


**The EU Strategy for the Danube Region
(EUSDR)
Priority Area 10 (PA10)
“Institutional Capacity and
Cooperation” – Slovenia and Vienna**

The Urban Platform Danube Region

An initiative of PA10 and the City of Vienna in the framework of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

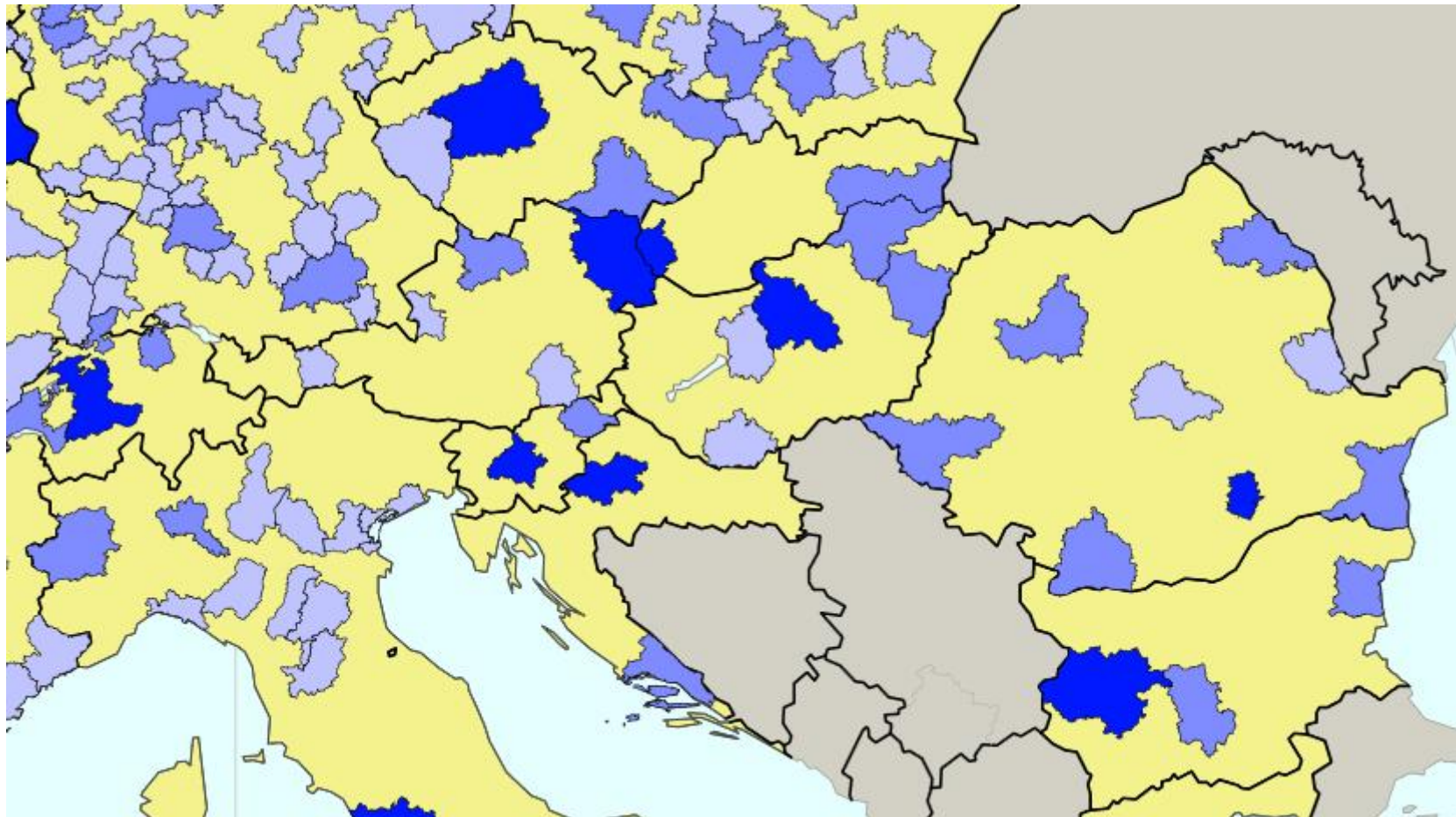


