# Output Factsheet

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| **Output title:**  OT.2.4. Study visit at a Hungarian river clean-up |

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| **Summary of the output (max. 2500 characters)** |
| Plastic Cup is an internationally recognized environmental awareness raising initiative in Hungary responsible for the removal of tonnes of waste and garbage from the Tisza River for 9 years. Since THU (LP of TidyUp) is the main organizer of Plastic Cup in close cooperation with HAEE, it seemed to be an effective and useful idea to invite all the partners to participate on their annual Plastic Cup event to be able to observe how a clean-up action is being organised and provide useful hints and tips on the field.  During the 4-day study tour by the Tisza Lake 11 teams participated, one of which was the TidyUp team. The team received a halfway prepared raft, made of PET bottles and other reused materials by the volunteers, and some canoes for collecting waste. The partners also had the opportunity to board the "mother boat", and see what is the task there.  The plastic boat fleet was cleaning the floodplain of the Tisza and the river from Tiszafüred to Kisköre (approx. 25 rkms). Every night the participants (project partners and the volunteers) slept in tents, in the closest camping, and had some night programmes. Some of the project partners slept in a hotel at Tiszaszőlős. They have been transported every morning-afternoon from and to their hotel to the river. The final award ceremony of the clean-up action was held on Tuesday the 15th of June. The TidyUp team finished 8th out of the 11 teams. A sum of 5 tonnes of plastic has been collected during the 4 day campaign. Approx. 150 people participated on the event, out of which approx. 30-35 people made up the Tid(y)Up project team (including the volunteers helping them). |
| **Contribution to EUSDR actions and/or targets (max. 1500 characters)** |
| The project and its’ activities are strongly supported by MFAT as coordinator of the priority area 4 on “water quality” of EUSDR PA4. |
| **Performed testing, if applicable (max. 1000 characters)** |
| Lessons learnt will be capitalized in T2.2. during all partners cleanup actions (to be organised in Spring 2022)  The suggestions and experience will also be concluded in the handguide prepared in A.T2.1. and thus, this activity contributes to specific objectives by providing a solid and tested background to reach long lasting change in the attitude of the society towards the plastic pollution and stimulate actions and cooperation on local level. |
| **Integration and use of the output by the target group (max. 2000 characters)** |
| As the other partners (except BOKU PP4) all have to organise clean-up events on their own, it was very important and informative for them to see all the details on site: the organisational tasks of such event, the catering and accommodation of all the participants, the organised local programmes, the on-site selection process, the transportation of the belongings and the collected waste etc.  Majority of these details are aspects of the organisation that cannot be explained with presentations and videos, although this also has been done primer to the event. PPs confirmed that this activity was very useful to get an insight on how to organise similar clean-up actions in the frame of *T2.2 Pilot actions in 4 locations*. It was also helpful for THU and HAEE, the organisers to see how newly engaged participants could be included in the cleanup action programmes. |
| **Geographical coverage and transferability (max. 1500 characters)** |
| The Tid(y)Up Project involves partners from 6 Danube basin countries working in various fields including NGOs, academia, public agencies and government institutions. Each of the partners contributes to the fulfilment of the tasks in different ways. In this special case they will use the gained experiences when organizing the pilot actions in 4 locations. |
| **Durability (max. 1500 characters)** |
| The project output is durable for years to come- until there will be waste to be collected on the floodplains. |
| **Synergies with other projects/ initiatives and / or alignment with current EU policies/ directives/ regulations, if applicable (max. 1500 characters)** |
| The main challenge of this output (and actually WP2) is developing a transferable, transnational practice based on this good example in Hungary, implementing series of events as pilot actions under various environmental and social conditions in the partner countries and beyond. For doing so, the TidyUp project is committed to share all output results of the project with any enquiring transnational project or professional body for the improvement of river water quality.  The project website is promptly updated for other stakeholders information not reached directly through project events. |
| **Output integration in the current political/ economic/ social/ technological/ environmental/ legal/ regulatory framework (max. 2000 characters)** |
| The targeted outputs of the study tour, in addition to a clearer environment and river include increase in social awareness and engagement, creation of best practices and obtainment of recommendations for improvement from the partners. The high media resonance, reports, photos and videos contribute greatly to the achievement of the project objectives.  The project has provided input to the upcoming revision of DRBMP. Within the provided paper the focus was to gather all necessary information, raise awareness of the relevant actors and provide them with practical tools to create active, cooperating communities in the fight against the plastic waste contamination and contribute to the work of water authorities to improve water quality by providing input based on the activities implemented within the project.  The lead partner THU and HAEE (PP1) gave a presentation in October in front of the EUSDR PA4 Steering Committee presenting all the implemented actions of the project so far. |