



First session of Steering Group for Priority Area 1a of the EUDRS

Vienna, 21 June 2011

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Agenda

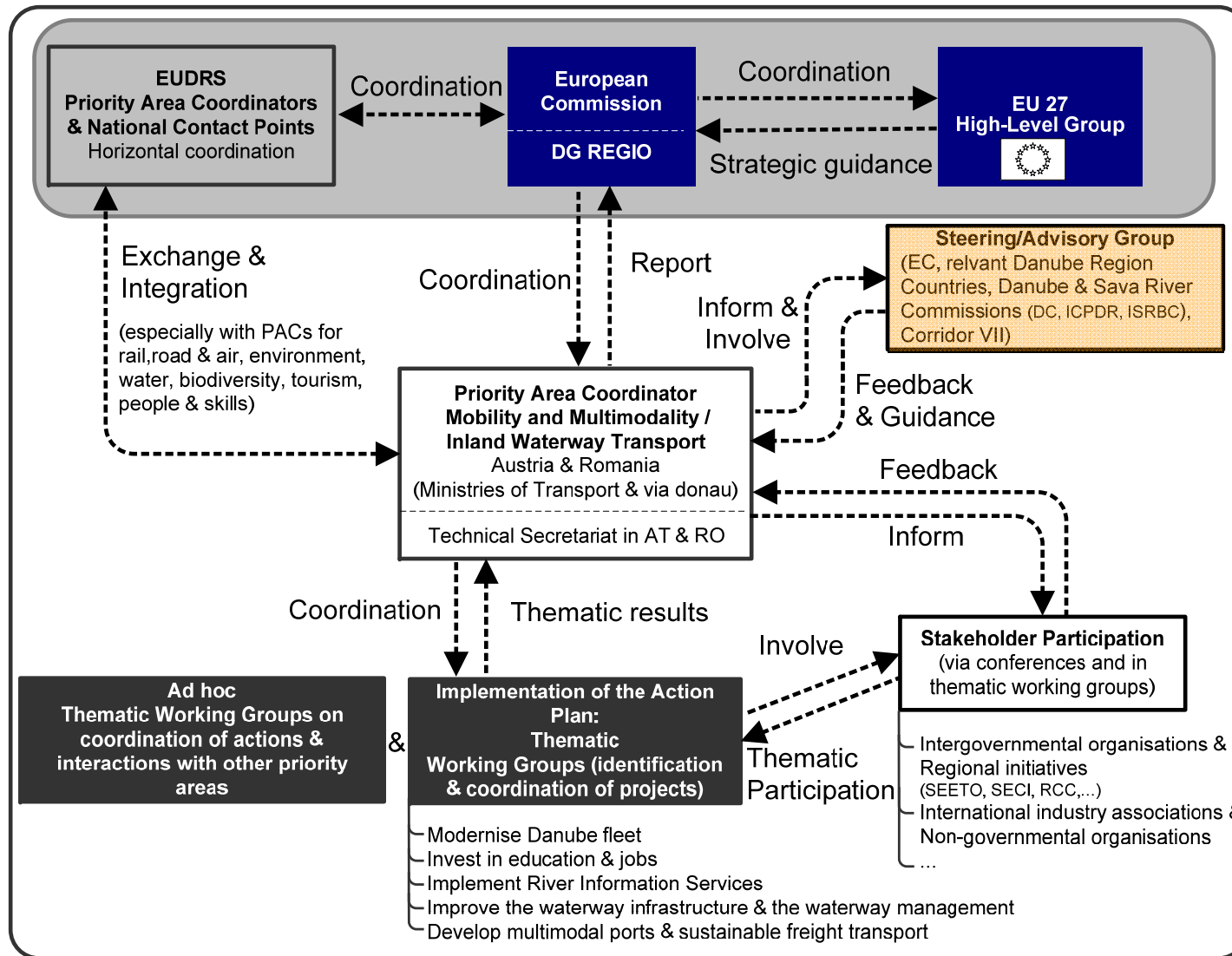
- Round of introductions
- Organisational structure for the implementation of the actions in Priority Area 1a
- Discussion on role and responsibilities of Steering Group
- Revision of targets included in the EC Communication for Priority Area 1a
- Thematic areas for Working Groups, discussion on leaders and their responsibilities, project fiche template
- Timeline

EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Priority Area 1a – To improve mobility and multimodality: Inland waterways



European Union
Regional Policy





Role/Responsibilities of Steering Group

- Two sessions/year (spring and autumn)
- Priority Area Coordinator (Austria & Romania) informs & involves SG in bi-annual sessions, e.g. regarding progress made in Working Groups and stakeholder participation
- SG provides feedback & guidance to Priority Area Coordinator (Austria & Romania) in bi-annual sessions
- How to deal with issues of national inland navigation policies and image/lobbying for IWT?





