NATIONAL ACTION PLAN
DANUBE NAVIGATION
NAP
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Maintain and improve waterway infrastructure</strong></td>
<td>Further develop Danube ports into multimodal logistics centres</td>
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<td><strong>Implement and further develop river information services (RIS) on the Danube</strong></td>
<td>Modernize the Austrian fleet</td>
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<td><strong>Provide supporting resources for the modernization of Danube navigation</strong></td>
<td>Strengthen European inland navigation</td>
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<td><strong>Minimize lock closing times due to revision works</strong></td>
<td>Push for the modernization of ports and transhipment sites</td>
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<td><strong>Support an integrative improvement of fairway conditions on the entire Danube</strong></td>
<td>Support the further development of South-Eastern European Danube ports</td>
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<td><strong>Ensure adequate waterway maintenance and management</strong></td>
<td>Support the implementation of RIS</td>
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<td><strong>Stimulate industrial settlements along the Austrian Danube</strong></td>
<td>Support the development of scheduled container liner services and new multimodal transport services</td>
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<td>Push innovative plans in the inland navigation sector</td>
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<td><strong>Strengthen national lobbying activities</strong></td>
<td>Improve framework conditions for investment in the fleet</td>
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<td><strong>Introduce Danube navigation to training and education</strong></td>
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<td>Fund the development of scheduled container liner services and new multimodal transport services</td>
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<td><strong>Fund an environmentally friendly and market orientated Austrian fleet</strong></td>
<td>Contribute to the harmonization of legislative and institutional framework conditions</td>
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<td><strong>Play an active role in the development of the Pan-European corridor VII</strong></td>
<td>Improve the image of European inland navigation</td>
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<td><strong>Provide logistics advice in the field of Danube navigation</strong></td>
<td>Fund an innovative use of technology in Danube navigation</td>
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<td><strong>Support the introduction of scheduled liner services on the Danube</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Construct an information and training centre at the port of Enns</strong></td>
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**Notes:**
- **INFRASTRUCTURE:** Minimize non-essential dressage for commercial purposes.
- **PORTS:** Further develop technologies relevant to RIS for official and commercial use.
- **FLAET:** Increase the safety of inland navigation.
- **DEFINITION & GOALS:** Improve the availability of education.
- **IMAGES & PROFILES:** Create a national platform for Danube navigation public relations work.
- **NORTH MARKETS:** Provide web-based facts and figures about Danube navigation.
- **GRANTS:** Introduce Danube navigation to training and education.
- **INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES:** Strengthen national lobbying activities.
WATERWAY
A RELIABLE INFRASTRUCTURE IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

The basis for the stronger use of inland navigation is a reliable infrastructure. Through the NAP some improvements have already been achieved: optimisation of locks, faster waterway maintenance and better information for skippers by using modern measuring systems. For Vösendorf River Engineering Project on the Danube in the east of Vienna is of special importance for the NAP.

Because it involves both improvements for navigation on the Danube and ecological improvements, the project combines a private and an ecological objective. After some delays implementation work will begin soon in the years to come. Moreover, future challenges have also been taken into account: together with international experts Vösendorf is examining the effects of climate change on inland navigation.

The Austrian inland navigation information system DonauNet has already in its fifth year of operation. It is continuously being enhanced and makes inland navigation safer and more innovative. Electronic navigational charts, tracking & tracing, lock management and online fairway information are just some of the main elements. The cross-border use of river information services and the international exchange of traffic data in Europe are in preparation, thereby simplifying the integration of inland navigation into multimodal transport chains and the cooperation with rail and road.

RIVER INFORMATION SERVICES
MODERNISATION THROUGH TELEMATICS

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INNOVATION
AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND FLEET

As a result of research projects and practical testing, new technologies are being developed to make inland navigation even more environmentally sound. Future ship engines powered by liquid gas and other advanced technologies in order to reduce emissions are under development. Knowledge is gathered and distributed through consultation and an “innovation database”. Moreover, a special funding programme will support companies to invest in new technologies.

KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS
SPREADING THE WORD ABOUT THE DANUBE

Several initiatives have been instigated to raise awareness of the Danube as an ecosystem and waterway. Examples include: the floating exhibition “Donau on Tour”, an information centre to be opened in 2011 at the port of Enns, an e-learning platform on inland navigation and logistics (www.ines-danube.info) and close cooperation with universities and schools. Online directories on Danube navigation companies (www.blue-pages.at) as well as annual reports on Danube navigation offer information for the logistics and transport sector and contribute to more transparency.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
TEN COUNTRIES – ONE DANUBE

National activities are not the answer to challenges concerning the international Danube river. Austria has initiated common projects in the Danube region dealing with key topics such as sustainable river engineering, waterway management, education, information systems and waste management. In this regard, Austria has certainly taken a pioneering role and also wants the development of Danube navigation to become a stronger topic in the other Danube riparian countries.
**STRNGTHENING DANUBE NAVIGATION**

**Motivation:**

The advantages of Danube navigation

Environmental friendly & safe

Transportation of goods by inland navigation causes 70% less CO₂ emissions than transportation by road. Furthermore, inland navigation is a safer mode of transport.

Relieving congestion on road and rail

Each year around 40 million tons of goods are carried on the Austrian section of the Danube – causing neither noise nor congestion. This corresponds to the equivalent of a 100 kilometers long convoy of trucks driving daily from Vienna to Linz. Plus: the Danube still has substantial free capacity.

Low costs for infrastructure

The Danube offers a natural infrastructure for inland navigation. Investment costs are therefore low and no further use of land is required.

Cost-effective mode of transport

Ships have the capacity to carry huge quantities of goods with a very low energy consumption and little manpower. Subsequently Austrian businesses benefit from worldwide competitive transport tariffs.

**National Action Plan for Danube Navigation**

For Danube Navigation

The Danube Waterway is an integral part of the Austrian transport system and the aim is to increase the use of the Danube for transportation. Therefore the European Union is currently implementing an action programme for inland waterway transport (NAFP) and Austria’s contribution to this is the “National Action Plan for Danube Navigation” (NAFP). This defines 40 measures and is part of the government programme since 2007. Thus the NAFP forms an integral part of the national transport policy.

Measures are currently being undertaken in all key areas, from infrastructure and ports, the fleet and training to international cooperation. Recent years have seen a drive to make inland navigation more innovative, reliable and even more environmentally sound. Via Donau and the Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology are working together on the implementation of the National Action Plan for Danube Navigation.
the national action Plan and detailed progress reports online:
www.bmvit.gv.at/verkehr/schifffahrt/binnen/aut/nap.html
www.donauschifffahrt.info
the european action Programme
naiaDes online:
www.naiades.info

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