



Delavnica za krepitev zmogljivosti za nacionalne deležnike

“Embedding” proces makro-regionalnih strategij z vidika Evropske komisije

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Johan Magnusson, Team Leader, Evropska komisija (DG REGIO)



Why embedding?

“Embedding is expected to increase programmes’ impacts through better cooperation and coordination, in addition to providing the MRS with the means to achieve their objectives. It will also allow beneficiaries of EU funds to achieve better results with their action while contributing to the strategic objectives of the MRS”

3rd Commission report on the implementation of the MRS (2020)



Why embedding?

- Nothing new, has existed for years
- Cooperation high on the EU agenda: Asked for by stakeholders and horizontal objective for EU Cohesion Policy 2021-2027
- Cooperation central to the implementation of MRS. And if we want to succeed with the MRS, the transnational Interreg programmes are not enough
- A political priority: clear message from ministerial meetings in 2020 and 2021 and in the Council Conclusions on the implementation of the 3rd COM Report on the implementation of the four EU MRS
- Inclusive process where all levels have important roles to play



Which are the legal provisions?

CPR (Reg. 2021/1060 of 24 June 2021):

Art. 17(3)(a)(vi) CPR

Art. 17(3)(d)(i) CPR

Article 17 on Content of programmes

Under 3: Each Programme shall set out:

(a) a summary of the main challenges, taking into account:

(vi) macro-regional strategies and sea-basin strategies where Member States and regions participate in such strategies;

(d) for each specific objective:

(i) the related types of actions and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basin strategies, where appropriate



What is done in the four EU MRS?

Examples from across the four MRS:

- EUSAIR Action Labs Networking and complementarities for embedding of the EUSAIR
- Designation of flagship projects
- EUSALP Thematic financial dialogue networks to facilitate MRS implementation
- MA Networks set up for ESF, ERDF/CF, EAFRD, EMFAF and IPA/NDICI in EUSBSR and EUSDR
- Danube Embedding Task Force
- Danube Embedding Tool
- EUSDR discussion papers *From Words to Action* and *From Actions to Funding*



What can be done at programme level?

As priorities of Cohesion policy national/regional programmes are to a large extent consistent with those of the MRS, such programmes could and should more effectively work hand-in-hand with the MRS for the mutual benefit of both the strategies and the programmes:

- MA networks for all funds to be established in all four MRS
- Include MRS key implementers in programmes' monitoring committees
- Earmarking (allocate) a budget, i.e. a certain percentage of their funds for MRS
- Targeted calls for projects supporting the MRS
- Specific selection criteria (e.g. bonus points) for project proposals contributing to the MRS
- Labelling of projects having MRS impact



From Words to Actions (Slovak Presidency of the EUSDR)






Outlines potential tools for managing authorities to incorporate the EUSDR objectives into their actions:

- Incorporation of MRS objectives in the form shortlisted topics into Partnership Agreements and operational programmes
- Implementation of synchronised calls (several calls announced in parallel in several countries, each partner country applying own rules and funding but where focus and activities to be supported, timing and duration of projects are similar for all countries)
- Implementation of activities contributing to MRS objectives outside of a Member State, including outside the EU, provided the operation contributes to the objective of a particular programme and the MRS.
- National synergy-capitalisation calls to support the results of transnational cooperation projects and the MRS
- Seed Money Facility to fund the projects with strategic importance to the MRS



The Danube Embedding Week (June 2022)

Organisation of five thematic meetings/workshops, within the framework of EUSDR programming/managing authorities Network, with PACs, MAs, Programmes, TRIO Presidency, EC and DSP – to look for concrete use of the embedding tools/activities to be implemented.

POs / EUSDR (click for details)		Specific Topics	SOs	Date & Time
A smarter Danube Region		#Inclusive European Research Area #Bridging innovation gaps through capacity building #Promoting research excellence #Smart Specialisation Strategies #Research and innovation as crisis response	SO 1.1	July 11 th 10:00-12:00 CEST
A more competitive Danube Region		#Cluster development #Female entrepreneurship	SO 1.3	July 12 th 10:00-12:00 CEST
A more energy efficient Danube Region		#Energy efficiency #Decarbonisation of heating & cooling systems	SO 2.1	July 13 th 10:00-12:00 CEST
A more resilient Danube Region		#Climate change adaptation #Flood and Disaster Management	SO 2.4	July 14 th 10:00-12:00 CEST
A greener Danube Region		#Traffic stakeholders/plane routes #Endangered umbrella species #Green infrastructure #Soil-related ecosystem services	SO 2.7	July 15 th 10:00-12:00 CEST



Other funds - Directly managed EU programmes

- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)
- Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)
- Single Market Programme
- Horizon Europe (research)
- Life+ (environment)
- Erasmus+
- Digital Europe
- Internal Security Fund - Police (DG HOME)
- Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI)
- European Investment Bank
- Other international funding sources/donors (WB, OECD etc)
- National funding schemes



What's happening right now?

- COM currently drafting the 4th report on the implementation of the four EU MRS; embedding is one of the themes
- In DG REGIO all ERDF/CF programmes for the 2021-2027 period are screened
- IR CBC is about cooperation and should as a baseline facilitate the implementation of MRS
- A lot of attention to the mainstream national and regional programmes.
- REGIO, Unit D1 consulted by all REGIO Geographical Units on all programmes. If not taken into account, D1 signals to GU who have to go back to national/regional authorities
- The programme adoption process takes more time than expected; hopefully finalised by the end of the year.



Looking ahead

The efforts to embed the priorities of the MRS in relevant EU funding programmes 2021-2027 is progressing. However, ensuring implementation of these priorities will require continuous attention up to 2027:

- Monitor projects/processes via MRS monitoring system
- Monitor projects/processes via programme/managing authorities. A standing point at programme MC meetings?
- Programme evaluations as additional source of information on the outcomes of MRS embedding process.
- A more systemic approach to the embedding expected once TSS become fully operational in all four MRS?





JOHAN MAGNUSSON

Team Leader Danube and Baltic Sea Regions



European Commission

Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO)

Unit D.1 – Macro-regions, Transnational, Interregional Cooperation, IPA, Enlargement

B-1049 Brussels/Belgium

+32 229-92093

johan.magnusson@ec.europa.eu

