

## **EU STRATEGY FOR THE DANUBE REGION**

### **IMPLEMENTATION REPORT OF EUSDR PRIORITY AREA**

#### **PA 9 “Investing in People and Skills”**

**Update to the 5<sup>th</sup> PA9 Progress Report**

**Reported period: from 07/2016 to 12/2016**

Prepared by PACs 9 (AT, MD) in cooperation with the PA9 Steering Group



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BMB	Bundesministerium für Bildung
CE	Central Europe
CECE	Central European Cooperation in Education and Training
CEEPUS	Central European Exchange Program for University Studies
CSR	Country Specific Recommendations
DG	Directorate General
DG EMPL	Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion
DG REGIO	Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy
DG EAC	Directorate General for Education and Culture
DR	Danube Region
DSP	Danube Strategy Point
DTP	Danube Transnational Programme
EC	European Commission
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ERI SEE	Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe
ESF	European Social Funds
ESI Funds	European Structural and Investment Funds
ET 2020	Education and Training 2020
ETC	European Territorial Cooperation
ETF	European Training Foundation
EU	European Union
EUSBSR	EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
EUSDR	EU Strategy for the Danube Region
GIZ	Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
HCA	Host-Country Agreement
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IVET	Initial Education and Training
JS	Joint Secretariat
KKA	KulturKontakt Austria
LLL	Life-Long Learning
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRS	Macro regional Strategies
NC	National Coordinator
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NQF	National Qualifications Framework
OeAD	Österreichischer Austauschdienst
OP	Operational Programme
PA	Priority Area
PA9	Priority Area 9
PAC	Priority Area Coordinator
QA	Quality Assurance
QN	Qualification Network
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
SEE 2020	South East Europe 2020 Regional Growth Strategy

SO	Specific Objective
SG	Steering Group
SME	Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise
TA	Technical Assistance
TAF-DRP	Technical Assistance Facility for Danube Region Projects
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
VET	Vocational Education and Training
WBL	Work-Based Learning

## 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### *Question 1: Summary of progress achieved during the reporting period.*

Priority Area 9 "Investing in People and Skills" of the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) has successfully continued its efforts in the fields of education and labour market policies as vital elements to the future development of the Danube Region.

Specifically, PA9 put its focus on strengthening the cooperation in the fields of VET and work-based learning, on social inclusion through education and training, fostering social cohesion and empowerment and on the reduction of the unemployment rate of young people and vulnerable groups, especially of Roma. In general, and within the above mentioned fields PA9 has established and enlarged a network of different stakeholders stimulating efficient cooperation between relevant actors. The involvement of existing regional cooperation networks and initiatives has contributed to a continuous development of projects and initiatives and to the implementation of the priority area.

In the reporting period, one Steering Group meeting took place which was held back-to-back with the 4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference in Vienna, AT. The Conference has proven effective in order to boost co-operation and collaboration of relevant stakeholders from countries in the Danube Region.

The results of the events (e.g. reports, development of project ideas) and other important information was made available to the public via different channels (website, EUSDR PA9 project portfolio ...).

Beside communication activities PACs and SG members also regularly contributed to respective national coordination networks and platforms organised within the respective EUSDR countries. These platforms have proven useful when it comes to coordinating the implementation process of the EUSDR and contributed significantly to a mutual exchange. The chosen work mode of the PACs, which has put the ownership of initiatives and common success strongly at its centre, provided a sound basis for sustainable cooperation during the reporting period.

The following outputs of PA9 coordination can be highlighted:

- Meeting of PA9 **Steering Group**, Vienna, October 2016
- **4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference** of PA9, Vienna, October 2016
- **Mapping and labelling** of further projects and initiatives
- PAC **participation** in relevant events on EU and regional level (e.g. Annual Forum Bratislava, DTP-PAC Meeting in Budapest, ERI SEE Governing Board Meeting), ongoing
- **PA9 Workshop** "Policies to reduce informal employment", Bucharest, July 2016
- **PA9 Workshop** "Qualifications framework development, curricula adapted to labour market needs", Chisinau, September 2016
- PAC **participation** at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of ESF-Managing Authorities in the Danube Region, July 2016 in Munich
- **PA9 Workshop** "Strengthening Labour and Social Standards in the Digital Era. Social Partnership and Digitalisation in the Danube Region", Vienna, September 2016
- Running of **PA9 website**, ([www.peopleandskills-danuberegion.eu](http://www.peopleandskills-danuberegion.eu))
- **PA9 Projects and Initiatives Folder** issued in September 2016

## 2 PROGRESS OF THE PA

### 2.1 PROGRESS ON POLICY LEVEL

#### 2.1.1 POLICY AREAS AT FOCUS

*Question 2: What are the policy areas (important policy topics/thematic issues) that the PA selected as main focus (i.e. priority) for work during the reporting period?*

In the current reporting period, Priority Area 9 has continued to address challenges in the region and to develop innovative policies, projects and networks in the working fields of performance and quality of education and training systems; cooperation in the labour market; creativity and entrepreneurship and social cohesion and active citizenship.

Specifically, PA9 put its focus on strengthening the cooperation in the fields of VET and work-based learning, on social inclusion through education and training, fostering social cohesion and empowerment and on the reduction of the unemployment rate of young people and vulnerable groups, especially of Roma. Furthermore PA9 focused on improving institutional capacities for inclusion and on increasing the labour market relevance of education with a view to retain more young people studying and working in the region.

*Question 3: What are the main arguments for selecting those policy areas as priority ones?*

No significant changes, please refer to the 5<sup>th</sup> Implementation Report of PA9 (August 2016).

#### 2.1.2 MAIN POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS

*Question 4: Based on what has been reported under section 2.1.1: what are the PAs' main policy achievements and developments during the reporting period?*

PA9 has set actions i.a. by (co-)organising several events, e.g. the 4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference and related thematic workshops that provided space to present and discuss measures, initiatives and actions both from a policy- as well as project-based perspective. PA9 also actively participated in the panel discussion "Knowledge Society, Skilled People, Competitive Region" at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum in Bratislava in November 2016.

