

Demo Network Update

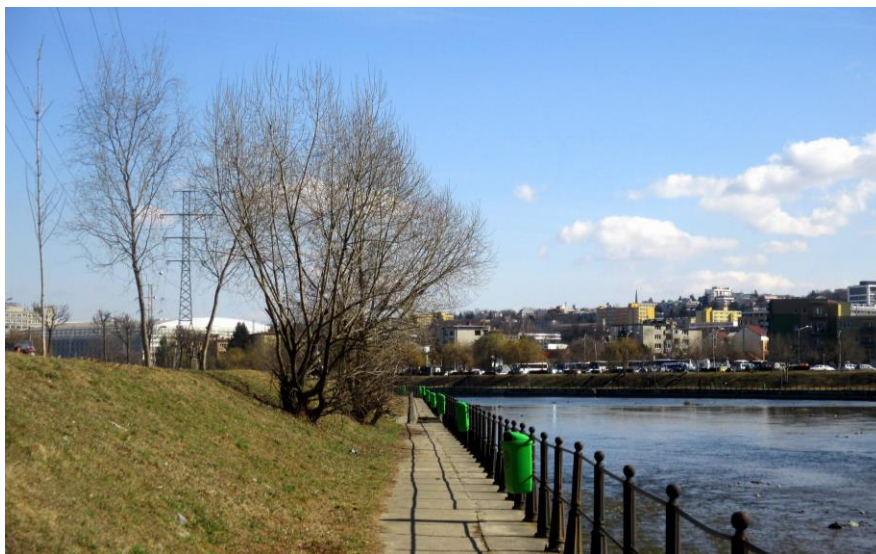
From BDG – Business Development Group

Extension of the Danube Lower basin network partners

One of the long-term objectives of the FIWARE4Water Demonstration Networks is **to build up a community of pro-active followers (municipalities and water utilities) along the Danube Lower basin countries**. Setting up a platform for cooperation between Eastern European stakeholders at national and international level and helping to **implement IT solutions** in water utilities will also contribute to the reduction of potential technical gaps between them.

In the first months of the project, the representatives from the water utilities and municipalities in Timisoara (Romania), Novi Sad (Serbia) and Szeged (Hungary) took part in virtual presentations which gathered together members of the FIWARE4Water consortium and pro-active stakeholders in the 3 selected countries. The activities were dedicated to the creation of Local Water Forums, meaning groups of local volunteers aiming to actively participate (together with local administrations in respective cities) in actions which will contribute to solving local water sectors related problems.

All these groups of volunteers in different countries will be assisted by the FIWARE4Water project team, under the umbrella of UN-Global Water Quality Alliance's plan for the Social Engagement Platform (2020-2023).



Someșul Mic river in the city of Cluj Napoca, @Bogdan Pop

The FIWARE4Water innovative activities in the Danube basin also attracted in last month's other follower cities as *Sofia* (in Bulgaria, being involved in another HORIZON 2020 project DIGITAL WATER

CITY), *Cluj Napoca* (in Romania, the second largest utility) and *Braila* (in Romania, as partner in HORIZON 2020 initiative named NAIADES). Efforts are made now to attract one city in Baltic countries too.

Expanding the Follower Cities network will be our main project task in the Danube basin countries. The next steps will include the connection with the FIWARE platform, through its products (probably *iHUBS* being the main assistant in activities that are designed to widen the FIWARE ecosystem), foster innovation and grow digital business models locally but with a global ambition thanks to the cross border interaction between public administrations, businesses and citizens supported by FIWARE interoperability features.

For more details on Danube Lower Basin Follower network please contact Ciprian Nanu at e-mail: ciprian.nanu@bdgroup.ro. You can follow **#fiware4water** on social media for more details.

Author: BDG

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Project Consortium



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