

In this newsletter

A narrative report on the European River Symposium 2021

Introduction	2
Keynote speeches – Day 1	4
Keynote speeches – Day 2	4
Sessions	4
Sessions results	5
Side events	9
Symposium closing	11

Editorial

On the 26th and 27th of May this year the European River Symposium (ERS) 2021 took place as an online event and was attended by 256 rivers and wetlands professionals including policy makers, planners, practitioners, researchers, and young professionals, as well as any other interested from 38 countries in Europe and beyond. The ERS 2021 is a continuation of efforts starting in 2013, with the convening of the first European River Symposium, to strengthen efforts to protect, restore and better manage rivers in Europe. Now after four editions, this 2021 event has been a continuation of the effort to celebrate and promote positive actions in support of rivers.

The symposium highlighted the changes to rivers and specific actions that have been brought about by the European Legislation particularly the Water Framework Directive (WFD) which was recently being confirmed as fit for purpose. The emphasis was on improved implementation in quantity and quality, better progress and increased attention to eco-hydro-morphological conditions and measures. Besides, the focus of this year's Symposium was on the possibilities and opportunities presented by the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and the EU Green Deal.

The symposium ranged from presentation of high-level, policy briefs and dialogue in panels with direct implementers and practitioners. Special focus was on alignment and exploration of interests between water users (water supply, navigation, agriculture, and hydropower) and conservation and planning and management authorities. Case studies and examples were explored in more detail in these groups.

The results of the conference presented in this newsletter, in a narrative form giving an impression of the discussions and conclusions, offer new hope that the condition and health of rivers can be improved. The right use of legal and legislative tools, the available funding opportunities, together with dialogue and cooperation between sectors and with stakeholders and the public, all using and affecting rivers is the way forward. This challenge is to be addressed at the local, regional, and national levels. Promotion of healthy ecosystems, green infrastructure and nature-based solutions, capacity and resource development should therefore be systematically integrated in policies and planning, specifically in urban areas. We wish you a good read and if you want to learn more about the conference results, a full content report will be made available on <http://www.ecrr.org>.

*Philip Weller, IAWD
Andreas Beckman, WWF CEE
Bart Fokkens, ECRR*





EUROPEAN RIVER SYMPOSIUM 2021

Strengthening the efforts to protect, restore and better manage rivers in Europe: EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and EU Green Deal shaping Europe’s Water Management

Introduction

Despite Europe’s commitment in the legislative and organization effort to improve rivers and to reduce the negative human influences affecting them, European rivers still suffer pollution and damages. The status of rivers and waters within Europe has been well documented by the European Environmental Agency in the report ‘[European waters: Assessment of status and pressures 2018](#)’. A key finding of the report is that only around 40% of surface waters (rivers, lakes and transitional and coastal waters) are in good ecological status or potential, and only 38% are in good chemical status. Actions by important economic actors such as agriculture, hydropower, and urban municipal wastewater services, and various industrial production sectors are all key to improvements made and those needed in the (near) future.



«Our intention with this event is that the protection, restoration, and celebration of rivers is something that takes place over the next two days.»

Philip Weller (IAWD) opening the ERS 2021.

The EU Fitness check of the WFD and related directives was an important opportunity to highlight the areas of success, but also some areas of concern of the directives planning and implementation activities and work. However, it is generally not the WFD and Integrated River Basin Management Planning (IRBMP) instruments causing problems in achieving results. The challenge to be addressed is still improved and accelerated implementation at the local, regional and national levels. With the following principles the symposium supports efforts aimed at improving and accelerating the water directives implementation:

- From policies to practices
- From research to concepts
- From demonstration to implementation
- From monitoring to evaluation
- From costs to (multiple) benefits

Moreover, the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 states that greater efforts are needed to restore freshwater ecosystems and the natural functioning of rivers. To help make this reality, at least 25,000 km of rivers should be restored into free-flowing rivers by 2030. Technical guidance and support to the Member States will be provided by the Commission in 2021 in consultation with all relevant authorities, taking a wide range of issues into account including hydropower generation, flood management, water supply, agriculture and navigability. Overall, large scale river and floodplain restoration investments should provide a major economic boost to the restoration sector and for local socioeconomic activities such as tourism and recreation.

