

Interreg Programme
Danube Region



Co-funded by
the European Union

**“From a region of barriers to a region of
flows”**

Danube Region Programme

AE Budapest Knowledge Hub webinar
8 February 2024
online





Programme area





What is financed?

DRP supports **joint territorial cooperation projects**:

- **Addressing concrete transnational territorial challenge** (as clear starting point)
- **Develop institutional capacity** and ensure **knowledge transfer**
- Support the development of a **common framework for policy implementation** in various fields
- Support **policy harmonisation** in various fields
- Develop **innovative solutions to common problems**
- Pave the way to new investments



Transnational cooperation

transnational dimension:

- **project topic, addressed challenge and contributing project activities have transnational, broader territorial and/or thematic character and relevance**

transnational impact:

- **based on the planned activities and outputs the impact of the project can be considered relevant on transnational scale and not only on local level in different parts of the region**
- **not limited to few (3-4) countries**
- **≠ cross-border**
- **≠ local actions under international umbrella**



What activities are financed?

- **improving policies and institutional capacities** (e.g. joint strategies, action plans, policy & sectoral dialogs, networks, trainings)
- **developing solutions** (e.g. tools, methods, processes, services, database) that are **also pilot tested** within the project
- **pilot actions** (testing demonstrating viability and applicability of solutions)
- **Information, communication, dissemination activities** (supporting the thematic activities)
- **transnational small-scale investments** (no major infrastructure)

reasonable mix of activities with clear thematic focus



Programme does **not finance projects** with:

- **pre-dominant focus on research** / data collection without translating into applied solutions / policy strategies, plans
- **pre-dominant focus on technical solution development** without application by target users
- **pre-dominant focus on infrastructure**



Danube Region
Programme
2021-2027

Priorities and Specific Objectives

**A smarter
Danube Region**

Enhancing
innovation
and technology transfer

Developing
skills for smart specialisation,
industrial transition
and entrepreneurship

**A greener,
low-carbon
Danube Region**

Promoting
renewable energy

Promoting
climate change adaptation
and disaster management

Improving
water and sediment quality

Protecting and preserving
the biodiversity in ecological
corridors and eco-regions

**A more social
Danube Region**

Accessible,
inclusive and effective
labour markets

Accessible
and inclusive
quality services in education,
training and lifelong learning

Socio-economic development
through heritage, culture and
tourism

**A better
cooperation governance
in the Danube Region**

Increased institutional
capacities for territorial and
macro-regional governance

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Specific objective 1.1

Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies

Specific objective 1.2

Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship

DRP Project Officer: **Katalin Kovács-Kasza**

Priority 1

**A smarter Danube
Region**

Not open in 2nd call



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Specific objective 2.1

Promoting renewable energy in accordance with directive (EU) 2018/2001, including the sustainable criteria set out therein

DRP Project Officer: **Horst Schindler**

Specific objective 2.2

Promoting climate change adaptation capacities in the Danube Region and disaster management on transnational level in relation to environmental risks, taking into account ecosystem-based approaches

DRP Project Officer: **Gusztáv Csomor**

Priority 2

A greener, low carbon Europe



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Specific objective 2.3

Sustainable, integrated, transnational water and sediment management in the Danube River Basin ensuring good quality and quantity of waters and sediment balance

Specific objective 2.4

Protecting and preserving the biodiversity in ecological corridors and eco-regions of transnational relevance in the Danube Region

DRP Project Officer: **Gusztáv Csomor**

Priority 2

A greener, low carbon Europe



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Specific objective 3.1

Accessible, inclusive and effective labour markets

Specific objective 3.2

Accessible and inclusive quality services in education,
training and lifelong learning

DRP Project Officer: **Stephen Halligan**

Specific objective 3.3

Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in
economic development, social inclusion and social
innovation

DRP Project Officer: **Natalia Liholot**

Priority 3

A more social Danube Region



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Specific objective 4.2

**Increased institutional capacities for
territorial and macro-regional
governance**

DRP Project Officer: **Johannes Gabriel**

Priority 4

**A better cooperation
governance in the
Danube Region**





Expected outcomes and impacts of DRP projects

- **Outputs and results shall demonstrate durability**
 - adaptation, implementation of strategies
 - application of solutions by key stakeholders
 - transferring outputs to other relevant territories and stakeholders
- **Long-term, strategic perspective needed**
 - considering needs of key stakeholders and institutional context
- **Key stakeholders should be actively involved**
 - channelling their needs, creating ownership for project outputs
- **Follow-up activities**
 - handover to policy level, operational actors
 - financing through other initiatives or funds



From DRP countries

Local, regional, national public bodies

Bodies governed by public law

**WHO CAN
APPLY?**

International organisations

Private bodies (e.g. chambers of commerce, trade unions, NGO-s, private enterprises registered in the programme area)

Private enterprises cannot be Lead Partners



Partnership

- **Cover transnational project target area countries**
 - Involvement of PPs from non-EU DRP-countries (assessment criteria!!!)
 - too small – limited impact vs. too big – potential management problems
- **Provide relevant expertise, territorial / thematic competences for project**
 - integrated territorial approach = effective linkages across relevant sectors & governance levels (vertical cooperation)
- **Ensure policy relevance**
- **Balanced partnership**
- **Lead Partner principle**
 - Potential applicants from non-EU Member States can also be Lead Applicants
 - Ukrainian applicants can be only project partners in 2nd CfP

Associated Strategic Partner (ASP)?

