

# 7th Meeting of the Steering Group of PA10 of the EUSDR

Brussels, 23 October 2014

Representation of Baden-Württemberg  
to the EU

# Agenda -1

<b>14.00-14.15</b>	Welcome Johannes Jung, Representation of Baden-Württemberg to the EU
<b>14.15-14.45</b>	Introduction Kurt Puchinger, PAC10 Irena Lukač, PAC10 Marco Onida, European Commission, DG Regio
<b>14.45-15.30</b>	Results and consequences of the 3rd Annual Forum Vienna Kurt Puchinger, Irena Lukač, Daniela Urschitz, Peter Langer, Jörg Mirtl, PA10
<b>15.30-16.00</b>	Coffee Break
<b>16.00-16.30</b>	News and Status of the Danube Transnational Programme Irina Cruceru, European Commission, DG Regio
<b>16.30-17.00</b>	EUSDR Report June 2014 Interpretation and discussion of the “Joint Statement” including the results of our PA10 questionnaire; discussion of the GAC conclusions on MRS governance Jörg Mirtl, PA10

# Agenda -2

<b>17.00-17.45</b>	<p>Presentation of the upcoming Danube Strategy Point Johannes Jung, Representation of Baden-Württemberg to the EU</p>
<b>17.45-18.00</b>	<p>PA10 Platforms and Pilot Projects; state of play Irena Lukač, Daniela Urschitz, Jörg Mirtl, Kurt Puchinger, PA10</p>
<b>18.00-18.15</b>	<p>Inclusion of already existing networks in the working structures of PA10 Kurt Puchinger, PAC10 Roman Haken, European Economic and Social Committee Erhan Turbedar, Regional Cooperation Council</p>
<b>18.15-18.30</b>	<p>The urban dimension of EU policies Eva Nussmüller, European Commission, DG Regio</p>
<b>18.15-18.30</b>	<p>Activities PA10 in the next future Irena Lukač, Kurt Puchinger, Priority Area Coordinators</p>
<b>18.30-19.00</b>	<p>Outlook to the 4th Annual Forum in Ulm and farewell Matthias Holzner, State Ministry Baden-Württemberg</p>

# Introduction

Kurt Puchinger, PAC10

Irena Lukač, PAC10

Marco Onida, European Commission, DG Regio

# Results and consequences of the 3rd Annual Forum Vienna

Kurt Puchinger, Irena Lukač, Daniela  
Urschitz Peter Langer, Jörg Mirtl,  
PA10

# Workshop: The Danube Civil Society Organisations: Stakeholders of the EUSDR

## Speakers:

- **Anders Bergström**, Norden Association, EUSBR
- **Margit Waestfelt**, Alternate Secretary General of Central European Initiative
- **Stefan August Lütgenau**, Danube Civil Society Forum
- **Iva Taralezhkova**, Chairperson of Citizen Participation Forum, Bulgaria

**Number of Participants: 40**

# Aims and issues of the workshop

- **Main aim:**
  - To mobilise local actors for active participation and implementation in the EUSDR
  - to initiate a structured bottom-up process, based on the results of the first EUSDR “Participation Day” and the “Eisenstadt Declaration”
- **Main issues of cooperation in the EUSDR:**
  - Further transnational co-operation, information and communication
  - Organize systematic participation, implementation and involvement
  - Strengthen Capacity building and financing

# Challenges and possible solutions

## **Furthering Information and communication and involvement:**

- A macro-regional strategy is a construct of multi-level governance. The regional and local level is carrying out 75% of the work that has to be done, therefore the local actors **MUST** be involved in planning, implementation and revision of the EUSDR.
- CSOs must deliver a concrete message to national and EU stakeholders/institutions. The European and the Danubian dimensions must be strengthened and better interlinked.
- The PA10 working group should be strengthened and enlarged and convene a meeting in the second semester 2014, to take stock of the annual conference:  
**creation of the D-LAP and 1. Meeting 04.11.2014**
- The involvement of the civil society in the governance of the EUSDR would be a great step forward, e.g. by designating a CSO representative as PAC, on the model of the EUSBSR.



## Workshop: the Urban Agenda in the Danube Region

### Panel – Speakers:

- **Madeleine Mahovsky** – Deputy head of unit DG Regio, Competence Centre for inclusive growth, urban and territorial development
- **Stefan Gänzle** – Associate Professor Department of Political Science and Management, University of Agder, Norway
- **Peter Langer** - General Coordinator of the Council of Danube Cities and Regions
- **Milan Ftáčnik**, Mayor of Bratislava
- **Milan Gajsek**, Head of the department for Urban Planning of the City of Ljubljana

**Number of Participants : 40**

## Focus of the workshop:

- Presentation and discussion of the interactions between two new strategies of the European Union in the context of the upcoming EU-funding period:
  - 1. macro regions
  - 2. urban policies
- The added value of cooperation between cities and regions in macro regions: lessons learnt, strategies for the future of the EUSDR

## Main messages:

- EU policies are still formulated in an very sectorial way, an integrated approach is needed at EU level
  - Therefore, we need an EU urban agenda
  - For the EUSDR, we need a City platform which strong enough to make it's voice heard
- The successfull Turku-process (EUSBR City network) shows that cooperation with neighbourhood countries on selected topics is one of the added value factors of macro regions
- The creation of the Urban Platform Danube Region (UPDR), working together with the Council of Danube Cities and Regions(CoDCR), is an important step in the right direction
  - The UPDR will work along three thematic axes: smart city, sustainable city, and inclusive city
  - The next stakeholder conference of the UPDR will take place an 26.-27. January in Vienna, back to back with the meeting of the CoDCR presidium

# Stepping up Institutional Capacity for Roma Inclusion in the Danube Region

## Speakers:

### Roma Inclusion in the Danube Region: challenges and opportunities

- **Ilona Negro**, DG Justice, Non-discrimination policies and Roma coordination unit
- **Daniel Vasile**, President of National Agency for the Roma – Government of Romania

### Discussion

- **Jörg Mirtl**, Priority Area 10
- **Susanne Pfanner**, Austrian National Contact Point for the Roma Strategy, Austrian Federal Chancellery
- **Iolanda Mihalache**, President of PartNET Association

**Number of Participants: 50**

## Focus

- Identification of synergies between the Danube and the Roma strategies, with a focus on structural prerequisites for Roma inclusion in the Danube Region, e.g. the cooperation between public institutions and civil society organisations.
- The majority of the Roma in Europe live in the Danube Region. The workshop provided a focussed approach and draw the attention mainly to the following dimensions of Roma inclusion:
  1. Links between Roma strategies and Structural Funds
  2. The role of local authorities and cities in relation to Roma inclusion
  3. Transnational exchange of experience in the Danube macro-region

# Follow-up meeting Vienna 9-10 October

- Joint meeting of PA10, PA9 and the Austrian Contact Point for Roma Integration
- Approx. 70 participants
- Participation of many key stakeholders: Representatives of regional authorities, line ministries, MAs, DGs JUST, EMPL & REGIO, FRA, EESC, RCC, etc.
- Call for a EUSDR Working Group on Roma and make Roma Inclusion a topic for 4th Annual Forum & BW „presidency“ of the EUSDR

## Main Messages

### *Roma Integration is...*

- about European Integration and vice versa
- about EU enlargement and vice versa
- a transnational and a macro-regional issue
- a matter of both territorial and social cohesion
- a cross-sectoral issue
- an investment (economic cohesion)

30'

**COFFEE BREAK**



# News and Status of the Danube Transnational Programme

Irina Cruceru, European Commission,  
DG Regio



# The Danube Programme supporting the EUSDR

23 October 2014



European  
Commission

## EUROPE 2020 strategy & EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Danube transnational programme 2014-2020  
Policy driver and pioneer to tackle common challenges and needs

PA 1 – Innovative and socially responsible Danube region

1.1 Improve framework conditions for innovation (1b)

1.2 Increase competences for business and social innovation (1b)

PA 2 – Environment and culture responsible Danube region

2.1 Sustainable use of natural & cultural heritage and resources (6c)

2.2 Restoring and managing ecological corridors (6d)

2.3 Transnational water management and flood risk prevention (6d)

2.4 Preparedness for disaster risk management (6d)

PA 3 – Better connected and energy responsible Danube region

3.1 Environmentally-friendly and safe transport systems and balanced accessibility of urban and rural areas (7c)

3.2 Improve energy security and energy efficiency (7e)

PA 4 – Well governed Danube region

4.1 Increase institutional capacities to tackle major societal challenges (11)

4.2 Support the governance and implementation of the EUSDR (11)

PA 5 – Technical Assistance

Efficient & smooth implementation of the cooperation programme

## PA 4 (1)

- *Support the exchange and transfer of know-how and best practices on labour market policies*
  - *Support institutional capacities and framework conditions for implementing education systems and policies*
  - *Support the joint development and improvement policies and innovative learning systems that address demographic change and migration*
  - *Support the exchange and transfer of know-how and best practices on social inclusion policies between e.g. labour market institutions and social partner organisations*
  - *Improve joint policies and implemented tools to strengthen participatory planning process and involvement of civil society*

# PA 4 (2)

## **1. Facility for direct support to EUSDR governance**

Each of the eleven priority areas of the Danube Region Strategy are managed by two Priority Area Coordinators (PACs). The aim of this element of the priority is to provide a stable source to fund activities of the PACs on a longer run.

## **2. Seed money/project development fund facility**

This instrument is providing support to all project developers in the thematic fields of the Strategy. Small scale financial assistance would be available for EUSDR-relevant project ideas.

## **3. The EUSDR Focal Point**

It is an independent structure aiming to provide general and specific support on EUSDR to the work and cooperation of EUSDR stakeholders. It will be hosted by the representation of Baden-Württemberg in Brussels.

