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## Danube:Future

is a unique combination of regional, national and supra-national initiatives in interdisciplinary sustainability research with training and capacity building. It contributes to the sustainable development of the Danube River Basin (DRB) with particular focus on the contribution of the humanities.

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### We are looking for:

- PhD students and Junior Post-Docs with an interest in Interdisciplinary Research for Sustainability
- Information about your sustainability-related publication or project to include it into the DRB\_SUST knowledge database
- Ideas for partnerships for new research projects

### Our offers:

- Access to the network of DRC and AARC members
- International visibility for your research via our WIKI
- Matchmaking of partners for projects
- Assistance with interdisciplinary communication

### 2013 DIAnet International School proceedings

Download site:  
[www.openstarts.units.it/dspace/handle/10077/9292](http://www.openstarts.units.it/dspace/handle/10077/9292)



Danube:Future targets all 19 countries in the Danube catchment. The project was endorsed as joint activity by the Danube Rectors' Conference and the Alps-Adriatic Rectors' Conference, which link 82 universities in the region, involving the largest possible institutional knowledge-producing and disseminating group of organizational actors.



[www.danubefuture.eu](http://www.danubefuture.eu)

[info@danubefuture.eu](mailto:info@danubefuture.eu)

### Core Partners:

Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt

University of Trieste

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna

University of Novi Sad

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# Danube: Future

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**A sustainable future for the Danube River Basin as a challenge for the interdisciplinary humanities**

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Flagship project of Priority Area 7 of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

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## CORE ACTIVITIES

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How can the sustainability research activities of the Danube River Basin countries profit from one another?

Literatures in many languages and from many disciplines need to be brought to the attention of a community in the making. Bi-, tri- and multilateral capacity building and research projects exist. Danube:Future shall establish a knowledge base to which capacity building and research projects are invited to contribute, increasing their visibility and accessibility. The knowledge base will be available open access, ensuring that the output of the Danube:Future program can be utilized by all interested organizations, institutions and initiatives.

Outcomes:

- Wiki
- Knowledge base
- Decision support tools



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## RESEARCH

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The DRB has a troubled political and environmental history. Environmental problems abound and impede economic growth and sustainable development. Interdisciplinary approaches taking into account the long-term legacies of this troubled history with a strong focus on the humanities and social sciences.

The number of potential topics is huge. To mention just a few potential contributions, the evolution of transportation networks and their future improvement, ways to deal with the legacies of toxic sediments and cultivation histories could be important. Likewise, the effects of nationalism and wars on present societies and future development are of great importance for sustainable development.

The project proposals developed during the first DIAnet International School demonstrated the possible scope. They ranged from sustainable resource use via bio-bricks, green and integrated transport by enhancing moto-rail train and car-trains for tourism, water quality improvement and recreation with floating islands, tourism and cultural heritage by restoration of inland waterways and the development of Decision Support Systems monitoring and improving wellbeing.

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## CAPACITY BUILDING

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The DIAnet international schools offer a unique learning environment. Young researchers from all DRC and AARC universities interested in the sustainable development of the Danube River Basin with particular emphasis on the roles of natural and cultural heritage are trained to apply for funding in competitive programs in the wide field of inter- and transdisciplinary sustainability studies.

The thematic focus of capacity building projects takes existing initiatives and frameworks dealing with sustainable development research into account.

In the future, we will develop PhD scholarships, PhD-Schools, trainings for museums and cultural heritage professionals, trainings for conservation offices and institutions, and institutional capacity building for green jobs – Start-up – trainings, regional institutions (e.g. Slow Food coop.), and the strengthening of regional networks/NGOs.



The 2014 edition deals with “The role of natural heritage for the sustainable development of the Danube Region”. It is held in Gorizia (Italy), from March 22<sup>nd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> 2014.