At the same time, these investments can improve water regulation, flood protection, nursery habitats for fish, and the removal of nutrient pollution. While the promotion of healthy ecosystems, green infrastructure and nature-based solutions should be systematically integrated in policies and planning, specifically in urban areas. The symposium has discussed, explored, and proposed new institutional cooperation, integrative approaches, various innovations, guidance, education, training, financing, and funding mechanisms therefore needed.

The EU Farm to Fork Strategy is at the heart of the Green Deal with an urgent need to reduce dependency on pesticides, antimicrobials, reduce excess fertilisation, increase organic farming, improve animal welfare, and reverse biodiversity loss. The Commission will help to build a European Business for Biodiversity movement making it an integral part of the European Climate Pact. The European Green Deal is a plan to make the EU’s economy sustainable by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities and making the transition to climate neutral in 2050 just and inclusive for all. The symposium will seek how to include, by developing nature-based solutions in combination with suitable financing and funding mechanisms, the Climate Pact actions into the IRBMPs and implementation.



Andreas Beckmann (WWF CEE) moderating the ERS 2021 in the opening sessions on both days as well as throughout the symposium in several sessions.



EU Green Deal

Climate change and environmental degradation are an existential threat to Europe and the world. To overcome these challenges, the European Green Deal will transform the EU into a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy, ensuring:

- no net emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050;
- economic growth decoupled from resource use;
- no person and no place left behind.



One third of the 1.8 trillion euro investments from the NextGenerationEU Recovery Plan, and the EU's seven-year budget will finance the European Green Deal.



26 - 27 May 2021
EUROPEAN RIVER
SYMPOSIUM

Bart Fokkens (ECRR) introducing the programme of the ERS 2021 and its development process with all conference partners involved.

Symposium partners

The 14 sessions and 2 side events that made up the event were each organized by one or more of the 13 partner organizations:

- International Association for Water services in the Danube Basin (IAWD)
- International River Foundation (IRF)
- European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR)
- World Wildlife Fund Central and Eastern Europe (WWF CEE)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR)
- Ramsar Convention, (Ramsar Bureau)
- Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe (GWP CEE)
- Wetlands International (WI)
- United Nations Economic Commission Europe (UNECE)
- International Network of Basin Organisations (INBO)
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Summarized the presented new EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and the EU Green Deal, include the following opportunities:

- Improved integrated WFD policy implementation.
- Nature based solutions.
- Funding/financing.
- Collect ideas and expertise.
- Define and exchange best practice implementation.

And they have the following targets:

- Natural function of rivers / 25,000 km restored free-flowing rivers.
- River continuity/connectivity restoration.
- Progressive reduction of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Addressing invasive species.
- Extending protected areas.
- Better conservation.
- Urban greening river restoration.



Keynote speeches

Day 1, May 26th

Opening on the Green Deal, Biodiversity Strategy and Water Legislation: Water policy under the European Green Deal – State of play and key challenges ahead, by Veronica Manfredi, Director for Quality of Life in DG Environment, European Commission.



*Veronica Manfredi
(European Commission)*

Keynote speeches

Day 2, May 27th

Water security and socio-economical and ecological security by Dario Soto-Abril, Global Water Partnership, Executive Secretary of the Global Water Partnership (GWP)



*Dario Soto-Abril
(Global Water Partnership)*



*Steven Schonberger
(The World Bank)*

Water security and financing/funding: A water sector transition to save the planet, by Steven Schonberger, Regional Director for The World Bank Group’s Sustainable Development Department for the Europe and Central Asia Region.

