

Austrian policy initiatives and new funding possibilities for greener vessels

Danube Business Talks 2022

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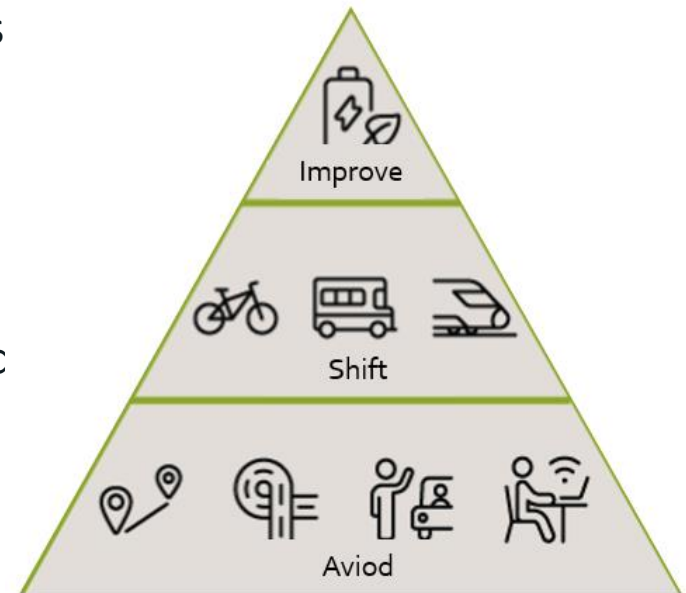
From Green Deal to Green Danube



Mobility Masterplan (Mobilitätsmasterplan) 2030

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- With regard to climate change, inland navigation should also make its contribution to achieving climate neutrality of the transport system, i.e.:
 - significantly **increase its share** of the modal s
 - use **climate-neutral fuels** from renewable energies.
- To achieve this, targeted measures coordinated an international context must be developed and implemented.
- The Mobility Master Plan 2030 shows ways to avoid, shift and improve transport.



Action Programme Danube 2030 (APD)- in preparation

Action Programme Danube 2030 (APD)

- Contains specific measures in the field of inland navigation and ecology for the purpose of implementing (also) the Mobility Master Plan.
- The APD 2030 is an integrative implementation strategy with the aim to result in balanced development of the diverse functions of the Danube river.
- The APD 2030 is currently finalized and is expected to be presented end of 2022.

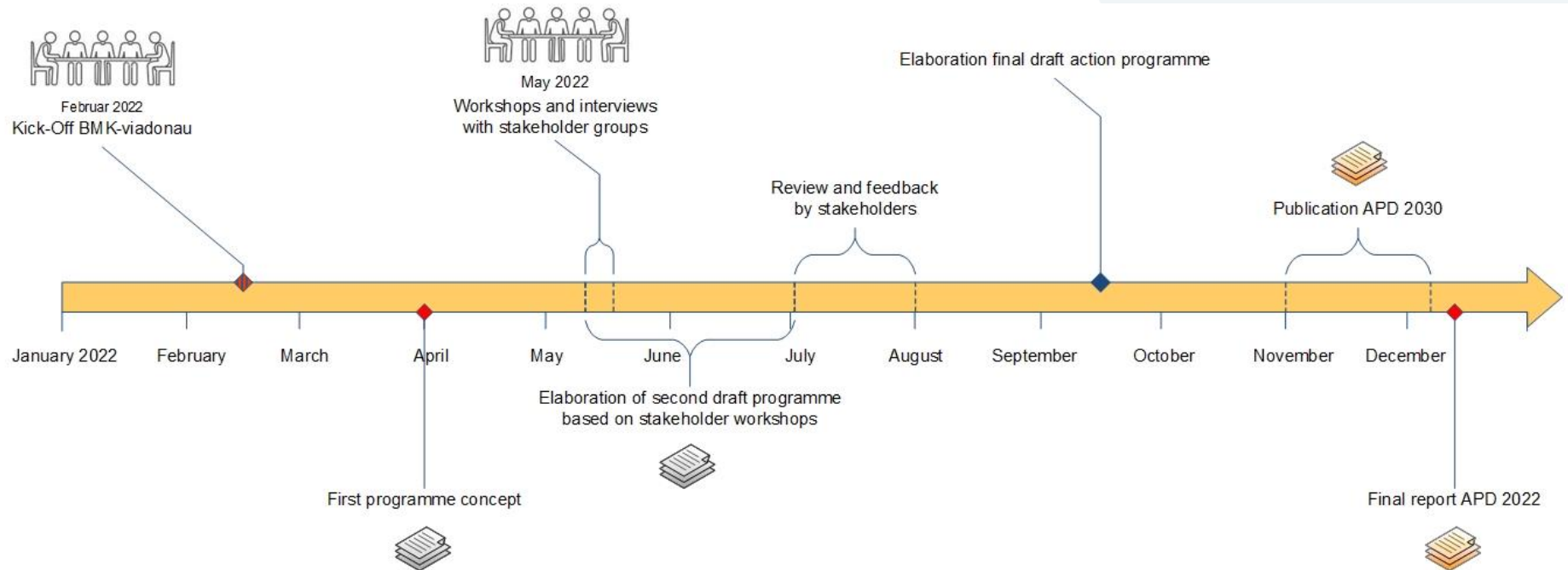
Goals of Action Programme Danube 2030

- Strengthening the competitiveness of Danube navigation in logistics chains and in the tourism and leisure industry.
- Decarbonization of Danube navigation.
- Increasing the **climate resilience** of the Danube waterway.
- **Protection and improvement** of the Danube/March/Thaya river eco-systems and **preservation of biodiversity**.

