the **afternoon's breakout sessions**, the attendees were divided into two groups according to their field of expertise and/ or personal interest (water research vs cooperation) and asked to discuss different topics:

- 1) **Interactions between regional activities and research themes of the Water JPI**
- 2) **Cooperation models**

For the breakout group on “Interactions between regional activities and research themes of the Water JPI”, discussions were structured around the following aspects:

- Main water-related challenges in the Region.
- Water research and innovation priorities.
- Identification of knowledge gaps (and therefore issues for which further RDI is needed).
- Data collection, databases, data treatment.

Likewise, the items listed below were discussed within the breakout group on “Cooperation models”:

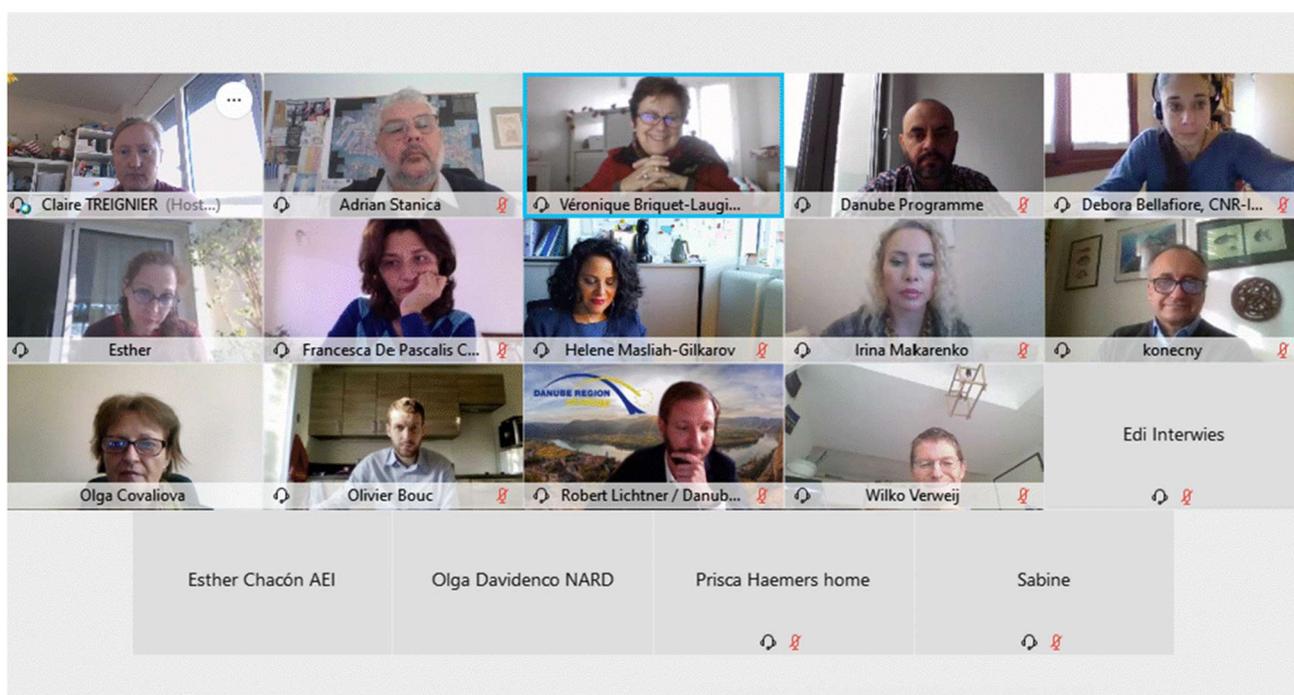
- Main actors and stakeholders in the Region.
- Activities of common interest for participants (infrastructures sharing, knowledge hubs, lobbying, networking, mobility).
- Identification of best available tools for cooperation in the Region.
- How to build those cooperation models.

3. Proceedings

The Master presentation is to be considered as part of these proceedings.

3.1. Welcome and Introduction

The **Water JPI coordinator, Véronique Briquet-Laugier**, opened the workshop by welcoming the participants. She presented the aims of the workshop, the general Water JPI activities, She highlighted the expectations for identifying actions for developing internationalisation in close cooperation with the Water JPI members and identified networks and institutions.



3.2. Plenary Session

European Strategy for the Danube Region - Johan Magnusson

The *EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)* is a macro-regional strategy adopted by the European Commission in December 2010 aiming **to develop coordinated policies and actions** in the area of the Danube River Basin around the fields of water, biodiversity, energy, mobility, socio-economic development, education and capacity, culture and identify, and security.

