



The Danube Region Transport Days 2013

**Implementation progress, next steps
of the EUSDR and activities taken by
the Priority Area 1b**

*Government of Serbia
Serbian European Integration Office
Ognjen Miric
Deputy Director, Coordinator for EU Funds*

October 2013



EUSDR policy issues

- Council conclusions on the added value of the macro-regional strategies
- 2nd Annual Forum of the EUSDR
- Innovative solutions to facilitate the participation of the Danube Western Balkans countries in implementation of the Danube Strategy (joint proposal prepared by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia)

Danube Serbia policy issues



- Revising the 2007 Danube – Serbia Study
 - **On-going** TA to IPA 2011 project “Socio-economic Development of the Danube Serbia Region (SEDDSR)”
 - **Updates** the original CARDS study “Danube Serbia: Building a European Gateway, Challenges and Opportunities”, which pre-dates EU Strategy for Danube Region
 - **Aim** is to produce robust analytical framework, as a major strategic reference document and the basis for formulating development measures and for SEDDSR to prepare infrastructure projects and implement assistance packages
 - **Timetable:** First draft due in mid-October (analysis and outline measures), final draft following consultation by mid-December.

Emerging themes from study



- In the context of Serbia's low growth, 25% unemployment & high trade deficit, the vision for Danube-Serbia must be more than as a transit node, but as a major locus of export-oriented industry
- Transport infrastructure is not an end in itself: planning & investment must be fully integrated into a strategic approach that links transport network development to industrial development, especially in Serbia's priority sectors (agri-food, automotive, etc.) - **connecting the Danube-Serbia economy to international markets**

Programming 2014-2020



- Development of programming document is ongoing:
 - Country Strategy Paper: should be approved by mid 2014;
 - Sector Programmes: should be approved by end of 2014;
 - CBC and Danube Transnational Programme Operational Programmes;
- Project documentation should be continuous process
- Relationship member states and Western Balkans: Country Strategy Paper corresponds to Partnership Agreement and Sector Programmes to Operational Programmes



Recommendation for all PACs

1. Identification of broad list of projects

1 – 3 Already implemented steps

2. Strategic Relevance Assessment and letters of recommendation (filtering step)

3a – 6 Recommendation for next steps

3. A list of strategically relevant projects (PA 1b: 130)

3a. Coordination between PA/CSP and OPs/SPs

4. Gap Assessment Analysis:

- Technical elements (spatial planning & technical documentation)
- Institutional readiness (institutional framework & capacity)
- Financial /Economic elements (expenditure coverage /affordability)
- Environmental /Social elements (EIA, socio/environmental impacts)

5. Four groups of projects according to their degree of maturity: a) Ready for tendering; b) Ready for preparation of technical documentation; c) Minor gap to be addressed before preparation of technical documentation and d) Substantial gaps to be addressed before preparation of technical documentation

6. Agreement between countries about project implementation (e.g. MoUs)



Thank you for your attention

Serbian European Integration Office

www.seio.gov.rs

www.evropa.gov.rs