

# EU STRATEGY FOR THE DANUBE REGION

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## PRIORITY AREA 8:

To Support the Competitiveness of  
Enterprises Including Cluster Development

PAC8 Dragica Karaić

PA 1a 5th Steering Group Meeting - Linz, 17 April 2013

- **PA 8 Coordinators:** Baden-Württemberg and Croatia
- **4 Steering Group meetings** held so far; 5th SGM will be held in May in Bratislava
- Presence of experts and policy makers is assured in **6 WORKING GROUPS that cover specific areas:**
  - (1) Innovation and Technology Transfer
  - (2) Clusters Excellence
  - (3) Vocational Education and Training (VET)
  - (4) Competitiveness in Rural and Urban Areas
  - (5) Entrepreneurial Learning and
  - (6) Energy Efficiency and Environment

## We recognize the importance of the Danube Strategy and we support it because:

- It is a key for strengthening **transnational cooperation**
- It is a tool for strengthening cooperation between **SMEs**
- Has great potential in developing cooperation between **clusters**
- It supports entrepreneurial learning, vocational education, training and research

## PA 8 ACTIVITIES: WORKING GROUP FOR CLUSTERS EXCELLENCE

### *1st Cluster workshop “Cluster Networking and Development Prospects in the Danube Region” (2012)*

- gathered about 100 participants from the Danube Region
- Potential sectors recognised for further development and clustering - especially **metal** and **wood** processing, **organic food** processing, **services** in tourism

**2nd Cluster workshop - 11/12 June 2013** in Vukovar (Croatia) – focus will be on **funding possibilities** for cluster development



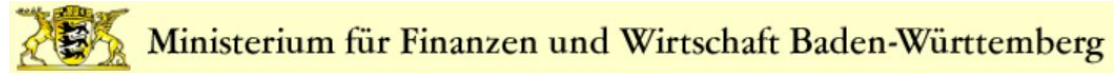
**DanuClus**  
Danube Cluster Networks

**Passion precedes prosperity**

## Projects DanuClus

- High impact experimentation projects in strong areas (automotive, wood processing, ICT)
- Cluster mapping and benchmarking exercise
- Next Generation Competitiveness Initiative (expanded to whole Danube Region, focus on clusters)

# Potential Partners



# FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

PA 8 Steering Group has collected around **50 projects** (out of which **7 are flagship projects**)

## Flagship project on **Entrepreneurial Learning (SEECEL)**

- 3-year activities resulted in a conference in Dubrovnik with more than 200 students and pupils included in a pilot project of entrepreneurship as a key competence in formal education in SEE region
- This „**entrepreneurial camp**” linked academic society (pupils and students, tomorrow entrepreneurs) with the business society of the macro region
- 8 SEE countries, 4 of which are in EUSDR



## PA 8 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES IN 2013

- Conference on „**Research and entrepreneurship partnership for the growth and internationalization in Danube Region**”, Autumn 2013, Zagreb (Croatia)
- Stronger promotional activities in order **to collect EUSDR – PA8 project proposals** for the next programming period 2014
- **Visibility** – stronger presence on EUSDR web sites (news, key instructions for project application), leaflet, banners, folders, note pads, pens...
- **Established cooperation with PA 10** “To step up Institutional Capacity and Cooperation” through Technical Assistance Facility (TAF-DRP)