National co-financing rate: minimum **15%**  
(project cofinancing all around the programme area)

**202.3 Meur ERDF**

**19.8 Meur IPA**

Total programme budget:  
**263 Meur**  
(including Technical Assistance)

EUSDR Report June 2014, “Joint Statement” including the results of the PA10 questionnaire; discussion of the GAC conclusions on MRS governance

Jörg Mirtl, PA10

# Statement of Foreign Ministers 26 June

- Ministers asked NCs, PACs to present concrete proposals for a focus in policy cooperation
- Steering Groups should develop their strategic concepts
- More coordination with EU2020 targets
- Build on existing formats and fora
- Swift completion of projects, especially with high visible impact
- Informal ministerial meetings (line ministries), informal Priority Area ministerial meetings
- NCs shall convene for regular meetings, serve as an interface between political level and PAs
- Examination of the added value of a special representative



## Statement of Foreign Ministers (2)

- AF Ulm: horizontal aspects of the Strategy:  
*Citizen involvement, skilled labour, entrepreneurship, competitiveness*
- Line ministries to design governance support options in the relevant EU programming frameworks
- Further activities: PAC support, PAC reporting, networking, information and publicity

# GAC conclusions on MRS governance

GAC reiterates general principles:

- Build upon existing institutions, existing legislation, existing funding
- EUSDR related to economic, social and territorial cohesion as well as enlargement
- Multi-level approach: EU level, transnational, regional and local levels. Parliamentary dimension.
- Governance: Who does what and how
- Aim: Having a streamlined process
- Importance of institutional and administrative capacity is mentioned
- Development of monitoring and evaluation tools

# Political leadership and ownership

## EC

- Plays a leading role in MRS coordination
- Delivers coherence of MRS with other policies
- Strengthen policy discussions, use AFs
- Ensure parliamentary dimension
- Role of relevant Ministries, including meetings
- Better involvement of Council formations

## Member States

- Reinforce the political leadership and ownership of MRS
- Maintain political commitment
- Strengthen policy discussions, use Afs
- Ensure parliamentary dimension
- Role of relevant Ministries, including meetings
- Better involvement of Council formations

# Coordination

## EC

- Plays a leading role in MRS coordination
- Ensures coherence of MRS with other EU policies
- Coordination among DGs
- Ensure compliance with financing authorities and Partnership Agreements
- Link between political decisions and implementation, including the cross-policy and cross-sectoral coordination

## Member States

- Provide management resources, set a clear breakdown of responsibilities
- Political guidance for the operational level
- Empower key implementers (NCs, PACs)
- HLG to coordinate among MRS (maybe also role of INTERACT)
- Make use of potential of transnational ETC programmes
- Ensure compliance with financing authorities and Partnership Agreements
- Link between political decisions and implementation, including the cross-policy and cross-sectoral coordination

# Implementation

## EC

- Provide expertise and coherence with regard to funding, networks, EU and regional institutions and stakeholders
- Building administrative capacities for project development
- Adequate support for PACs & NCs
- Fully explore the EU funds
- Raise awareness
- Ensure appropriate monitoring and evaluation

## Member States

- Make effective use of key implementers (NCs, PACs, SG)
- Engage private sector
- Include MRS into programming
- Using transnational ETC programmes for support of PACs and NCPs
- Building administrative capacities for project development
- Adequate support for PACs & NCs
- Fully explore the EU funds
- Raise awareness
- Ensure appropriate monitoring and evaluation

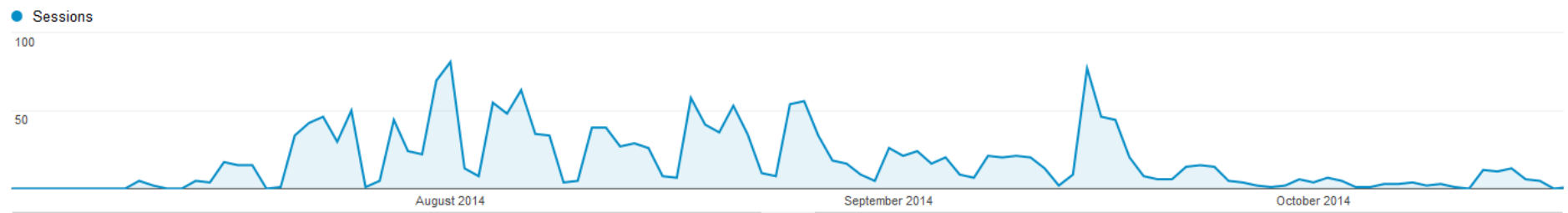
## Main results of the PAC10 questionnaire

- In order to assess the state of play in all the Danube countries and obtain a **clearer picture** PAC10 has formulated a questionnaire
- There is a clear **commitment** to drive the Strategy forward, civil servants are explicitly appointed to the Strategy
- Countries that have already organised an AF state a higher degree of visibility of the EUSDR and a closer link towards national policies
- *Average* EUSDR workload per month: **39,5 hours**

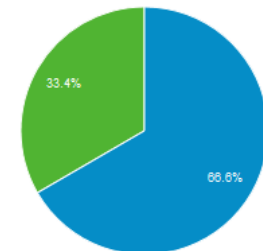
## EUSDR could be made more visible through...

- Showcases of large projects
- Storytelling of successes, best practices
- Information campaigns on the national level, also tailored for specific groups of stakeholders
- Clearer links between EUSDR and EU funds
- Projects and investments should be linked to the EUSDR in the upcoming MFF
- Concrete results

# PA10 website statistics



■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor





Country / Territory ?	Acquisition		
	Sessions ? ↓	% New Sessions ?	New Users ?
	<b>1,973</b> % of Total: 100.00% (1,973)	<b>66.65%</b> Site Avg: 66.65% (0.00%)	<b>1,315</b> % of Total: 100.00% (1,315)
1.  Austria	333 (16.88%)	23.42%	78 (5.93%)
2.  Moldova	326 (16.52%)	61.96%	202 (15.36%)
3.  Romania	252 (12.77%)	67.06%	169 (12.85%)
4.  Serbia	214 (10.85%)	87.85%	188 (14.30%)
5.  Hungary	161 (8.16%)	70.81%	114 (8.67%)
6.  Croatia	158 (8.01%)	83.54%	132 (10.04%)
7.  Slovenia	140 (7.10%)	67.86%	95 (7.22%)
8.  Bulgaria	112 (5.68%)	83.93%	94 (7.15%)
9.  Czech Republic	53 (2.69%)	92.45%	49 (3.73%)
10.  Bosnia and Herzegovina	44 (2.23%)	88.64%	39 (2.97%)
11.  Slovakia	44 (2.23%)	88.64%	39 (2.97%)
12.  Germany	34 (1.72%)	79.41%	27 (2.05%)
13.  Ukraine	21 (1.06%)	80.95%	17 (1.29%)
14.  Montenegro	14 (0.71%)	92.86%	13 (0.99%)
15.  Italy	9 (0.46%)	88.89%	8 (0.61%)
16.  Belgium	8 (0.41%)	50.00%	4 (0.30%)

## Main challenges for PA10

- Better communication and information flow
- Low level of funding for transnational projects
- Political recognition
- Personal continuity of the SG and other stakeholders
- Awareness of stakeholders on the objectives of EU Strategy for the Danube Region and identifying financial resources
- Involve all available political support!
- **PA10 is horizontal**: strong coordination with other PAs
- Building Capacity also among EUSDR stakeholders

# Tools for a better absorption of EU funds

- Simplification of administrative procedures
- Support of project preparation
- Better preparation of administrative capacities
- Introducing the EUSDR into the OPs
- Place-based approach
- Analyzes and studies
- Structural measures and reforms
- Inclusion of civil society

# Presentation of the upcoming Danube Strategy Point

Johannes Jung, Representation of  
Baden-Württemberg to the EU

# **Danube Strategy Point**

## **Expression of Interest**

### **State of Baden-Württemberg**

**Brussels 1 September 2014**



**Baden-Württemberg**

# Baden-Württemberg – a reliable partner in the EUSDR

- Long dating partnership with the States in South East Europe
- Active engagement in the development and implementation of the EUSDR
- Nearly 2 Mio. Euro invested in 34 cooperation projects in the Danube Region
- Initiator of the Brussels Danube Network
- Strong backing across all political parties

**→ Fair, reliable and neutral broker at the service of all partner states of the EUSDR**



# A Strategy Point in Brussels – in the heart of Europe and connected to the Danube Region

- Close to
  - Permanent Representations of all Danube States
  - European Institutions
  - Other important actors
- In house competence in all thematic areas of the EUSDR
- Modern meeting facilities
- Attractive to highly qualified staff from Danube countries
- Easy access from the whole Danube region



# Work plan

- Support for implementation
  - Support for communication
  - Support for monitoring and evaluation and for evidence-based decision making
  - Support for linking the EUSDR to the Danube Transnational Programme
- ➔ The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Danube Strategy “*agreed that the main tasks and the financing of the Strategy Point should be further defined in advance.*”





# Planned institutional set-up

## Baden-Württemberg State Ministry

Representation of the  
State of Baden-  
Württemberg to the EU

EUSDR  
Strategy  
Point

Brussels

Department for European  
Policy, International Affairs  
and Protocol

EUSDR  
National  
Coordinator

Danube  
Service  
Office

Stuttgart



# Value for money

Cost category	Costs year 1	Costs year 2	Costs for 2 years
2 senior staff (management of the SP, thematic and content coordination)	260.000 €	260.000 €	520.000 €
2 junior staff (assistance, office and event management, administration)	210.000 €	210.000 €	420.000 €
2 interns	12.000 €	12.000 €	24.000 €
4 office rooms	30.000 €	30.000 €	60.000 €
Workplaces (furniture)	25.000 €	-	25.000 €
Workplaces (running expenses)	7.500 €	7.500 €	15.000 €
IT, communication (computer, phones)	6.000 €	-	6.000 €
External costs events	5.000 €	5.000 €	10.000 €
External costs (website, catering, printing)	125.000 €	125.000 €	250.000 €
Travel costs	10.000 €	10.000 €	20.000 €
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>690.500 €</b>	<b>659.500 €</b>	<b>1.350.000 €</b>



# Timeline

9/2014	Decision on the host of the Strategy Point
10-11/2014	Definition of the tasks of the Strategy Point based on a meeting of the NCs in September 2014
12/2014	Signature of grant agreement with the EC
1-4/2015	Setting up of the Strategy Point Recruiting of the staff members, Start of the operational work
5-6/2015	Strategy Point set up and running
7/2015	Presentation of the draft work plan until End 2016 at a NC / PAC meeting
10/2015	Presentation of a first progress report during the 2015 Annual Forum in Ulm



# Thank you for your attention



Baden-Württemberg

The SG of PA10 expressed its will to support the upcoming Strategy Point of the EUSDR and welcomed the establishment of this facility. It pointed out that it should also play a crucial role in the policy making procedure in the Danube Region. This aspect should be communicated to the National Coordinators of the EUSDR.

