

Meeting of macro-regional coordinators



29-30 November 2017

2nd Joint meeting of EU macro-regional Transport Coordinators

Rainers Hotel Vienna, Gudrunstrasse 184, 1100
Vienna, Austria





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Outline

EU macro-regional strategies are aiming at addressing challenges shared within a functional area. They also aim at better implementation of the EU policies and more coordination of existing institutions and financial resources. Macro-regional strategies address broad scope of priorities, making an effort for cooperation and coordination across the territory.

1st Joint meeting of EU macro-regional coordinators on transport theme was held on 14-15 March in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The meeting invited coordinators from four existing EU macro-regional strategies to address successes, failures and lessons learnt in the implementation of the transport area in each of the EU macro-regional strategies, identify and share good practices as well as engage in dialogue with other Transport Coordinators.

Among other issues, coordinators expressed their interest to continue discussion and exchanges regarding **macro-regional projects**. Although approaches differ, all the coordinators admit this work very important. During the discussion it was clear that coordinators differently see their role and involvement in project development, labelling of macro-regional projects, coordination, monitoring and promotion of project achievements. Access to funding (alignment of funding) is another issue that hampers macro-regional cooperation. Macro-regional added value, project and policy interconnection as well as developing macro-regional processes where projects are important part of those are other issues to be further addressed. In this regard, Coordinators highlighted projects FAIRway (EUSDR, Priority Area 1A 'Inland waterways'), EfficientSea and EfficientSea 2.0 (EUSBSR, Policy Area 'Safe') as examples.

Objectives

Following on the conclusions from the earlier meeting the 2nd Joint meeting of EU macro-regional Transport Coordinators will be focusing on macro-regional projects: development, labelling, coordination, monitoring and promotion of achievements. Role of Transport Coordinators, macro-regional added value of projects, links between projects and policy as well as funding of macro-regional development processes will be topics for the meeting. The meeting will ensure open and informal discussion and exchanges of experiences among participants. Interreg programmes are invited to take active part in the discussion.



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Day one

Wednesday, 29 November 2017

Moderator Wiktor Szydarowski, Ph.D

11.30 – 13.00 Registration and Welcome lunch

13.00 – 13.30 **Introduction**
Baiba Liepa, Interact
Tour de table

13.30 – 15.00 **Macro-regional project – what it is and how it is perceived in different macro-regions**

- Macro-regional strategies, thematic coordinators and macro-regional projects
Anders Bergström, Policy Area 'Education' and Horizontal Action 'Capacity' coordinator, EUSBSR
Baiba Liepa, Interact

All Transport Coordinators

Following questions to be addressed during the discussion by each of Transport Coordinators:

- What is a macro-regional project - understanding by (1) the Coordinators and perception by the (2) macro-regional decision-makers and (3) macro-regional stakeholders? Do these three perspectives differ? If so, is there any need and/or added value to make them common?
- How macro-regional projects are identified and labelled, what is a process? What is a role of Steering Committee/Coordination group in this process?
- Outcome of a macro-regional project – do you fulfil a specific role in anchoring macro-regional projects in the decision-making processes? How do you use, communicate and promote them? How to you interact with the completed projects in ensuring that they bring a durable change? Any lessons learned in successful embedding of the outcomes from your perspective? If so, does it apply to policies or operational routines/procedures of the public stakeholders? Or, any specific reasons for failure in that regard?
- Open issues.

Objectives of the session: This session is aiming to collect initial inputs and collect approaches regarding the understanding of a macro-regional project and how it is defined, labelled, implemented and monitored. Role and involvement of Transport Coordinators and their Steering Committees/Coordination Groups will be highlighted.

15.00 – 15.30 Coffee break



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15.30 – 16.45

Added value of being a macro-regional project

- Conclusions from Interact study 'Added value of macro-regional strategies: project and programme perspective'
Baiba Liepa, Interact
- Benefits of being a macro-regional project: reaching out to stakeholders and embedding of the outcomes in policymaking
Magnus von Schenck, Baltic Master project (I and II), Consensus Discussion

Objectives of the session: This session is aiming at sharing experiences and lessons learnt on benefits of being labelled a macro-regional project. A project/user perspective of benefits becoming a macro-regional project will be discussed with all the participants.

16.45 – 17.15

Coffee break

17.15 – 18.30

Macro-regional project – project or process, what change does it make?

- Developing a macro-regional project, steps to be considered
Anders Bergström, Policy Area 'Education' and Horizontal Action 'Capacity' coordinator, EUSBSR

All Transport Coordinators

Following questions will be addressed during the discussion:

- Is it sufficient to implement single projects or should Transport Coordinators build 'project chains'/processes to achieve objectives of a macro-regional strategy?
- What are interlinks between single projects implemented under the theme, priority, action or pillar?
- How outcomes of projects are considered and used in further achievement of a durable change desired in the Action Plan accompanying macro-regional strategy?
- How to measure a change?