Loïc Obled (Office for Biodiversity, France)

A national focal point for environmental policies, by Loïc Obled, Deputy Director General of the French Biodiversity Agency (OFB)



Sessions

The sessions covered the following topics:

1. Biodiversity Strategy & WFD implementation.
2. Ecosystem-based climate change adaptation.
3. International River Basin Management Planning.
4. Young water specialist and capacity development.
5. Financing mechanisms and funding.
6. Stakeholder involvement and river management.
7. Riparian and floodplain vegetation management by research, policy and practice.
8. Ramsar tools and river status.
9. Sustainable hydropower.
10. River continuity restoration policy and planning.
11. River resilience and international knowledge exchange.
12. Water users and water quality.
13. Sustainable agriculture.
14. Participatory river basin management.
15. Side event: River Basin Restoration Community of Practice.
16. Side event: Multi-sectoral river and wetland restoration.



*Sofia Kilifi
(The Coca Cola Company)*

Ensuring water security for nature and communities by Sofia Kilifi, Sustainability & Community Manager Europe of The Coca Cola Company



Joakim Harlin (UNEP)

Global frameworks on the protection and restoration of freshwater ecosystems, by Joakim Harlin, Chief of Freshwater Ecosystems Unit and Chief Manager at UNEP-DHI Centre on Water & Environment



Session results

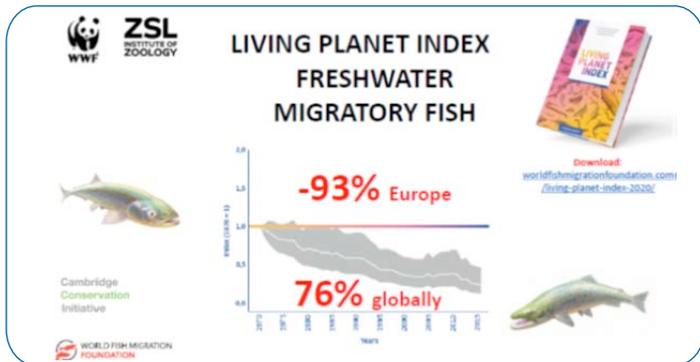
1. How can the EU Biodiversity Strategy help achieve the Water Framework Directive objectives, and vice-versa?

Eric Tardieu, INBO



«It is exceedingly difficult to navigate between the European and national level on the ecological river restoration targets.»

WFD defines Good Ecological Status, looking at water bodies, including wetlands and floodplains, but they get less attention. However, this linkage to these broader freshwater ecosystems is the linkage to the Biodiversity Strategy. Member States' ability to successfully design and implement river continuity restoration is not limited by technical issues, but an issue of cooperation between sectors, and to a lesser extent funding. The European Commission can support this through integration of strategic objectives in sectoral policies and by funding.



2. Adaptation to climate change: The interest of basin management planning.

Hanna Plotnykova, UNECE Secretariat



«Climate change does not stop at borders. A transboundary view is important.»

70% of the participants have basin adaptation plans in their basin. 57% of all participants use green adaptation measures. Cooperation and planning of water resources use within a river basin are essential for achieving the WFD objectives. They help improve adaptation at regional level when the public stands behind the intentions of policies. It would be impossible to work without the local people. Using integrated projects and policies while making the public understand and trust/accept what river basin organizations do helps improve aligning policies.

3. Sharing basins, sharing destinies: International River Commissions



Marc Daniel Heintz, International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR)

«Alongside with concrete and measurable objectives, it is helpful to have a vision that is easily understandable to the general public (e. g. «We want to bring the salmon back to Basle!»).»

Institutionalized cooperation provides benefits beyond simple commitment to cooperation and ensures agreement on water resources management principles, joint vision, RBMPS, etc. It serves to regularly exchange on (possible contested) issues, exchange of data and information and provides availability of governance mechanisms. In basins with functioning international river commissions, countries and stakeholders can conduct a sound estimation of where to target measures most effectively at the basin-wide scale. A combination of sound, coordinated scientific programs or campaigns, underpinned with full engagement from active stakeholders, are key prerequisites for the sound development of highly demanding but realistic RBM plans.

4. The future of water: Young water specialists and decision making



Hasmik Barseghyan, European Youth Parliament for Water (EYPW)

«According to the World Economic Forum Global Risks Report 2021, “youth disillusionment” is a top neglected risk that will become a critical threat to the world over the next two years»

Current approaches to increase the number of young professionals is among other things – as explained by Péter Kovács of the Hungarian Ministry of Interior: the establishment of the youth network, organization of events with youth involvement, giving youth the floor, supporting team work, introducing new technologies, and an overall involvement of youth.