## **CONCLUSION #1**

# PA10 Platforms and Pilot Projects; state of play

Irena Lukač, Daniela Urschitz, Jörg  
Mirtl, Kurt Puchinger, PA10

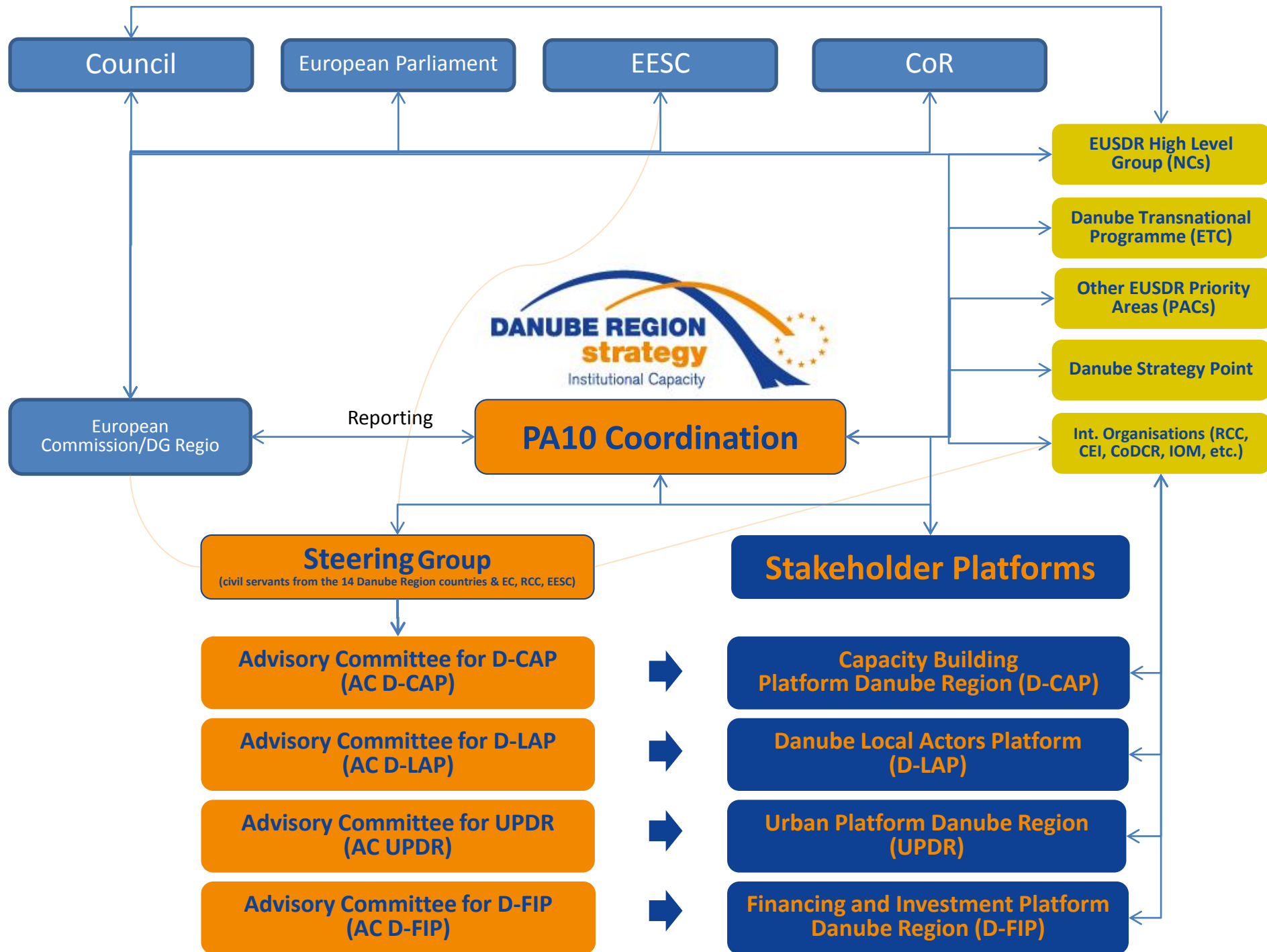
## 4 Stakeholder Platforms

**Capacity Building Platform Danube Region**

**Danube Local Actors Platform**

**Urban Platform Danube Region**

**Financing Platform Danube Region**





## **Danube Local Actors Platform (D-LAP)**

**An initiative of Priority Area 10  
„Institutional Capacity and Cooperation“  
of the EUSDR**

## Who participates in the D-LAP?

Representatives

- **civil society umbrella organisations** (CSOs) from the Danube Region
- **public administrations responsible for regional/urban policies and funding**
- **relevant international organisations**
- **academia**

interested in

- **cooperation**
- exchange of **information**
- **knowledge transfer** in the area of governance, macro-regional development, civil society etc.
- **making their voice heard** via joint public statements, organization/participation in stakeholder events, Annual Fora of the EUSDR

## How does the D-LAP work?

- The D-LAP is organized by an **advisory committee** representing the 14 EUSDR member countries and the three groups of local actors
- The advisory committee meets twice a year , and interacts via the PA 10 website
- The advisory committee prepares statements, and sees to the follow up , at national and EUSDR-level, of the D-LAP roadmap – basically the „Eisenstadt Declaration“ of June 2014
- The advisory committee prepares the „Participation Day“, the local actors stakeholder meeting held at the Annual Forum of the EUSDR
- First meeting of the D-LAP advisory Committee: 4 November 2014, Vienna

# Urban Platform Danube Region

**A joint initiative of the cities of Vienna and Ulm in the framework of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region**

23 October 2014 | Brussels

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Vienna, showing a dense urban grid and a winding river. A semi-transparent blue rectangular box highlights a specific area in the center of the city, containing the text '23 October 2014 | Brussels'.

## **What is the Urban Platform Danube Region (UPDR)?**

- A joint initiative of the cities of Ulm and Vienna with a common secretariate in Vienna
- A network based upon the Council of Danube Cities and Regions which was founded in 2011 during the consultation phase of the EUSDR

## **Which are the objectives of the UPDR?**

- The UPDR brings the political framework of the CoDCR to the administrative level and enlargens it to the entire Danube macro-region (including 9 EU-MS and 5 third states)
- The UPDR provides an online platform for information exchange of cities in the Danube Region
- The UPDR provides the cities of the Danube Region with a common voice in the framework of the EUSDR implementation
- The UPDR links the EU2020 targets to the urban level in the Danube Region

## Common challenges

- Need for **more coherence** between regional and national policies
- **Decentralization** in transition countries could have been be more effective; strengthening of **local governance**
- Privatization led to **lack of social housing** in some countries, few affordable housing for marginalized groups
- Concentrated economic growth in capitals; smaller cities cannot catch up, rural and urban **depopulation**
- Substantial improvements towards **healthier urban environments**
- More investment into integrated public **transport** networks, underdeveloped rail and road networks
- Lack of single cross-country documents for urban policies
- Need for further **institutional and legislative reforms**

## Common opportunities

- **Better spending of ESIF** in the upcoming budget period (bottlenecks)
- Stronger **cooperation** of cities and city networks in the Danube Region
- 75% of the EU population lives in cities, growing potential for urban development which is becoming a key element of Regional Policy of the EU
- Urban areas are directly targeted by several of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) investment priorities
- In each EU member state, a minimum **5 % of the ERDF** will be invested in integrated sustainable urban development; its on-the-ground deployment will be decided and directed by urban authorities
- 330 million Euro will fund innovative actions in the field of sustainable urban development over a seven-year period
- **URBACT**, the European cities networking cooperation programme will be more result-oriented and will help cities promote and enhance their work on integrated sustainable urban development

