



# Funding opportunities for Danube Region stakeholders

Danube Ports Day 2021 | Electrification of inland vessels and the integration of waterborne transport in urban areas | 23 November 2021





# Funding opportunities?

- **3 NOs** (no new legislation, no new administration, no new funding)
- **Policy framework** for cooperation
- rather **informal governance structure** (with Steering Groups and Priority Area Coordinators) at an **operational level** and the EC (DG REGIO), a High-level Group, (TRIO) Presidency and National Coordinators at a **strategic level**.
- more creative/experimental ways of cooperating, e.g. by linking the Danube Transnational Programme with EUSDR PAs/PACs (to finance themselves), or providing a policy framework for funding opportunities.





# A policy framework to funding opportunities

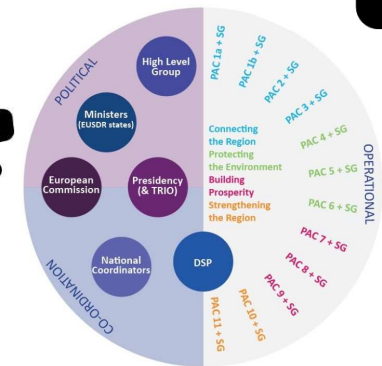
- The preparation process of post-2020 programming offers a **unique opportunity** to all European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and others such as IPA and NDICI (former ENI) **to address territorial challenges** in macro-regional strategies (MRS) more strategically.
- Previous experiences showed that a **dialogue between authorities** responsible for the programming process and **key implementers of MRS** are needed **to make the best use of EU funding sources** and to bring the **strategic actions of MRS** into these funding programmes.

© European Commission



**Global Europe.**  
THE NEIGHBOURHOOD,  
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION INSTRUMENT

New Instrument for  
**Pre-Accession Assistance**

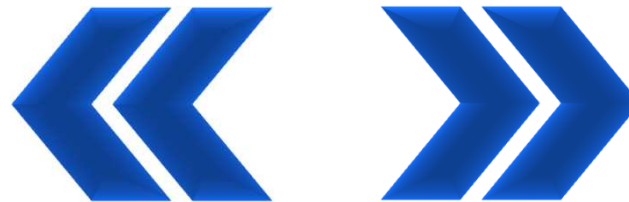
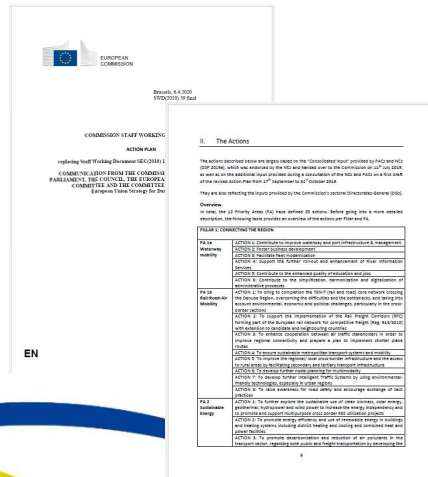




# Embedding in a multilevel strategic context

- Practices in the 2014-2020 programming and implementation period have further shown that a better coordination may require **going beyond traditional administrative boundaries**, and the **will from different levels of government to co-operate and co-ordinate strategic actions in order to achieve shared goals and strengthen complementarities and synergies** between different instruments.

