

# Fighting Accidental Pollution in the Danube River Basin

**ICPDR** IKSD  
International Commission  
for the Protection  
of the Danube River  
Internationale Kommission  
zum Schutz der Donau



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# Danube River Basin

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Large variety of natural factors and socio-economic conditions





# Role of the ICPDR



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**ICPDR**: platform for **transboundary cooperation** on water management

Significant **knowledge gap** on potential sources



**Accidental pollution**

# Sad examples from the basin

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**Baia Mare** gold mine (RO, 2000):  
**cyanide** spill polluting the  
Szamos and Tisza Rivers



Severe acute toxicity, 95% of living organism were killed, water supply problems, chronic toxicity via heavy metals

**Ajka** alumina plant (HU, 2010):  
**red mud** spill reaching surrounding  
land, agglomerations and creek



Acute harm via alkalinity (chemical burning), 10 victims, severe impacts on human health, livestock, soil, properties and infrastructure

- **Mandate** (DRPC): minimise **risk** and **consequences** of accidental pollution events
- **Platform**: Accident Prevention and Control Expert Group (**APC EG**)

## Accident prevention



## Early warning



# Features & activities

- Facilitate thematic **discussions**
- Organise **trainings** and implement **projects**
- **Cooperation** with other organisations

## PLATFORM FOR EXCHANGE

## EXPERTISE & TOOLS

- Elaborate a **catalogue** of hazardous sites
- **Prioritize** industrial sectors
- Promote **checklists** and preventive **measures**
- Operate an accident **emergency warning** system
- Organise warning **trainings** and **tests**

- **Awareness raising** to accidental pollution
- Provide reports, online maps for the **public**
- Give **orientation** for donors and stakeholders

## TRANSPARENCY

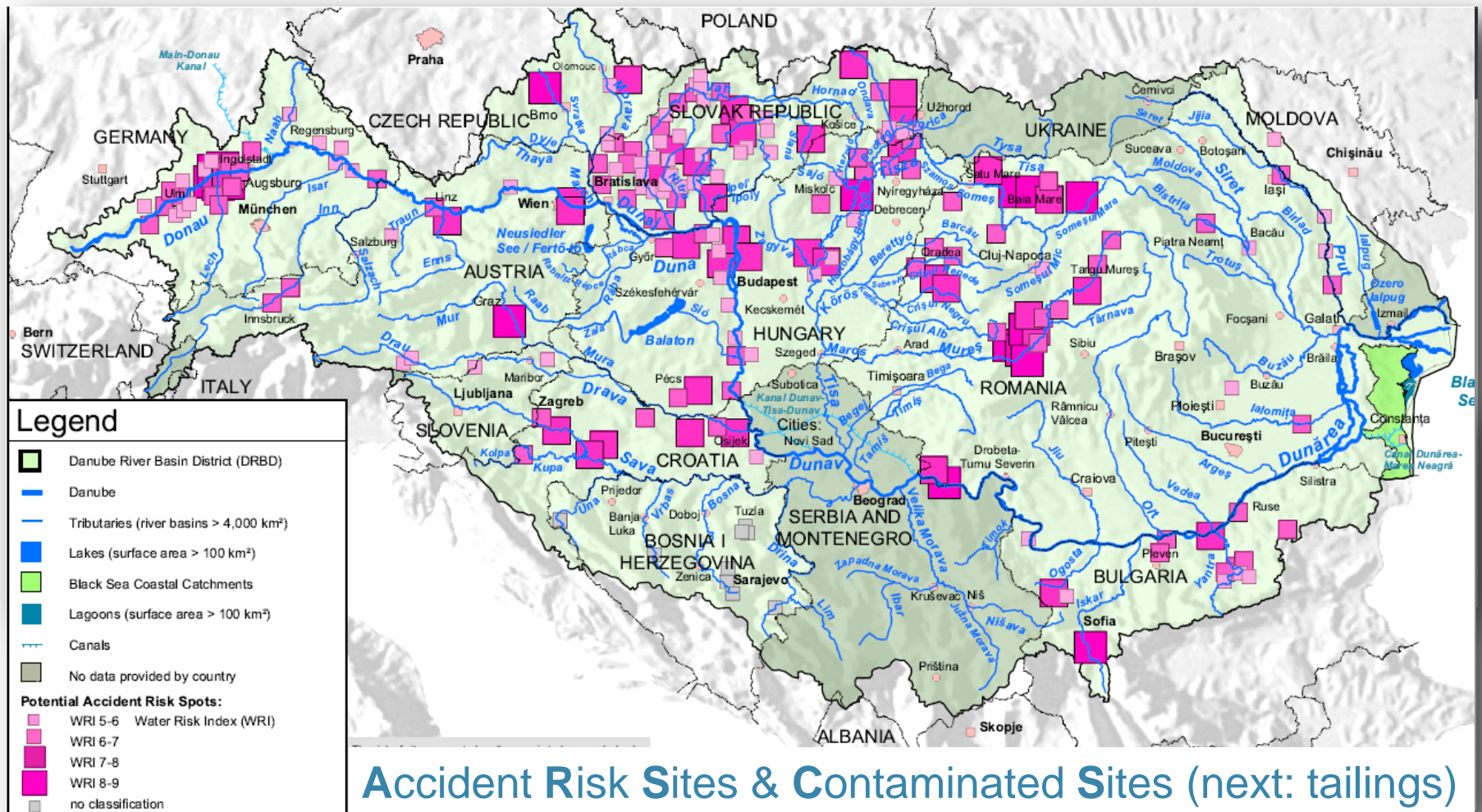


# Tools for water management

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# Conclusions

- **Platform** for cooperation on accidental pollution related issues
- **Tools** for risk mitigation and early warning
- **Awareness** raising and orientation



- **Countries** need to get active and take actions!



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# Thank you for your attention!

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For more information please visit the ICPDR website:

<http://www.icpdr.org>

