

The Danube Strategy – PA1b

“State of play and challenges ahead”

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THE DANUBE REGION TRANSPORT DAYS

Towards coordinated efforts for efficient transport
in the Danube region

18-19 November 2012 | Ljubljana, Slovenia

The Danube Region



- **14 States:** Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Moldova, Ukraine
- **Population:** 115 mio (EU27: 502 mio) **Area:** 1,092.591 km² (EU27: 4,324,782)

... and the Danube Strategy:



- ✓ **Second macro-region endorsed by the EU! (The first is Baltic Sea!)**
- ✓ 19 June 2009: The European Council invites the Commission to develop a Danube region strategy
- ✓ 8 December 2010: Adoption by the Commission (Two docs: Communication on Strategy and Action plan)
- ✓ 3 February 2011: 11 priority area coordinators nominated (by the Commission)
 - Priority area 1: To improve mobility and multimodality
 - ✓ PA 1a: inland waterways - Austria and Romania
 - ✓ PA 1b : rail, road and air links - Slovenia and Serbia
- ✓ 13 April 2011: GAC Conclusions
- ✓ 24 June 2011: endorsed by the European Council
- ✓ 30 June / 1 July 2011: the end of preparation / start of implementation

PA1b and Targets

- **Strategy** (Communication by the Commission; COM(2010) 715 final)

(Only) **Three exemplary targets** for EUSDR Pillar 1 (Connecting the Danube Region) which are of relevance for EUSDR Priority Area 1b as amended:

- ✓ Improved travel times for **competitive railway passenger connections** between major cities;
- ✓ Implementation of the 4 **Rail Freight Corridors** crossing the Danube Region as planned within 3 or 5 years and possible inclusion of a new corridor with added value of linking together the EU and non-EU member states' railway systems;
- ✓ Development of **efficient multimodal terminals** at Danube river ports and dry ports to connect inland waterways with rail and road transport by 2020.

PA1b and Actions

Action Plan (SEC(2010) 1489 final, dated 8.12.2010)

Action (1) - "To bring to **completion the TEN-T** (rail and road) Priority Projects crossing the Danube Region, overcoming the difficulties and the bottlenecks including environmental, economic and political, particularly in the cross-border sections".

Action (2) - "To implement **the Rail Freight Corridors** forming part of the European rail network for competitive freight".

Action (3) - "To enhance **cooperation between air traffic stakeholders** in order to prepare a plan to implement **shorter plane routes**".

Action (4) - "To ensure **sustainable metropolitan transport systems and mobility**".

Action (5) - "To improve **the regional/ local cross-border infrastructure** and the access to rural areas".

Action (6) - "To develop further **nodal planning for multimodality**".

Action (7) - "To develop further **Intelligent Traffic Systems** by using environmental friendly technologies, especially in urban regions".

State of Play



The First year of implementation

- **4 Steering Group meetings** (22 June 2011: Kick off (the first) Steering Group (SG) Meeting; Ljubljana, 20 October 2011: Second SG Meeting; Belgrade; 20 February 2012: Third SG Meeting; Ljubljana and 20 June 2012: Fourth SG Meeting; Belgrade)
- **Ad hoc Working Group on projects**; 9 - 10 February 2011, Belgrade
- **Joint meeting Pa1a and PA1b**; 3 May 2012, Bratislava
- **Workshop on the Common Transport Vision for the Danube Region**; 27 September 2012: Belgrade
- **18-19 November 2012: The First Stakeholder Conference, Ljubljana**

