

Water Related Themes in EU Macro-regional Strategies

Background Study for extending regional co-
operation

Final

Budapest, October 2019

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Promoted by:

EU Strategy for the Danube Region
“Water quality” Priority Area
(EUSDR PA4)

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Acronyms

DG ENVI	Directorate-General for Environment
DG REGIO	Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy
DSP	Danube Strategic Point
EFAS	European Floods Alert System
EMFF	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
EUSAIR	EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region
EUSALP	EU Strategy for the Alpine Region
EUSBSR	EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
EUSDR	EU Strategy for the Danube Region
EUSDR PA4	EUSDR – Priority Area 4 “To restore and maintain the quality of waters”
EUSR	EU Strategy Region
FD	Flood Directive
HA	Horizontal action
HELCOM	Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission
HLG	High Level Group
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IPA	Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance
MRS	Macro Regional Strategy
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
MSP	Maritime Spatial Planning
NCP	National Contact Point
PA	Policy area / Priority area
PAC	Priority Area Coordinator
WFD	Water Framework Directive

1

■ Executive summary

This study was initiated by the EU Danube Strategy Priority Area 4 (PA4) 'Water Quality' and was based on the assumption that the four existing EU macro-regional strategies (Baltic, Danube, Alpine, Adriatic-Ionian) have common topics and interests and would benefit from future cooperation in the field of water management.

The aim of the study was to compare the set-up and activities of the four macro-regional strategies in the field of water management, based on the information available on internet. Basic data and governance structures were collected and compared, strategies and action plans were considered as well as a long list of large projects, related to water management, assessed. Also, a web-based questionnaire with some twenty basic questions were created and distributed to the priority area co-ordinators.

The study proved that water management is a key priority topic in all macro-regional strategies and they perform well in this area and have a significant impact on water management of their respective macro-region. Due to the large number of existing projects, the analysis had to be reduced to consider only those 61 water related projects having a budget of minimum 1 million EUR. The projects of the macro-regions produce a great variety of outputs, targeting the public, professionals and policy makers. Most of the outputs are some kind of written materials for professionals, such as guidelines and recommendations, using strategic and theoretical approaches as well.

The study also pointed out that there are many similarities among the macro-regional strategies from underlying legislation to governance structures and fields of interests, but approaches sometimes differ. Looking at the topics, water and nature conservation, hazardous materials, climate change adaptation, flood management, tourism, fisheries, agriculture, hydrography and transport appear in all macro-regions but with different focus. "Maritime" regions (Baltics and Adriatic-Ionian) put more emphasis on marine and coastal issues and their links to the mainland while the "mainland" regions (Alpine and Danube) focus on freshwater river basin management adding the links that connects rivers to the sea.

Macro-regions have also challenges in common. Apart from similar pressures on freshwater and marine, EU support could be stronger. Existing funding instruments are rather scattered and not targeted enough to specific issues of the macro-regions. Better streamlining of the objectives of EU funding instruments and of the macro-regional strategies would be needed in the future.

As the result of the analysis show there is a lot of room and untapped opportunity for future cooperation among the four EU macro-regional strategies that would range from information exchange through common projects till common European-wide policy influence. Instruments to take advantage of the existing knowledge and overall weight of this large area of Europe should be established in the close future.

2. ■ Introduction

2.1 Background

The initiative

This study was initiated by the EU Strategy of the Danube Region (EUSDR), Priority Area 4 “To restore and maintain the quality of waters” (EUSDR PA4). The main idea behind the initiative was to foster co-operation among the EU strategy regions (EUSRs) on

- common or similar professional challenges,
- similar activities,
- similar institutional settings,
- financial issues

along the activities related to waters in general, and water quality issues specifically.

EUSDR PA4 – Water Quality decided to take a lead to establish co-operation among the similar priority areas of the EU strategy regions and prepared a concept note for the “1st EU Macro-regional strategies’ workshop on water”. The workshop can be considered as a first step to set up a formalised platform of the water related priority areas of the EUSRs, however informal communication on the issue has considerable history that was further extended during the Hungarian Presidency of the EUSDR in 2017. The organisation of the workshop, held in Budapest, 19 April 2018, was strongly supported by Interact and representatives of the relevant professional fields from all EUSRs participated (for the programme of the workshop see Annex 1.).

The workshop

The workshop targeted to make first step in the formalised co-operation and to obtain the “expression of interest” of the relevant stakeholders. Also, it aimed at broadly defining the themes of common interest across the macro-regional strategies, and the framework of future co-operation.

The workshop was backed by a concept note, the main results of which were presented in detail for the participants. It was discussed that the four macro-regional strategies cover similar thematic areas – connectivity, environment, prosperity and cross-cutting areas, such as climate change, spatial planning and good governance, however there are significant differences in structures, details and emphases in each thematic area.

As presented by the representative of Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO), there are still important needs to be addressed when the implementation of and co-operation among Macro Regional Strategies (MRS) are discussed; these include coherent and co-ordinated operations and monitoring, sufficient funding and efficient governance. It was highlighted that strategic and thematic focuses are also to be strengthened to achieve the objectives of the MRSs. The representative of the Directorate-

General for Environment (DG ENVI) also highlighted the need for co-operation among the activities of the MRSs and it was pointed out that regional conventions, related directives and funding opportunities should also be harmonised to utilise potential synergies embedded in the MRSs.

The EUSRs also presented their activities, focusing on their missions in general and some specific actions and projects. It was concluded from the presentations and the following discussion that many activities, professional topics are similar, and there are several specific topics, for example plastic pollution, that have been already investigated by one or two EUSRs and, in the same time, are in the forefront of the interest of others. It was also highlighted that as all EUSR work in line with the community legislation, notably the Water Framework Directive (WFD), Flood Directive (FD), Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), they share common grounds, similar approaches and methods. The main thematic areas of common interest, on the top of the above, were climate change, agriculture, nature conservation, the mainstreaming of water issues into other thematic areas and policies. Concerning the institutional background of the functioning of the EUSRs, the challenges are rather common, that may call for common action; these are: efficient governance, implementation processes, funding issues, stakeholder involvement and harmonisation of policies. The workshop eventually reached its objective: it was concluded that there are common professional fields of interest as well as similar institutional issues, thus, co-operation brings a benefit for all parties involved.

2.2 The purpose of the study

Study objectives

The general objective of this study is to look at the commonalities and differences between EU regional strategies in the field of water management in general and specifically of water quality. The study focussed on

- the issues in the forefront of the EU macro-regional strategies in general,
- the implementation framework of the strategies in general and specifically water related tasks defined in the strategies, and
- the specific water related activities of the EU strategies.

Issues will be shown in detail that primarily relate to water quality, such as pharmaceuticals, plastics, sewage treatment, but other themes that relevance to the sectors will be considered; these are, for example climate change, agricultural water use, conservation/biodiversity.

It is important to note that the targeted reader of this study are the professionals of the EUSRs; the study aims to give a comprehensive picture of all the EUSRs, meaning that it aims at the introduction of a specific MRS to all other MRSs in order to identify common points of interest.

Expected outcomes

The study aims at the identification of common themes for possible co-operation of the EUSRs in the field of water. Firstly, the study gives an overview of the various EUSRs. Secondly, it describes their challenges and solutions related to waters, and thirdly, gives a comparative analysis. The comparative analysis identifies common or similar points and major differences in

- the functioning / governance and strategy implementation,
- professional focuses,

- specific activities / projects of the various EUSRs.

The analysis covers the description of the common themes and professional fields in general, professional challenges, bottlenecks of strategy implementation, as well as possible common initiatives (activities or projects). Also, various forms of co-operation, following the existing good practices, are discussed. The final outcomes of the study shall serve as professional background for further, more specific discussion on opening the new platform of co-operation.

3 ■ A general analysis of European Union Macro-regional Strategies

3.1 The analysis of EU macro-regional strategies

Data and methods

This section is involved with the general introduction of the EU Macro-regional Strategies. For the comprehensive introduction basic documents, as well as other relevant information available on the internet were reviewed and analysed. The most relevant documents used in this section are the strategies and the action plans of the regions and the related European level legislations. Also, for the introduction of the general socio-economic characteristics of the regions, data from the Eurostat were used.

3.1.1 The analysis of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region

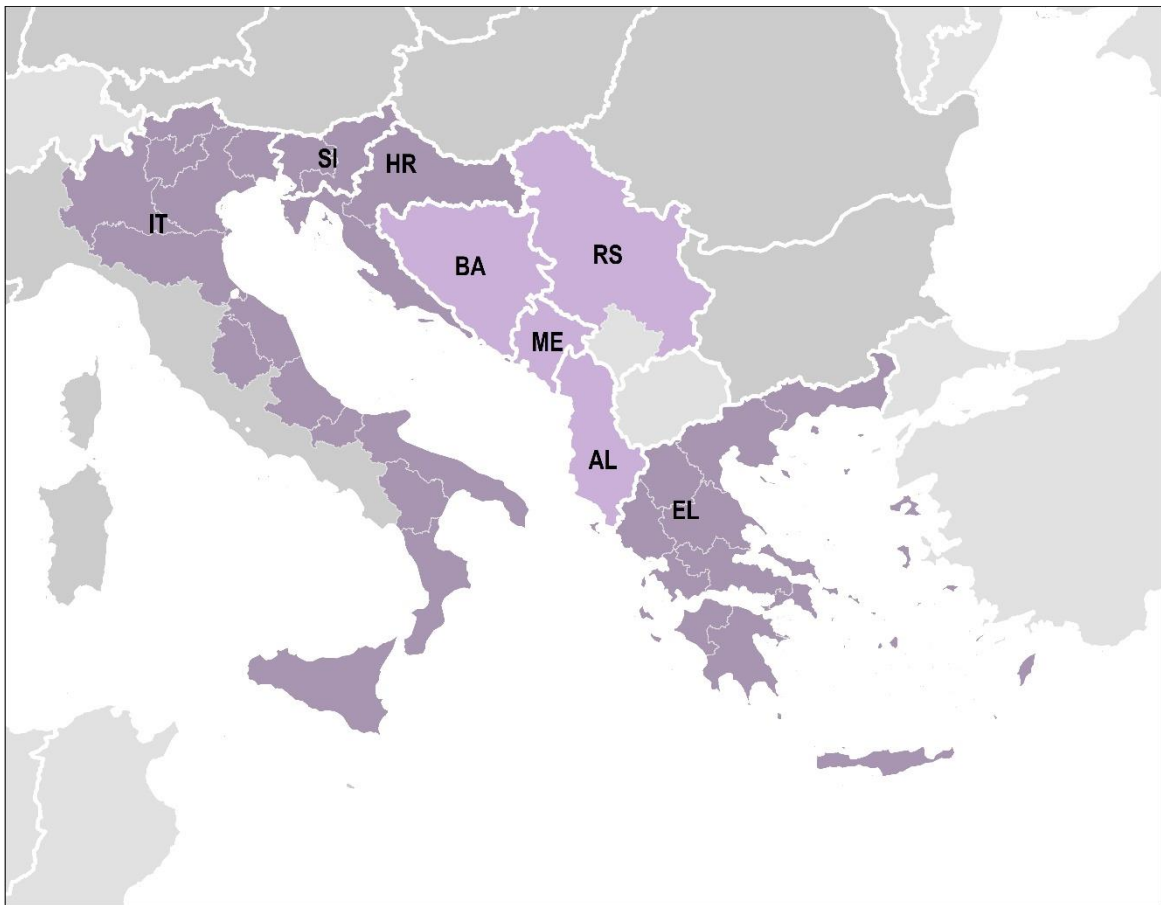
3.1.1.1 Introduction

Basic information on the region

Year of foundation	2014
Founding strategic document	Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions concerning the European Union Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region. Brussels, 29.9.2014 COM (2014) 357
Document concerning specific activities	General Affairs Council Conclusions of 29 September 2014 For a Prosperous and Integrated Adriatic-Ionian Region EUSAIR Action plan – 17.06.2014 – SWD (2014) 190
Related conventions and other relevant documents	Adriatic (Ionian) Euroregion
Total countries/regions covered (number of)	4+4 (cooperation of EU and non-EU countries)
EU countries (regions) covered	Croatia, Greece, Italy, Slovenia
Non-EU countries covered	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia
Total area covered (thousand km ²)	570
EU area total (thousand km ²)	388
EU area covered (%)	8,67

Non-EU area covered (thousand km ²)	182
Total population covered (M person)	69
EU population total (M person)	55
EU population covered (%)	11,5
Non-EU population covered (M person)	14
Total GDP produced (PPS MEUR)	1 458 904
Total EUS GDP in the % of the EU	8
GDP mean (PPS EUR)	23 057
GDP mean in the % of the EU	80

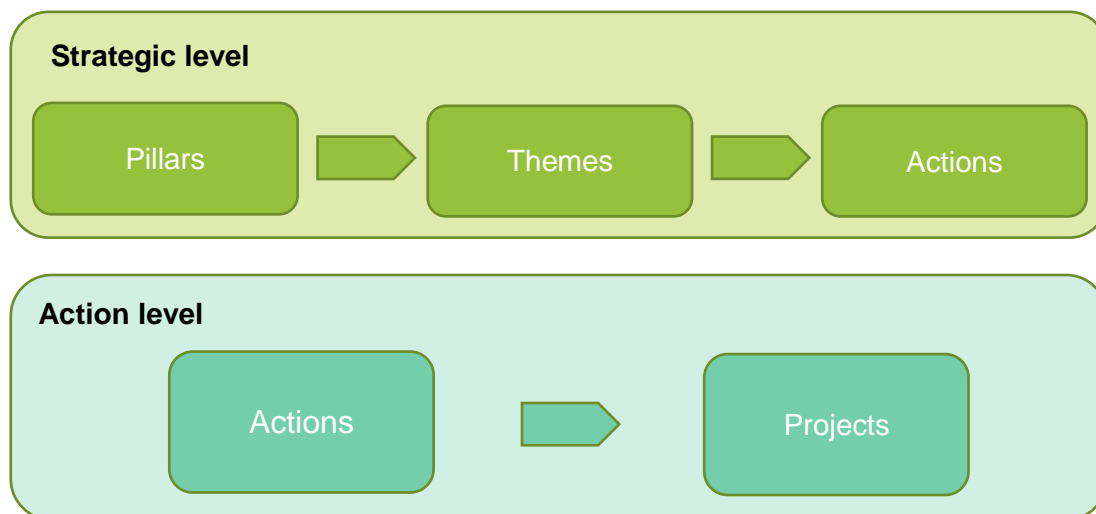
Geographical coverage



1. Figure: The geographical coverage of the Adriatic and Ionian Sea Region

3.1.1.2 Challenges, objectives and policy areas

The structure of the basic documents



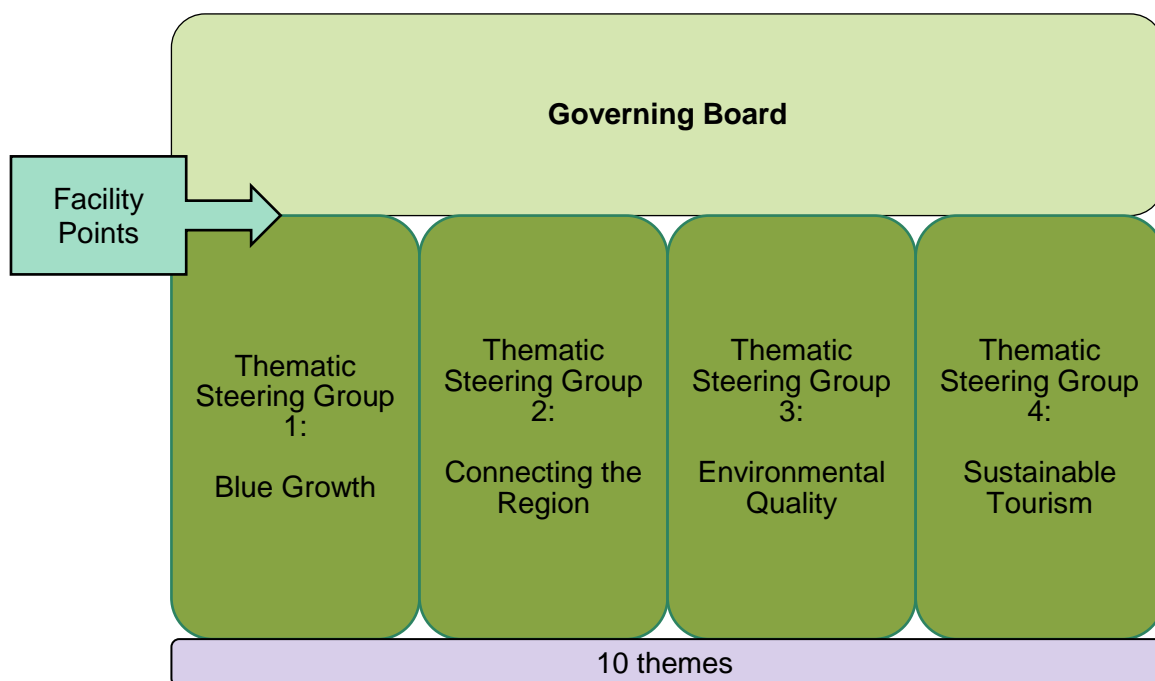
2. Figure: The overview of the structure of the strategy and the action plan of the Adriatic and Ionian Sea Region

Challenges and actions

Main challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To establish and to develop mutual relations between inhabitants and institutions of this territory as precondition for the improvement of knowledge, understanding and collaboration; To create the conditions for the economic development respecting the environment; To determine common interests of development, preparation, definition and harmonization of a common development strategy; To achieve the cultural exchange programmes; To ensure the conditions for an effective exchange of experiences and implementation of EU programmes
Challenges and opportunities related to waters	<p>The EUSAIR is built on four thematic pillars:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Blue Growth 2) Connecting the Region 3) Environmental Quality 4) Sustainable Tourism
Topics under the pillars	<p>Blue Growth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue technologies Fisheries and aquaculture Maritime and marine governance and services <p>Connecting the Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maritime transport Intermodal connections to the hinterland Energy networks <p>Environmental Quality:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The marine environment • Transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity Sustainable Tourism: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversified tourism offer • Sustainable and responsible tourism management
Specific thematic policy topics related to the water sector	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blue technologies 2. Fisheries and aquaculture 3. Maritime and marine governance and services 4. Maritime transport 5. Intermodal connections to the hinterland 6. Energy networks 7. The marine environment 8. Transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity 9. Diversified tourism offer (products and services) 10. Sustainable and responsible tourism management (innovation and quality)

3.1.1.3 Governance and structure of operation



3. Figure: The system of governance of the Adriatic and Ionian Sea Region

The EUSAIR Communication identifies four interdependent pillars of strategic importance: Blue Growth - Pillar 1; Connecting the Region (transport and energy networks) Pillar 2; Environmental quality - Pillar 3; Sustainable tourism - Pillar 4. It is proposed to set up one Thematic Steering Group (TSG) per pillar. However, special arrangements are being set under Pillar 2, with two sub-groups for transport and energy, respectively.

The TSGs will be chaired for an initial period of 3 years by a tandem of countries, on a rotating basis, starting with those that acted as coordinators for the pillar of their choice

during the consultation process, namely: Greece and Montenegro for Pillar 1, Italy and Serbia for Pillar 2, Slovenia and Bosnia-Herzegovina for Pillar 3, and Croatia and Albania for Pillar 4. These arrangements may be reconsidered in due course by the Governing Board, as appropriate.

EUSAIR Facility Point partners are responsible for the implementation of work packages, through which they jointly contribute to the implementation of the Strategy. Each work package has a responsible work package leader, chosen among the eight participating countries.

EUSAIR Facility Point partners are responsible for the implementation of the following work packages:

WP M – Management

WP T.1 – Assistance to Governing Board and Thematic Steering Groups

WP T.2 – Facilitating strategic project development and financial dialogue

WP T.3 – Building capacities for monitoring and evaluation of EUSAIR

WP T.4 – Developing and managing the EUSAIR Stakeholder platform

WP C – Communication

The Thematic Steering Groups work on the following topics (as shown in the table above):

1. Blue technologies
2. Fisheries and aquaculture
3. Maritime and marine governance and services
4. Maritime transport
5. Intermodal connections to the hinterland
6. Energy networks
6. The marine environment
7. Transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity
8. Diversified tourism offer (products and services)
9. Sustainable and responsible tourism management (innovation and quality)

Participants:

- Chairs; Each TSG will be chaired by two Pillar Coordinators following the scheme presented above. These Coordinators will be designated by the respective countries from their most competent national/regional administrations. Coordinators shall i.a. ensure the necessary interaction with the other TSGs.
- Members in each TSG: Representatives from the relevant administrations within the participating countries. Sub-national (regional) representatives should participate, as appropriate, according to each country's institutional structure.
- The Commission, including relevant line DGs
- Regional cooperation organisations, as appropriate
- Representatives of International Financial Institutions, as appropriate

The Pillar Coordinators can consider inviting other participants.

3.1.2 The analysis of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region

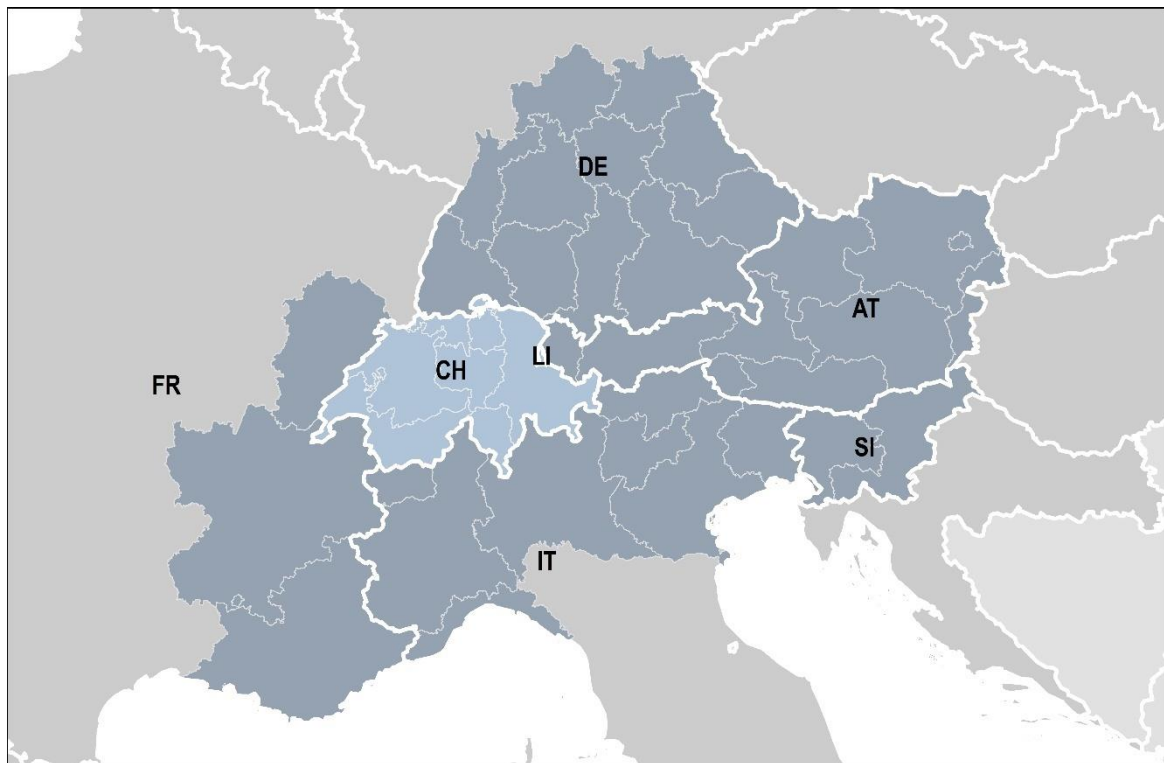
3.1.2.1 Introduction

Basic information on the region

Year of foundation	2015
Founding strategic document	European Parliament resolution of 13 September 2016 on an EU Strategy for the Alpine region (2015/2324(INI)) Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Concerning a European Union Strategy for the Alpine Region Brussels, 28.7.2015 COM(2015)
Document concerning specific activities	Commission Staff Working Document Action Plan, Accompanying the Document Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, The Council, The European Economic And Social Committee And The Committee Of The Regions concerning the European Union Strategy for the Alpine Region Brussels, 28.7.2015 SWD(2015) 147
Related conventions and other relevant documents	Alpine Convention, March 1995 Milan Declaration of the Alpine States and Regions EUSALP Stakeholder Conference, Milan, 01.12.2014
Total countries/regions covered (number of)	7 / 48
EU countries (regions) covered	Austria, France (PACA, Rhone-Alpes, Franche-Comté), Germany (Baden-Württemberg, Bayern), Italy (Lombardia, Liguria, Friuli Venezia, Veneto, Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano, Provincia Autonoma di Trento, Valle d' Aosta, Piemonte) and Slovenia
Non-EU countries covered	Liechtenstein and Switzerland
Total area covered (thousand km ²)	427
EU area total (thousand km ²)	386
EU area covered (%)	8.8
Non-EU area covered (thousand km ²)	41
Total population covered (M person)	78
EU population total (M person)	70
EU population covered (%)	13.7
Non-EU population covered (M person)	8

Total GDP produced (PPS MEUR)	2 916 967
Total EUS GDP in the % of the EU	19.6
GDP mean (PPS EUR)	37 430
GDP mean in the % of the EU	128.4

