

Danube SKILLS - Increased institutional capacity in Danube navigation by boosting joint transnational competences and skills in education and public development services

Today there is still a lack of transparency and knowledge on how to integrate green Danube Navigation into sustainable transport solutions. Increased institutional and organisational capacity will help equip public service providers with a critical mass of information and support to understand (=mind shift) and use (=modal shift) Danube transport. Besides, there is a shortage of qualified personnel on-board inland vessels and fragmented legal framework governing skills and qualifications in the Danube inland transport sector and hindering recognition of qualifications and mobility of work force.

The integration of Danube navigation into transport logistics solutions is currently often prevented by the lack of skilled manpower as well as lack of information in the inland waterway transport sector for companies (cargo owners). The challenges identified in Danube navigation clarifies the huge discrepancy between inland waterway transport on the Rhine and on the Danube and reinforce the necessity to increase the know-how of responsible administrations for being capable of providing improved information & promotion services to the commercial transport and logistics market operators. The **principal objective** is to increase transnational knowledge and institutional capacity in inland navigation by creating a 'user oriented' service portfolio that covers up the whole Danube region. One main goal is to develop a country-specific one-stop-shop that collects all relevant information of Danube navigation, meaning that there is one contact point per country.

Danube SKILLS will deliver following project results to its addressed stakeholders and users:

Increased institutional capacity in Danube navigation by boosting joint transnational competences and skills in education and public development services:

- Capacities and skills on nautical qualifications: Danube SKILLS will contribute to the adoption in the Danube region of the new European legislation on the recognition of professional qualifications and the common standards;
- Capacities and skills on Danube logistics: Danube SKILLS will assist public institutions responsible for

Danube navigation development in the transnational promotion of Danube logistics by increasing first their competencies and skills in Danube logistics and thus fostering their interactions with their commercial users on how to learn and use Danube transport on a regular basis.

- Transnational policy support such as strategies and action plans for nautical qualifications and Danube transport for fostering institutional (= sector-wide) capacity building.

FH OO contributes to Danube Skills with its expertise and knowledge in the development and implementation of innovative Information Technology and Communication (IT&C) services and interactive learning and teaching materials related to IWT. FHOO, besides 15 partners from 8 Danube riparian countries and 7 Associated Strategic Partners from 7 countries, will support the project with the development of new information instruments and transnational train-the-trainer and promotion activities on IWT. Information tools and training applications from past projects will serve as appropriate basis to further develop them to the highest extent on a transnational basis.



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