

## Good practices in Hungary

30/2020

**Title:** Valyo!Part

**Owner:** VALYO Association

**Contact:** <https://valyo.hu/projektek/valyo-part/>

**Good practice for:** Valorisation of the river, sensitisation, environmental education, dissemination, promoting sustainability, awareness raising, volunteering

**Description:** VALYO is stands for 'Város és Folyó' which means 'river and city' in Hungarian.

The association is working on the valorisation of the riverside of the Danube in the area of Budapest. The Danube, as the largest and most characteristic natural treasure of the Hungarian capital, is currently demarcated by roads and it is pretty much inaccessible, but full with exciting and interesting spots. VALYO action group draws attention to these sites with the tools of art and community development and makes suggestions how to utilise and revalue these places.

The organization is active in the field of urban planning, environmental protection and culture through community formation. With their projects, they promoting the accessibility and sustainable use of waterways as natural urban spaces, strengthening the relationship of people to waterfronts, shaping attitudes towards sustainable and participatory urban development, environmental awareness, nature conservation, water facilities, water and waste management, tourism, sports and leisure activities and social sensitivity. They are also promoting science and scientific knowledge, disseminating the idea and application of volunteering, participation and community. One of VALYO's projects called Valyo!Part, with the slogan of 'Play! Relax! Enjoy the space! Experience the waterfront of the Danube! Consider it, as it would be yours!'. The valorisation program of the waterfront of the Danube started in 2011 and it was a very successful yearly event of every summer until 2015. (Unfortunately, they did not receive the necessary permits to hold the event in the 2015, so they could not organise the event any more, to their great regret.) In 2011, for the first time, they organised games to play being adapted to the conditions of the waterfront venue. (e.g. pétanque, backgammon, mill, duck toss, tango, giant chess, rope pulling.). The following year, they set up big armchairs made from pallets with a message on them to the city with the inscription D-U-N-A: "here is this beach, let's use it!" The beach was full of life. In the same year, at the Design Park! workshop, 12 designers addressed the possibilities of the waterfront space. In 2013 more than 100 speakers expressed their commitment to the cause of VALYO and the Danube. In the winter of 2013-2014, Valyo tried to use the waterfront area during winter: a mobile sauna was set up, providing an attractive and popular program regardless of the cold weather. In 2014, the first public drinking tap on the Danube bank was created in cooperation with the BETON workshop, more furniture was placed for people looking for some relaxation and VALYO Bus appeared functioned as a bar counter. The programs were organized around three different themes: literature / electronic music, football / national cuisine, children's programs / concerts.