EUSDR  
Action Plan  
#EUSDR10



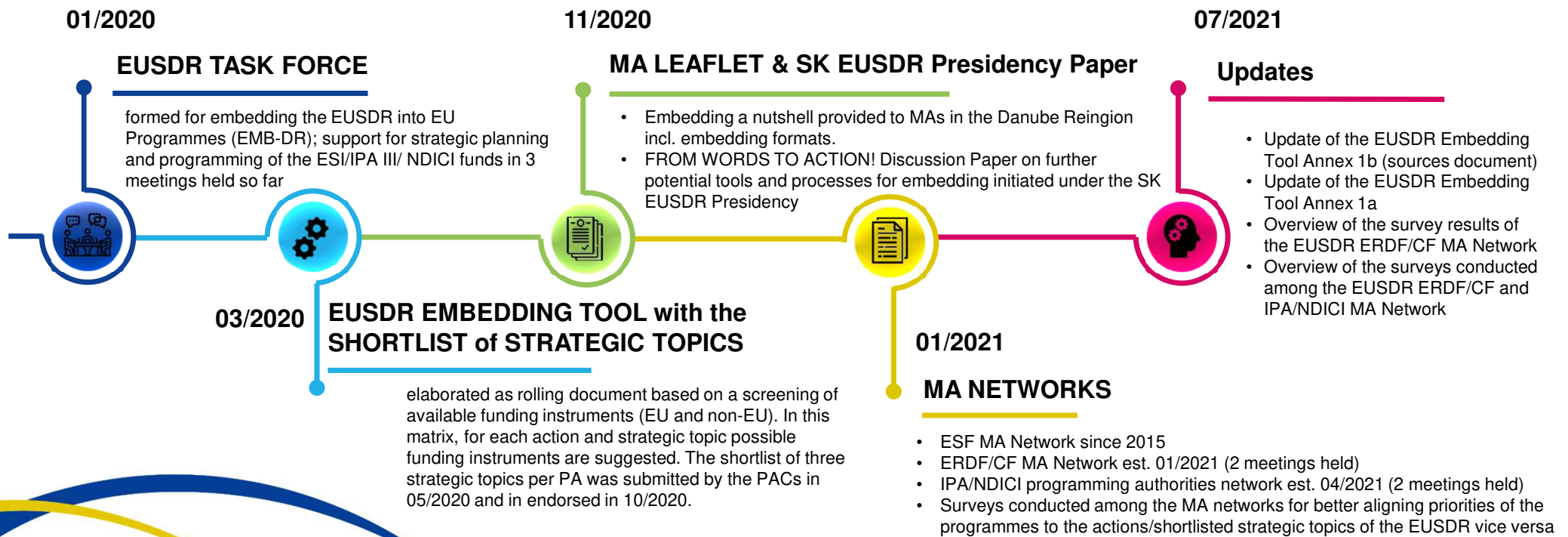
EU BUDGET  
FOR THE FUTURE  
#EUBudget



© European Commission



# EUSDR Embedding process





# EUSDR Embedding tools

- **Strategic guidance and implementation measures**

- ✓ **Tools:** The Guidance Paper for Embedding of the EUSDR (*HR EUSDR Presidency*); EUSDR EMBEDDING – FROM WORDS TO ACTION! (*SK EUSDR Presidency*)
- ✓ **Target group:** Key implementers of the EUSDR; authorities responsible for programming
- ✓ **Performance:** Introduction to the EUSDR Embedding process; comprehensive instructions for implementation; further potential tools and strategic cooperation possibilities





# EUSDR Embedding tools

- **Strategic implementation tools**



- ✓ **Tools:** The EUSDR Embedding Tool (*Annex 1a*); Sources for content of funding instruments (*Annex 1b*)
- ✓ **Target group:** Key implementers of the EUSDR; authorities responsible for programming
- ✓ **Performance:** Interactive Excel tool for individual application; Actions of the EUSDR Action Plan and EUSDR shortlisted strategic topics; allocation to possible EU funds, IPA III and NDICI funds (applicable for EU and non-EU countries); alignment with the Annexes D of the Country Reports 2019 and 2020; shortcuts to and compilation of funding instrument sources for the MFF 2021-2027 (pdf)