Judith Palatinus from the Middle Tisza District Water Directorate (MTDWD) mentions that organizations should provide incentives to attract young professionals like a lifelong career model, constant education, involvement in international projects and decision-making processes, giving them opportunities to improve and grow within the organization, and connecting youth within the water sector itself.



5. What will it take to restore European freshwater bodies? Promising pathways for financing

«Funding needs are important, but there are many financing solutions for river restoration. The hard work is in the operationalizing. How do you make sure that across this plethora of EU instruments this becomes a reality? Everywhere you need good entry points for this money to be spent.»

Hans Stielstra, European Commission

Current barriers causing lack of investment to meet WFD and other directives and policies include lack of information on climate risks and resulting business risks, lack of good corporate stewardship and regulation, lack of legal technical and financial expertise to produce investment propositions, and a perceived risk-reward imbalance of investing in climate and development projects and limited access to capital. The estimated financing need of at least €20 billion a year should be unlocked to spend on nature through private and public funding at national and EU level, including through a range of different programmes in the next long-term EU budget. Besides, a significant proportion of the of the EU budget (30%) dedicated to climate action will be invested on biodiversity and nature-based solutions.

WWF Bankable Nature Solutions differ from regular conservation projects because of their source of funding and because they are managed by the private sector. Their design is centered around revenue generating activities that help recover project costs and generate a return on investment.



Sophie Trémolet, TNC

«At the end of the day it is a market – the question is how we inspire the passion to the rest of the society for water funding and financing.»

TNC has helped implement collective action platforms, referred to as “Water Funds”, in many locations around the world. Water Funds are organizations that design and enhance financial and governance mechanisms which unite public, private and civil society stakeholders around a common goal to contribute to water security through nature-based solutions and sustainable watershed management.

6. Successful river management: The importance of stakeholder involvement

Colin Heron, GWP

«We should make sure that everybody is involved and heard and nobody is left behind.»



Engagement of the public and decision makers in joint river management is currently approached by citizen science, which covers the – by fundraising mechanisms deemed important – communication and engagement of local communities and public. However, many current projects neglect the importance of marketing and communication of their findings and efforts to various stakeholder groups.

This leads to confusion and general lack of interest. A proper communication and engagement activities go a long way for stakeholders to take interest and participate in the efforts to successfully complete the research projects. For example, the ICPDR’s and GWP’s vibrant use of social networks, development of multi-level action plans, active participation of stakeholders on events created for them, and educational programs with specific goals, like supporting local efforts to implement SDG 6.5.1.

«Many stakeholders don’t realize the importance of good river basin management. It’s all about governance.»

Andreas Beckmann, WWF CEE

7. How to enhance riparian and floodplain vegetation management by research, practice and policy?

Emilio Politti, University of Trento

«The Green Deal encourages to develop systemic solutions to maximize synergies among EU priorities.»



Riparian vegetation should be better integrated in water management frameworks to achieve the WFD goals. Scientists and river managers have a different view of the riparian areas, the latter are more concerned with practical issues, while the former dedicate their attention to the functioning and the relationship among processes and entities. Even more different is the view of policy and law makers whose view of riparian systems needs to accommodate also for societal needs such as public safety and economic development. The three views are not necessarily in contrast, they are simply different because of the objectives of the three groups. However, such misalignment between views negatively reflects on the communication and the support of these groups provided to each other. The challenges to overcome the miss alignment by concrete solutions discussed in this session.

8. Restoring wetlands to improve river status

Mateusz Grygoruk, SSGW Poland

«Scientific achievements in the field of wetlands-rivers interface must be communicated in plain language to a broader audience.»



There is a need to obtain an overview of the wetland ecosystems in the river catchment, by assessing their degradation, prioritize those to be restored and estimating the restoration costs and the economic benefits thus created. There is also a need for a circular approach when restoring vegetated wetland buffer zones along river stretches with re-naturalized shores. Such restoration efforts should take any wetland type into account and focus on the most effective areas rather than trying to establish buffer zones along all river stretches.



