

AQUACROSS results thus can promote successful implementation of river-floodplain restoration. The proposed EBM approach supports the joint selection of restoration sites including prioritisation of protected areas (HBD), and site selection for the next River Basin Management Plans (WFD) or Flood Management Plans (FD).

With this, AQUACROSS links available multi-disciplinary information in an innovative way and creates a basis for a more integrated management and restoration planning of river-floodplain systems in the Danube River Basin, in line with the principles of EBM.

News and Notes

The most complete inventory of water plants along the Danube's entire course and of related water bodies in the Basin

An attractive book for scientists as well as common readers interested in the aquatic plant life recorded in the «Most international Large River of the World».

This book covers the topic of «Aquatic Macrophytes» in the Danube River, starting at the source-rivers in the Black Forest of Germany and leading the interested reader directly along the whole river course, to where it ends in the channels of the Danube Delta. Also covered are other rivers and human-made canals in the river basin, as well as some related topics with relevance to aquatic plant life, e.g. contributions from Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

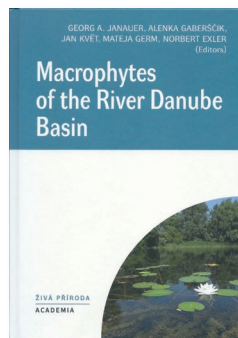
«Macrophytes of the River Danube Basin» has recently been published by ACADEMIA (Prague), with the support of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. The results reported in this book are based on the support of the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (Vienna, AT), the Austrian Committee of IAD (International Association for Danube Research), the Bavarian Government/Niederbayern, and the Provincial Authority for Environmental Protection and the Governmental Presidency of Baden-Württemberg.

Important contributions were provided by the Slovenian team, which took care of the first layout-structuring activities and the formidable graphic work on maps by Mateja Rihtaršič. Neither should one forget the outstanding support provided by regional and local organisations in the member countries that facilitated the essential work of the teams during the field campaigns a priori. Finally, more than 50 persons had been involved in different work phases of the whole project and 34 authors had prepared the 21 contributions of this book.

The Danube is one of the «Large Rivers of the World», ranking No.18 by length worldwide, and only second to the Volga River in Europe. The Danube is also the most 'international' river, as its basin reaches into 16 national states, and includes very small areas in another three countries (source: ICPDR maps).

References

- Funk, A., Martínez-López, J., Bagstad, K.J., Pletterbauer, F., Trauner, D., Bagstad, K.J., Balbi, S., Magrach, A., Villa, F. & Hein, T. Identification of conservation and restoration priority areas in the Danube River. *Science of the Total Environment*. (accepted with minor revisions).
- Gómez, C.M., Jähnig, S., Langhans, S.D., Domisch, S., Hermoso, V., Piet, G., Martínez-López, J., Reichert, P., Schuwirth, N., Hein, T., Pletterbauer, F., Funk, A., Nogueira, A., Lillebo, A.I., Daam, M., Teixeira, H., Robinson, L., Culhane, F., Schlüter, M., Martin, R., Iglesias-Campos, A., Barbosa, A.L. & Arévalo-Torres, J. (2016). Developing the AQUACROSS Assessment Framework. Deliverable 3.2, AQUACROSS, European Union's Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Grant Agreement No. 642317.



Starting with earlier work of the Expert Group Macrophytes of IAD, and following a thorough Pilot Study period of two years, the main project lasted for five years until all reports had been delivered to the supporting authorities.

Regarding its content this book is quite unique, presenting a scale of detail never achieved previously in the documentation of the aquatic vegetation recorded in a large river. During the surveys along the whole length of the Danube, and with only a few exceptions (e.g. inaccessible reaches in the source-rivers), the 2850 kilometres in the main channel, and additional lengths in main river branches, were sampled for macrophytes, as well as for environmental parameters in the river and its corridor. Based on this dataset the individual contributions were composed to highlight different aspects of interest as seen by the authors of each chapter.

