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## **Newsletter December 2017: EUSDR Priority Area 9 "People & Skills"**

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Dear stakeholders of Priority Area 9 of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region!

The team of Priority Area 9 "Investing in People and Skills" now looks back on an eventful year and we would like to share some news and invite you to pass some highlights in review.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

All the best,  
the team of EUSDR Priority Area 9 "People & Skills"

## **NEWS**

**Visit our new website [www.peopleandskills-danuberegion.eu/](http://www.peopleandskills-danuberegion.eu/)**

Area 9 "People & Skills" revisited its website! Check out useful information on current projects and initiatives, available funding opportunities, upcoming events, studies as well as possibilities for cooperation and much more!

### **5th Stakeholder Conference "The Future of Work: a World of New and Changing Skills" on 9 October 2017 in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova**

The 5th Stakeholder Conference was held in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova on 9 October 2017. The conference provided space to discuss how globalization, technological progress and innovation influence society, including labour markets (quantity and quality of jobs), policies, including skills policies, to meet the challenges for an increasing digital and globalized world. Please find all relevant documents on the <http://www.peopleandskills-danuberegion.eu/>

### **13<sup>th</sup> Steering Group Meeting of Priority Area 9**

The 13<sup>th</sup> Steering Group Meeting of Priority Area 9 'People and Skills' took place shortly after the Stakeholder Conference in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. The reform priorities in Education & Labour Market Policies in each country of the Danube Region has been discussed with the aim of creating synergies in the process of policy-making. Further the PA9 alignment of projects applying for the Seed Money Facility of the Danube Transnational Programme (DTP) was a topic on the agenda, as well as the 'Agenda for Participation' and the PA9 contribution to the Annual

Forum – amongst others [More Info](#)

#### **4th Danube Participation Day/Roma Participation Partnership 17 October 2017 in Budapest, Hungary**

The 4th Danube Participation Day took place at the Andrásy University Budapest (HU) on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017, back to back with the EUSDR Annual Forum 2017. The conference addressed the issue "Science meets Participation, Innovation and Sustainability – The Agenda for Participation in EU Macro-Regional Strategies" and marked the start of the "Agenda for Participation". PA9 contributed as Lead Partners of the Participation Partnership „Roma Empowerment“. The Partnership deals with participatory approaches to empower Roma communities in the macro- regions in order to enable their participation in the shaping of their social and political capital. The Participation Partnerships “Empowerig Roma” is designed as standing working groups of different stakeholders (experts, project promoters, policy-makers) that facilitate exchange of information, activities and good practice examples as well as coordination and a possibility to develop initiatives and/or projects in the field of Roma empowerment. Please visit [the website of the event](#) for further information.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum of the EUSDR on 18 and 19 October 2017 in Budapest, Hungary**

The coordinators of Priority Area 9 of the EUSDR would like to draw your attention to the results of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region "A Secure, Connected and Prospering Danube Region" in Budapest, Hungary on 18 and 19 October 2017.

Please visit [the website of the event](#) for further information.

#### **Preparation Workshop ‘Danube Region Monitor’**

The PA9 is aiming to increase the evidence-base for Danube Region policy. As a result a so-called ‘Danube Region Monitor’ is being developed to visualize developments in the Danube Region and making necessary policy actions evident. The output will be the base for recommendations for the implementation of successful measures in the field of education and labour market. The first preparation workshop for the ‘Danube Region Monitor’ has taken place on December 6<sup>th</sup> in Vienna. The workshop has been organised with researchers and statistic experts from the Danube Region to identify relevant indicators and benchmarks out of a set of already existing indicators and benchmarks (e.g. Eurostat, PISA PIAAC & studies on national level) in the fields of education and labour market.

#### **Danube Strategic Project Fund (DSPF): Financing macro-regional cooperation**

The Danube Strategic Project Fund is a facility aiming at supporting the implementation of transnational strategic projects aligned with the objectives of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR). The instrument is aiming at supporting initiatives at the interface between cohesion and enlargement/neighbourhood policy. The call for applications was open until February 2017. Two PA9 projects have been selected for funding: I-VET from Kulturkontakt Austria and DIY-ACCEL from Business Support Centre for Small and Medium Enterprises-Rus. [More info](#)

#### **PA 9 | People & Skills**

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