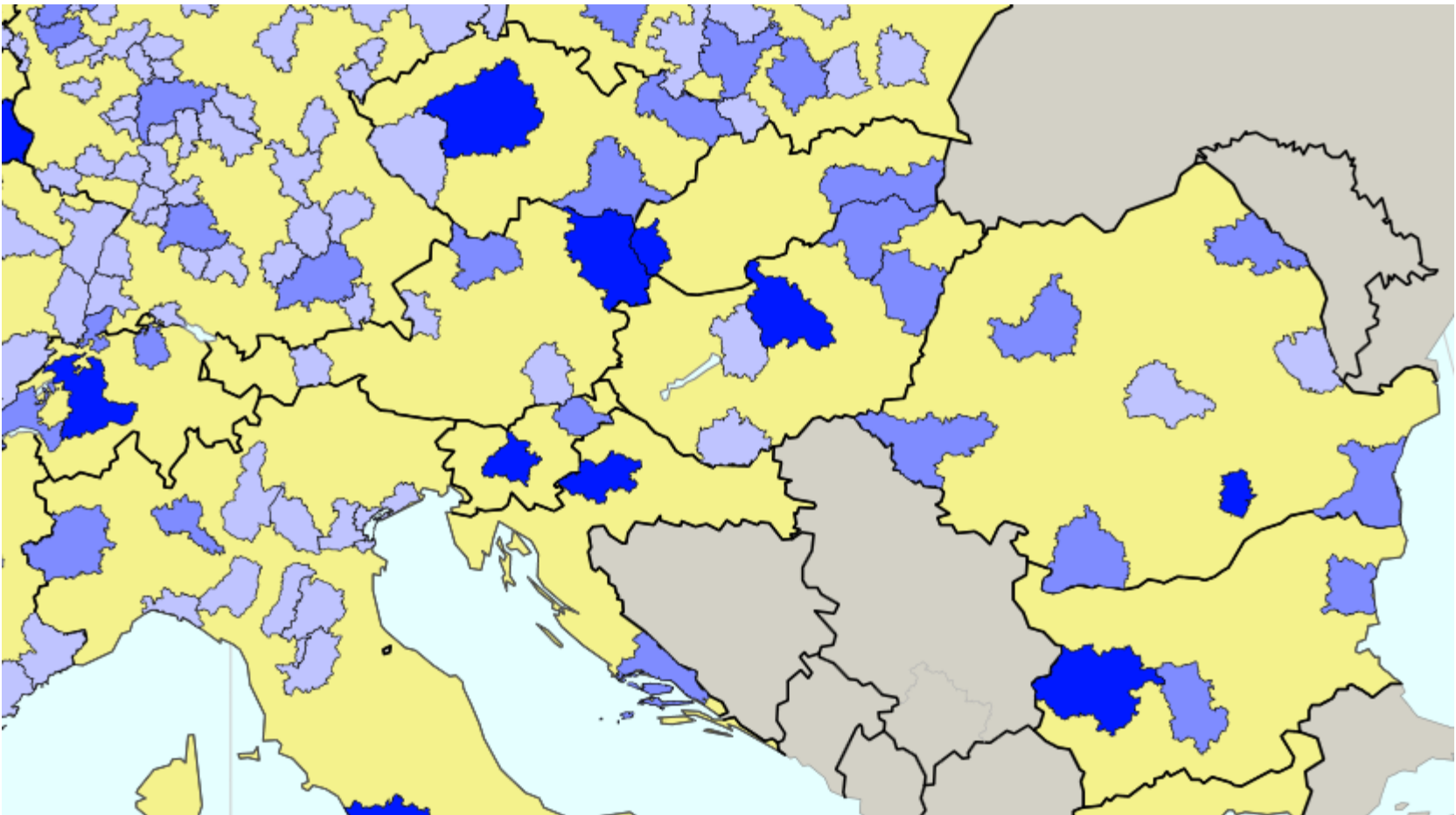
## Timeline of the establishment of the UPDR

Action Plan of the EUSDR (8 December 2010)

- *Action - “To build Metropolitan Regions in the Danube Region”* – A platform of existing and emerging metropolis regions should be initiated in order to establish a framework for learning and development of common ideas in all areas relevant to metropolitan development. City networks should promote cooperation and exchange of information and experience among e.g. administrative experts, municipal and regional parliaments. There is a scope for knowledge exchange of agglomeration development strategies. This will lead to faster dissemination of good practice and the detection of promising fields of concrete cooperation on public authority level and for business.



Metropolitan Regions in the Danube  
Region (EU-MS only; Eurostat definition)



- 27-28 October 2013: Bucharest statement: „**Towards an Urban Platform Danube Region**“
- 9-10 December 2013: Conference „**Building the Urban Future in the Danube Region**“
- April 2014: PAC10 and General Coordinator of CoDCR invited more than 200 cities to participate in the UPDR and to sign a ‚letter of commitment‘
- Cities commit themselves either to act as „**thematic leaders**“ or to participate as normal members
- 26 June 2014: Meeting of CoDCR „**Perspectives of Urban Policies in the Danube Region: Enlargement of the Council of Danube Cities and Regions (CoDCR) and Establishment of the Urban Platform Danube Region (UPDR)**“; Cities which join the UPDR also join the CoDCR
- 27 June 2014: UPDR to be presented at the 3rd Annual Forum of the EUSDR; workshop „**The Urban Agenda in the Danube Region – Growing Together on the Urban Platform**“
- → Implementation phase of the UPDR starts, cities share information on the UPDR web platform and thematic leaders organize workshops

Policy level EUSDR  
HLG, EC, CoR, EESC,  
Council, EP



Rat der **Donau-**  
städte und -regionen  
Conseil des villes et  
régions du **Danube**

## URBAN PLATFORM DANUBE REGION

Thematic Leader 1  
Vienna  
„Smart City“

Thematic Leader 2  
Ljubljana  
„Transport“

Thematic Leader 3  
Bratislava  
„Transparency“

Thematic Leader 4  
Ulm  
„Culture“

...

Participating City

Participating City

Participating City

Ideas

Projects

Projects

Participating City

# UPDR Website – www.updr.eu



Login

Database:  
Cities/projects/networks/events

Key EUSDR policy  
documents

CITY SEARCH

KEYWORD SEARCH

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consetetur  
sadipscing elitr, sed diam nonumy.

CITY

All cities

TOPIC

All

SEARCH FOR

All

SEARCH

CITIES

TOPICS

DANUBE STRATEGY

URBAN POLICIES

## URBAN PLATFORM DANUBE REGION

The Danube river has the greatest number of bordering countries worldwide, but also the largest concentration of cities and metropolitan areas, which gives the Danube Region potential for becoming one of the most dynamic, competitive and thriving regions of the European Union in the 21th century.

Although the importance of the integration of regional and local administrations, cities and civil society in the implementation of the strategy is generally recognized at all levels as being crucial to the Strategy's success, the practical involvement of these organisational levels and institutions still has to gather momentum.

Therefore, one of the main aims of PA 10 is the setting up of an "Urban Platform Danube Region", uniting as many Cities, City-Networks and associations in the Danube region as possible in order to enhance their ownership in the EUSDR, at the same time strengthening their leadership role in the region and the strategy. The Platform does not want to replace the many existing networks, but to complement them with a regional aspect, as well as the possibility of an open information and exchange process.

Information on Funding  
and Urban Policies

ABOUT UPDR

LATEST ACTIVITIES



MEMBER SEARCH

KEYWORD SEARCH

Members include cities, regions and organizations participating in the UPDR.

MEMBER

All members

TOPIC

All

SEARCH FOR

All

[SEARCH](#)

NEXT EVENTS

MEMBERS

TOPICS

DANUBE STRATEGY

URBAN POLICIES

FUNDING

PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

MARKETPLACE

DOCUMENTS

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## Draft outline of the cooperation programme

**DANUBE TRANSNATIONAL cooperation programme (CP) 2014-2020**  
Policy driver and pioneer to tackle common challenges and needs

**PA 1 – Innovative and socially responsible Danube region**

**Improve framework conditions and a balanced access to knowledge (1b)**

**Increase skills and knowledge for innovation (1b)**

**PA 2 – Environment and Culture responsible Danube region**

**Natural and cultural heritage valorisation (6c)**

**Restoring & managing ecological corridors (6d)**

**Transnational water management and flood risk prevention (6d)**

**Improve the preparedness to manage risks (6d)**

**PA 3 – Better connected Danube region**

**Connectivity to TEN-T (7b)**

**Environmentally-friendly, transport systems (7c)**

**Coordinate smart energy distribution systems (7e)**

**Improve regional energy planning and – coordination (7e)**

**PA 4 – Well governed Danube region**

**Multilevel- and transnational governance (11)**

**Governance of the EUSDR (11)**

**PA 5 – Technical Assistance**

**Efficient & smooth implementation of the programme**

## Priority Axis 4: Well governed Danube Region

**Thematic objective 11:** Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through actions to strengthen the institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF...

**Thematic objective 11/ETC:** Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration by developing and coordinating macro-regional and sea-basin strategies

**Specific objective 4.1: Strengthen multilevel and transnational governance in areas with major societal problems**

**Specific objective 4.2: Improve the governance of EUSDR and complex transnational project development**

Action: Institutional cooperation in the field of labour market policies and education & training programmes

Action: Direct support to EUSDR governance in each of its Priority Areas

Action: Institutional cooperation in the field of demographic changes and migration challenges

Action: Facilitating the development of complex strategic transnational projects by establishing a seed money/project development fund facility

Action: Institutional cooperation in the field of inclusion of marginalized groups, including Roma

Action: Establishment of an EUSDR Focal Point to facilitate the information flow between EUSDR key actors

Action: Institutional cooperation in the field of civil society and development programmes

Action: Institutional cooperation in the field of integration of metropolitan regions in Danube area

Action: Institutional cooperation in security issues, crime prevention

# Institutional Capacity Platform | D-CAP

STRUCUTRE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

THEMATIC FOCUS



## Working Group on Institutional Capacity | Members

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### Public Administration Ministries / Academies:

1. Austria - Centre for Public Administration Research
2. Bulgaria - National Institute of Public Administration
3. Croatia - Ministry of Public Administration
4. Croatia – National School of Public Administration
5. Germany, Bavaria – BVS, Bavarian Public Administration School
6. Hungary – Ministry of Public Administration and Justice
7. Romania – Ministry of regional Development and Public Administration
8. Serbia - Professional Training Centre, Human Resources Management Service
9. Slovenia – Ministry of Justice and Public Administration
10. Slovenia – Faculty of Administration
11. Ukraine - National Academy of Public Administration

### Specialized and regional training institutions:

12. Germany, Baden-Wuerttemberg - Euro Institut
13. INT (Montenegro) – ReSPA, Regional School of Public Administration
14. Slovenia – CEF, Center of Excellence in Finance