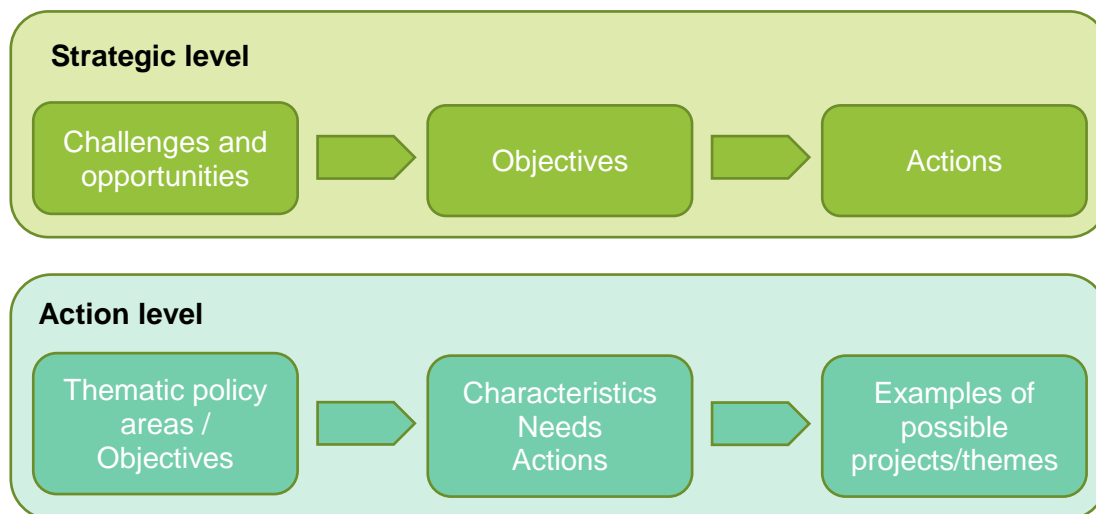
Geographical coverage



4. Figure: The geographical coverage of the Alpine Region

3.1.2.2 Challenges, objectives and policy areas

The structure of the basic documents

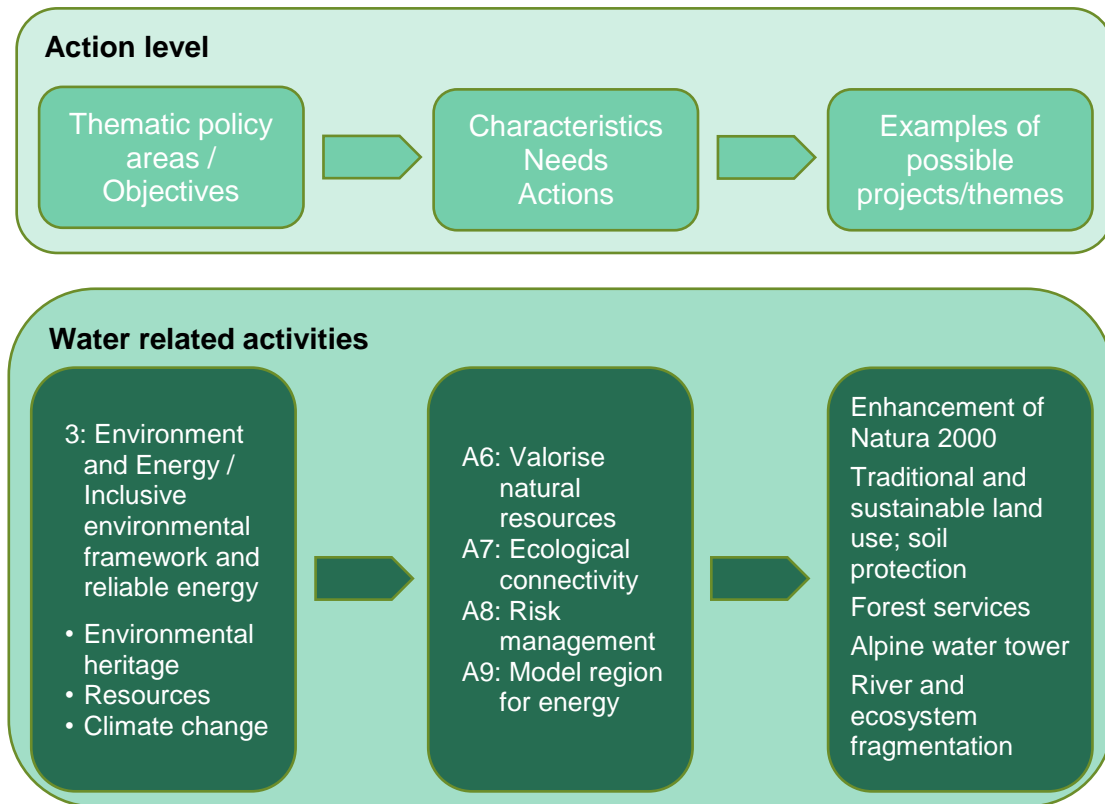


5. Figure: The overview of the structure of the strategy and the action plan of the Alpine Region

Challenges and actions

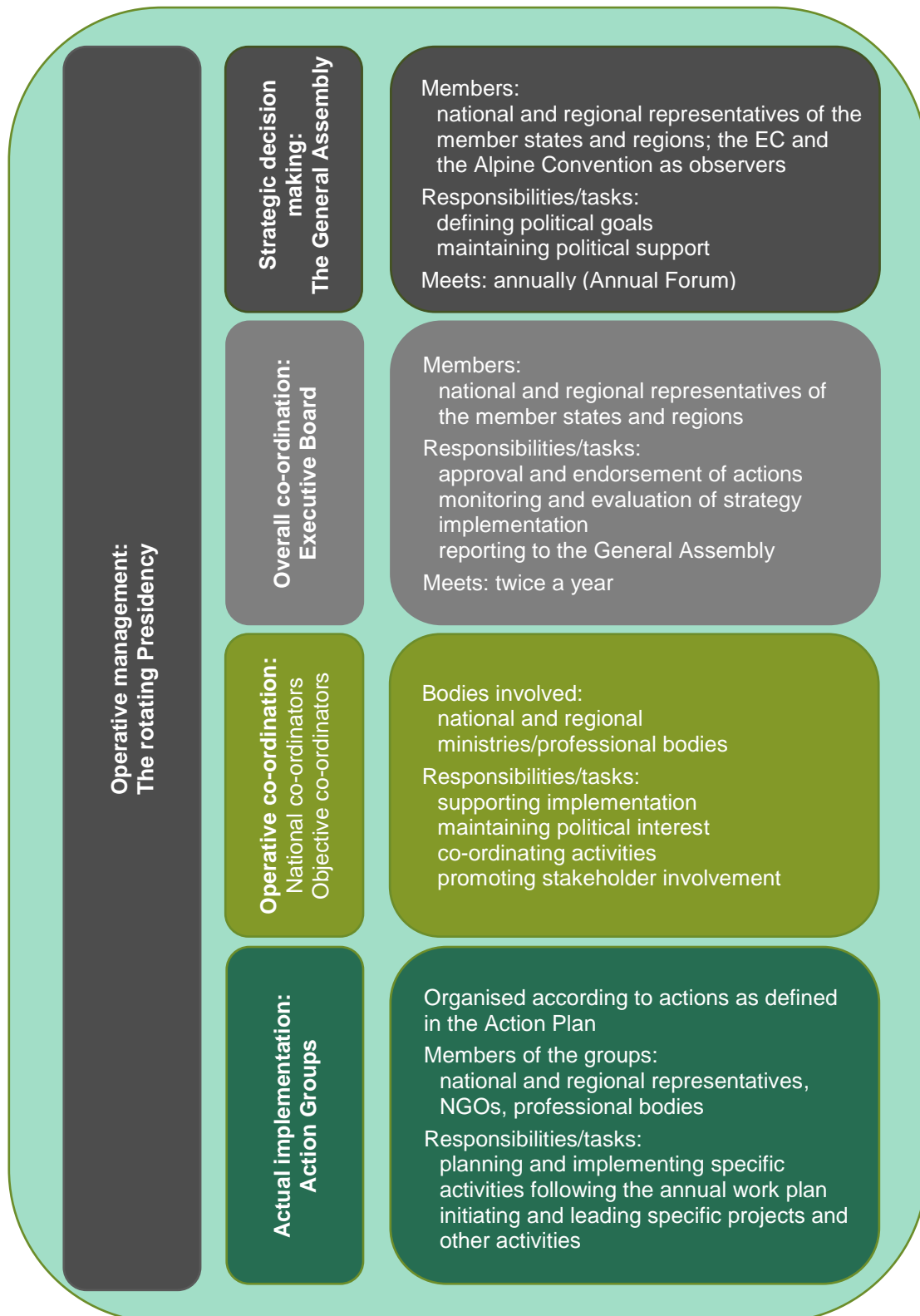
Main challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic globalisation that requires the territory to distinguish itself as competitive and innovative; • Demographic trends characterised particularly by the combined effects of ageing, low population density in the mountain areas and new migration models; • High vulnerability to climate change and its foreseeable effects on the environment, biodiversity and the living conditions of its inhabitants; • The energy challenge in managing and meeting demand sustainably, securely and affordably; • Its specific geographical position in Europe, as a transit region; • A high degree of seasonality, especially in some touristic areas.
Challenges and opportunities related to waters	<p>Agriculture and forestry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable land management for enhanced ecosystems services • High added value of forestry and wood industry • Improved practices of bio-economy <p>Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key destination of Europe due to biogeographical and cultural assets • Uneven distribution of visitors (winter season) <p>Environment and cultural heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuable resources of biodiversity and waters • Rich cultural assets • Strong competition for resources (land and water) • Intensifying land use and declining population together result in problematic land management

	<p>Climate change and risk prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level vulnerability to climate change • Tourism, agriculture and forestry are affected <p>Energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved energy efficiency • High level utilisation of hydropower • Potentials in other renewables and energy storage
Overall strategic objective(s)	<p>1. Fair access to job opportunities by building on the high competitiveness of the Region;</p> <p>2. Sustainable internal and external accessibility;</p> <p>3. A more inclusive environmental framework and renewable and reliable energy solutions for the future.</p> <p>Cross-cutting objective:</p> <p>4. A sound macro-regional governance model for the Region.</p>
Specific objectives related to the water sector	<p>3. A more inclusive environmental framework and renewable and reliable energy solutions for the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preserve the environmental heritage of the Alps; • help the Region benefit from its resources in various ways, including energy; and • cope with the changes predicted due to climate change, including preventing major natural risks.
Thematic Policy Areas	<p>1: Economic Growth and Innovation</p> <p>2: Mobility and Connectivity</p> <p>3: Environment and Energy</p> <p>Cross-Cutting: Governance, Including Institutional Capacity</p>
Specific thematic policy area related to the water sector	<p>3: Environment and Energy</p>
Specific actions related to the water sector	<p>Action 6: To preserve and valorise natural resources, including water and cultural resources</p> <p>Action 7: To develop ecological connectivity in the whole EUSALP territory</p> <p>Action 8: To improve risk management and to better manage climate change, including major natural risks prevention</p> <p>Action 9: To make the territory a model region for energy efficiency and renewable energy</p>



6. Figure: The overview of the objectives, actions and possible projects and themes in relation to waters, the Alpine Region

3.1.2.3 Governance and structure of operation



7. Figure: The overview of the organogram of the Alpine Region

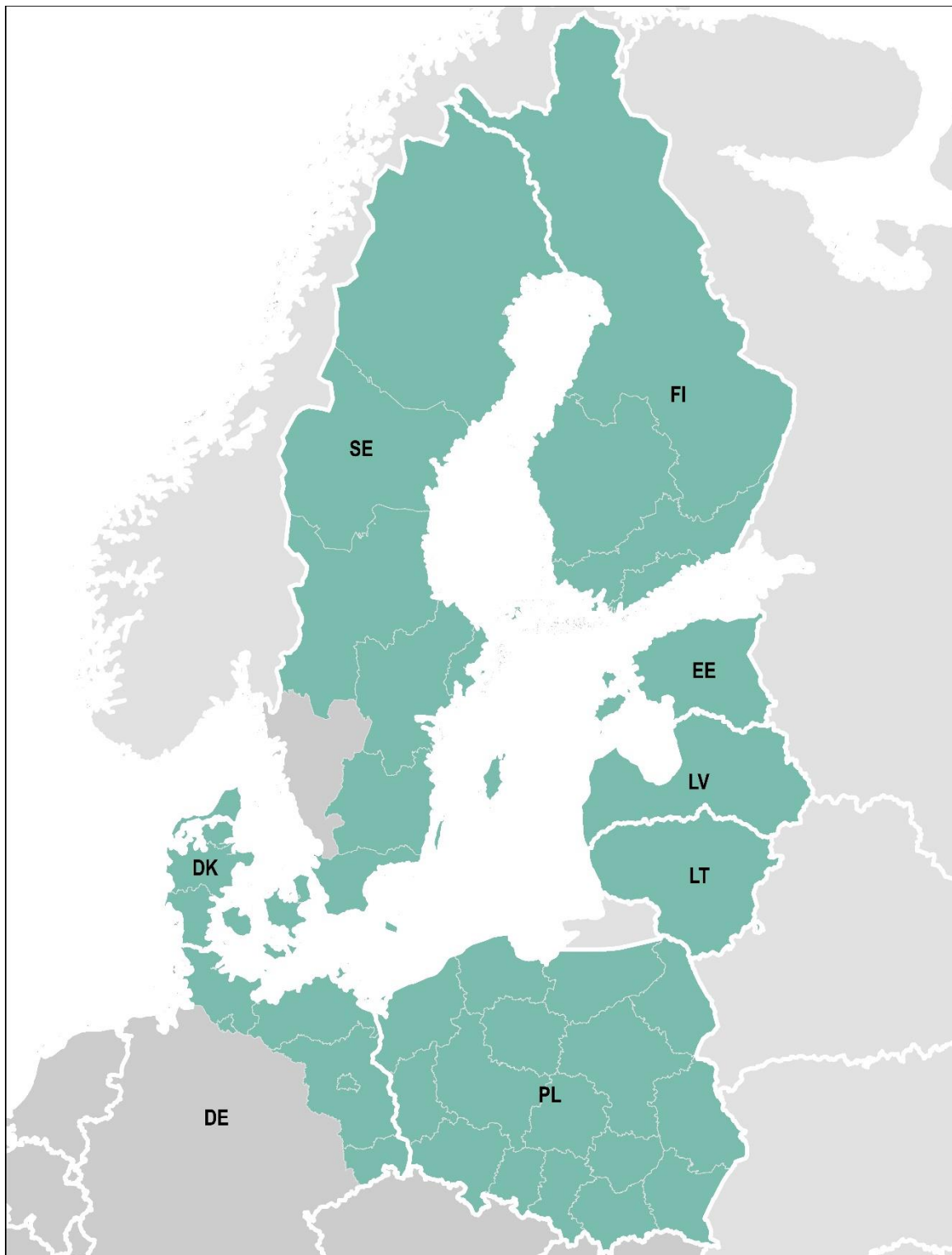
3.1.3 The analysis of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Region

3.1.3.1 Introduction

Basic information on the region

Year of foundation	2009
Founding strategic document	Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Concerning a European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Brussels, 10.6.2009 COM(2009) 248
Document concerning specific activities	Commission Staff Working Document European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region ACTION PLAN {COM(2009) 248} Brussels, 20.3.2017 SWD(2017) 118 final
Related conventions and other relevant documents	Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area (Helsinki Convention-HELCOM), 1974, 1992 (in force since 2000)
Total countries/regions covered (number of)	8+4 (cooperation of non-EU countries is “welcome”)
EU countries (regions) covered	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany (Berlin; Brandenburg; Hamburg; Mecklenburg-Vorpommern; Schleswig-Holstein), Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden
Non-EU countries covered	Belarus, Iceland, Norway, Russia (regions) – <i>are welcome to participate in projects of common interests, not full members though</i>
Total area covered (thousand km ²)	1355
EU area total (thousand km ²)	1355
EU area covered (%)	30.7
Non-EU area covered (thousand km ²)	
Total population covered (M person)	77
EU population total (M person)	77
EU population covered (%)	15
Non-EU population covered (M person)	
Total GDP produced (PPS MEUR)	2 021 261
Total EUS GDP in the % of the EU	13.6
GDP mean (PPS EUR)	26 220
GDP mean in the % of the EU	90

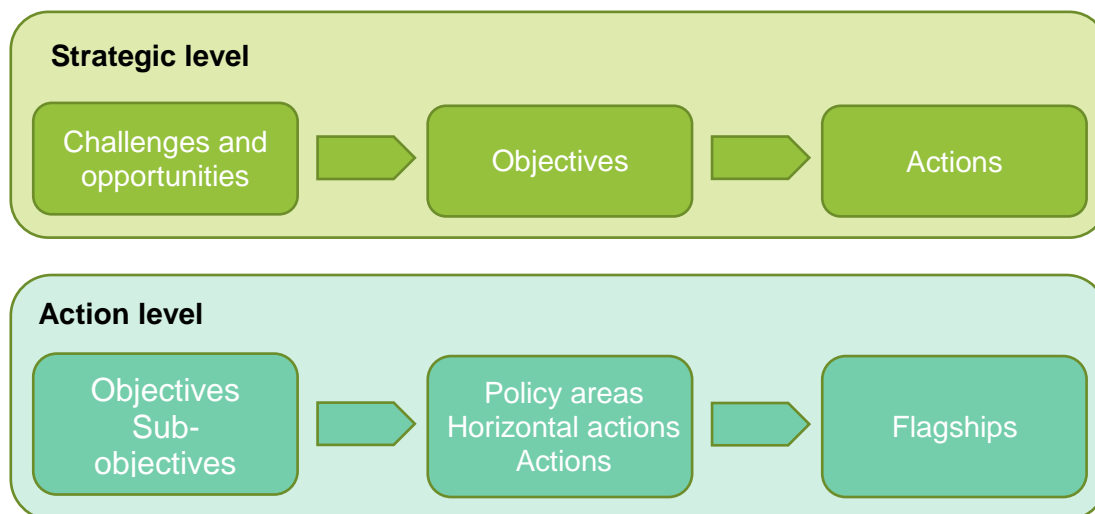
Geographical coverage



8. Figure: The geographical coverage of the Baltic Sea Region

3.1.3.2 Challenges, objectives and policy areas

The structure of the basic documents

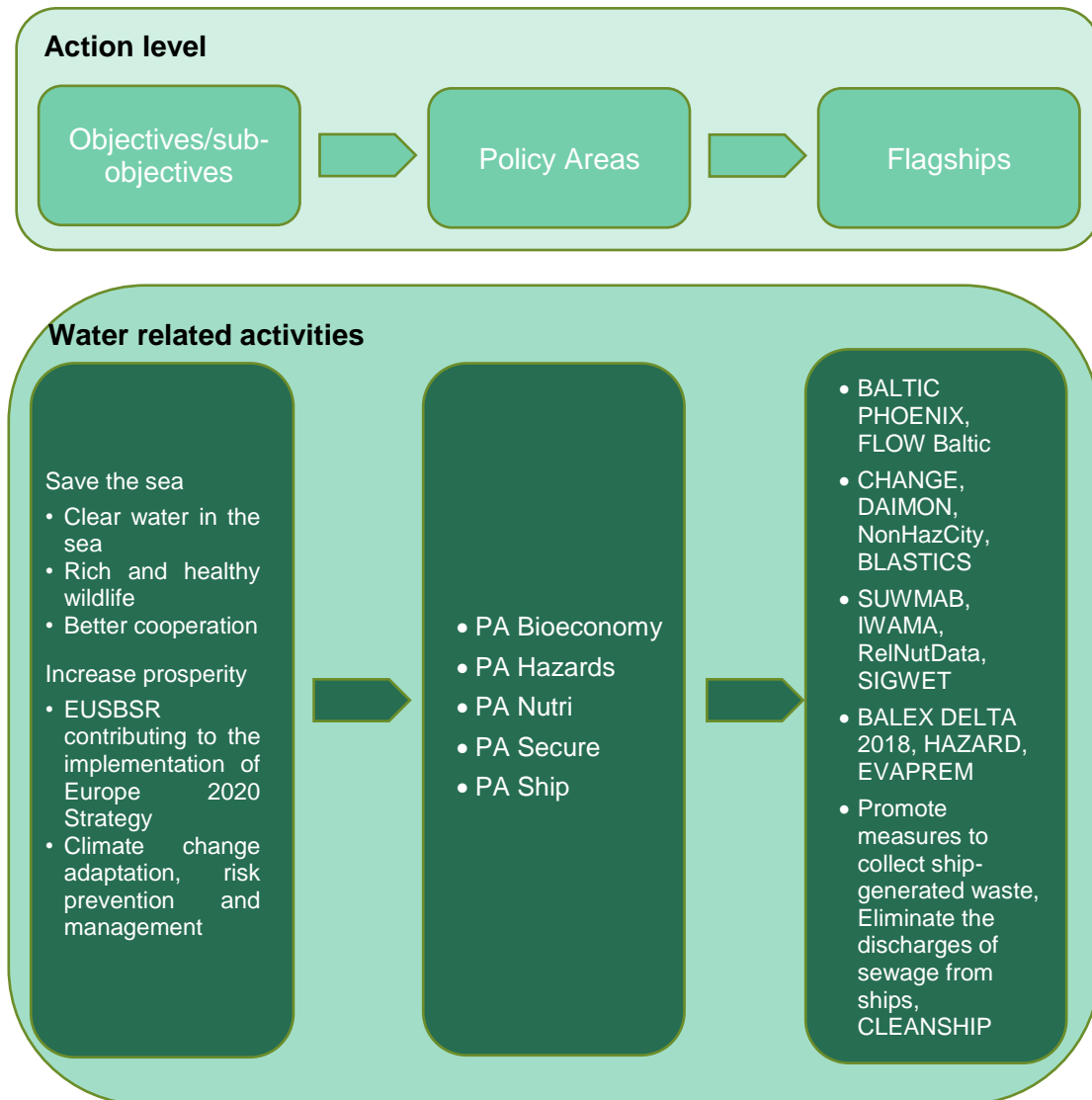


9. Figure: The overview of the structure of the strategy and the action plan of the Baltic Sea Region

Challenges and actions

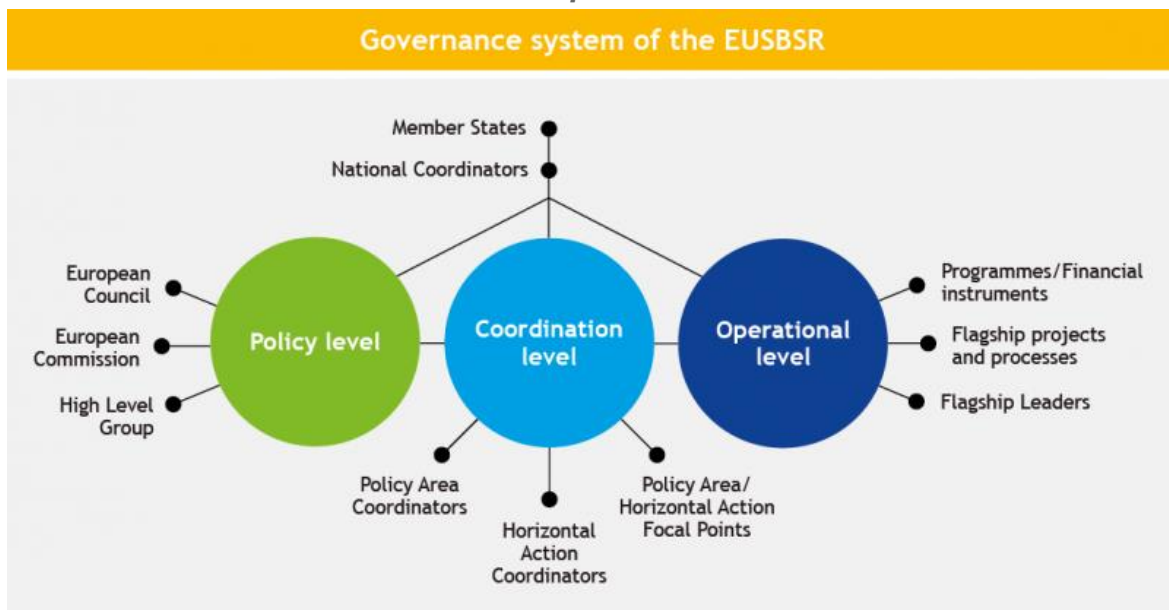
Main challenges	To enable a sustainable environment To enhance the region's prosperity To increase accessibility and attractiveness To ensure safety and security in the region.
Challenges and opportunities related to waters	Environment impact of excess nutrients on the Baltic sea (eutrophication, algal boom) damage to ecological balance (overfishing, land-based pollution, rising sea temperatures, hazardous substances, etc.) adaptation to climate change Safety and security accidental marine pollution
Overall strategic objective(s)	Save the sea Connect the region Increase prosperity
Specific objectives and sub-objectives related to the water sector	Save the sea Clear water in the sea Rich and healthy wildlife Better cooperation Increase prosperity EUSBSR contributing to the implementation of Europe 2020 Strategy Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management
Policy Areas and Horizontal Actions	Policy Areas (thematic) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bio-economy • Culture • Education • Energy • Hazards

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health • Innovation • Nutri • Safe • Secure • Ship • Tourism • Transport <p>Horizontal Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building • Climate • Neighbours • Spatial planning
Specific thematic policy areas and actions related to the water sector	<p>PA Bioeconomy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Develop and improve coordination and cooperation among Member States and stakeholders on fisheries management in the Baltic Sea 7. Enhance the combined effects of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) programmes <p>PA Hazards</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevent pollution and reduce the use of hazardous substances 2. Mitigate and remediate contamination <p>PA Nutri</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Managing nutrients more efficiently 2. Improving waste water treatment 4. Improve nutrient load data 6. Investigate cost-efficient nutrient reduction mechanisms <p>PA Secure</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a joint macro-regional prevention and preparedness approach towards major hazards and emergencies <p>PA Ship</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. To support measures reducing emissions from ships



10. Figure: The overview of the objectives, policy areas and examples of flagships in relation to waters, in the Baltic Sea Region

3.1.3.3 Governance and structure of operation



11. Figure: The governance system of the EUSBSR

(source: www.balticsea-region-strategy.eu)

The roles and responsibilities of the main stakeholders are defined in the Action Plan. The tasks defined there have been accepted by both the Council and the Commission.

The Member States and the National Coordinators appointed define the strategy and have the responsibility for keeping its political backing and its implementation at national level. National Coordinators provide the most important connection between member states, and also between the different stakeholders of the represented member state, and the EU institutions.

The European Council, the European Commission and the High Level Group play a role in strategic planning, while also being responsible for taking into account the goals of the strategy when deciding on the relevant EU level policies.

For each policy area and horizontal action, Policy Area Coordinators and Horizontal Action Coordinators are named who work in close cooperation with the stakeholders of the area in the region (preferably through a steering committee or coordination group). For the most important issues Focal Points are also set up. While the PA and HA Coordinators are responsible for the whole Baltic Sea region, the Focal points are responsible for the national coordination of the implementation of the strategy.