This will substantially reduce restoration costs, which are likely covered within 4-5 years already through restoration benefits created. This restoration concept is developed one step further by promoting paludicultural activities to be undertaken to produce sustainable crops on rewetted soils that harbour at the same time typical and rare peatland species.

«Floodplain peatland restoration is a low-hanging fruit and should be inspired by experiences gained from forest restoration activities aiming for multiple benefits for societies, the environment and the economy.»

Sanja Pokrajac, WWF

9. Challenges in reaching healthy rivers and sustainable hydropower

A balance between environment and hydropower presupposes good methods for assessing both the environmental benefit and the effect on hydropower production. In order to create the conditions for making the trade-off at large-scale reconsideration of hydropower, a broad and long-term approach is needed. A large-scale re-examination of permits requires national governance and national cost-benefit analysis. A long-term plan is required to manage an ecological goal that limits the overall effect on hydropower production.



«The EC emissions reduction target puts even greater emphasis on increasing the use of predictable climate-friendly electricity production technologies.»

Anders Skarstedt, SWAM

Most of the hydropower plants are small and account for a potentially lesser part of hydropower production. The cost of measures per MW produced will be exceptionally large for smaller hydropower plants and these facilities with limited incomes cannot fully cover their own costs of complying with modern environmental conditions. When there is a political will and it is assessed that there is a value in the facilities that is not reflected in the payment for produced electricity, the burden needs to be distributed within the collective.

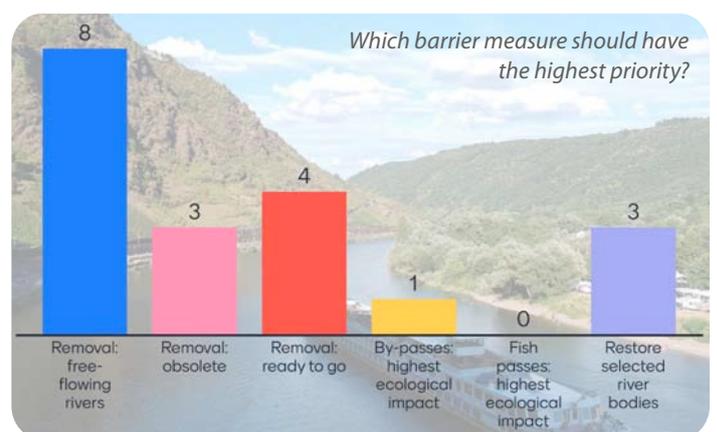
10. Developing policy and planning of river continuity restoration in Greater Europe

Sharelle Verheij, European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR)



«Almost 10% [of river barriers] has a fish pass included, but for almost half of all barriers it is believed that they can be adjusted to include a fish passage. 20% of the barriers is thought to be obsolete, of which a third is believed to be removable, and only a mere 1% has been removed so far.»

To scale up and carry out river continuity restoration to work towards achieving the SDGs it is recommended that 1) Policy-makers and planners improve or develop the present framework regarding the strategies, policies and planning of river continuity restoration; 2) Implementers use the drivers and strategies as starting points, which should therefore be clear before developing and implementing restoration programmes and projects; and 3) Researchers contribute to improve, expand and verify the knowledge, methodologies and techniques that are currently available and that could be developed. Overall, there should be national policies on river continuity restoration, prioritization strategies for barrier removals, and measure prioritization approaches should be explored.



Adding fish passes, constructing barrier bypass channels and complete removal of a barrier are the first and foremost measures that are investigated, but the extent to which they are applied is very country- and situation-dependent. Measure prioritization approaches should be explored. With a poll, the audience indicated that barrier removals to create the greatest amount of river kms to be free-flowing should have the highest priority, after which ready-to-go barrier removal follows. Removal of obsolete barriers and restoration of selected river barriers such as those in protected areas share the third place.

11. *Lifelines: a two-decade journey of the international river foundation and the international river prize*



Eva Abal, IRF

«Different river personalities, various strengths and weaknesses can be identified which can lead to tailored recommendations for different rivers.»