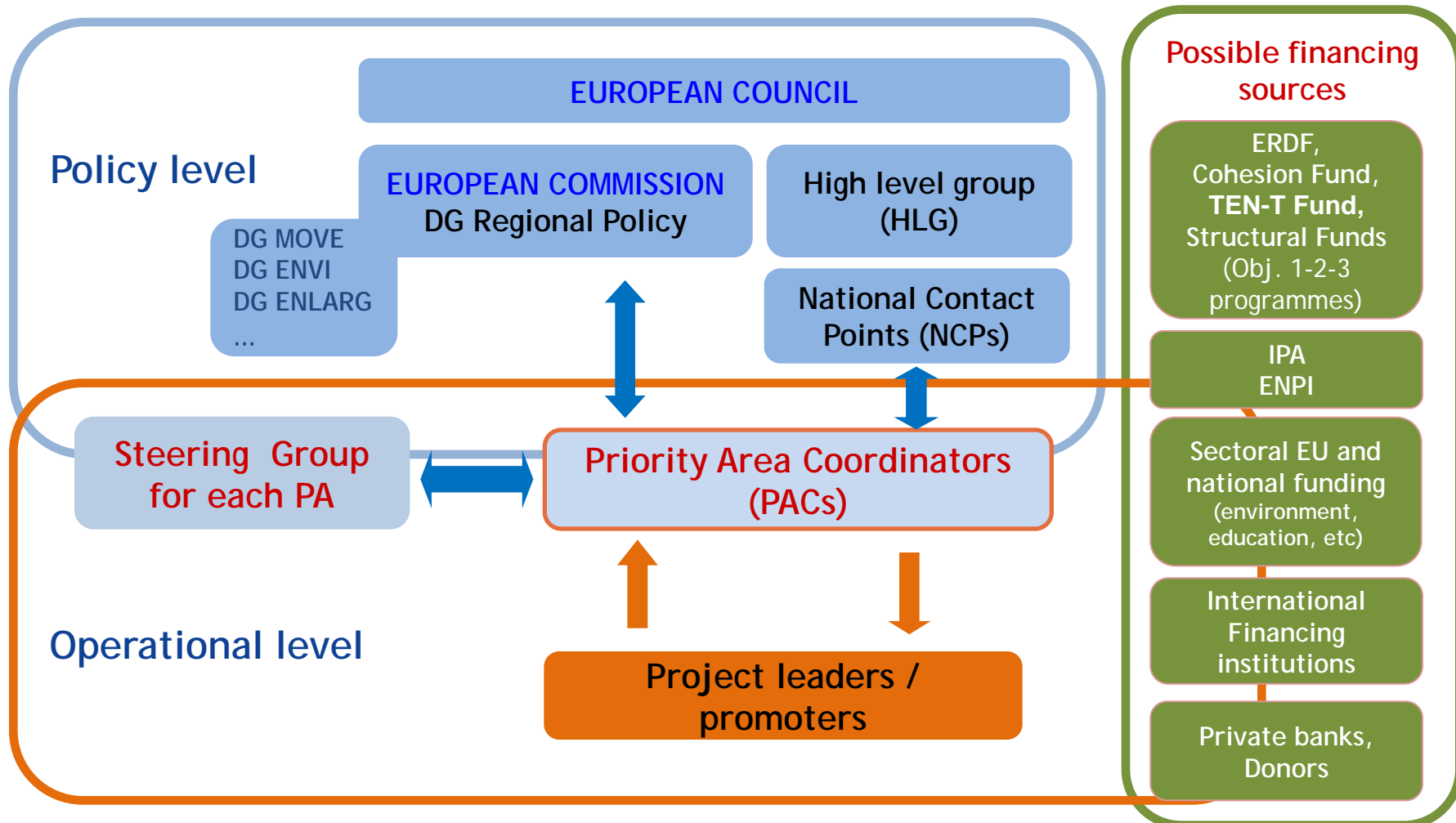
Planned before end of 2012:

- 27-28 November 2012: EUSDR Annual Forum, Regensburg (the European Commission and Free State of Bavaria)
- December 2012: 5th PA1b SG meeting; Belgrade

