

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR DANUBE RESEARCH



The 40th IAD Conference

*The Danube and Black Sea
Region – Unique Environment
and Human Well Being Under
Conditions of Global Changes*

17-20 June 2014
SOFIA, BULGARIA



Organised by:

BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

**INSTITUTE OF BIODIVERSITY AND
ECOSYSTEM RESEARCH - BAS**

GENERAL SECRETARIAT IAD

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Conference Overview

The Danube River is the second largest river in Europe and has a significant impact on the Black Sea. From source to mouth, it passes through 10 countries, while 19 countries share the Danube River Basin (DRB), which makes it the world's most international river basin.

The DRB is well known for its diverse environment and unique biodiversity including the highly valuable sturgeon species. In the last century however, it has suffered continuous ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss as a result of different impacts such as hydro-morphological changes, climate extremes (e.g. droughts or flood events), eutrophication, acidification and invasive alien species. All of the above are seen as global alterations with far-reaching effects.

Therefore, transboundary cooperation in scientific research and river basin management is crucial for the sustainable development in the Danube and Black Sea region. An important step in this direction is the adoption of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region which focuses on cooperation and aims at meeting the ecological and socio-economic needs of the Danube countries.

The IAD was founded in 1956 with the goal of promoting and coordinating activities in the fields of limnology, water management, water protection and sustainable development in the Danube River basin. So far twelve countries are members of IAD. Since 1998 IAD has been observing and participating actively in the various expert groups of the International

Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR). IAD was also actively involved in the development of the DRB Management Plan, the Joint Statement for Navigation, the draft Guidelines for Hydropower in the Danube Region, the Sturgeon Action Plan and the Sturgeon 2020 Program.

The 40th Anniversary IAD Conference will provide a forum for the presentation of long-term multidisciplinary research activities and discussions on various topics highlighting the application of ecosystem and sustainable development approaches, which are essential in order to strike a balance between the economic development and protection of the unique environment in the Danube River Basin.

Scientific Topics

1. Biodiversity – freshwater, riparian and floodplain flora and fauna, conservation, soil diversity and protection
2. Protection and rehabilitation of Danube sturgeons
3. Ecosystem services, wetlands, sustainable use of biological resources
4. Climate change, habitat change, hydromorphology
5. Invasive alien species – early warning, priority species and pathways, risk assessment and management
6. Water quality elements, ecological status, emerging pollutants, microbiology, ecotoxicology, biomonitoring and saprobic systems
7. Ecological functions and integrated basin management of lotic and lentic ecosystems
8. Riparian landscapes, landuse, flood risk assessment, hydrological modelling and restoration
9. Sustainable development and public participation in the Danube and Black Sea region.

Important Information

The official language of the conference will be English. Authors are invited to submit papers related mainly to **the Danube River basin, including its importance for the Black Sea region**. The scientific presentations will be oral or poster and should relate to one or more of the scientific topics given above. Each presentation should indicate the most appropriate topic.

All contributions will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee reserves the right to change the form of presentation (oral/ poster) in case of thematic consideration or timing.

Publications

Short abstracts must be submitted at the time of registration. Abstracts accepted for presentation will be published in a **Book of Abstracts** (in electronic format). The authors are encouraged to submit extended abstracts for publishing in a **Book of Conference Proceedings** (in printed format). Additionally, a **Special Issue** is planned and more details will be announced later. All instructions for publishing will be available at the conference website www.iad40.org. Only manuscripts prepared according to the instructions, revised (if necessary) according to the review and duly submitted by the deadline will be published.

Deadlines

Early registration **15 November, 2013**
 Final registration **31 March, 2014**
 Early payment **15 January, 2014**
 Late payment **31 March, 2014**

Short abstract submission **15 November, 2013**
 Extended Abstract submission **15 January, 2014**
 Reviewing of Extended Abstracts **28 February, 2014**
 Revised extended abstract submission **31 March, 2014**

Registration

The registration form can be downloaded from the conference website www.iad40.org. Please, send your filled form to: iad40org@iber.bas.bg

Abstract Submission

Short and extended abstracts prepared according to the instructions for publishing (available at www.iad40.org) should be sent to: iad40ms@iber.bas.bg.

Information about accommodation and travel will be available soon at the conference website.

Registration Fees

All participants must pay registration fee prior to arrival at the conference. Late registration at the registration desk during the conference will not be possible.

Registration fee includes: attendance to the scientific sessions, conference material with final program, CD with Book of Abstracts, Book of Conference Proceedings, gala dinner, coffee breaks.

Registration Fees (in Euro)	Early payment (until 15 Jan 2014)	Late payment (until 31 Mar 2014)
IAD members	90	110
Non-members	120	140
IAD students	50	80
Other students	80	110
Accompanying persons	80	100
Excursion	45	45

Bank transfer details are available at www.iad40.org.

Contacts:

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 For submission of abstracts and extended abstracts.



Photos: T. Trichkova, R. Blažek