Now resilience is considered as the capacity of a river system and its associated communities to quickly recover from disturbances, adapt to changes without collapsing, and to transform through innovation and implementation of resilience strategies. The key to the Resilient Rivers Blueprint is to map out a path toward river resilience, regardless of where you are on the resilient rivers journey. There are various strategies and actions that can be employed to build river resilience.

12. *Water users and water quality: cooperation to achieve improvement*



Wolfgang Deinlein, IAWR

«Drinking water is not an interest group, it is a universal interest. Drinking water is a core task of every state»

Based on data from WFD River Basin Management Plans and the River Commissions there is good progress in improving the water quality in Europe, but there is still a lot to do. The main

issue is that even though there is quite some progress, the status does not change to the better. A particularly good number of Nature Based Solutions have been realized with multiple partners, which can serve as inspiration and models for other actors working together. All actors (private and public sectors and civil society) have to come together to ensure improvement of water quality. There is a need for places to talk openly as all perspectives must be considered. An important forum for this dialogue is provided by the River Commissions.

Eva Hernandez Herrero, WWF

«Efforts are not judged on size or money spent, it's about the efforts taken to progress.»

«Farmers are like all people, some struggle, some are front runners and those are ones we have to work with.»

13. *Sustainable agriculture and water management: towards new synergies*

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) aims to increase the level of environmental ambition with the WFD and the Directive on sustainable use of pesticides entering the scope of conditionality. Member states will have to define their intervention strategy in their CAP strategic plan, which shall consider the needs identified in the RBMPs and contribute to the achievement of WFD objectives. This is in line with the European Green Deal, which includes a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system across the agricultural supply chain from 'farm to fork'. Under the Farm to Fork strategy, a key water target is for a 50% reduction in nutrient losses (nitrogen and phosphorous) with part of that being a reduction in fertilizer use by 20%. The EU's Biodiversity Strategy 2030 includes commitments to reverse the decline of pollinator insects.

A session poll asked participants what the biggest obstacle is preventing the proper implementation of the WFD in Europe in relation to agriculture. The majority answered, "insufficient implementation of the WFD in the Member States, including processes in river basin which promote multi-stakeholder collaboration between water users". To reach sustainable water management in agriculture the following should be included: policy instruments; knowledge, capacity building and awareness; Natural Water Retention Measures; farm economics; paying for environmental services; agri-food chain actors mobilization; engaging and supporting farmers; and seeing climate change as a driver towards implementing adaptation measures.

Leanne Roche, EU DG ENV



«The business side with this water stewardship is also very important and another avenue that we can really explore»



14. Participatory basin management: how to do it & why it matters!



Anna Ek, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM)

«We have found out that the ability to connect to people is more important than the exact background [of the catchment officers].»

Trust and transparency and listening to the needs of the people are the important factors that have an impact on policy and decision-making. The legal requirements for participation are not enough, but the tools and experiences exist that incentivize citizens to engage in water management and incentivize authorities to invest in citizen involvement are important. A large-scale example is the WFD that requires consultation, obliging states and international secretariats to give interested parties the opportunity to have their say on the draft document. Afterwards they can decide on their own which modification proposal they consider and which not. On a smaller scale, catchment officers in Sweden function as catalysts and can help landowners that are willing to make their contribution to protect water to overcome obstacles such as lack of knowledge and time and the need to cover costs. This increases engagement and incentives for local measures.

Side events

The side events led by ECRR and the Living Danube Partnership respectively were focussed less on informative presentations towards the audience, and more on provoking discussions with and comments from the audience.

1. ECRR's overall strategy development and revival of the European river restoration community of practitioners



Martin Janes, ECRR

«The river basin restoration Community of Practitioners is very effective for personal capacity development.»

The Community of Practice (CoP) promotes river restoration to practitioners in and outside of the ECRR Association Network. Various ways to expand and further develop and increase its visibility have been discussed, including welcoming new members and new ideas to improve the sharing of knowledge and learning. The current focus is the sharing of knowledge, experience, communication tools, case studies, real life experi-

River Restoration Community of Practice (CoP)

- ECRR is an Association with 15 organization members
- ECRR is a Network with c. 1,500 contacts (individuals & organisations)
- Community of Practice links the river restoration practitioners within the network

ence from practitioners, and best match case studies with engineers and decision makers as a proposal for river management change.

