

## DAPhNE – Danube Ports Network

DAPhNE aims to facilitate a balanced development of Danube Ports as eco-friendly, well accessible multimodal hubs for the transport system of the region and to turn Danube Ports into buzzing economic centres functioning as catalysts for economic growth and creation of high value jobs. The project will contribute to stepwise close the existing gaps between the 70 Danube ports located along the Danube River that deal with various challenges in the field of port administration and port development.

### RELEVANCE OF THE PROJECT

There are approximately 70 ports along 2,414 km length of Danube and out of these, only those in Germany and Austria display an adequate level of infrastructure, modern facilities and technologies that allow them to provide high-quality transport & logistics services with a substantially reduced negative effect on environment. Ports downstream of Austria are facing a series of drawbacks that prevent the Danube waterway from being used to its full potential as key transport corridor.

### PROJECT MAIN OBJECTIVES

The functioning of Danube Ports at a level equal to their Western European counterparts shall be ensured by creating a project platform for a permanent port network which facilitates a transnational strategy and targeted actions to improve the current situation. DAPhNE will operate this network and produce tangible results in port legislation, port administration, management & development, turning Danube ports into catalyst of sustainable economic growth in the entire Danube region.

Ports from the Upper Danube will cooperate with those from the Central & Lower Danube to support them in improving the regulatory framework, as well as port management and port development practice. Best Practices, guidelines, recommendations and several tools will be developed and disseminated into the port community by establishing a Port Network in order to eliminate the gaps between the stakeholders, both from public and private sectors. Special attention will be paid to the improvement of the eco-performance of the ports in order to contribute to the ecological balance of the river and to improve the situation of the port municipalities

### PROJECT BACKGROUND

The DAPhNE project is co-funded by European Union Funds (ERDF, IPA) under the Danube Transnational Programme and will run for 30 months (January 2017 – June 2019). It will be implemented by a transnational consortium of 16 co-funded organisations and 7 associated strategic partners (public authorities, consulting companies, universities and NGOs) from ten European countries. The project has a total budget of 2,985,406 Euro, out of which ERDF contribution amounts 2, 415,210 Euro & IPA contribution amounts 122,376 Euro.

More information is available at: [www.interreg-danube.eu/daphne](http://www.interreg-danube.eu/daphne)



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