

Mr. Herve Lefevre
Senior Director, WWF GEF Agency

World Wildlife Fund, Inc.
1250 24th Street NW
Washington, DC, 20037

Ref: 16620

Vienna, 26 July 2019

**Re: Co-financing Support for the WWF-GEF Project: Danube River Basin
Hydromorphology and River Restoration (DYNA) (GEF ID # 9801)**

Dear Mr. Lefevre,

The ICPDR, composed of 15 Contracting Parties (CP), five from non EU Member States (MS) - beneficiaries of this project, nine EU MS and the EU itself, is a regional river basin organisation, established by the Danube River Protection Convention (DRPC). Its mission is to promote and coordinate sustainable and equitable water management, including conservation, improvement and rational use of waters in the Danube River Basin (DRB). It also serves to the DRPC CPs as a coordination platform for implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).

The ICPDR and its CPs welcome the project “*Danube River Basin Hydromorphology and River Restoration (DYNA)*”, to be implemented by the WWF-US, which will support the implementation of the Joint Programme of Measures (JPoM) of the Danube River Basin Management Plan, in particular to reduce the pressures from hydromorphological alterations of the rivers in the DRB.

I would like to inform you that the Governments of the ICPDR CPs – EU MS – will contribute 60,526,369.33 US\$ in co-financing to the above mentioned project by investing in projects, which will improve the hydromorphology of the DRB rivers in order to reach the good ecological status of the surface waters, required by the EU Water Framework Directive. Projects will aim, inter alia, at

rehabilitation of riverbed conditions, mitigating of the impact of the hydropower plants on the rivers including building fish passes and reducing impact of hydro-peaking, reconnection of cut-off meanders, reconnection of floodplain meadows and forests, improvement of sediment budget, etc. Funds will be contributed as co-finance from the start of the GEF project until 2023.

Sincerely,



Péter Kovács
President