# EUSDR Embedding tools

- The EUSDR Embedding Tool (Annex 1a)
- Sources for content of funding instruments (Annex 1b)



| Priority Area                  | Actions from Action Plan <i>(Final SWD of EC as of 11/2020)</i>  | Policy Objective*                           | Policy Objective*                   | Policy Objective*                                | Possible financing Instrument I.**   | Possible financing Instrument II.**   | Possible financing Instrument III.**   | Possible financing Instrument IV.**   | Possible financing Instrument V.**              |
|--------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| PA 1a<br>Waterways<br>Mobility | ACTION 1: Contribute to improve waterway and port infrastructure & management                            | PO 3: A more Connected Europe, with         |                                     |  | European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)/Cohesion Fund (CF)<br>PO 3.1 (ii); PO 3.2 (ii)<br>108; 114; 115; 116; 117  | Horizon Europe Programme<br>Pillar II (vi): seas, oceans and inland waters  | CEF Programme<br>(a)(i); (c)   |   |   |
|                                | ACTION 2: Foster business development  | PO 1: A Smarter Europe, through innovation, | PO 3: A more Connected Europe, with | PO 4: A more Social Europe,                      | PO 14 (iv); PO 15 (v); PO 3.1 (i); PO 3.2 (ii);<br>PO 4.4 (iv)<br>021; 022; 114; 115; 137  | Horizon Europe Programme<br>Pillar II (v): clean, safe and accessible transport and mobility                                  | Single Market Programme (successor COSME)<br>(b)(i); (iv);                                       |   |   |
|                                | ACTION 3: Facilitate fleet modernization   | PO 2: A Greener, carbon free Europe,        | PO 3: A more Connected Europe, with |  | European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)/Cohesion Fund (CF)<br>PO 2.1 (i); PO 3.1 (i); PO 3.2 (ii)<br>045; 063; 070; 086; 114; 116; 120   | Just Transition Fund (JTF)<br>(d)<br>045; 063; 070; 086; 114; 116; 120  | European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFAF)<br>(b)  | Horizon Europe Programme<br>Pillar II (v): industrial competitiveness in transport; clean, safe and accessible transport and mobility | CEF Programme<br>(a)(i);                        |
|                                | ACTION 4: Support the further roll-out and enhancement of River Information Services                     | PO 1: A Smarter Europe, through innovation, | PO 3: A more Connected Europe, with |  | European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)/Cohesion Fund (CF)<br>PO 1.2 (ii); PO 1.5 (v); PO 3.1 (i); PO 3.2 (ii)<br>018; 036; 114; 115; 116; 117; 118; 120   | Horizon Europe Programme<br>Pillar II (v): industrial competitiveness in transport; smart mobility                            | CEF Programme<br>(a)(i); (c)   | DIGITAL Europe Programme<br>SO 5: (a), (b), (c)   |   |
|                                | ACTION 5: Contribute to the enhanced quality of education and jobs                                       | PO 1: A Smarter Europe, through innovation, | PO 3: A more Connected Europe, with | PO 4: A more Social Europe,                      | European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)/Cohesion Fund (CF)<br>PO 14 (ii); PO 3.1 (i); PO 3.2 (ii); PO 4.1 (i);<br>PO 4.2 (ii); PO 4.4 (iv)<br>023; 114; 115; 116; 117; 124; 133; 140; 141; 142; 145; | European territorial cooperation goal (INTERREG)<br>PO 4.1 (i); PO 4.2 (ii); PO 4.6 (vi); PO 4.7 (vii);<br>PO 4.9 (ix)        | European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)<br>(k); (m); (o)<br>124; 133; 140; 141; 142; 145; 146; 156; 158 | Just Transition Fund (JTF)<br>SO 5: (a), (b), (c)   | DIGITAL Europe Programme                        |
|                                | ACTION 6: Contribute to the simplification, harmonisation and digitalisation of administrative processes | PO 1: A Smarter Europe, through innovation, | PO 3: A more Connected Europe, with | PO 5: A Europe closer to citizens, by supporting | European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)<br>PO 1.2 (ii); PO 1.5 (v); PO 3.1 (i); PO 3.2 (ii)<br>016; 018; 036; 114; 115; 116; 117; 119  | European territorial cooperation goal (INTERREG)<br>Interreg-specific objective of 'a better cooperation governance' (b); (d) | Just Transition Fund (JTF)<br>(h)<br>016; 018; 036; 114; 115; 116; 117; 119                      | CEF Programme<br>(a)(i); (ii); (c)(i)   | DIGITAL Europe Programme<br>SO 5: (a), (b), (c) |





