

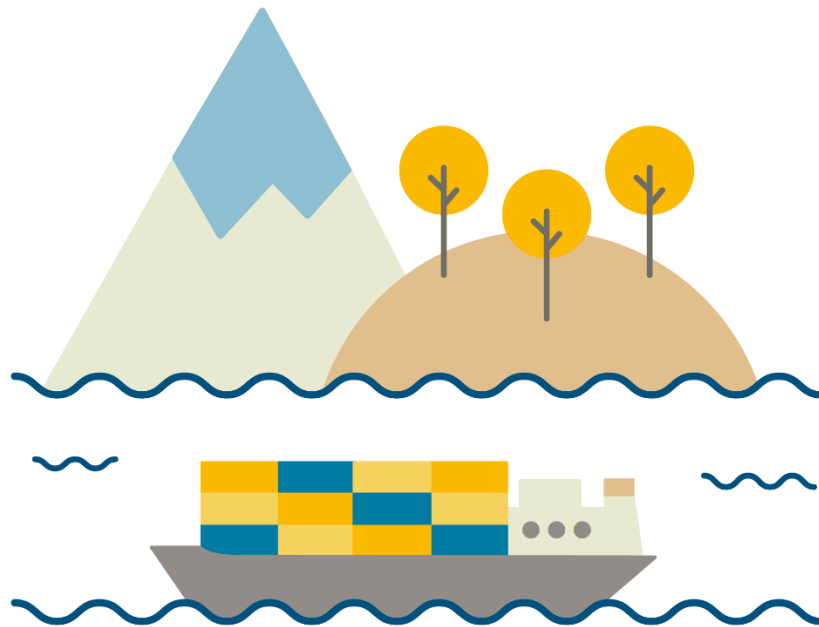
Meeting of Transport Coordinators



Agenda, 14-15 March 2017

Joint meeting of Transport Coordinators of the EU macro-regional strategies

Hotel Slon, Slovenska Cesta 34, Ljubljana, Slovenia





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Background

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

Currently there are four EU macro-regional strategies adopted and in different implementation stages. However, it is clear that most of the priorities or policies addressed by the strategies are the same. Acknowledging specifics of each of the strategies and individual approaches established for their implementation, there are certain processes they all experience, e.g. setting up governance structures for the implementation, defining focus of the action/priority or thematic field, reaching common agreement across the countries, defining milestones to be achieved, involving relevant institutions and multi-level actors, monitoring implementation of the priority/ policy/ pillar/ action. There are certain results achieved within each of the EU macro-regional strategies while there are also challenges macro-regional coordinators face.

Acknowledging experience of INTERACT II Programme in supporting implementation of the macro-regional strategies, Interact III Programme has been asked by the Member States to support developing new ways of cooperation where macro-regional framework is a part of it. Interact III is asked to increase awareness of macro-regional framework, develop pilot models for coordination and cooperation, strengthen dialogue across funding programmes for creating synergies within macro-regional framework and to support exchanges across macro-regional strategies.

Taking into account that transport issues are at heart of all four EU macro-regional strategies and they connect not only countries within one macro-region but also countries across macro-regions, Interact III is calling for a Joint meeting of Transport Coordinators (water and land) of the all four EU macro-regional strategies.

The meeting is following up on the discussion in the High Level Group for Macro-regional strategies (held on 30 May 2016) and is supported by National Coordinators for the EUSBSR of Lithuania and Sweden and National Coordinator for the EUSDR, EUSAIR and EUSALP of Slovenia.

Objective

The meeting is inviting Coordinators of Transport theme, priority, action or pillar from all four macro-regional strategies to exchange practices and experiences in implementation of their tasks.

Additionally, the meeting is aiming at providing general overview on the state of play in implementation of the transport priorities, identifying and addressing shared challenges that hamper smooth implementation of the respective actions and would require to be addressed in a coordinated way. Participants of the meeting will be invited for an open dialogue on the daily implementation issues as well as on exchanging visions for future work.

Good practices established by Transport Coordinators in addressing implementation and management challenges would be collected as an outcome of the discussion.