The Strategy is based upon 4 pillars and 11 priority areas (shown in Figure 1, below). Specific actions and projects are then identified for each of those priority areas in an Action Plan that has been recently renewed.



Figure 1. Pillars and priority areas of the EUSDR.

In addition to the appointment of priority areas coordinators, the EUSDR's governance model lies on a Steering Group that brings together thematic experts.

The EUSDR is not a funding programme but a coordination network that encourages cooperation between countries in the Danube Region, and between the Danube Region and third countries.

International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River – Helene Masliah-Gilkarov

The International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) is a **transboundary cooperation platform on water management** seeking to ensure that surface waters and groundwater within the Danube river basin are managed and used sustainably and equitably. Its work is based on the Danube River Protection Convention (DRPC), the major legal instrument for cooperation and transboundary water management in the Danube River Basin. The ICPDR has also been appointed as the platform for the implementation of all transboundary aspects of the EU Water Framework Directive.

The ICPDR is formally comprised by the Delegations of all Contracting Parties to the DRPC but it has also established a framework for other organisations with observer status, so-called 'Observers' to join. It is in this context that the involvement of stakeholders and outreach activities are strongly promoted by the ICPDR.

Danube Strategy Point – Robert Lichtner

The Danube Strategy Point (DSP) is the supportive body for all stakeholders involved in the EUSDR. It is financed by the Danube Transnational Programme (DTP). It aims at connecting people to improve quality of life through sustainable development in the Danube Region with the following objectives:

- Counteracting Climate Change
- Stimulating Sustainable Development
- Establishing and enforcing Knowledge Society, stimulating the Economy and fight Poverty
- Improving Mobility and Connectivity
- Enhancing Democracy, sound Administration and strong Involvement of Civil Society and Youth
- Digitalisation
- migration and demographic change
- climate change and sustainable development

The Danube Region Strategy addresses a wide range of issues; these are divided among **4 pillars** and **12 priority areas**. Among them, water quality and environmental risks include topics such as:

- Hazardous and emerging substances, and waste water
- Water and agriculture
- Danube floods risk management
- Climate change and adaptation

Interreg Danube Transnational Programme – Nicolae Marius-Valentin

Funded by the EU Cohesion Policy, the aim of the Danube Transnational Programme (DTP) is to foster transnational cooperation through policy integration actions and activities for the achievement of the objectives fixed at the Strategy for the Danube Region. **The programme does not support pure research and infrastructures.**

Water management is one of the focus areas identified in the current programming period 2014-2020, including transnational water management and flood risk prevention, preparedness for environmental risk, climate change adaptation, disaster risk prevention, resilience, and access to water and sustainable water management (i.e. capacity for water pollution prevention and mitigation, transnational coordination of water supply management).

Danube INCO NET – Martin Felix Gadjusek

The Danube INCO Net was a CSA (Coordination and Support Action) funded by the 7th Framework Programme. **The purpose of the project was to overcome obstacles hindering the social and economic development of the Danube region.** Activities of the project resulted in, amongst other outputs:

- The promotion of policy dialogues with other regional and European initiatives as well as with stakeholder groups;
- Creation of a research and advocacy network on bioeconomy;
- Identification of barriers for cooperation; and,
- Promotion of innovative and inclusive Danube societies.

Experience within the Danube INCO Net indicates that in order for cooperation amongst initiatives and institutions to be fruitful, it is necessary to ensure continuous communication with relevant actors well beyond the lifetime of projects. Dissemination activities such as the organisation of national fora are essential for the take-up of findings.

DANUBIUS RI – Adrian Stanica

DANUBIUS-RI, the International Centre for Advanced Studies on River-Sea Systems, gathering 17 countries, including three international organisations/programmes, is a distributed environmental research infrastructure on the Roadmap of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI). DANUBIUS-RI's Vision is to achieve healthy River-Sea Systems and advance their sustainable use.

Many societal challenges related to River-Sea Systems are multi-faceted and require new approaches to research. DANUBIUS-RI will

- span the catchment from source to coastal sea;
- provide innovative opportunities for boundary spanning;
- facilitate knowledge exchange;
- gather scientists from different disciplines, and address cross-disciplinary topics and issues related to sustainability of the River-Sea System, as a single, connected and highly dynamic system of high social and economic importance;
- be a platform for collecting, analysing, modelling and retrieving River-Sea System data useful to all scientific disciplines.

