

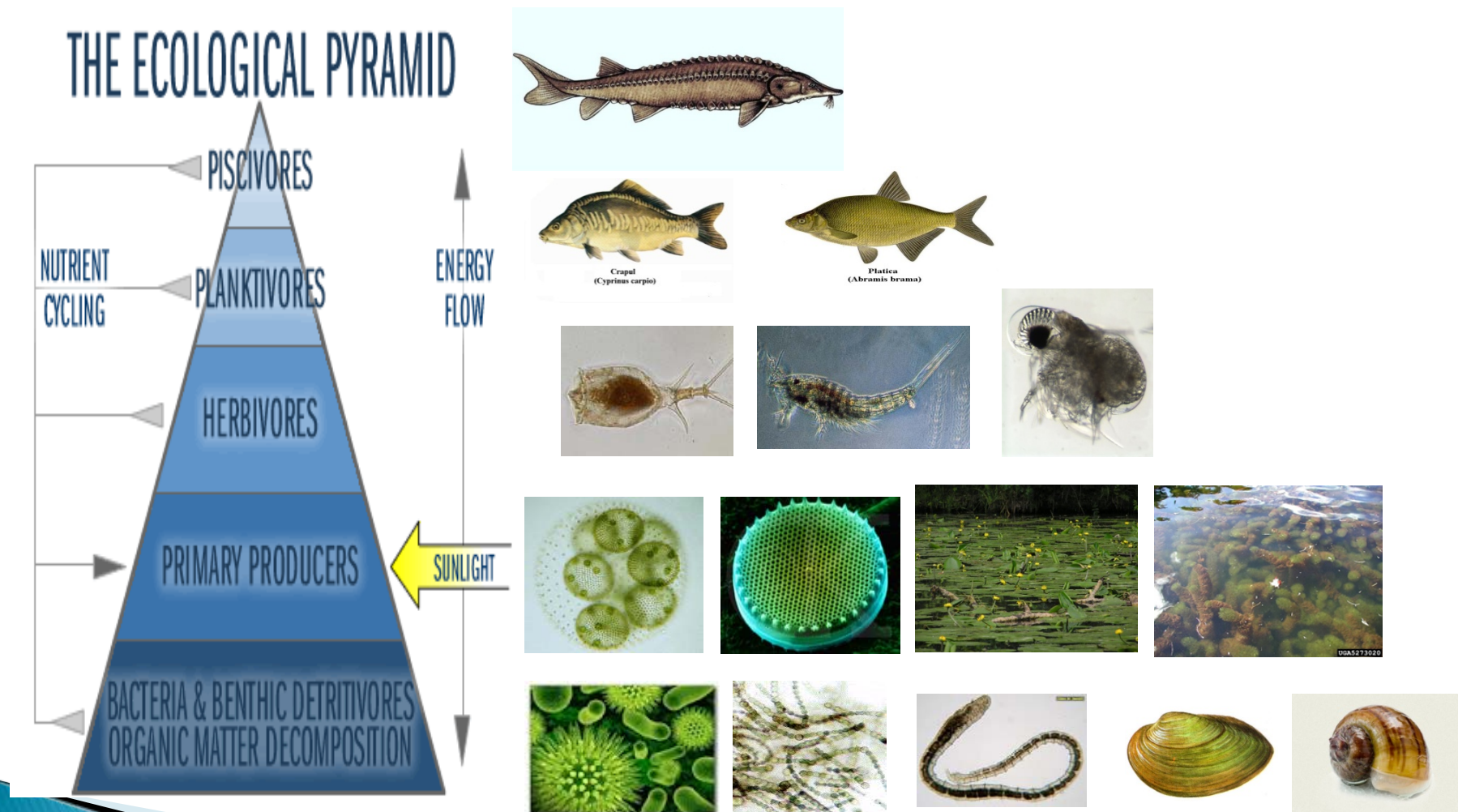
“Sturgeon 2020”

- a program for sturgeon revival in the Danube River Basin and the adjacent Black Sea -

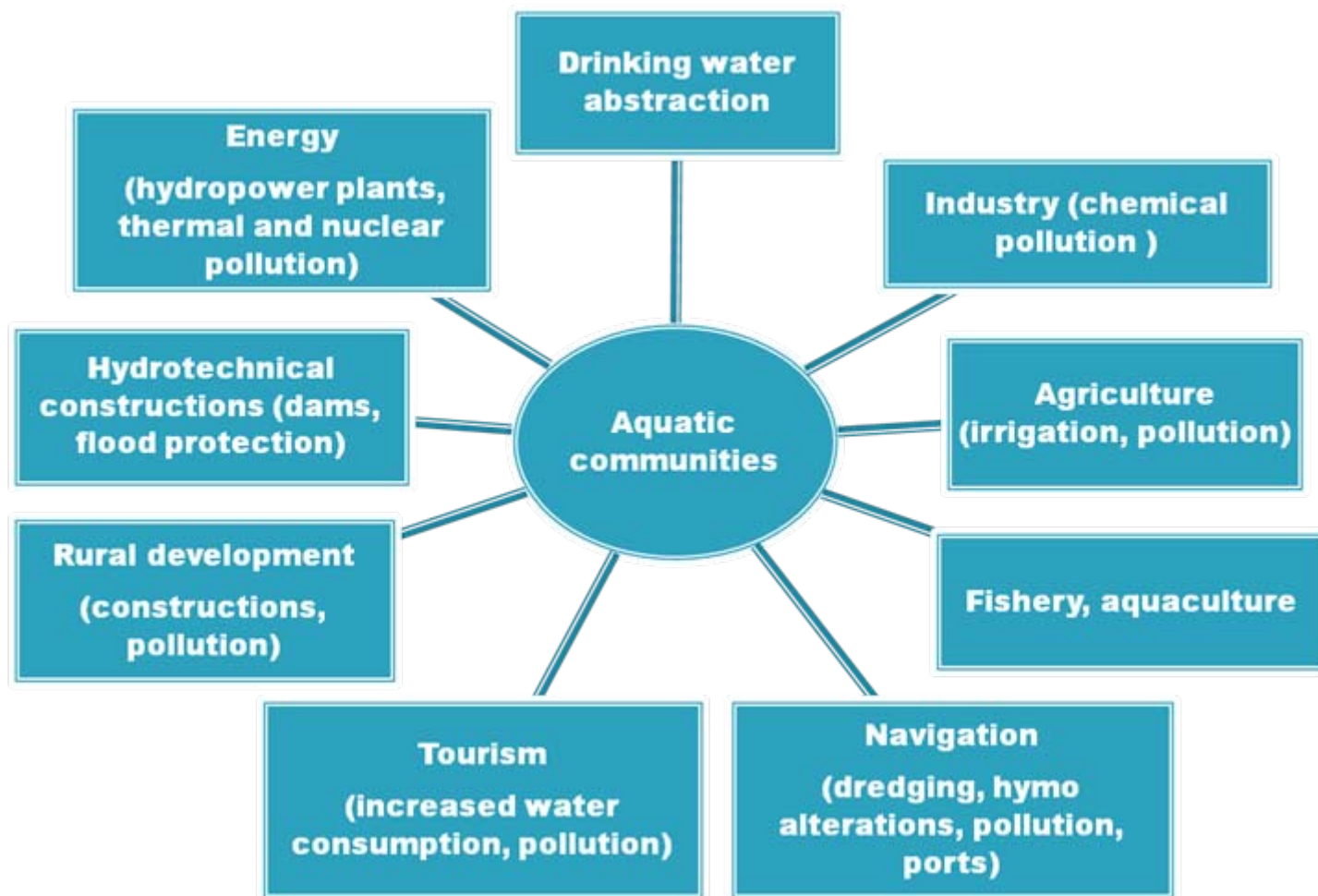
Dr. Cristina Sandu - Institute of Biology Bucharest, Romanian Academy;
- International Association for Danube Research (IAD)

WFD and BQEs

Aquatic organisms – bioindicators of good ecological status



Increasing human pressures



River Basin Management – the main integrative tool

Why sturgeon conservation ?

**Excellent indicators of
water/sediment quality**

Unique value for EU biodiversity



High scientific value - “living fossils”, over 200 million years old;

High economic value - for fishermen communities/ hatchery owners

River and Habitat Continuity Interruption - Current Situation (2009)



This ICPDR product is based on national information provided by the Contracting Parties to the ICPDR (AT, BG, CZ, DE, HR, HU, MD, RO, RS, SI, SK, UA) and CH, except for the following: EuroGlobalMap v2.1 from EuroGeographics was used for national borders of AT, CZ, DE, HR, HU, MD, RO, SI, SK and UA; ESRI data was used for national borders of AL, ME, MK; Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) from USGS Seamless Data Distribution System was used as topographic layer; data from the European Commission (Joint Research Center) was used for the outer border of the DRBD of AL, IT, ME and PL.

