



7017 Русе, ул. "Студентска" №8

<http://www.uni-ruse.bg>; secretary@uni-ruse.bg; тел.: 082-888 211; факс: 082-845 708

Дирекция ВРЪЗКИ С ОБЩЕСТВЕНОСТА И РЕКЛАМА

Директор: доц. д-р Рада Кършакова

(082) 888 355; 0886 618 984;

rkarshakova@uni-ruse.bg

PR експерт Гергана Илиева – (082) 888 355; 0898 441 421

gilieva@uni-ruse.bg

The University of Ruse will host the fifth international forum Danube – Mekong in 2016

The fourth meeting from the structured dialogue Asia – Europe, dedicated to sustainable development was held on 4th and 5th June in Ben Che, Vietnam, with the active participation of the University of Ruse. The specific topic, discussed by nearly 200 delegates from the public, private and non-government sector, was related to water management and was based on the experience of the countries from the Danube region and the Mekong river region.

The meeting was opened by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam Pam Bin Min and Deputy Ministers of Laos, Romania and Bulgaria. The working part of the seminar was organized in three plenary sessions. Prof. Ekaterina Bachvarova from the Bulgarian Academy of Science spoke about the role of science in the prevention of water calamities and water management. COR MEM Prof. Hristo Beloev, DTSc and Assoc. Prof. Mimi Kornazheva, presented a paper on the added value of the University of Ruse to the development of the Danube region, emphasizing the project activities in the Bulgarian – Romanian cross-border region.

At the end of the seminar, the Rector of the University of Ruse, COR MEM Prof. Hristo Beloev, DTSc invited the participants in the seminar on his behalf and on behalf of the Mayor of Ruse, Mr. Plamen Stoilov, to join the fifth forum, which will be held in Bulgaria. Ruse was designated as the host city and Kaneff Centre of the University of Ruse – as the venue of the forum. An attractive part of the invitation was the video clip "Ruse – city of free spirit".

Representatives of several international organizations participated in the forum in Ben Che: the European Union, the Association of the countries from South East Asia, the World Bank, the International Committee for protection of the Danube River, The Mekong River Committee, Hanns Seidel Foundation. Twenty-six countries had sent their representatives: Brunei, Bulgaria, Cambodia, India, the Czech Republic the Philippines, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Vietnam.

The Bulgarian delegation comprised Pavel Gyudgerov – Vice Minister of environment and water, Peter Dimitrov – Director of Basin Directorate with the Ministry of Environment and Water, Vera Monova – Second Secretary for South East Asia in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Marinela Petkova – Vice head of Department and Oleg Marinov – trade advisor with the Bulgarian Embassy on Vietnam, prof. Ekaterina Bachvarova from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, COR MEM Prof. Hristo Beloev, DTSc– Rector of the University of Ruse and Assoc. Prof. Mimi Kornazheva, Director of Bulgarian Romanian Interuniversity Europe Centre /BRIE/.

Like the three preceding forums – in Budapest, Hungary, in 2012, in Can Tho, Vietnam, in 2013 and in Tulcea, Romania in 2014, the meeting in Ben Che provided a platform for presenting of good practices for water management. The main purpose was to activate the cooperation between the countries from the structured dialogue Asia – Europe about the contribution to the

global goal for sustainable and inclusive growth; to identify appropriate resources for sustainable water management; to share good practices and technologies for solving problems, related to water management, resulting from climate changes and natural disasters.

The main outcomes from the seminar are recommendations for political activities, addressed to the summit of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on environmental protection in 2016; know-how for accelerating the trans-border cooperation for integrated water control; a transition from sectoral to comprehensive approach, which takes into account the connection between water resources and global issues such as nutrition, energy, health care, economy and climate changes.