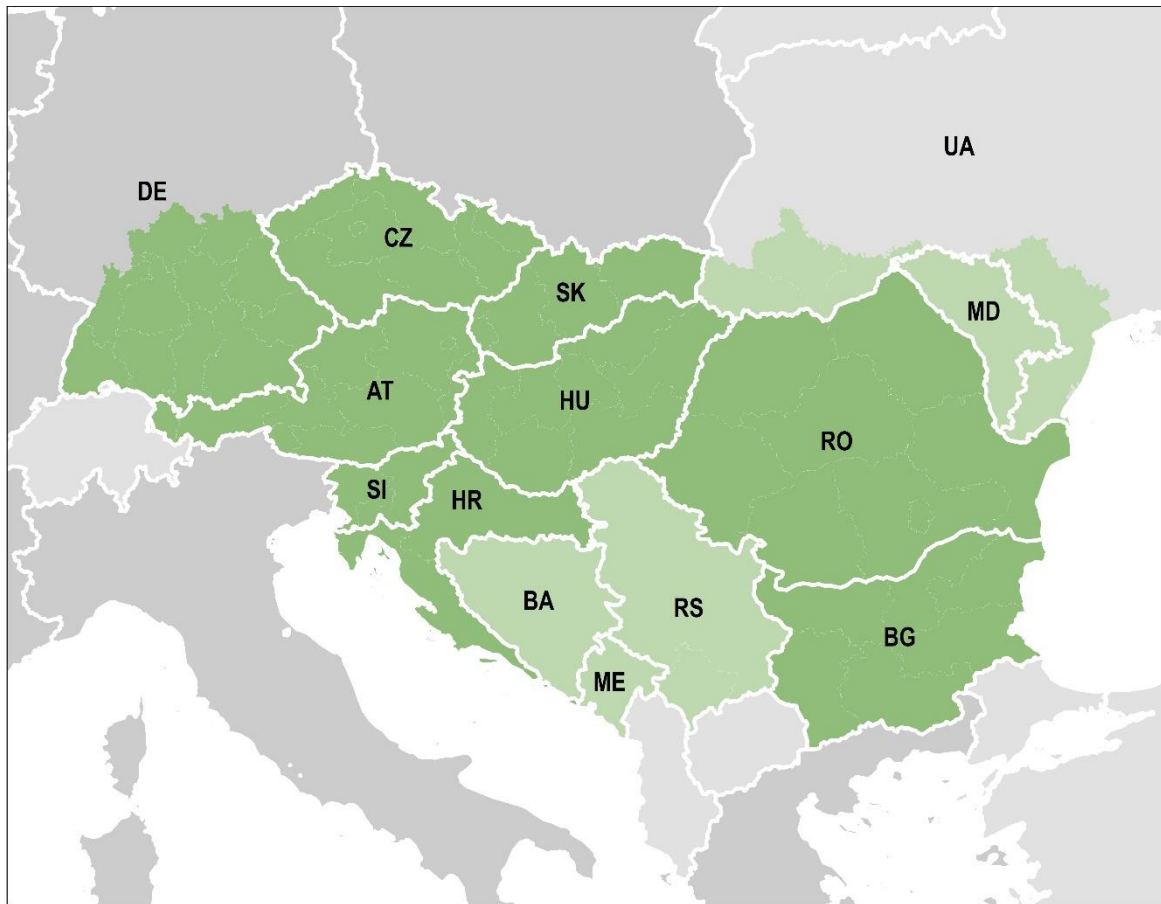
The operational level is carried out through the institutions and procedures of the programmes and financial instruments available for funding. Flagship projects and processes have been defined for all PAs and Actions.

3.1.4 The analysis of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Basic information on the region

Year of foundation	2010
Founding strategic document	Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions European Union Strategy for Danube Region Brussels, 08.12.2010 COM(2010) 715
Document concerning specific activities	Commission Staff Working Document Action Plan, Accompanying the Document Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, The Council, The European Economic And Social Committee And The Committee Of The Regions concerning the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region Brussels, SEC(2010) 1489
Related conventions and other relevant documents	Danube River Protection Convention (1994, came into force in 1998) Carpathian Convention (2003, came into force in 2006)
Total countries/regions covered (number of)	15/66
EU countries (regions) covered	Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
Non-EU countries covered	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo, Moldova, Ukraine
Total area covered (thousand km ²)	1092
EU area total (thousand km ²)	905
EU area covered (%)	20.5
Non-EU area covered (thousand km ²)	187
Total population covered (M person)	114
EU population total (M person)	97
EU population covered (%)	19
Non-EU population covered (M person)	16.5
Total GDP produced (PPS MEUR)	1 213 275
Total EUS GDP in the % of the EU	8.1
GDP mean (PPS EUR)	18 481
GDP mean in the % of the EU	63.4

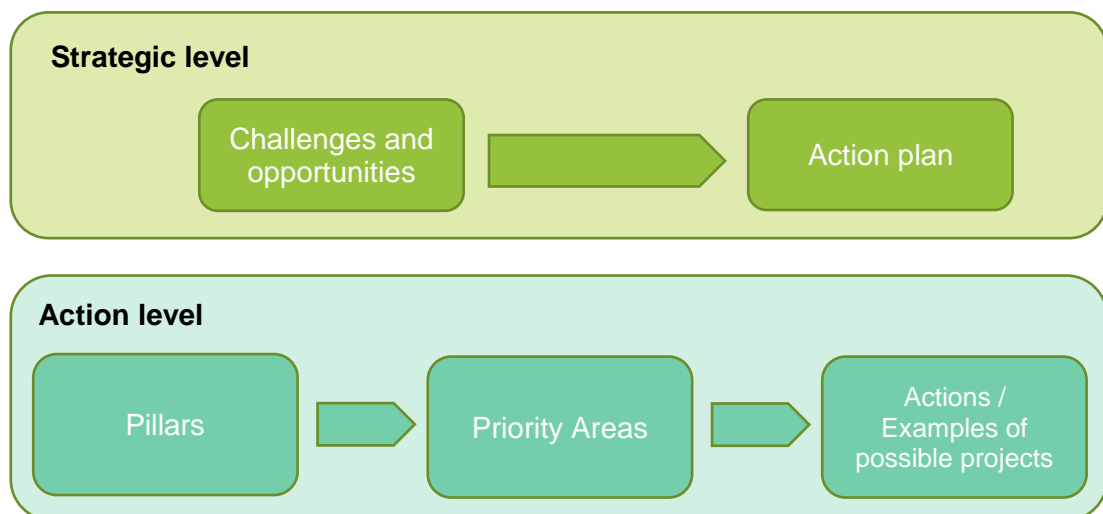
Geographical coverage



12. Figure: The geographical coverage of the Danube Region

3.1.4.1 Challenges, objectives and policy areas

The structure of the basic documents

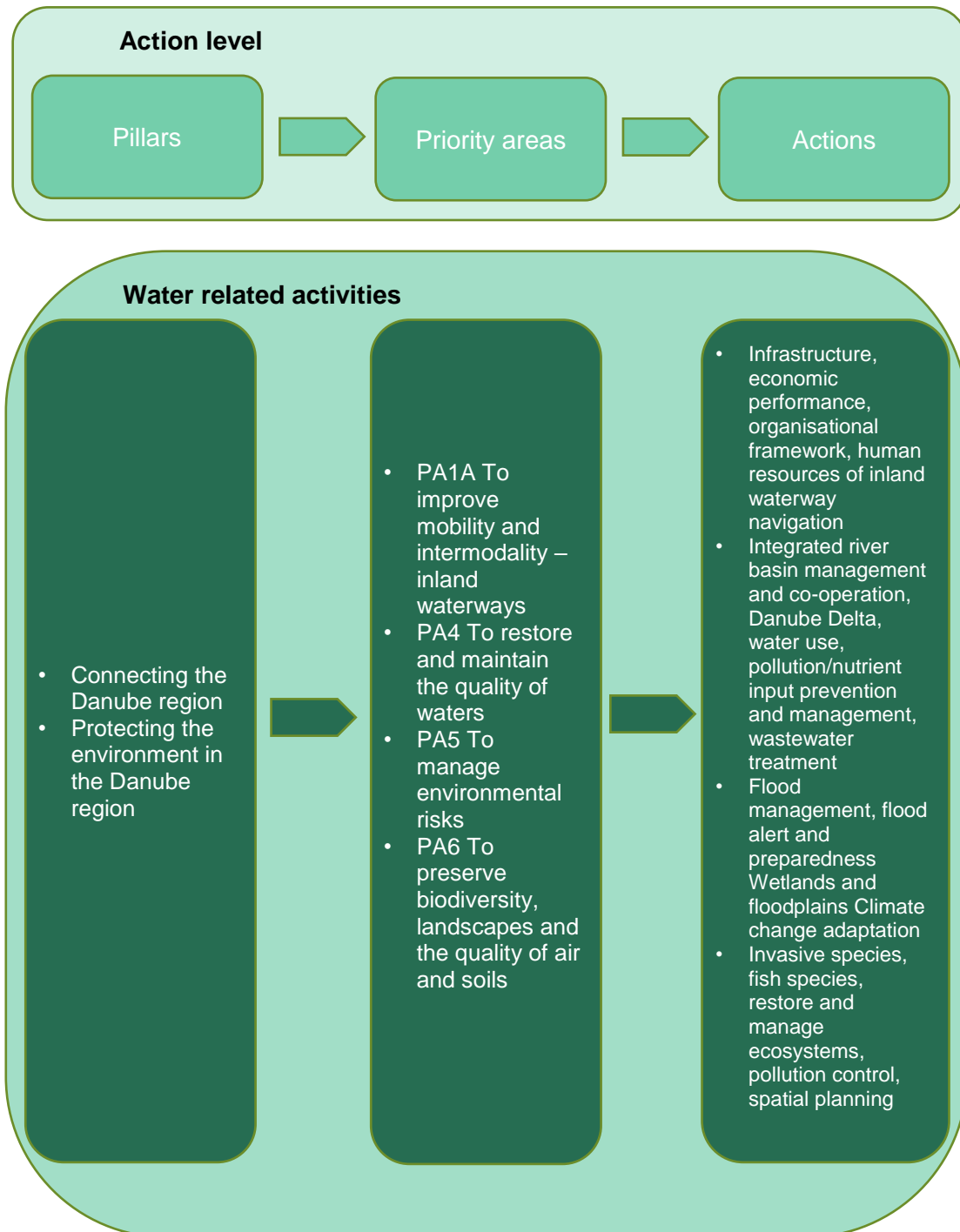


13. Figure: The overview of the structure of the strategy and the action plan of the Danube Region

Challenges and actions

Main challenges	<p>Mobility: exploiting the benefits of inland waterway transport</p> <p>Energy: relatively high prices, fragmented markets</p> <p>Environment: management of the Danube region, a major international hydrological basin and ecological corridor</p> <p>Risks: Frequent major flood, drought and industrial pollution events</p> <p>Very wide socio-economic disparities</p> <p>Security: The problem of organised crime still persists in the region</p>
Challenges and opportunities related to waters	<p>Exploiting the Danube waterway</p> <p>Regional approach to water basin management (eg. wastewater treatment, use of fertilizers, flood protection)</p> <p>Rich environmental assets (flora and fauna, drinking water resources)</p>
Overall strategic objectives (pillars)	<p>Connecting the Danube region</p> <p>Protecting the environment in the Danube region</p> <p>Building prosperity in the Danube region</p> <p>Strengthening the Danube region</p>
Specific objectives related to the water sector	<p>Connecting the Danube region</p> <p>Protecting the environment in the Danube region</p>
Priority Areas	<p>PA1A To improve mobility and intermodality – inland waterways</p> <p>PA1B To improve mobility and intermodality – rail, road and air</p> <p>PA2 To encourage more sustainable energy</p> <p>PA3 To promote culture and tourism, people to people contacts</p> <p>PA4 To restore and maintain the quality of waters</p> <p>PA5 To manage environmental risks</p> <p>PA6 To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils</p> <p>PA7 To develop the Knowledge Society (research, education and ICT)</p> <p>PA8 To support the competitiveness of enterprises</p> <p>PA9 To invest in people and skills</p> <p>PA10 To step up institutional capacity and cooperation</p> <p>PA11 To work together to tackle security and organised crime</p>
Specific priority areas and actions related to the water sector	<p>PA1A To improve mobility and intermodality – inland waterways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement of infrastructure and economic performance of waterway navigation Improvement of the organisational framework and human resources for inland waterway navigation <p>PA4 To restore and maintain the quality of waters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement fully the Danube River Basin Management Plan To greatly strengthen cooperation at sub-basin level To continue to invest in and support the information collection systems already developed by ICPDR To continue boosting major investments in building and upgrading urban wastewater treatment facilities across the Danube Basin, including measures to build capacity at the regional and local level for the design of such infrastructure To establish buffer strips along the rivers to retain nutrients and to promote alternative collection and treatment of waste in small rural settlements

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To legislate at the appropriate level to limit the presence of phosphates in detergents • To reduce existing water continuity interruption for fish migration in the Danube river basin • To promote measures to limit water abstraction • To strengthen general awareness and facilitate exchange of good practice in integrated water management issues in the Danube Basin among decision-makers at all levels and among the population of the Region • To promote measures aimed at reducing knowledge deficits, developing and transferring tools, methods and guidelines concerning the safeguarding of drinking water supply • To further strengthen Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) practices on the Western shores of the Black Sea <p>PA5 To manage environmental risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop and adopt one single overarching floods management plan at basin level or a set of flood risk management plans coordinated at the level of the international river basin • To support wetland and floodplain restoration as an effective mean of enhancing flood protection, and more generally to analyse and identify the best response to flood risk (including “green infrastructure”) • To extend the coverage of the European Floods Alert System (EFAS) system to the whole Danube river basin, to step up preparedness efforts at regional level (including better knowledge of each other's national systems) and to further promote joint responses to natural disasters and to flood events in particular, including early warning systems • To strengthen operational cooperation among the emergency response authorities in the Danube countries and to improve the interoperability of the available assets • To develop rapid response procedures and plans in case of industrial accidental river pollution • To develop spatial planning and construction activities in the context of climate change and increased threats of floods <p>PA6 To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation of biodiversity and landscapes • Education of people on the value of natural assets, ecosystems and the services they provide
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14. Figure: The overview of the pillars, priority areas and actions in relation to waters, the Danube Region

3.1.4.2 Governance and structure of operation

The main structure of the governance and implementation of the EUSDR is defined in the strategy itself.

The European Commission (specifically the DG for Regional Development) developed the strategy and the action plan ensuring cohesion with the EU policies. It is responsible for

policy-level coordination and facilitation of national actions in the strategy. The work of the Commission is assisted by a High Level Group (HLG) of ministers from all EU member states. Non-member states are also invited when appropriate. The HLG participates in the prioritisation of the targets, actions defined, and is consulted by the Commission on the modification of the strategy or the action plan, and on monitoring reports.

The co-ordination of the implementation of the strategy is carried out mainly at the level of member states. Each member state appoints a national coordinator, whose responsibilities include the monitoring and support of the participation of the relevant national bodies in all priority areas, also promoting and providing up-to-date information about EUSDR to the most important stakeholders.

The operative management of the priority areas are carried out by steering groups led by Priority Area Coordinators (PAC). The PACs are appointed by the member states (after consulting the Commission and other relevant national, regional and EU-level institutions) and are responsible for the day-to-day tasks of implementing the actions of the PAs. They also have a role in the compilation and continuous monitoring of the implementation plan (eg. setting the timetable, definition of indicators, data collection for monitoring) and in providing information to the stakeholders about the programme and its actions, including information of potential funds available for project support.

To support the work of both the Commission and the PACs, National Contact Points (NCP) have been set up, and the Danube Strategic Point (DSP) have also been established. NCPs have a role in coordinating between the stakeholders and institutions of the member state and the EU or EUSDR-level institutions, while DSP promotes the strategy at EU level, and also provides a platform for conversation between the national coordinators and priority area coordinators.



15. Figure: The overview of the governance of the EUSDR
(source: <http://www.danube-region.eu/about/governance>)

3.2 The comparative analysis of the regions

Institutional background

All EUSRs are founded by EC documents that are the strategies and the action plans. All regions have some kind of other major institutional backgrounds, such as conventions or euro-regional co-operations that usually have longer history. The two oldest EUSRs are the Baltic (established in 2009 – see also the (Helsinki) Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area) and the Danube (established in 2010 – see also the Danube River Protection Convention) regions. The Adriatic-Ionian and the Alpine regions were established in 2014 and 2015 respectively, however their participating countries have considerable history before that date too (Adriatic (Ionian) Euro-region – 2006 and Alpine Convention – 1995).

The governance of the EUSRs are rather similar, they follow the principles laid down in Council conclusions on the governance of macro-regional strategies (16207/14; COM(2014) 284) and Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the Implementation of EU Macro-Regional Strategies (COM(2016) 805 final). The EUSRs are governed by rotating presidencies, implementation is carried out by national and priority area co-ordinators; priority areas are usually managed by one or two countries, usually through line ministry or related professional public organisation. The works of the MRSs are greatly helped by some kind of focal points of the activities (such as “Strategy Point”, or “Facility Point”).

The structures of the strategies and action plans show large similarities, however there are some alterations. Specific initiatives are organised under actions, that belong to specific areas of interventions or directly 3-4 priority areas covering economy, environment, networks (notably transport) and governance; in the case of the Adriatic-Ionian Region also tourism, showing a strong focus on the important sector in this region. These similarities also stem from the common regulations applicable to all MRSs. The numbers of specific policy areas / fields of actions vary considerably, as well as their not detailed ones within each action plan showing diversity.

As the MRSs are all supported with political commitments, are managed on national level institutions, many times ministries, they can have considerable influence on national and supranational policies.

Main characteristics of the regions

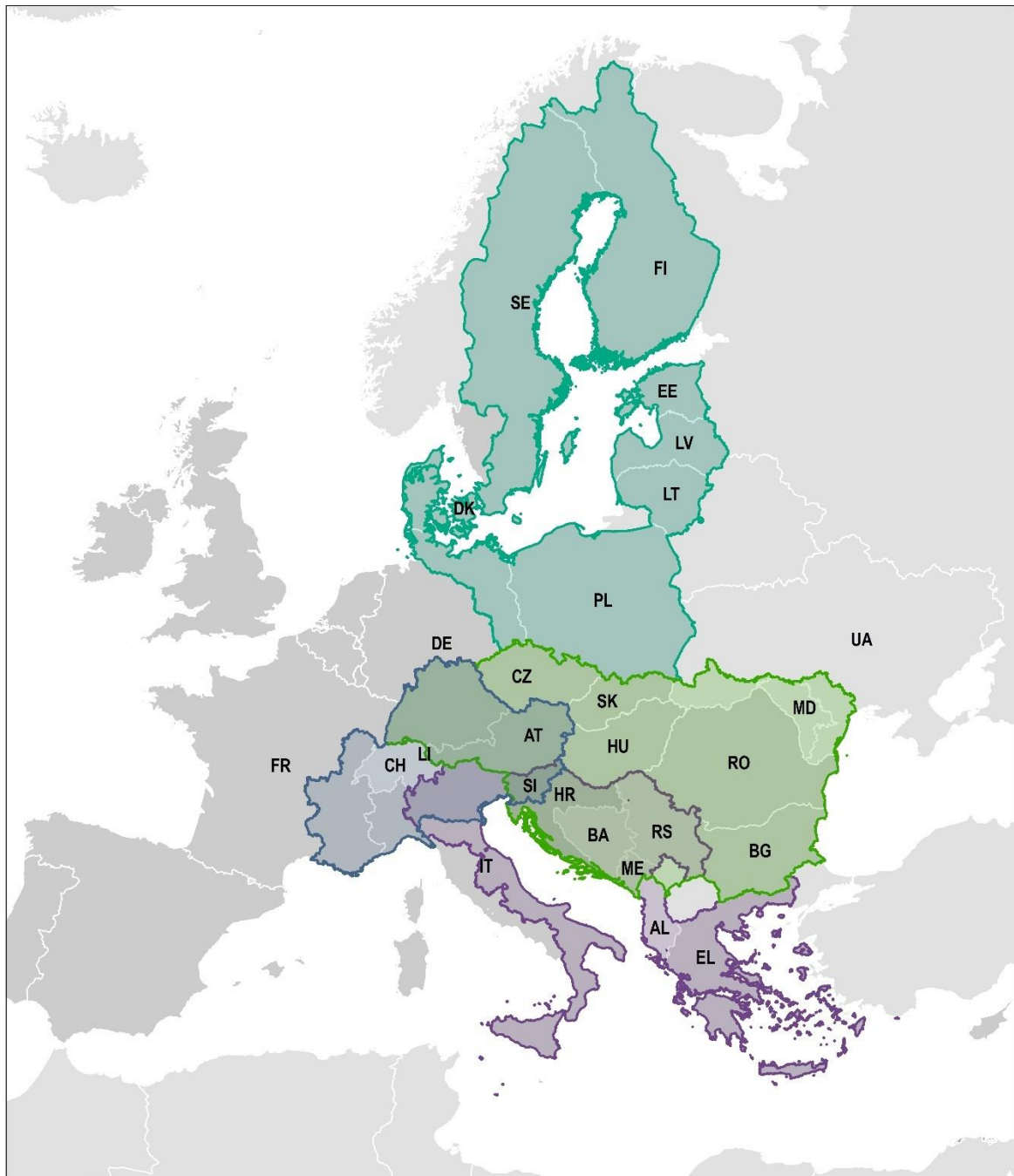
The largest EUSR in terms of the number of countries is the EUSDR that includes 15 countries, 9 being EU member states and candidate countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo) or simply co-operating countries (Moldova, Ukraine). In other EUSRs there are 7-8 countries involved, in the EUSAIR there 4 four candidate countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia), in the EUSALP 2 co-operating countries (Switzerland and Lichtenstein) and in the Baltic Sea Region the neighbouring non-EU states/regions co-operate occasionally (Belarus, Iceland, Norway, Russian regions). The Baltic and the Danube regions are the largest ones with areas more than 1000sqkm; and the two southern regions are around the half of this in size (see figure below).

Germany as a country participates in 3 EUSRs, however regional overlap occurs in the case of its southern regions (Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg – EUSALP and EUSDR) only. Slovenia as a country is the member of three regions (Slovenia in all except for the Baltic Sea Regions). Italy, Croatia, and Austria are double members. This means that the EU

strategy regions all together cover around the two third of the countries and almost 60% of the total the EU territory,

In terms of population, the total population of the all EUSRs is around 235 M persons, that is almost 50% of the total EU population. Non-EU countries add another 34 million persons to this relatively high number. Concerning economic power the Alpine and the Baltic regions are clearly the largest, in terms of per capita GDP these two regions perform considerably better than the others. It has to be noted that there are considerable differences among the countries even within one specific EUSR. Whereas the economic performance of the Alpine region is relatively balanced (and high), the regions with South-Eastern European countries perform much worse, however highly developed countries, with sophisticated and well developed academic and research sectors, public administrations, etc. are also found in these regions (e.g. Moldova versus Austria in the Danube region).

These basic data on countries, population and economies show that common initiatives can have a relatively strong background and that they could eventually efficiently influence European level policies.



16. Figure: The geographical coverage of the EU Strategic Regions

Water related strategic areas

Water related strategic areas usually cover a wide range of professional fields. Besides, areas specifically related to water, there are a number of other fields that are indirectly related, such as nature conservation, navigation, shipping and the above-mentioned tourism. Water related priority/policy/target areas are summarised in the below table:

EUSR	Water related policy areas
EUSAIR	1. Blue technologies 2. Fisheries and aquaculture 3. Maritime and marine governance and services 4. Maritime transport 5. Intermodal connections to the hinterland 6. Energy networks 7. The marine environment 8. Transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity 9. Diversified tourism offer (products and services) 10. Sustainable and responsible tourism management (innovation and quality)
EUSALP	A6: To preserve and valorise natural resources, including water and cultural resources A7: To develop ecological connectivity in the whole EUSALP territory A8: To improve risk management and to better manage climate change, including major natural risks prevention A9: To make the territory a model region for energy efficiency and renewable energy
EUSBSR	PA Bio-economy 6. Develop and improve coordination and cooperation among Member States and stakeholders on fisheries management in the Baltic Sea 7. Enhance the combined effects of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) programmes PA Hazards 1. Prevent pollution and reduce the use of hazardous substances 2. Mitigate and remediate contamination PA Nutri 1. Managing nutrients more efficiently 2. Improving waste water treatment 4. Improve nutrient load data 6. Investigate cost-efficient nutrient reduction mechanisms PA Secure 1. Develop a joint macro-regional prevention and preparedness approach towards major hazards and emergencies PA Ship 2. To support measures reducing emissions from ships
EUSDR	PA1 A To improve mobility and intermodality – inland waterways PA4 To restore and maintain the quality of waters PA5 To manage environmental risks PA6 To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils

1. Table: Water related policy areas in the EU Strategic Regions

4 ■ Water related activities in the different macro-regions in EU

4.1 The analysis of EU macro-regional activities on waters

Data and methods

This analysis mostly relies on information available on the internet. General observations are made through the review of the documents behind the activities of the EUSRs, notably the strategies themselves, the action plans, and other major documents/description published on the internet (subchapters 4.1.x.1 and 4.1.x.2).

A more detailed analysis was carried out concerning specific water related projects. The analysis also used data available on the Internet, that were, in some cases, adjusted and further detailed by the representatives of some EUSRs. During the initial phase of data collection, it became obvious that there is a large number of projects related to waters in most of the EUSRs and the limitations of this study does not allow for a full assessment. Instead, the co-ordinators of the water related priority areas present at the initial workshop, were contacted and asked to provide mainly qualitative information on their relevant projects; to help their work, a web-based questionnaire with some 20 basic questions were created and distributed to the priority area co-ordinators (for the questionnaire, see Annex 2). As the answers received from the EUSRs were relatively vague and differed from zero to valuable inputs concerning the most important projects, the analysis was carried out on the data that was collected from keep.eu, the Interreg transnational programmes of the EUSRs, and projects put forward by PA, DG ENVI and DG REGIO co-ordinators were considered. To further limit the scope of data collection, only those projects with a budget of minimum 1MEUR were included in the analysis. In total 61 projects were collected, and their basic data uploaded onto the web surface created for this purpose (for the projects and their basic data see Annex 3).

As a consequence of the above, the projects analysed here cannot be considered a full project list of the EUSR's water related projects, it is considered more as a sample, and the analysis can only give a broad and simplified picture of the project activities.

The collected qualitative data was used for some simple statistics that give a comprehensive picture of the specific water related activities on EUSR level, and also on the combined EUSR level.

4.1.1 The EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region

4.1.1.1 Challenges and objectives

EUSAIR identifies water related challenges are three key sectors:

- In the transport sector, the increasing volume of maritime traffic leads to growing number of congestions. Waiting times are also increased by border procedures and the lack of infrastructure for multimodal transportation.

- Environmental challenges include the ever growing burden of tourism by the coasts of both the Adriatic and Ionian Sea, pollution directly and indirectly related to navigation (emissions of vessels, pollution at ports), overfishing and ecologically unsound aquacultures, nutrients reaching the seas from poor waste and sewage treatment, and also from agricultural runoff and pollution from industrial activities, oil and gas exploration. The environmental risks are even more stressed because of the shallow waters of the Adriatic Sea.
- The region is vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Rising sea levels, floods and droughts are all water related risks that will likely increase in intensity due to climate change.

The objectives (thematic pillars) set out in the strategy seek to provide answers to these challenges also taking into account the opportunities for development the region has.