# The EUSDR Embedding Tool (Annex 1a)



| Priority Area   | PA 1a - Water Mobility  |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Actions from Action Plan (Final SWD as of 4/26/20)</b> | ACTION 1: Contribute to improve waterway and port infrastructure & management   | ACTION 3: Facilitate fleet modernization  | ACTION 5: Contribute to the enhanced quality of education and jobs   |
| <b>Strategic topic related to Priority Area</b>           | Contribute to improve waterway and port infrastructure & management   | Facilitate fleet modernization  | Contribute to the enhanced quality of education and jobs   |
| <b>Short definition of selected Strategic Topic</b>       | To represent a competitive transport mode, inland waterways must offer the following infrastructure-related characteristics: Reliable navigation conditions (most importantly minimum fairway depths and widths), state-of-the-art constructional infrastructure (e.g. efficient locks or high-quality mooring places) and modern ports as intermodal hubs. On the Danube, these characteristics are not sufficiently provided on a number of sections leading to a strong need for action. | The Danube region inland fleet consists of about 3.500 units, which make up – compared to vessels operating on the Rhine waterway – a relatively old population. Only very few new-built vessels have been put in operation in the Danube region in the last 20 years and modernisation as well as greening measures have been implemented only to a limited extent. Stricter emission regulations do not apply to the existing – the so-called legacy – fleet, and lacking these the traditional environmental and economic advantages of inland waterway transport are expected to further deteriorate in the | The inland navigation sector has to cope with a shortage of qualified personnel on board of vessels, in inland ports and also in the logistics sector. The fragmented legal framework governing the competences for crew professions are hindering the region-wide recognition of qualifications and thus the mobility of the work force. The Danube-wide application of Directive (EU) 2017/2397 (on the recognition of professional qualifications in inland navigation) and Delegated Directive (EU) 2020/12 supplementing Directive (EU) 2017/2397 (as regards the |

| Priority Area                  | Shortlisted Actions from Action Plan (Final SWD of EC as of 4/26/20)          | Strategic Topics related to the Priority Area                       | Policy Objective*                           | Policy Objective*                | Policy Objective*                        | Possible financing Instrument I.**   | Possible financing Instrument II.**   | Possible financing Instrument III.**   | Possible financing Instrument IV.**   | Possible financing Instrument V.**                   |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------------------|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| PA 1a<br>Waterways<br>Mobility | ACTION 1: Contribute to improve waterway and port infrastructure & management | Contribute to improve waterway and port infrastructure & management | PO 3: A more connected Europe by            |                                  |  | European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)/Cohesion Fund (CF)<br>PO 3.1 (i); PO 3.2 (ii)<br>108; 114; 115; 116; 117   | Horizon Europe Programme<br>Pillar II (vi): seas, oceans and inland waters  | CEF Programme<br>(a)(i); (c)   |   |  |
|                                | ACTION 3: Facilitate fleet modernization                                      | Facilitate fleet modernization                                      | PO 2: A greener, low-carbon transitioning   | PO 3: A more connected Europe by |  | European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)/Cohesion Fund (CF)<br>PO 2.1 (i); PO 3.1 (i); PO 3.2 (ii)<br>045; 069; 070; 086; 114; 116; 120   | Just Transition Fund (JTF)<br>(d)<br>045; 069; 070; 086; 114; 116; 120  | European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFAF)<br>(b)  | Pillar II (v): industrial competitiveness in transport; clean, safe and accessible transport and mobility | Horizon Europe Programme<br>CEF Programme<br>(a)(i); |
|                                | ACTION 5: Contribute to the enhanced quality of education and jobs            | Contribute to the enhanced quality of education and jobs            | PO 1: A more competitive and smarter Europe | PO 3: A more connected Europe by | PO 4: A more social and inclusive Europe | European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)/Cohesion Fund (CF)<br>PO 1.4 (iv); PO 3.1 (i); PO 3.2 (ii); PO 4.1 (i); PO 4.2 (ii); PO 4.4 (iv)<br>023; 114; 115; 116; 117; 124; 139; 140; 141; 142; 145; | European territorial cooperation goal (INTERREG)<br>PO 4.1 (i); PO 4.2 (ii); PO 4.6 (vi); PO 4.7 (vii); PO 4.9 (ix) | European Social Fund plus (ESF+)<br>PO 1.1 (i); PO 4.1 (i); PO 4.2 (ii); PO 4.5 (v); PO 4.7 (vii); 4.9 (ix)<br>124; 139; 140; 141; 142; 145; 146; 156; 158 | Just Transition Fund (JTF)<br>(k); (m); (o)<br>124; 139; 140; 141; 142; 145; 146; 156; 158                | DIGITAL Europe Programme<br>SD 5: (a), (b), (c)      |



