

EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Priority Area 5: To Manage Environmental Risks

Péter Bakonyi & Petra Szávics

Hungary

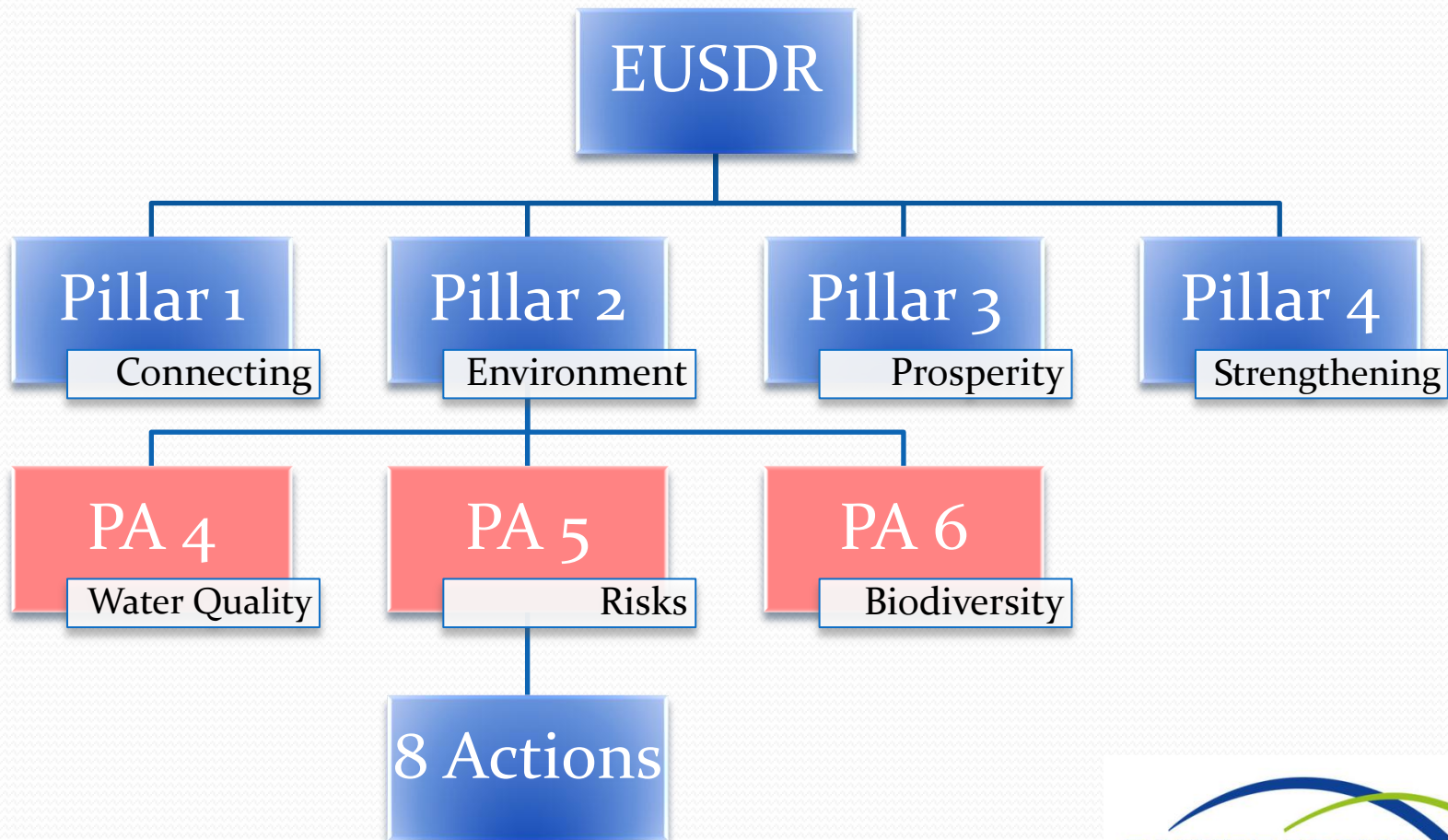
Romania



Outline

- Structure of the EUSDR
- Priority Area 5
 - Presentation of the issue
 - Danube Region Specifics
 - Actions
 - Targets
- PA5 Chronology
- PA5 Kick-off Meeting
 - Actions broken down to operational steps
 - Final targets

Structure of the EUSDR



Presentation of the issue

- **Climate change** poses a major challenge
 - Frequency and severity of **floods, droughts, forest fires, storms, erosion, water scarcity** likely to increase
 - **Industrial risks** present constant danger
-
- European Civil Protection Mechanism to help mobilise
 - Requires **integrated approach** to disaster management

Danube Region Specifics

- Limited work on climate change → opportunity to build a **Danube Adaptation Strategy**
- Need and will to strengthen cooperation in preventing, preparing for and responding to **natural and man-made disasters**
- **EU Floods Directive** (ICPDR FAPs)
- Water scarcity has reached a critical level
- **Industrial accident spills**
- European Civil Protection Mechanism has been activated several times

Targets (Pillar 2)

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, The European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions [COM(2010) 715]

- “The Commission strongly believes that **setting targets is essential, to focus and prioritise efforts**. These **should be further developed with stakeholders**, immediately following adoption of this Communication and **finalised before the European Council in June 2011**. Targets will apply to Member States; non Member States will be encouraged to strive towards them in the light of their specific circumstances. The targets will be monitored closely in the context of Commission reporting.”

