

DANUBE KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

The EU has committed itself to pursue the goal of shifting transport to less energy-intensive, cleaner and safer transport modes, decision which made inland waterway transport an obvious choice and has also brought forth its underlying problems in terms of infrastructure, connections of transport routes and issues concerning professional competencies of nautical, port and logistics personnel.



To support these efforts eighteen specialized institutions from eight Danube riparian countries joined into one transnational working team within the HINT project and have set Danube Knowledge Network, (<http://www.hintproject.net/getpage.php?page=danube-knowledge-network>) a cooperation platform bringing together around 250 partners representing education and training institutions, authorities and stakeholders from the business sector such as shipping companies, logistics service providers, ports, barge and port operators.



Its main goal is to provide a dynamic framework for transnational cooperation between its members in order to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and transfer of best practices and to ultimately offer a comprehensive overview of the inland waterway transport sector in the Danube region. DKN not only introduces its members to each other but also provides further networking possibilities between the education system and the labour market, between public and private companies, between relevant river organisations and policy makers by use of the dedicated DKN Forum News section of the website

<http://www.hintproject.net/blog.php?blogid=1> and by joining the DKN group created on http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=5160587&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr.

Responsible persons in each Hint country offer guidance and additional information in national language on topics posted for discussion, access to project documents, national and international events, calendar of project workshops, collect from DKN members appropriate inputs on how they want to be supported in their activity or feedback on issues of interest and proposals for further improvement of the platform and communication between its members.

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