



A Greener Danube Region

About the ongoing embedding process

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European Commission

The European Green Deal



Complementarities (content)

The EUSDR actions are relevant for several EGD related documents:

PILLAR 1 - CONNECTING THE REGION: European Climate Law, 2030 Climate Target Plan, EU Hydrogen Strategy, EU Energy System Integration Strategy, Renovation wave for Europe

PILLAR 2 - PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT: EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 + Nature Restoration Law, Farm to Fork Strategy, Zero Pollution Ambition

PILLAR 3 - BUILDING PROSPERITY: Circular Economy Action Plan, European Industrial Strategy



Mutual benefits (win-win)

The EUSDR supports the EGD implementation and the EGD provides a common vision:

- The EUSDR can help the EGD implementation on the ground with coordinated regional and local initiatives, taking into account the **territorial specificities** of the Danube Region
- The EUSDR can help the implementation of the EGD in the **Western Balkans countries** (and the Green Agenda for Western Balkans) and in the **Neighbourhood countries** participating in the Strategy
- The EGD offers a common policy framework and common objectives to the EUSDR, and therefore it provides a **common vision** (within the EUSDR and also across the four MRS)



Solidity (solid basis - building blocks)

The EUSDR has already proved to be highly relevant in delivering the EGD (European Green Deal):

The EUSDR helped enhance the **water status of the Danube river** through reinforced cooperation between river basin management planning and flood risk prevention (EGD policy area “eliminating pollution”)

The EUSDR helped improve the fairway conditions at several critical sections of the Danube River and, overall, **multi-modal transport** in the region (EGD policy area “sustainable transport”)

Source: 3rd Report on the implementation of EU macro-regional strategies

https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/cooperation/macro-regional-strategies/

Potentials (method)

The EUSDR offers a cooperation platform “fit for purposes” for supporting the implementation of the EGD actions, which provides the following:

- **Coordination** of funds and actions + joint initiatives for making the best use of the multiple and diversified funding opportunities and resources needed in order to face the EGD common challenges (**current embedding process is key!**)
- **Cross-sectoral** approach for implementing the EGD actions, which are strongly interconnected
- **Multi-level** governance and **stakeholders** involvement for ensuring the contribution of all the relevant actors to the EGD implementation

EUSDR PA6 Actions: links with the EGD and EU funding and financial opportunities (1)

ACTION 1: Establish transnational cooperation and harmonisation of the strategic management documents between protected areas on river systems in the Danube basin

ACTION 2: Build capacities of national and local authorities, non-governmental organisations, expert and scientific community in the environment related matters

8th Environment Action Programme

Territorial cooperation goal

EU Nature and Water legislation

Danube Transnational Programme

Interreg Europe

EUSDR PA6 Actions: links with the EGD and EU funding and financial opportunities (2)

ACTION 3: Develop and/or implement conservation action plans and/or management plans for **endangered umbrella species** of the Danube Region

ACTION 4: Promote research to develop and apply the most appropriate methods for **prevention and control of IAS** and for management of the priority pathways in line with the DIAS Strategy and IAS Regulation (EU) 1143/2014

ACTION 5: **Anchoring the concept of EU green infrastructure** in the Danube Region

ACTION 6: Promote **ecological connectivity** through cooperation between macro-regional strategies (MRS)

ACTION 7: **Enhance and/or maintain soil-related ecosystem services (ES)**

Biodiversity Strategy 2030 + Nature Restoration Law

EU Soil Observatory

Cohesion Policy

LIFE Programme

Horizon Europe



EUSDR PA6 Actions: links with the EGD and EU funding and financial opportunities (3)

ACTION 8: Identify locations with **obsolete pesticide and similar chemical** remains and prepare a remediation plan and a risk management plan in the case of environmental accidents

ACTION 9: Take measures to gradually reduce **air pollution**, with as a minimum step to respect the limit values for pollutants according to the Air Quality Directive

ACTION 10: Stimulate the **management and the ecological restoration of wetlands**, particularly in the Danube delta

Biodiversity Strategy 2030

Farm to Fork Strategy

Zero Pollution Ambition

Cohesion Policy

InvestEU

Biodiversity in mainstream ERDF-CF programmes

- *BG* → 21.2%
- *SI* → 9.4%
- *CZ* → 9.3%
- *RO* → 6.1%
- *DE* → 5.9%
- *HU* → 5.3%

Interreg programmes

Strand	Programme	PO1	PO2	PO3	PO4	PO5	ISO1	ISO2	ERDF budget without TA (k €)	TA	total budget (k €)	% ERDF	% PO2	PO2 + 2 other POs %	ISO 1 %	ISO 2 %	Them. Conc. Resp.? (Y/N)	climate earmarking	bds spending	bds weighted avg	
B - transnational	Central Europe	62,396	103,993	20,799	0	0	20,799	0	224,624	16,639	280,780	80.00	46.30	92.6	9.3	0.0	Y	39%	10.30	28,920	280,780
B - transnational	Alpine Space	23,123	72,365	0	0	0	11,562	0	99,121	7,930	142,735	75.00	67.60	89.2	10.8	0.0	Y	27.00%	16.32	23,294	142,735
A - terrestrial b.	Slovenia-Austria	0	22,844	0	18,405	0	4,598	0	42,347	3,499	57,308	80.00	53.94	97.4	10.9	0.0	Y		16.82	9,639	57,308
B - Next	Black-Sea	18,481	36,962	0	0	0	0	0	55,443	5,544	67,763	90.00	54.55	100.0	0.0	0.0	Y				
A - IPA CBC	Bulgaria-North Macedonia	0	4,458	8,781	0	13,240	0	0	24,072	2,407	31,152	77.27	18.50	100.0	0.0	0.0	Y	30.11%	14.71	4,582	31,152
A - terrestrial b.	AT-HU	0	20,735	4,435	16,980	0	7,411	0	49,561	3,742	61,952	80.00	41.84	76.1	15.0	0.0	Y		17.77	11,009	61,952
A - terrestrial b.	AT-CZ	19,266	17,515	0	35,032	0	15,008	0	81,141	5,680	108,526	74.77	21.59	88.5	18.5	0.0	Y	29%	11.00	11,938	108,526
B - transnational	Danube	40,490	74,586	0	55,407	0	42,621	0	197,318	15,785	266,380	80.00	37.79	80.0	20.0	0.0	Y		14.93	39,771	266,380
A - IPA CBC	Bulgaria-Serbia	5,508	7,128	0	0	19,763	0	0	29,454	2,945	38,116	85.00	22.00	85.0	0.0	0.0	Y	32.46%	12.46	4,749	38,116
A - terrestrial b.	DE (Saxony)-CZ	14,745	42,597	0	68,810	0	26,213	0	142,397	9,968	190,456	80.00	27.96	66.2	17.2	0.0	Y		11.00	20,950	190,456
A - CBC	Italy-Croatia	25,284	67,264	35,910	33,284	0	11,244	0	161,669	11,317	216,233	80.00	38.88	72.7	7.0	0.0	Y		21.50	46,490	216,233
A - IPA CBC	Romania-Serbia	0	26,671	0	34,897	0	12,999	0	67,288	7,279	87,726	85.00	35.77	82.6	17.4	0.0	Y	35.50%	13.29	11,659	87,726
A - terrestrial b.	Romania-Bulgaria	0	73,617	21,400	12,840	55,640	0	0	152,801	10,696	207,457	78.81	45.03	86.9	0.0	0.0	Y		24.42	50,661	207,457
A - terrestrial b.	Romania-Hungary	0	46,448	0	78,821	0	15,483	0	131,544	9,208	175,940	80.00	33.00	89.0	11.0	0.0	Y		9.74	17,137	175,940
A - terrestrial b.	Slovenia-Croatia	0	16,521	0	17,703	0	5,121	0	36,271	3,074	49,181	80.00	41.99	87.0	13.0	0.0	Y		27.40	13,476	49,181
A - terrestrial b.	Slovakia-Czechia	0	21,331	0	53,754	0	10,239	0	79,742	5,582	106,654	80.00	25.00	88.0	12.0	0.0	Y	13%	21.59	23,027	106,654
A - terrestrial b.	Slovakia-Austria	7,925	17,216	0	22,643	0	7,716	0	51,869	3,631	69,375	80.00	31.02	86.1	13.9	0.0	Y	20%	20.10	13,944	69,375
A - IPA CBC	HR - BiH - MNR	25,891	50,605	0	41,190	0	0	0	106,987	10,699	138,454	85.00	43.00	100.0	0.0	0.0	Y	30.70%	15.27	21,142	138,454
A - terrestrial b.	Italy-Slovenia	6,880	26,545	0	31,943	0	5,521	0	66,260	4,638	88,623	80.00	37.44	92.2	7.8	0.0	Y		17.40	15,420	88,623
A - terrestrial b.	Hungary-Slovakia	0	44,500	0	70,000	0	14,500	0	120,561	8,439	161,250	80.00	34.50	88.8	11.2	0.0	Y		14.80	23,865	161,250
A - NEXT	HU-SK-RO-Ukraine	0	28,177	0	28,177	0	6,262	0	56,424	6,192	69,573	90.00	45.00	90.0	10.0	0.0	Y		27.90	19,411	69,573
A - IPA CBC	Hungary-Serbia	0	17,794	0	33,046	0	9,400	3,310	57,273	6,277	74,765	85.00	28.00	80.0	14.8	5.2	Y		19.10	14,280	74,765
A - terrestrial b.	Slovenia-Hungary	0	4,233	0	7,760	0	2,116	0	11,758	2,352	17,636	80.01	36.00	85.0	15.0	0.0	Y		28.33	4,996	17,636
A - terrestrial b.	DE (Bavaria)- CZ	10,652	20,709	0	49,477	0	18,226	0	92,584	6,481	123,831	80.00	20.90	81.6	18.4	0.0	Y		13.46	16,668	123,831
	Romania-Moldova											#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#####	#####	0.0				0	0
		260,641	864,814	91,325	710,169	88,643	247,039	3,310	2,138,509		2,831,866	#DIV/0!	40.44							447,028	2,764,103
		11.50%	38.17%	4.03%	31.34%	3.91%	10.90%	0.15%												17.37	16.17%
																			arithmetic avg		weighted average