Objectives of the session: The aim of the session is to exchange views on what are experiences and approaches to link projects implemented under the same or across different priorities, actions, policy areas or pillars and how to measure change? Is it coordinator's responsibility to build, implement and monitor a macro-regional project?

20.30 – 22.30

Dinner

Restaurant [Palmenhaus](#), Burggarten 1, 1010 Vienna



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Day two

Thursday, 30 November 2017

08.30 – 08.45

Summary of the discussions during the Day one of the meeting

Wiktor Szydarowski, Moderator

08.45 – 09.30

Study ‘Macro-regional strategies and their links with Cohesion policy’, main conclusions

Jean-Marc Venineaux, DG REGIO

09.30 – 10.45

Coordination and cooperation between macro-regional coordinators and (Interreg) programmes: 2014-2020 and post 2020

- Presentation of the Interact Capitalisation network for Sustainable transport
Ulf Wikström, Interact
- Further development of thematic project platform for transport projects under Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2014-2020
Attila Darabos, Interreg Baltic Sea Region
Thomas Erlandson, Policy Area Coordinator ‘Improving internal and external transport links (PA ‘Transport’)
- Overview of Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platforms
Venelina Varbova, Thematic Manager Environment and resource efficiency, Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform

Objectives of the session: This session will present Interact established network addressing sustainable transport topic as well as present coordination and cooperation platforms kicked off under Interreg programmes. The discussion will address the question on how closer coordination and cooperation can be established between Interreg programmes, established platforms and Transport Coordinators in current programming period and in post 2020; what is mutual benefit for aligning resources and efforts.

10.45 – 11.15

Coffee break

11.15 – 12.30

Coordination and cooperation between macro-regional coordinators and (Interreg) programmes: 2014-2020 and post 2020 (continuation)

Discussion, all participants

12.30 – 12.45

Conclusions from the discussions and closing of the meeting

Wiktor Szydarowski, Moderator
Baiba Liepa, Interact

12.45 – 14.00

Farwell lunch



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Practicalities

For registration to the event, please follow the link here:

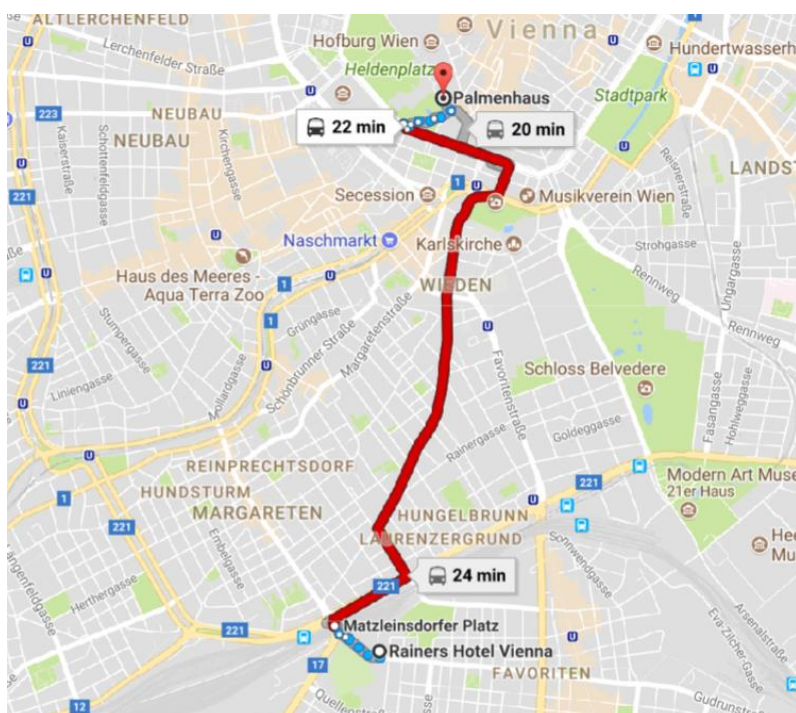
<http://forms.interact-eu.net/meeting-of-transport-coordinators-29-30-nov>.

The registration is open until 17 November 2017.

Venue

The venue for the meeting is [Rainers Hotel Vienna](#), Gudrunstrasse 184, 1100 Vienna, Austria.

The dinner will be served in Restaurant [Palmenhaus](#), Burggarten 1, 1010 Vienna.



To get there, walk to S1 (tram 1) stop Matzleinsdorfer Platz, towards (direction) Wien Prater Hauptallee; take S1 until the stop Oper/Karlsplatz U. Then have a short walk to the restaurant. The journey should take around 30 min.

Look for this building:



Vienna public transport information is available [here](#).



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Travel

Every participant is responsible to take care of his/her travel.

Accommodation

Every participant is responsible to take care of his/her accommodation. Organisers have agreed the special room rate for the participants of the event (including breakfast). The hotel room booking can be done by filling out the booking form. The booking form is attached to the registration acceptance email.

Other information

Should you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact Baiba Liepa (baiba.liepa@interact-eu.net, +358 40 159 9430).