# EUSDR Embedding tools

- **EUSDR embedding in a nutshell tool**

- ✓ **Tool:** MA Leaflet

- ✓ **Target group:** Authorities responsible for programming

- ✓ **Performance:** the how, the why, the what summary of EUSDR embedding for representatives of managing/programming authorities





# EUSDR Embedding tools

## • Strategic implementation tools

- ✓ **Tools:** Overviews of surveys of EUSDR MA Networks (ERDF/CF and IPA/NDICI)
- ✓ **Target group:** Authorities responsible for programming; key implementers of the EUSDR
- ✓ **Performance:** Interactive Excel tools for individual application; Danube region wide overview of how Specific Objectives of Cohesion policy are covered by national and Interreg programmes; alignment of programmes' thematic priorities with the Actions and shortlisted strategic topics of the EUSDR; 'Numerical overview of the coverage of EUSDR actions/shortlisted strategic topics'; TOP 5 matchmakings identified





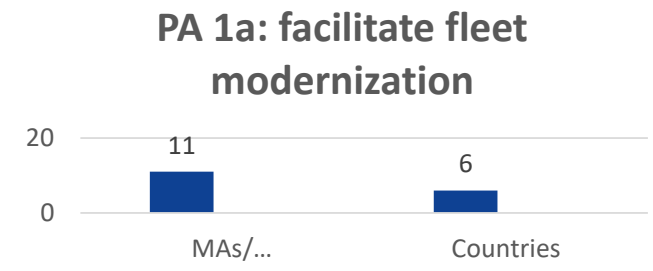
# EUSDR Embedding tools

- Overviews of surveys of EUSDR MA Networks (ERDF/CF and IPA/NDICI)

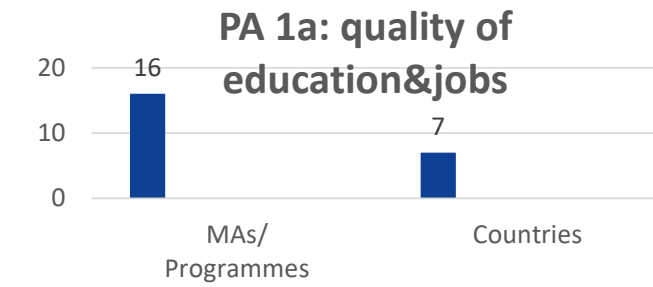
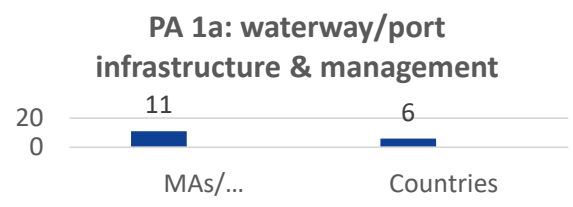
PO/SO focus

