



Preparatory Phase for the pan-European  
Research Infrastructure DANUBIUS-RI  
“The International Centre for advanced  
studies on river-sea systems”

# Communication report

**Deliverable Nr.1.9**



**European  
Commission**

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<b>Project Full title</b>	Preparatory Phase for the pan-European Research Infrastructure DANUBIUS-RI “The International Centre for advanced studies on river-sea systems”
<b>Project Acronym</b>	DANUBIUS-PP
<b>Grant Agreement No.</b>	739562
<b>Coordinator</b>	Dr. Adrian Stanica
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<b>Project website</b>	www.danubius-pp.eu

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<b>Responsible</b>	GEM		
<b>Authors &amp; Institutes Acronyms</b>	<p>(ROMANIA) <b>(National Institute of Marine Geology and Geoecology GeoEcoMar)</b> (Adrian Stanica; Michael Schultz; Dana Vasile; Maria Ionescu)</p> <p>(GREECE) <b>(Hellenic Centre of Marine Research HCMR)</b> (Vangelis Papathanassiou)</p>		
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	<b>Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (RE)</b>	
	<b>Confidential, only for members of the consortium (CO)</b>	



## **Executive summary / abstract**

Communication within the consortium is done mainly via e-mails but also VoIP technology (e.g. videoconference) which are provided free of charge. After each communication/conversation, the meeting chair (the person who convened the meeting) drafts minutes to brief all partners on the content and outcomes. This communication report summarizes all the minutes and correspondence carried within the consortium from the beginning of the project December 1st, 2016 until the end of month 2. It also comprises details about the Kick off Meeting and the first Steering Committee Meeting held in Bucharest on December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

## D1.5. Communication Report

- Kick-off meeting – the first meeting (Kick off) of the General Assembly took place in Bucharest, Romania, on 12-13 December, 2016. 60 representatives of the 29 partners of the consortium were present. All the arrangements made for the meeting (transportation, accomodation, venue etc) were communicated via email to all the participants prior to the event. Minutes were recorded and communicated to the EC via H2020 Participant Portal.
- Consortium Agreement has been sent to all partners since December 2016 but is under discussion among partners. It is based on the structure of DESCAs Model. There have been 6 partners that suggested changes in the draft proposed by the Coordinator. A part of these had been taken into account. It is estimated that it will be signed by all the partners before 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2017.
- An update was given on recent discussions on collaboration with EU initiatives in the Black Sea region and the Mekong region of South-East Asia. DANUBIUS-RI's presence on the ESFRI 2016 roadmap had been noted by the unit in EC DG R&I that was starting development of a strategic R&I cooperation initiative between the EU and ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), with a focus on the Mekong. With engagement encouraged by the EC, DANUBIUS-RI participated in meetings in Brussels (January 2016, Jos Brils/Adrian Stanica), Hanoi (May 2016, Jos Brils), Changsha (October 2016, Manuela Sidoroff) and Ruse (December 2016, Adrian Stanica). At these meetings useful contacts were made with key Asian personnel, including the new CEO of the Mekong River Commission (MRC). Resulting from these meetings there is considerable enthusiasm for DANUBIUS-Mekong collaboration, although the specifics have yet to be agreed. There is a proposal for a H2020 Coordination and Support Action (CSA) call to collate and review state-of-the-art in Mekong science, policy and management and explore the possible role of DANUBIUS-RI.
- During the Kick-off Meeting in Bucharest, december 2016, the coordinators of WP2, 5 and 6 decided to meet and plan how to coordinate activities. As a result, the coordinators of WP2, 5 and 6 met in Hamburg on January 27, 2017. During the meeting a common working strategy was established. A questionnaire grouping major issues from these WPs will be built and a draft should be discussed during the SCM meeting in Stirling.
- The table introducing the scientific case study of DANUBIUS-RI will be sent for add-ins and/or supplementary feedback – first to the entire consortium, as a basis for further discussions. The GA approved the provisional schedule, recommended by the Steering Committee, for future meetings of the GA and other DANUBIUS-PP advisory groups and committees: GA2 in Venice (May 2017) , GA3 in Germany, Berlin (December 2017) , GA4 in Greece, Kavala (May 2018), GA5 in Ireland, Cork (November 2018), GA6 in Romania (May 2019), GA7 in Romania or Brussels (November 2019). The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held in Stirling, UK in March 2017.



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