Targets (Pillar 2)

1. Achieve the environmental targets set out in the Danube River Basin Management Plan;
2. Reduce the nutrient levels in the Danube River to allow the recovery of the Black Sea ecosystems to conditions similar to 1960;
3. Complete and adopt the Delta management Plan by 2013;
4. **Implement Danube wide flood risk management plans - due in 2015 under the Floods Directive – to include significant reduction of flood risk by 2021, also taking into account potential impacts of climate change;**
5. Draw up effective management plans for all Natura 2000 sites;
6. Secure viable populations of Danube sturgeon species and other indigenous fish species by 2020, combating invasive species;
7. Reduce by 25% the area affected by soil erosion exceeding 10 tonnes per hectare by 2020.

Actions (PA5)

1. To develop and adopt one single overarching floods management plan
2. To support wetland and floodplain restoration as an effective mean of enhancing flood protection
3. To extend the coverage of the European Floods Alert System (EFAS) system to the whole Danube River

Actions (PA5)

4. To strengthen operational cooperation among the emergency response authorities
5. To continuously update the existing database of accident risk spots (ARS Inventory)
6. To develop rapid response procedures and plans in case of industrial accidental river pollution

Actions (PA5)

7. Anticipate regional and local impacts of climate change through research
8. To develop spatial planning and construction activities in the context of climate change and increased threats of floods

PA5 Chronology

Date	Event
09 Dec 2010	Commission launches Strategy to boost development of the Danube Region
03 Feb 2011	European Commissioner Hahn announces priority area coordinators for EU Strategy for Danube Region (Official) Start of work
08-10 May 2011	Joint Meeting of National Contact Points and Priority Area Coordinators of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region
09 Jun 2011	PA5 Steering Group Kick-off Meeting

PA5 Steering Group Kick-off Meeting

- Rules of Procedure of the Steering Group
- Implementation Framework
- **Actions broken down to operational steps**
- **Final targets**

Actions broken down to operational steps

TASKS	2011		2012				2013				2014 -onwards
	3q	4q	1q	2q	3q	4q	1q	2q	3q	4q	
I. PREPARATION PHASE											
I.1. Finalization of targets set	by June 30										
I.2 Setting initial selection criteria for Flagship projects	by June 30										
I. 3 Identifying parties interested in the implementation of each action	by June 30										
I.4 Gathering projects: approved, under implementation	by September 30										
I.5 Gathering information about existing financing possibilities	by September 30										
I. 6 Setting final selection criteria for Flagship projects	by September 30										
I.7 Selection of Flagships from already financed projects		by December 15									
I.8 Identification of relevant stakeholders		by December 15									
I.9 Agree on deadlines for actions and projects		by December 15									
I. 10 Finalize realistic and feasible targets		by December 15									
II. IMPLEMENTATION PHASE											
II. 1 Identification of gaps		by December 15									
II.2 Identification of new project ideas based on result of II.1	<i>ongoing activity</i>										
II. 3 Transforming the actions into operational steps			by March 31								
II. 4 Collection of project ideas from relevant stakeholders	<i>continuous task</i>										
II. 5 Identification of Project Leaders	<i>continuous task</i>										
II. 6 Selection of Flagships											
II. 7 Support for Flagships: partnership building, financing possibilities, support for implementation	<i>continuous task</i>										
II. 8 Monitoring the implementation of Flagships	<i>continuous task</i>										
II.9 Gathering information on financing possibilities in the 2014-2020 programming period											
II. 10 Ensure policy discussion and development		<i>continuous task</i>									
II. 11 Review of targets, action plan, projects	<i>repeating task</i>			by May 30				by May 30			
III. GENERAL TASKS											
III. 1 Communication activities											
III. 1. 1 Communication and visibility of results	<i>continuous task</i>										
III. 1. 2 Annual Stakeholder Forum	<i>on annual bases (exact date to be decided based on needs and milestones in the implementation)</i>										
III. 2 Monitoring; Annual and Final Reporting	<i>repeating task</i>			by June 30							
		preparation/continuous task									
		deadline									

Actions broken down to operational steps

Deadline	Actions
30 Jun 2011	Review targets ☺
30 Sept 2011	Collect already running (financed) projects
15 Dec 2011	Select flagship projects
15 Dec 2011	Identify gaps
Continuous	Identify new projects
30 Jun 2012	Annual reporting

Actions broken down to operational steps

- Review targets by June 30
- Collect already running (financed) projects by Sept 30
- Select flagship projects by Dec 15
- Identify gaps by Dec 15
- Identify new projects (continuous)
- Annual reporting (June every year)

PA 5 Final Targets

4. Implement Danube wide flood risk management plans - due in 2015 under the Floods Directive – to include significant reduction of flood risk by 2021, also taking into account potential impacts of climate change;
8. **Update of the Accidental Risk Spots inventory at the Danube River Basin level by 2013**

Actions broken down to operational steps

- Review targets by June 30 ✓
- Collect already running (financed) projects by Sept 30
- Select flagship projects by Dec 15
- Identify gaps by Dec 15
- Identify new projects (continuous)
- Annual reporting (June every year)

PA 5 Information

<http://groupspaces.com/EnvironmentalRisks/>

<http://groupspaces.com/EnvironmentalRisks/files/>

Thank you for your attention!

