

EUSAIR TSG2 (TRANSPORT) AND TSG4 (TOURISM) BACK-TO-BACK WITH EUSDR PA3

CYCLING TOURISM AND CULTURAL ROUTES WORKSHOP

DANUBE CYCLING PLAN – a new opportunity for Romanian cycling

authors: Alina Niculescu and Cristina Lixandroiu

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN TOURISM (INCDT – Bucharest, Romania)

Mission: *to be an institute of excellence in research-development in tourism, a benchmarking institution at national and European level and also an important partner, both for central and local administration with responsibility in the tourism field and for the private sector in this field.*

Main research activity:

- ✓ *applied research for the developing the tourism activity;*
- ✓ *studies and research concerning: domestic and external markets, prognoses and strategies, the monitoring tourism resources, technical-scientific syntheses and documentary materials;*
- ✓ *studies and research regarding the socio-economic impact of tourism and the impact on the environment;*
- ✓ *European projects.*

THE CURRENT SITUATION OF CYCLING TOURISM IN ROMANIA

- Romania has an **important cycling potential** (natural and cultural potential, favorable climate along the routes, traditional cuisine, local hospitality etc.) and we have the opportunity to use it. Also, there are some **associations and organisations**, whose main activity is cycling, who already have experience in organizing outdoor cycling events along the routes and their actions are being acknowledged.
- Our country **was included on the European map of cycling routes** (EuroVelo 6 and Eurovelo 13), but currently, the development of cycling routes in Romania is limited by the fact that it is not possible to install signs for cyclists on public roads.
- At the national level, there is a **draft Government Decision** on the establishment of the National Network of Cycling Trails, which has been waiting for many years to be approved. Solving the legislative vacuum in the field will allow capitalizing on the significant potential that Romania has in cycling tourism.

Danube Cycle Plans – Policies, plans and promotion for more people cycling in the Danube region, project co-funded by the European Union, Interreg Danube Transnational Programme

- INCDT is a partner in a transitional project entitled "Danube Cycle Plans", which goal is to strengthen the three main pillars of cycling promotion:
- Support the provision of adequate cycling infrastructure by defining the Danube cycle route network, identifying missing links, developing action plans and addressing possible funding schemes incl. recommendations for new funding options;
- Facilitate the development of cycling policies at national and transnational level supported by National Cycling Plans based on a common transnational approach;
- Increase their awareness of relevant stakeholders for the needs of cyclists and increase capacity to promote cycling in the whole Danube region by implementing a mentoring system, trainings and other learning activities.

Thank you for your attention!

Contact:

National Institute For Research And Development In Tourism, Bucharest, Romania, Apolodor
Street no.17, district 5, Bucharest

Phone: +40 021 316 2565

Fax: +40 021 316 25 35

Cristina Lixandroiou – senior researcher, curea@incdt.ro

Alina Niculescu – senior researcher, niculescu@incdt.ro

