



Priority Area 7 - Knowledge Society

PA7 future plans (2017 – and after)

25 October 2016, Belgrade



Ministry of Education,
Science, Research and Sport
of the Slovak Republic



2016 Slovak Presidency of the
Council of the European Union



DTP Programme

- ▶ **The Danube Transnational Programme (DTP)** is a financing tool of the European Territorial Cooperation (ETC*), better known as Interreg.
- ▶ DTP promotes **economic, social and territorial cohesion in the Danube Region through policy integration** in selected fields.
- ▶ DTP acts as a **policy driver to tackle common challenges** and needs in specific policy fields where transnational cooperation is expected to deliver tangible results.
- ▶ DTP finances **projects for the development and practical implementation of policy frameworks, tools and services** and concrete small-scale pilot investments.

* ETC is one of the goals of the European Union cohesion policy and provides a framework for the implementation of joint actions and policy exchanges between national, regional and local actors from different Member States.

EUSDR PACs - 1st Call for proposals

- ▶ DTP provides **co-financing to the activities carried out by the Priority Area Coordinators (PACs)** of the EUSDR.
- ▶ According to the implementation of the **Specific Objective 4.2. (Well-governed Danube region - Support to the governance and implementation of the EUSDR)** a specific call for the financial support of the EUSDR PACs was launched on **12th September 2016**.
- ▶ The first call for proposals addressed to EUSDR Priority Area Coordinators (PACs) will be **open until 21st October 2016**. **Only previously appointed PACs could apply in the framework of the call.**

Related documents

1. Call Announcement
2. Applicants Manual
3. [Application Form](#)
4. Guidelines for the AF
5. [Annex I - Targets and actions](#)
6. [Declaration of pre-financing and co-financing Statement](#)
7. [State Aid Declaration](#)
8. Associated Strategic Partner Declaration
9. [Partnership Agreement template](#)
10. Subsidy Contract template

... and how PAC7 proceeded?

▶ Since the launch of the Call we:

- ▶ exchanged lots of e-mails;
 - phone calls;
 - text messages;
- ▶ approached colleagues from other PAs;
- ▶ approached some of SG-members and WVG-leaders;
- ▶ approached our NCs;
- ▶ approached DSP;
- ▶ attended meeting in Brussels;

low battery



and until the end still we:

- ▶ hesitated, whether we submit the proposal
- ▶ analysed –pros and –cons of both options (i.e. what would happen if we submit/don't submit the proposal)

... but at the end



- ▶ the PA7 proposal for technical assistance in 2017 – 2019 was submitted (on October 21, 2016 – 14:54 CET)
- ▶ According to the Applicants Manual:
*“All projects submitted for the support of the EUSDR, including the financial support to PACs, have to aim at **improving the governance system and the capabilities and capacities of public institutions and key actors involved in complex transnational project development to implement the EUSDR in a more effective way.**”*



Basic criteria of the Call

- ▶ The Call was open from **12.09.2016** to **21.10.2016**
- ▶ The maximum EU contribution to the projects **is 85%** (for ERDF, IPA and ENI project partners)
- ▶ The duration of projects must not exceed **<36months** (operational phase of the project)
- ▶ Each PAC had to appoint a **Lead Partner** (Project Partner I) who is **responsible for the submission** of the AF and takes over the **full responsibility for reporting and communicating the project progress** to the DTP MA/JS + bears **legal responsibility** for the partnership.
- ▶ Each project has to involve **at least two financing partners** from two different countries of the programme area.
- ▶ **Project Partner I has to be located on the territory of an EU Member State of the Programme area.**

Intervention logic

- ▶ **DTP core principle** → **result-orientation**, the basis for this approach **being *the change***
- ▶ **Intervention logic** → a tool showing ***how the change will be achieved*** that defines:
 - ▶ Status quo
 - ▶ The change
 - ▶ The specific objectives
 - ▶ The actions, outputs, stakeholders and target groups
 - ▶ The results and durability



The total amount of the proposal is up to 300,000 EUR of EU funding (352,941.18 EUR including co-financing)

Challenges addressed

- ▶ **A society based on knowledge needs competitive research and education infrastructure, innovation supporting and facilitating institutions, and high performing ICT.**
- ▶ From the EUSDR Action Plan it is known that **these framework conditions differ remarkably throughout the Danube Region** but remain, overall, below the EU-27 level.
- ▶ All these challenges will be dealt with within the framework of the new project, aiming also to ensure **coherence and continuity with the activities performed within PA7 by now and to help overcoming the disparities in our priority area (and other related ones) within the Danube Region.**