PA9 continued to set several actions in VET, e.g. with the project "Cooperation between Schools and the Business Sector in the Field of Tourism" in collaboration with KKA, or the project "VEN-Income generation in VET schools and colleges". PA9 is also actively cooperating with ERI SEE, in particular in terms of activities within the "Western Balkans Alliance for work-based learning" in the framework of the Berlin Process.

On a national level, several participating countries set reform initiatives and/or adopted new legislative measures to further promote quality and equality in education and training. In AT, a first package of laws implementing the 2015 education reform plan was adopted in June 2016 which i.a. provides for better linking ECEC with the first two years of primary school. MD is currently reforming and promoting VET, thereby creating eight or even more new centres of excellence in cooperation with the ETF and financed by the EU. BG is implementing its educational reform, which i.a. deals with revising the curricula. In RS the reform of dual educational systems started and a NQF is being set up as part of the national economic reform. In RO through a Governmental Ordinance the Education Law was changed in order to introduce in the initial VET the dual system, as a form of organizing the vocational education and training for levels 3,4 and 5 of EQF. Specific methodologies will be developed in 2017 for making the dual system functional and attractive for students and companies.

Countries have also taken measures to improve the transition between different forms and stages of education and from education to the labour market. For example, in MD there will be collected data on skills on the labour market in order to match demand and supply in a better way. Further measures were implemented to reduce the unemployment rate of vulnerable groups such as Roma, young and elderly. In AT for example the ESF OP focuses also on Roma and the first call was already launched during the last

*Question 4: Based on what has been reported under section 2.1.1: what are the PAs' main policy achievements and developments during the reporting period?*

reporting period and now the implementation of 12 projects for a better integration from Roma into the labour market has already started.

### **2.1.3 POLICY LESSONS LEARNED**

*Question 5: Based on what has been reported in sections 2.1.1 and 2.1.2: what are the policy related lessons learned (positive or negative) from the PAs implementation during the reporting period (with focus on those that are important for the future EUSDR policy development)?*

No significant changes, please refer to the 5<sup>th</sup> Implementation Report of PA9 (August 2016).

### **2.1.4 FUTURE POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

*Question 6: Based on what has been reported in section 2.1.3: what next steps and challenges for future policy development the PA finds important to share for further consideration discussion or development (incl. possible solutions to overcome the challenges)?*

As can be derived from the 4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference of PA9, from October 2016, further investments to improve the quality and efficiency of (vocational) education and training and enhancing already existing systems will be necessary to tackle future challenges of societies and on the labour markets in the region. It will also be necessary to take additional measures to address long term unemployment by improving activation measures and second chance education as well as introducing high-quality training tailored to individuals' needs.

Another challenge will be to find effective inclusion and integration strategies for disadvantaged groups, such as Roma, in education and employment. Especially young people are more than others threatened by social exclusion. Decreasing the number of early school leavers, increasing the availability and quality of early childhood education and care as well as improving the participation in life-long learning will continue to pose common challenges in the region. Furthermore, the issue of attracting highly qualified persons for the teaching profession needs to be addressed in most parts of the region.

New challenges have appeared in the DR in view of the integration of refugees in education and labour markets. Especially the not-so-favourable labour market outcomes for young refugees need to be addressed with meaningful measures.

PA9 will continue and enhance cooperation with all relevant stakeholders in order to commonly address future challenges.



## 2.2 PROGRESS ON PA'S TARGETS

Table 1: Progress on targets during the reporting period

PA Targets (number and wording of the target)	Progress during the reporting period				Clarifications
	Completed	Satisfactory progress	Delayed progress	Other	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
(I) Contribution to a higher employment rate in the Danube Region, especially through tackling youth and long-term unemployment	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(II) Contribution to improved educational outcomes and relevant skills and competences in the Danube Region, focusing on learning outcomes for employability, entrepreneurship, innovation, active citizenship and well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(III) Contribution to increased quality and efficiency of education, training and labour market systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(IV) Contribution to ensuring inclusive education and training and promoting inclusive labour markets, equal opportunities and non-discrimination as well as the promotion of civic competences and lifelong learning opportunities for all	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

PA Targets (number and wording of the target)	Progress during the reporting period				Clarifications
	Completed	Satisfactory progress	Delayed progress	Other	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
(V) Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

*Question 7: Based on the information provided in Table 1, what is the PAs overall self-evaluation with regards to reaching the applicable targets? Any other positive experience or other important information to that respect that the PA considers necessary (or good) to be shared should be included here as well.*

The targets of PA9 are process oriented and are well progressing and contributing to ET 2020 and Europe 2020, which is evident in terms of projects, the improved networking and coordination as well as in the exchange and discourse on and between different policy levels.

*Question 8: What, if anything, was/is missing in order to achieve the progress in reaching the targets as previously planned?*

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*Question 9: Are there any plans (or needs) for revising/updating the list of targets, applicable for the PA? If so, please provide details.*

Targets of PA9 were modified in 2016 as part of the overall revision and update of EUSDR targets with regards to all PAs.

## 2.3 PROGRESS ON PA'S ACTIONS

Table 2: Progress on actions during the reporting period

PA Targets (number)	Progress on action for reaching the targets during the reporting period							
	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)
(I)		ASP				ASP		
(II)	ASP	ASP	ASP	ASP	ASP			
(III)	ASP	ASP						
(IV)				ASP	ASP		ASP	APD
(V)	ASP	ASP	ASP	ASP	ASP	ASP	ASP	APD

Legend:

ASP	actions, whose implementation is satisfactory progressing (according to what was initially planned in the Roadmap);
APD	actions, whose implementation is progressing with delays (comparing to what was initially planned in the Roadmap);
ACcp	actions completed in current reporting period;
ACpp	actions completed in previous reporting period(s);
ANS	actions, whose implementation has not started yet;