LIFE programme 2021-2027

budget to increase from €3.46 bn.
to €5.45 bn.

two main fields of action

Environment
(€3.5 bn)

Climate Action
(€1.95 bn)

sub-programmes:

Nature &
Biodiversity
(€2.15 bn)

Circular
Economy &
Quality of Life
(€1.35 bn)

Climate
change
mitigation &
adaptation
(€0.95 bn)

Clean
Energy
Transition
(€1.00 bn)



Key targets in the Biodiversity Strategy

WHAT?

- Unlocking €20 billion/year for biodiversity (through MFF, MS co-funding and investments leveraged e.g. via InvestEU)
- 10 billion investment instrument, having InvestEU as a basis

HOW?

- Biodiversity investment needs overall estimated at €20-35 billion/year
- New legally binding targets on ecosystem restoration (on top of Natura2000 legislation) likely to create investment opportunities
- €10 billion investment instrument: build on the global energy efficiency and renewable energy fund of fund (GEEREF) and the natural capital financing facility (NCFE)
- Technical assistance will be key (cf. European Green Deal Investment Plan)

The InvestEU programme

- InvestEU is a new programme providing bank guarantees
- Budget 26,2 bn, expected to mobilise 372 bn
- 30% climate target and 60% env/climate target under the Sust. Infra. Window
- DNSH principle + sustainability proofing

 **SUSTAINABLE
INFRASTRUCTURE**
€ 9.9 bn in EU guarantee

 **RESEARCH, INNOVATION
AND DIGITISATION**
€ 6.6 bn in EU guarantee

 **SMEs**
€ 6.9 bn in EU guarantee

 **SOCIAL INVESTMENT
AND SKILLS**
€ 2.8 bn in EU guarantee



The InvestEU Advisory Hub

- Key role of **technical assistance**
- **Advisory hub** budget: EUR 400m
- **5 advisory products**: SIW, RID, SME, SIS and Cross-cutting
- EUR 50m additionally provided by LIFE on **TA for Natural Capital and Circular Economy → GREEN ASSIST**
- Importance of **blending/combined financing with LIFE, ERDF/CF or private funds**



Thank you

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