Black Sea Commission – Iryna Makarenko

The Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution was ratified by all six legislative assemblies of the Black Sea countries in the beginning of 1994. Its basic objective is to prevent, reduce and control the pollution in the Black Sea in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and to provide a legal framework for co-operation and concerted actions to fulfil this obligation. Some new challenges arose (e.g. climate change, marine litter, marine noise, green economy, MSFD requirements, are to be incorporated.

A main partner of the BSC is ICPDR since 2001. They exchange information and data, work on harmonisation of methodologies.

The BSC is taking steps to promote regional cooperation in the Danube-Black Sea region, inter alia, research & innovations activities, contributing to the proper marine assessments and coordination of efforts on databases with other Regional Sea Convention (RSCs) and partners.

Water JPI – Véronique Briquet-Laugier

The Water JPI objectives, key achievements and activities, and landscape of international cooperation were presented. The activities include the update of the common Vision 2030 and SRIA 2025. The vision illustrates what the Water JPI aims to achieve within the next 10 years, taking into account the main trends, the key drivers and challenges in relation to our water resources. It is guiding the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, the roadmap for the 5-year cycle and the 3-year implementation plans. Among the activities launched since the start of the Water JPI in 2007: 7 Joint calls, 2 Knowledge Hubs, Thematic Annual programming actions. The next step under Horizon Europe is the launch of the Water4All partnership.

3.3. Breakout sessions

During the afternoon's breakout sessions, the attendees were divided into 2 groups and asked to discuss the following topics:

1. **Interactions between regional activities and research themes of the water JPI**
2. **Possible models for cooperation**

Each group was given the chance to contribute to both topics, based on the synthesis of the four Water JPI workshops. The synthetic note summarising previous discussions on "International multilateral cooperation in Research and Innovation programmes with countries beyond Europe" was provided to the participants together with specific questions:

Breakout group 1 - Interactions between regional activities and research themes of the Water JPI

- What are the water priorities in the region?
- Gaps identification.
- Data collection, databases, data treatment.
- What is at stake for this region?

Breakout group 2 – How to cooperate together?

- Actors and stakeholders in the region.
- Which activities are of common interest (infrastructures, knowledge hubs, lobbying, networking, mobility)?
- Best available tools for the cooperation in the region.
- How to build the cooperation models?

3.3.1. Outputs of the breakout session on the Interactions between regional activities and research themes of the Water JPI

Participants in this breakout group are mostly researchers carrying out projects in the Danube region. They identified research needs in the region. **Some themes are of common interest with the priority RDI identified in the updated Water JPI SRIA, e.g.**

- Nature base solutions (NBS)
- Impacts of "mixed" pollutants
- Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems nexus
- Climate change effects on the hydrological cycle, in terms of water quantity and quality
- Harmonising climate change adaptation strategies and action plans to improve international collaboration and coordinate activities in the Danube Region
- Disruptive shocks due to climate change or other type of risks (environmental, man-made and pandemics)
- Reduce flood risk
- Support relevant actors in developing risk assessment related to water scarcity and droughts

On the other hand, they identified **some specific needs:**

- Support natural (small) water retention measures
- The importance of the continuity from mountains to deltas and coastal zones in terms of biodiversity, sedimentology, etc
- The freezing effects in addition to climate change and hydrological cycle
- The climate change impacts on water quality
- Several issues linked to agriculture (nutrients, irrigation, water scarcity, soil moisture)
- The harmonisation of models as well as data to have a common language
- The integration of different types of data (citizens, earth observation etc)
- The connection of different stakeholders to collaborate and to review the lessons learned
- Support the improvement of forecasting systems
- Emerging substances' (microplastics, pharmaceuticals, PFOS) impacts on ecosystems
- Sediment quality and quantity
- Strengthen disaster prevention and preparedness among governmental and non-governmental organisations
- Support natural (small) water retention measures

3.3.2. Outputs of the breakout session on Cooperation models

Based upon the opinions expressed by participants, **all main water policy and management actors in the Danube Region were present in the workshop with the exception of representatives from the civil society and NGOs.** Some of the presentations made during the morning, in particular that of the IPCDR, could give a hint of possible civil society and NGOs groups to be contacted.

Experience from the Interreg programme proves that it is difficult to attract certain key players because of their perception towards the complexity of the programme. In this context, the Interreg will look at the publication of more targeted calls that could encourage the participation of certain groups.