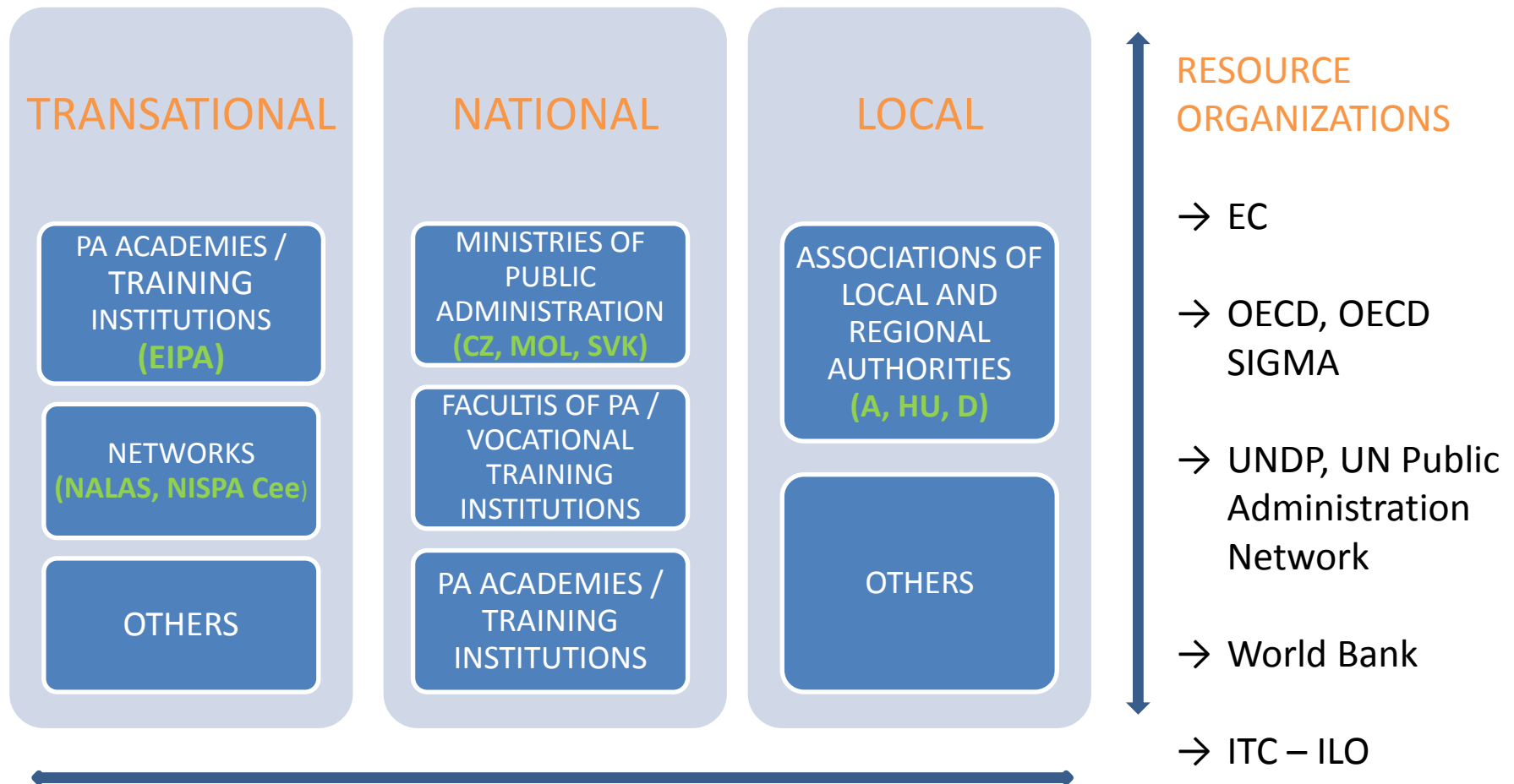
### Others:

15. Austria – BBG, Public Procurement Authority
16. IMO, International Organization for Migration
17. Serbia - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Initiative Unit, Sector for the EU
18. Serbia – Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina

**18 institutions: 10 Danube region countries, 2 international organizations**

# Institutional Capacity Platform | D-CAP

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE (existing members + new)



## Institutional Capacity Platform | D-CAP

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### THEMATIC FOCUS

- Excellence in public PA (case studies of good practice in PA in DR)
- E-government → urban platform (D – UPDR)
- Smart government - innovation in PA → urban platform (D – UPDR)
- Managing change in PA
- Public procurement
- EU Funds absorption → financing & inv. platform (D – FIP)
- Migration → local actors platform (D – LAP)
- Local/regional authorities → urban platform (D – UPDR) & local actors platform (D–LAP)
- Other cross cutting EUSDR issues (capacity development within the EUSDR structure)



**Enabling of structured dialogue and change**

# Financing and Investment Platform | D-FIP

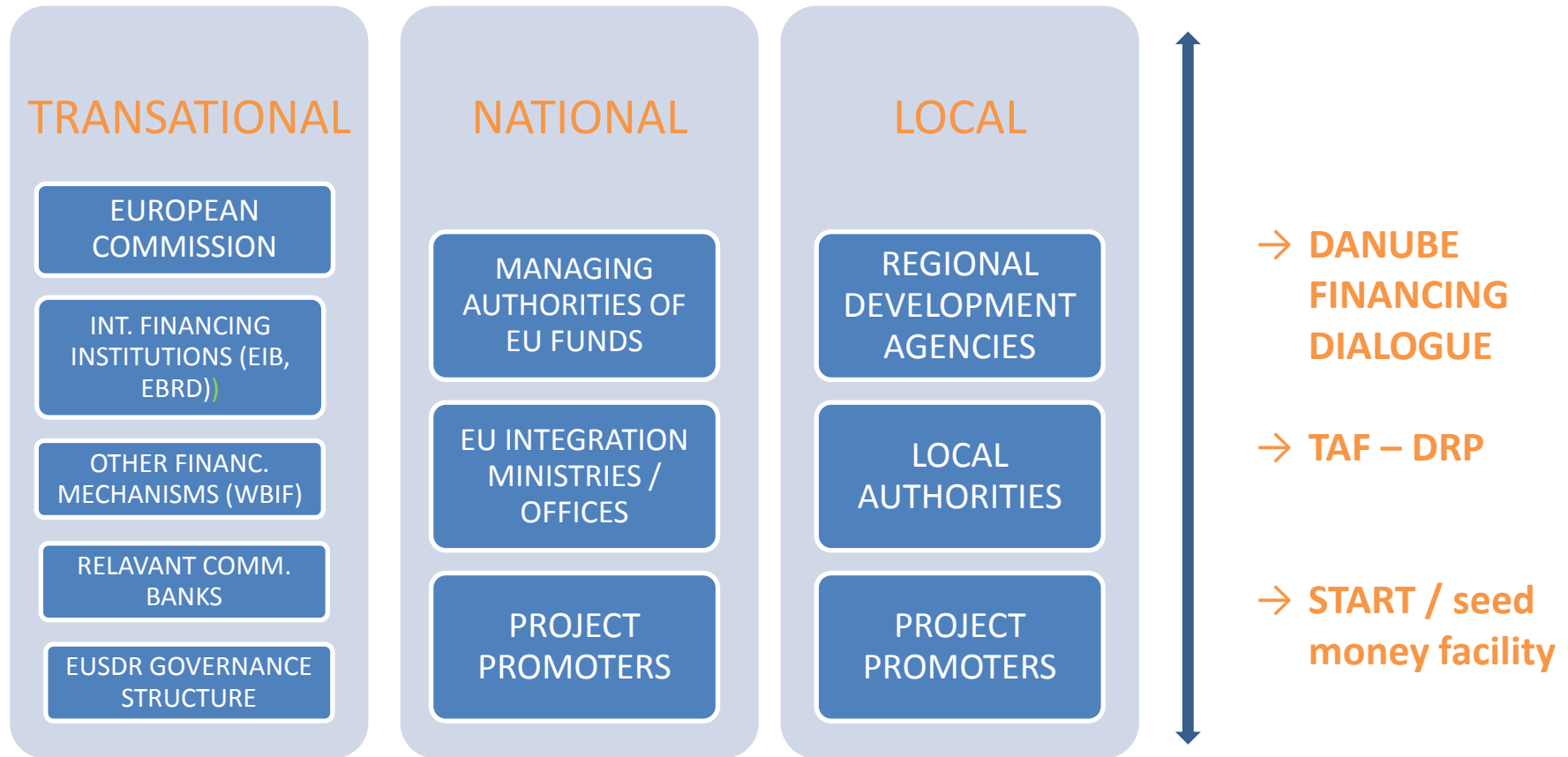
STRUCUTRE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

THEMATIC FOCUS

# Financing and Investment Platform | D-FIN

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE



### THEMATIC FOCUS

- Information source for DR project promoters & other stakeholders
  - General overview of (ESIF, IPA, ENI, ETC programs)
  - EUSDR thematic (priority area) focus
  - Contact info of relevant DR countries (MAs, NCs of IPA and ENI)
- Use of different funding sources EIF – IPA – ENI (aligning)
- E – Cohesion → institutional capacity platform (D – CAP)
- EUSDR financing opportunities
  - Events (DFD)
  - START – seed money facility, TAF – DRP
- Match-making platform for DR projects / promoters