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Timetable

Tuesday, 14 March 2017

Moderator Wiktor Szydarowski, Ph.D

11.00 – 12.30 Welcoming lunch and registration to the meeting

12.30 – 13.15 Welcoming words

Andreja Jerina, National Coordinator of the EUSDR, EUSAIR and EUSALP, Slovenia

Satu Hietanen, Coordinator of Interact Office Turku

Tour de table

13.15 – 15.15 Experiences of Transport Coordinators: Challenges, achieved solutions and detected failures to address particular aspect in macro-regional strategy

Setting up governance structures for the implementation of transport Policy Areas of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (PA 'Transport'; PA 'Safe' and PA 'Ship')

Presentations by:

- *Thomas Erlandson, Policy Area Coordinator 'Improving internal and external transport links (PA 'Transport')*
- *Gitte Mondrup, Policy Area Coordinator 'Becoming a leading region in maritime safety and security' (PA Safe') and Policy Area Coordinator 'Becoming a model region for clean shipping' (PA 'Ship')*

Inputs from other Coordinators, discussion

Involving relevant institutions and multi-level governance actors in implementation of the Pillar 'Connecting the Region' (Topic 1: 'Maritime transport' and Topic 2: 'Intermodal connections to the hinterland') of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region. How to reach common agreement across the countries involved in the implementation

- *Presentation by Pillar Coordinator(s) (tbc)*

Inputs from other Coordinators, discussion

15.15 – 15.45 Coffee break

15.45 – 18.00 Experiences of Transport Coordinators: Challenges, achieved solutions and detected failures to address particular aspect in macro-regional strategy

Defining focus of the transport related Priority Area 'To improve mobility and intermodality' of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (1A: 'Inland waterways' and 1B: Rail, road and air links). How to distinguish work of Strategy from the other European or intergovernmental policy instruments, e.g. TEN-T core network corridors



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Presentations by:

- Gert-Jan Muilerman, Priority Area Coordinator 1A: 'Inland waterways'
- Franc Žepič, Priority Area Coordinator 1B: 'Rail, road and air links'

Inputs from other Coordinators, discussion

Defining milestones to be achieved and monitoring of implementation of the Action 4 'To promote inter-modality and interoperability in passenger and freight transport' of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region

- Ewald Moser and Patrick Skonieczki, Action Group Leaders

Inputs from other Coordinators, discussion

19.30 – 22.00

Dinner

Restaurant [Gostilna As](#) (Čopova ulica 5a, Ljubljana)

Wednesday, 15 March 2017

08.30 – 08.45

Summary of the discussions during the First Day: Solutions to implementation and management aspects in macro-regional strategies

Wiktor Szydarowski, moderator

08.45 – 10.30

Key issues to focus during 2017–2018 in implementation of macro-regional strategy (governance aspects and thematic issues)

Short presentations by Transport Coordinators (Tour de table)

Discussion

Summary: Common issues for 2017 – 2018 across macro-regional strategies

Wiktor Szydarowski, moderator

The future of the EU Transport Policy in the framework of EU macro-regional strategies

- *How to build and how to sustain coordination across macro-regional strategies*
- *Role of macro-regional strategies in the context of post 2020 discussion*

Discussion

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee break

11.00 – 12.00

Fostering Transport policies in the Western Balkans

EU Enlargement Policy and Transport Priorities of the macro-regional strategies

Tanya Dimitrova, Directorate General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations

Danube Strategic Project Fund

Rudolf Schicker, Priority Area 10 Coordinator 'To step up institutional capacity and cooperation', EU Strategy for the Danube Region

12.00 – 13.15

Lunch



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13.15 – 15.00 **Information and initiatives to support transport projects**

Interreg support to transport cooperation projects: clustering and cooperation with Transport Coordinators of the EUSBSR

Jozsef Attila Darabos, Interreg Baltic Sea Region

KEEP: what information it provides and how it can serve the EU macro-regional actors

Satu Hietanen, Coordinator of Interact Office Turku

AOB

15.00 – 15.15 **Closing of the meeting**

Wiktor Szydarowski, moderator

Satu Hietanen, Coordinator of Interact Office Turku