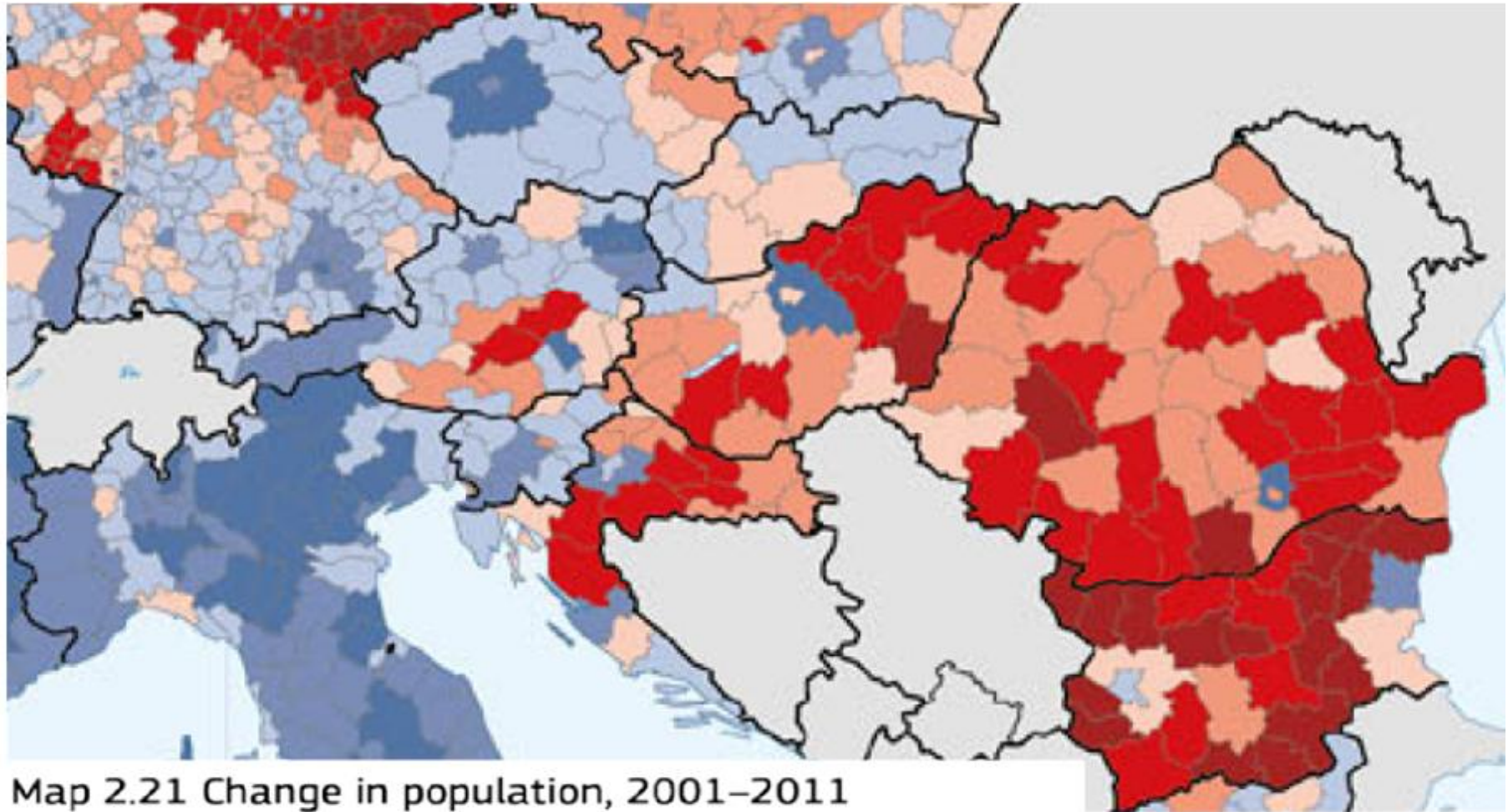
07 July 2015 | Danube S3
Workshop, Vienna

EU Strategy for the Danube Region



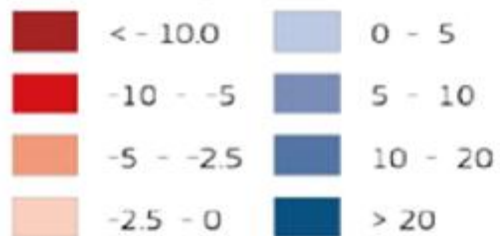
Metropolregionen in der Donauregion
(nur EU-MS; Eurostat-Definition)





Map 2.21 Change in population, 2001–2011

Total change (%)