Revision of exemplary targets

Targets relating to inland waterway transport as provided as "examples" in the Commission's Communication:

- *Increase the cargo transport on the river by 20% by 2020 compared to 2010.*
- *Remove existing navigability bottlenecks on the river so as to accommodate type Vlb vessels all year round by 2015.*
- *Development of efficient multimodal terminals at Danube river ports to connect inland waterways with rail and road transport by 2020.*



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- *Remove existing navigability bottlenecks on the river so as to accommodate type VIb vessels all year round by 2015.*

→ Proposal for reformulation:

Solve obstacles to navigability, taking into account the specific characteristics of each section of the Danube and its navigable tributaries and establish effective waterway infrastructure management by 2015.



Revision of exemplary targets






Proposal for two additional targets relating to inland waterway transport to be part of the Strategy:

- *Implement harmonised River Information Services (RIS) on the Danube and its navigable tributaries and ensure the international exchange of RIS data by 2015.*
- *Solve the shortage of qualified personnel and harmonize education standards in inland navigation in the Danube region by 2020, taking duly into account the social dimension of the respective measures.*



Working Groups: Thematic Areas

The following five thematic Working Groups are foreseen for implementing the EUDRS's Action Plan for Priority Area 1a:

Waterway Infrastructure	Ports and Sustainability	Danube Fleet	River Information Services	Education and Jobs
				
"Improve waterway infrastructure and waterway management"	"Develop multi-modal ports and sustainable freight transport"	"Modernize the Danube fleet"	"Implement River Information Services"	"Invest in education & jobs"



WG on Waterway Infrastructure



The following actions are included in the EUDRS's Action Plan for Priority Area 1a:

- *To complete the implementation of TEN-T Priority Project 18 on time and in an environmentally sustainable way*
- *To invest in waterway infrastructure of Danube and its tributaries and develop the interconnections*
- *To improve comprehensive waterway management on the Danube and its tributaries*

Ongoing initiatives:

- *TEN-T Guidelines & Coordinator, UNECE Blue Book*
- *Joint Statement, PLATINA Manual, DG ENV / DG MOVE Working Group on Rivers*
- *NEWADA project*



WG on Ports and Sustainability

Ports and Sustainability



"Develop multi-modal ports and sustainable freight transport"

The following actions are included in the EUDRS's Action Plan for Priority Area 1a:

- *To develop ports in the Danube river basin into multimodal logistics centres*
- *To promote sustainable freight transport in the Danube region*

Ongoing initiatives:

- *TEN-T Guidelines & Coordinator, UNECE Blue Book*
- *National support programmes*



WG on Danube Fleet



The following actions are included in the EUDRS's Action Plan for Priority Area 1a:

- *To modernize the Danube Fleet in order to improve environmental and economic performance*

Ongoing initiatives:

- *PLATINA Innovation Expert Group & Database*
- *Strategic Research Agenda*
- *European Funding Database*
- *European Hull Database*
- *National support programmes*
- *WANDA and Move It! projects*



WG on River Information Services



The following actions are included in the EUDRS's Action Plan for Priority Area 1a:

- *To implement harmonised River Information Services (RIS)*

Ongoing initiatives:

- *RIS Expert Groups*
- *National support programmes (AIS transponders)*
- *IRIS Europe, RISING and NEWADA projects*



WG on Education and Jobs



The following actions are included in the EUDRS's Action Plan for Priority Area 1a:

- *To invest in education and jobs in the Danube navigation sector*

Ongoing initiatives:

- *PLATINA Joint Working Group on Professional Competencies*
- *EU Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee*
- *EDINNA (Education in Inland Navigation Network)*
- *STCIN (Standards for Training and Certification in Inland Navigation)*
- *NELI and EWITA (INeS Danube) projects*



Actions beyond WGs

Further actions which are included in the EUDRS's Action Plan for Priority Area 1a:

- *To coordinate national transport policies in the field of navigation in the Danube basin*
- *To support the Danube Commission in finalising the process of reviewing the Belgrade Convention*
→ This action falls within the realm of foreign policy and should exclusively be dealt with at the respective ministries (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Coordination with actions defined in other Priority Areas / Pillars is necessary!





Project fiche template

The elaboration of a template for information on EUDRS PA 1a projects (“project fiche”) is recommended as well as an exchange with other PACs of the Strategy on this matter.

The fiche could contain information such as:

- Project title & description
- Start & end date, current status
- Relation to other PAs *
- Added value for EUDRS
- Transboundary impact *
- Beneficiary & project manager
- Lead partner * & other partners *
- Contact person
- Total (estimated) value of project
- Available funds
- Funding sources & share
- Other relevant issues
- Timestamp for dataset

** If applicable*



Timeline

Some key dates in the implementation of the EUDRS are:

- 23/24 June 2011: Official launch of EUDRS by the European Council
- Autumn 2011: Second Session of Steering Group
- Nov/Dec 2011: Annual Stakeholder Conference
- End of 2012: First Progress Report to be issued by the European Commission on:
 - Implementation of agreed actions & evaluation of results
 - Amendments and updates of the Action Plan, including a list of on-going projects and possible project ideas

