

## **Main conclusions of the Workshop on ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:**

*The following topics were considered as very important and will be approached in the future projects within the Danube Strategy:*

- Climate change impact on extremes
- Pollution risk reduction in the transboundary basins
- Environmental data collections in GIS (cartographic connection)
- Lakes monitoring & data trend anthropogenic impact – environmental conservation + economical rehabilitation
- Reducing over-exploitation which leads to:
  - invasive species
  - water scarcity
  - land use change
  - declining stocks think ahead (long term)
  - balance between economic development & environmental protection
- Pontic environment and culture of Danube - estimation of vulnerability of ecosystems

*Measures that should be taken in the future:*

- diminish the anthropological impact
- The Polluter-Pays Principle
- limit habitat fragmentation
- exploitation of resources should be done on scientific basis
- best practices on flood prevention
- habitat restoration
- “the wetlands”
- Protection of endangered species
- Link with the Black Sea Policy

*Studies that were suggested to be done:*

- Integrated Water Resources Management
- Vulnerability study - water scarcity