Concept of the Action Programme Danube 2030

- Balanced development of both ecological and navigation interests (integrative approach)
- The APD is an implementation programme that is closely linked to and embedded in the policy landscape:
 - In accordance with European and national strategies and guidelines such as UN Sustainable Development Goals, TEN-T Regulation, NAIADES III, Biodiversity Strategy, Water Framework Directive, etc.
 - Taking into account megatrends such as climate change, digitalisation, globalisation

The APD 2030 was co-created with key stakeholders



Main categories of measures contained in the APD 2030

1. Pursue further development of waterway infrastructure and innovations in waterway management
2. Demand-based and environmentally-friendly development of land-side infrastructure
3. Continuous improvement of lock operations and maintenance
4. Support pro-active and nature-based infrastructure development in entire Danube region
5. Strengthen competitiveness and logistics supply chain integration of Danube navigation

Main categories of measures contained in the APD 2030

6. Developing corridor-wide River Information Services and interfaces to other modes of transportation
7. Active contributions to and implementation of European and national framework conditions and provisions related to inland navigation
8. Integration of Danube navigation in logistics education & training and raising attractiveness of jobs in Danube shipping
9. Support the transition towards climate-neutral/friendly fuels and propulsion systems in Danube navigation
10. Implement project for river rejuvenation and habitat protection along Danube/March/Thaya in order to achieve Good Ecological Status/Potential and Favourable Conservation Status

Funding for inland waterway vessels

Special directive for
the promotion of climate and environmentally
friendly navigation 2022

Funding for inland waterway vessels: Special directive for the promotion of climate and environmentally friendly navigation

- **Duration of the funding programme:** 2022 – 2026 (finalization of projects until 2028)
- **Number of calls:** 2 per year (1st call in 2022)
- **Total budget:** € 3.500.000,00
- **Funding rate:** 30% - 60%
- **Eligible applicants:**
 - Undertakings from the member states of the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland, who have a branch in Austria and regularly operate commercial inland navigation on Austrian waterways.
- **Further Information soon under www.viadonau.org**

Funding for inland waterway vessels - Eligible items I:

1. **Measures to increase the efficiency of inland vessels:** Energy-efficient technologies and adaptations that lead to a reduction in fuel consumption (min. 10% fuel saving).
2. **Digitalisation and automation measures:** automated or (partially) autonomous sailing, collision avoidance systems, lock management systems, assistance systems for energy-optimized navigation, bridge collision warning systems.
3. **Measures to optimize active fleet for greater operational capability in low water conditions:**
 - a) This may include, for example, the following measures for the ship stern:
 - Replacement of the ship's stern with another stern,
 - Optimisation of the stern through individual structural measures such as the installation of a propeller tunnel or a flex tunnel,
 - Optimisation of the propulsive system through modifications to the propeller, the installation of propellers with nozzles, rudder propeller, pump jet or other innovative propulsion systems

Funding for inland waterway vessels - Eligible items II:

b) For the bow, for example, the following measures can be supported:

- *Replacement of the bow with another bow,*
- *Optimisation of the bow through structural modifications to reduce resistance,*
- *Installation of devices for improved maneuverability (e.g. bow thrusters).*

These measures are eligible if, after the conversion, the inland waterway vessel has a safe maneuvering capability with a minimum draught that is at least 15 cm lower than its original condition. The conversion measure must not have a negative impact on the energy demand.

Funding for inland waterway vessels - Eligible items III:

4. Measures to reduce CO₂ and air pollutant emissions from inland vessels:

- Premature replacement of **active combustion engines** with lower-emission engines.
- Equipment of vessels with propulsion systems that run in particular on **renewable fuels**, e.g. hydrogen, methanol, etc.,
- Equipment of new inland navigation vessels and inland navigation vessels already in service with **diesel and gas-electric drives and hybrid drives**.
- Equipment of new inland navigation vessels and inland navigation vessels already in service with a **fuel cell system**.
- Equipment of new inland navigation vessels and inland waterway vessels already in use with **all-electric systems for propulsion and operating systems**.

Funding for inland waterway vessels - Eligible items IV:

5. Adaptations to shift transport to inland waterway vessels: equipping active fleet aiming at opening up new markets and thus raising modal share for Danube shipping.

- Onboard equipment and structural adjustments.
- Adjustments to the main dimensions of the vessel.
- Adjustments of cargo handling equipment.

Thank you for your attention!