<u>A1</u>	<i>To enhance performance of education systems through closer cooperation of education institutions, systems and policies</i>
<u>A2</u>	<i>To foster cooperation between key stakeholders of labour market, education and research policies in order to develop learning regions and environments</i>
<u>A3</u>	<i>To support creativity and entrepreneurship</i>
<u>A4</u>	<i>To support lifelong learning and expanding learning mobility</i>
<u>A5</u>	<i>To promote equity, social cohesion and active citizenship through education and training</i>
<u>A6</u>	<i>To improve cross-sector policy coordination to address demographic and migration challenges</i>
<u>A7</u>	<i>To fight poverty and social exclusion of marginalized communities in the Danube Region, especially the Roma communities</i>
<u>A8</u>	<i>To promote gender equality on the labour market, especially in payment</i>

*Question 10: Based on the information provided in Table 2, what is the PA's overall self-evaluation regarding the progress in implementing the actions? A positive experience or other important information to that respect that the PA considers necessary (or good) to be shared should be included here as well.*

The implementation of actions is progressing well on all levels and the actions are supporting each other and are often intertwined in terms of projects. Several actions are supporting different targets. Incentives are set to steer and coordinate the implementation of Working Groups, i.a. with regard to project development. Regional ownership is ensured through the identification of relevant stakeholders.

A8 is progressing with delays, because at the moment increasing numbers of unemployed people, NEETS etc. are much more in the focus of the Steering Group members, but there will be an additional focus on the development of A8-projects within the next call of the DTP.

*Question 11: What, if anything, was/is missing in order to achieve the progress in implementing the actions as previously planned?*

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*Question 12: Are there any plans (or needs) for revising/updating the actions, applicable for the PA? If so, please provide details.*

In practice, by further developing the actions initially foreseen in the AP {COM(2010) 715}, PA9, since 2011, has structured its work in eight related work areas. These work areas were proposed by the SG as revised actions in April 2016.

## 2.4 PROGRESS ON MILESTONES

NB: PA9 actions are process-oriented and currently implemented in accordance with a “rolling” work programme, which is continuously updated and comprises of cooperation networks and initiatives, projects and events. Consequently, PA9 has not defined “milestones” for the implementation of the actions.

*Table 3: Progress on milestones during the reporting period*

PA Actions (numbers)	Progress on milestones during the reporting period									
	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)
A1	n.a.									
A2										
A3										
A4										

Legend:

MSP	milestones that are satisfactory progressing (according to what was initially planned in the Roadmap);
MPD	milestones that are progressing with delays (comparing to what was initially planned in the Roadmap);
MCcp	milestones completed in current reporting period;
MCpp	milestones completed in previous reporting period(s);
MNS	milestones, whose implementation has not started yet;

*Question 13: Based on the information provided in Table 3, what is the PAs overall self - evaluation regarding the progress in reaching the milestones? A positive experience or other important information to that the PA considers necessary (or as good) to be shared should be included here as well*

n.a.

*Question 14: What, if anything, was/is missing in order to achieve the progress in reaching the milestones as previously planned?*

n.a.

## 2.5 PROGRESS ON ACTIVITIES

Table 4 Activities undertaken to progress on PA implementation

<i>PA Actions (numbers)</i>	<i>Activities undertaken during the reporting period to progress on PA implementation</i>
<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>
<i>A1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference of PA9 (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at the Austrian National Coordination Meetings (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Continuous update of PA9 website, preparation of PA9 folder</li> <li>▪ Participation at PAC Meeting (Budapest, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at ERI SEE Governing Board Meeting (Belgrade, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum EUSDR (Bratislava, November 2016)</li> <li>▪ SG Meeting (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Coordination with ongoing projects/initiatives: ERI SEE, CECE. ETF, DESK, Cooperations between schools and the business sector in the field of tourism, DALIVET, Green Competences for Ecotourism</li> </ul>
<i>A2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference of PA9 (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Identification and starting of the labelling process of the strategic project “Down to Earth”</li> <li>• PA9 Workshop “Policies to reduce informal employment” (Bucharest, July 2016)</li> <li>• PA9 Workshop “Qualifications framework development, curricula adapted to labor market needs”, Chisinau, September 2016</li> <li>• PAC participation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of ESF-Managing Authorities in the Danube Region (Munich, July 2016)</li> <li>▪ PA9 Workshop “Strengthening Labour and Social Standards in the Digital Era. Social Partnership and Digitalisation in the Danube Region” (Vienna, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at the Austrian National Coordination Meetings (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Continuous update of PA9 website, updated version of PA9 folder</li> <li>▪ Participation at PAC Meeting (Budapest, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ SG Meeting (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum EUSDR (Bratislava, November 2016)</li> <li>▪ Support of ongoing projects/initiatives: Bilateral Exchange in Labour Market Policy Austria – Moldova,</li> </ul>
<i>A3</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference of PA9 (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at the Austrian National Coordination Meetings (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Continuous update of PA9 website, preparation of PA9 folder</li> <li>▪ Participation at PAC Meeting (Budapest, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ SG Meeting (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum EUSDR (Bratislava, November 2016)</li> </ul>

<i>PA Actions (numbers)</i>	<i>Activities undertaken during the reporting period to progress on PA implementation</i>
<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordination with ongoing projects/initiatives: (d)unavision, VEN – Income Generation in VET schools and colleges</li> </ul>
A4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference of PA9 (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at the Austrian National Coordination Meetings (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Continuous update of PA9 website, preparation of PA9 folder</li> <li>▪ Participation at PAC Meeting (Budapest, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ SG Meeting (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum EUSDR (Bratislava, November 2016)</li> <li>▪ Coordination with ongoing projects/initiatives: CEEPUS, ESCAPE, Milestones of Learning Development, Removing obstacles to recognition of qualifications, workshops on learning, teaching, exchanging between – school cooperations in the Danube Region</li> </ul>
A5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference of PA9 (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at the Austrian National Coordination Meetings (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Continuous update of PA9 website, preparation of PA9 folder</li> <li>▪ Participation at PAC Meeting (Budapest, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ SG Meeting (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum EUSDR (Bratislava, November 2016)</li> <li>▪ Coordination with ongoing projects/initiatives: aces / academy of Central European schools, Concordia Vocational Training, Danube Peace Boat, eschool4S, Sprachenoffensive, Youth Platform, Roma EduDanube</li> </ul>
A6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EDU LAB: Support/coordination</li> <li>• PA9 Workshop “Policies to reduce informal employment” (Bucharest, July 2016)</li> <li>• PA9 Workshop “Qualifications framework development, curricula adapted to labour market needs” , Chisinau, September 2016</li> <li>• PAC participation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of ESF-Managing Authorities in the Danube Region (Munich, July 2016)</li> <li>▪ PA9 Workshop “Strengthening Labour and Social Standards in the Digital Era. Social Partnership and Digitalisation in the Danube Region” (Vienna, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at the Austrian National Coordination Meetings (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Continuous update of PA9 website, updated version of PA9 folder</li> <li>▪ Participation at PAC Meeting (Budapest, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ Stakeholder Conference (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ SG Meeting (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum EUSDR (Bratislava, November 2016)</li> </ul>
A7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EDU LAB: coordination/support</li> <li>▪ Other projects: all in all 12 ESF empowerment projects in Austria have been initiated</li> </ul>

<i>PA Actions (numbers)</i>	<i>Activities undertaken during the reporting period to progress on PA implementation</i>
<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PA9 Workshop “Policies to reduce informal employment” (Bucharest, July 2016)</li> <li>• PA9 Workshop “Qualifications framework development, curricula adapted to labor market needs” , Chisinau, September 2016</li> <li>• PAC participation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of ESF-Managing Authorities in the Danube Region (Munich, July 2016)</li> <li>▪ PA9 Workshop “Strengthening Labour and Social Standards in the Digital Era. Social Partnership and Digitalisation in the Danube Region” (Vienna, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at the Austrian National Coordination Meetings (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation Austrian Roma Platform</li> <li>▪ Continuous update of PA9 website, updated version of PA9 folder</li> <li>▪ Participation at PAC Meeting (Budapest, September 2016)</li> <li>▪ Stakeholder Conference (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ SG Meeting (Vienna, October 2016)</li> <li>▪ Participation at 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum EUSDR (Bratislava, November 2016)</li> <li>▪ Support of ongoing projects/initiatives: ESRA, RomaEdu-Danube, RID – Roma integration across the Danube</li> </ul>
A8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordination/cooperation: Austrian PAC became Member in the Gender Mainstreaming Working Group of the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection to prepare the development of project ideas.</li> <li>▪ Participation at the Austrian National Coordination Meetings (Vienna, October 2016);</li> <li>▪ SG Meeting (Vienna, October 2016)</li> </ul>

## 2.6 EUSDR STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Table 5: Projects identified and proposed by PA (PACs + SG) as EUSDR strategic project (SP)

<i>Title of project proposed by PA as ESDR SP during the reporting period</i>	<i>Date of PA meeting when the project was approved as potential ESDR SP</i>	<i>To which PA target the project is relevant?</i>	<i>Main project activities of the EUSDR SP</i>	<i>Targeted funding source(s) for the SP</i>
<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>	<i>(c)</i>	<i>(d)</i>	<i>(e)</i>




*Question 15: Were any of the projects included in Table 5 already approved for funding during the reporting period? If so, please complete Table 6 below with the information only for those projects.*

*Table 6: Proposed EUSDR strategic projects, which were approved for funding*

<i>Title of project proposed by PA as ESDR SP, approved for funding</i>	<i>Total amount of approved funding</i>	<i>Approved funding source(s) for the EUSDR SP</i>
<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>	<i>(c)</i>

### 3 FUNDING

#### 3.1 MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS IN TERMS OF FUNDING

*Question 16: What is considered as PAs main achievement/s with regards to funding sources and opportunities for EUSDR projects? Short analysis relevant only to the duration of the reporting period needs to be provided.*

No significant changes, please refer to the 5<sup>th</sup> Implementation Report of PA9 (August 2016).

#### 3.2 LESSONS LEARNED

*Question 17: What are the lessons learned (positive or negative) during the reporting period, with regards to funding sources and opportunities for EUSDR projects and what responses to those the PA considers as relevant?*

No significant changes, please refer to the 5<sup>th</sup> Implementation Report of PA9 (August 2016).

#### 3.3 THE FUTURE

*Question 18: Based on what has been reported so far in Sections 3.1 and 3.2, what next steps and challenges in terms of funding sources and opportunities for EUSDR projects that are important to be shared for further consideration, discussion or development (incl. possible solutions to overcome the challenges)?*

*Please answer also the same question with respect to better alignment of funding to support the PA and the EUSDR in general.*

No significant changes, please refer to the 5<sup>th</sup> Implementation Report of PA9 (August 2016).

### 4 GOVERNANCE

#### 4.1 ORGANISATION AND FUNCTIONING OF PA

*Question 19: Describe shortly any significant changes that have occurred during the reporting period on PA's governance in terms of organisation and functioning of PACs and SGs?*

In the reporting period 7/2016 – 12/2016 there were some changes in the composition of the PA9 SG. New nominations were submitted by the Czech Republic and Germany (BW).

The 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SG took place in Vienna in October 2016. The meeting provided space for SG members to give an overview on the reform priorities in the areas of Education and Labour Market Policy of their respective country. Furthermore, the meeting enabled the discussion and exchange of experience related to the activities of each working area and to information on funding of projects of PA9 activities, e.g. DSPF.

*Question 20: Please provide in Table 7 the requested information on attendance (+/-) of Danube countries at SG meetings held during the reporting period.*

Table 7: Attendance of SG meetings

SG meeting	AT	BA	BG	CZ	DE	HR	HU	MD	ME	RO	RS	SI	SK	UA

11 <sup>th</sup> SG	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-

## 4.2 COORDINATION AND COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

*Question 21: Based on what has been reported in Section 2.5, please provide short description on what has been achieved with the undertaken activities for coordination, cooperation and establishing links with other PAs? Please describe also any methods/tools that are put in place as a result (if applicable).*

In the reporting period coordinators of PA9 and several of its SG members have continued to participate in a wide range of conferences, workshops and meetings organised by other actors to coordinate and cooperate with other PAs. In particular, PACs have participated i.a. at the Annual Forum of the Danube Strategy in Bratislava on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016, coordination meetings of the Austrian NCs and the meeting of EUSDR Priority Area Coordinators in Bratislava on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Each meeting provided space to discuss relevant issues, like supporting activities for PACs, handling of Technical Assistance 2015/16, application within DTP, concept of EUSDR Strategic Projects, targets revision etc. and to find common solutions.

*Question 22: Based on what has been reported in Section 2.5, please provide short description on what has been achieved with the undertaken activities for coordination, cooperation and establishing links with EU institutions (EC, EP, CoR, EESC, etc.) and/or other institutions (national, regional, international, as appropriate). Same applies also for activities for using the funding opportunities of the EC centrally managed programmes. Please describe also any methods/tools that are put in place as a result (if applicable).*

The SG Meeting in Vienna has further facilitated the communication and cooperation with the DSP as well as several other institutions on national, regional and international level.

Following a first meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014 within the framework of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Forum of the EUSDR, the cooperation and exchange of experiences with the EUSBSR coordinator of PA Education has been continued.

PA9 put a strong focus on identifying existing relevant networks in the Danube Region and successfully integrated them into PA9 activities with the aim to create synergies and to exchange information on developments of policies and projects. The cooperation with networks, like ERI SEE or CECE is a successful approach and was continued during the reporting period. Of particular relevance has also been the continuous cooperation with the European Training Foundation. The ETF provides input to the discussions in “People and Skills” SGs and other formats, shares information about relevant EU developments, the situation in the ETF partner countries and promotes regional cooperation in the fields of education and training, labour market and social inclusion in line with the principles of the Strategy for the Danube Region.

*Question 23: Based on what has been reported in Section 2.5, please provide short description on what has been achieved with the undertaken activities for cooperation between the PA (PACs and SG) and the authorities dealing with ESIF funding and more specifically with the Managing Authorities and the Monitoring Committees of programs of interest to the PA. Please describe also any methods/tools that are put in place as a result (if applicable).*

The PACs ensured regular exchange and communication with the relevant contact persons of the DTP, Erasmus+ (Austrian National Agency), START, TAF, DSPF and other relevant funding possibilities (like cross border Interreg programmes). The main focus of these activities was to provide the SG members as well as relevant stakeholders with recent information about the programmes.

Furthermore the exchange between the ESF Managing Authorities of the Danube Region and PAC9, Austria, has been intensified and possible cooperation were discussed during a workshop for ESF Managing Authorities of the Danube Region, which was held in July 2016 with the aim to establish a cooperation structure with PA9.

### **4.3 ACTIVITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS AND CIVIL SOCIETY**

*Question 24: Based on what has been reported in Section 2.5, please provide short description on what has been achieved with the undertaken activities for involvement of stakeholders, incl. civil society (e.g. stakeholder conferences, activities with national/regional parliaments, other events, networks, platforms, etc.). Please describe also any methods/tools that are put in place as a result (if applicable).*

Setting links with relevant stakeholders has been ensured by PA9 through the organisation of several thematic workshops and events to foster discussion on topics such as empowering marginalised groups or the exchange of relevant labour market actors (Workshop Social Dialogue in Vienna, September 2017).

Within the reporting period the 4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference (October 2016) took place. The aim of the conference was to provide participants with opportunities to discuss current European growth and development policies, how effective approaches to skills and competences impact their success and what challenges they face with regard to education and training, labour market and civil society participation.

In the field of green competences for Ecotourism in the Danube Region an experts group was working on the elaboration of a joint application on a transnational level. In the 11<sup>th</sup> SG meeting the project proposal was presented and later forwarded to the members of the SG.

### **4.4 PUBLICITY AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES**

*Question 25: Based on what has been reported in Section 2.5, please provide short description on what has been achieved with the undertaken activities for better publicity and communication (e.g. publications, website developments, etc.). Same applies also for activities for better communication of PA's results and work as well as those related to public debate(s) on the macro - regional approach. Please describe also any methods/tools that are put in place as a result (if applicable).*

Related to the publicity measures of PA9, the website [www.peopleandskills-danuberegion.eu](http://www.peopleandskills-danuberegion.eu) has proven to be an important and vital instrument to inform relevant stakeholders about on-going and implemented activities, projects and initiatives. The website has been continuously updated. The page still contributes to raise public awareness on the Strategy. In the current reporting period an updated EUSDR PA9 Project Folder [http://www.peopleandskills-danuberegion.eu/wp-content/uploads/PEU-Folder17\\_FFA.pdf](http://www.peopleandskills-danuberegion.eu/wp-content/uploads/PEU-Folder17_FFA.pdf) was issued, providing an overview of on-going and selected finished projects as well as some project ideas for which PA9 of the EUSDR serves as a common umbrella.

### **4.5 LESSONS LEARNED**

*Question 26: Based on what has been reported so far in Section 4: what are the lessons learned (positive or negative), in terms of PA governance during the reporting period and what responses to those the PA considers as relevant?*

No significant changes, please refer to the 5<sup>th</sup> Implementation Report of PA9 (August 2016).

### **4.6 THE FUTURE**

*Question 27: Based on what has been reported so far in Section 4: what next steps and challenges for better PA governance in the future that the PA finds important to be shared for further consideration (incl. possible solutions to overcome the challenges)?*

PA9 will maintain and further develop the existing network of key stakeholders. A main focus will be put on the participation of stakeholders from all countries of the Danube Region with the aim to intensify the cooperation also with Danube Countries, which until now have participated to a lesser extent.

Furthermore, PAC9 will continue in the successful approach of close cooperation with regional platforms and networks to develop projects in the region and to support beneficiaries.

The follow up of the workshop with ESF Managing Authorities within the Danube Region in Munich on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of July 2016 will provide space to establish a coordination structure between ESF Managing Authorities and PA9 (as well as PA10 and DSP).

Further coordination, cooperation and communication activities are planned in line with the possibilities provided by the PAC support scheme within the DANUBE Transnational Programme.

## ANNEX I: ROADMAPS TO IMPLEMENT EACH PA ACTION

NOTA BENE: PA9 Actions are currently implemented in accordance with a “rolling” work programme, which is continuously updated and comprises of cooperation networks and initiatives, projects and events. The PA9 Steering Group has decided not to define “milestones” for the implementation of the actions.

Table 8: Roadmap to implement an action

<b>ROADMAP FOR ACTION 1</b>			
<i>EUSDR Target to which the Roadmap is related</i>	Target 2: Contribution to improved educational outcomes and relevant skills and competences in the Danube Region, focusing on learning outcomes for employability, entrepreneurship, innovation, active citizenship and well-being Target 3: Contribution to increased quality and efficiency of education, training and labour market systems Target 5: Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels		
<i>EUSDR Action to which the Roadmap is related</i>	A/WA 1: To enhance performance of education systems through closer cooperation of education institutions, systems and policies	<i>Deadline (year) for finalising implementation of the EUSDR Action</i>	n.a.
<i>Milestones</i>	<i>Definition of milestone</i>	<i>Planned deadline for achieving the milestone</i>	<i>Responsible actors for the milestone</i>
n/a			
<i>Key initiatives, projects and events to date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Status/Duration</i>	<i>Lead Partner</i>
	Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe (ERI SEE)	2004 - ongoing	ERI SEE
	Central European Cooperation in Education and Training (CECE)	2007 - 2017	AT, CZ, HU, SK, SI
	European Training Foundation (ETF)	ongoing	ETF

	Task Force Fostering and Building Human Capital of the Regional Cooperation Council	2008 - 2014	RO, AT, HR
	DESK – Evaluate and Safe Knowledge – Knowledge Community in Vocational Education	08/2017	DE - Landesakademie Esslingen
	Cooperation between schools and the Business Sector in the field of tourism	2014 - ongoing	AT - KKA
	DALIVET – Development of Apprenticeship Learning in IVET in Romania	10/2016	RO - National Centre for TVET
	Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in vocational education and training	2014	AT, RO
	Thematic Working Group “Innovative VET Schools Network”	2013	
	Optimizing the links between labour market and the educational system: modernising the vocational system in Romania	2012 – 2015	RO - National Centre for TVET
	Edu.Region – Education Network for the economic area and the labour market of lower Austria and the Southern Czech regions	2011 – 2013	AT – Landesakademie NÖ
	Modernizing VET system – improving performance, quality and attractiveness of VET	2013	ERI SEE
	Improving quality assurance (QA) in Vocational Education and Training (VET) through schools’ networks	2010 - 2013	RO - National Centre for TVET
	Capacity Building for Teachers of VET in the Danube Region	2012 – 2013	DE - BW
	Peer Learning event on VET within ET 2020 & PA9	2012	AT

	Establishment of an expert group on green competences for eco-tourism in the Danube region	2014	Ministry of education and Scientific research – Romania
	International Cooperation for School Leadership (ICSL)	2011 – 2013	HU – Tempus Public Agency
	Cluster of Knowledge on evidence-based policy making in education	2011 – 2013	RS
	FairGuidance	2015 - 2017	DE/ttg team training GmbH
	Enhanced Competitiveness and Employability through innovative learning in VET	Planned	AT/RO

## ROADMAP FOR ACTION 2

<i>EUSDR Target to which the Roadmap is related</i>	<p>Target 1: Contribution to a higher employment rate in the Danube Region, especially through tackling youth and long-term unemployment</p> <p>Target 2: Contribution to improved educational outcomes and relevant skills and competences in the Danube Region, focusing on learning outcomes for employability, entrepreneurship, innovation, active citizenship and well-being</p> <p>Target 3: Contribution to increased quality and efficiency of education, training and labour market systems</p> <p>Target 5: Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels</p>		
<i>EUSDR Action to which the Roadmap is related</i>	A/WA 2: To foster cooperation between key stakeholders of labour market, education and research policies in order to develop learning regions and environments	<i>Deadline (year) for finalising implementation of the EUSDR Action</i>	n.a.
<b><i>Milestones</i></b>	<b><i>Definition of milestone</i></b>	<b><i>Planned deadline for achieving the milestone</i></b>	<b><i>Responsible actors for the milestone</i></b>
n/a			



<i>Key initiatives, projects and events to date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Status/Duration</i>	<i>Lead Partner</i>
	Cross-border discussion forum for Labour Market Policy: Austro Hungarian Expert Academy	2008 – 2014	AT – L&R Research
	Cross-border discussion forum for Labour Market Policy: Austro Hungarian Expert Academy	2009 - 2014	AT – L&R Research
	Bilateral Exchange in Labour Market Policy Austria – Moldova	Ongoing	AT – L&R Research
	Virtual Qualification Network Austria – Bulgaria	2012 - 2014	AT – ÖSB Consulting
	Virtual Qualification Network Austria – Romania	2013 - 2015	AT – ÖSB Consulting
	Bilateral Exchange in Labour Market Policy Austria – Ukraine	2013 - 2015	AT – ÖSB Consulting
	EDU-LAB New Danubian Governance in Labour market Relevance of Higher Education	2017-2019	–DE - European Foundation for Education
	Creation of an Online Platform for Jobs, Work Mobility and Competences to Empower Economic Growth in the Romania-Bulgaria cross-border area – eJoker	Planned	BG - Human Resources Development Agency

### **ROADMAP FOR ACTION 3**

<i>EUSDR Target to which the Roadmap is related</i>	Target 2: Contribution to improved educational outcomes and relevant skills and competences in the Danube Region, focusing on learning outcomes for employability, entrepreneurship, innovation, active citizenship and well-being Target 5: Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels		
<i>EUSDR Action to which the Roadmap is related</i>	A/WA 3: To support creativity and entrepreneurship	<i>Deadline (year) for finalising implementation of the EUSDR Action</i>	n.a.
<b><i>Milestones</i></b>	<b><i>Definition of milestone</i></b>	<b><i>Planned deadline for achieving the milestone</i></b>	<b><i>Responsible actors for the milestone</i></b>
n/a			
<b><i>Key initiatives, projects and events to date</i></b>	<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Status/Duration</i></b>	<b><i>Lead Partner</i></b>
	Thematic working group "Creativity and Entrepreneurship"	2013 - ongoing	BG - Business Support centre for SME
	Danube Competence Centres for Creativity and Entrepreneurship (START Project)	2015	BG - Business Support centre for SME
	SMART – Training Network for Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Emerging Sustainable Economic Sectors	2012 - 2014	AT - European Office, Vienna Board of Education
	Empowering Young People – Connecting Europe	2012 - 2014	AT - BMB / KKA
	(d)unaVision	2013 - 2015	DE - ThinkCamp
	Innovative Competency-Oriented E-learning in Tourism - ICOELITE	2013	BG - Business Support centre for SME
	ECO NET – Support for Training Firms in SEE	2012 - 2013	AT - KKA
	Training for teachers from economic VET schools to implement the training firms method	2010 - 2013	RO - National Centre for TVET

	ET-Struct: Economic Educational Territorial – Structure	2010 - 2012	AT - European Office, Vienna Board of Education
	Development of an Innovative Tourism Product in the Cross Border Area – the Creative Tourism Experience	Planned	BG - Business Support centre for SME
	Danube Competence Centres for Creativity and Entrepreneurship (DTP Project)	Planned	BG - Business Support centre for SME

## ROADMAP FOR ACTION 4

<i>EUSDR Target to which the Roadmap is related</i>	<p>Target 2: Contribution to improved educational outcomes and relevant skills and competences in the Danube Region, focusing on learning outcomes for employability, entrepreneurship, innovation, active citizenship and well-being</p> <p>Target 4: Contribution to ensuring inclusive education and training and promoting inclusive labour markets, equal opportunities and non-discrimination as well as the promotion of civic competences and lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>Target 5: Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels</p>		
<i>EUSDR Action to which the Roadmap is related</i>	A/WA 4: To support life-long learning and expanding learning mobility	<i>Deadline (year) for finalising implementation of the EUSDR Action</i>	n.a.
<b>Milestones</b>	<i>Definition of milestone</i>	<i>Planned deadline for achieving the milestone</i>	<i>Responsible actors for the milestone</i>
n/a			
<b>Key initiatives, projects and events to date</b>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Status/Duration</i>	<i>Lead Partner</i>
	CEEPUS – Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies	2011 - 2018	N/A - Central office in AT

	Workshop on eTwinning (Learning, teaching, Exchanging – School Co-operations in the Danube Region)	2012 - ongoing	AT - OeAD
	Capacity Building Mobility Programme	2008 - 2013	AT – Task Force Fostering and Building Human Capital
	Milestones of Learning Development Strategic improvement and development of life-long learning programs within Danube Region	2015	BA –South East European Youth Network
	ESCAPE – Enhanced Skills, Competence and Practise for the Economy	2014 - 2017	AT - Business Academy Linz
	Training on competence based assessment for VET teachers	2010 - 2014	RO – National Centre for TVET
	Removing obstacles to Recognition of Qualifications	2014 - 2015	ERI SEE
	Development of National Qualification Frameworks	2013	ERI SEE
	GROSSTOUR – Sustainable Green Cross-Border Tourism Put in Practise	Planned	BG - Business Support centre for SME
	Development Tools for Cross-Border Labour Mobility	Planned	BG - Human Resources Development Agency

## ROADMAP FOR ACTION 5

*EUSDR Target to which the Roadmap is related*

Target 2: Contribution to improved educational outcomes and relevant skills and competences in the Danube Region, focusing on learning outcomes for employability, entrepreneurship, innovation, active citizenship and well-being

	<p>Target 4: Contribution to ensuring inclusive education and training and promoting inclusive labour markets, equal opportunities and non-discrimination as well as the promotion of civic competences and lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>Target 5: Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels</p>		
<i>EUSDR Action to which the Roadmap is related</i>	A/WA 5: To promote equity, social cohesion and active citizenship through education and training	<i>Deadline (year) for finalising implementation of the EUSDR Action</i>	n.a.
<b><i>Milestones</i></b>	<b><i>Definition of milestone</i></b>	<b><i>Planned deadline for achieving the milestone</i></b>	<b><i>Responsible actors for the milestone</i></b>
<i>n/a</i>			
<b><i>Key initiatives, projects and events to date</i></b>	<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Status/Duration</i></b>	<b><i>Lead Partner</i></b>
	Concordia Vocational Training	2014 - 2017	RO - Concordia Foundation
	Workshop on “Empowering marginalised groups through education and training in the Danube Region”	2014	AT – OeAD
	EUSDR Youth Platform	2014 - Ongoing	AT – Interkulturelles Zentrum
	ACES – Academy of Central European Schools	Annual project cycles	SK – Vceli Dom / AT – Interkulturelles Zentrum
	Danube Peace Boat E.U.R.O.P.E	2015 - Ongoing	RS – Media Education Centre
	EdTWin – Education Twinning for European Citizenship in the Centrope Region	2008 - 2011	AT – European Office, Vienna Board of Education
	Sprachenoffensive – Language Strategy	2003 - Ongoing	AT – Office Sprachkompetenz
	Eschool4S – E-School for Sustainability in the Danube Region	2016	DE – GIZ

	Collaboration of Schools and Communities for Sustainable Development – CoDeS	2014	CH – Stiftung Umweltbildung Schweiz
	Integration of Roma children into education system – countries of Danube Region	2015 – 2016	SLO – Institute for romological studies, education and culture
	Learning Pathway to Social Cohesion	Planned	AT – Interkulturelles Zentrum

## ROADMAP FOR ACTION 6

<i>EUSDR Target to which the Roadmap is related</i>	<p>Target 1: Contribution to a higher employment rate in the Danube Region, especially through tackling youth and long-term unemployment</p> <p>Target 5: Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels</p>		
<i>EUSDR Action to which the Roadmap is related</i>	A/WA 6: To improve cross-sector policy coordination to address demographic and migration challenges	<i>Deadline (year) for finalising implementation of the EUSDR Action</i>	n.a.
<i>Milestones</i>	<i>Definition of milestone</i>	<i>Planned deadline for achieving the milestone</i>	<i>Responsible actors for the milestone</i>
n/a			
<i>Key initiatives, projects and events to date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Status/Duration</i>	<i>Lead Partner</i>
	Re-Turn – Regions benefitting from returning migrants		DE – Leibnitz Institute for Regional Geography
	Migration for Development in the Western Balkan (MIDWEB)		IOM
	Capacity Building of Institutions involved in migration management and reintegration of returnees		IOM

	SEEMIG – Managing Migration and its Effects in South-East Europe	2012 - 2014	HU – Hungarian Statistical Office
	Meeting of the Austrian Association of Cities: Poverty and Migration	2015	
	Addressing migration challenges, breaking stereotypes and raising awareness by measuring the well-being of young people in the Danube Region (YOUMIG)	planned	HU – Hungarian Statistical Office

## ROADMAP FOR ACTION 7

<i>EUSDR Target to which the Roadmap is related</i>	<p>Target 4: Contribution to ensuring inclusive education and training and promoting inclusive labour markets, equal opportunities and non-discrimination as well as the promotion of civic competences and lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>Target 5: Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels</p>		
<i>EUSDR Action to which the Roadmap is related</i>	A/WA 7: To fight poverty and social exclusion of marginalised communities in the Danube Region, especially the Roma communities	<i>Deadline (year) for finalising implementation of the EUSDR Action</i>	n.a.
<i>Milestones</i>	<i>Definition of milestone</i>	<i>Planned deadline for achieving the milestone</i>	<i>Responsible actors for the milestone</i>
n/a			
<i>Key initiatives, projects and events to date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Status/Duration</i>	<i>Lead Partner</i>
	European Network on Social Inclusion and Roma under Structural Funds	Ongoing	EU Roma
	THARA – Amora Than	2015	AT – Volkshilfe Österreich

	ESRA – Hungarian Product and Cultural Fund as umbrella organisation, modelled on the experiences of a well-functioning Hungarian Product and Culture Fund cooperation	Ongoing	HU – ESRA
	Strategic Meeting “Fostering Cooperation and Institutional Capacity for Roma Integration in the Danube Region”	2014	
	Network Meeting	2014	EU Roma
	Workshop on East West Cooperation for Roma Integration	2015	EC – DG EMPL
	<p>12 ESF-Roma-Empowerment projects in Austria, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Support at Authorities and early childhood education, Verein Vida Pavlovic</li> <li>o Maro drom – Project for Integration of Roma and Sinti in Upper Austria, Volkshilfe Oberösterreich</li> <li>o Roma / Romni Qualification- and Counselling Center, Itworks / Kulturverein österreichischer Roma</li> <li>o THARA Romani Zor! Volkshilfe Österreich</li> <li>o ROMANO ZURALIPE, Programme for Empowerment from Roma and Romnja on the Labour Market, Romano Centro</li> <li>o ZORROM, Caritas der Diözese Graz-Seckau</li> </ul>	Till 2019	
	Roma integration across the Danube: Best practices and social entrepreneurship models exchange between Romania and Bulgaria	2016	Romanian Center for European Policies



	Integration of Roma Children into Education System – Countries of Danube Region – RomaEdu-Danube	2015-2016	Institute for romological studies, education and culture
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## ROADMAP FOR ACTION 8

<i>EUSDR Target to which the Roadmap is related</i>	Target 4: Contribution to ensuring inclusive education and training and promoting inclusive labour markets, equal opportunities and non-discrimination as well as the promotion of civic competences and lifelong learning opportunities for all Target 5: Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels		
<i>EUSDR Action to which the Roadmap is related</i>	A/WA 8: To promote gender equality on the labour market, especially in payment	<i>Deadline (year) for finalising implementation of the EUSDR Action</i>	n.a.
<i>Milestones</i>	<i>Definition of milestone</i>	<i>Planned deadline for achieving the milestone</i>	<i>Responsible actors for the milestone</i>
n/a			
<i>Key initiatives, projects and events to date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Status/Duration</i>	<i>Lead Partner</i>

## ANNEX II: PA'S WORKPLAN FOR 2017

**NOTA BENE: The workplan of 2017 is still subject to the availability of funding from DTP and will be updated in the next report.**

*Table 9: PA's workplan for 2017*

Workplan for activities	Corresponding		2017			
	Actions	Milestones	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
<b>Policy development activities:</b>						
12 <sup>th</sup> SG Meeting	1-8	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13 <sup>th</sup> SG meeting	1-8	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x
5 <sup>th</sup> Stakeholder Conference	1-8	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x
Workshop on Policy Development of PA9	1-8	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	x	x
<b>Activities related to Strategic projects:</b>						
Constant screening of potential strategic projects	1-8	n.a.	x	x	x	x
Continuing coordination and support of labelled strategic projects	1-8	n.a.	x	x	x	x
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activities related to other projects:</b>						
EUSDR Youth Platform	5	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thematic seminar: “Learning, teaching, exchanging – School cooperation in the Danube Region”	4	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Coordination and cooperation activities:</b>						
12 <sup>th</sup> SG Meeting	1-8	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13 <sup>th</sup> SG Meeting	1-8	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x
6 <sup>th</sup> Annual Forum	1-8	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x
ERISEE GB and CB meeting		n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Workplan for activities</i>	<i>Corresponding</i>		<i>2017</i>			
	<i>Actions</i>	<i>Milestones</i>	<i>Q1</i>	<i>Q2</i>	<i>Q3</i>	<i>Q4</i>
<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>	<i>(c)</i>	<i>(d)</i>	<i>(e)</i>	<i>(f)</i>	<i>(g)</i>
<b><i>Activities for involvement of stakeholders and civil society:</i></b>						
5 <sup>th</sup> Stakeholder Conference	1-8	n.a.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b><i>Publicity and communication activities:</i></b>						
4 <sup>th</sup> Issue of PA9 Info-Folder	1-8	n.a	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	x	x
Administration of PA9 Website	1-8	n.a	x	x	x	x
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b><i>Management activities:</i></b>						
12 <sup>th</sup> SG Meeting	1-8	n.a	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13 <sup>th</sup> SG Meeting	1-8	n.a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>