



The EU Strategy for the Danube Region



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*The strategy addresses these various topics through
4 pillars
11 priority areas,
and of course actions and projects*

THE FOUR PILLARS

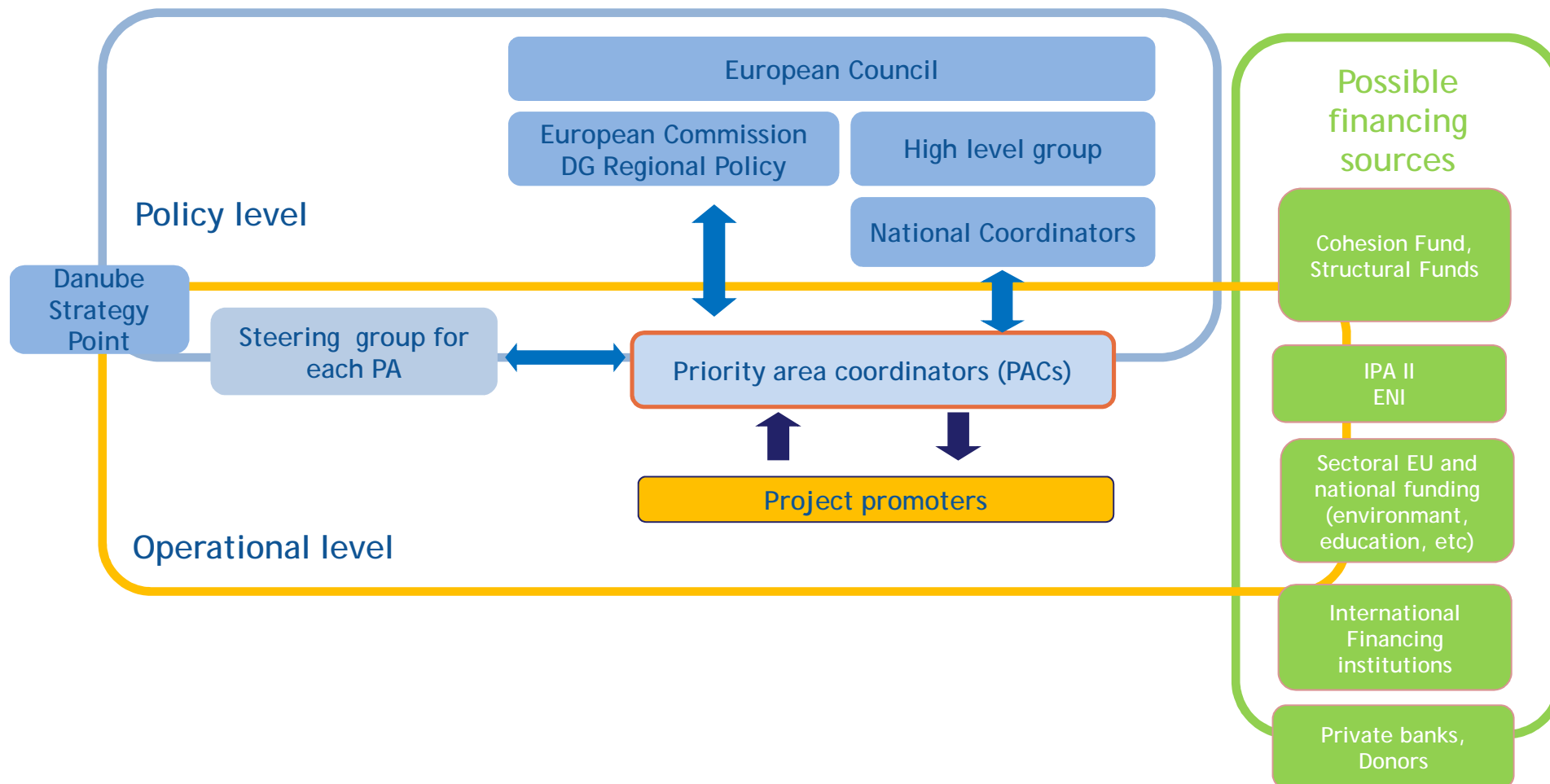


11 priority areas, coordinated by a priority area coordinator





The governance model of the EUSDR





What is new

Governance architecture (Min. Joint Statement 13/05/15): Presidency (Trio), Ministerial meetings, Group of NCs

Danube Strategy Point

Work packages: 1) Implementation, 2) Communication, 3) Monitoring & evaluation, 4) Link to Danube Programme

Financing: **Embedding** in ESIF programmes (selection criteria)

Danube Transnational Programme (Interreg V-B)





Reporting and monitoring: Improved reporting, review of targets

Focus on thematic sectors

Ministerial meetings (Transport/Inland navigation, Tourism, EU Funds)

Round of meetings with EC DGs

4th Annual Forum: "Smart, social, sustainable – Innovation for the Danube Region", Ulm (Baden-Württemberg), 29-30 October 2015





**Embedding macro-regional strategies
(and sea-basin strategies)
in policies and programmes**



The "Macro concept"

Think globally - Act locally !

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Strategic planning and local implementation

Key element: Cooperation

Embedding MRS in **policies**

Embedding MRS in **programmes**





Embedding Strategies in programmes

Close the gap between political decision and implementation

1) Identify actions, prioritise projects ("labelling")

By the macro-regional governance structures (priority steering groups)

2) Seek funding – where?

ESIF (Structural & Investment Funds – ERDF, ESF, EAGGF, EMFF):

Interreg Coop Programmes, Operational Programmes (sectorial, regional)

IPA, (Instrument for Pre-Accession), ENI (European Neighbourhood Instrument)

CEF (Connecting Europe Facility)

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

EFSI (Juncker Investment Plan)

EIB and IFIs, WBIF (Western Balkan Investment Framework)

Donor countries, private sector, foreign investors....etc



Funding macroregional projects: How?

To support projects of macro-regional interest calls can be:

1. **Exclusive calls** to fund projects prioritised ("labelled") by the governance structures of the macro-regional strategy).
2. **General calls** to fund projects in a Thematic Objective of the programme. Such projects could be of macro-regional interest if additional measures are taken, i.e. **bonus points** during the selection procedure, and/or ex-post proper **monitoring** during implementation with regard to other, similar, or associated projects in other parts (countries, regions) of the same macro-region.

Monitoring (Art 52 CPR; Implementing Regulation 1303/2013, Annex I, 4(d))





Design selection criteria (guidance questions)

1. Does the project contribute to one or more specific objective set out in the Action Plan of the Strategy?
2. Is the project relevant/linked to any project prioritised ("labelled") by the governance structures of the macro-regional strategy?
3. Is the project part of a joint/coordinated action, or complementary with such project?
4. Is the project part of a transnational partnership within the macro-region?
5. Has it been funded in the past within such partnership (e.g. is this a follow-up project)?
6. Is there any evidence of future cooperation with partners in the macro-region outside the programme area?





Some key challenge for EUSDR

- * Increased ownership by participating States and Regions. R&I as a vehicle for greater ownership?*
- * Active involvement of non EU countries*
- * Cooperation at horizontal level (among PAs)*





Thank you for your attention !



For more information visit:

www.danube-region.eu

www.ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperate/danube/index_en.cfm