# System of Integral Logistic Support Around the Central Logistic Point in Port of Vukovar

*Regional Development Agency Hrast Ltd.  
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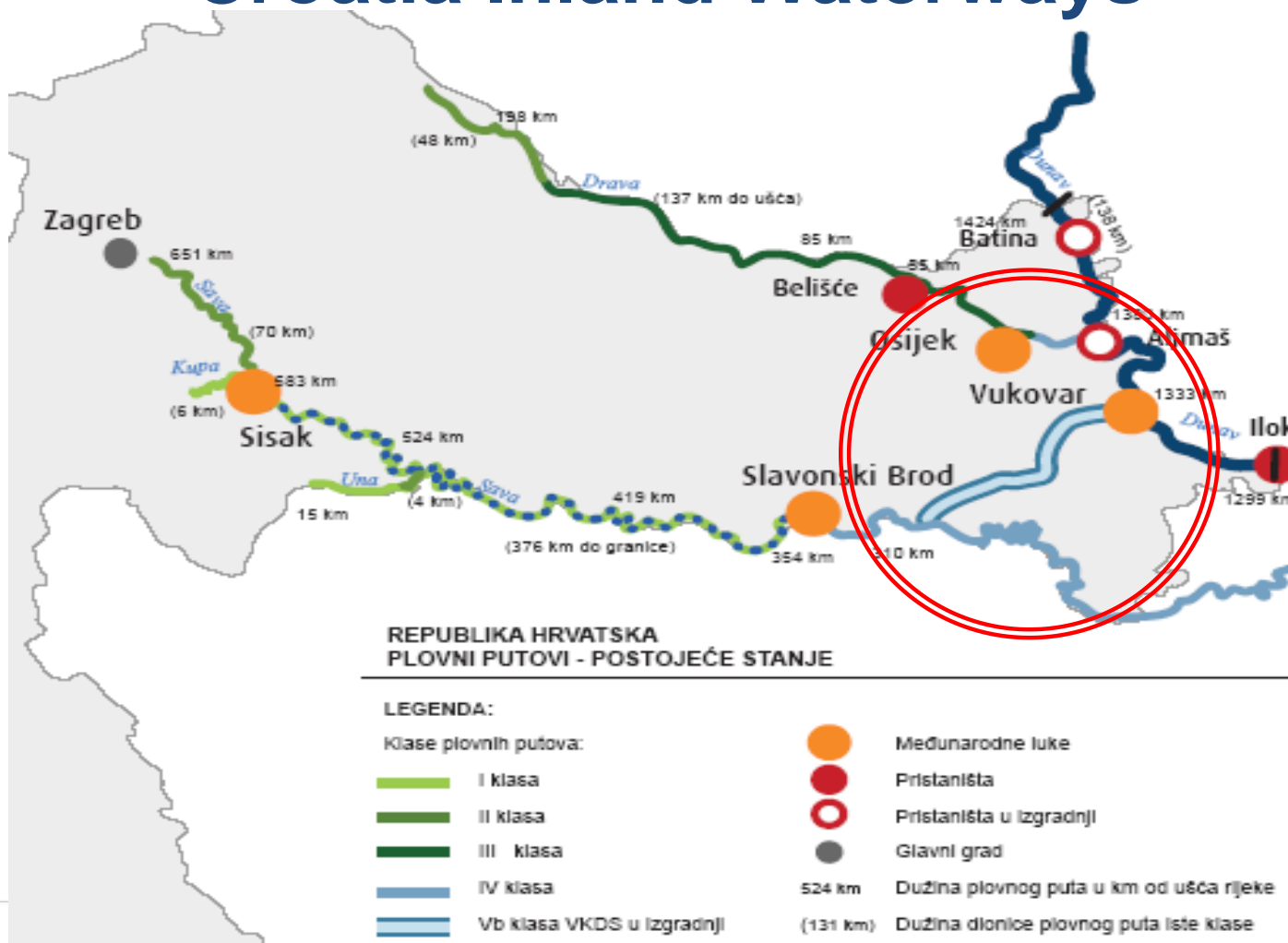
## Introductory notes

- Geo-strategic position of Vukovar-Srijem County, as a potential comparative advantage to neighboring counties and regions in Eastern Europe, has been never seriously valorised
- This position can be the basis for wider potential development of logistics and transportation components, considering the fact that the County is located at the major transport routes (water, rail and road).

# Vukovar-Srijem County - position



# Croatia Inland Waterways



# Croatia Highways / Roads



# Railway directions



## EU transport and logistics – the present moment

- We are aware that in the transport and logistics manner EU is extremely supportive particularly of the development of multi-modal transportation modes based at the prior use of natural resources (inland and marine systems), and railway traffic.
- For Croatia, it is necessary to integrate prior transportation directions as an integral part or extension within three European corridors: Baltic-Adriatic, Danube and the Mediterranean Corridor.
- Here we see our chance.



# Strategies and considerations (I)

- In the previously defined documents, and in the Development Strategy of Transport and Logistics Republic of Croatia which is in process, the national priorities are inland waterways with an emphasis on the Danube and Sava rivers.
- Danube corridor is significantly valorized, but still not enough.
- Therefore it is encouraging to see that the Danube Strategy supports the development of the Danube-Sava channel