Due to the characteristics of the region, all four pillars are related to water:

- Blue Growth seeks to develop the economy of the region utilising the resources the sea provides. Development of innovative maritime technologies, fisheries, aquacultures and improved maritime governance are all targeted.
- Connecting the region aims to develop maritime transport on the Adriatic and Ionian Seas, and also to increase capacity and performance of multimodal infrastructure providing better connection to the hinterland.
- Under the pillar Environmental quality, the protection of the marine and coastal biodiversity, and decreased pollution of the sea are the main targets.
- The further development of sustainable tourism also has significant effects on the water quality.

4.1.1.2 *General achievements*

The EUSAIR Action Plan defines indicative actions related to water for most topics under each pillar covering all challenges identified in the strategy.

The pillar **Blue growth** covers the topics Blue technology, Fisheries and aquaculture and Maritime and marine governance and services. The indicative actions include supporting research and development activities in several sea-related fields (e.g. transportation, marine robotics, aquaculture, seafood, etc.), cooperation on innovation projects, improvement of governance, development of aquaculture and fishery methods. The aim of the activities is to increase the economic output of the affected sectors while using advanced methods to decrease the environmental burden of economic activities on the marine ecosystem.

Connecting the region has a strong focus on maritime transport. Proposed actions include setting up a harmonized intelligent transport system to attract traffic by providing higher quality services, while also developing port infrastructure and operations carried out there. Harmonising the traffic monitoring and management systems of the different countries would also lead to safer and faster navigation in the region. By improving the road and rail connections and IT services of the ports, the strategy also aims to develop “motorway of the sea”, providing effective multimodal logistics chains.

Under the pillar **Protecting the environment** four actions have been defined that directly target marine and coastal environment:

- Improved data and information collection about the marine and coastal ecosystems, and pollution threatening them;

- based on the gathered information, the development of a maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal management system;
- enhancing and extending the network of protected areas;
- foster exchange of experiences between the managing authorities of such areas.

Separate actions are defined for cross-border activities including improved cooperation and the development of joint management plans for transnational issues (such as karst fields, wetlands, large marine carnivores, etc.).

The pillar **Sustainable tourism** does not mainly focus on water issues, though it states that all developments have to be sustainable from an environmental standpoint, and it also defines as a goal that the current tourism services should be made more sustainable.

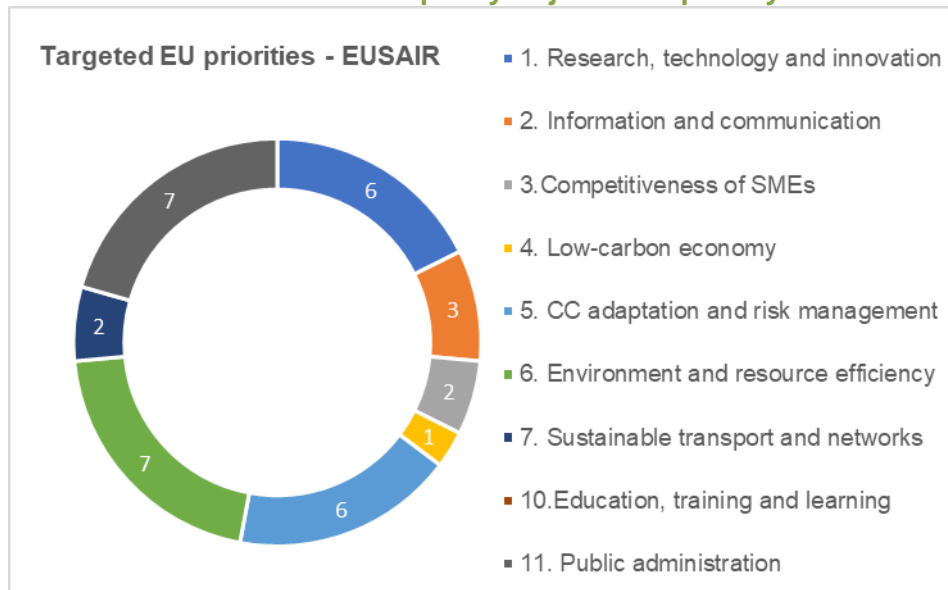
In the current call of INTERREG ADRION, seven water-related projects have been approved. Five of them were supported under the priority area “Sustainable region” which includes both environmental and tourism development projects. One project has been approved for the development of aquaculture and fisheries and maritime traffic each.

4.1.1.3 Specific activities

The number of analysed projects in the region was 7. The relatively low number of projects related to waters is due to the above methodological limitations, and the fact that the regions started its activities a few years ago only. The analysed projects are as follows:

1. ARIEL – Promoting small scale fisheries and aquaculture transnational networking in Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion
2. HarmoNIA – Harmonization and Networking for contaminant assessment in the Ionian and Adriatic Seas
3. TOUREST – Tourism Water Management for Sustainable Adrion Coastal Areas
4. I-STORMS – Integrated Sea sTORM Management Strategies
5. PORTODIMARE – geoPortal of Tools & Data for sustainable Management of coAstal and maRine Environment
6. IMPRECO – Common strategies and best practices to IMprove the transnational PRotection of ECOsystem integrity and services
7. SUPAIR – SUstainable Ports in the Adriatic-Ionian Region

Contribution to EU Cohesion policy objectives / priority areas

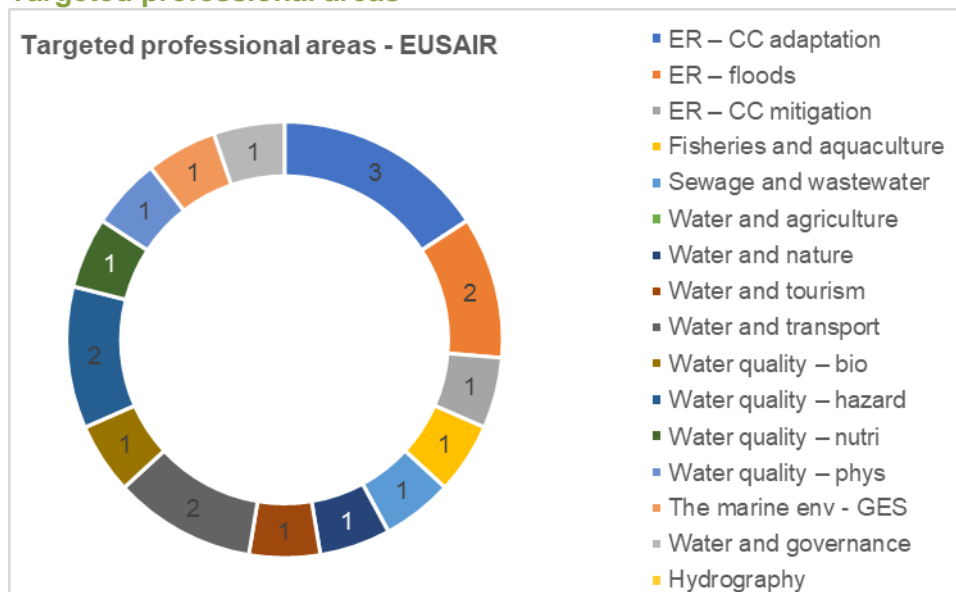


17. Figure: Targeted Cohesion policy objectives / priorities of water related projects in the EUSAIR¹

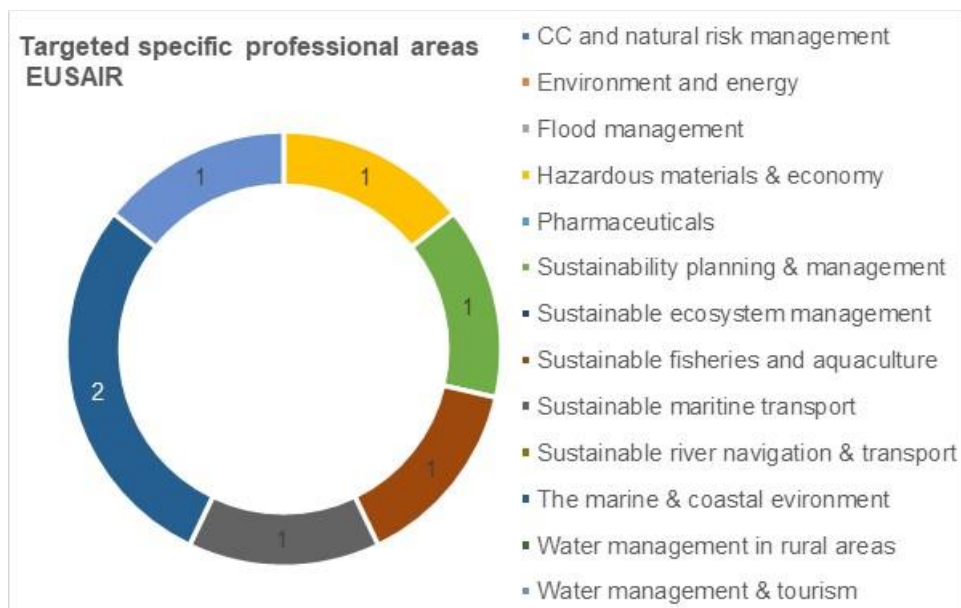
Concerning the supported EU priorities (see figure above), projects were usually rather complex, usually serving more than one priority. All projects supported environmental and resources efficiency efforts (6.) and the more efficient functioning of public administration (7.) and research and climate change adaptation issues were also in the forefront of the professional areas. Climate change mitigation, transport related water issues and competitiveness received less attention, however the occurrence of these relatively less water dependent fields, again, shows the complexity of the projects.

¹ Cohesion Policy thematic objectives; http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/priorities

Targeted professional areas



18. Figure: Targeted professional areas of projects in the EUSAIR



19. Figure: Project specific professional areas in the EUSAIR

Similarly to EU priorities, in the case of the targeted professional areas (both pre-defined and specific for the pool of projects) a relatively high diversity is seen (see figures above). Among the activities of the region almost all the general professional areas are at least touched, except for agriculture and hydrography (not meaning that these topics are not considered in some projects). It's obvious that maritime issues receive high attention, including tourism, transport and port operations.

Related EU Strategy Region priority areas and actions

As it is reflected in the diversity of professional areas, the number of actions to which projects are related is high. The projects usually contribute to more than one action and/or

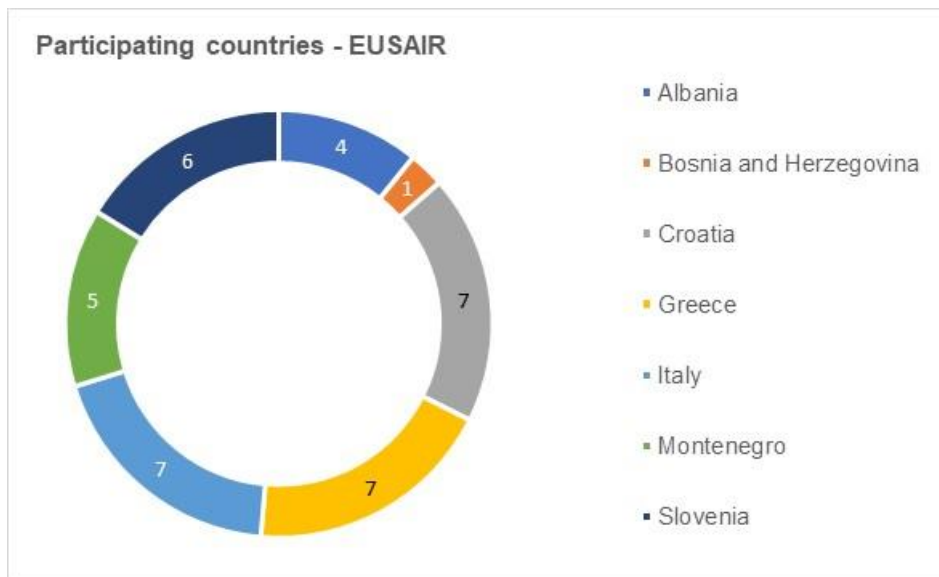
field of action, sometimes even pillar. The pillars “Environmental quality” and “Blue growth” having high importance in water related projects, in the former usually maritime issues are covered, in the latter fisheries and governance have similar emphasis.

Pillars/topics and actions	Number of related projects
1. Blue growth	7
1.2. Fisheries and aquaculture	4
Developing skills	1
EU compliance and common standards and practices	1
Scientific cooperation on fisheries and fish stocks	1
Sustainable management of fisheries	1
1.3. Maritime and marine governance and services	3
Data and knowledge sharing	2
Governance of maritime space	1
2. Connecting the region	1
2.1. Maritime transport	1
Developing ports, optimising port interfaces, infrastructures and procedures/operations	1
3. Environmental quality	10
3.1 The marine environment	9
Increasing marine knowledge	3
Implementing Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) and Integrated Coastal Management (ICM)	4
Increasing marine knowledge	2
3.2 Transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity	1
Development of joint management plans for cross-border habitats and ecosystems	1
4. Sustainable tourism	1
4.2 Sustainable and responsible tourism management	1
Adriatic-Ionian action for more sustainable and responsible tourism	1

2. Table: The number of projects related to various EUSAIR priorities and actions

Participating countries

There are eight countries involved in the Adriatic-Ionian co-operation, and only one has not participated in big water related projects related to the macro-region. In general, all EU countries of the region are rather active in the region participating in all almost all projects. It is appreciated that non-EU countries Albania and Montenegro also take their shares, however Bosnia and Herzegovina participated only in one project (see figure below).



20. Figure: The project activity of member states in the EUSAIR

4.1.2 The EU Strategy for the Alpine Region

4.1.2.1 Challenges and objectives

The most populous macro-region shows a great diversity in terms of culture, language, economic productivity and demography. The countries of the Alpine Region have created a platform of cooperation in order to face their common challenges. The 48 regions of the 7 countries decided to cooperate and achieve a strong network. This cooperation supports the harmonisation of the countries to take action and reach common goals.

According to the Alpine Region the biggest challenges that need to be faced are as follow:

1. Economic globalisation – to build a knowledge-based and innovative cooperation
2. Demographic trends – to combat the effects of effects of ageing and new migration models
3. Climate change and its effect on the environment – managing and meeting demand sustainably, securely and affordably
4. Being a transit region – to achieve further geographical and natural developments in the area

The most water-related issue is Climate change and its effect on the environment (3.). One of the regions policy areas is focused on the environment and energy, 6 actions of the action plan is related to the preservation of the natural resources. These actions are taken by the projects being analysed.

4.1.2.2 General achievements

The EUSALP Action Plan defines 4 different actions related to water related issues.

Under PA “To preserve and valorise natural resources, including water and cultural resources” the activities concern the exploitation of the resources and preserve the natural treasures of the region. The rich biodiversity of the Alps should be protected, especially the rivers according to the referring section of the Action Plan. The preferred activities include

strengthening the functions of the ecosystem services, promoting rural partnerships and other professional networks and building on the progresses of biogeographical process.

Under PA “To develop ecological connectivity in the whole EUSALP territory” are crucial activities to carry out. Not only the protected but the recreational areas of the Alpines should be prevented from harmful processes and activities. 75 percent of the Alpine area is not protected, and the existing network of the naturally valuable areas should be further strengthened. The possible activities within the action are supporting green infrastructure, promoting the implementation of ecological networks, strengthening connectivity as well as developing a joint landscape-vision.

Under PA “To improve risk management and to better manage climate change, including major natural risks prevention” are crucial activities to carry out. Given from the geomorphological confirmation of the region, the territory is highly exposed to environmental disasters. Comprehensive risk management is needed to and to set up recommendations and guidelines that can be followed by the countries. Based on the common knowledge this vulnerability will be reduced jointly.

Under PA “To make the territory a model region for energy efficiency and renewable energy” the proposed water related activities include relying more on renewable energy sources therefore mitigate the effects of climate change on the natural resources.

Since the above-mentioned Action Plan was adopted in 2015, the Alpine Region projects are funded from programmes of the current programming period. All projects that were concerned in the analysis are still ongoing. The most important future outputs and achievements are discussed below.

4.1.2.3 Specific activities

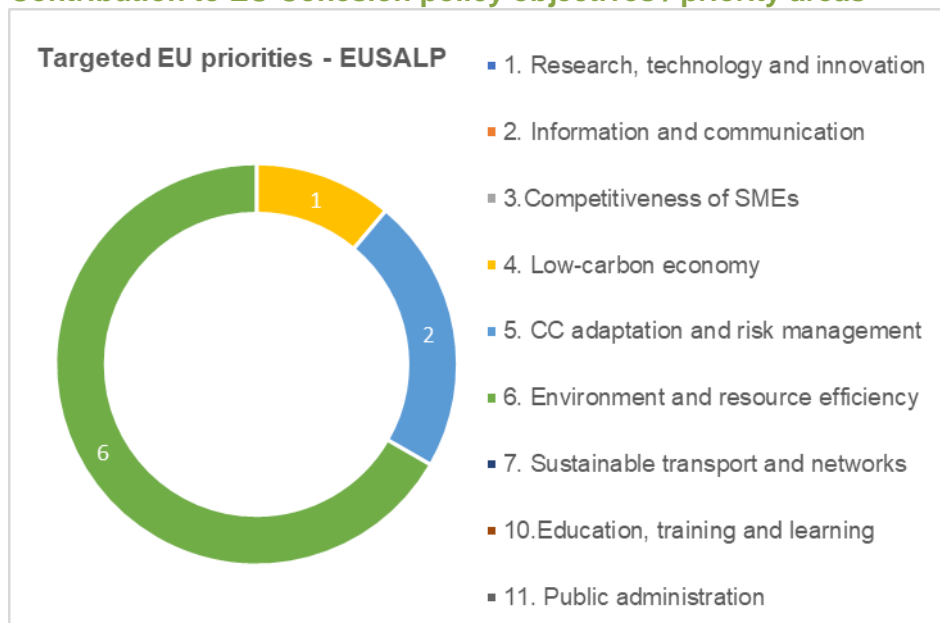
9 projects are discussed in the following analysis and are carried out in the Alpine Region. The analysed projects are as follow:

1. ALPBIONET - 2030Integrative Alpine wildlife and habitat management for the next generation
2. AlpES - Alpine Ecosystem Services – mapping, maintenance and management
3. CESBA - The collective initiative for a new culture of Built Environment in Europe
4. BALEX DELTA 2018Oil and chemical spill recovery exercise
5. GoApply - Multidimensional Governance of Climate Change Adaption in Policy Making and Practice
6. GREENCYCLE - Introducing circular economy system to Alpine Space to achieve low-carbon targets
7. Link4Soils - Linking Alpine Soil Knowledge for Sustainable Ecosystem Management and Capacity Building
8. SPARE - Strategic Planning for Alpine River Ecosystems – Integrating protection and development
9. HyMoCARES - Integrating the ecosystem services approach in planning and operational activities affecting river hydro-morphological processes

The coordination of the Alpine Region provided some additional information on the activities of the macro-region. Most of the activities aim to preserve and valorise natural resources, including water and cultural resources and their most common outputs were guidelines and recommendations. These activities are the following:

Type of activity	Short title	Full title
Expert hearing	Building green infrastructures for an integrated and sustainable water management	Building green infrastructures for an integrated and sustainable water management
Conference	Forum Alpinum & Alpine Water Conference	Contribution to Forum Alpinum 2018 and Alpine Water Conference
Strategic Activity	AG6-SG3 activity	Collection of good practices and recommendations in the field of green infrastructure solutions in river restoration
Strategic Activity	AG6-SG3 activity	Collection of good practices and recommendations in the field of water demand and supply management in case of droughts
Strategic Activity	AG6 activity	Study on governance in the Alpine Region
Strategic Activity	Alpine Convention - Platform Water Management in the Alps - achievement of the mandate	Report on drought management
Strategic Activity	Alpine Convention - Platform Water Management in the Alps - achievement of the mandate	Report on small hydropower
Strategic Activity	Research project: "Capitalization on the EU programming period 2007-2013 concerning soil protection and natural capital conservation"	

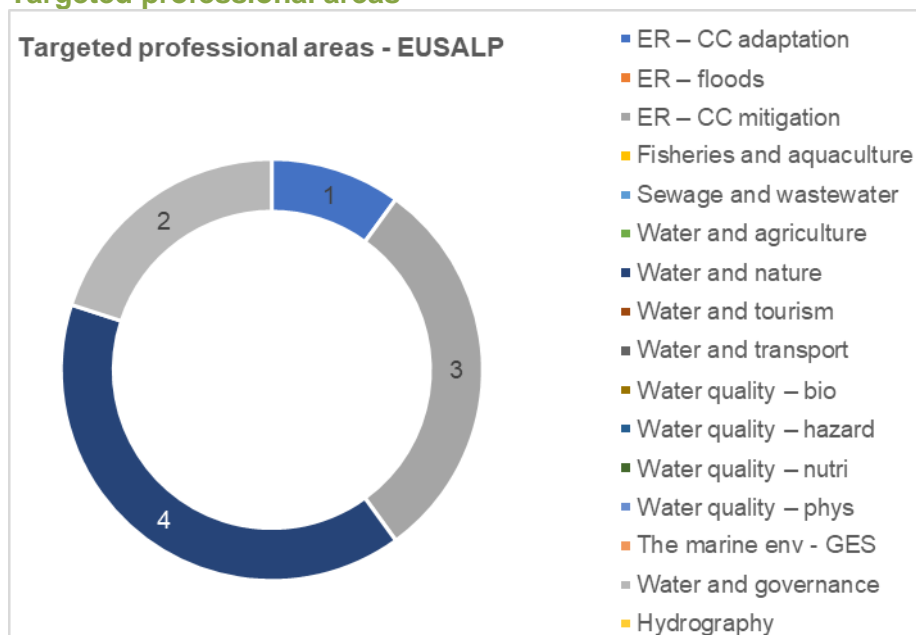
Contribution to EU Cohesion policy objectives / priority areas



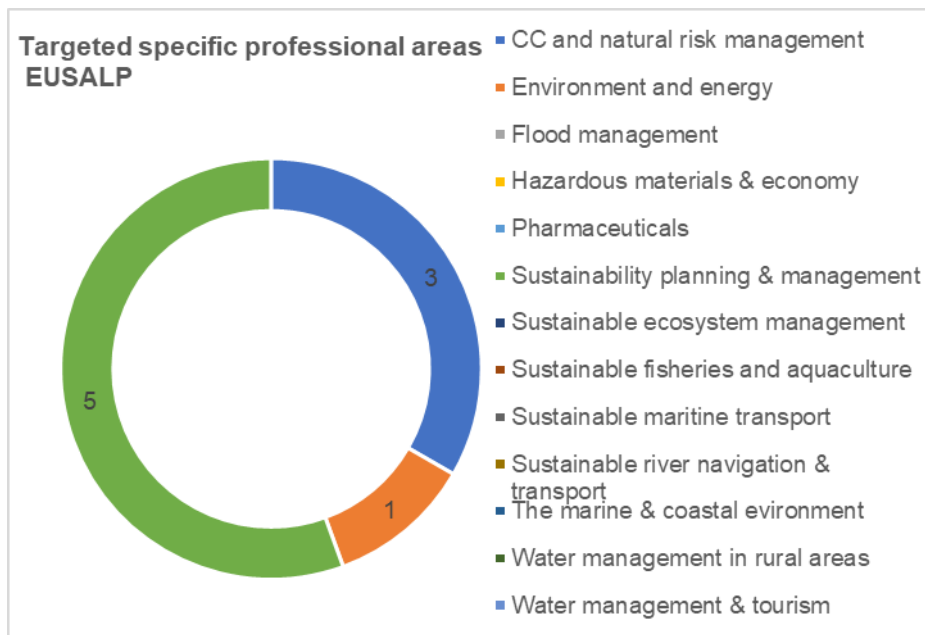
21. Figure: Targeted Cohesion policy objectives / priorities of water related projects in the EUSALP

According to the available data the majority of the projects of the Alpine Region projects supported environmental and resources efficiency efforts (6.), supporting low-carbon economy (4.) and climate change adaptation regarding environmental risks (5.) also received attention (see figure above). It shows that these projects aim mostly the preservation of the wildlife and the ecosystem in general.

Targeted professional areas



22. Figure: Targeted professional areas of projects in the EUSALP



23. Figure: Project specific professional areas in the EUSALP

In the case of the targeted professional areas (both pre-defined and specific for the pool of projects) the diversity is relatively low (see figures above). Most of the EUSALP projects place Water and nature conservation as well as Environmental risk – climate change mitigation in the focus of their activities. The other targeted professional areas are Environmental risk – climate change adaptation, Water and governance.

As it can be seen, the specific professional areas targeted by the projects are sustainability planning and management (targeted by 5 projects), climate change and natural risk management (targeted by 3 projects) and one project aims to support the energetic aspect of the environment. It implies that the main focus of these projects is a professional network and building knowledge sharing in the field of environmental risk adaptation and mitigation.

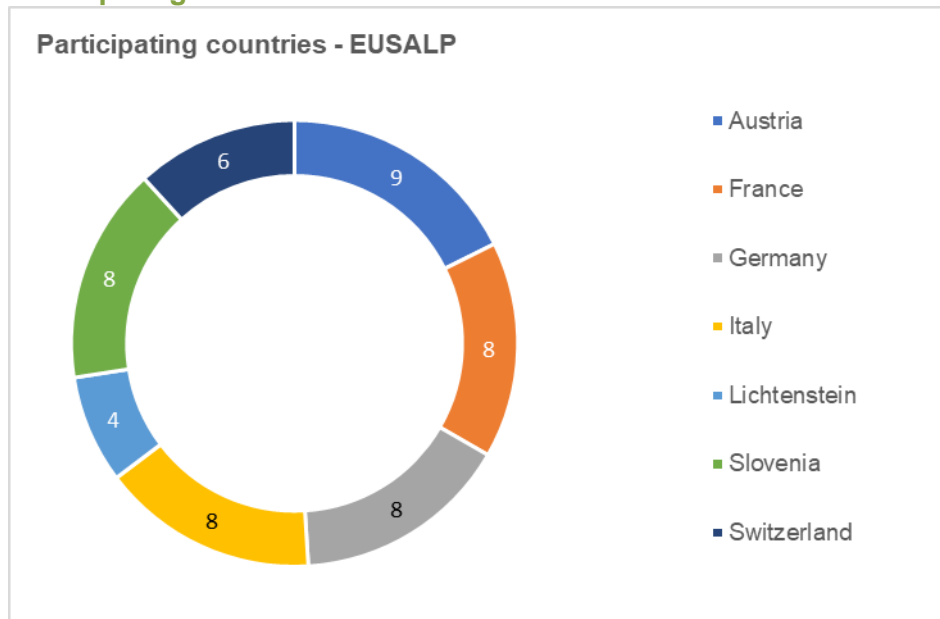
Related EU Strategy Region priority areas and actions

As it is reflected in the environmental focus of the projects, the projects contribute to the “Environmental and Energy” pillar of the Strategy. Actions as risk management, environmental efficiency and nature preservation are having the highest importance in the projects.

