

Danube Strategic Project Fund (DSPF)

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Pilot Initiatives

1. Technical Assistance Facility for Danube Region Projects (TAF-DRP)



2. START – Danube Region Project Fund



3. Danube Financing Dialogue (DFD)



4. EuroAccess Danube Region





1. What is the Danube Strategic Project Fund?

- Main principles & objectives of the DSPF
- Which projects will be funded by DSPF?
- Which project holders are eligible?
- Financial Support to DSPF projects?
- Duration of DSPF



Main principles & objectives of the DSPF

- A new facility aiming at supporting the **implementation of transnational strategic projects** aligned with the **objectives of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)**
- Has specific added value at the interfaces between **cohesion and enlargement/ neighbourhood policy**
- Is co-financed by the **European Commission: 97%** and the **City of Vienna 3%**



Main principles & objectives of the DSPF

- Lasts from **01.09.2016 – 31.08.2019** (36 months)
- primarily focuses on **innovative pre-mature projects** which could not be funded so far
- provides support **for projects and initiatives which do not fit into another program** or funding scheme



Which projects will be funded by DSPF?

- Have a **strategic dimension**, especially in view of Enlargement and Neighbourhood policies;
- Include **cross-cutting** and/or **horizontal measures** covering several Priority Areas of the Strategy;
- Have connections and/or spill-over effects in the territory covered by **the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region**



Which projects will be funded by DSPF?

- Follow a **multi-level governance approach**;
- Support the establishment of **economic and social cooperation**;
- **Foster integration** and reconciliation of Danube countries, with a particular focus on the role of **young people**



Which project holders are eligible?

- **National, regional and local authorities;**
- **SMEs** or start-ups;
- **Academies and Universities** (in particular applied research and development units);
- **Associations and social partners.**



Financial Support to DSPF projects?

- Min **€ 70.000, 00** - Max **€ 100.000,00** / project
- **DSPF Co-financing** rate between **50%** and **90%**
- **Total Budget** of the DSPF: Max. **€ 969.000,00**



Duration of DSPF

- Approx. **10-12** projects will be supported
- **12** months duration



2. Involved bodies and their Role

- **Managing Authority**
- **Implementing Body**
- **Project Managers**
- **Advisory Board**
- **DSPF Jury**



Managing Authority:

EUSDR Priority Area Coordinator 10/City of Vienna

In close cooperation with EC-DG Regio

Implementing Body:

EuroVienna – affiliated entity to PAC 10 Vienna

- Will conduct a **formal check** of received applications (on technical eligibility criteria)
- Will act as **contracting body** to the Lead Partners of the selected DSPF project



Project Managers and Contact Persons

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Advisory Board

The AB is composed of experts **strongly involved in the macro region EUSDR and/or in the process of enlargement and neighbourhood policies.**

The AB has the following main responsibilities:

- Making recommendations for **selection criteria for DSPF projects** to be considered by the Jury
- Making **recommendations for setting up the DSPF selection Jury**
- Making **recommendations of forwarding a limited number of DSPF project applications** to the Jury (pre-assessment)



DSPF Jury

The members of the Jury are composed of experts nominated by the Advisory Board. The jury makes final decision on the **DSPF projects** that will receive funding through the initiative.

3. Application and Selection Process

Application Procedure

- (1) PACs and their Steering Groups invite potential DSPF applicants to submit project proposals.
- (2) Applicants submit their application to the PAC
- (3) Applications received by the PACs are forwarded to the IB for formal check (max. 5 applications per PA)



3. Application and Selection Process

Selection Procedure

- (4) Formal check by the IB (completeness of the application, compliance with technical eligibility criteria)
- (5) Pre-assessment by the Advisory Board (AB) members -> list of 15 best projects
- (6) Refinement of best applications / Elaboration of detailed project concept and budget plan with IB (for the 15 best projects)
- (7) Selection by the Jury among the 15 best projects – final decision



4. Draft Timeline of the initiative

Activity	Timeframe
Setting up the application & selection procedure	End of Oct. 2016
Communication to PACs and SGs	Mid Nov. 2016
Application phase	End of Dec. 2016 – Feb. 2017
<u>Assessment of applications - 1st step:</u> (formal check, pre-assessment by Advisory Board)	Feb. – May 2017
<u>Refinement of best applications – 2nd step:</u> (more detailed project descriptions & project budget plan)	May – August 2017
Project selection by DSPF Jury	August/Sept. 2017
Project Implementation	Oct. 2017 – September 2018 (Dec. 2018)

Managing Authority for the DSPF:

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