

4<sup>th</sup> International Stakeholder Conference  
**Investing in People and Skills in the Danube Region**  
*Towards a New Dynamic for Socio-Economic Development*

**Programme**

**Date:** 5th October 2016

Hosted by the Federal Ministry of Education, Austria, and  
the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Austria

**Venue:** Seminar- und Veranstaltungszentrum Catamaran,  
Johann-Böhm-Platz 1, 1020 Vienna

**Objective:** The conference will 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, labor market and civil society participation.

The conference will assemble actors and promoters of the EUSDR from fourteen Danube Region countries and beyond in order to share good practice, to address common challenges for the future and to develop innovative projects and networks in the fields of increasing quality and efficiency of education and labour market systems, improving educational outcomes, fostering cooperation in labour market policies and promoting equal opportunities and social inclusion.

**Format:** Moderated plenary and break-out sessions will be used to ensure participants can have substantive discussions about challenges and successes with respect to developing effective approaches to skills policies and related projects.

**Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Programme Item</i>
<b>8.30</b>	<b>Registration</b> Coffee, meet and greet
<b>9.00</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alois Stöger, Federal Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Austria</li> <li>▪ Hanspeter Huber, Federal Ministry of Education, Austria, Director General for International Affairs</li> <li>▪ Marco Onida, European Commission, DG Regio</li> <li>▪ Moderator: Gabriele Stöger</li> </ul>
<b>9.30</b>	<b>Setting the agenda: Welfare. Wealth. Work.</b>

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What kind of new European growth and development strategy is necessary and feasible, enabling a socio-ecological transition to high levels of employment, well-being of its citizens, social inclusion and resilience of ecological systems?

- Peter Huber, Austrian Institute of Economic Research

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**10.00** Break

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**10.30 Leveraging our skills investments: Impact, activities, achievements and future perspectives of EUSDR cooperation**

Panel Discussion

- Roland Hanak, Priority Area Coordinator, Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Austria
- Klaus Körner, European Commission, DG EAC
- Anna Gherganova, Priority Area Coordinator, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Republic of Moldova
- Anders Bergström, EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)
- Jürgen Schick, Priority Area Coordinator, Federal Ministry of Education, Austria

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**11.30 Finding the right funding – An overview of financing instruments**

- Erasmus+, Ursula Panuschka, OeAD
- Danube Transnational Programme, Johannes Gabriel, Joint Secretariat
- Website EuroAccess, Julie Dalmoro, EuroVienna

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**12.30 Introduction** to working group themes and the principles of the working groups

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**12.45** Lunch

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**13.45 Working Groups**

- 1- Increasing Quality and Efficiency of Education and Training: Better Skills in Better Jobs
- 2- Improving Educational Outcomes and Inclusion
- 3- Active Labour Market Policies – Know How Exchange as a Key for Success
- 4- Equal Opportunities and Social Inclusion with a Focus on Roma

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**15.15** Break

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**15.45 Main Outcomes from Working Groups**

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**16.15 Closing and outlook**

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**17.00 Networking, drinks & fingerfood**

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