Pillars/topics and actions	Number of related projects
1. Environment and Energy	9
1.1. To improve risk management and to better manage climate change, including major natural risks prevention	2
1.2. To make the territory a model region for energy efficiency and renewable energy	2
1.3. To preserve and valorise natural resources, including water and cultural resources	5

3. Table: The number of projects related to various EUSALP priorities and actions

Participating countries



24. Figure: The project activity of member states in the EUSALP

The countries participating in the Alpine Regional projects are mostly EU members except Switzerland. The most active country is Austria participating in all the analysed projects. France, Germany, Italy and Slovenia are also participating in 8 projects. The least active country is also a member of a number of collaborations, joining partner in 4 projects.

4.1.3 The EU Strategy for the Baltic Region

4.1.3.1 Challenges and objectives

The main reason the EUSBSR was created is the interdependence between the different states bordering the Baltic Sea. While the states have very different economic, social and natural characteristics, their mutual dependence on the sea requires strong cooperation. Thus, the deteriorating state of the Baltic Sea itself was one of the main motivations for the creation of the strategy. Because of these foundations, the main focus of the EUSBSR is on the quality of the Baltic Sea, while freshwater is not directly targeted (in some actions targeting decreased contamination and pollution freshwater projects can also be in line with the goals).

To enable a sustainable environment is defined as a key challenge in the region. EUSBSR notes that, according to the Commission, the biggest challenge is to stop the degradation of the Baltic Sea by tackling several causes such as: eutrophication due to excess nutrients reaching the sea, overfishing, land-based pollution, rising sea temperatures and the presence of hazardous materials. The strategy also emphasizes that in order to meet the other challenges and make the most of the opportunities of the region, enabling a sustainable environment has to be the first step and it also has to be taken into account when developing transport or economic infrastructure.

The geographic characteristics of the region mean that all objectives and most of the sub-objectives defined in the Action Plan are somewhat related to the Baltic Sea, in the current analysis, only those that are directly related are treated as water related.

The objective **“Save the Sea”** includes four sub-objectives that cover the main fields where steps have to be taken to ensure the good water quality of the Baltic Sea:

- Sub-objective **“Clear water in the sea”** focuses on the biggest problem affecting the quality of the Baltic Sea: eutrophication caused by excess nutrients making their way to the sea. Action under this sub-objective target urban nutrient production (sewage treatment), agricultural run-off and leaching (primarily reducing fertilizer input) and also land and water traffic. Actions including trans-national cooperation are supported, and the Action Plan states that by using advanced, innovative techniques and technology aiming for more ambitious targets than those defined in the EU directives is possible, and might be necessary to reach the desired results.
- Sub-objective **“Rich and healthy wildlife”** aims to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems in the Baltic Sea caused by eutrophication, introduction of invasive species, hazardous substances (including pharmaceuticals) and the unsustainable production methods of fisheries. Actions supported aim to decrease human pollution and preventing damage to the marine wildlife and ecosystems. Actions forming a part of integrated sea use management approach for marine spatial planning and integrated coastal zone management are supported.
- Sub-objective **“Clean and safe shipping”** addresses several issues caused by the increasing volume of maritime traffic on the Baltic Sea. Supported actions aim to decrease the environmental impacts of shipping (air pollution, direct emissions of oil, wastewater, hazardous substances, alien invasive species, etc.), pollution caused by ports and port cities (modern infrastructure, better logistics with the hinterland), preventing maritime accidents (improved and integrated surveillance system) and developing human capital.
- Sub-objective **“Better cooperation”** targets to tackle the institutional issues that hinder taking the necessary steps for the improvement of the state of the Baltic Sea. The supported actions will lead to improved cooperation between the states surrounding the sea through more harmonised legislation and active conversation between the responsible institutions of the different states, regions.

The objective **“Increase prosperity”** focuses mainly on the economic development of the region. Although the sub-objectives defined should not be treated as not related to water issues, only one of them impacts directly the treatment of water:

Sub-objective **“Climate change adaptation risk prevention and management”** focuses on the responses needed for the increased risks arising as an effect of climate change. Actions supported include flood protection measures, urban planning and responses to non-climate related disasters as well.

4.1.3.2 General achievements

The water related activities of EUSBSR target several aspects of improving the condition of the Baltic Sea.

Most of the water related actions under PA Bio-economy target better cooperation between member states and also between different industries in order to achieve sustainable bio-economy. Activities include demonstration projects, policy harmonization and sharing practices. The water related fields targeted are fisheries, aquaculture, and agriculture, where the recycling of nutrients to lessen nutrient load to the Baltic Sea is the main goal.

The actions of PA Nutri also aim to achieve lower nutrient levels in the Baltic Sea. Actions range from improving data quality and quantity available on nutrient load, through better control of agricultural activities and introduction of innovative and cost-effective solutions in

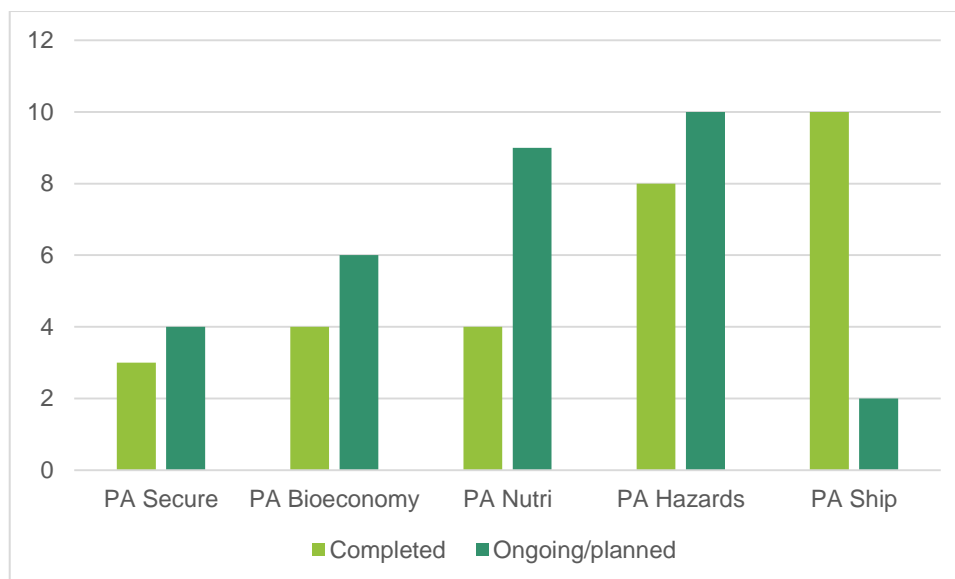
both agriculture and wastewater treatment to improve nutrient recycling and decrease nutrient outputs, to facilitating cooperation, sharing information between stakeholders.

PA Hazards supports actions to prevent further pollution reaching the sea, as well as to remediate contamination present. The PA focuses on decreasing the use of hazardous substances, primarily pharmaceuticals and hazardous anti-fouling compounds. On top of measures directly achieving these goals, supporting projects improving cooperation, and developing and testing innovative technologies is also targeted.

The water related activities of PA Secure focus on the aspects of human safety. The concrete actions under the PA focus on improving capacity and cooperation between the different institutions taking part in responding to disasters resulting in better risk assessment and crisis management, in overall achieving better preparedness to hazards and accidents.

The actions of PA Ship focus on making navigation, as the transport sector with the largest environmental impact on the Baltic Sea, environmentally friendlier. This specifically includes developing infrastructure for using more clean fuels, decreasing emissions both from ships and the related shore-side infrastructure (eg. treatment of waste or sewage produced on vessels), and also improving the infrastructure in ports, in order to decrease the pollution of the water there.

Since the introduction of EUSBSR in 2009 close to 30 flagship projects have been completed in the five water related PAs, and a similar number of projects are expected to be implemented in the coming years.



25. Figure: The number of completed and ongoing/planned water related flagship projects in the Baltic Sea region (Source: EUSBSR Action Plan Annex I)

The largest number of projects have been completed under PA Ship and PA Hazards, while according to the currently known flagship projects, the focus from clean shipping will shift more towards decreasing nutrient load and hazardous substances in the Baltic Sea arising from agriculture and other human activities.

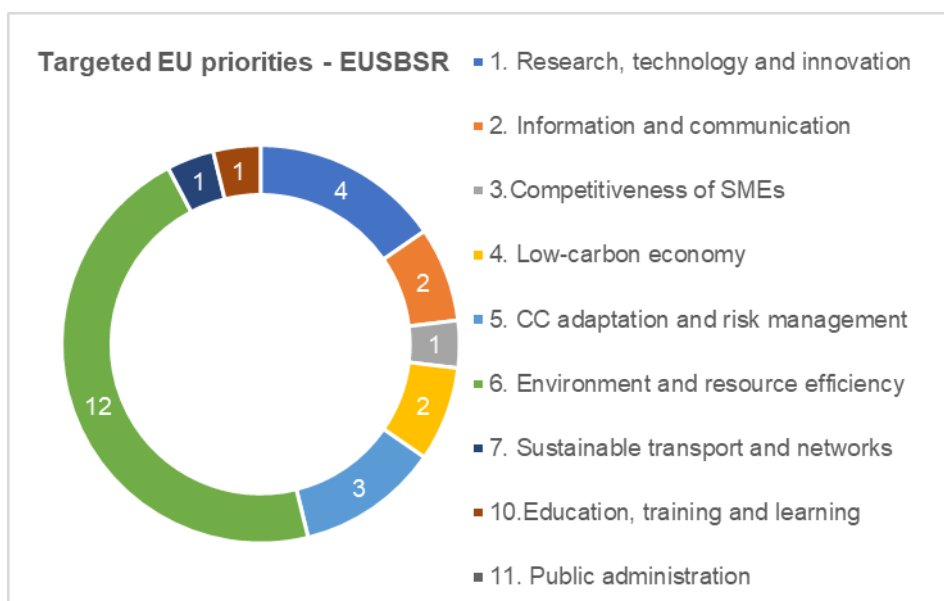
4.1.3.3 Specific activities

There were 12 projects analysed in the region, that is a relatively high number, this is due to the fact that the region has long history in co-operation and it has a relatively strong institutional background too. The projects analysed in the assessment are:

1. MORPHEUS – Model Areas for Removal of Pharmaceutical Substances in the South Baltic
2. CWPharma – Clear waters from pharmaceuticals
3. BLASTIC – Plastic waste pathways into the Baltic Sea
4. NonHazCity – Innovative management solutions for minimizing emissions of hazardous substances from urban areas in the Baltic Sea
5. HAZBREF – Hazardous industrial chemicals in the IED BREFs
6. NUTRINFLOW – Practical actions for holistic drainage management for reduced nutrient inflow to Baltic Sea
7. BaRuWa – Evaluation and promotion of rural wastewater treatment for reduction of nutrient loads to the Baltic Sea
8. IWAMA – Interactive Water Management
9. Baltic Blue Growth – Initiation of full scale mussel farming in the Baltic Sea
10. BALEX DELTA 2018 – Oil and chemical spill recovery exercise
11. HAZARD – Mitigating emergencies and accidents in Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) seaports in the Baltic Sea Region
12. CLEANSHIP – Clean Baltic Sea Shipping

Contribution to EU Cohesion policy objectives / priority areas

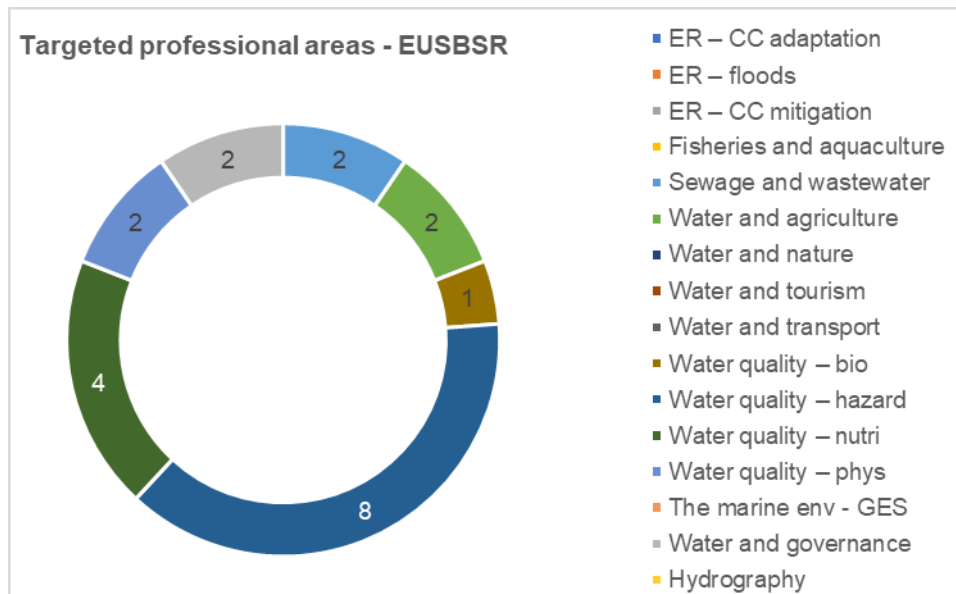
The supported EU priorities (see figure below), cover a relatively wide selection, meaning that usually complex approaches were applied. It's not surprising that the priority area "Environment and resource efficiency" received far the strongest support; priority areas "Research, technology and innovation" and "Climate change adaptation and risk management" were also relatively strongly targeted. The remaining priority areas were not supported to large extend, however they show that projects sometimes had complex, multidimensional approaches.



26. Figure: Targeted Cohesion policy objectives / priorities of water related projects in the EUSBSR

Targeted professional areas

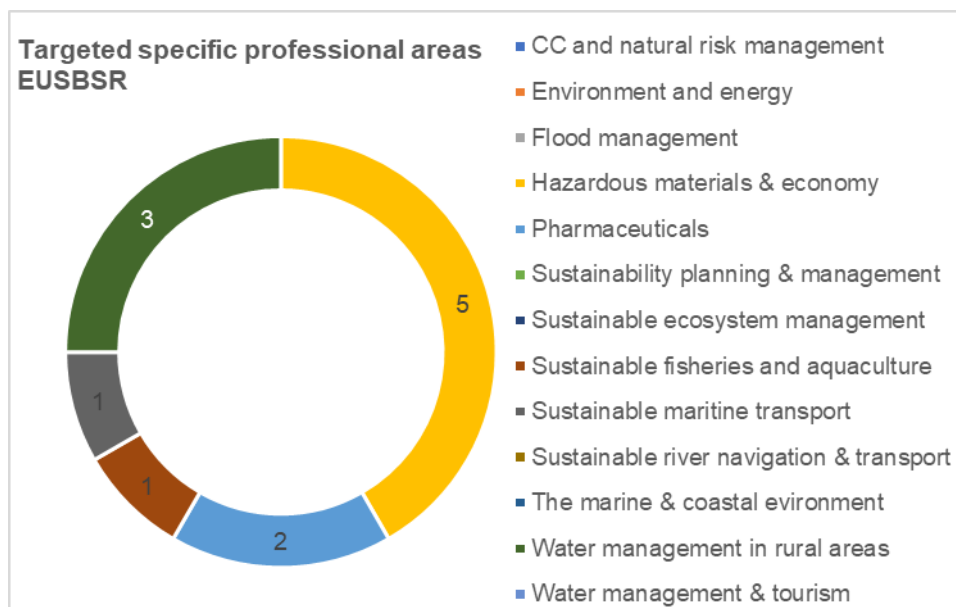
Among the professional areas covered by the projects, water quality issues received the outstanding attention. Hazardous materials and nutrients were the two specific parametres studied. Other professional areas covered by the projects in smaller numbers are either quality issues, such as physical or biological parametres or are somehow linked to water quality: sewage and waste water, agricultural loads. Climate change adaptation and governance were also considered, however only to smaller extend.



27. Figure: Targeted professional areas of projects in the EUSBSR

Targeted specific professional areas

The project specific professional areas, in line with the above, concentrated on water quality issues; here production activities (both industrial and agricultural) received primarily attention; pharmaceuticals, as a specific theme, are extensively studied.



28. Figure: Project specific professional areas in the EUSBSR

Related EU Strategy Region priority areas and actions

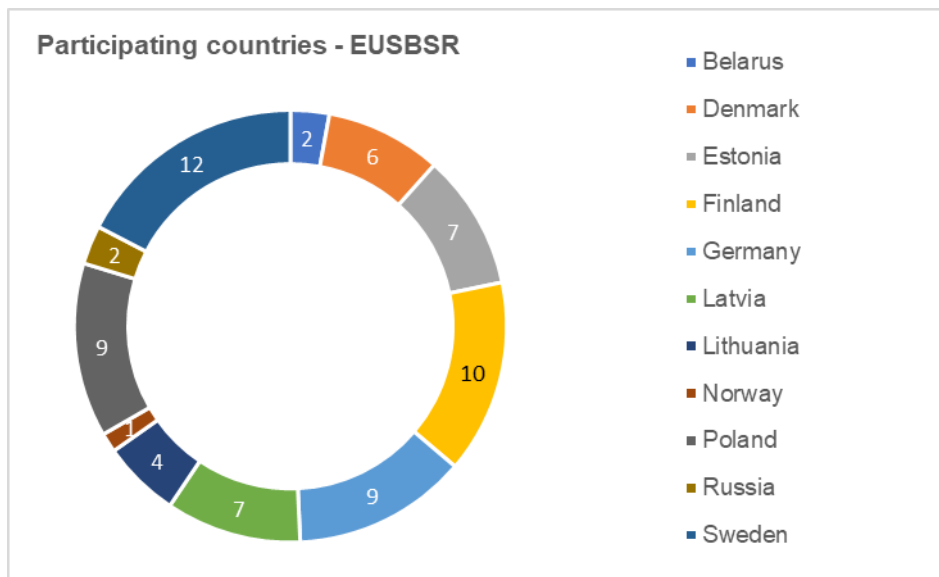
As can also be seen in the focus of professional areas, the number of actions to which projects are related is relatively low; the majority of the projects supports the actions targeting hazards within PA Hazard (risk management, hazardous materials), PA Ship (emissions) and PA Secure (preparedness). The other area of special focus is nutrient loads; the issue is detailed in hand with PA Bio-economy and horizontal area “Capacity building” giving a more complex touch to nutrient management.

Pillars/topics and actions	Number of related projects
PA Hazards	9
Prevent pollution and reduce the use of hazardous substances	5
Mitigate and remediate contamination	4
PA Nutri / PA Bioeconomy	4
Managing nutrients more efficiently	1
Improving waste water treatment	1
Investigate cost-efficient nutrient reduction mechanisms	2
PA Nutri / HA Capacity building	4
Investigate cost-efficient nutrient reduction mechanisms	1
Managing nutrients more efficiently	1
Improving waste water treatment	1
Improve nutrient load data	1
PA Secure	2
Develop a joint macro-regional prevention and preparedness approach towards major hazards and emergencies	2
PA Ship	1
To support measures reducing emissions from ships	1

4. Table: The number of projects related to various EUSBSR priorities and actions

Participating countries

There are eight countries involved in the Baltic Sea co-operation, and also a number of non-EU countries has joined the initiatives, such as Belarus, Russia and Norway (see figure below). The most active countries in the co-operation are Finland and Sweden but the rest of the EU member states are also relatively active with participating at least in the half of the projects. The non-EU countries' participation is limited to 1-2 projects only, their involvement contributes greatly to the joint efforts of the other Baltic Sea countries.



29. Figure: The project activity of member states in the EUSBSR

4.1.4 The EU Strategy for the Danube Region

4.1.4.1 Challenges and objectives

According to EUSDR, the Danube basin is the most international catchment area in the world, which, coupled with the sometimes enormous differences between the countries and regions affected provides a unique challenge in the management of water related issues.

Realizing that most water related challenges cannot be met by separate countries, the Danube River Basin Management Plan has been adopted by all states of the Danube basin. While it sets concrete targets for the region and also specifies measures to achieve them, improving institutional cooperation and improving infrastructure is still the biggest challenge of the region.

The water related issues needing region-wide cooperation defined in the strategy include:

- ensuring good water quality (reducing pollution – organic, hazardous compounds, nutrients),
- sustainable water management,
- flood management,
- biodiversity,
- inland navigation.

The objectives defined in the Action Plan are in line with the challenges identified in the strategy. Most water related issues are answered in Pillar B, “Protecting the environment in the Danube region” (priority areas include water quality, risk management and biodiversity), and a separate priority area have been defined for the development of inland navigation.

4.1.4.2 General achievements

The EUSDR Action Plan defines a wide range of actions to tackle water related issues.

Under PA “To restore and maintain the quality of waters” most of the actions foreseen target the development of capacities for cooperation in various fields of water management both at the whole of the Danube basin and on sub-basin level and the improvement of data

collection systems. The proposed actions include measures for ensuring and improving water quality, reducing amounts of contaminants reaching the rivers arising from agriculture, waste and wastewater treatment, control of water abstraction, reduction of water continuity interruption, improved awareness for water related issues. Since the Danube River Water Basin Management Plan has been adopted, cooperation between the institutions in the region has significantly intensified, and several cooperation projects and measures providing foundations for further intervention have been initiated or even carried out (examples include development of management plans for sub-basins or carrying out Joint Danube Surveys by the ICPDR).

Under PA “To manage environmental risks” most of the actions target better responses and preparedness of floods. Specific measures include improved cooperation between the different authorities, developing flood management plans for cross-border river basins, support innovative measures to decrease flood risks (development of green infrastructure). The promoted actions also include measures to develop improved responses for river pollution from industrial accidents and introduction of specific solutions in spatial planning and construction activities necessitated by climate change.

Under PA “To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils” the proposed water related activities include projects targeting the protection of river and wetland ecosystems, and raising awareness on water related issues, including the importance of good water quality.

The development of inland navigation is included as a separate priority area under Pillar A, “Connecting the Danube region”. Proposed actions include infrastructural measures (elimination of bottlenecks, fleet improvement) on both the Danube and tributaries, and soft measures (coordination of national policies, development of information systems, development of the conditions of multimodal logistics services, training and education). Since 2007, 35 water related projects have been completed related to EUSDR:

Priority area	Number of projects	Total budget (Euro)
Inland navigation	19	838 369 397
Environmental risks	3	9 882 720
Biodiversity	7	4 047 582
Quality of waters	6	92 703 543

30. Figure: Number and budget of completed water related projects in EUSDR
(source: keep.eu)

More than 50% of the projects targeted the development of inland navigation on the Danube and its tributaries. Since these projects included larger scale infrastructure projects, the budget spent on transport projects is much higher than projects under other priority areas.

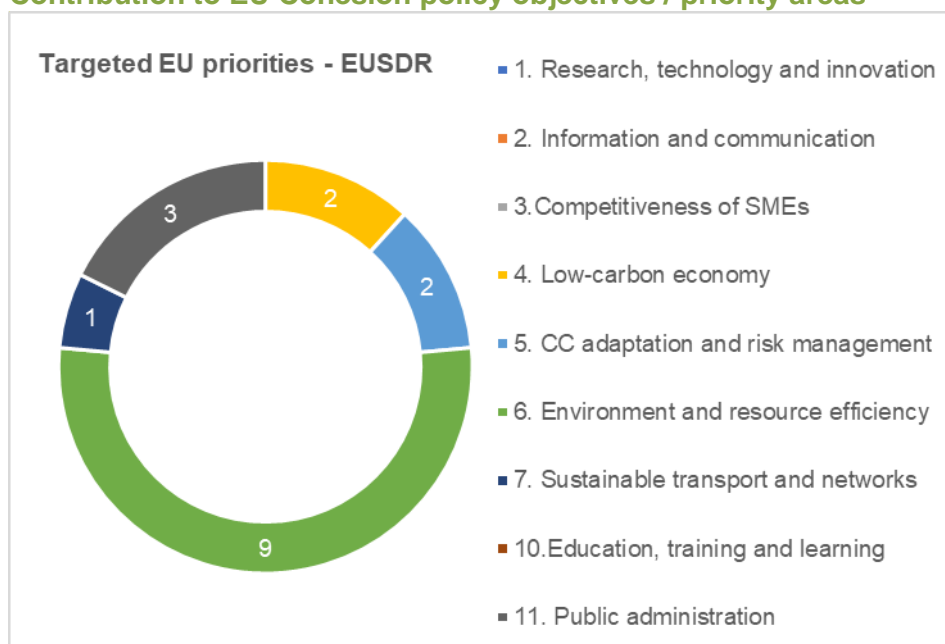
4.1.4.3 Specific activities

15 projects are discussed in the following analysis that are carried out in the Danube Region. The analysed projects are as follow:

1. DanubEcoDanube Ecotourism
2. GREEN DANUBE Integrated transnational policies and practical solutions for an environmentally-friendly Inland Water Transport system in the Danube region
3. DANTE Improving Administrative Procedures and Processes for Danube IWT

4. Danube SKILLS - Increased institutional capacity in Danube navigation by boosting joint transnational competences and skills in education and public development services
5. Danube STREAM - Smart, Integrated and Harmonized Waterway Management
6. JOINTISZA - Strengthening cooperation between river basin management planning and flood risk prevention to enhance the status of waters of the Tisza River Basin
7. LENA - Local Economy and Nature Conservation in the Danube Region
8. CAMARO-D - Cooperating towards Advanced Management ROutines for land use impacts on the water regime in the Danube river basin
9. DanubeSediment - Danube Sediment Management - Restoration of the Sediment Balance in the Danube River
10. Danube Floodplain - Reducing the flood risk through floodplain restoration along the Danube River and tributaries
11. MEASURES - Managing and restoring aquatic EcologicAl corridors for migratory fiSh species in the danUbe RivEr baSin
12. LIFE for Danube Sturgeons - Sustainable protection of lower Danube sturgeons by preventing and counteracting poaching and illegal wildlife trade
13. LIFE Sterlet - LIFE Sterlet
14. SEDDON II - Sediment Research on the Danube - Construction of a hydraulic engineering laboratory to improve water management along the Danube
15. DAREnet - Danube River Region Resilience Exchange Network

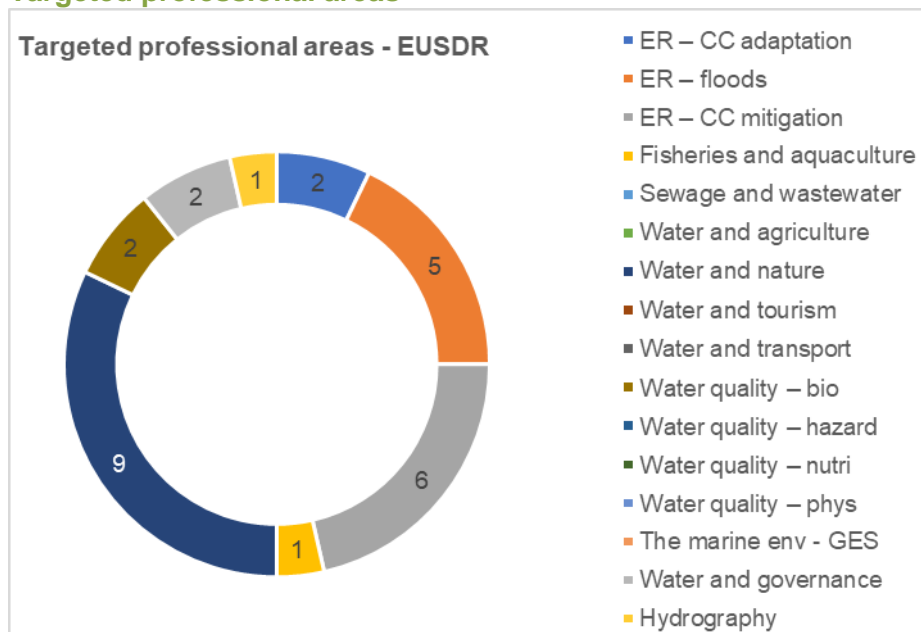
Contribution to EU Cohesion policy objectives / priority areas



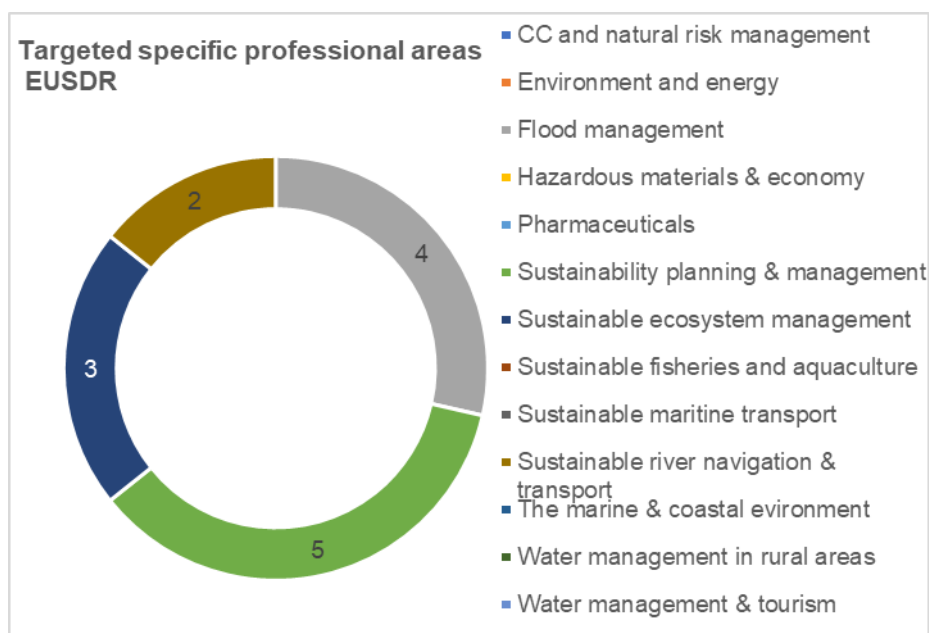
31. Figure: Targeted Cohesion policy objectives / priorities of water related projects in the EUSDR

According to the available data the majority of the projects of the Danube Region supported the environmental and resources efficiency efforts (6.). Supporting public administration (11.) is also a common purpose of the projects (see figure above). The figure shows that the projects cover mostly environmental preservation topics but some also consider other sustainability purposes as well.