# PA10 Pilot Projects

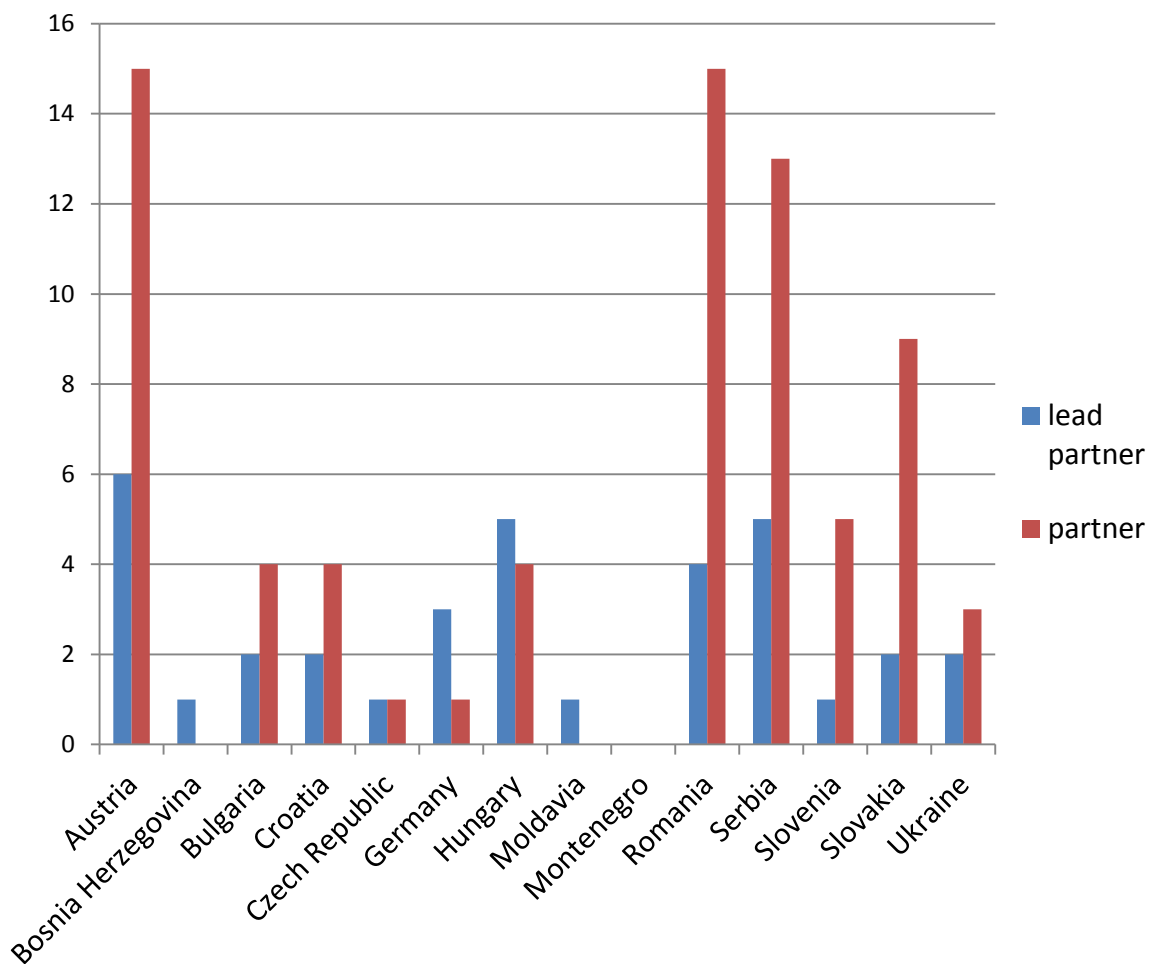
TAF-DRP – Technical Assistance Facility for  
Danube Region Projects

START – Danube Seed Money Facility

DFD – Danube Financing Dialogue

# TAF-DRP: Statistics (1st and 2nd Call)

Country	lead partner	partner
Austria	6	15
Bosnia Herzegovina	1	0
Bulgaria	2	4
Croatia	2	4
Czech Republic	1	1
Germany	3	1
Hungary	5	4
Moldavia	1	0
Montenegro	0	0
Romania	4	15
Serbia	5	13
Slovenia	1	5
Slovakia	2	9
Ukraine	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>74</b>





# TAF-DRP: Completed projects (examples)

## **1. DREAM (Danube River Research and Development) Start**

The partners of the DREAM project were supported in preparing and submitting an application for funding from the HORIZON2020 Programme.

Lead partner: University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

## **2. DanReGeotherm (Danube Region Geothermal Concept)**

Important milestones have been completed towards the submission of a project application for the HORIZON 2020 Programme. The outputs of the project were a project concept and inputs for the project proposal, incl. indicative budget and project structure, work packages.

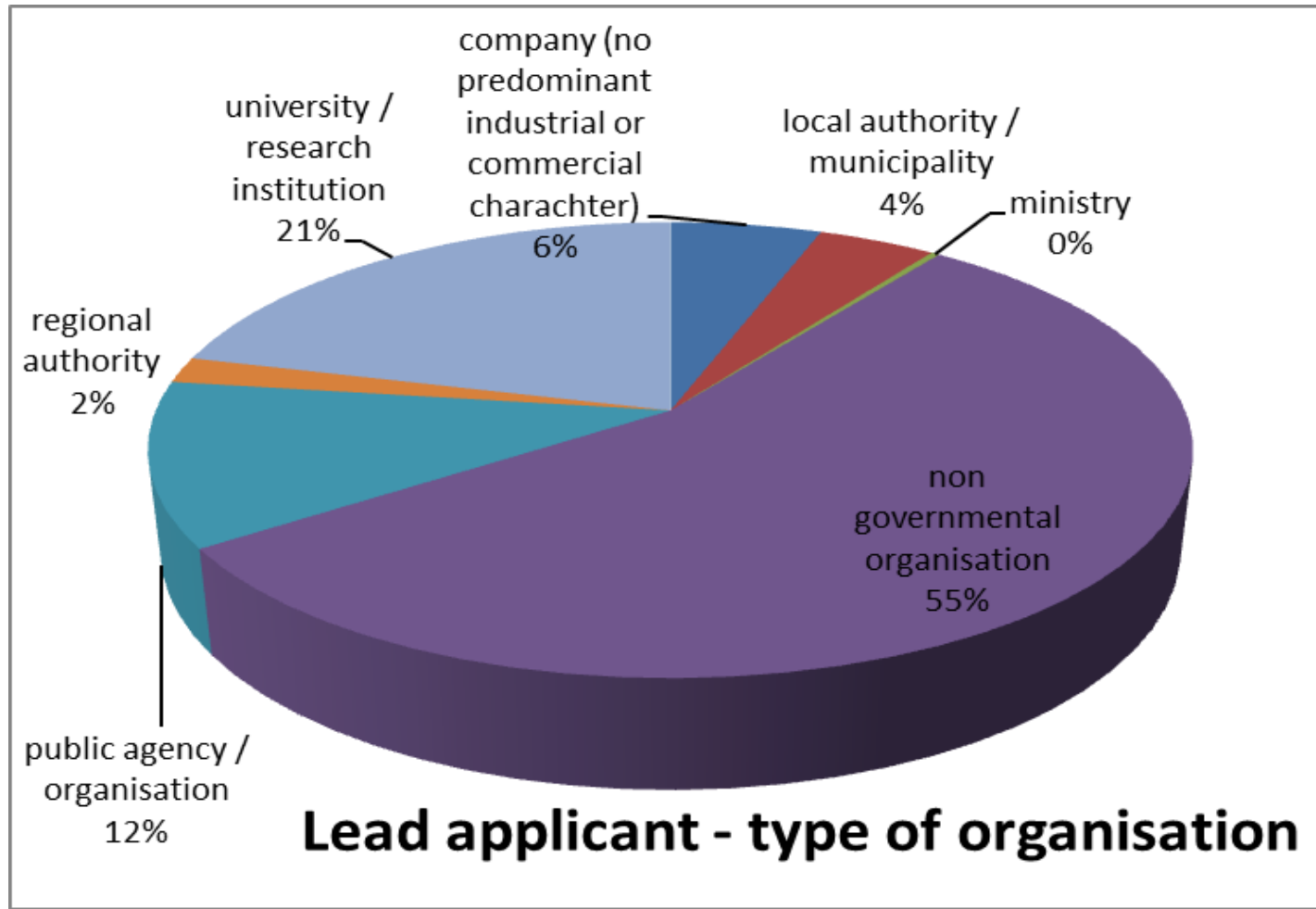
Lead partner: Geological and Geophysical Institute of Hungary

## START: 1<sup>st</sup> call: Facts & figures

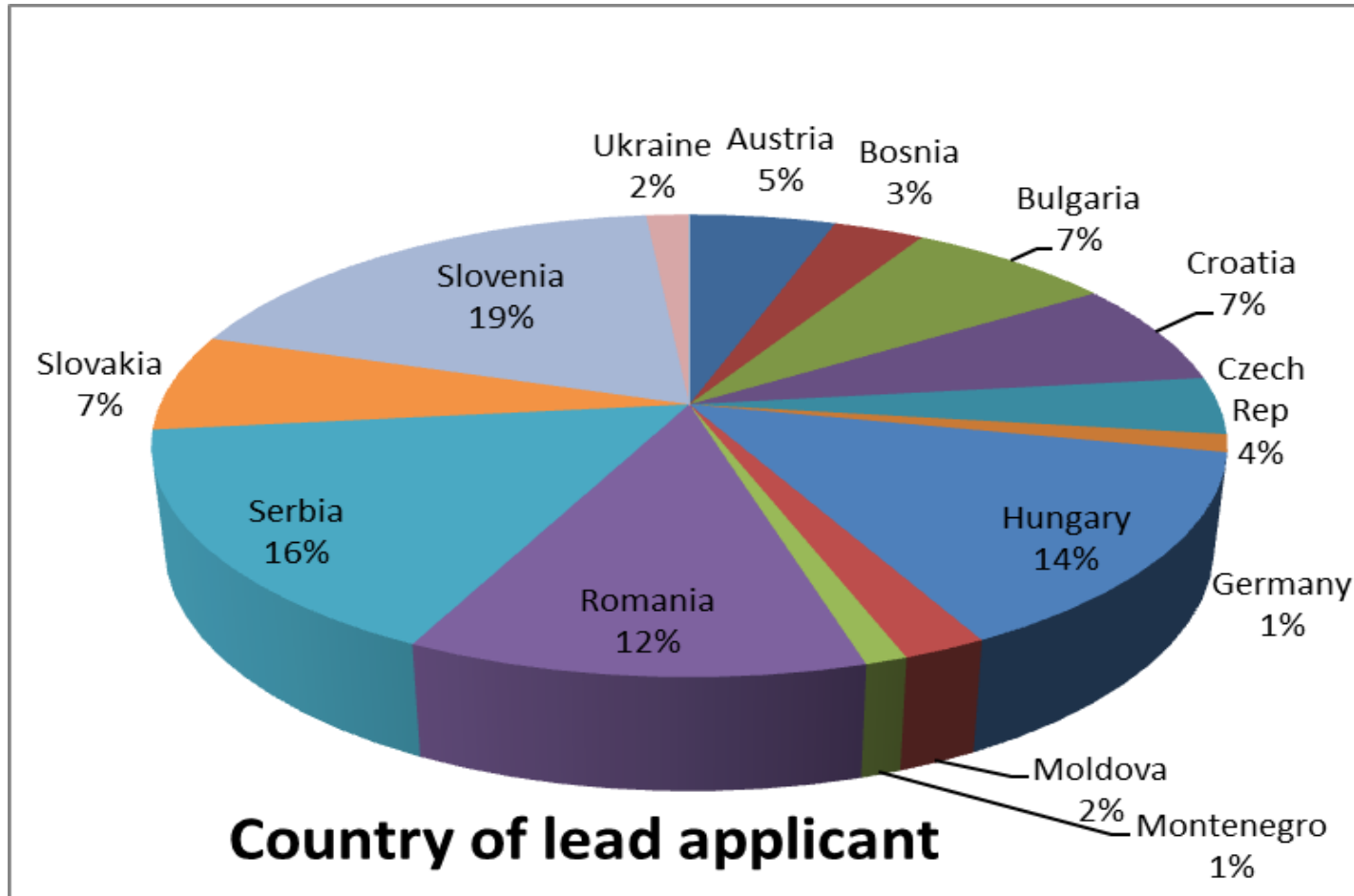
- Duration of the call: **8 weeks** (18th of July to 17th of September 2014)
- Registrations in the online application tool: **1005**
- Applications formally submitted through the online application tool by the deadline: **871**
- Applications that passed the formal check: **651** (76,1%)
- Applications that did not pass the formal check: **220** (23,9%)

