

Danube Day 2013 in Moldova

Moldovans get active, creative and oratorical for the Danube rivers!

Danube Day 2013 in Moldova reached young people, families, officials, academics and journalists, spreading the Danube Day message that everyone can do something to help protect their rivers. Over 1000 people took part in public actions and cultural events.

Danube Day returned to the village of **Valeni near Cahul**, location of last year's 'Prut: the river that unites us' festival to find out what local projects have achieved in the last 12 months. Outcomes of EU projects in the region were presented, along with environmental management activities. Danube traditions were rekindled through dance, song and local crafts.

Children living in the **Middle Prut** region were treated to **river expeditions** and **Danube film shows** during summer camps. Taking part in environmental debates, they discussed the importance of conserving the wide diversity of plants and animals that depend on riverine habitats.

In mid-June, journalists had the opportunity to learn more about climate change and international cooperation during a Danube Day **training session for TV journalists in Chisinau**.

Chisinau was also the setting for a meeting of academics and students from the Free International University of Moldova to discuss the **Danube Strategy**. Opportunities for enhancing cooperation between academic and scientific institutions across the Danube Basin were explored.

The festivities also saw the 10th year of the **Danube Art Master** contest that challenges every pupil in the Basin to create a piece of artwork inspired by their river. All the participants were invited to the final, organised by the Ecological Movement of Moldova. 16 year-old Adriana Midrigan from Măgdăcești College in Criuleni district won top prize with her colourful 'River Harbour' installation. The Ecological Movement of Moldova and Adriana plan to video-diary their trip to the international final in Budapest.

Danube Day Partners

Ministry of Environment; Cahul District Council; Global Water Partnership; Ecological Movement of Moldova; Centru de Consultanta Ecologica, Cahul; Environmental Inspectorate; mayors in 3 localities; Free International University of Moldova; schools and the National Commission for UNESCO.

Danube Day 2013: Get active for the sturgeon!

For more about the 14-country Danube Day celebrations, view www.danubeday.org or email the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR): benedikt.mandl@unvienna.org.