

4th Danube Financing Dialogue in Zagreb

23rd and 24th of April 2015

Hosted by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

Supported by the Croatian National Bank and the Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds

Draft Agenda

Purpose

The Danube Financing Dialogue is a unique opportunity for project promoters and financing institutions to discuss vital issues related to financing promising projects in the Danube Region. This event also serves as a match-making platform for project promoters with financial needs and financing institutions offering suitable solutions.

Who's expected?

- Representatives of financial institutions and funding agencies offering, *inter alia*, loans, grants and guarantees
- Project promoters from the Danube Region
- Public actors involved in the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)

Match-making opportunities

1. Face-to-face meetings: Participants can schedule meetings with the partner of interest
2. Match-making session: Small group discussions on project financing issues
3. Poster session: Presentation of projects in the so-called market place
4. Informal networking: Lunch and dinner

On behalf of

The European Commission | Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policies (DG REGIO)

Implemented by

Kurt Puchinger | Priority Area 10 Coordinator of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) | City of Vienna

Organisation

Metis GmbH

Hosted by

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

With the support of

Croatian National Bank

Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds

COMPRESS Croatia

Opening of the 4th Danube Financing Dialogue on 23rd April 2015

Project exhibition

Promising Projects - Financing Options

This year's Danube Financing Dialogue is all about promising projects. Already the registration phase will be dedicated to pick out the ten most promising projects which are then to be presented in the inspiring atrium of the Croatian State Archives.

At the project exhibition, the selected project promoters will then be given 5 minutes to convince the audience of the uniqueness and the relevance of their project for the Danube Region.

The participating project promoters, financial institutions, funding agencies and high level public actors will be given the chance to learn more about the projects in an interactive question and answer round.

For those whose interest has been sparked, a networking dinner will allow for further informal discussions.

17:00 Welcome and opening of the project exhibition

N.N., Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

Kurt Puchinger, Priority Area 10 Coordinator of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

17:30 Promising projects in the Danube Region

Promising Projects– Financing Options: Selected project promoters present their unique ideas towards:

- # Why is this project important for the Danube Region?
- # What is the objective and the innovation?
- # What have you done so far?
- # Why do you still need for your idea to realize it?

Facilitation: Irena Lukač, Center of Excellence in Finance (tbc)

19:00 Buffet and networking

24th April 2015

09:00 Registration and welcome coffee

10:00 Welcome

N.N., Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

Kurt Puchinger, Priority Area 10 Coordinator of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Johann Sollgruber, Acting Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Austria, Member of the board
Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM)

10:30 How to do the match-making? Getting an overview of what the Danube Financing Dialogue offers to its participants

10:45 Session 1 | Which financing instruments are offered to project promoters in the Danube Region?

N.N., Western Balkan Investment Framework Colin Wolfe, European Commission, Directorate General Regional and Urban Policies (tbc)

Hubert Cottogni, Deputy Director of the department Regional Business Development of the European Investment Fund
N.N., overview on EU funding

Chair: Irena Lukač, Center of Excellence in Finance

12:00 Lunch break

13:00 Session 2 | Meet and greet: Share your story and know-how

Small group discussions between representatives of financial institutions, project promoters and public actors on the topics of

- Financial needs and challenges of project promoters in the Danube Region
- Access to financial products in the Danube Region
- Innovative Financial Instruments

Chair: Marlene Hahn, Metis GmbH

14:30 Session 3 | Challenges and opportunities of financing investment projects in the Danube Region

Edina Csanyi, European Investment Bank: How to create and prepare feasible projects?

Erhan Türbedar, Regional Cooperation Council (tbc)

N.N., Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds

Chair: Marlene Hahn, Metis GmbH

15:30 Session 4 | Concluding statements and outlook

Franz Nauschnigg, Head of European Affairs and International Financial Organizations of the National Bank of Austria

N.N., National Bank of Bulgaria (tbc)

Kurt Puchinger, Priority Area 10 Coordinator of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

16:00 Face-to-face meetings and networking