2. Restoring rivers and wetlands at scale lessons from the multi-sectoral living Danube partnership



Laurice Ereifej, WWF CEE

«A trustful group of experts is the guarantee for effective results and a smooth process and good progress.»

Over 80% of floodplains on the Danube and its major tributaries have been lost. While Danube countries have committed to restoring some of these areas, a key obstacle is the painstaking alignment of interests of different stakeholders, from landowners and users to communities and relevant authorities. This is where the Living Danube Partnership comes in a unique, cross-sectoral partnership between WWF-CEE, the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River and The Coca-Cola Foundation which has sought to demonstrate and promote river and wetland restoration across six countries of the Danube River basin. Results and lessons learned from the projects have been collected and are available in a final publication and a Google Earth application available at: <https://wwfcee.org/partnerships/partnership-for-freshwater>.

Stakeholder Engagement ICPDR IKSD



Symposium closing

Bart Fokkens (ECRR) summarized the first online 2-day European River Symposium 2021 and fourth ERS edition with a programmatic impression and its achieved deliverables, new developments, and take-home messages. Philip Weller on behalf of one the International Association of Water Services

Companies in the Danube River Catchment Area (IAWD), concluded at last: "We would like to thank greatly all the organisers, moderators, technical supports, reporters, presenters and speakers for their support and inspiration in making a professional, interesting and attractive program as the basis for a successful edition of the European River Symposium."

Epilogue

The European River Symposium 2021 has discussed, explored, and proposed new institutional cooperation, integrative approaches, various innovations, guidance, education, training, financing, and funding mechanisms needed for an efficient and effective implementation of the EU Green Deal and Biodiversity Strategy 2030. The symposium sought how to include, through developing nature-based solutions in combination with suitable financing and funding mechanisms, the EU green Deal Climate Pact actions into the integrated River Basin Management Plans and implementation.

The ERS focussed on

- being dynamic and interactive with Policy Briefs setting the stage and discussions and panels that ensure dialogue and interaction among participants;
- ensuring active involvement of sectors impacting rivers (i.e. agriculture, producing industry, water utilities, energy, navigation, tourism);
- providing an integrated perspective on ecological river restoration to implement the Water Framework Directive and related directives.

The following deliverables have been achieved:

1. Narrative conference report
2. Renewed / extended (symposium) partnership
3. Demonstrative case studies
4. Conference statements
5. Concrete proposals on specific subjects
6. Combined action plans of conference partners
7. Conference conclusions and recommendations
8. Thematic policy briefs
9. Guidance documents

More content related information on the European River Symposium 2021 can be found in the ERS 2021 Content Report that will be made available at <http://www.ecrr.org>





THE ECRR ASSOCIATION MEMBER AND PARTNER ORGANISATIONS



Finnish Environment Institute



Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management



The events calendar is regularly updated and allocated on ECRR website www.ecrr.org/News-Events/Events.

Call for articles

The newsletter of the ECRR should also be a way to share with one another what interesting work is being done, information about seminars or literature. One way of doing this is by writing an article of any project, event or literature you may be acquainted with. Send this article (**maximum of 500 words**) to the secretariat of the ECRR at info@ecrr.org

We will take a close look to the content and if it is coherent with the philosophy of ECRR (ecological river restoration and sharing knowledge) your article will be published with pleasure in the next edition (s) of the ECRR Newsletter.

The secretariat of the ECRR hopes to receive any article on ecological river restoration from any of its members

Free ECRR Network Subscriber

All who are interested in river restoration and sustainable water management are encouraged to join the ECRR. Subscribers receive the ECRR Newsletter about four times a year and are the first to be informed about activities by the ECRR, its members and partner organisations. To register, go to www.ecrr.org.

If you want to unsubscribe for the newsletter, please send an email to info@ecrr.org.



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