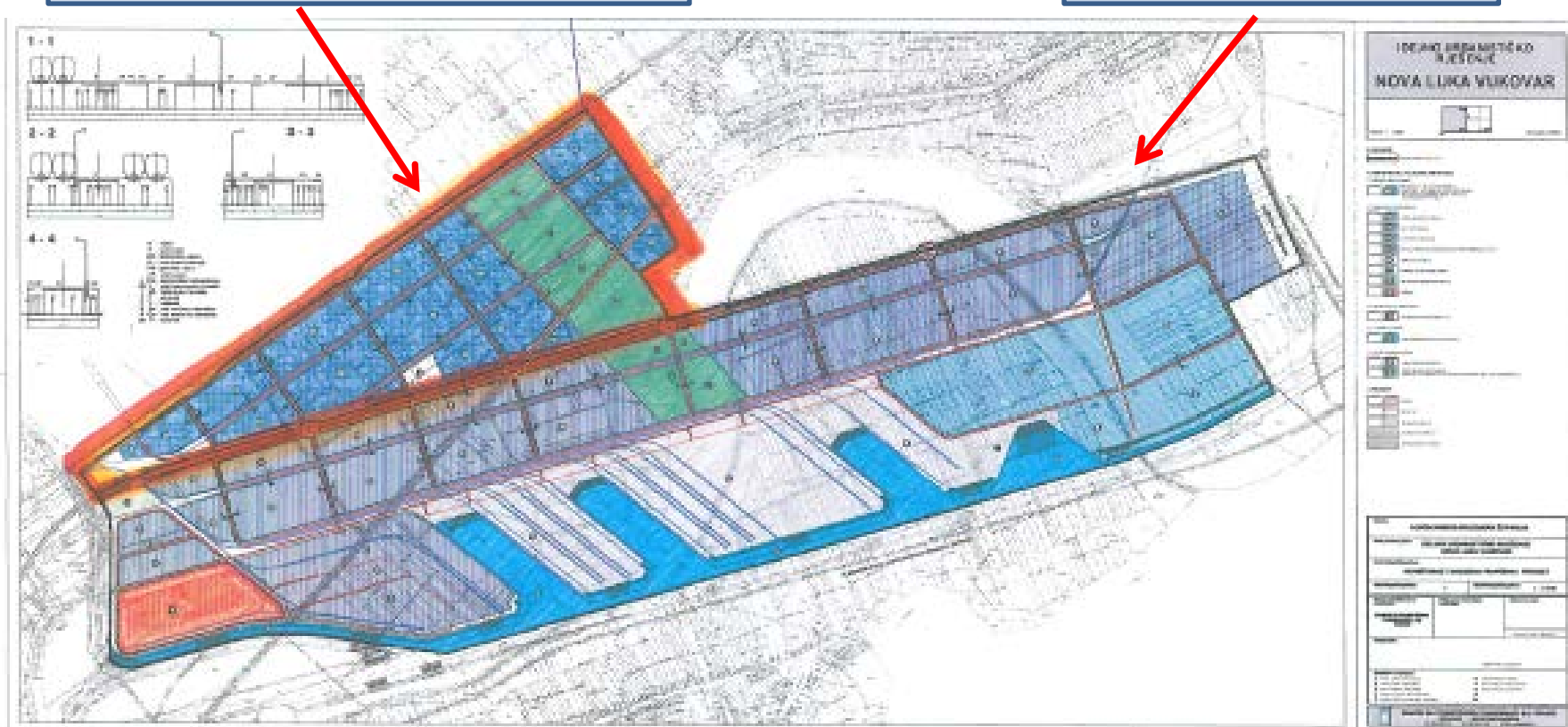
## Strategies and considerations (II)

- Recently, Baltic-Adriatic direction and the Mediterranean route have been significantly mentioned, which is convenient for the regional position of the Croatian transport network
- Our northern neighbors (Poland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary) are very interested for the intensification of this direction. The same is with our eastern and southern neighbors: Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina in particular.
- This opens for all mentioned countries, direct access to the Adriatic (through the Port of Ploče).

# Logistic development of VSC Expansion - New Vukovar port and Entrepreneurial zone "Vuka"

New Entrepreneurial zone Vuka

New Vukovar Port



## Logistic development of VSC Expansion - New Vukovar port and Entrepreneurial zone "Vuka"



# VSC Logistics System Development

## The first phase: Logistics Center Vukovar



## The project's main goal

The modern logistics center design is in line with the European standards. The quality of performance is foreseen in order to provide a framework for economically viable and self-sustainable functioning.

Logistics Center „Vuka” will be developed as the Regional Centre (hub) in this part of Eastern Europe for the transport, logistics and distribution of goods (for national and international transit).

# Expected Project Results

- Realization of the Project in the area of Vukovar-Srijem County, will bring added value in broader regional terms
- Significant development of the logistics sector
- New related activities
- Attracting investments and increasing the competitiveness of the economy and the area in general.

**Thank you for your attention!**