The Danube Strategy – PA1b
“State of play and challenges ahead”

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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 (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:


- **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

Policy level
- EUROPEAN COMMISSION
  - DG Regional Policy
- High level group (HLG)
- National Contact Points (NCPs)
- DG MOVE
- DG ENVI
- DG ENLARG
- Priority Area Coordinators (PACs)
- Steering Group for each PA

Operational level
- Project leaders / promoters

Possible financing sources
- ERDF, Cohesion Fund, TEN-T Fund, Structural Funds (Obj. 1-2-3 programmes)
- IPA
- ENPI
- Sectoral EU and national funding (environment, education, etc)
- International Financing institutions
- Private banks, Donors
Danube Region: TEN-T and SEETO
Rail (freight), ports and RRT’s
### Examples of projects

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

E.g.: Neighbourhood connections

HLG chaired by Loyola de Palacio (Report November 2005)
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://groupsaces.com/MobilityRail-Road-Air/

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