Contribution to the EUSDR

- ▶ The project contributes directly to the EUSDR – it aims to **provide financial support to the main actors within PA7**, thus allowing them **to fulfil their roles within the EUSDR and its governance structure**.
- ▶ **PACs are leading the SGs, which are the expert drivers of a day-to-day implementation. Their role, capacities, resources and engagement is key to success.**
- ▶ **SGs, coordinated by the PACs, ensure the EUSDR implementation. Their work is trans-national, inter-sectorial and inter-institutional.**
- ▶ **SGs and PACs also support EUSDR reporting and evaluation** – they identify progress related to the improvements that **the actions and projects deliver and achievement of targets**. They also regularly provide reports on their work.

Objectives and Result of the Project (with a Link to the expected Change)



- ▶ The project includes a set of **3 WPs and various activities**, which are aiming at supporting PA7 in implementing the EUSDR and in delivering results under the EUSDR Targets and Actions.
- ▶ The selected **project specific objectives directly address some of the key needs, previously identified by PA7**.
- ▶ Providing financing for this project would not only support the realization of the envisaged outputs and project result, but will also contribute to achieving **change on a more strategic scale for PA7**, with regards to some topics for future PA7 strategic focus, such as:
 - Strengthening cooperation among education and research institutions and industry in the DR
 - Enhancing Danube Coordination Funding Network (DFCN) aiming at the better coordination of available financial resources in the Danube region
 - Supporting common R&I projects taking into account countries smart specialization

Methodological Approach (1)



- ▶ In order to achieve the main objective of the project, i.e. **"to ensure the implementation of a stable and effective governance system for PA7"**, project partners selected **three main specific objectives** to be achieved:
 - to support the SG in implementing EUSDR;
 - to support communication and growing visibility of PA7 and dissemination of PA's achievement; and
 - to enhance coordination between PA's actors and to encourage involvement of key stakeholders in key PA7 activities.
- ▶ The two project partners agreed to work on achieving them through the implementation **of 3 Work Packages**:
 - WPI: Management, Publicity and Communication;
 - WP 2: Policy Development; and
 - WP 3: Cooperation and Coordination of the PA7.

3 main specific objectives

« Define and describe maximal 3 project specific Objectives. »

+	Project specific Objectives	Description
-	To support the Steering Groups in implementing the EUSDR PA.	Steering Groups are the expert drivers of a day-to-day implementation of the PA. Providing support to their functioning is vital for PA7 implementation and for the outcomes to be achieved, since together with the PACs, they ensure the implementation of the EUSDR.
-	To support communication and growing visibility of the PA and dissemination of PA's achievement.	Through an increased and active participation to EUSDR events, the project partners will ensure a wider access to various target groups, facilitating the communication between different types of stakeholders exceeding, if necessary, the limits of PA7 and enlarging the area of communication to all PAs.
-	To enhance coordination between PA's actors and to encourage involvement of key stakeholders in the PA activities.	By organizing different types of events, the SK and RS PACs will ensure an appropriate framework for dialogue and discussions between the PAs stakeholders. The coPACs will offer the proper environment for ideas exchange and will put at relevant actors disposal the tools required for developing new projects, raising the attractiveness of PA7 initiatives.

Programme Result Indicator

The Status of Management Capacities of Priority Area Coordinators (PAC) to effectively implement EUSDR Goals, Targets and Key Action

« Specify one Project Result and describe its Contribution to the Programme Result Indicator (Project must contribute to one Programme Result Indicator, quantify the Contribution if possible). »

Methodological Approach (2)



These VVPs include aligned and **commonly agreed activities related to:**

- SG meetings, participation at Annual Fora, meetings within the EUSDR governance system (PACs (bilateral, multilateral, joint), with NCs, EU Commission, DSP, etc.), publicity of the PA7,
- preparation (and revisions) of the policy paper in accordance with the strategic focuses of PA7 and important topics to be dealt with during the project period,
- meetings, events, initiatives with important key actors and stakeholders
- facilitating/promoting activities for PA7 relevant projects
- Trainings and development team activities (PAC+SG)

The final result of the project implementation will be **improved effectiveness of PA7 coordination, facilitation and implementation.**

Timeframe

Launch
12.09.2016



Deadline for
submission
21.10.2016



Starting date
01.01.2017

MC final decision
without conditions
Mid-December

MC decision
Mid-November

What's
next



... without SG voice it may be difficult



Thank you for your attention!

