

## 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ESF Managing Authorities in the Danube Region

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2018

Venue: Hotel Mercure, Zabotova street 2, Bratislava 1, 811 04 Bratislava

**Objective:** The seminar aims at identifying beneficial framework conditions for transnational cooperation as well as at developing positions and perspectives for transnational cooperation for the European Social Fund 2021-2027 with ESF Managing Authorities and beneficiaries in the Danube Region.

**Moderation:** *N.N.*

| <i>Time</i>                                                                                   | <i>19<sup>th</sup> of September 2018<br/>Programme Item</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| <b>13:00</b>                                                                                  | <b>Light Lunch, Meet and Greet</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Welcome and Introduction</b>                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>13.30 –<br/>14.00</b>                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Boris Sloboda, Director General EU Funds Section of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family; Slovakia</li> <li>▪ Tour de Table</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Transnational Cooperation in the ESF</b>                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Macro-regional Strategies as Strategic Framework for ESIF</b>                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>14.00 –<br/>15.00</b>                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Anders Bergström, EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)</li> </ul> <p>The presentation will introduce the concept of macro-regional strategies (MRS) and their potential to provide a political frame for transnational collaboration in order to effectively address the complex societal challenges we are currently facing. The presentation will also include a “beehive” discussion with the participants.</p> |
| <b>15:00 –<br/>15:30</b>                                                                      | <b>Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Transnational Cooperation in the ESF – Experiences from the ESF Transnational Platform</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>15:30 –<br/>15.45</b>                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Toby Johnson, AEIDL: ESF Transnational Platform</li> </ul> <p>The presentation will reflect on the experiences and lessons learnt of the ESF “Transnationality” Platform on success factors and necessary framework conditions for transnational cooperation in the ESF. Q&amp;A</p>                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Perspectives on Transnational Cooperation in the ESF for macro-regional development</b>    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Activating Transnational Cooperation – Lessons learnt from the Danube Region</b>           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>15.45 –<br/>16.30</b>                                                                      | <p>The Managing Authority of ESF Bulgaria was the first ESF MA that implemented a transnational call in the Danube Region. The presentations will touch upon the lessons learnt from both, the Managing Authority’s and beneficiary’s perspective. Q&amp;A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Irina Tsekova Ivanova, MA Bulgaria: First Experiences within Transnational Calls</li> <li>▪ Project Promoter, N.N.</li> </ul>                                 |

## The Added Value of Transnational Cooperation – Lessons learnt from the Baltic Sea Region

The added value of transnational cooperation is acknowledged in both ESF Operational Programmes and at strategic level through the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR). The presentation will show, how transnational cooperation was implemented in the Baltic Sea Region with the example of Poland. Q&A

- Jacek Gogała, ESF MA Poland (tbc)

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| 16.30 –<br>17.15 | <b>Group Discussion – Future Possibilities for Transnational Cooperation</b>      |
|                  | What kind of challenges did you experience in transnational cooperation?          |
|                  | What do you consider a must-have for transnational cooperation in the future ESF? |
|                  | What are your take-aways from the seminar so far?                                 |
| 19.00            | <b>Common Dinner</b>                                                              |

| <i>Time</i>      | <i>20<sup>th</sup> of September 2018<br/>Programme Item</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| 9.30 –<br>9.45   | <b>Welcome and Wrap-up of Day 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Boris Sloboda, Director General EU Funds Section of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family; Slovakia</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 9:45 –<br>10.15  | <b>The Future of Transnational Cooperation in the ESF 2021-2027</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jader Cané, European Commission, DG Employment</li> </ul> <p>The presentation will focus on the state-of-play in the discussion on the ESF+ 2021-2027 and possible perspectives for transnational cooperation post 2020; Q&amp;A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jörg Mirtl, Interact: Update from the Interact programme</li> </ul> <p>The presentation will give an overview of the role of interact in the period from 2021-2027; Q&amp;A</p> |
| 10.15 –<br>11.00 | <b>Shaping the Future of Transnational Cooperation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Barbara Willsberger, PA 9 and Claudia Singer, PA 10: Common topics to develop the Danube Region post 2020 (Linking the EUSDR (PA9 &amp; PA10) to the ESF</li> <li>▪ Matthias Boll and Holger Albrich, ESF Managing Authority Baden-Württemberg, Germany: Identification of possible common fields of transnational cooperation in OP plans for 2021-2027</li> </ul>                                                                                                        |
| 11.00 –<br>12.30 | <b>Group Discussion on Topics for the Future Transnational Cooperation in the ESF 2021-2027</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Which topics would be suitable for transnational cooperation in the Danube Region?</li> <li>▪ How can ESF MAs and project beneficiaries establish stable cooperation in the future funding period?</li> <li>▪ How should or could ESF MAs support transnational collaboration in the Danube Region?</li> </ul>                                                                                                                    |
| 12.30 -<br>12.45 | <b>Conclusions and Next Steps</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 12.45            | <b>Light Lunch</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |