



#### Organizers:

Working Group Sustainability / Soil Protection of the Working Community of the Danube Regions,  
Soil and Sustainable Operations Network (SONDAR) - EUSDR PA6 Biodiversity, Landscape, Quality of Air and Soil Taskforce,  
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Soil Bioenergy and Sustainability Network Lower Austria/Europe (BIENE)  
on behalf of the Agricultural District Authority, Lower Austria

#### Cooperation Partners:

## 31<sup>st</sup> Conference of the Working Group Sustainability / Soil Protection of the Working Community of the Danube Regions

## Caring for Soils

### Soil Management and Awareness Approaches in context of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) and the EU Mission: A Soil Deal for Europe

Soil monitoring activities may serve different purposes, ranging from soil fertility management at farm scale to global soil health assessments by international organisations. Emerging aspects of soil health such as contamination by microplastic, persistent organic pollutants, or rare earth and platinum group elements as well as soil biodiversity / biological integrity require special attention to make soil monitoring activities fit for the future.

**The 31<sup>st</sup> Conference of the Working Group Sustainability / Soilprotection of the Working Community of the Danube Regions** will provide a forum for participants from different stakeholder groups such as farmers, Land users, scientists, and representatives of authorities and communities across the Danube region to exchange information on current approaches of soil management, and to discuss emerging requirements for targeted, cost-effective soil monitoring at different scales.

During this conference, the **22<sup>nd</sup> Steering Group meeting of EUSDR Priority Area 6, Biodiversity and Landscapes, Quality of Air and Soils** will take place as well. The Workshop "Soil matters!" will show a practical project in the sustainable spirit of optimism and cracking of soil sealing. Earth colours from Lower Austria are used as a central communication tool to bring communities and citizens closer to soil.

All participants are invited to visit Organic Farmer Franz Binder for Multifunctional Hedges / the Soil and Wildlife Conservation at the Naturverwaltung Colloredo Mannsfeld and last but not least Grandfarm for Research and Demonstration on Soil Health, Agroforest and Marketgardening.

Soil care is a big challenge for all of us. And we are the responsible Ones for preserving the legacy of healthy soils and a viable society. Now, for future generations! We invite **Students and committed academics** not only to **talk about heavy challenges but also to describe solution ideas and best practices** especially for the Lower Danube Region.

### REGISTRATION

Please send an e-mail to: [alexandra.ritter@biene-netzwerk.at](mailto:alexandra.ritter@biene-netzwerk.at)

**The Conference is planned only with invited Speakers. A Participation at the Excursions is possible, but only with a confirmed Registration. The participants themselves have to organize the journey to the Excursion locations. !Number of participants at the Excursion is limited! registrations are only valid after Confirmation.**

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> & WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2024

UFT / BOKU TULLN, KONRAD LORENZSTRASSE 24, 3430 TULLN AN DER DONAU / ÖSTERREICH

- 1) FRANZ BINDER / 2011 UNTERMALLEBARN 2) NATURVERWALTUNG COLLOREDO-MANNSFELD / 2011 SIERNDORF - DETAILS: GOOGLE-MAP
- 3) GRAND FARM / 3462 ABSDORF – DETAILS: GOOGLE MAP

**Public transport:** You can reach "Tulln an der Donau" by train from Vienna, Krems or St. Poelten.

It takes 10 minutes to walk from "Tulln an der Donau" to the UFT.

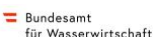
Note: Please do not mistake it for Tullnerfeld station and "Tulln Stadt", which is approx. 10 km south of Tulln.

**Arrival with car:** Entrance via roundabout „Baumschule“ – Ambulance, Dr. Karl Landsteiner Straße, parking lot at Gregor-Mendel-Straße. – see attached plan.

Note: Entrance via Frauenhofener Straße and Konrad Lorenzstraße dead ends before reaching the location!

**Contact:** Alexandra Ritter, Association BIENE (Soil-, Bio-Energy and Sustainability Network NÖ/EU)

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**Tuesday September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

## CARING FOR SOILS / Soil Management and Awareness Approaches

Moderation: Erwin Szlezak, Agricultural District Authority, WG Danube Countries (AT) - Conference language: EN / Session 2) DE

From 8:00 am

### Arrival / Registration at UFT Tulln

UFT / BOKU TULLN, KONRAD LORENZSTRASSE 24, 3430 TULLN AN DER DONAU / AT

09:00 am

### Opening of the Conference

Teresa Stummer, Working Community of the Danube Region (AT)

Konrad Stania, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (AT)

Florian Ballnus, (DE), Ana Kobaslic (HR) EUSDR Priority Area 6, Biodiversity and Landscapes, Air and Soils

### Keynotes

#### EU Mission Soil Deal for Europe

Cees Veerman / Chairman EU Mission Soil Health and Food (NL)

### Soil Management and Monitoring Approaches in Lower Austria

Walter Wenzel, BOKU (AT) / Christian Holzinger, Agricultural District Authority (AT)

Alfred Grand, Farmer (AT)

### Interviews on the current situation: "Local and national contributions of Soils to the new European 'Nature Restoration Law' in Danube countries"

Antonín Okénka, Mayor of Nova Lhota and Member of European Land and Soil Alliance (CZ)

Jaroslav Zahora, Mendel University Brno (CZ) / Gabor Koltai, Széchenyi István University (HU)

Marius Voica, University of Architecture and Urbanism Bucharest (RO)

Toni Chemeva, TEKTON (BG) / Dumitru Drumea, Free International University of Moldova (MD)

Peter Strauß, Federal Agency of Water Management (AT)

Eva Erhart, Bioforschung Austria (AT) / Meinhard Breiling, Technische Universität Wien (AT)

Martin Längauer, Chamber of Agriculture (AT)

**Conclusions:** Christian Steiner, European Land and Soil Alliance (AT)

11:00 am

### Family Picture / Lunch

12:30 pm

### Interreg Central Europe - Carbon Farming Central Europe

Christoph Reithofer, Bioforschung Austria (AT)

### EU Project: ARCADIA

#### Transformative climate resilience through nature-based solutions

Alexis Sancho-Reinoso, Federal Government of Lower Austria (AT)

Christa Lackner / Felix Hagen, Natur im Garten (AT)

Simone Hagenauer, ecoplus Austrian Business Agency (AT)

Katharina Deim, Agricultural District Authority (AT)

### EU Project: Plants4cooling

#### Cooling effect of plants and application of innovative tools for climate change adaptation

Vit Hrdoušek, Martina Petrova (CZ)

Willem von Hoesel, Natur im Garten (AT)

Anna Zeiser, Federal Agency of Water Management (AT)

### Caring for Soils

#### Responsible for our soils: Recognize opportunities and take action.

#### A common path for experts and citizens

Nikodemus Colloredo Mannsfeld, Farmer (AT)

Herbert Eigner, Agrana Austria (tbc)

Alexandra Ritter / Franz Rybaczek, Association BIENE (AT)

3:00 pm – 8:00 pm

### Parallel Sessions

<b>1) PA 6 Steering Group Meeting</b> <b>(for members and observers)</b> <b>Biodiversity and Landscapes,</b> <b>Quality of Air and Soils</b>	<b>2) Workshop Soilawareness</b> <b>"Soil matters / Boden für Dich"</b>
<b>Lead: Florian Ballnus, Ana Kobaslic</b> <b>(DE/HR) (WS-Language: EN)</b>	<b>Lead: Franz Rybaczek, Alexandra Ritter,</b> <b>Irena Racek (AT) (WS-Language: DE)</b>

8:00 pm **Buffet / Networking**

...accompanied by **Judith Steiner, Wiener Quartett**  
 Classical music from the Danube countries...

10:00 pm

End of Conference day



Quelle: Atlas der Donauländer,  
 Österreichisches Ost- und  
 Südosteuropainstitut, Wien 1984

Cooperation  
Partners:



Arbeitsgemeinschaft  
Donauländer

Pracovní Společnost  
Podunajských Zemí

Pracovné Spoločenstvo  
Podunajských Krahov

Dunamenti Tartományok  
Munkaközössége

Radna Zajednica  
Podunavskih Regija

Radna Zajednica  
Podunavskih Zemalja

Comunitatea de Lucru  
A Statelor Dunărene

Работна Обштина  
Дунавски Страни

Робоча Спільнота  
Придунайських Країн



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**Wednesday September 25th, 2024**

## CARING FOR SOILS / Best practices and perspectives of Cooperation in the Danube Region

Moderation: Erwin Szlezak, Agricultural District Authority, Lower Austria, WG Danube Countries (AT) / Conference language: EN

Cooperation  
Partners:

From 08:00 am

### Arrival / Registration at UFT Tulln

UFT / BOKU TULLN, KONRAD LORENZSTRASSE 24, 3430 TULLN AN DER DONAU / AT

8:30 am

### Reports and results

#### EUSDR PA6 Biodiversity and Landscapes, Quality of Air and Soils / Session 1

Florian Ballnus, Ana Kobaslic (DE/HR) EUSDR, Priority Area 6 Coordinator

#### Soilawareness – “Soil matters / Boden für Dich” - Session 2

Alexandra Ritter / Franz Rybaczek Association BIENE (AT)

9:00 am

### “Caring for Soils” / International University Cooperation Ideas and perspectives for the Lower Danube Region

#### Raise, contribute, participate

Philip Tudor, EUSDR Danube Youth Council

#### Projects and Best practises on a liveable Danube Region

Marius Voica, “Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urban Planning (RO)

Dumitru Drumea, Free International University of Moldova (MD)

Toni Cherneva, TEKTON (BG)

Laura Ivanov, Sfistofca Art Association, Tulcea (RO)

Meinhard Breiling, Technische Universität Wien (AT)

Robert Peticzka, Universität Wien (AT)

.....and Student groups!

11:30 am

### Lunch (Mensa UFT)

1:00 pm

### Departure from UFT Tulln .... Using private cars! ..... Field Trip Language DE & EN

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

### Field Trip **Untermallebarn** to FRANZ BINDER for Multifunctional Hedges + field vegetables without irrigation + Treeroots uncovered (Tulln -> Untermallebarn)

Field Trip Guide: Franz Binder, Farmer / Walter Wenzel, BOKU / Dieter Haas / Wilfried Hartl, Bio Forschung Austria (AT) / **2011 UNTERMALLEBARN / Meetingpoint: Field shrine between Höbersdorf and Untermallebarn (L1089), 2011 Höbersdorf. Parking on Fieldroad**

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

### Field Trip **Sierndorf** to Soil and Wildlife Conservation at the Naturverwaltung Colloredo Mannsfeld **2011 SIERNDORF - DETAILS: GOOGLE-MAP**

Field Trip Guide: Nikodemus Colloredo Mannsfeld, Farmer (AT)

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

### Field Trip **Abisdorf** to GRAND FARM for Research and Demonstration + Agroforest + Soil Health + Marketgardening

Field Trip Guide: Alfred Grand & Johannes Pelleter / Mayor Franz Dam, Stefan Cزامutizian (AT)  
**GRAND FARM / 3462 ABSDORF – DETAILS: GOOGLE-MAP**

7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

### !For invited guests only! ..... Networking on Projects

10:00 pm

### End of Conference day – at Field Trip location



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