PA	submitted applications	KO	% of total (average)	formally correct	% of total
PA 1A	10	2	20,00%	8	1,23%
<b>PA 1B</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27,27%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1,23%</b>
PA 2	58	13	22,41%	45	6,91%
PA 3	207	54	26,09%	153	23,50%
PA 4	40	8	20,00%	32	4,92%
PA 5	57	18	31,58%	39	5,99%
PA 6	63	17	26,98%	46	7,07%
PA 7	81	17	20,99%	64	9,83%
PA 8	76	17	22,37%	59	9,06%
PA 9	128	34	26,56%	94	14,44%
PA 10	127	35	27,56%	92	14,13%
PA 11	13	2	15,38%	11	1,69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>23,93%</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>100,0%</b>

## START: Facts & figures-after formal check (I)



## START: Facts & figures-after formal check (II)



# START: Facts & figures-after formal check (III)

## General project characteristics

- **Average project budget (total expenditure): € 43.700,00**
- **Average requested START grant (maximum 40.000€): € 35.700,00**
- **Average % of START funding from total project budget (maximum 90%): 82%**

## Outcomes

- **Large interest for START from the entire Danube Region**
- **The need for financing support for projects in the Danube Region is very high**
- **The number of project applications shows the engagement of many organisations and the innovation potential in the Danube Region**
- **The relevance of funding schemes, especially for small projects is very high; they are often not available in EU programmes**

## Danube Financing Dialogues – Second Round

### PA10, Action “To examine the feasibility of a Danube Investment Framework”

4<sup>th</sup> DFD at organised  
by PA10, HR MFA and  
the National Bank of  
Croatia in Zagreb on  
13 March 2015 (tbc)

5<sup>th</sup> DFD  
Tba, Bulgaria?  
2015

6<sup>th</sup> DFD  
Tba, Slovak  
Republic?  
2016

#### OBJECTIVE

matchmaking  
platform for project  
promoters and  
Financial Institutions

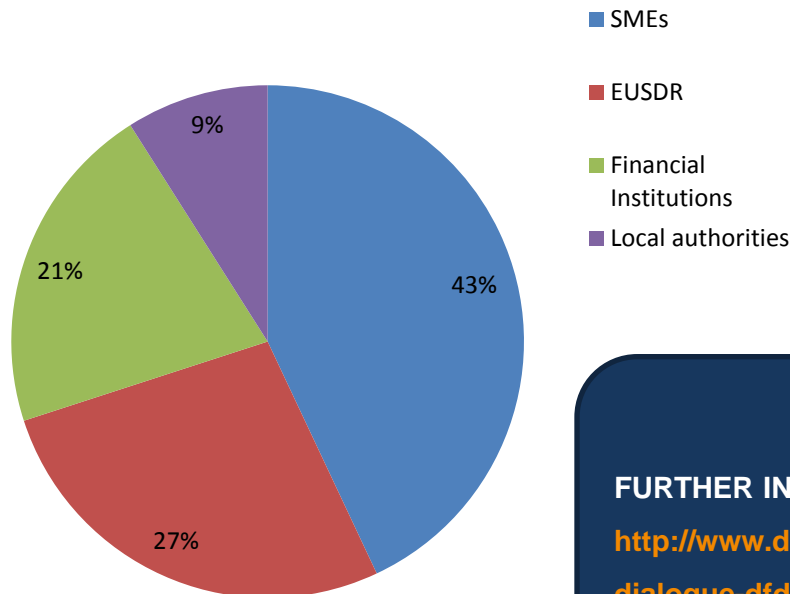
#### PARTICIPANTS

- project promoters
- Financiers
- EUSDR representatives

**NEW:** stronger focus on representatives of local authorities

# Danube Financing Dialogues

Evaluation by Lechner + Reiter Social Research | 2014  
Participants of the first 3 DFDs 2012-2013

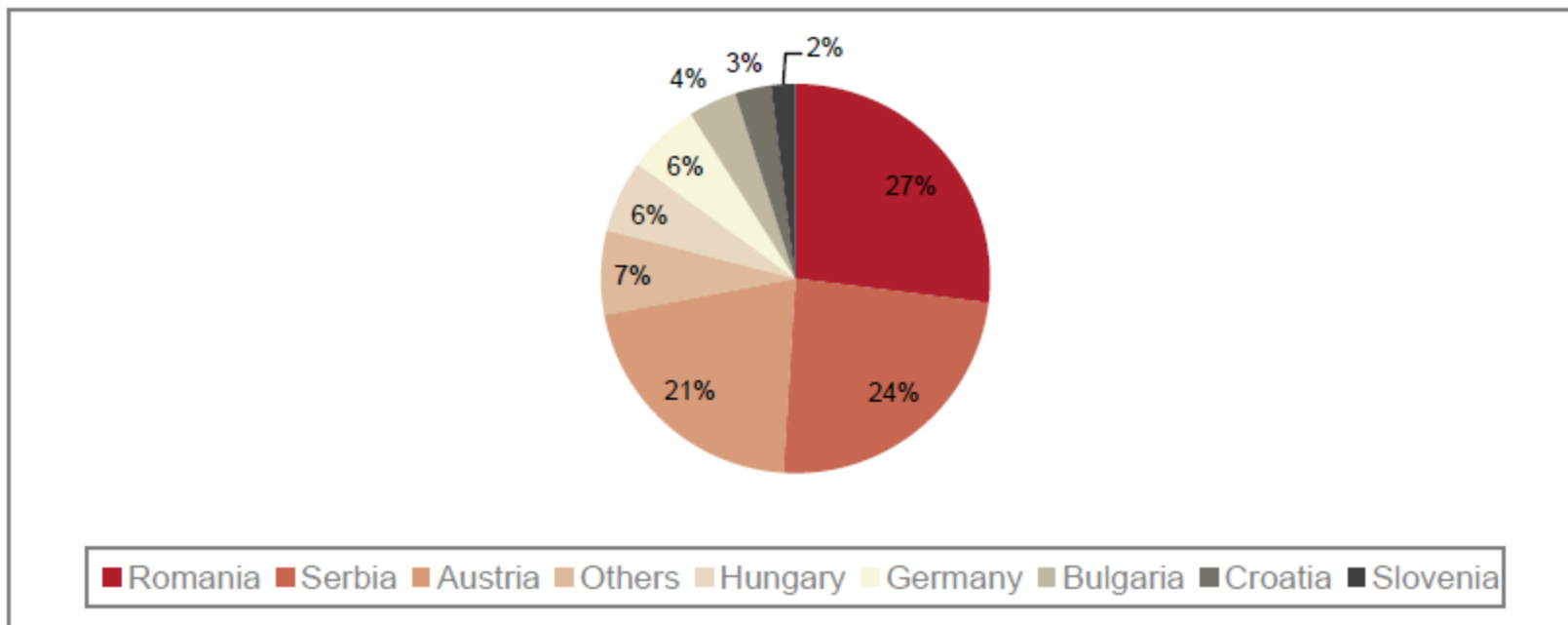


FURTHER INFORMATION AND THE STUDY CAN BE FOUND ON  
<http://www.danube-capacitycooperation.eu/pages/danube-financing-dialogue-dfd>

# Danube Financing Dialogues

## Evaluation by Lechner + Reiter Social Research | 2014 Key findings

**Figure 9: Country distribution of all participants in one or more DFD conferences**



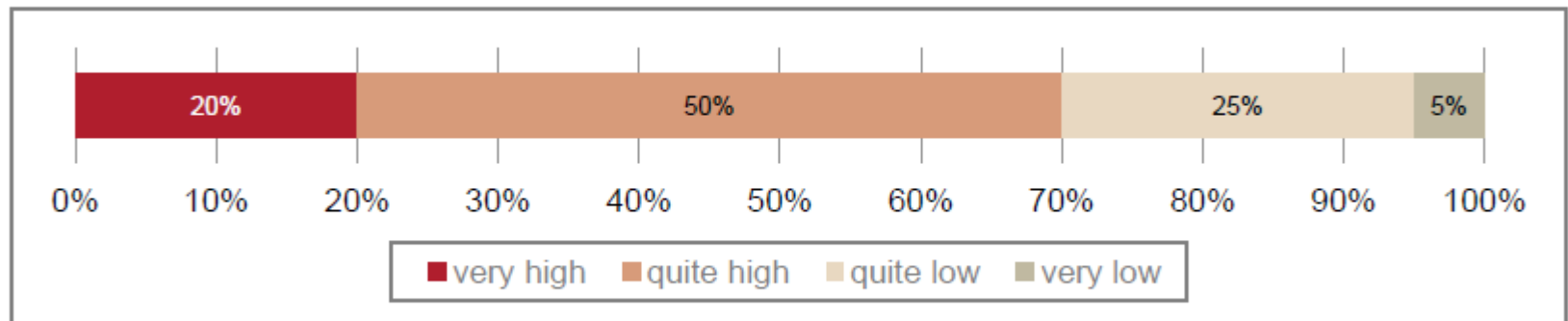
Source: L&R Datafile 'DFD', 2014, n=451, n miss=9



## Danube Financing Dialogues

### Evaluation by Lechner + Reiter Social Research | 2014 Key findings

**Figure 17: Benefit from face-to-face meeting for project**



Source: L&R Datafile 'DFD', 2014, n=20

The SG welcomes the proposed perspective and the improvement as well as the stakeholder orientation of the working structures of PA 10.