Participants identified a set of activities of common interest:

- Participation of young researchers in RDI actions.
- Mobility actions.
- Capacity-building.
- Peers learning or mutual learning, aimed at the information and knowledge sharing on indicators, assessment methodologies and learning experiences.

In order to implement those activities and enhance cooperation, the group proposed to:

- Set up a Task Force or Working Group for knowledge exchange. This group should gather members from the Water JPI and representatives of the Danube Region.
- Co-organisation of a Forum that would enable citizens' appropriation of main challenges in the Region (*already done by the Interreg programme*).
- Fully involve citizens in projects by directly integrating them in different activities (*examples from African countries were provided by the WRC, South African partner of the Water JPI*).

4. Conclusions of the meeting and next steps

The Danube Region is **an area of great interest for the Water JPI.** It homes more than 80 million people from 19 countries and it covers an extension of more than 800 000 square kilometres. The region faces water pollution (mainly from agricultural purposes), the loss of hydrological connectivity and the effects of climate change; these challenges are expected to exacerbate in the future. Specific RDI questions to the Danube Region were identified in the strategic agenda of the Water JPI back in 2016. Last but not least, four countries from the Danube Region are full members of the Water JPI: Austria, Germany, Moldova and Romania. However, collaborations between the Water JPI and institutions/ initiatives in the area have been very limited in the past and no specific joint actions have been launched yet. **It is in this context that the purpose of the workshop was to reinforce collaboration in the region.**

The outputs of the workshop showed there is room for cooperation between the Water JPI and water policy and management institutions, and RDI initiatives. Indeed, Water JPI's priorities are well aligned with the priorities expressed by participants and several RDI issues are of common interest (e.g. nature-based solutions, impacts of mixed pollutants, water-energy-food-ecosystem nexus, climate change effects of the hydrological cycle and impacts of disruptive shocks due to climate change or pandemics). Cooperation could take the shape of mobility actions, capacity-building activities, information and knowledge sharing, and joint programmes targeted at young researchers.

Discussions showed that any initiatives to promote the participation of stakeholders in water RDI, policy and management would be welcome. Stakeholders should certainly play a key role in the identification and implementation of solutions. In this sense, the workshop allowed developing a good understanding of main stakeholders in the region (e.g. EUSDR, ICPDR, Black Sea Commission). **The Water JPI will seek to initiate and strengthen, at a later stage, cooperation with these stakeholders.**

No representatives from NGOs attended the workshop. This has been identified as a main barrier in both the implementation and outreach of Water JPI activities in the Danube area. Actions will be taken forward in order to reinforce cooperation with them. **The ICPDR and EUSDR have been identified as major channels for communication with NGOs.**

If deemed necessary, and based upon the experience accumulated by some of the initiatives in the region (notably the Black Sea Commission and the Interreg Transboundary Cooperation Programme), a **public workshop could be envisaged**. This workshop should allow society at large to be better informed of RDI activities and to get better acquainted with existing initiatives.

Prior to the development of a cooperation strategy between the Water JPI and Danube-based institutions/ initiatives, there was a recommendation **to set up a working group that could act like an information sharing platform**. This platform would allow both members of the Water JPI and representatives of the Danube Region to exchange information on activities, priorities and cooperation opportunities.

Based upon the different contributions and recommendations, the following actions will be undertaken:

- Proposal for the launch of a working group on Transboundary Rivers, including the Danube Region. This working group will gather, on a voluntary basis, Water JPI/ Water4All members, key scientists, and representatives of international institutions/ initiatives and stakeholders. The working group will discuss key objectives and RDI needs in such regions. This proposal will be circulated to the Water JPI Governing Board.
- The Water JPI will discuss with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) to better understand how the ICPDR identifies and interacts with key NGOs and representatives of citizens in water management and policy in the Danube Region. This would allow the Water JPI to implement a communication strategy towards NGOs and citizen associations.