Vienna, December 2009

Map source: www.icpdr.org, modified by Ralf Reinartz

www.icpdr.org

icpdr ikssd
International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
International Kommission zum Schutz der Donau

Conservation attempts

Action Plan for the Conservation of Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) in the Danube River Basin

(adopted in 2006, under Bern Convention)

- Temporary bans on sturgeon fisheries + restocking activities
- ICPDR – feasibility study Iron Gates fish pass – included in DRBMP
- CITES, TRAFFIC, IAD, WWF, WSCS efforts

... large parts of Sturgeon Action Plan not tackled, threats remain and more coordination needed!

EU Strategy for the Danube Region

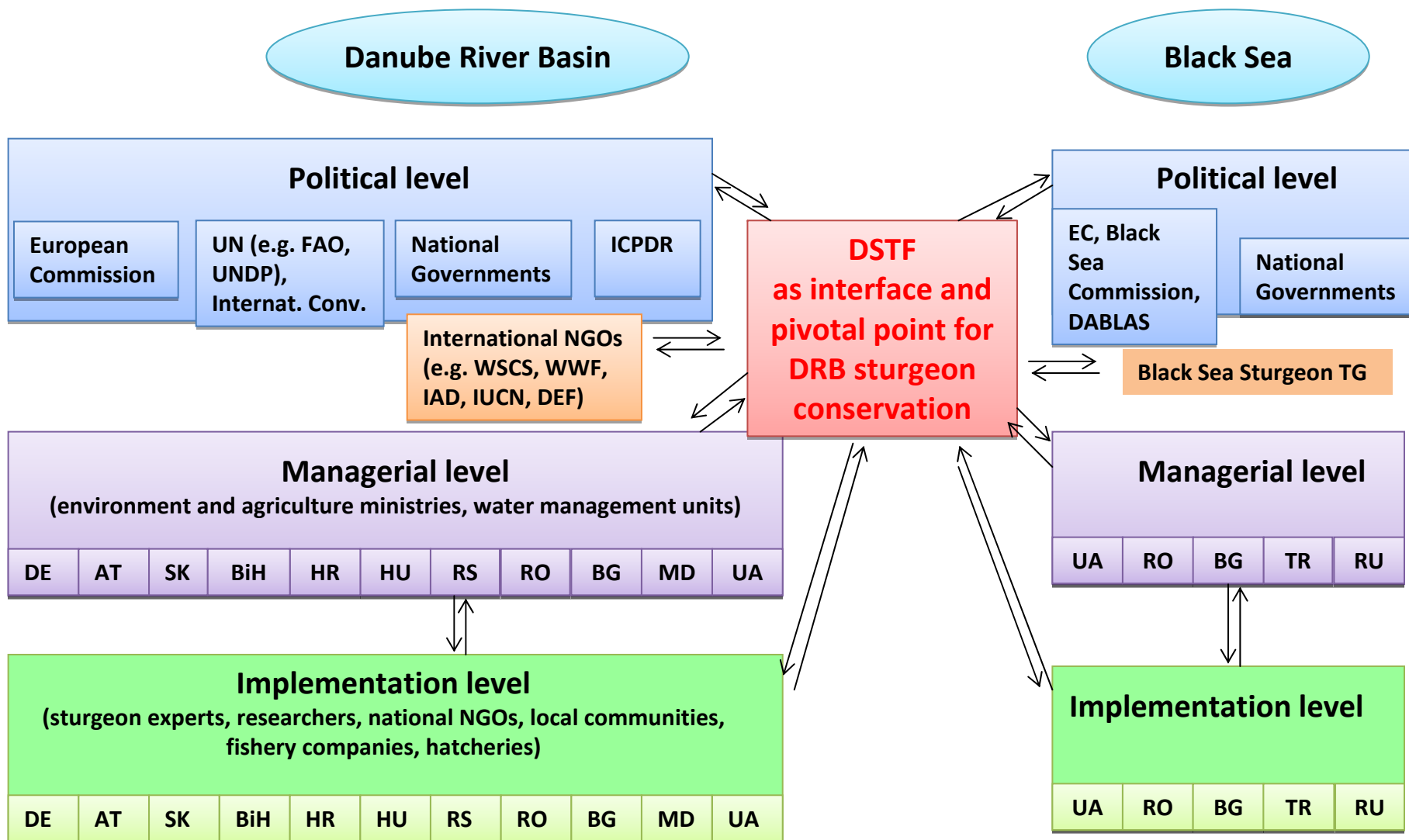
- 4 pillars:
- connectivity
 - protecting the environment
 - building prosperity
 - strengthening the Danube Region

PA 6. To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils

Action included in the AP of the EU-SDR: “Secure viable populations of Danube sturgeon species and other indigenous fish species by 2020.”