## **CONCLUSION #2**

# Inclusion of already existing networks in the working structures of PA10

Kurt Puchinger, PAC10

Roman Haken, European Economic and Social Committee

Erhan Turbedar, Regional Cooperation Council

The SG welcomes the inclusion of RCC, EESC and CEI in the working structures of PA 10

**CONCLUSION #3**

# The urban dimension of EU policies

Eva Nussmüller

European Commission, DG Regio



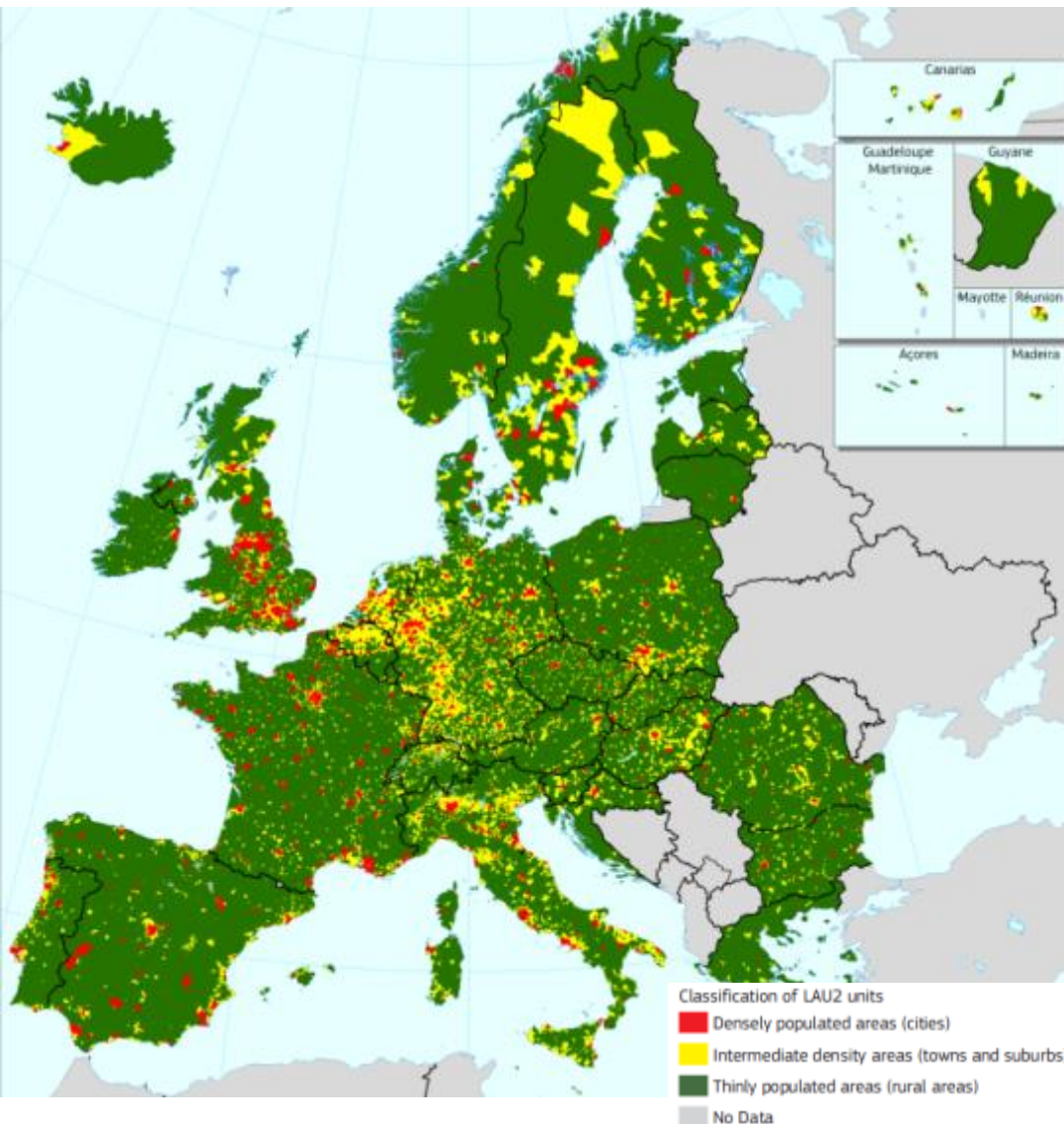
# THE URBAN DIMENSION OF EU POLICIES

Eva Nussmueller  
European Commission  
Regional and Urban Policy

23 October 2014

# Urban Europe

- 70% live in cities towns and suburbs → Over 300 M Europeans
- 80% appreciate living in cities
- Urbanisation is continuing
- 70% of GDP produced in metropolitan areas
- 60% of public investments is invested at subregional level





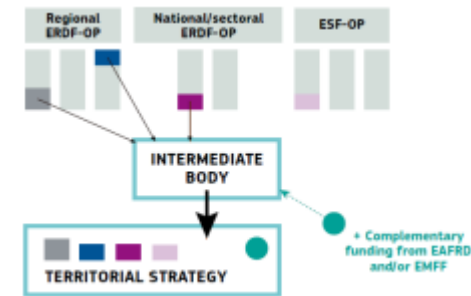
## **Reinforced urban dimension in 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Funds**

- DG Regional and Urban Policy
- 50% of European Fund for Regional Development invested in urban areas (EUR 80-90 bn)
- 5% in each Member State for integrated sustainable urban development (EUR 8bn) – empowering cities, integrated approach
- Urban Innovative Actions (EUR 370 M)
- URBACT (exchange and learning on urban development, EUR 74 M)
- Interreg Europe (EUR 360 M, 4 thematic objectives, capitalisation)
- Urban Development Network (for cities implementing "integrated urban strategies" and participating to "Innovative Actions")



# Integrated Territorial Investments

- Addressing integrated multidimensional challenges
- Combining investments: Several priority axes and one or more operational programmes
- Key elements:
  - **Designated territory (area with particular features)**
  - **Integrated strategy – territorial challenges and needs**
  - **Package of actions**
  - **Governance arrangements how to manage it (up to the ITI to decide)**
- OP: territory, strategy, indicative fin. allocation, management
- Also in a cross-border context (intermediate body is a legal body of one of the countries, or an EGTC)
- Possible delegation of management - empowerment



# EU Urban Agenda

- Europe's **challenges manifest** themselves in and around cities - e.g., poverty, social and spatial segregation; environmental degradation;
- **Solutions** for Europe's challenges can be found in and through cities – e.g., resource efficiency; CO2 neutral economy; economic development and innovation; social innovation and integration.

HOWEVER,

- Policy response at European and national level has been slow and piecemeal - many but **poorly integrated sectoral initiatives**.

DG/ Agency	Policy/ regulation	Targeting cities/ local	Local projects	Studies/ research	Tools
Climate Action	X	X		X	X
Competition	X				
Communic. Networks, Content & Technology	X	X	X	X	X
Education and Culture	X	X			
European Environment Agency				X	X
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	X	X	X		
Energy	X	X	X		X
Environment	X	X	X	X	X
Eurostat		X		X	
Home Affairs	X	X	X		X
Joint Research Centre	X			X	X
Justice	X	X			
Mobility and Transport	X	X	X		X
Regional and Urban Policy	X	X	X	X	X
Research and Innovation	X			X	
Health and Consumers	X	X			

# EU Urban Agenda II



- *Cities Forum (Feb 2014) – debate at European level*
- *Communication (18 July) + Consultation (ended on 26 September) – broadening the debate, key questions on the what and how*

## *Preliminary analysis of consultation*

- *Broad agreement on the need for an EU urban agenda*
- *Improve coordination of EU policies on urban*
- *Address pressing societal needs (e.g. carbon neutral economy)*
- *Involve citizens, and ultimately improve live in cities*
- *Improve implementation of already existing strategies*
- *NO new legislation; Respect subsidiarity; NO one-size-fits all solutions*

*Next steps: Input to Commissioner designate, Report by the end of the year; Review of Europe 2020*



# Thank you!

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/consultation/urb\\_agenda/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/consultation/urb_agenda/index_en.cfm)

# Activities PA10 in the next future

Irena Lukač, Kurt Puchinger  
Priority Area Coordinators

# Upcoming PA10 meetings/deadlines

- 4 November 2014:  
D-LAP Advisory Committee, Vienna
- 18 November 2014:  
**deadline for submission of top 4/15 pre-selected PA10 applications for START**
- 9 December 2014:  
D-CAP Advisory Committee, Ljubljana
- 23 January 2015:  
E-governance for the Danube Region, Ljubljana
- 26-27 January 2015:  
CoDCR & UPDR meeting, Vienna
- February 2015 (tbc):  
D-FIP Advisory Committee, Ljubljana
- 13 March 2015 (tbc):  
4th DFD, Zagreb
- Spring 2015:  
SG8 of PA10
- Autumn 2015:  
5th DFD, Bulgaria (tbc)
- 29-30 October 2015:  
**4th Annual Forum of the EUSDR, Ulm**  
  
(including 2nd participation day, tbc)

# Outlook to the 4th Annual Forum in Ulm and farewell

Matthias Holzner, State Ministry of  
Baden Württemberg

**DINNER**