Annex 1: List of attendees

Last	Name	Institution	Country
Balatonyi	Laszlo	EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) Priority Area 5 "Environmental Risks"	Hungary
Bellafiore	Debora	CNR - National Research Council	Italy
Boaghi	Viorica	National Agency for Research and Development	Moldova
Bouc	Olivier	Agence Nationale de la Recherche	France
Briquet Laugier	Veronique	Agence Nationale de la Recherche	France
Chacón	Esther	Agencia española de la innovación	Spain
Chauke	Tiyani	Water Research Council	South Africa
Covaliova	Olga	Institute of Chemistry	Moldova, Republic of
Davidenco	Olga	National Agency for Research and Development	Moldova
De Pascalis	Francesca	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche	Italia
Diez Cebollero	Esther	Agence Nationale de la Recherche	France
Gajdusek	Martin Felix	Centre for Social Innovation ZSI	Austria
Haemers	Prisca	Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management	The Netherlands
Horvath	Balazs	EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) Priority Area 4 "Water Quality"	Hungary
Interwies	Eduard	InterSus - Sustainability Services	Germany
Kocnecny	Robert	Environment Agency Austria	Austria
Lichtner	Robert	European Strategy for the Danube Region	Austria
Lo Porto	Antonio	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche	Italy
Magnusson	Johan	European Commission	France
Makarenko	Irina	Black Sea Commission	Turkey

Masliah-Gilkarov	Hélène	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River	Austria
Niculae	Marius	Danube Transnational Programme	Hungary
Shapouri	Maryam	Research Council of Norway	Norway
Sorge	Sabine	Project Management Jülich	Germany
Stanica	Adrian	DANUBIUS-RI	Romania
Tlhagale	Mamohloding	Water Research Council	South Africa
Treignier	Claire	Agence Nationale de la Recherche	France
Umgiesser	Georg	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - ISDGM	Italia
Verweij	Wilko	Deltares, the Netherlands	the Netherlands
Yildirim	Serhat	Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	TURKEY

Annex 2: Workshop programme

Water JPI Workshop on International Cooperation in the Danube Region

Venue: WebEx

Date: 5 November 2020, 9.30 to 15.15 CET

Attendees

- IC4Water Partners
- Programme managers of regional initiatives, e.g. Interreg Danube transnational Programme, Danube river Commission, Black Sea Commission,
- Existing RDI projects / infrastructures, e.g. Danubius RI
- JPI Oceans – Knowledge hub on integrated assessment of new pollutants

Objectives

The workshop aims at exchanging with international initiatives and governmental institutions of the Danube region interested in RDI joint activities to

- strengthen / develop the Water JPI international network in this region
- plan and implement, on a voluntary basis, joint research programmes and actions
- elaborate the overall strategy on the Danube regional issues related to water

Expected outcomes

- Collecting views from possible partnering countries and regional initiatives
- Proposing models for further cooperation and possible types of actions

Agenda

From 9.30 to 15.15

9:30 - Plenary session		
5'	Welcome and opening of the meeting	
10'	Tour de table	
15'	Welcome address & aims of the workshop	Water JPI coordinator – Véronique Briquet-Laugier
15'	European Strategy for the Danube Region	Johan Magnusson, EC (confirmed)
15'	The Water related issues and the RDI landscape in the Danube region	Hélène Masliah-Gilkarov, International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
10h30-10:45 - Coffee break		
60'	Presentations from relevant initiatives on the Danube (12' per presentation): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Danube Strategy Point - Interreg Danube transnational programme or project funded by the programme - Danube INCO NET 	R. Lichtner (confirmed) N. Marius-Valentin, (confirmed) F. Gajdusek (confirmed)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DANUBIUS- Research Infrastructure - Black Sea Commission 	A. Stanica (confirmed) H. I. Sur / I. Makarenko (confirmed)
<i>11:45-12:05 – Water JPI presentation followed by Q&A</i>		
20 ‘	Water JPI activities on International Cooperation, Water models of cooperation, identified needs for making progress	Water JPI coordinator – Véronique Briquet-Laugier
<i>12:05-13:10 - Lunch Break</i>		
<i>Breakout sessions 75 minutes</i>		
75’	Breakout group 1 – Interactions between regional activities and research themes of the Water JPI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the water priorities in the region? - Gaps identification. - Data collection, databases, data treatment. - What is at stake for this region? 	Moderator: Olivier Bouc Rapporteurs: Claire Treignier, Olivier Bouc
75’	Breakout group 2 – How to cooperate together? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actors and stakeholders in the region. - Which activities are of common interest (infrastructures, knowledge hubs, lobbying, networking, mobility)? - Best available tools for the cooperation in the region. - How to build the cooperation models? 	Moderator: Felix Gajdusek Rapporteurs: Véronique Briquet-Laugier, Esther Díez
<i>14:30-14:45 Coffee Break</i>		
<i>15:05-15:45 Plenary session</i>		
30’	Rapporteurs feedback of the 2 breakout groups and discussion: How to find synergies between regional activities and the Water JPI?	Rapporteurs
10’	Wrap-up of the workshop	Water JPI coordinator – Véronique Briquet-Laugier