EU-28 = 3.39
HR: 2002–2011

Source: Eurostat

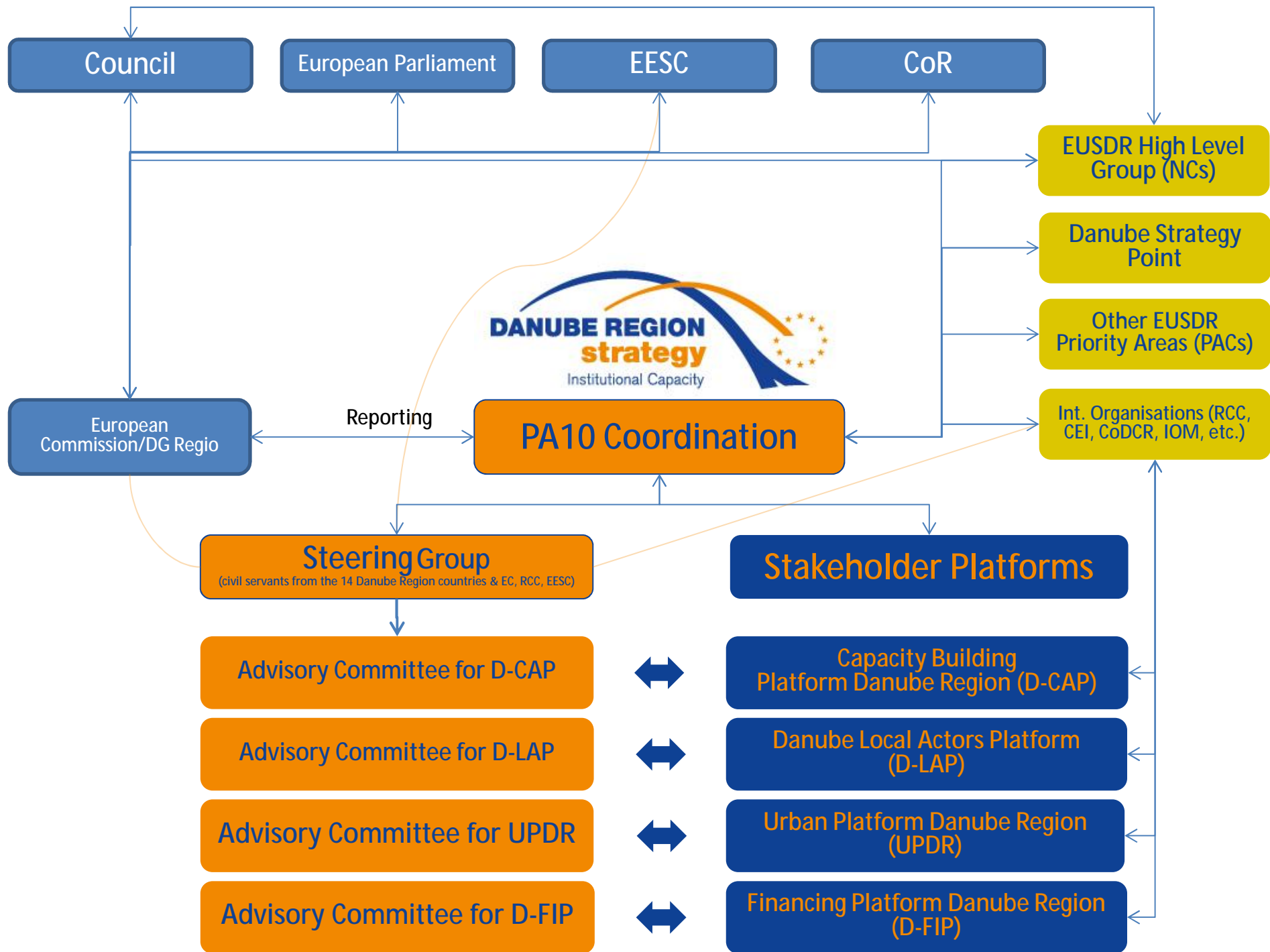
- 75% of the EUSDR population lives in cities, a growing potential which is becoming, together with macro-regional development, a key element of the European territorial development.
- The success of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR), implementing the goals of Europe 2020 and putting to use the financial resources of the new multi-annual financial framework, will be played out especially in urban regions, which have already made a significant contribution to the EU 2020 strategy.
- The establishment of a metropolitan network was therefore included in the EUSDR Action Plan of 2011 for Priority Area 10, "Building Capacities and Cooperation".
- The Danube Region has a large density of cities, many of them capitals, some forming metropolitan areas, but the historical, economical, political and geographical situation and dynamics of these cities is very diverse and complex, most of them still undergoing a transition process, some of them in EUSDR countries but not members of the European Union.
- However, these urban areas share specific challenges and opportunities which should be targets of common efforts from all EU and national governance levels and stakeholders implementing the EUSDR:

