

27. Steering group meeting of EUSDR Priority Area 10 28 – 29 November 2024, Stuttgart

*OUTLOOK ON THE EUSDR PRESIDENCY 2025 IN BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA*



**EUSDR Presidency of
Bosnia and Herzegovina**

01.01.2025 – 31.12.2025.

PROGRAMME

***FLOWING
TOGETHER,
GROWING
TOGETHER***



Bosnia and Herzegovina Presidency
of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Priorities (status November 2024)

► **SPEEDING UP THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PROCESS**

- stronger involvement of the EU Commission's DG NEAR and related line DGs in the implementation of the EUSDR;
- supporting the upcoming processes towards the new Cohesion Policy and further enhancing the process of embedding of EUSDR into EU funding mechanisms and thus laying ground for availability of funding sources needed for the implementation of the EUSDR beyond 2027. Special attention will be paid to actions in connection with next IPA and NDICI planning and programming;
- exploring the opportunities arising from the new Growth Plan for the Western Balkans that can potentially contribute to the accelerated implementation of the EUSDR



Priorities (2)

- ▶ Brain drain, the widening skills gap, depopulation and youth unemployment – also in connection with labour shortages and declining labour force;
- ▶ Security - cooperation in areas of civil protection, disaster preparedness , and issues related to migration management, border security and organised crime;
- ▶ Tourism and culture, green tourism as an inspiration for new tourist destinations, urban tourism connected with various festivals, Eno and gastro tourism;



Priorities (3)

- ▶ Digital and energy connectivity (regional interconnections development, optimisation of the renewable energy sources, promotion of regional energy markets, energy storage, implementation of the EU's Emissions Trading System (ETS) for road transport and EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)); - TBC
- ▶ Digitalisation of businesses and public services as an instrument of improving the Danube Region's efficiency, sustainability, and competitiveness;
- ▶ Regional contribution to the SDG UN Agenda 2030, involvement of major economic players, namely enterprises. Special focus will be paid to the application of the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS).



Cooperation, partners contributed to the drafting of the Programme, so far

- ▶ Republic of Croatia;
- ▶ PA 9;
- ▶ PA 10;
- ▶ Regional Cooperation Council;
- ▶ Being member in two EU macro-regional strategies (EU MRS), Bosnia and Herzegovina will work on further **enhancing the cooperation** between the **EUSDR** and the other three EU MRS. Since five EUSDR member states participate in the implementation of the **EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region (EUSAIR)** special attention will be on cooperation with that Strategy.



List of regular meetings/events

1	Informal NC-PAC meeting (+TRIO Meeting)	Spring 2025	To be considered
2	Participation in SG meetings to present the BA programme	Spring-summer 2025	Online/in presence, some of them in BiH (2-3)
3	SG meetings organised in Bosnia and Herzegovina during 2025 (some of them joint meetings with EUSAIR TSG meetings) PA 9 PA 10 - prepare/discuss Danube Participation Day, National Participation Day, Smart Communities Event, CBC Healthcare Event	Autumn 2025 15-16 May 2025	Preliminary idea is to hold it back to back with the Annual Forum Sarajevo Sarajevo
4	EUSDR NC-PAC meeting (+TRIO Meeting)		Sarajevo
5	EUSDR PAC Meeting		Banja Luka (opt. Sarajevo)
6	17 th HLG Meeting	Week 22-26/9/2025	Brussels
7	9 th Meeting of 4 MRS TRIO Presidencies Meeting	Week 22-26/9/2025	Brussels
9	4 th Danube Youth Camp	Spring 2025	Organised by the DSP



List of regular meetings/events (2)

10	EUSDR MA/Programming authorities Network meeting (embedding)		To be considered
11	EUSDR Chat with the Presidency		To be considered (online)
12	Danube Rectors' Conference – SEE2030 Conference with academia on inclusive economic growth	Fall 2025	To be considered
13	10 th conference of Danube Parliamentarians (initiative of the MFA)		To be considered
14	Thematic events/conferences/workshops (4-5)	2025	Different locations in Bosnia and Herzegovina
15	National Participation Day Bosnia and Herzegovina PA 10/DCSF/LDA Mostar	Spring 2025	To be considered
16	Danube Participation Day	4 November 2025 (TBC)	Sarajevo organised by the PA 10 and Danube Civil Society Forum, supported by the PCY. Partner: PA 9 (TBC)
17	14 th EUSDR Annual Forum and Ministerial Meeting	5-6 November 2025 (TBC)	Sarajevo Opening Ministerial (MFA) panel PA 9 panel discussion in the framework of the 14th EUSDR Annual Forum on “Avoiding Brain- Drain and Closing the Skills Gap: Green and Digital Skills for European Competitiveness”



Thematic events, confirmed so far

- ▶ Joint event of Bosnian and Herzegovinian 2025 EUSDR Presidency and the Republic of Croatia. Stronger together: activities in the Danube region to adapt to climate change, fight against flood and fire hazards and cooperation in cross-border health emergencies (Cooperation with PA10 (cross-border health emergencies);
- ▶ Fostering Green Transition - Implementation of the European Sustainability Reporting Standards in Danube Region. Partners: various
- ▶ Digitalisation - A Boost for Competitiveness, Efficiency and Sustainability. Partners: DEI, Ministry of Communications and Transport of BiH, MoFTER



Thematic events, confirmed so far (2)

- ▶ Conference: Implementation of the UN SDGs in Danube Region, partners: MFA, UN BiH Office, BiH Working group for SDGs;
- ▶ RCC's meeting on enhancing cooperation between the regional organisations of the neighbouring regions of SEE (CEI Secretariat, BSEC Secretariat, Union for Mediterranean Secretariat, and Adriatic Ionian Initiative Secretariat);
- ▶ RCC's meeting with international and regional development banks active in South East Europe, Black Sea, and Mediterranean regions;
- ▶ Smart Communities Event (digitalisation & community engagement for rural development: fighting brain drain, supporting tourism, economic development, service provision etc.) – preparing the call for follower regions (within the Horizon project SMART ERA); cross-MRS event. PA 10 (with EUSALP – AG Connectiveness, EUSBSR – PA Innovation, EUSAIR – Facility Point).



Thank you for your attention
and see you in Bosnia and
Herzegovina at some of the
meetings/events

**14th Annual Forum of the
EU Strategy for the Danube Region
(EUSDR)**

Sarajevo, (4), 5-6 November 2025 (TBC)