Targeted professional areas



32. Figure: Targeted professional areas of projects in the EUSDR



33. Figure: Project specific professional areas in the EUSDR

A high diversity can be seen in the case of the targeted professional and specified areas (both pre-defined and specific for the pool of projects, see figures above). The majority of the EUSDR projects support Water and nature conservation areas. As it can be seen, many projects aim to reduce the risk of flood and build up an international professional network. As one project can have more targeted professional area, these purposes can be linked to each other.

As the figure shows, sustainability and management is one of the most common professional area followed by flood management. Some other projects aim to support the sustainable ecosystem and transport. Similarly to the professional areas, the main focus of these projects implies that building professional risk-management networks and knowledge sharing platforms are common priorities besides nature conservation.

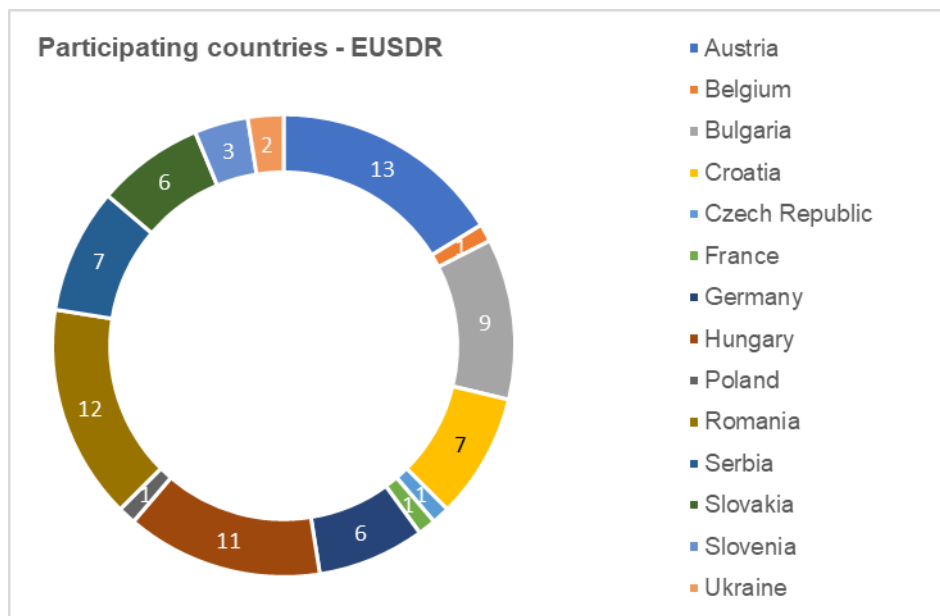
Related EU Strategy Region priority areas and actions

The number of actions to which projects are related is relatively high. According to the database each project contributes to one action and/or field of actions, that is the most relevant. The pillar concerning the preservation of biodiversity is having the highest importance in water related projects, water quality issues are covered by a number of projects as well, and a few projects aim to improve institutional capacities in the first place.

Pillars/topics and actions	Number of related projects
1. To step up institutional capacity and cooperation	2
1.1 To combat institutional capacity and public service related problems in the Danube region	2
2. To manage environmental risks	3
2.1 To implement a comprehensive transboundary risk management project in the Danube Delta	1
2.2. To promote transnational conservation of the remaining floodplains along the entire length of the Danube by completing existing initiatives and promoting new ones, including along tributaries	1
2.3. To develop and adopt one single overarching floods management plan at basin level or a set of flood risk management plans coordinated at the level of the international river basin	1
3. To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils	7
3.1. To manage Natura 2000 sites and other protected areas effectively	3
3.2. To protect and restore most valuable ecosystems and endangered animal species	3
3.3. To build on cultural diversity as strength of the Danube Region	1
4. To restore and maintain the quality of waters	3
4.1. To greatly strengthen cooperation at sub-basin level	1
4.2. To reduce existing water continuity interruption for fish migration in the Danube river basin	1
4.3. To carry out an assessment for restoration of the sediment balance in the Danube	1

5. Table: The number of projects related to various EUSDR priorities and actions

Participating countries



34. Figure: The project activity of member states in the EUSDR

The countries participating in the Danube Regional projects are not exclusively EU members (see figure above). The most active countries are Austria and Romania participating in 12 and 13 projects respectively. Hungary and Bulgaria are also showing a high activity. It can be imposed that most of the countries of the Danube River Basin are participating in the analysed projects.

4.1.5 Multi-regional projects

4.1.5.1 Collection of projects

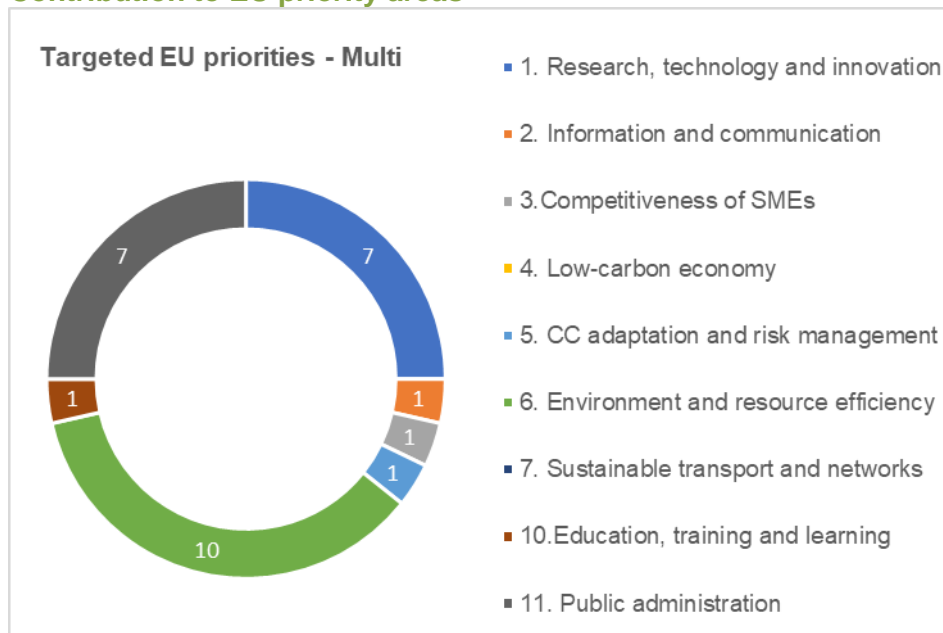
In connection with the water-related projects carried out by the four macro-regions, the database contains projects covering multiple European countries regardless of one specific region.

19 projects are discussed in the following analysis that are covering a wider area of the European continent (and in some cases other beneficiary countries). The analysed projects are as follows:

1. JMP EUNOSAT - EU project Joint Monitoring Programme of the Eutrophication of the North Sea with Satellite data
2. quietMED - Joint programme on noise (D11) for the implementation of the Second Cycle of the MSFD in the Mediterranean Sea
3. IDEM - Implementation of the MSFD to the DEep Mediterranean Sea
4. SPICE - Implementation and development of key components for the assessment of Status, Pressures and Impacts, and Social and Economic evaluation in the Baltic Sea marine region
5. INDICIT - Implementation Of Indicators Of Marine Litter On Sea Turtles And Biota In Regional Sea Conventions And Marine Strategy Framework Directive Areas
6. MEDCIS - Support Mediterranean Member States towards coherent and Coordinated Implementation of the second phase of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive

7. CERES - ClimatechangeandEuropean aquatic RESources
8. CRUE ERA-NET - CRUE ERA-NET
9. CIRCLE-2 - Climate Impact Research & Response Coordination for a Larger Europe
10. MIRAGE - Mediterranean Intermittent River ManAGEment
11. MEDIATION - Methodology for Effective Decision-making on Impacts and AdaptaTION
12. POWER - Political and social awareness on water environmental challenges
13. DEMOWARE - Innovation Demonstration for a Competitive and Innovative European Water Reuse Sector
14. WATCH - Integrated Project Water and Global Change
15. MARSOL - Demonstrating Managed Aquifer Recharge as a Solution to Water Scarcity and Drought
16. WEAM4I - Water & Energy Advanced Management for Irrigation
17. SW4EU - Smart Water for Europe
18. LIFE M3 - Modelling Monitoring Management
19. DEMINE - Decreasing the Impact of Abandoned Mines

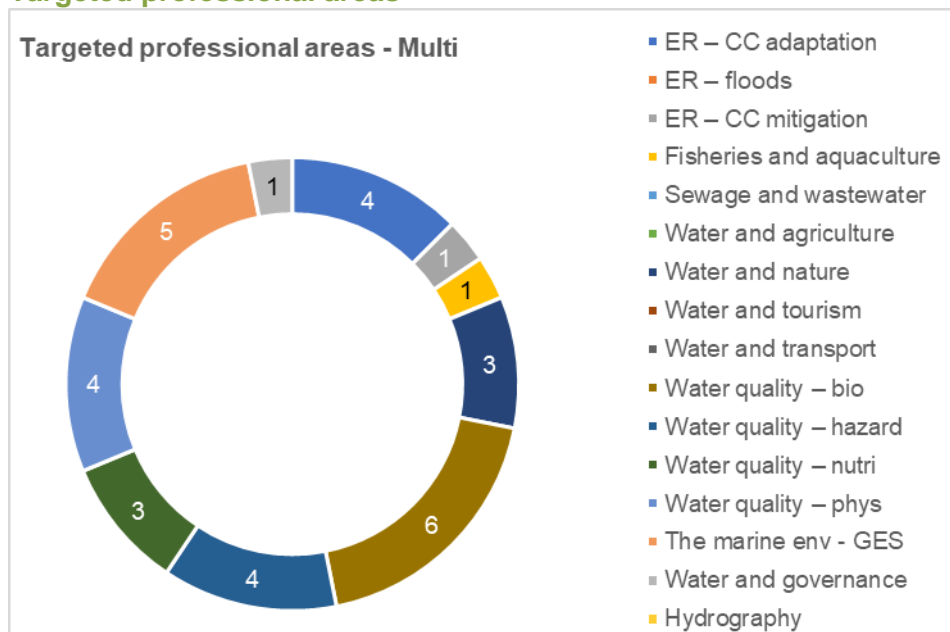
Contribution to EU priority areas



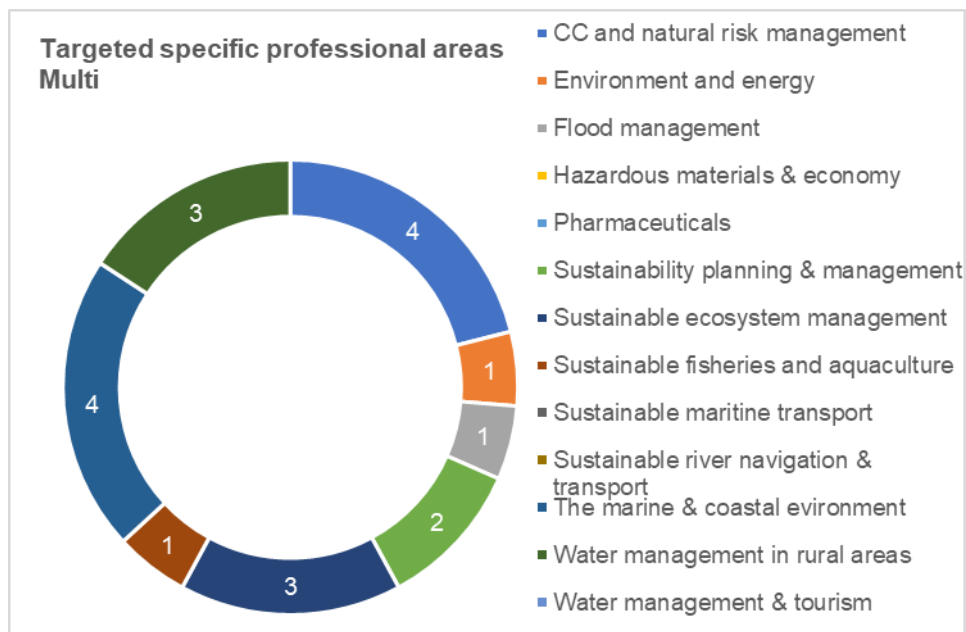
35. Figure: Targeted EU priorities of water related projects of the multi-regional projects

According to the available data the majority of the multi-regional projects supported the environmental and resources efficiency efforts (6.). It can be evidenced by the fact that we collected specifically water-related projects during the data collection. Supporting public administration (11.) and research, technology and innovation (1.) are also two common purposes of the projects besides concerning the environmental aspects of rivers and seas (see figure above).

Targeted professional areas



36. Figure: Targeted professional areas of projects areas of the multi-regional projects

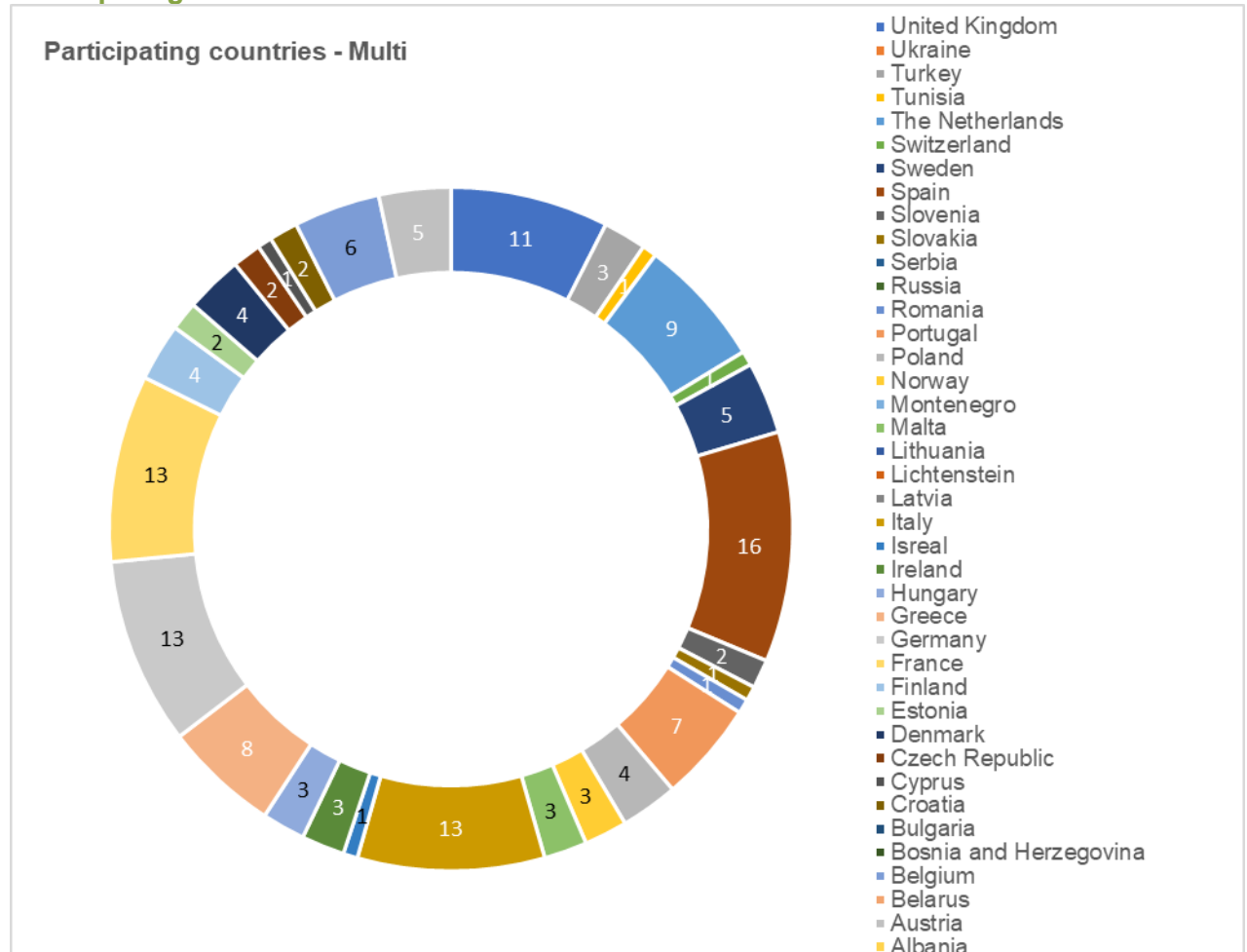


37. Figure: Project specific professional areas of the multi-regional projects

Concerning multi-regional European projects a high diversity can be seen in the case of the targeted professional and specified areas. The majority of the projects support Water quality areas. Another concern is the climate change adaptation according to the data. As it can be seen, many projects focus on the good environmental status of the marine environment as well. As one project can have more targeted professional area, these purposes can be linked to each other.

As nineteen projects were analysed, a wide range of specific professional areas are shown in the figure as well. According to these specific professional areas, natural risk management and marine and coastal environment are of the most common professional areas followed by water management and sustainable ecosystem management.

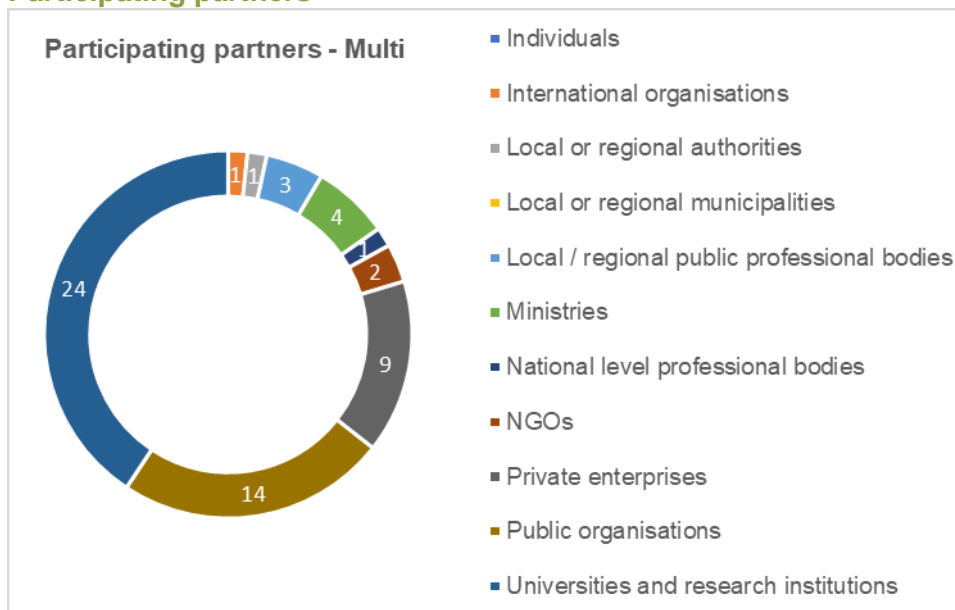
Participating countries



38. Figure: The project activity of member states of the multi-regional projects

The countries participating in the multi-regional projects are exceptionally wide and are also not exclusively EU members (see figure above). The most active countries are Spain, Germany, France and Italy participating in 16 and 13 projects respectively. The United Kingdom and Greece are also showing a high activity in projects.

Participating partners



39. Figure: The participating partners of the multi-regional projects

Universities and research institutions are highly involved in multi-regional projects. A number of different public and private enterprises are also taking part in the water-related projects but researchers have the main stage in the multinational collaborations.

4.2 The comparative analysis of the regions

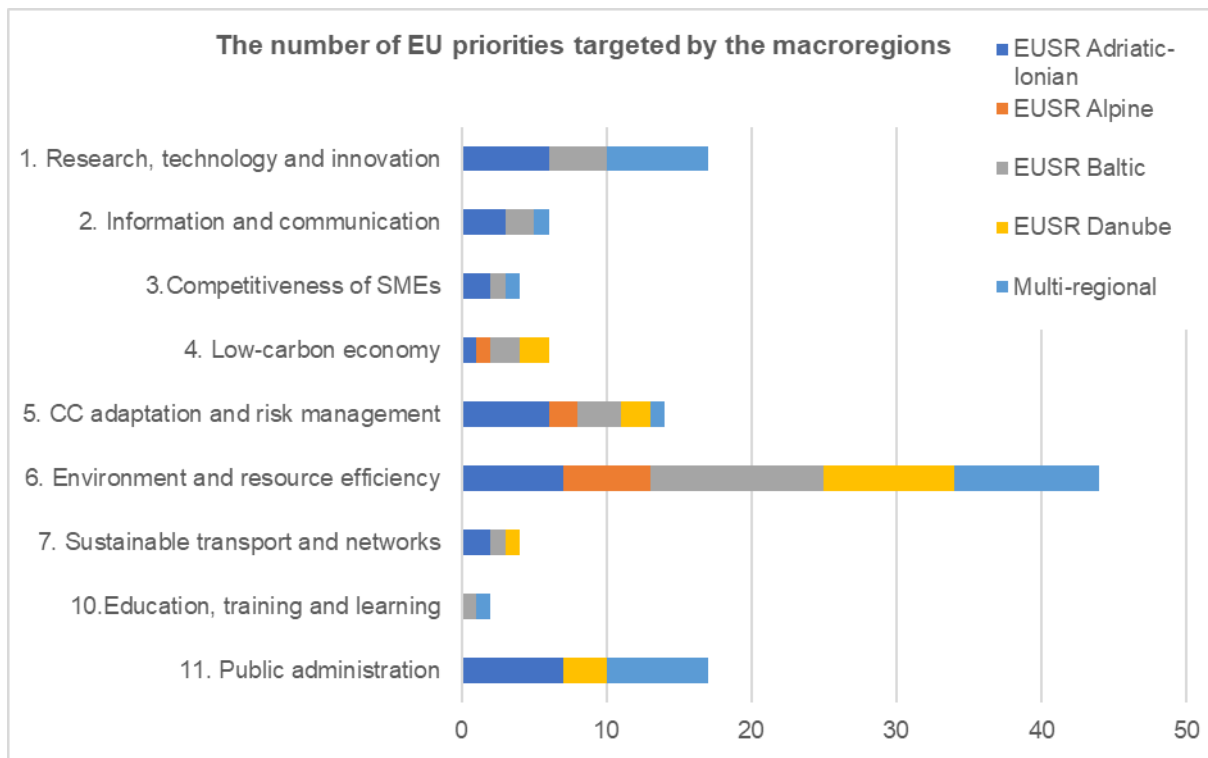
Data and method

The section aims at summarising the activities of the EUSRs in regards to water related activities through presenting combined data. In the underlying database all projects discussed above are presented and there are a number of other projects, having EU-wide coverage, are also included. These projects are presented under the label “Multi-regional”; their source is primarily DG ENVI and DG REGIO and most of the times are concerned with the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).

Targeted EU cohesion policy objectives / EU priorities

It is not surprising, and comes from the selection of the projects, that the “most popular” EU priority targeted by the region is “Environment and resource efficiency”. The professional target of the “Climate change adaptation and risk management” also is a relatively frequent priority area, together with “Environment and resources efficiency” they make up almost the full professional coverage of the projects. Other professional issues put forward by the EU, such as transport, SMEs’ competitiveness, low carbon economies are also among the targeted priorities, however their relevance is relatively small (see figure below).

The priority of “Research and innovation” is the second most quoted priority closely followed by the improvement of public administration. These show that regions look for new solution in tackling environmental problems and the results of the activities are many times channelled into the processes of policy formulation and management of resources.



40. Figure: The targeted Cohesion policy objectives / EU priorities

Regarding regional distribution, all EUSRs put large emphasis on EU priority 6 “Environment and resource efficiency”. Similarly, “Climate change adaptation and risk management” is the forefront of the activities of all regions. Specifically research projects are primarily those of cross-European relevance, and the relatively young Adriatic-Ionian region puts larger efforts in the research sector. According to primarily targeted EU priorities of projects, the Alpine and the Baltic regions focus less on public administration; the reason behind this phenomenon may be their relatively well organised public administration systems and their activities, above specific projects, in channelling the results into the policy making procedures.

The less popular EU targets are covered by only a few projects, the Adriatic-Ionian region showing the most diversity when selecting target areas.

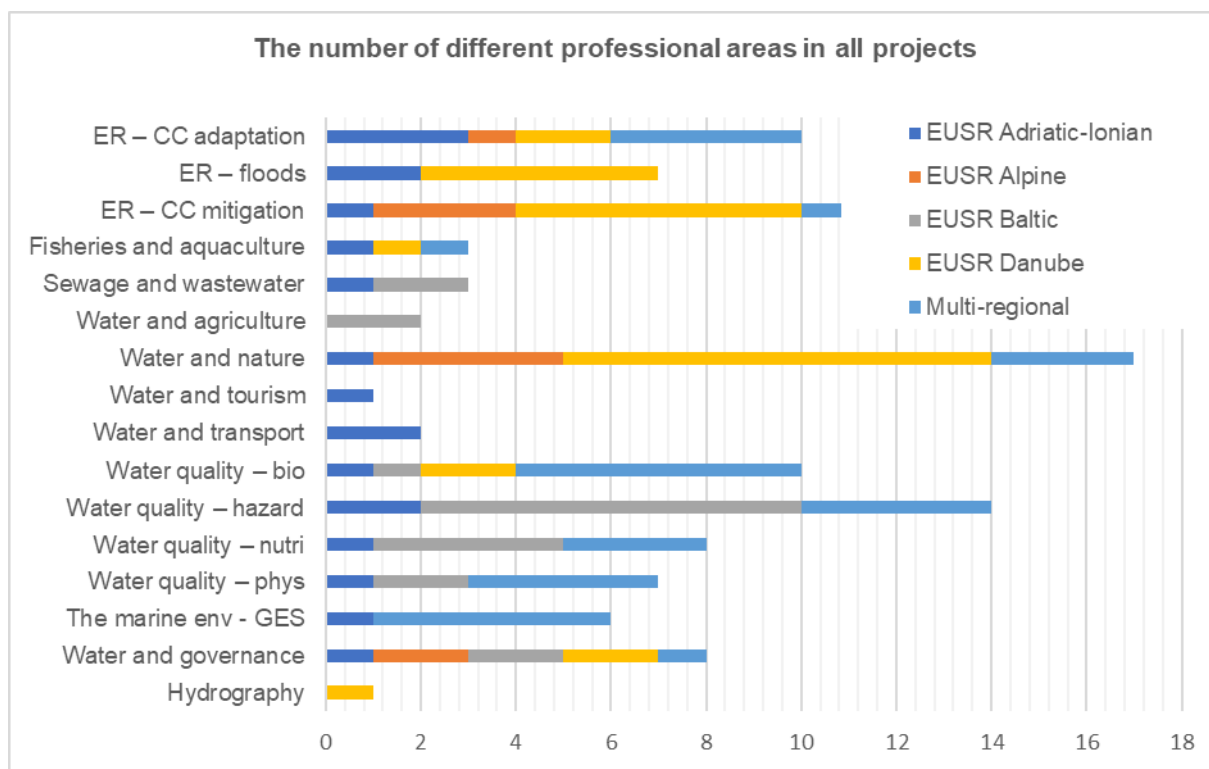
Professional areas

The professional areas cover a wide selection, most of the projects concern the relations between waters and nature conservation, the Danube region having been initiated the largest number of projects within the field, the Adriatic-Ionian and the Baltic regions having one or none project within this field respectively. In contrast, these two regions are the most active in regards to water quality related to hazardous materials and climate change adaptation. Hazardous materials are the second mostly concerned issues among the projects; the Baltic region and cross-European initiatives seem to put the largest emphasis on this, according to the pool projects, in the case of the Alpine and the Danube regions this issue is marginal. Climate change (both adaptation and mitigation) and related flood management issues combined are among the most popular issues under investigation, all regions, but the Baltic having comparable shares. Other themes, such as tourism, fisheries, agriculture, hydrography and transport are represented vaguely among the projects, the Adriatic-Ionian region having the most diverse project portfolio. Specifically maritime issues

are typically multi-regional, concern of the MSFD. The special area of water governance concerns all EUSRs to similar, comparatively medium-high extend that show strong commitment to utilise the results of the projects in the public management sector too.

The activities of the Baltic region seem to have a different focus than those of the others. The EUSBSR is the most active region in targeting water quality issues, covering also their most important sources, waste water and agriculture, however in other professional areas the region has less pronounced emphases.

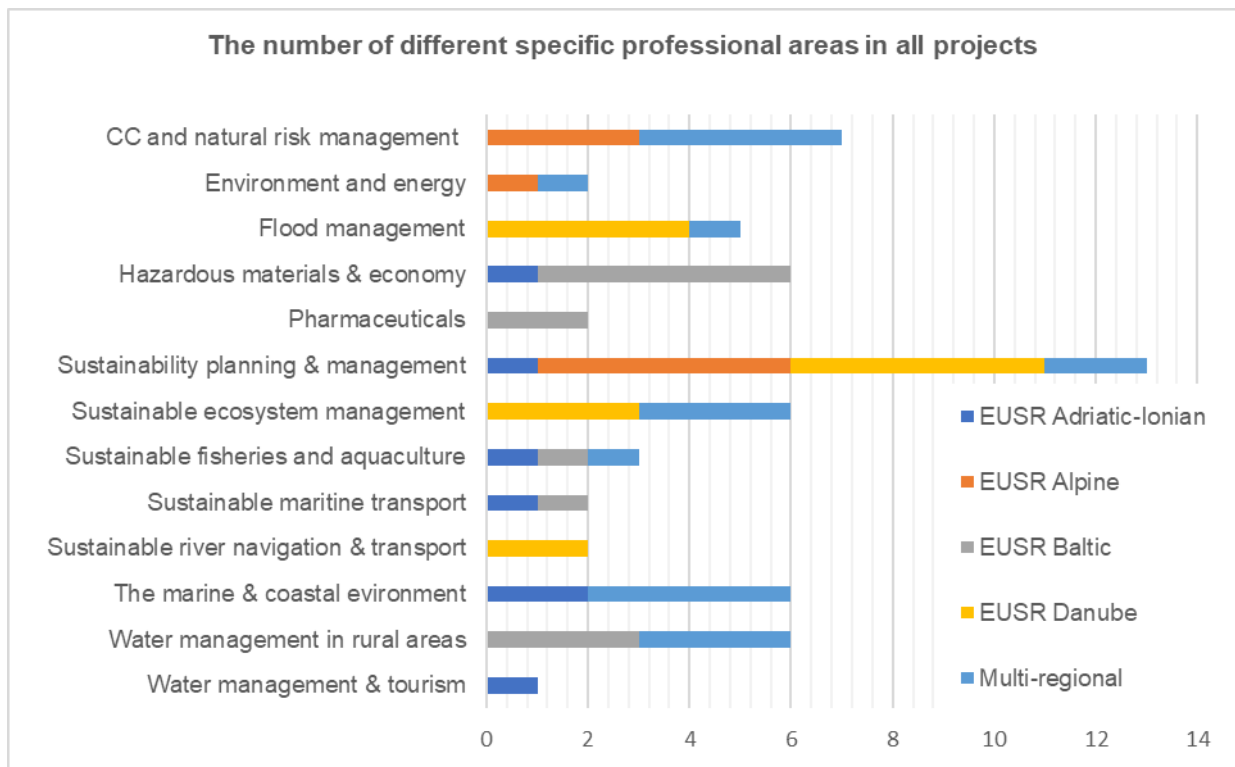
The numbers of projects within the professional fields are shown in the below table:



41. Figure: Targeted professional areas (pre-defined)

Targeted specific professional areas

The investigation on project specific professional areas further details the above picture. The most of the projects target sustainability planning and management; these projects have a rather wide scope and they attempt to strengthen policy making a resource management in various specific professional areas; the Alpine and the Danube regions are the most active in this regard. The marine and coastal environment and its management is also an area a large concern, combined with ecosystem management they make up the second line of professional interest in the EUSRs. The Adriatic-Ionian EUS and the Danube EUS have different focuses, the former focusing on maritime and coastal issues, and maritime projects are many times of cross-European interest. These two groups of projects clearly show where, in general, the professional interest of the EUSRs lies, however, the Baltic region somewhat follows a different approach.

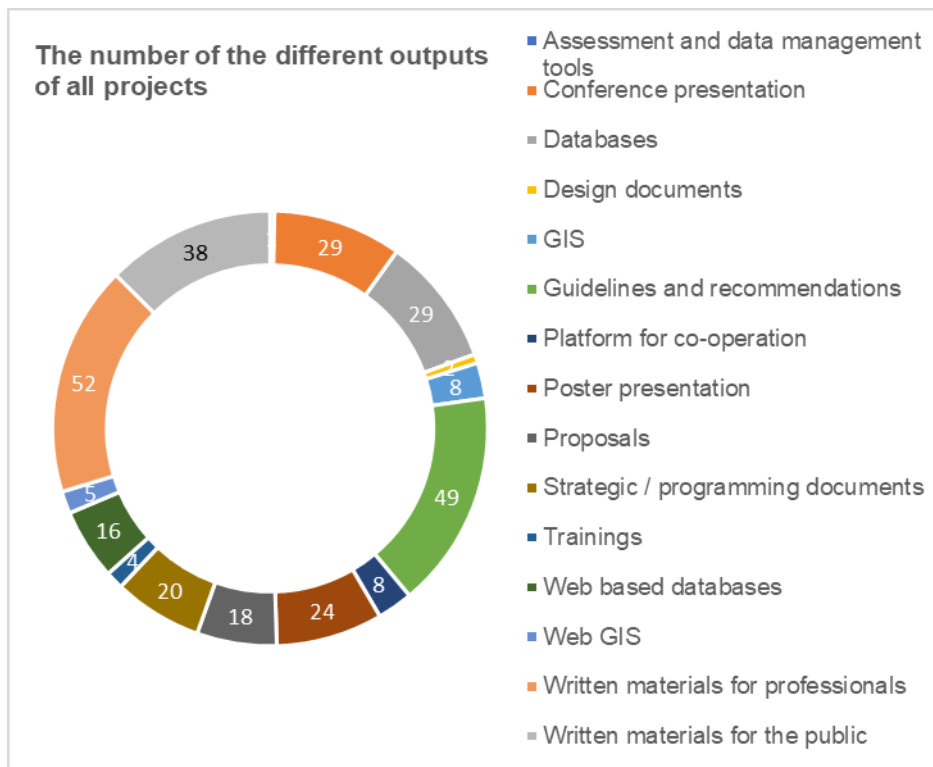


42. Figure: Targeted professional areas (project specific)

Climate change adaptation and natural risk management together with flood management also make up a large group of projects; these professional fields are primarily the focus of the Alpine and the Danube regions. The Adriatic-Ionian and the Baltic regions concern other professional areas that are many times linked to human activities, such as industrial and agricultural production, fisheries, tourism and shipping, and to their consequences to the environment, such as various pollution issues. The multi-regional projects and activities focus most likely on natural risk management, sustainability and water management (especially water scarcity, reuse and irrigation).

Actions / Outputs

The projects of the macro-regions produce a great variety of outputs, targeting the public, professionals and policy makers. Most of the outputs are some kind of written materials for professionals, such as guidelines and recommendations, using strategic and theoretical approaches as well. The dissemination of the results is most of the times supported by conferences and written materials for the public. In some cases online materials, databases, assessment tools are also prepared. Based on this evidence all regions utilise the potentials of the international knowledge-sharing and networking activities in order to prepare policy recommendations and guidelines.

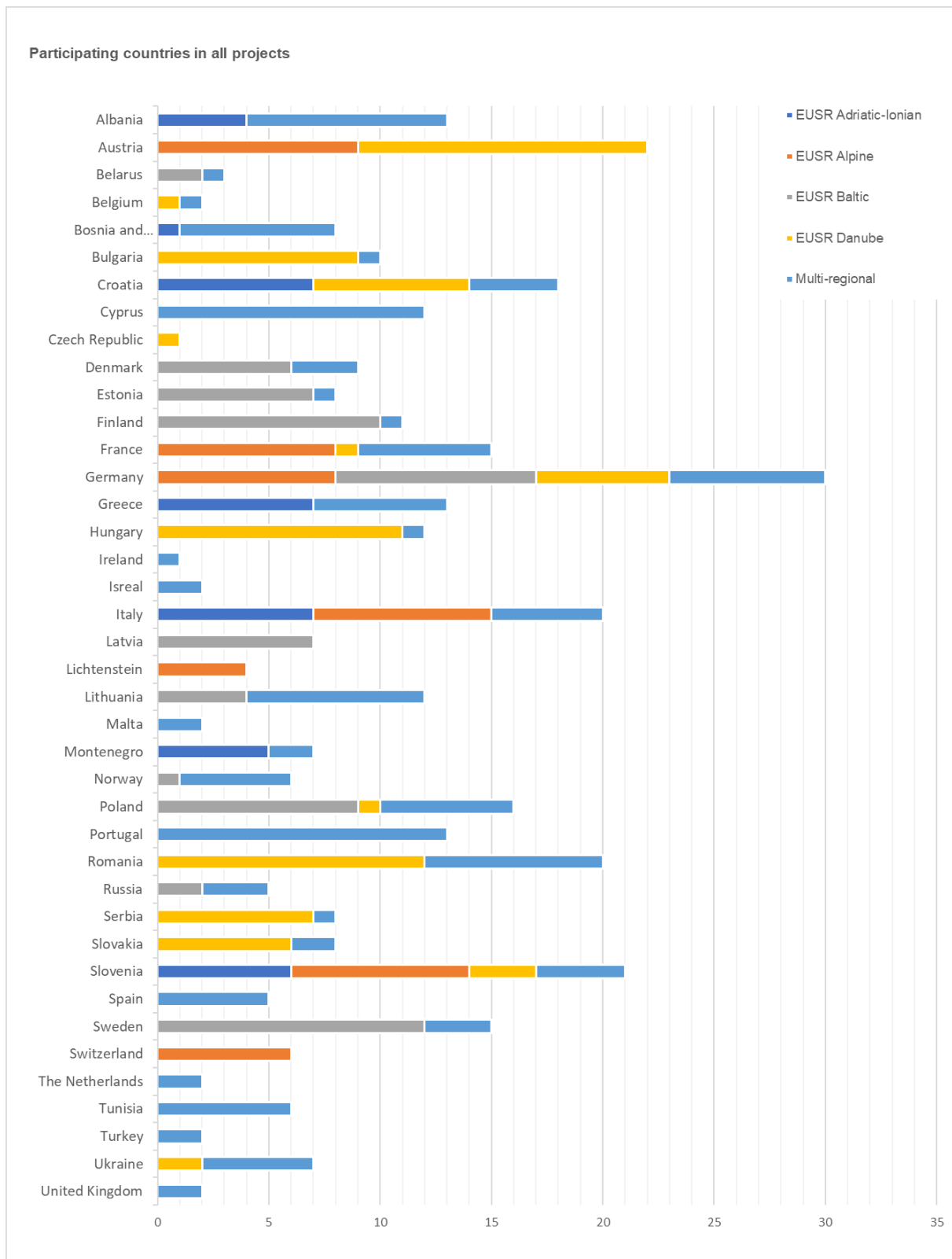


43. Figure: Outputs of projects

Participating countries

The most active country in terms of water-related projects is Germany, it participates in 25, nearly the half of the analysed projects (including multi-regional projects); the country is the member of 3 out of the 4 macro-regions. Austria, Italy and Slovenia also participate very actively in a high number of projects as they are also members of multiple multi-regional strategies. The prize for the most active country in total goes to Austria, as it is the member of two regions “only”, but in terms of project participation it is the second on the list of the most active countries. Italy, Romania and Croatia are also among the most active countries in total, being the members of two regions. Among the countries with single membership, Sweden and Hungary play significant roles in their regions, the Baltic and the Danube respectively. The relatively active involvement of Albania and Montenegro in the Adriatic-Ionian co-operation is appreciated.

There are a few other countries not being a member of any macro-regions but also participating as beneficiary partners. Many of them are EU member states participating in pan-European projects on maritime issues, Russia (Kaliningrad), Belarus, Turkey and Tunisia are good examples from the Baltic and the pan-European maritime projects.

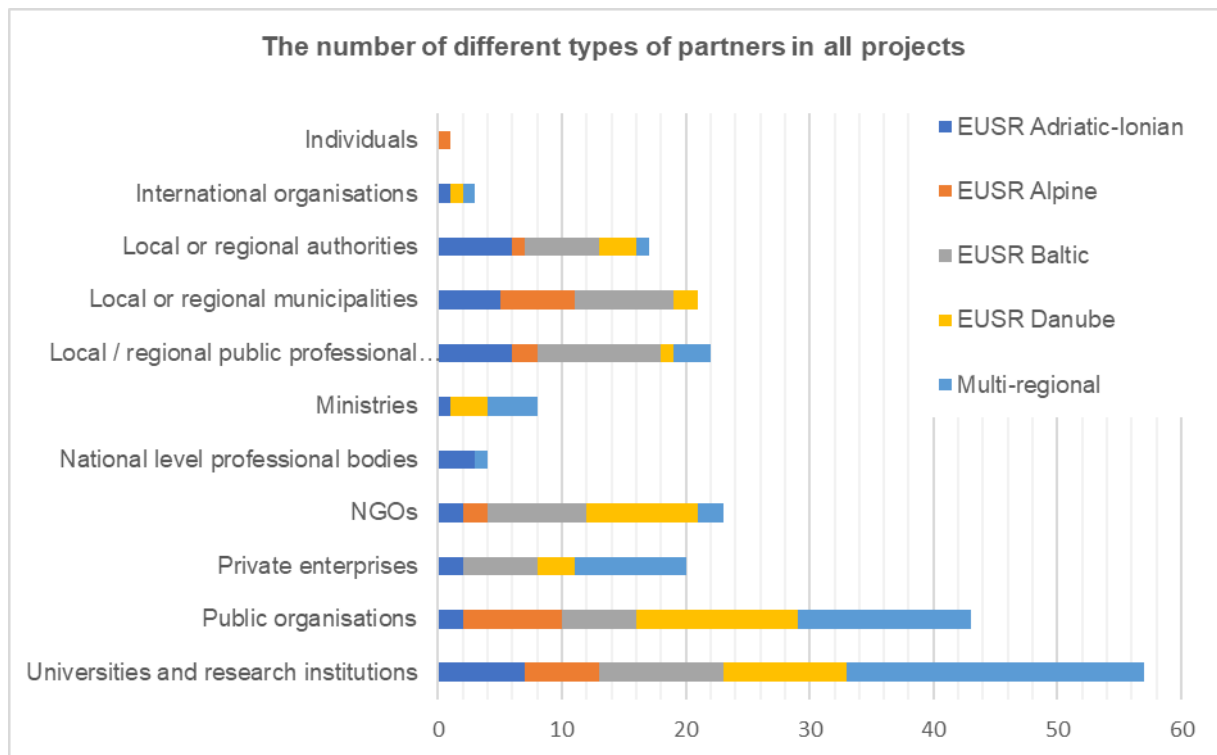


44. Figure: Participating countries in all projects

Project partners

According to the database universities and research institutions were the most frequent partners during projects activities. The second frequent type of partners is the public organisations that many times include professional bodies. Local or regional public bodies are also participating in a great number. This arrangement supports the processes of policy recommendations, development of guidelines for common practices.

The involvement of private enterprises is on relatively low level, the participation of NGOs is pronounced only in the case of the Danube and the Baltic regions. Also, partnership with international organisations is not common however there are great potentials in utilising other international resources and experience.



45. Figure: Participating partners

Annexes

Annex 1.: The programme of the 1st EU Macro-regional strategies' workshop on water



European Union

AGENDA

FIRST MACRO REGIONAL STRATEGIES' WORKSHOP ON WATER

19 APRIL 2018

Meeting venue: [Art'otel Budapest](#), Bem Rakpart 16-19, 1011, Budapest, Hungary

Dinner: The evening prior to the event we kindly invite you for the networking dinner in [Kossuth Múzeumhajó és Vén Hajó Étterem \(the Kossuth Museum Boat\)](#), Vigadó 2-es ponton, 1052, Budapest, Hungary. The dinner is served at 19:00 on 18 April 2018.

09:00-09:30	Registration and welcome coffee	
09:30-10:00	Opening of the meeting <i>Tour de table</i>	Baiba Liepa, Interact Balázs Horváth, Priority Area 4 'Water Quality', EUSDR, Hungary
10:00-10:15	EU Water related activities: update	Giacomo Luciani, DG Environment, European Commission
10:15-10:25	Further developments of the EU macro-regional strategies	Odd Godal, DG REGIO, European Commission
10:25-10:50	First outcomes of the EU Macro-regional strategies research on waters Introduction of water related activities in the EU macro-regional strategies: challenges, experiences and lessons learnt	Piroska Szabó, Trenecon
10:50-11:40	➤ Introduction by the coordinators of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region Discussion	Balázs Horváth, Priority Area 4 'Water Quality', Hungary Károly Gombás, Priority Area 5 'Environmental risks', Hungary Florian Ballnus, Priority Area 6 'Biodiversity', Germany (tbc)
11:40-12:00	Coffee Break	



12:00-12:30	➤ Introduction by the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Discussion	Maxi Nachtigall, Policy Area 'Hazards', Sweden
12:30-13:20	➤ Introduction by the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region Discussion	Sofia Loukmidou, Pillar 1 'Blue growth', Greece Mitja Bricelj, Pillar 3 'Environmental quality', Slovenia
13:30-14:30	Lunch	
14:30-15:45	Moderated round table discussion around the questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What water related topics are common/similar across all the EU macro-regional strategies? - What emerging issues can be identified in the implementation of the EU macro-regional strategies (e.g. funding post-2020; mobilisation of stakeholders; new scientific challenges - how to address those; conveying results of the Strategies to the policy level)? - How cooperation across the EU macro-regional strategies could be organised (e.g. thematic, format, frequency of exchanges, concrete proposals for aligning efforts)? - How to enhance cooperation between the thematic coordinators of the EU macro-regional strategies and international organisations? 	Moderated by Ádám Kovács, International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
15:45-16:00	Conclusions from the discussions, next steps towards future water related cooperation across the EU macro-regional strategies Closing of the meeting	Balázs Horváth, Priority Area 4 'Water Quality', EUSDR, Hungary Baiba Liepa, Interact

Annex 2.: The on-line questionnaire of data collection

DATA COLLECTION ON WATER QUALITY RELATED PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION REGIONS

After the First Macro-regional Strategies' Workshop on Water, initiated by the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, PA4 – Water quality, we are starting to develop a study about the common issues relating to the waters of the 4 EUS macro-regions. In order to prepare the analysis successfully, we kindly ask you to give us the information about your projects and other activities run under your EU Strategy in the field of water. Our objective with the below survey is to collect the information regarding all projects and other activities carried out by all the macro-regions. In a later stage the information you're providing will be analysed and the results will serve as the basis of the future co-operation of the EU macro-regions in the field of waters.

We greatly appreciate your efforts.

We kindly ask you to fill in the questionnaire by 20th of August, 2018.

You can fill in the survey multiple times regarding different projects and workshops / seminars or conferences as well.

1. The project/workshop is connected to the following EU Regional Strategy: *

- ☐ EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region (EUSAIR)
☐ EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)
☐ EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)
☐ EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)
☐ Multi-regional project/activity

2. Please select, whether the activity concerns a specific project, or a workshop / seminar / conference. *

- ☐ Project
☐ Workshop, seminar or conference

Project data sheet

Please provide the necessary information based on the chosen project.

3. Short project title: *

4. Full project title: *

5. Implementation status: *

☐ Planned

☐ Ongoing

☐ Executed

6. Inception of the project/activity (if applicable):

7. Termination of the project/activity (if applicable):

8. Lead partner: *

9. Partners: *

☐ NGOs

☐ Universities and research institutions

☐ Local or regional municipalities

☐ Local or regional authorities

☐ Local or regional publicly owned professional bodies

☐ Public organisations

☐ Individuals

☐ Private enterprises

☐ Other:

10. Total budget (in thousand Euros): *

11. Source of funding: *

- ☐ EGTC cross border
- ☐ EGTC transnational
- ☐ EGTC interregional
- ☐ LIFE
- ☐ HORIZON
- ☐ CAP
- ☐ Civil Protection Mechanism
- ☐ Swiss contribution
- ☐ Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
- ☐ European Neighbourhood Instrument
- ☐ Development Cooperation Instrument
- ☐ EEA and Norway Grants
- ☐ National sources (to be specified)
- ☐ Other: _____

12. If the project was funded by national or other sources, please specify: *

13. Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved): *

14. Specific geographical locations (if applicable - NUTS 3, LAU 1, settlements, biogeographical regions, etc):

15. Targeted EU Regional Strategy objectives: *

16. Targeted EU Priorities: *

- ☐ 1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation
- ☐ 2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies
- ☐ 3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs
- ☐ 4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy
- ☐ 5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management
- ☐ 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency
- ☐ 7. Promoting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructures
- ☐ 8. Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility
- ☐ 9. Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination
- ☐ 10. Investing in education, training and lifelong learning
- ☐ 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration

17. Specific project/activity objectives (as defined in the project/activity documents): *

18. Targeted professional area: *

- ☐ Water quality – physical parameters
- ☐ Water quality – biological parameters
- ☐ Water quality – nutrients
- ☐ Water quality – hazardous substances and materials
- ☐ Water availability – droughts
- ☐ Water availability – irrigation
- ☐ Water and agriculture
- ☐ Water and nature conservation
- ☐ Water and tourism
- ☐ Sewage and wastewater treatment
- ☐ Environmental risk – floods
- ☐ Environmental risk – climate change adaptation
- ☐ Environmental risk – climate change mitigation
- ☐ Other: _____

19. Targeted specific professional area: *

20. Related EU Regional Strategy Priority Area(s): *

21. Related EU Regional Strategy Action(s): *

22. Activities:

- ☐ Research
- ☐ Measurements
- ☐ Analysis
- ☐ Data collection
- ☐ Database creation
- ☐ Mapping and/or GIS creation
- ☐ Development of guidelines
- ☐ Collection of best practices
- ☐ Best practice analysis
- ☐ Preparation of strategy and/or programme
- ☐ Preparation of action plan
- ☐ Preparation of pilot project
- ☐ Preparation of pilot design, design or design requirements
- ☐ Organising seminars and workshops
- ☐ Organising conference
- ☐ Webpage creation
- ☐ Other: _____

23. Outcomes: *

- ☐ Web GIS
- ☐ GIS
- ☐ Databases
- ☐ Web based databases
- ☐ Strategic / programming documents
- ☐ Design documents
- ☐ Guidelines and recommendations
- ☐ Proposals
- ☐ Written materials for professionals
- ☐ Written materials for the public
- ☐ Conference presentation
- ☐ Poster presentation
- ☐ Other: _____

24. Major bottlenecks during preparation (pre-inception): *

25. Major bottlenecks during implementation: *

26. Achievement of targets: *

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
No targets achieved (0%)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	All targets fully achieved (100%)

27. Overall satisfaction with the results: *

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Very dissatisfied	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Very satisfied

28. Previous initiatives related to the project/activity:

29. Initiatives stemming from the project/activity:

30. Contact person name: *

32. Contact person e-mail address: *

32. Contact person telephone number: *

33. Project website:

Workshop/seminar/conference data sheet

Please provide the necessary information based on the chosen workshop, seminar or conference.