**Added value for
the partnership**

**From EU countries,
or
non-EU countries
from eligible area**



**No ASP budget
(*travel and
accommodation costs
of ASP are sponsored
from other PP's budget*)**

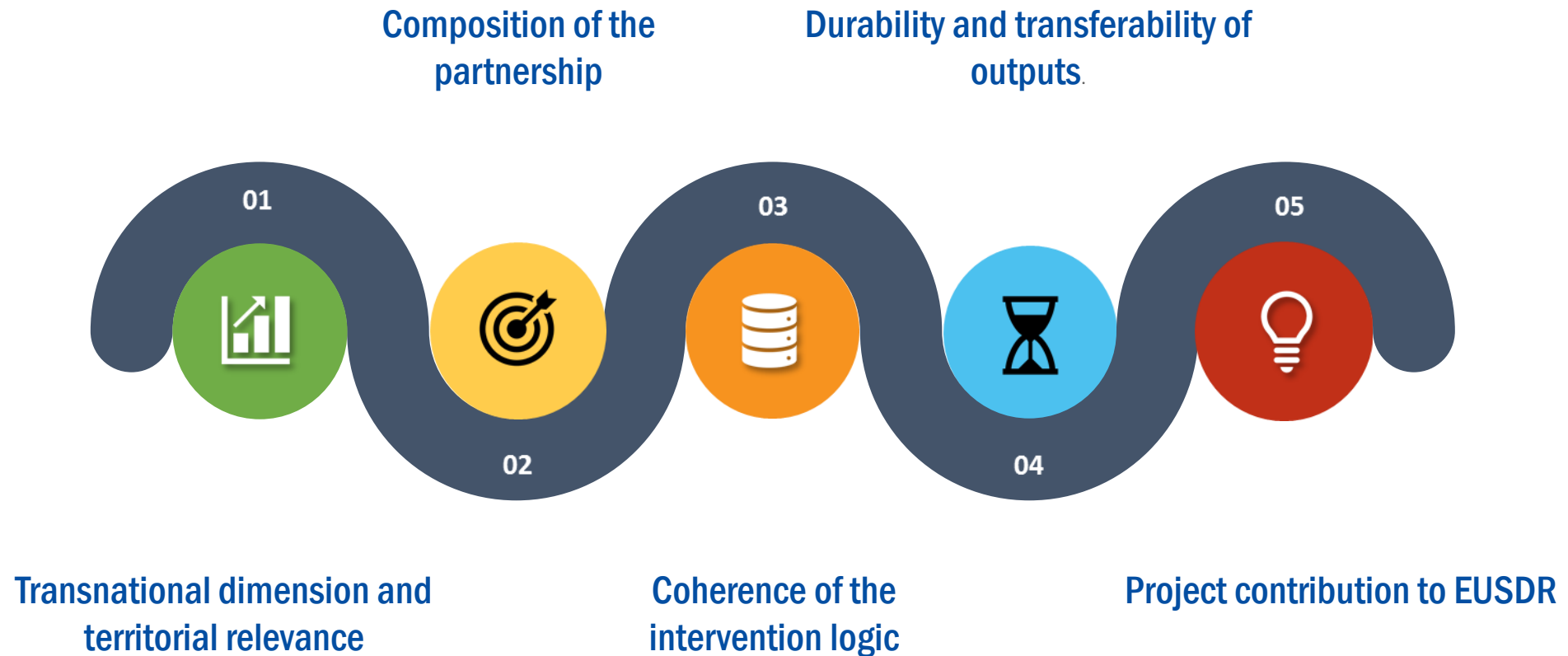


Budget & financing

- „Interreg funds” budget of the programme: **224 603 752 EUR**
- **Maximum EU contribution 80%**
- **Indicative 2nd Call allocation 38 749 913 EUR** (Interreg funds)
- **Usual project budget size between 1-3 M EUR**
- **Way of financial support:**
 - Periodic reimbursement of real project costs (80%)
 - No advance payment



What to consider when applying?





DRP 2nd Call for Proposals

- **Application period**
 - from **2 November 2023** - till **3 April 2024**
- **Online application in DRP Jems** *(Joint Electronic Monitoring System – accessible on programme website)*
- **Project duration: max. 36 months**
- Estimated project start: spring 2025



Support for applicants

- **DRP Interreg Programme website**
 - How to apply (<https://www.interreg-danube.eu/dtp-archive/about-dtp/new-funding-2021-2027/how-to-apply>)
 - 2nd call (<https://www.interreg-danube.eu/dtp-archive/about-dtp/new-funding-2021-2027/how-to-apply/second-call>)
 - Lead applicant and thematic webinars
 - Applicants Package
- **DRP matchmaking platform** for partner search
- **Network of National Contact Points**
- **JS:** ad-hoc advice on technical/formal issues & one bilateral consultation
- **EUSDR PAs**

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<https://www.interreg-danube.eu/about-dtp/new-funding-2021-2027>