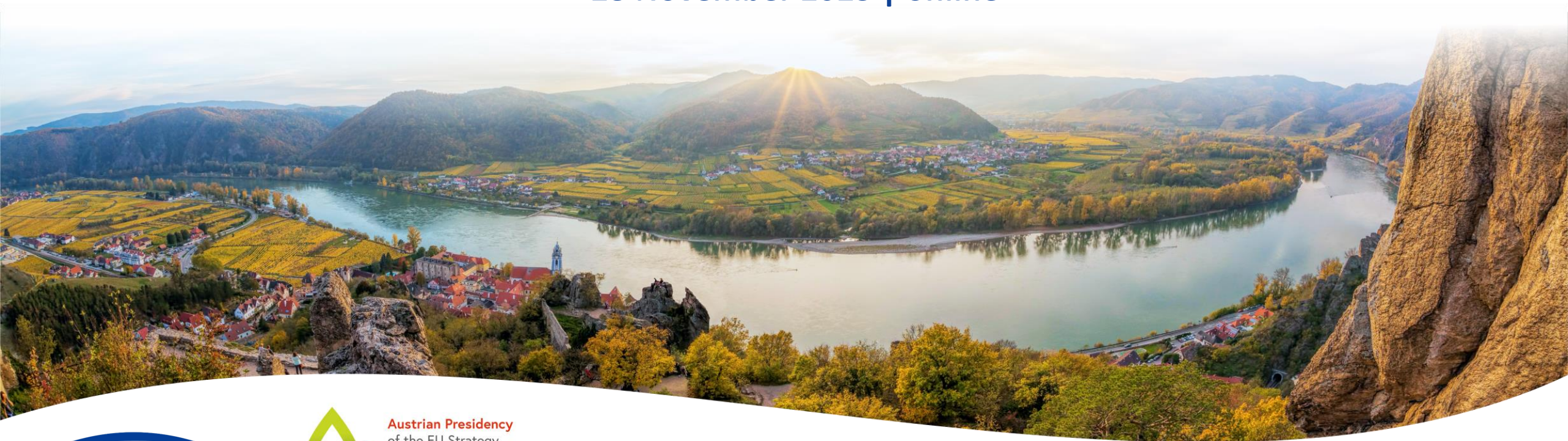




Update of the activities & the way forward

25th Steering Group Meeting of EUSDR Priority Area 9
28 November 2023 | online



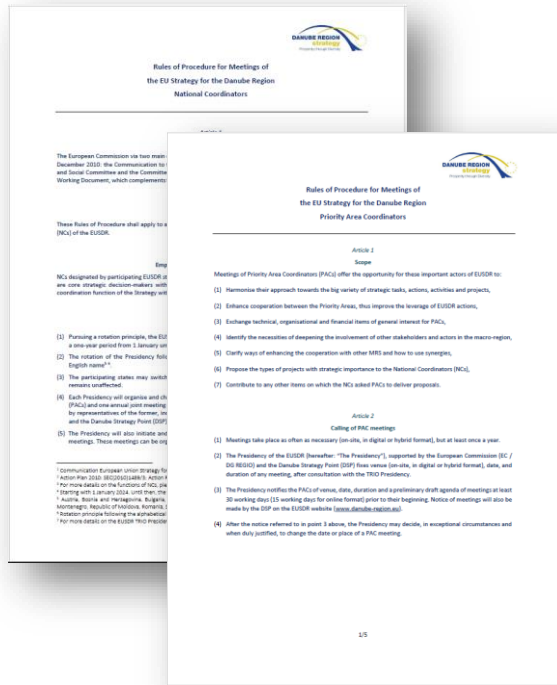


DSP support frame

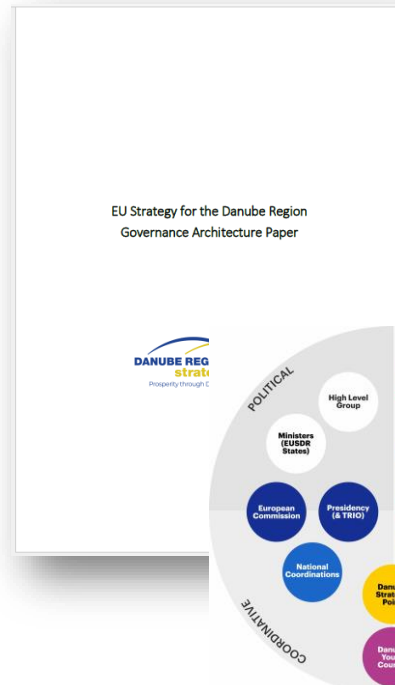
- 
- ❖ **Support for EUSDR core-stakeholders**
 - ❖ **Embedding / Funding**
 - ❖ **Monitoring & Evaluation**
 - ❖ **Communication**
 - ❖ **Capacity Building**
 - ❖ **Youth**



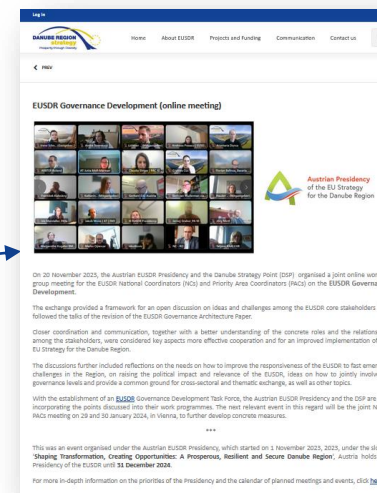
DSP support for core stakeholders



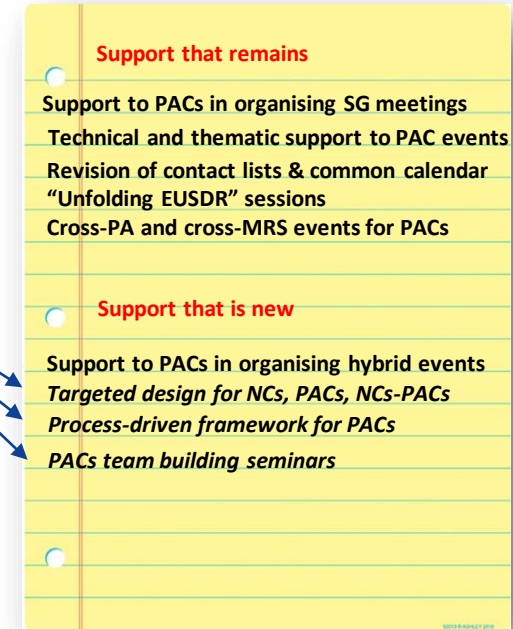
Rules of Procedure (RoP) NCs
Rules of Procedure (RoP) PACs



EUSDR Governanc
Architecture Paper



Governance Development
Task Force



DSP Capacity Building
and support for core
stakeholders

DSP support for core stakeholders



Members with voting right

- nominated with a mandate by EUSDR participating states (NCs).
- NCs are to inform the PACs in written about the nominations of new SG members and to keep the DSP informed within this process to maintain the contact lists.
- PACs update the NCs of the respective participating state and the DSP as soon as changes occur if communicated directly by the respective SG line ministries.

EUSDR Governance
Architecture Paper



Embedding / Funding

- Embedding process expected to be completed by 12/2024 at the latest – focus on Implementation.
- Subsequent, targeted further support on the topics of financing and funding programmes is envisaged.
- Support by EuroAccess in providing tailor made overview of EU calls.
- Post-2027 process will be discussed in an Interact Working Group (cross-MRS) and under the Austrian EUSDR Presidency.





Embedding tools

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

Updated! 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

Guidance Paper for Embedding the EUSDR into EU Programmes - FROM ACTIONS TO FUNDING: further possible course of action, also putting emphasis on embedding the EUSDR in non-EU countries

Guidance Paper for Embedding the EUSDR into EU Programmes - FROM PROGRAMMING TO IMPLEMENTATION: concrete steps from the programming to the implementation phase with a focus on embedding in non-EU countries, cross-cooperation between MRS and cross-cooperation between the Priority Areas.



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

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



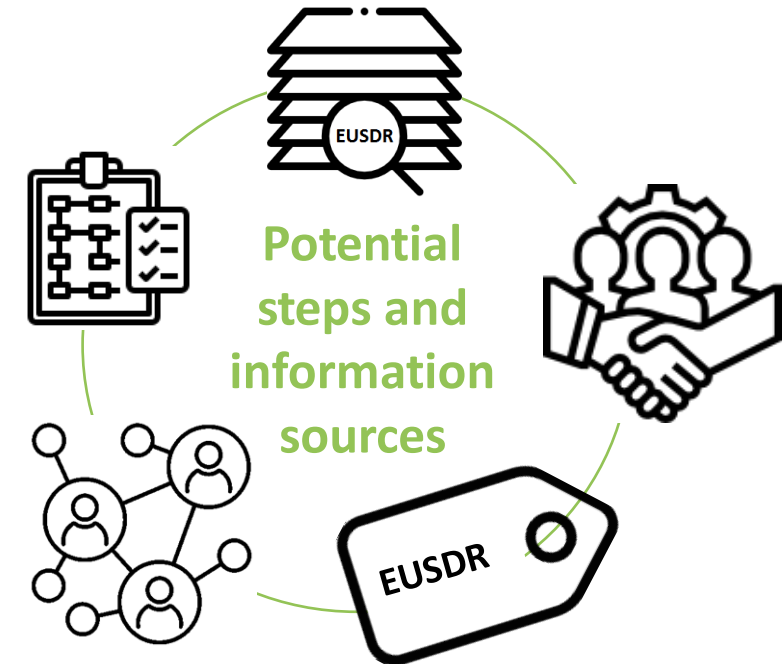
Monitoring the outcomes of the embedding process

Programming Phase

- Mapping of cooperation actions, including MRS embedding, by INTERACT (based on EC screening of ERDF programmes)
- Additional input from EUSDR Evaluations, NCs (e.g. Task Force EMB-DR) and managing/programming authorities (MA network meetings)

Implementation Phase

- Scanning calls for EUSDR relevance via [EuroAccess](#)
- Monitoring of projects via PAC Reporting Tool
- Monitoring of projects via managing/programming authorities (e.g. labelling of projects, extra points for project proposals with MRS relevance, a standing point at programme MC meetings?)
- Keeping track of programme evaluations



→ Interim and final report/analysis on outcomes of Embedding (2025 & 2028)



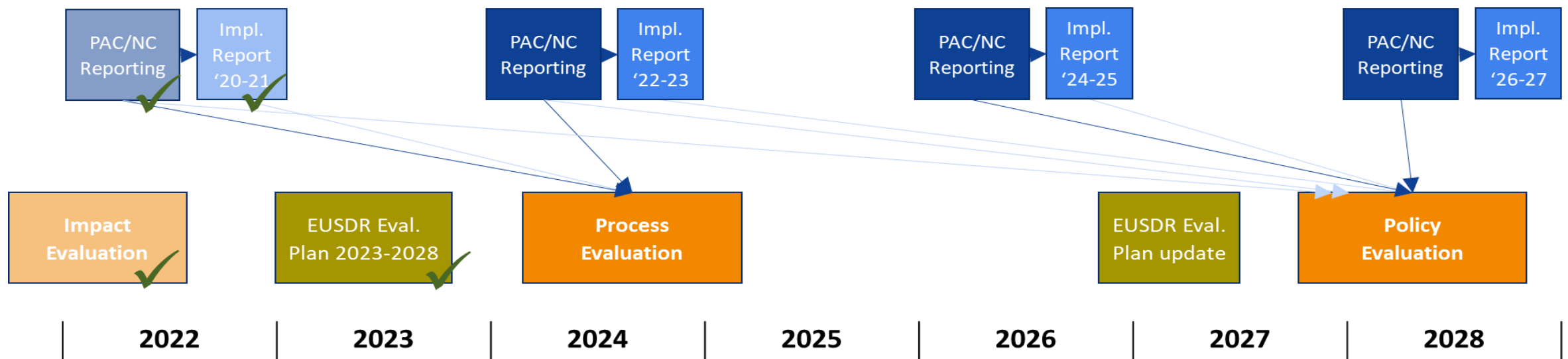
Monitoring & Evaluation

PAC reporting 2024, 2026, 2028

- Next reporting: 2024 (covering the period 2022-2023)
- Via online reporting tool
- Progress and Achievements of the EUSDR Priority Areas, including questions from the EC (and potentially the DRP *Additional Information Annex*)

EUSDR Evaluation Plan 2023-2028

- Now available on the [EUSDR Website](#)
- Planned Evaluations:
 - 2024/25: Process/Implementation Evaluation (focus on the strategic dimension, governance and technical implementation)
 - 2027/28: Policy Evaluation (focus on policy impact & embedding/funding)





Danube Strategy Flagships



- Identification of **Danube Strategy Flagships 2023** according to the Guidance Paper completed:
28 Flagships (9 new + 19 updated)

→ **List of Danube Strategy Flagships 2023 now available here:** <https://danube-region.eu/projects-and-funding/eusdr-strategic-projects/>



Communication

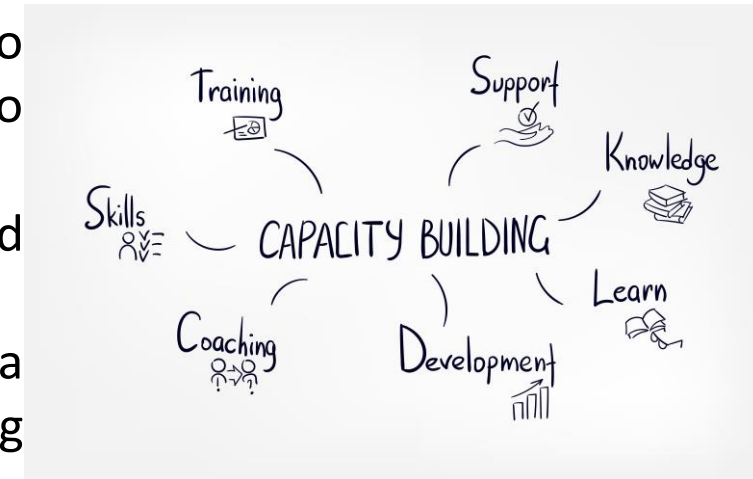


- Social media platforms constantly updated
- Videos & animated produced (January 2024) to promote Flagships 2023 & relevant PAs (online media campaign 2024)
- Website - new service provider (2024), more exciting & user-friendly, related to the smart app, for improved content; new website launch: end of 2024
- Information & brand-awareness materials → to be elaborated & disseminated
- Align **communication** activities more with the EUSDR PCYs for more **visibility**



Capacity Building

- **Development of a capacity building (CB) framework :**
 - a Capacity Building Assessment (CBA) will be conducted in order to develop a CB framework for the EUSDR core stakeholders in respect to their roles & responsibilities:
 - collect data for a capacity building analysis – questionnaires expected to be sent to the stakeholders (Jan. 2024)
 - analyse data for a capacity building assessment & develop a framework for improving capacity building through tailored training (Feb./Mar. 2024)
- based on CBA, 6 training sessions will be provided (1/year) - first training session will be organised in 2024 (April 2024)





Danube Youth Council (DYC): Involvement in PAs

- Professional background in the field of the PA is **not** a prerequisite.
- Possible ways of meaningful involvement:
 - Letting the DYC members give their input on documents, projects, processes...
 - Involving the DYC members in drafting reports, studies, agendas...
 - Inviting the DYC members to meetings, conferences, events and (if possible) giving them an active role

Mutually beneficial exchange

PAs shall profit from gaining new, fresh perspectives / inputs

DYC members shall profit from gaining an insight into the daily work of the Strategy, making their voices heard and bringing in the perspective(s) of the young people



DYC: Long-term implementation

- The DYC Pilot Action (funded via the EC) ended on 31 October 2023.
- 25 out of 28 DYC members decided to prolong their mandate to a second year (1 November 2023 – 31 October 2024). New members are being appointed to the three vacant spots.
- Long-term financing concept:
 - Elaborated: by the Task Force DYC under Slovenian EUSDR Presidency in collaboration with EC/DG REGIO, DSP and DRP
 - Endorsed by NCs: 14 July 2023 (updated on 4 August 2023) → information sent to PACs on the same day



DYC: Long-term implementation

- Youth involvement as a horizontal priority in the 2023-2028 PAC projects
- The endorsed financing concept foresees that the **on-site participation of 1 selected DYC member in 1 SG meeting per PA per year** shall be funded via the PAC budgets (travel & accommodation costs for 1 person per year).
 - Above that:
 - Online participation of DYC-members in SG meetings
- **In those cases where no budget for youth activities was foreseen at the time of the elaboration of the PAC projects, it is possible to shift budget or add additional budget!**



EUSDR updates

Monitoring & Evaluation

PAC reporting in spring 2024 and
Process/Implementation Evaluation 2024/2025

Capacity Building

Capacity Building Assessment (CBA) at the level of
EUSDR core stakeholders | 1st semester 2024

Youth

DYC & DYON | online Task Force meeting
on 7 December 2023

Communication

Update of the EUSDR and PA websites |
2024

2023			
Meeting type	Scope	Date	Location
Stakeholder conference	International Danube Navigation and Tourism Conference	26-29 November 2023	Linz, Austria
Stakeholder conference	Adapting to Climate change in relation to WATER Conference	28 November 2023	Budapest, Hungary
Info session	Online Seed Money Facility Info Session	6 December 2023	online
DYC	DYC Task Force Meeting on the establishment of the DYON	7 December 2023	online
Stakeholder conference	Danube Tech Summit	12 December 2023	Vienna, Austria
Stakeholder conference	26th ICPDR Annual Meeting	12-13 December 2023	Vienna, Austria
SG meeting	PA 4	27 November 2023	Budapest, Hungary and online
SG meeting	PA 7	27-28 November 2023	Maribor, Slovenia and online
SG meeting	PA 2	28 November 2023	Budapest, Hungary and online
SG meeting	PA 9	28 November 2023	online
SG meeting	PA 4 and 5	29 November 2023	Budapest, Hungary and online
SG meeting	PA 5	29 November 2023	Budapest, Hungary and online
SG meeting	PA 10	13-14 December 2023	Ljubljana, Slovenia
2024			
Meeting type	Scope	Date 2023	Location
EUSDR Core-Governance	Informal NC-PAC Meeting	29-30 January 2024	Vienna, Austria
Stakeholder meeting	8th Meeting of Presidents of Parliaments of the EUSDR	18-19 March 2024	tbc
Stakeholder conference	12th International Stakeholder Conference of EUSDR PA 9	23 May 2024	Vienna, Austria
Cross-MRS stakeholder meeting	5th EU MRS Week	10-14 June 2024	Brussels, Belgium
EUSDR Core-Governance	NC Meeting	June 2024	Brussels, Belgium
Cross-MRS stakeholder meeting	HLG Meeting & 9th MRS TRIO Presidencies Meeting	14 June 2024	Brussels, Belgium
Stakeholder conference	11th Danube Participation Day	19 June 2024	Vienna, Austria
EUSDR Core-Governance	13th EUSDR Annual Forum	20-21 June 2024	Vienna, Austria
EUSDR Core-Governance	PAC meeting and PAC Seminar	11-12 September 2024	Vienna, Austria
DYC	3rd Danube Youth Camp	second half of October 2024	tbd
EUSDR Core-Governance	NC-PAC Meeting	5-6 December 2024	tbd

Interreg Programme
Danube Region



Co-funded by
the European Union



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