

# Macro-regional strategies and EU programmes

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# Mandate

## Reminder of macro-Ministerial decisions and Council conclusions of the past:

Example from Danube Ministers in Ulm Nov 2015:

"The success of the EUSDR implementation **requires the alignment of relevant programmes and use of these EU Funds** in line with the EUSDR Priority Areas and targets" and "agreed to take further steps to:

1. **Improve exchange of information between EUSDR actors and programme authorities (building trust)**
2. **Enhance coordination**
3. **Streamline project selection**
4. **Consider EUSDR related calls**
5. **Facilitate exchange of experience and development of joint solutions within the Danube Region"**

In line with **CPR (ESIF Common Provisions Reg), ETC Reg. and IPA Reg.**

# Reminder: All funds are eligible

## **EU Funds**

**ESIF** (Structural & Investment Funds: ERDF, ESF, EAGGF, EMFF): Operational Programmes (sectorial, regional), Interreg Cooperation Programmes

**IPA**, (Instrument for Preaccession Assistance)

**CEF** (Connecting Europe Facility)

**Horizon, COSME, LIFE** ("direct" EC management)

.....

**EFSI** (Juncker Investment Plan)

**IFI**: EIB, EIF, EBRD, World Bank.....

**WBIF** (Western Balkan Investment Framework)

**Donors, private investors,.....etc**

# Rationale

From **political decision** (*for a closer macro-regional cooperation*)  
to **implementation**:

## HOW?

Identification of actions and projects – Prioritisation ("labelling")  
Funding projects of macro-regional importance

## WHEN?

Grasp opportunity: Programming period starting now!

## WHO?

Priority Area/Pillar/Policy steering groups  
Managing and programme authorities

# Role of MRS "Steering group"

## **STEP 1: Identifies actions/projects** of high priority for macro-region

Based on internally agreed selection criteria

## **STEP 2: Explores funding possibilities** in each participating country

In liaison with Managing Authority / programme authority

Concerted action to coordinate the "trigger" (appropriate timing) for funding

"Front-loaded" profiles in certain programmes: Thus early action needed!

## **STEP 3: Monitors progress** in each country

Progress? Impact?

## **STEP 4: Feedback**

Are the project results beneficial for the macro-regional priority?

# Role of Programme/Managing Authority

**Step 1: Determine relevance of Programme with MRS through a dedicated text**

**Section 3.1 (Partnership Agreement), 4.5 (Operational Progr.) or 4.4 (Coop.progr.)**

**Step 2: Choose (combined) options from menu:**

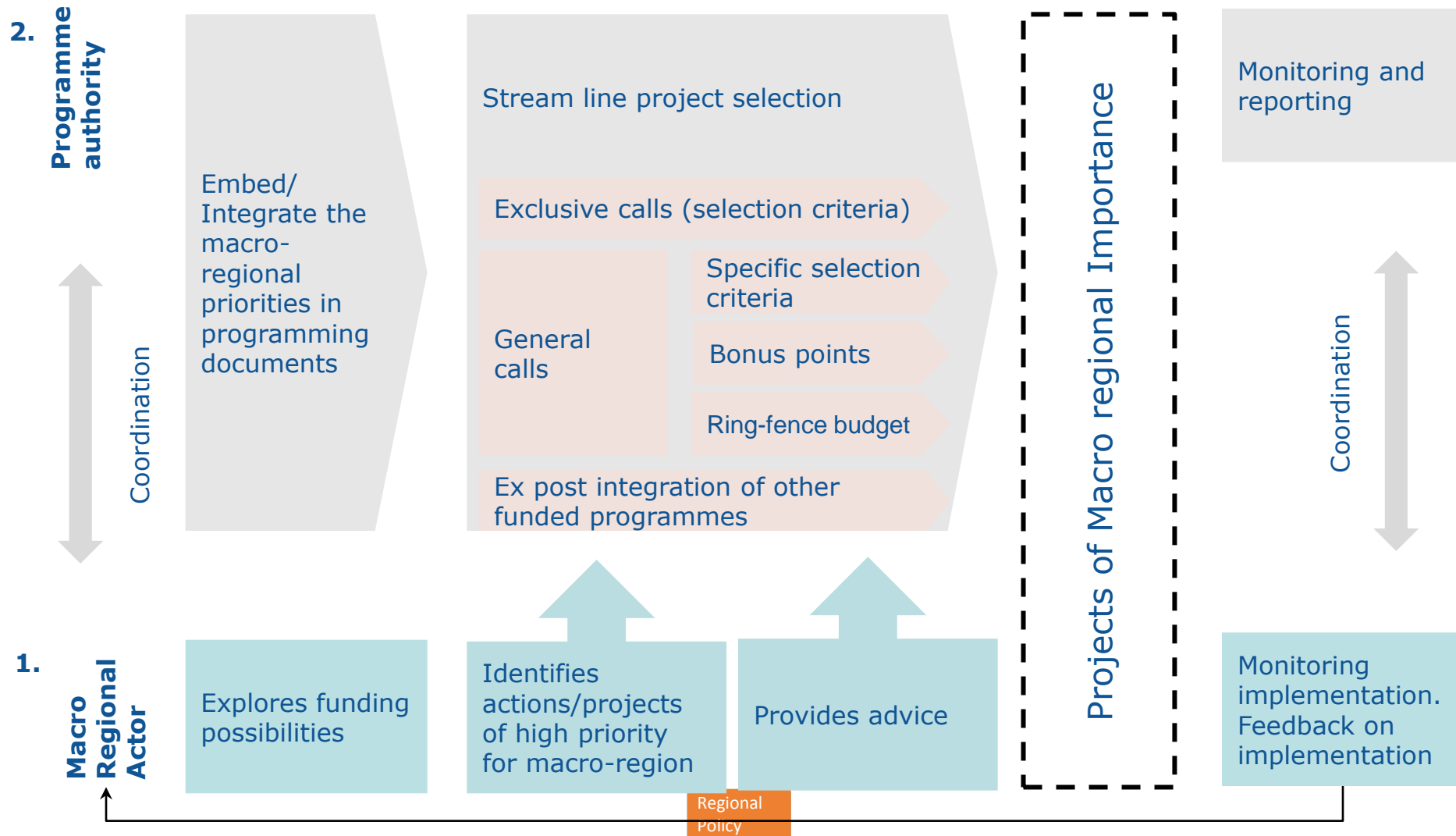
- **Define ex-ante projects of macro-regional importance (e.g. infrastructure)**
- **Design specific calls to fund projects "labelled" as of macro-regional importance**
- **Ring-fence budget for projects of macro-regional importance/relevance**
- **Define specific selection criteria for projects of macro-regional importance or linked to such projects**
- **Give bonus points awarded to projects of macro-regional importance or linked to such projects**

**Monitoring and reporting**

## Coordination between macro-regional and Programme Authorities

1. **Interaction of the two "worlds" is crucial for success ("hand-in-hand"):** macro-regional governance actors (i.e. National Coordinators, Priority/Pillar/Policy coordinators, steering groups) liaise with the Managing/programme authorities (W. Balkans, Moldova, Ukraine: NIPACs, EC Del...) for advice on calls, invitation to tender, and projects of macro-regional importance
2. **Invite Managing Authorities** to macro-regional meetings (Annual Forum, Steering Group meetings, etc.)
3. **Put the macro-regional strategy in the agenda** of programme meetings (Monitoring Committees, etc...), organise presentations, discussions, interaction (invite the macro-regional governance actors)

# Selecting and funding macro regional projects





***Thank you for your attention***

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/cooperation/macro-regional-strategies/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/cooperation/macro-regional-strategies/)