Numerical overview of the coverage of EUSDR shortlisted topics

|   | MAs/<br>Programmes | Countries |
|---|--------------------|-----------|
| Facilitate fleet modernization  | 11                 | 6         |
| Contribute to improve waterway and port infrastructure & management     | 14                 | 7         |
| <i>cross-border &amp; tertiary transport infrastructure/rural areas</i> |                    |           |
| <i>nodal planning for multimodality</i>                                 |                    |           |
| <i>please see below</i>   | 13                 | 6         |
| Contribute to the enhanced quality of education and jobs                |                    |           |



thematic/objectives focus





# EUSDR Embedding tools

## • Overviews of surveys of EUSDR MA Networks (ERDF/CF and IPA/NDICI)

| TOP 5 in ERDF/CF and EUSDR matchmaking   |    |   |
|--|----|---|
| <b>SD 1.1</b>  |    |   |
| <b>PA 7:</b> Actions 2I34/5: To promote inclusiveness of the European Research Area and crossing innovation gap through capacity building, promoting research excellence and supporting collaboration in EU R&I programmes | 23 | 8 |
| <b>SD 2.1</b>  |    |   |
| <b>PA 2:</b> Increase energy efficiency and promote the  | 23 | 8 |
| <b>SD 2.4</b>  |    |   |
| <b>PA 4:</b> Climate change  | 30 | 8 |
| <b>PA 5:</b> Flood Risk Management Plan and sub-basin flood  |    |   |
| <b>PA 5:</b> Disaster management   |    |   |
| <b>PA 5:</b> Climate change adaption   |    |   |
| <b>SD 2.7</b>  |    |   |
| <b>PA 1b:</b> traffic stakeholders/plane routes  | 26 | 8 |
| <b>PA 6:</b> endangered umbrella species   |    |   |
| <b>PA 6:</b> green infrastructure  |    |   |
| <b>PA 6:</b> soil-related ecosystem services   |    |   |
| <b>SD 4.6</b>  |    |   |
| <b>PA 3:</b> Actions 1I2I6: Promote sustainable tourism in the Danube Region and capitalise on EUSDR projects in the areas of culture, nature and tourism  | 18 | 7 |
| Actions 2H/6: Protection, rehabilitation and Promote the Cultural Heritage of the Danube Region  |    |   |
| Actions 3H/5: Support for contemporary arts, creative  |    |   |



energy efficiency

endangered umbrella species

knowledge society

decarbonisation

creative industries S3 innovation

research excellence

sustainable tourism

**flood risk management**

cultural heritage R&I

COVID -19 crisis

climate change

disaster management



# Summary: EUSDR Embedding tools elaborated



**The Guidance Paper for Embedding of the EUSDR** : comprehensive instructions for the EUSDR Embedding process including a table filled in by Priority Areas to provide up to three strategic topics (per PA) and detailed description of each strategic topic (shortlist)



**UPDATED! The EUSDR Embedding Tool (Annex 1a)**: Actions of the EUSDR AP and of the shortlisted strategic topics, which have been in each case allocated to possible EU funds, IPA III and NDICI funds as well as to the Annexes D of the Country Reports 2019 and 2020



**UPDATED! Sources for content of funding instruments (Annex 1b)**: a compilation of funding instrument sources to support PACs in their selection of strategic topics and NCs in approaching the MAs.



**MA Leaflet to embed the EUSDR into EU programmes 2021 – 2027**: the how, the why, the what summary of EUSDR embedding for representatives of managing/programming authorities, NCs, PACs and other stakeholders working on embedding into EU programmes



**EUSDR EMBEDDING – FROM WORDS TO ACTION! Discussion Paper**: discussion paper on further potential tools and processes for embedding initiated under the SK EUSDR PRESIDENCY



**Overview of surveys of EUSDR MA Networks (ERDF/CF and IPA/NDICI)**: Based on the results of the surveys conducted in spring 2021, documents were designed to better align priorities of the programmes to the actions/shortlisted strategic topics of the EUSDR



For EUSDR embedding process and the EUSDR tools elaborated, please visit:

<https://danube-region.eu/projects-and-funding/embedding-2021-2027/>





**Katharina Lenz**  
Pillar Officer  
Danube Strategy Point  
[katharina.lenz@eusdr-dsp.eu](mailto:katharina.lenz@eusdr-dsp.eu)  
[www.danube-region.eu](http://www.danube-region.eu)