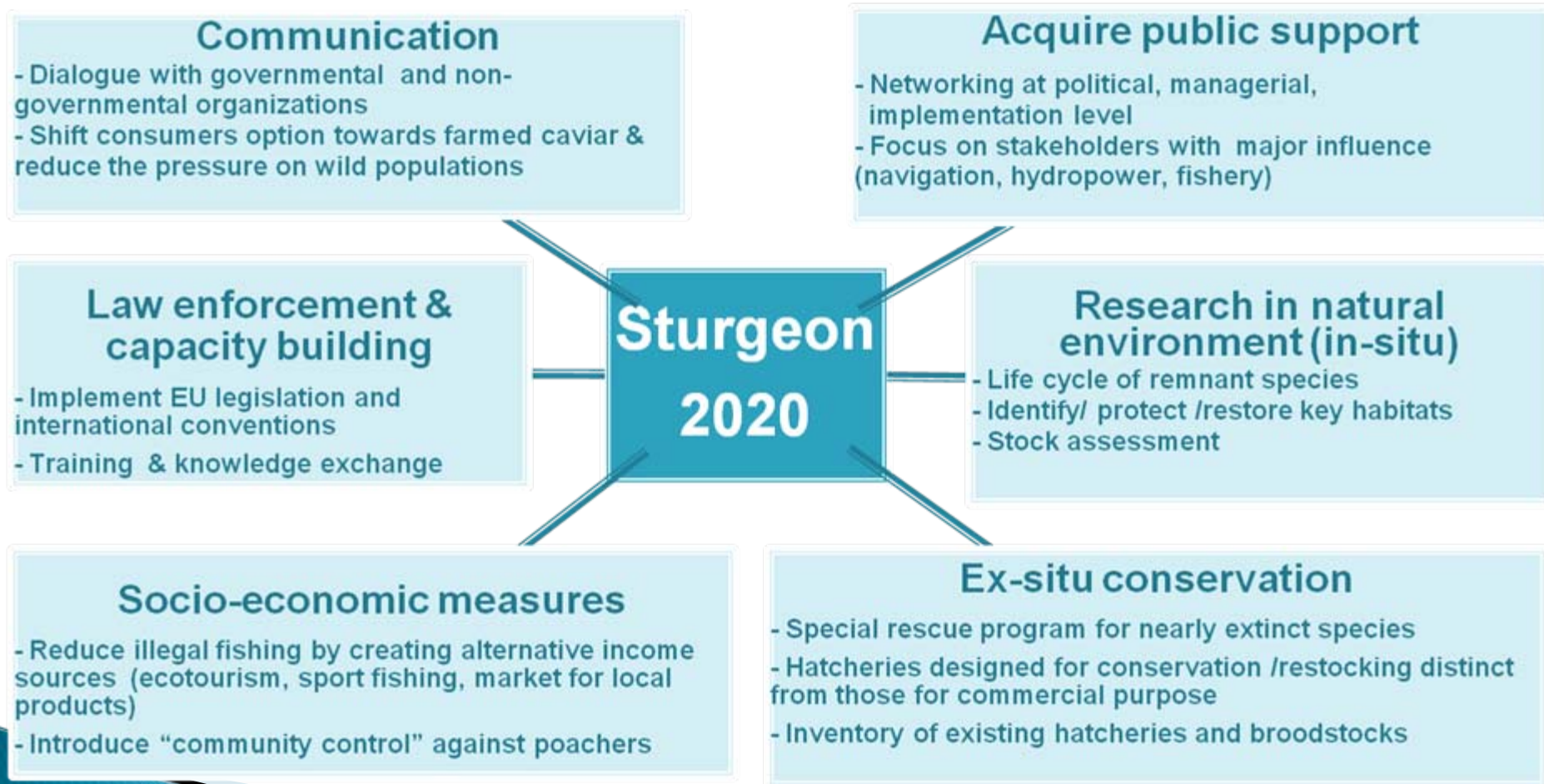
Danube Sturgeon Task Force

Established in January 2012, ICPDR & EUSDR PA 6 support



DSTF – “Sturgeon 2020” program

Based on Sturgeon Action Plan



Thank you for your attention



Photo: Radu Suciu, IAD Romania

*Danube Sturgeon Task Force – www.dstf.eu
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