

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1  
on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008  
at the 1018th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)<sup>1</sup>*

**Appendix 5: Model plan for annual reports**

**Annual report for the year 2022**

Annual reports should describe the changes that have taken place since the previous year in dynamic terms of management and function and not be limited to basic data. Any new text or map introducing a change in the situation of the area should be attached to the annual report.

State: **ROMANIA**

Name of the area: **DANUBE DELTA BIOSPHERE RESERVE**

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:  
2020 – 2 years since the renewal of EDPA

**Central authority concerned:**

Name: **Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests**

Address: 12, Libertatii Blvd, Sector 5, Bucharest, 040129

Tel: 004021 408 9642

Fax: 004021 408 9615

e-mail:

www: <http://www.mmediu.ro>

**Authority responsible for its management:**

Name: **Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority**

Address: 34A, Portului Street, Tulcea, Tulcea County, 820243

Tel: 0040 240 518945

Fax: 0040 240 518975

e-mail: [arbdd@ddbra.ro](mailto:arbdd@ddbra.ro)

www: [www.ddbra.ro](http://www.ddbra.ro)

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<sup>1</sup> As amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2014)2 on 2 July 2014 at the 1204th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies.  
Internet : <http://www.coe.int/cm>

**1. Conditions:** List here all conditions which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain either how the conditions have been totally complied with or detail the progress in complying with the conditions. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

N/A

**2. Recommendations:** List here all recommendations which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain either how the recommendations have been totally complied with or detail the progress in complying with the recommendations. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

1. contribute to the implementation of the Pan-European Action Plan for the Sturgeon ([T-PVS/Inf\(2018\)6](#)) adopted by the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention and implement a monitoring system to assess the development of the sturgeon population in the Delta;

The project "Development of the Monitoring Station for migratory fish: sturgeon and mackerel - Isaccea", implementation continued in 2022. The general objective of the project is the biodiversity conservation by implementing measures from the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Management Plan to improve the conservation status of migratory fish, sturgeon and mackerel populations in the DDBR.

2. include in the management plan in preparation specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term preservation of endemic species;

The revised management plan will be subject to a public debate until the end of the 2022. The Project Implementation Unit will take into account to include in the management plan specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term preservation of endemic species.

3. request the responsible ministry to increase the number of staff members to the maximum limit foreseen to enable efficient work and add part-time contracts whenever needed for additional projects;

In 2022 were organize some job competitions, and the total number of staff members increased so far to 125 from a total of 171 persons as required by current legislation. Due to the economic crisis, that is manifesting in Romania as well, employment at public institutions is currently blocked. The low salary level makes the ARBDD staff members look for other better paid jobs.

4. secure a basic budget for the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve to enable the authority to fulfil its administrative tasks and allocate project funds fully to the projects themselves;

The annual budget allocation is made at the ministry level, depending on the available funds. Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority has its own revenues, from the tariffs for carrying out activities on the territory of the reserve, funds that have increased year by year. From these funds, it is expected to purchase an own machine for small unclogging interventions.

5. ensure that the responsible authorities work out a master plan for wind farms in the perimeter of the protected area to prevent any impact on the birds and/or bats in the Danube Delta and consider the participation of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve administration in this process;

There are no wind farms inside the reserve. Outside the limits there are several such installations.

6. evaluate the rising number of permits for car and boat traffic and public access and define a maximum number of these permits, which should only be exceeded under exceptional circumstances;

In view to define the maximum number of the permits for the car and boat traffic and for the public access inside the reserve, DDBRA is considering funding a study to determine the support capacity of the various functional areas of the reserve.

7. request that the Ministry of Environment review the appointment system for the management/governor with regard to the minimum length of a working period to enable the manager to develop and guide mid- and long-term strategies for the further development of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve;

There are no changes compared to the previous report.

8. make extensive use of the European Diploma logo and explain the relevance of the diploma in the information centres and in all information material provided to the tourist sector (boat excursions, accommodation, etc.).

European Diploma logo is used on each document produced by DDBRA and also on the web page [www.ddbra.ro](http://www.ddbra.ro).

