

**The 3<sup>RD</sup> ASEM Sustainable Development Seminar on  
Water Management – Fostering Prosperity and Stability Through  
(Inter)Regional Cooperation**

- 2-3 June 2014, Tulcea, Romania -

**Tentative Program**

<b>Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2014</b>	
	<p>Arrival of participants</p> <p>Transfer București – Tulcea (by coach, provided by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania)</p>
<b>Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2014</b>	
08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-10:30	<p><b>Welcoming speech of the Tulcea county authorities (or Danube Delta Governor)</b></p> <p><b>Opening Session – “Water and Fostering Prosperity and Stability Through (Inter)Regional Cooperation”</b></p> <p><b>Opening speech</b> Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania (chair)</p> <p><b>Speeches</b> High level representatives (EU, HUNGARY, VIETNAM, BULGARIA, LAO PDR)</p>
10:30-10:45	Coffee break
10:45- 12.30	<p><b>Session 2 - Water management and environmental risks such as floods and droughts</b></p> <p><i>Management of flood and drought is a key challenge in many areas of the world. It is also a particular challenge for Danube and Mekong river basins. Finding sustainable solutions to flood and drought risks is important for the socio-economic development of regions.</i></p> <p><i>The session will share expertise on flood and drought management and aim at identifying common areas of concrete cooperation between both regions on these issues.</i></p> <p><b>Keynote speaker</b> - Asian representative</p> <p>3-4 Presentations (<b>max. 15 min each</b>)</p> <p>Flood Risk Management in Large River Basins-living with floods (<b>speaker from EU MS</b>)</p> <p>Managing water scarcity and mitigating Droughts – new challenge of the future cooperation (<b>speaker from EU MS</b>)</p>

	<p>Water Management practices for adaptation to Climate Changes (<b>speaker from Asia</b>)</p> <p>Managing the water environmental risks for a better river quality (<b>speaker from Asia</b>)</p> <p><b>Q &amp; A (30 min.)</b></p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14.00-15.30	<p><b>Session 3 – Models of regional cooperation around water</b></p> <p><i>Water is essential for life, for food and energy production, social and economic stability, and for ensuring sustainable ecosystems. Sustainable water management to support economic and social development while ensuring environmental protection is, therefore, the challenge we face.</i></p> <p><i>Today, water management requires integrated water resources management and comprehensive responses that consider water as a cross cutting issue. Integrated water management needs regional cooperation and building partnerships at the local, national and regional levels.</i></p> <p><i>River basins go beyond administrative borders; hence challenges of water pollution, flood risks or water scarcity are of regional nature and require coordinated solutions.</i></p> <p><i>The session aims at sharing best practices and identifying ways to foster the upstream and downstream cooperation.</i></p> <p><b>Keynote speaker</b> - European representative (<b>DG ENV or EU MS</b>)</p> <p>3-4 Presentations (<b>max. 15 min each</b>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- River Basin Cooperation for achieving water quality (<b>speaker from Asia</b>)</li> <li>- Coordination of measures and cooperation for water management and environmental protection within a river basin (<b>speaker from Asia – Mekong River Commission</b>)</li> <li>- Integrated Water Management for the Protection of biodiversity, wetlands and protected areas. The Danube Delta example (<b>speaker from EU MS</b>)</li> <li>- EU Danube Strategy (EUSDR) cooperation for sustainable water management across borders (<b>speaker from EUSDR MS</b>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Q &amp; A (30 min.)</b></p>
15:30-15:45	Coffee break
15.45-17:30	<p><b>Session 4 – Aspects of interconnectivity: Energy, navigation and tourism</b></p> <p><i>Rivers play a role on energy production and navigation. These uses require ensuring, at the same time, that ecological and hydro-morphological conditions of the environment are not put into risk.</i></p> <p><i>EU environmental policies have focused efforts to ensure that use of water in rivers encompasses adequate measures for environmental protection and prevention of adverse effects.</i></p> <p><i>The session aims at sharing experiences and practices between EU and Asia.</i></p> <p><b>Keynote speaker</b> - Asian representative</p>

	<p>4 Presentations (<b>max. 15 min each</b>)</p> <p>Environmental protection requirements when defining navigation in rivers – European experience (<b>speaker from EU MS or DG ENV</b>)</p> <p>Hydropower experience aligned with EU environmental policies/ Greening hydropower and wise river management (<b>speaker from EU MS</b>)</p> <p>Experience from Asian countries (<b>speaker from Asia</b>)</p> <p>Present and future challenges in Asia (<b>speaker from Asia</b>)</p> <p>Transnational touristic and cultural routes around rivers (<b>speaker from EU MS</b>)</p> <p><b>Q &amp; A (30 min.)</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2014</b></p>	
<p>09:00-10:00</p>	<p><b>The session will take place on a ship sailing to Danube Delta (tbc).</b></p> <p><b>Session 5 – Europe-Asia Dialogue on water management policies – overview of possible future common actions</b></p> <p><i>Water resource management, water security and environmental conservation and protection is the key challenge for the future of the Asian region as well as Europe. The previous sessions have clearly presented key areas and relevant potential for exchange of experience and experts between the two regions.</i></p> <p><i>This session will explore how to make best use of experience, existing frameworks of dialogue and how to enhance cooperation of all parties in both regions. Potential future formats of cooperation and dialogue can be :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Fostering bi-regional cooperation by <u>one or more thematic networks of experts/virtual experts groups</u></i></li> <li>- <i><u>Virtual discussion group of experts on water, food and energy nexus, a Danube -Mekong cooperation contribution to future water summits</u></i></li> </ul> <p><b>Keynote speaker</b> - European representative</p> <p>3 Presentations (<b>max. 15 min each</b>) on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Existing frameworks of dialogue between Europe and Asia:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ASEM</li> <li>- EU-ASEAN cooperation</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>2. Experiences on water management in Asia: A policy perspective (<b>speaker from Asia</b>)</b></li> <li><b>3. European Union Water Initiative for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia – sharing lessons learned of a case study on cooperation around water (<b>speaker from EU MS</b>)</b></li> </ol> <p><b>Q &amp; A (30 min.)</b></p>

10:00 -10:30	<p><b>Concluding remarks by the Chair.</b></p> <p><b>Adoption of a Chair's Statement</b></p>
11.00 – 17.00	<p><b>Field trip to Danube Delta</b> – visiting sites of concrete integrated projects (e.g. ecotourism, research, sustainable aquaculture, preservation of ecosystems)</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2014</b></p>	
	<p>Departure of participants</p> <p>Transfer Tulcea - București (by coach, provided by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania)</p>