Interreg Danube Region

Co-funded by the European Union

InnoWATCCH

Innovative Water Retention for Climate Change Mitigation, Sustainable Agriculture and Flood Protection

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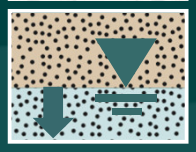
Background

Climate change induces changes in precipitation patterns, with trends towards fewer but more intensive precipitation events (frequent heavy rain) and higher evapotranspiration. This leads to increased flooding and more severe droughts: with the consequence of drier soils and decreased groundwater recharge.



Goals

This project addresses water scarcity, declining water quality, flood protection challenges, and water management approaches. The focus is on central Europe, on the middle and lower sections of the Danube and Sava rivers. Among others, we will investigate **paleochannels** for potential water storage, aimed at replenishing groundwater resources.

Objectives

Understanding groundwater-surface water interactions
Tailored **managed aquifer recharge** (MAR) methods
Feasibility studies on subsurface storage capacities and pilot actions; establishment of monitoring systems
Policy development and stakeholder engagement
Environmental impact analysis and capacity building

This project is supported by the Interreg Danube Region Programme, co-funded by the European Union.

Project budget	*Interreg funds*	*Project duration*
€ 2,014,105	€ 1,611,284	01.04.2025-31.03.2028

Priority 2: A greener, low-carbon Danube Region Green

2.3: Sustainable, integrated, transnational water and sediment management in the Danube River Basin ensuring good quality and quantity of waters and sediment balance

General Directorate of Water Management — Hungary — *Lead Partner*
GEOGOLD KÁRPÁTIA — Hungary
Technical University of Munich — Germany
HGI — Croatia
Bulgaria
Research and Development Institute for Wildlife and Mountain Resources — Romania
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