**3. Site Management:** List here any changes to the European Diploma holding site management, in relation to both terrestrial and aquatic environments (as appropriate), and in relation to staff and finances, since the last annual report was submitted to the Council of Europe. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

The year 2022 was a particularly dry one, with effects on the aquatic environment in the reserve. Several lakes and canals were affected, the water level dropping dramatically and being almost dry. Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority is implementing projects that provide unclogging activities for some canals (3 projects) and for some lakes (2 projects), in different areas of the reserve. However, these actions are not enough to combat the effects of climate change, which are becoming more and more evident from year to year. A hydraulic modeling program will be carried out that will foresee the areas with large accumulations of alluvium and the necessary interventions.

The number of jobs in the organizational chart changed from 173 in 2010 to 133 in 2013 and to 171 from 2015 to present. The number of employees at the end of the 2022 year is of about 125 persons.

**4. Boundaries:** Give details of any changes to the boundaries of the European Diploma holding site since the last annual report was submitted to the Council of Europe. If there are any changes, please attach an appropriate map to this report. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

There are no changes to the boundaries of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve.

**5. Other information:** List here any other information about the European Diploma holding site which you consider should be provided to the Council of Europe.

Danube Delta and its adjacent areas: Maritime Danube to Cotul Pisicii, Isaccea- Tulcea sector of the Danube flood plain, Sărăturile Murighiol - Plopu brackish lake, Razim- Sinoie lagoon complex, the coastal Black Sea from Chilia Branch to Midia Cape, the coastal marine waters up to 20 m depth were declared in 1990 as a biosphere reserve, with a total area of 580,000 ha. (<http://www.ddbra.ro>)

In 1991, an area of 312,440 ha from the Danube Delta was included on the List of the Natural World Heritage under UNESCO, the site no. 588. ([https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/588/multiple=1&unique\\_number=695](https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/588/multiple=1&unique_number=695))

In 1991 Danube Delta and some adjacent areas were also included on the List of the Ramsar sites, with a total area of 647,000 ha, site no. 521.

([https://rsis.ramsar.org/RISapp/files/51415864/pictures/RO521\\_map1602.pdf](https://rsis.ramsar.org/RISapp/files/51415864/pictures/RO521_map1602.pdf)) <https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/521>

Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve is also part of the Natura 2000 Network.

The following sections of the form should only be filled in if your area is in the year before a renewal of its European Diploma for Protected Areas, i.e. year 4 after the award of the European Diploma or year 9 after its renewal.

**6. Natural heritage (general abiotic description: geomorphology, geology and hydrogeology, habitats, flora, fauna, landscape) – State of conservation**

- 6.1. Environment: changes or deterioration in the environment, of natural or anthropic origin, accidental or permanent, actual or anticipated
- 6.2. Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes
- 6.3. Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds

**7. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context**

- 7.1. Cultural heritage
  - 7.1.1. Changes concerning cultural heritage
- 7.2. Socio-economic context
  - 7.2.1. Changes concerning the socio-economic context

**8. Education and scientific interest**

- 8.1. Visitors – Information policy
  - 8.1.1. Arrangements for receiving and informing the public (building, booklets, maps, cards, etc.)
  - 8.1.2. Frequentation by visitors and behavior (number, distribution in time and space)
  - 8.1.3. Special visits (distinguished persons, groups, etc.)
- 8.2. Scientific research
  - 8.2.1. Current or completed research (observation, experimentation, etc.; identification or inventory of the species listed in the appendices to the Bern Convention, etc.)
  - 8.2.2. Scientific publications

**9. Site description (vulnerability, protection status, ownership, documentation)**

- 9.1. Changes in legislation or regulations
- 9.2. Changes in ownership title (conversion to public property, rentals, etc.)
- 9.3. Extension or transfer, new uses (for example, conversion into total reserve)

**10. Site management (management plans, budget and personnel)**

- 10.1. Improvements made
  - 10.1.1. Ecological action affecting the flora and biotopes; controls of fauna
  - 10.1.2. Protection against the elements (fire, water regime)
  - 10.1.3. Approaches and thoroughfares (paths, roads, car parks, signposting, fencing, etc.)
  - 10.1.4. Field equipment (hides and study facilities)
  - 10.1.5. Waste management
  - 10.1.6. Use of renewable energy systems
- 10.2. Management
  - 10.2.1. Administrative department: changes made
  - 10.2.2. Wardens' department: changes made
  - 10.2.3. Internal policing measures
  - 10.2.4. Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action

**11. Influence of the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas**