

Danube Strategic Project Fund (DSPF)

PA 09 Steering Group Meeting

October, 6th 2016 – 13:30

Veranstaltungs- und Kongresszentrum Catamaran,
Johann-Böhm-Platz 1, 1020 Wien



1. What is the Danube Strategic Project Fund? (I)

- A new facility aiming at supporting the **implementation of transnational strategic projects** aligned with the **objectives of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)**
- Has specific added value at the interfaces between **cohesion and enlargement/ neighbourhood policy**
- Is co-financed by the **European Commission: 97%** and the **City of Vienna 3%**
- Lasts from **01.09.2016 – 31.08.2019** (36 months)

Main principles & objectives of the DSPF

- The DSPF will build upon the pilot initiatives **START – Danube Region Project Fund** and **TAF-DRP** (Technical Assistance Facility for Danube Region Projects)
- primarily focuses on **innovative pre-mature projects** which could not be funded so far
- will provide support **for projects and initiatives which do not fit into a programme** or funding scheme

1. What is the Danube Strategic Project Fund? (II)

The DSPF will provide financial support to projects that:

- Have a **strategic impact**, especially in view of Enlargement and Neighbourhood policies;
- Include **cross-cutting** and/or **horizontal measures** covering several Priority Areas of the Strategy;
- Follow a **multi-level governance approach**;
- Support the establishment of **economic and social cooperation**;
- **Foster integration** and reconciliation of Danube countries, with a particular focus on the role of **young people**

Projects supported by the DSPF can be implemented by:

- **National, regional and local authorities**;
- **SMEs** (start-ups);
- **Academies and Universities** (in particular applied research and development units);
- **Social partners** and **relevant associations**.

1. What is the Danube Strategic Project Fund? (III)

The financial support to DSPF projects:

- Max € 100.000,00 / project
- Max. € 969.000,00 in total

DSPF projects:

- Approx. **10-12** projects will be supported
- Approx. **12** months duration

2. Role of involved bodies (I)

1. EUSDR Priority Area Coordinator 10 / (City of Vienna, Austria): DI Rudolf Schicker

Responsible for stepping up institutional capacity and cooperation in the Danube Region and the implementation of the EU Initiative Danube Strategic Project Fund (DSPF) as **Managing Authority** in close cooperation with EC-DG Regio.

2. EuroVienna (Implementing Body – IB):

Affiliated entity to PAC10, the City of Vienna and **Implementing Body (IB)** in regard to the Danube Strategic Project Fund (DSPF)

- **Supports PAC10** and will **provide technical assistance** to the Advisory Board, the DSPF Jury and the Lead Partners of the DSPF projects
- Will conduct a **formal check** of received applications (on technical eligibility criteria)
- Will act as **contracting body** to the Lead Partners of the selected DSPF projects

Project Managers / Contact Persons:

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3. Role of involved bodies (II)

3. Advisory Board (AB)

The AB is composed of experts **strongly involved in the macro region EUSDR** and/or in the **process of enlargement and neighbourhood policies**.

The AB has the following main responsibilities:

- Making recommendations for **selection criteria for DSPF projects** to be considered by the Jury
- Making **recommendations for setting up the DSPF selection Jury**
- Making **recommendations to a limited number of DSPF project applications** to the Jury (pre-assessment)

4. DSPF Jury

The members of the Jury are composed by EC-DG Regio, PAC 10 and nominees of the Advisory Board. The jury will **select the DSPF projects** that will receive funding through the initiative.

4. Application Process

Application Procedure

- **Closed application procedure**

A certain group of persons/organisations (experts) will be nominated to identify potential applicants

- **2 step: procedure** is foreseen

- **1st step:** short application & budget overview

- IB will conduct a formal check

- Advisory Board will conduct a pre-assessment

- **2nd step:** more detailed description of the project & project budget plan for pre-selected projects

- Final decision will be done by DSPF Jury

- **exact procedure is elaborated right now**

5. Timeline of the initiative

Activity	Timeframe
Setting up the application & selection procedure	End of Oct. 2016
Communication to PACs and SGs	Mid Nov. 2016
Application phase	End of Nov. 2016 – End of Jan. 2017
<u>Assessment of applications - 1st step:</u> (formal check, pre-assessment by Advisory Board)	Feb. – April 2017
<u>Refinement of best applications – 2nd step:</u> (more detailed project descriptions & project budget plan)	May – June 2017
Project selection by DSPF Jury	July / August 2017
Project Implementation	September 2017 – August 2018 (Dec. 2018)

Managing Authority for the DSPF:

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