



Priority Area 7 - Knowledge Society

Interim Progress Report – TA PA7 SK

25 May 2016, Bratislava



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



Short summary of the project implementation

(1 September 2015 – 29 February 2016)

- ▶ Implementation, Coordination and Facilitation of Common Activities Supporting Building **Knowledge Society** in the Danube Region – **Slovakia**
- ▶ In the interim progress report project was mainly focused on:
 - ❖ Facilitating of a stable, effective, and innovative governance system for Priority Area 7 (PA7);
 - ❖ Establishing a well operating Funding network (FN) aiming at better coordination of available financial resources in the Danube region (DR);
 - ❖ Supporting common R&I projects taking into account countries smart specialisation; and
 - ❖ Strengthening cooperation among education and research institutions and industry in the DR.

Activity 1 : Governance (I)

- ▶ Setting up a stable coordination team, which tackles the day-to-day management of the PA7 and actively contributes to the activities organized under the Slovak Presidency of the EUSDR in 2016
- ▶ The outputs obtained during the IPR's period:
 - ▶ Establishment of a new coordination team (M1)
 - ▶ Organization of 1 SG meetings (M7), 09/12/2016, Budapest
 - ▶ Organization of 1 joint PA7+PA8 SG meeting (M8), 09/12/2016, Budapest
 - ▶ Participation at the 4th Annual forum EUSDR (M4)
 - ▶ Participation at the kick-off meeting of the DTP Call (M3)
23-24/10/2016, Budapest
 - ▶ Organization of the Advisory board meeting (M9), 04/02/2016
 - ▶ Preparation of the IPR (M12)

Activity 1 : Governance (II)

Additional outputs (not stated in the original proposal):

- ▶ Participation at the PA National Coordinators meeting organized by DSP (14-15/01/2016, Brussels)
- ▶ Participation at the meeting of the Brussels Danube Network (12/02/2016, Brussels)
- ▶ Participation at the University-Business Forum (25-26/02/2016, Vienna)



Activity 2 - Supporting common R&I projects

- ▶ In the IPR's period the Slovak PAC-team made all efforts to preparation of 2 project proposals for the INTERREG Danube Transnational Programme (DTP).

- ▶ Outputs:

- ▶ Submission of 2 new transnational R&I expressions of interest (EoI) within the DTP call (M5)

* These 2 project proposals dealing with the issues of **dual education** (in cooperation with PA8), and with **education of marginalized social groups** (in cooperation with PA9) were submitted in the DTP Call.

Activity 3 - Funding network

- ▶ Future design of possible funding opportunities bringing together representatives of institutions that want to promote and develop transnational R&I cooperation within the DR countries.
- ▶ The outputs obtained during the IPR's period:
 - ▶ I meeting of the FN WG (M2), 18/09/2015 Vienna
 - ▶ several meetings and consultations with stakeholders in order to launch the pilot call based on opening of bilateral R&I agreements towards multilateral cooperation within DR countries (M17), during the regular SG and FN meetings and also during our participation at the UB forum in Vienna

Activity 4 - Strengthening cooperation in the Danube region

- ▶ Slovak PAC-team efforts lead also toward promotion of common projects and initiatives that involve strong cooperation of **education and research institutions with industry in the DR.**
- ▶ The outputs obtained during the IPR's period:
 - ▶ Submission of one EoI within the DTP Call dealing with implementation of elements of dual education in higher education (M6)
 - ▶ This activity was also supported by our participation at the University-Business forum in Vienna (in February 2016)



Successes ↔ Weaknesses



- ▶ Well-functioning PAC-team supporting to build the knowledge society in the DR by facilitating the governance structure and cooperation between the different stakeholders.
- ▶ Fulfilled milestones set in the submitted project proposal.
- ▶ Enhanced cooperation of DR country representatives leading to a strengthened participation in other EU and cross-border grant schemes (as envisaged EUREKA and COST possible cooperation and opening the bilateral governmental agreements for multilateral cooperation).
- ▶ Possibilities to organize several events at the Slovak universities (for students, teachers and researchers) and enhanced visibility of the EUSDR within and outside of Slovakia.



Successes ↔ Weaknesses



- ▶ None of our Eols (DTP Call) passed to the second round.
- ▶ Based upon these results, we became aware of the shortcomings to be tackled in order to resubmission in other schemes.
- ▶ Due to the general parliamentary elections (March 2016) and the prolonged coalition making between 4 parties slight delays in the project management can be expected until the administrative and personal changes are finished (still ongoing).



Thank you for your attention!

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