... and the First Results

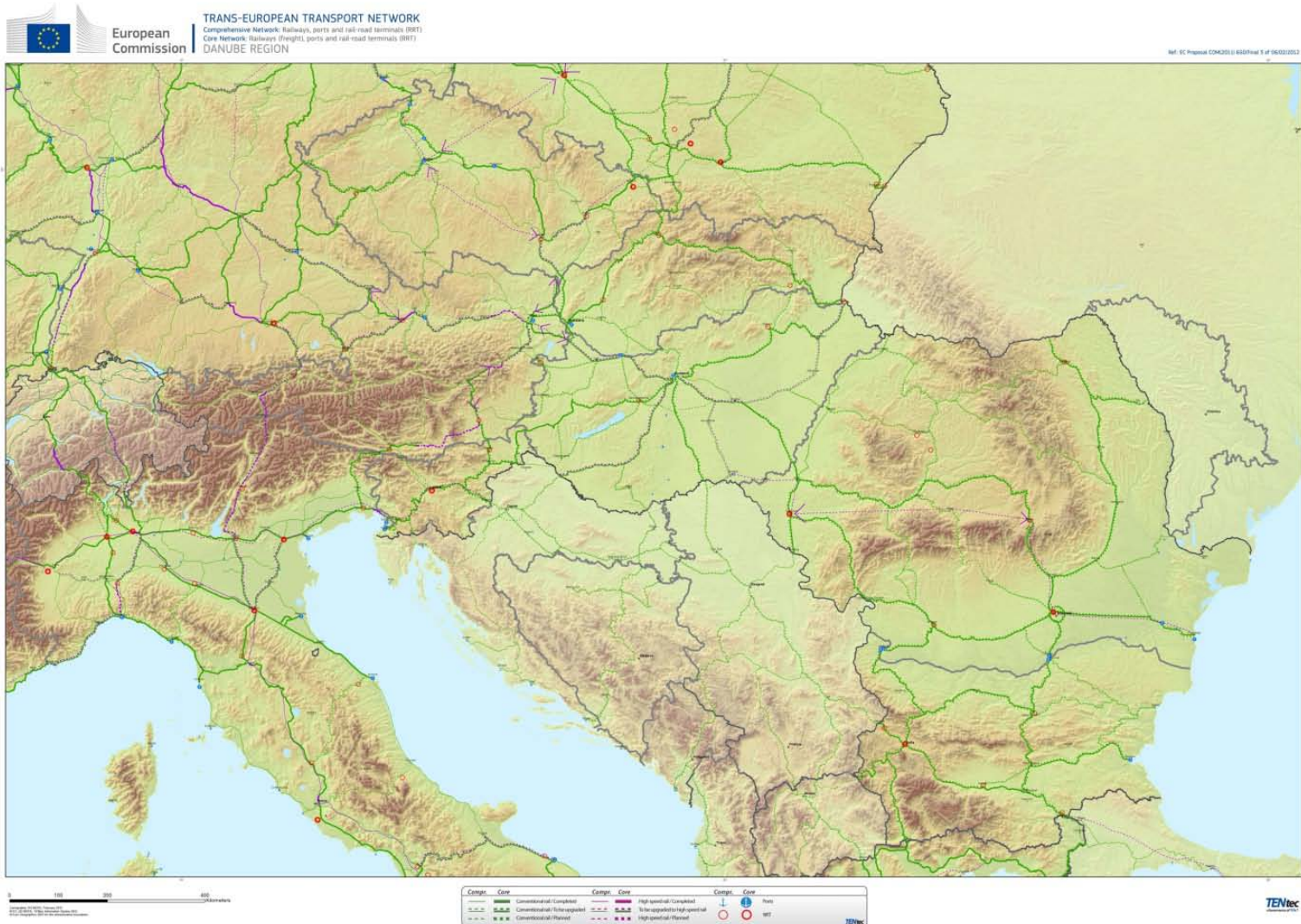
- **Governance structure put into place**
- **Roadmaps (actions linked to targets)**
 - milestones, tasks, responsible, financing, projects
- **Maps (transport infrastructure)**
 - all modes
- **Projects (ongoing, prepared, planned, project ideas)**
 - Over 130 (150) projects received!
 - Rail 51%, road 27%, air 6%, intermodal 8%, horizontal 8 %
- **Letter of Recommendation**
 - 17 awarded (seven rail projects)

Governance model



Danube Region: TEN-T and SEETO

Rail (freight), ports and RRT's



Examples of projects

Austria	EDITS European Digital Traffic Infrastructure Network For Intelligent Transport Systems
Bulgaria	Design of the Modernization of Vidin – Sofia Railway Line
Croatia	Construction of New Freight Bypass Double Track Railway Line Zaprešić – Horvati – Turopolje – Dugo Selo
Hungary	Development of Hungarian Section of Eurovelo 6 (Bicycle Route From The Atlantic To The Black Sea)
Romania	Modernization Of Tulcea “Danube Delta” Airport
Serbia	Danube Region Intermodal Strategy (DRIS)
Slovakia	The Road Bridge Komarno (Slovakia) – Komarom (Hungary)
Slovenia	The Common Transport Vision for the Danube Region (Framework Strategy towards Sustainable Mobility in the Danube Region)
Ukraine	Construction of Railway Branch from Port Reni to Railway «Odessa - Izmail»

Challenges Ahead?



Respect decisions already made

E.g.: Neighbourhood connections

HLG chaired by Loyola de Palacio (Report November 2005)

Communication from the Commission COM(2007) 32, 31 January 2007



Decisions to be made?

E.g.: High speed railways



No common real progress in Danube region envisaged!

Challenges ahead (1)

- Political support to continue
- Involvement of all States of the region
- From debate to concrete results, from forum to projects implementation
- Improve governance and work on expert level (individual modes)
- Work on projects, incl. project ideas, e.g. Transport Vision
- Continue work on Roadmaps
- Continue work on Maps
- Review of Action Plan

Challenges ahead (2)

- Involvement of stakeholders
- Find lead partners for projects
- Promotion

- Alignment of funding
- Existing macro-regional strategies incorporate into Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020

Thank you very much!

Please visit:

www.danube-region.eu

<http://groupspaces.com/MobilityRail-Road-Air/>



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