Examples of Common challenges

- Need for more coherence between regional and national policies
- Effective Decentralization in transition countries; strengthening of local governance
- Need for further institutional and legislative reforms
- Lack of single cross-country documents for urban policies
- Concentrated economic growth in capitals; medium-sized cities cannot catch up, rural and urban depopulation
- Lack of coherent city planning
- Privatization led to lack of social housing in some countries, few affordable housing for marginalized groups
- Substantial improvements towards healthier urban environments
- More investment into integrated public transport networks, underdeveloped rail and road networks (connectivity)

Examples of common opportunities

- 75% of the EU population lives in cities, growing potential for urban development which is becoming a key element of Regional Policy of the EU
- Better spending of ESIF in the new budget period (bottlenecks)
- Urban areas are directly targeted by several of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) investment priorities
- In each EU member state, a minimum 5 % of the ERDF will be invested in integrated sustainable urban development; its on-the-ground deployment will be decided and directed by urban authorities
- 330 million Euro will fund innovative actions in the field of sustainable urban development over a seven-year period
- URBACT III, the European cities cooperation programme will be more result-oriented and will help cities promote and enhance their work on integrated sustainable urban development
- Stronger cooperation of cities and city networks in the Danube Region



What is the Urban Platform Danube Region (UPDR)?

- An initiative of EUSDR-PA 10 and the city of Vienna in cooperation with the Council of Danube Cities and Regions (CoDCR)
- The UPDR currently has approximately 80 members

What are the objectives of the UPDR?

- The UPDR provides the cities of the Danube Region with a common voice in the framework of the EUSDR and the EU institutions (EU Urban Agenda...)
- The UPDR links the EU2020 targets to the local and urban level in the Danube Region (smart sustainable and inclusive)
- The UPDR supports the implementation of the upcoming EU Urban Agenda in the Danube Region
- The UPDR bolsters the development of EU-funded projects

How does the UPDR work?

- The UPDR is an open Platform of Cities, City-Networks and associations steered by an Advisory Committee
- The active members of the Platform „Thematic Leaders“ are members of the AC, as well as representatives of other PAs, the European Commission e.A.
- The UPDR has a website, tended by PA10, where the results of UPDR- stakeholder meetings, seminars, conferences as well as important information or partner search, calls, etc.. are to be found
- The UPDR is present in the social media, where direct interactions between members take place.

Organisation	Topic	Activity
City of Bratislava	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory Budgeting • Public Discussion • Ethics of Employees • Electronical household 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Visits • Sharing of Documents • Workshops
City of Ljubljana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Renewal • Urban Transport • Regional Responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Forum
City of Vienna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart City • Gender Policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops • Consulting • Strategic Approach
International Association of Water Supply Companies in the Danube River Catchment Area (IAWD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply of Water & Waste Water • Asset Management • Energy efficiency • Utility benchmarking • Commercial efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Building • Curriculum Development
Organization for International Economic Relations (OiER) – United Smart Cities Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban development & Smart Cities • Smart urban solutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing urban projects • Connection to the private sector
Smart City Platform (Ljubljana)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real estate • Energy • Water • mobility • My city services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement of business sector • Technology as enabler • Smart Cityàsmart Mayoràsmart people
Danube Cultural Cluster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation platform • Danube cultural brand • Creativity and invention • Contemporary culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting culture • Events
Platform of Local Communities along the Danube River in Romania (CLDR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting cities • Cultural heritage • Roma inclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document sharing • Info point in Danube Region • Workshop of best practices
Austrian Association of Cities & Towns (AACT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building on local level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bringing urban stakeholder together
Central European Initiative (CEI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism • Soft transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing

Policy level EUSDR
HLG, EC, CoR, EESC,
Council, EP



Council of **Danube**
Cities and Regions
Rat der **Donau-**
städte und -regionen
Conseil des villes et
régions du **Danube**

URBAN PLATFORM
DANUBE REGION

Thematic Leader 1
Vienna
„Smart City“

Thematic Leader 2
Ljubljana
„Transport“

Thematic Leader 3
Bratislava
„Transparency“

Thematic
Leader 4

...

Conferences

Participating City

Participating City

Participating City

Participating City

Participating
Network

Participating City

Seminars

Information
exchange

Projects

Participating
Organisation

Priority Area 10 Institutional Capacity and Cooperation

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With the financial support of the European Union

