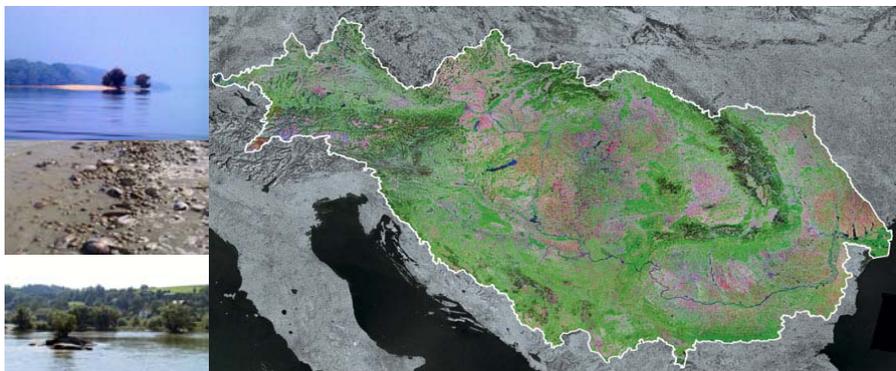


Conclusions

Wetlands Working Group B



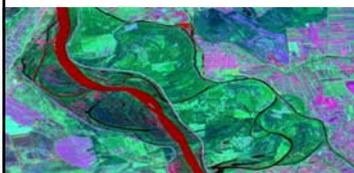
Final Wetlands Workshop of the
UNDP/GEF Danube Regional Project
18-20 April 2007, Tulcea (RO)

A. Zinke & B. Vogel

Questions



- ⇒ Which measures need to be taken in wetlands to improve riverine status?
- ⇒ What key issues need to be included in the DRBM Plan vision?
- ⇒ What are the management objectives?
- ⇒ What are the priorities of functions and measures?



Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures
Birgit Vogel

Which measures need to be taken in wetlands to improve riverine status?



- ⇒ Lateral connectivity: it is important to consider where and how to open/re-connect wetlands.
- ⇒ Sediment dynamics/sediment considerations
- ⇒ Need for feasibility study for specific cases
- ⇒ Water level increase through measures
- ⇒ Before connection future function of wetland has to be defined (flowing water/or standing water condition)

Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures
Birgit Vogel

Which measures need to be taken in wetlands to improve riverine status?



- ⇒ Information and involvement of local authorities in measure design (they know the situation)
- ⇒ For measure selection & implementation involvement of governmental bodies and local stakeholders
- ⇒ Restoration needs are different but no 'common rule'
 - ⇒ mostly relates to flood protection, nutrient reduction from agricultural pollution, change of microclimate

Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures
Birgit Vogel

Which measures need to be taken in wetlands to improve riverine status?

Motivation



- ⇒ Plan flood retention and wetland restoration on basin wide level
- ⇒ Motivation for wetland restoration
 - ⇒ Flood protection
 - ⇒ Habitat restoration
 - ⇒ Pollution control – nutrient retention
- ⇒ Wetlands are multifunctional system and their restoration is a solution for many problems (part of vision)

Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures

Birgit Vogel

Which measures need to be taken in wetlands to improve riverine status?

Wetland & Flood protection



- ⇒ Reconnected wetlands cannot be automatically flood retention areas
- ⇒ Has to be seen on the basin wide scale
- ⇒ Retention areas offer new ecological potential, which has a positive influence on ecological status
- ⇒ Flood retention areas are efficient and needed also **outside** the current dykes
- ⇒ Combination/cross-compliance with ecological objectives
- ⇒ Information on/management of water fluctuations resulting from reservoirs is important on any downstream wetland management

Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures

Birgit Vogel

Vision – lateral connectivity



- ⇒ Wetlands are multifunctional systems and offer multifunctional solutions
 - ⇒ Flood protection
 - ⇒ Nutrient retention
 - ⇒ Habitat/morphology improvement (river & wetland)
 - ⇒ Recreation

- ⇒ Wetland conservation and restoration addresses/solves several pressures in the DRB (flood, nutrient pollution)
 - ⇒ win-win situations

Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures
Birgit Vogel

Vision – lateral connectivity



- ⇒ Two env. objectives: GES and functioning wetland
- ⇒ Maintenance and conservation of existing wetlands to maintain GES
- ⇒ Economic benefits
- ⇒ Social benefits
- ⇒ *No net loss* principle
- ⇒ Hydromorphological and ecological sustainability

Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures
Birgit Vogel

Vision – lateral connectivity



Actions

- ⇒ Basis: 80% of wetlands are lost
- ⇒ Which wetlands should be part of the DRBM Plan?
 - ⇒ Disconnected/deteriorated wetlands for which measures should be taken
- ⇒ Update of inventory including function of wetland
 - ⇒ Selection criteria:
 - ⇒ Which ones can be excluded for restoration?
 - ⇒ Which ones are very valuable?
 - ⇒ Which ones are easy to restore?
 - ⇒ Size/catchment scale
 - ⇒ Wetland use
 - ⇒ Topography

Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures

Birgit Vogel

Vision – lateral connectivity



Proposal: **Management Objective**

- ⇒ WWF study 1999
 - ⇒ map part of Danube Basin Analysis
 - ⇒ Estimation for restorations potentials:
 - 240.000 ha (Danube River)
 - 292.000 for whole investigated area (more than 50% restoration potential)
 - ⇒ 17 wetland sites – 5 green corridor sites
 - ⇒ This could be the management objective
- ⇒ Data collection from countries on national measures
- ⇒ Translation to the basin wide scale
 - ⇒ Illustration of implementation success until 2015

Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures

Birgit Vogel

Vision – lateral connectivity

Proposal: **Management Objective**



- ⇒ Other studies to be considered
 - ⇒ Green corridor
 - ⇒ Study Danube Delta Institute
 - ⇒ WWF study on flood retention areas
- ⇒ Natura 2000 inventory

Wetlands and the DRBM Plan/Joint Programme of Measures

Birgit Vogel

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