The source streams reflect the change in macrophyte composition from mountains, in which they start, towards the adjacent lowlands, where they merge to create the Danube. Its Upper, Middle and Lower Reach, and the Delta, clearly show the diverse character in macrophyte species composition along the whole Danube. This is also true for water bodies in other parts of the basin, which include e.g. karst-rivers, canal systems, and some types of impoundments, too. One contribution also deals with carnivorous aquatic plants, cultivated and studied in the Czech Republic.

This book also contains a complete species list of all macrophytes recorded during the surveys. Individual chapters show the plant names in the respective national language, too.

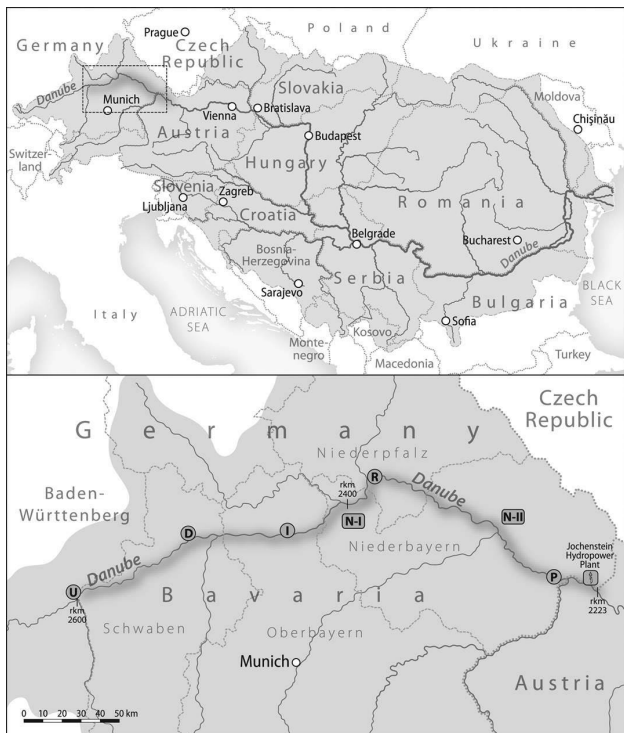


Figure 1. Overview map of the Danube catchment (top), indicating the Bavarian reach (rectangle); Detail map of the Bavarian Danube (bottom, © M. Rihtaršič, 2018).

The authors, the editors and ACADEMIA Publishing House look forward to a friendly reception of this book,



Figure 2. Dense and species-rich aquatic plant growth in a long and narrow channel of the Danube Delta (© G. A. Janauer, 2012)

which should contribute not only to an increase in scientific knowledge, but may also be a source of information for governmental agencies or stakeholders responsible for the Danube River, as well as for individual readers with interest in aquatic plant life in one of the large rivers in Europe.

Book Reference: Janauer, G.A., Gaberščik, A., Květ, J., Germ, M., Exler, N. (Eds.) 2018. *Macrophytes of the River Danube Basin*. ACADEMIA, Praha. ISBN 978-80-200-2743-6.

Address: ACADEMIA Publishing House, Václavské náměstí 32, Praha 1, CZ
Book orders from abroad address to:

Head of the Academia Bookstore, Prague, Ms. Šarka Hakenová: hakenova@academia.cz

The Editors

Joint ESENIAS and DIAS Scientific Conference

The Joint ESENIAS and DIAS Scientific Conference entitled «Management and sharing of IAS data to support knowledge-based decision making at regional level» was held on 26–28 September 2018, in Bucharest, Romania. It was organised by the Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (UB), Faculty of Biology, and the Botanic Garden «Dimitrie Brandza» of the UB, ESENIAS, and DIAS, in collaboration with the IBER-BAS. The conference covered the following topics:

- 1) Invasive alien species traits and trends;
- 2) Vectors and pathways for IAS introductions;

- 3) The Danube River as invasive alien species corridor;
- 4) Invasive alien species impact;
- 5) Invasive alien species prevention and management;
- 6) Management sharing IAS data.

The Danube Region Invasive Alien Species Network (DIAS) was presented in the conference introductory keynote lecture with its mission, recent activities and achievements. This lecture focused also on the DIAS data sources, including recent projects, types of data collected and future



Figure 1. Group photo of the participants of the Joint ESENIAS and DIAS Scientific Conference