34. Title of workshop/seminar/conference: *

35. Status: *

☐ Planned

☐ Ongoing

☐ Executed

36. Start date of the workshop/seminar/conference:

37. Termination of the workshop/seminar/conference:

38. Host country, host city: *

39. Organising institution: *

40.

40. Number of participants: *

- ☐ 1 to 25 participants
- ☐ 25 to 50 participants
- ☐ 50 to 75 participants
- ☐ 75 to 100 participants
- ☐ More than 100 participants

41. Type of speakers: *

- ☐ NGOs
- ☐ Universities and research institutions
- ☐ Local or regional municipalities
- ☐ Local or regional authorities
- ☐ Local or regional publicly owned professional bodies
- ☐ Public organisations
- ☐ Individuals
- ☐ Private enterprises
- ☐ Other: _____

42. Total budget (in thousand Euros): *

43. Source of funding: *

- ☐ EGTC cross border
- ☐ EGTC transnational
- ☐ EGTC interregional
- ☐ LIFE
- ☐ HORIZON
- ☐ CAP
- ☐ Civil Protection Mechanism
- ☐ Swiss contribution
- ☐ Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
- ☐ European Neighbourhood Instrument
- ☐ Development Cooperation Instrument
- ☐ EEA and Norway Grants
- ☐ National sources (to be specified)
- ☐ Other: _____

44. If the project was funded by national or other sources, please specify:

45. Related EU Regional Strategy objective(s): *

46. Related EU Priority(ies): *

☐

1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation

☐

2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies

☐

3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs

☐

4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy

☐

5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management

☐

6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency

☐

7. Promoting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructures

☐

8. Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility

☐

9. Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination

☐

10. Investing in education, training and lifelong learning

☐

11. Improving the efficiency of public administration

47. Related EU Regional Strategy Priority Area(s): *

48. Related EU Regional Strategy Action(s): *

49. Specific objectives (as defined in the background documents): *

50. Main panels/discussions/focus areas/thematic sessions: *

- ☐ Water quality – physical parameters
- ☐ Water quality – biological parameters
- ☐ Water quality – nutrients
- ☐ Water quality – hazardous substances and materials
- ☐ Water availability – droughts
- ☐ Water availability – irrigation
- ☐ Water and agriculture
- ☐ Water and nature conservation
- ☐ Water and tourism
- ☐ Sewage and wastewater treatment
- ☐ Environmental risk – floods
- ☐ Environmental risk – climate change adaptation
- ☐ Environmental risk – climate change mitigation
- ☐ Other: _____

51. Targeted other specific professional areas: *

52. Specific geographical scope of discussed topics (if applicable):

53. Outcomes:

54. Major bottlenecks during preparation (pre-inception): *

55. Major bottlenecks during implementation: *

56. Overall satisfaction with the results: *

Very dissatisfied	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Very satisfied
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

57. Previous initiatives or events related to the workshop/seminar/conference:

58. Initiatives or other events stemming from the workshop/seminar/conference:

59. Contact persons name: *

60. Contact persons e-mail address: *

61. Contact persons telephone number: *

Annex 3.: Water related projects database – basic information

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
EUSR Baltic	MORPHEUS	Model Areas for Removal of Pharmaceutical Substances in the South Baltic	Sweden, Poland, Germany and Lithuania	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 10. Investing in education, training and lifelong learning	Water quality – hazardous substances and materials	Pharmaceuticals	Measurements, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Preparation of action plan, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation
EUSR Baltic	CWPharma	Clear waters from pharmaceuticals	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Poland, Sweden	2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – hazardous substances and materials, Sewage and wastewater treatment	Pharmaceuticals	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Data collection, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of action plan, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation
EUSR Baltic	BLASTIC	Plastic waste pathways into the Baltic Sea	Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Sweden.	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – hazardous substances and materials	Hazardous materials and economic activities	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Data collection, Preparation of action plan, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
								presentation, Poster presentation
EUSR Baltic	NonHazCity	Innovative management solutions for minimizing emissions of hazardous substances from urban areas in the Baltic Sea	Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – hazardous substances and materials, public awareness campaign	Hazardous materials and economic activities	Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Preparation of action plan, Preparation of pilot project, Organising seminars and workshops, Webpage creation, awareness raising campaign	Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation
EUSR Baltic	HAZBREF	Hazardous industrial chemicals in the IED BREFs	Estonia, Finland, Germany, Poland and Sweden	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – hazardous substances and materials	Hazardous materials and economic activities	Analysis, Data collection, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of pilot project, Policy improvement	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation
EUSR Baltic	NUTRINFLOW	Practical actions for holistic drainage management for reduced nutrient inflow to Baltic Sea	Finland, Latvia and Sweden	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – nutrients, Water and agriculture	Water management in rural areas	Research, Preparation of pilot project, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation
EUSR Alpine	ALPBIONE T2030	Integrative Alpine wildlife and habitat	Austria, France, Germany, Italy,	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and	Water and nature conservation	Sustainability planning and	Development of guidelines, Preparation of strategy and/or programme	Strategic programming documents, Written

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
		management for the next generation	Slovenia, Switzerland	promoting resource efficiency		management		materials for professionals
EUSR Baltic	BaRuWa	Evaluation and promotion of rural wastewater treatment for reduction of nutrient loads to the Baltic Sea	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Poland and Sweden	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – nutrients	Water management in rural areas	Research, Preparation of pilot project, Preparation of pilot design, design or design requirements, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Design documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation
EUSR Alpine	AlpES	Alpine Ecosystem Services – mapping, maintenance and management	France, Germany, Lichtenstein, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water and nature conservation, Forming partnerships for sustainable management of natural resources	Sustainability planning and management	Analysis, Database creation, Mapping and/or GIS creation, Organising seminars and workshops	Web GIS, Transnational workshops, tools and trainings
EUSR Baltic	IWAMA	Interactive Water Management	Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania Poland, Russia and Sweden	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – nutrients, Sewage and wastewater treatment	Water management in rural areas	Data collection, Database creation, Development of guidelines, Preparation of pilot project, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation, Capacity building	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation
EUSR Alpine	CaSCo	Carbon Smart Communities	France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy,	4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy	Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Environment and energy	Data collection, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of strategy	Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
			Austria, Slovenia				and/or programme, Preparation of pilot project	materials for the public, Trainings,
EUSR Baltic	Baltic Blue Growth	Initiation of full scale mussel farming in the Baltic Sea	Sweden, Latvia, Poland, Germany, Denmark	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – nutrients, Water and agriculture	Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Data collection, Development of guidelines, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of action plan, Preparation of pilot project, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation, Recommendations on harmonised maritime spatial planning and ecosystem service compensation measures.	Strategic / programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation
EUSR Alpine	CESBA	The collective initiative for a new culture of Built Environment in Europe	Italy, Austria, Germany, France, Lichtenstein, Slovenia	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Sustainability planning and management	Development of guidelines, Development of trainings	Guidelines and recommendations, Trainings
EUSR Baltic	BALEX DELTA 2018	Oil and chemical spill recovery exercise	Sweden, Poland, Finland	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – physical parameters, Water quality – hazardous substances and materials	Hazardous materials and economic activities	Preparation of pilot project, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Guidelines and recommendations, Conference presentation, Poster presentation
EUSR Baltic	HAZARD	Mitigating emergency	Denmark, Finland,	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk	Water quality – hazardous	Hazardous materials	Development of guidelines, Organising seminars and	Guidelines and recommendations,

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		s and accidents in Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) seaports in the Baltic Sea Region	Germany and Sweden	prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 7. Promoting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructures	substances and materials, Emergencies	and economic activities	workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation, Harmonization of safety and security standards, codes, etc.	Written materials for professionals, Conference presentation
EUSR Baltic	CLEANSHIP	Clean Baltic Sea Shipping	Sweden, Finland, Norway, Estonia, Denmark, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Belarus	2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies, 4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – physical parameters, Water quality – biological parameters, Water quality – hazardous substances and materials	Sustainable maritime transport	Collection of best practices, Preparation of pilot project, Preparation of pilot design, design or design requirements, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation, Standardization of policies	Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Conference presentation
EUSR Alpine	GoApply	Multidimensional Governance of Climate Change Adaption in Policy Making and Practice	Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Italy	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Multilevel governance	Climate change and natural risk management	Analysis, Data collection, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Organising seminars and workshops, Development of international interfaces	Databases, Strategic / programming documents, Written materials for professionals
EUSR Alpine	GREENCYCLE	Introducing circular economy system to Alpine	Slovenia, Germany, Italy, France, Austria,	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Climate change and natural risk	Analysis, Data collection, Development of guidelines, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of pilot project	Databases, Strategic / programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations,

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		Space to achieve low-carbon targets	Lichtenstein			management		Building a professional platform
EUSR Alpine	Link4Soils	Linking Alpine Soil Knowledge for Sustainable Ecosystem Management and Capacity Building	Austria, Germany, Italy, France, Slovenia	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	Environmental risk – climate change adaptation	Climate change and natural risk management	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Development of guidelines	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for the public, Poster presentation
EUSR Alpine	SPARE	Strategic Planning for Alpine River Ecosystems – Integrating protection and development	Austria, Slovenia, Italy, France, Switzerland, Lichtenstein	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water and nature conservation	Sustainability planning and management	Data collection, Collection of best practices, Preparation of pilot project	Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public
EUSR Alpine	HyMoCARE S	INTEGRATING THE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES APPROACH IN PLANNING AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES AFFECTING	Italy, France, Austria, Slovenia, Germany, Switzerland	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water and nature conservation	Sustainability planning and management	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Database creation, Development of guidelines, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Organising seminars and workshops	Databases, Strategic / programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
		RIVER HYDROMORPHOLOGICAL PROCESSES						
EUSR Danube	DanubEco	Danube Ecotourism	Romania, Bulgaria	11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Efficiency of public administration	Sustainability planning and management	Organising seminars and workshops, Building a cross-border network	Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Trainings, cross-border network
EUSR Danube	GREEN DANUBE	Integrated transnational policies and practical solutions for an environmentally-friendly Inland Water Transport system in the Danube region	Romania, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Republic of Serbia	4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy	Water and nature conservation, Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Sustainability planning and management	Measurements, Analysis, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of strategy and/or programme	Databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals
EUSR Adriatic-Ionian	ARIEL	Promoting small scale fisheries and aquaculture transnational networking in Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion	Italy, Greece, Croatia, Montenegro	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, 5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and	fisheries and aquaculture	Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of pilot project, Preparation of pilot design, design or design requirements, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference,	Strategic programming / documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
				promoting resource efficiency, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration			Webpage creation, Setting up the ARIEL Platform	presentation, Joint Research Agenda, Chart of Innovation Services
EUSR Danube	DANTE	Improving Administrative Procedures and Processes for Danube IWT	Austria, Hungary, Romania	7. Promoting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructures	Water and nature conservation, Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Sustainable river navigation and transport	Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis	Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public
EUSR Adriatic-Ionian	HarmoNIA	Harmonization and Networking for contaminant assessment in the Ionian and Adriatic Seas	Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Albania	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies, 5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 7. Promoting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructures, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water quality – physical parameters, Water quality – biological parameters, Water quality – nutrients, Water quality – hazardous substances and materials, Sewage and wastewater treatment, Maritime transport	Hazardous materials and economic activities	Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Conference presentation, Transnational network of institutions, Joint data management system
EUSR Adriatic-Ionian	TOUREST	Tourism Water Management for	Greece, Croatia, Montenegro	3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, 6. Preserving and protecting the	Water and tourism	Water management in the	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best	Strategic programming documents, Guidelines and

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
		Sustainable Adriatic Coastal Areas	Italy, Slovenia	environment and promoting resource efficiency, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration		support of tourism	practice analysis, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of action plan, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Conference presentation, Poster presentation, IT based monitoring and assessment tools
EUSR Danube	Danube SKILLS	Increased institutional capacity in Danube navigation by boosting joint transnational competences and skills in education and public development services	Romania, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia, Germany and Serbia	11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water and nature conservation, Improving institutional capacities	Sustainability planning and management	Development of guidelines, Preparation of strategy and/or programme	Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public
EUSR Danube	Danube STREAM	Smart, Integrated and Harmonized Waterway Management	Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia	4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy	Water and nature conservation	Sustainable river navigation and transport	Mapping and/or GIS creation, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference	GIS, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation
EUSR Danube	JOINTISZA	Strengthening cooperation between river basin	Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Austria,	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water and nature conservation, Environmental risk – floods	Sustainability planning and	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Development of guidelines, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of	Strategic programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations,

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
		management planning and flood risk prevention to enhance the status of waters of the Tisza River Basin	Serbia, Ukraine			management	pilot design, design or design requirements, Organising seminars and workshops	Written materials for professionals
EUSR Adriatic-Ionian	I-STORMS	Integrated Sea sTORM Management Strategies	Italy, Greece, Croatia, Slovenia, Albania	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies, 5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Environmental risk – floods, Environmental risk – climate change adaptation	The marine and coastal environment	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Mapping and/or GIS creation, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Web GIS, GIS, Databases, Web based databases, Strategic / programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation, Mobile application(s)
EUSR Adriatic-Ionian	PORTODIMARE	geoPortal of Tools & Data for sustainable Management of coastal and marine Environment	Italy, Greece, Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies, 5. Promoting climate change	Environmental risk – floods, Environmental risk – climate change adaptation, Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Management	The marine and coastal environment	Data collection, Database creation, Mapping and/or GIS creation, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation, Web based Tools	Web GIS, GIS, Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
				adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration			for analysis and risk assesment	public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation, Geoportal (common platform) for data and information on coastal and marine areas
EUSR Danube	LENA	Local Economy and Nature Conservation in the Danube Region	Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Germany, Romania, Serbia and Slovenia	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water and nature conservation, Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Sustainability planning and management	Development of guidelines, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of pilot project, Preparation of pilot design, design or design requirements, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference	Strategic / programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation
EUSR Danube	CAMAROD	Cooperating towards Advanced Management Routines for land use impacts on the water regime in the Danube river basin	Austria, Slovenia	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water and nature conservation, Environmental risk – floods, Environmental risk – climate change adaptation, Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Flood management	Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of pilot project, Preparation of pilot design, design or design requirements, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference	Strategic / programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Conference presentation
EUSR Adriatic-Ionian	IMPRECO	Common strategies and best practices to Improve the transnational Protection	Italy, Greece, Croatia, Albania, Slovenia	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6.	Water and nature conservation, Environmental risk – climate change adaptation, Ecosystem services	Sustainability planning and management	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of	Databases, Strategic / programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
		of ECOSystem integrity and services		Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration			strategy and/or programme, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation, Transnational network of stakeholders
EUSR Adriatic-Ionian	SUPAIR	Sustainable Ports in the Adriatic-Ionian Region	Italy, Greece, Croatia, Albania, Slovenia, Montenegro	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy, 5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 7. Promoting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructures, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water quality – hazardous substances and materials, Environmental risk – climate change mitigation, Water and transport	Sustainable maritime transport	Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of action plan, Preparation of pilot design, design or design requirements, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation, Networking / marketing	Databases, Web based databases, Strategic programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Conference presentation, Poster presentation, Transnational Network of stakeholders
EUSR Danube	DanubeSediment	Danube Sediment Management - Restoration of the Sediment Balance in the Danube River	Hungary, Austria, Romania, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Slovakia, Germany, Croatia, Serbia	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water and nature conservation, Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Flood management	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Development of guidelines	Databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals

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EUSR Danube	Danube Floodplain	Reducing the flood risk through floodplain restoration along the Danube River and tributaries	Romania, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Environmental risk – floods	Flood management	Analysis, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis	Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals
EUSR Danube	MEASURE S	Managing and restoring aquatic Ecological corridors for migratory fish species in the Danube River basin	Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – biological parameters, Water and nature conservation	Sustainable ecosystem management	Measurements, Mapping and/or GIS creation, Preparation of pilot project	GIS, Databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public
Multi-regional	JMP EUNOSAT	EU project Joint Monitoring Programme of the Eutrophication of the North Sea with Satellite data	The Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, France, United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, Germany	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water quality – biological parameters, Water quality – nutrients	The marine and coastal environment	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Mapping and/or GIS creation, Development of guidelines, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation, Planning of further common actions	GIS, Databases, Web based databases, Proposals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation, platform of co-operation
EUSR Danube	LIFE for Danube Sturgeons	Sustainable protection of lower Danube sturgeons by preventing	Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – biological parameters	Sustainable ecosystem management	Research, Development of guidelines, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of action plan, Preparation of	Strategic programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Law

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		and counteracting poaching and illegal wildlife trade					pilot project, Organising seminars and workshops	enforcement measures
Multi-regional	quietMED	Joint programme on noise (D11) for the implementation of the Second Cycle of the MSFD in the Mediterranean Sea	Spain, France, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Malta, Greece	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water and human activities - gen	The marine and coastal environment	Data collection, Database creation, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of pilot project, Preparation of pilot design, design or design requirements, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation, Networking	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation, Platform for co-operation
EUSR Danube	LIFE Sterlet	LIFE Sterlet	Austria, Slovakia	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Animal breeding - protecting endangered species	Sustainable ecosystem management	Research, Data collection, Database creation, Preparation of strategy and/or programme	Databases, Strategic / programming documents, Written materials for professionals, Conservation of species (sterlet)
Multi-regional	IDEM	Implementation of the MSFD to the DEep Mediterranean Sea	Italy, Spain, Cyprus, Malta, France, Israel	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water quality – physical parameters, Water quality – biological parameters, Water quality – nutrients, Water quality – hazardous substances and materials, Water and nature	The marine and coastal environment	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Mapping and/or GIS creation, Development of guidelines, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Web GIS, GIS, Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Conference presentation, Poster presentation

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
					conservation, Environmental risk – climate change adaptation, Marine environment			
Multi-regional	SPICE	Implementation and development of key components for the assessment of Status, Pressures and Impacts, and Social and Economic evaluation in the Baltic Sea marine region	Finland, Sweden, Estonia, Poland	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water quality – physical parameters, Water quality – biological parameters, Water quality – nutrients, Water quality – hazardous substances and materials, Pollution - the marine environment	Sustainable ecosystem management	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Mapping and/or GIS creation, Development of guidelines, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Web GIS, GIS, Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation
Multi-regional	INDICIT	Implementation Of Indicators Of Marine Litter On Sea Turtles And Biota In Regional Sea Conventions And Marine Strategy Framework	Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Tunisia	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water quality – biological parameters, Water quality – hazardous substances and materials, Pollution of the marine environment	The marine and coastal environment	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Development of guidelines, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
		Directive Areas						
Multi-regional	MEDCIS	Support Mediterranean Member States towards coherent and Coordinated Implementation of the second phase of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive	Spain, France, Italy, Croatia, Slovenia, Greece	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water quality – biological parameters, Water quality – hazardous substances and materials, Good environmental status of marine waters	Sustainable ecosystem management	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of pilot project, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation, Development of assessment tools, networking	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation, Assessment tools, professional network
Multi-regional	CERES	ClimatechangeandEuropean aquatic RESources	Ireland, United Kingdom, Portugal, Spain, France, The Netherlands, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Poland, Denmark, Italy, Greece, Romania, Turkey	1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation, 3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, 5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency, 10. Investing in education, training and lifelong learning, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water quality – biological parameters, Water and nature conservation, Environmental risk – climate change adaptation, Fisheries and aquaculture	Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of pilot project, Preparation of pilot design, design or design requirements, Organising seminars and workshops, Organising conference, Webpage creation	Databases, Web based databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Conference presentation, Poster presentation, Tools for assessment, analysis and mitigation

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EUSR Danube	SEDDON II	Sedimentforschung an der Donau – Errichtung eines Wasserbauabors zur Verbesserung des Gewässermanagements entlang der Donau	Austria, Hungary	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Environmental risk – floods, Hydromorphological research		Research, Measurements, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Preparation of strategy and/or programme	Strategic / programming documents, Design documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public
EUSR Danube	DAREnet	Danube River Region Resilience Exchange Network	Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Germany, Belgium, France	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Environmental risk – floods, Environmental risk – climate change adaptation, Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Flood management	Analysis, Data collection, Database creation, Mapping and/or GIS creation, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Preparation of action plan	Databases, Written materials for professionals
EUSR Alpine	Building green infrastructures for an integrated and sustainable water management	Building green infrastructures for an integrated and sustainable water management	Padova (Italy)				Expert hearing workshop	Support to AG6-SG3 experts
EUSR Alpine	Forum Alpinum &	Contribution to Forum	Breitenwang (Austria)				Public conference	Written outcomes and support to

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	Alpine Water Conference	Alpinum 2018 and Alpine Water Conference						international panels of experts
EUSR Alpine	AG6-SG3 activity	Collection of good practices and recommendations in the field of green infrastructure solutions in river restoration	Italy				Data collection, Collection of best practices, Development of guidelines and recommendations	Guidelines and recommendations
EUSR Alpine	AG6-SG3 activity	Collection of good practices and recommendations in the field of water demand and supply management in case of droughts	Italy				Data collection, Collection of best practices, Development of guidelines and recommendations	Guidelines and recommendations
EUSR Alpine	AG6 activity	Study on governance in the Alpine Region	Austria, Italy				Data collection, Collection of best practices, Development of guidelines and recommendations	Guidelines and recommendations
EUSR Alpine	Alpine Convention - Platform Water Manageme	Report on drought management	Italy				Data collection, Collection of best practices, Development of guidelines and recommendations, 2 expert workshops	Guidelines and recommendations, workshop's outcomes

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	nt in the Alps - achievement of the mandate							
EUSR Alpine	Alpine Convention - Platform Water Management in the Alps - achievement of the mandate	Report on small hydropower	Italy				Data collection, Collection of best practices, Development of guidelines and recommendations	Guidelines and recommendations
EUSR Alpine	RESEARCH PROJECT: "CAPITALIZATION ON THE EU PROGRAMMING PERIOD 2007-2013 CONCERNING SOIL PROTECTION AND NATURAL CAPITAL CONSERVATION"		Italy				Data collection, Collection of best practices	Guidelines and recommendations

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Multi-regional	CRUE ERA-NET	CRUE ERA-NET	Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Spain, The Netherlands, United Kingdom	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	Environmental risk – floods	Flood management	Research, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Organising seminars and workshops, network building	Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals
Multi-regional	CIRCLE-2	Climate Impact Research & Response Coordination for a Larger Europe	Italy, France, Portugal, Austria, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Finland, Ireland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Turkey, Estonia, Israel, Belgium, United Kingdom	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	Environmental risk – climate change adaptation	Environmental risk management	Research, Collection of best practices, Preparation of strategy and/or programme, Organising seminars and workshops, Network building	Strategic / programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for the public
Multi-regional	MIRAGE	Mediterranean Intermittent River	Greece, Belgium, Italy, Spain, France,	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6.	Water and nature conservation	Temporary river research	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Data collection,	Databases, Strategic / programming documents, Written

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		ManAGEme nt	United Kingdom, Germany, Portugal, Morocco,	Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency			Preparation of strategy and/or programme	materials for professionals
Multi-regional	MEDIATIO N	Methodolog y for Effective Decision-making on Impacts and AdaptaTION	The Netherlands, Austria, Germany, Belgium, Hungary, United Kingdom, Finland, Italy, Spain	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	Environmental risk – climate change adaptation	Water and governance	Research, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of strategy and/or programme	Strategic programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public
Multi-regional	POWER	Political and social awareness on water environmental challenges	Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Germany, United Kingdom, Portugal, Israel	11. Improving the efficiency of public administration	Water governance and	Policy effectiveness	Development of guidelines, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis	Strategic programming documents, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public
Multi-regional	DEMOWAR E	Innovation Demonstration for a Competitive and Innovative European Water Reuse Sector	Spain, France, Israel, Germany, Holland, Italy, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Belgium,	6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – physical parameters	Water reuse	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis, Preparation of strategy and/or programme	Databases, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
			Czech Republic					
Multi-regional	WATCH	Integrated Project Water and Global Change	United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Greece, Norway, Spain, Austria, Slovakia, Czech Republic	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	Water availability – droughts, Environmental risk – floods, Environmental risk – climate change adaptation, Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Climate change and natural risk management	Research, Measurements, Analysis	Databases, Written materials for professionals
Multi-regional	MARSOL	Demonstrating Managed Aquifer Recharge as a Solution to Water Scarcity and Drought	Germany, Greece, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Israel, Malta	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	Sewage and wastewater treatment, Environmental risk – climate change adaptation	Climate change and natural risk management	Research, Measurements, Analysis	Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals
Multi-regional	WEAM4I	Water & Energy Advanced Management for Irrigation	Spain, Portugal, The Netherlands, Germany, France	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	Water availability – irrigation, Water and agriculture	Water management in rural areas	Research, Analysis	Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Creating ICT platform

EU Regional Strategy:	Short project title:	Full project title:	Geographical scope (NUTS 2 regions / countries involved):	Targeted EU Priorities:	Targeted professional area:	Targeted specific professional area 2:	Activities:	Outcomes:
Multi-regional	SW4EU	Smart Water for Europe	The Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom, France, Austria, Denmark	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – physical parameters, Sewage and wastewater treatment	Environment and energy	Research, Analysis, Data collection, Database creation	Databases, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public
Multi-regional	LIFE M3	Modelling Monitoring Management	Luxembourg, Germany	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water and nature conservation, Environmental risk – climate change mitigation	Climate change and natural risk management	Research, Analysis, Mapping and/or GIS creation, Collection of best practices, Best practice analysis	GIS, Guidelines and recommendations, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public, Poster presentation
Multi-regional	DEMINE	Decreasing the Impact of Abandoned Mines	Spain, United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden	5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	Water quality – physical parameters	Water management in rural areas	Research, Measurements, Analysis, Preparation of strategy and/or programme	Guidelines and recommendations, Proposals, Written materials for professionals, Written materials for the public