

Seed Money Facility / Danube Region Programme

Information by
PA 8 Competitiveness of Enterprises

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EUSDR Seed Money Facility (SMF)

SMF = tool for kick-starting development of strategic projects and largescale initiatives for the EUSDR

- Open call for proposal for all priorities
- Thematic scope will be defined by PACs → **suggestions, proposals?**
- one-step application via Jems
- two step assessment (PACs and then MA)

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Project details

- Duration of project max. **12 months** (shorter duration possible)
- Minimum **2** and maximum **5** partners
 - At least **2 Danube Region Programme** (DRP) participating countries of which at least **1 is an EU member state**
 - Programme will also cover the entire territory of Ukraine

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Partnership requirements

- Types of partners possible are
 - Local, regional, national public bodies
 - Bodies governed by public law
 - International organisations acting under the national law of any DRP Partner State or under international law
 - Private bodies (NGO's, private enterprises, private profit-making organisations)
- Each project partnership shall appoint one lead partner
 - Private enterprises cannot be lead partners!

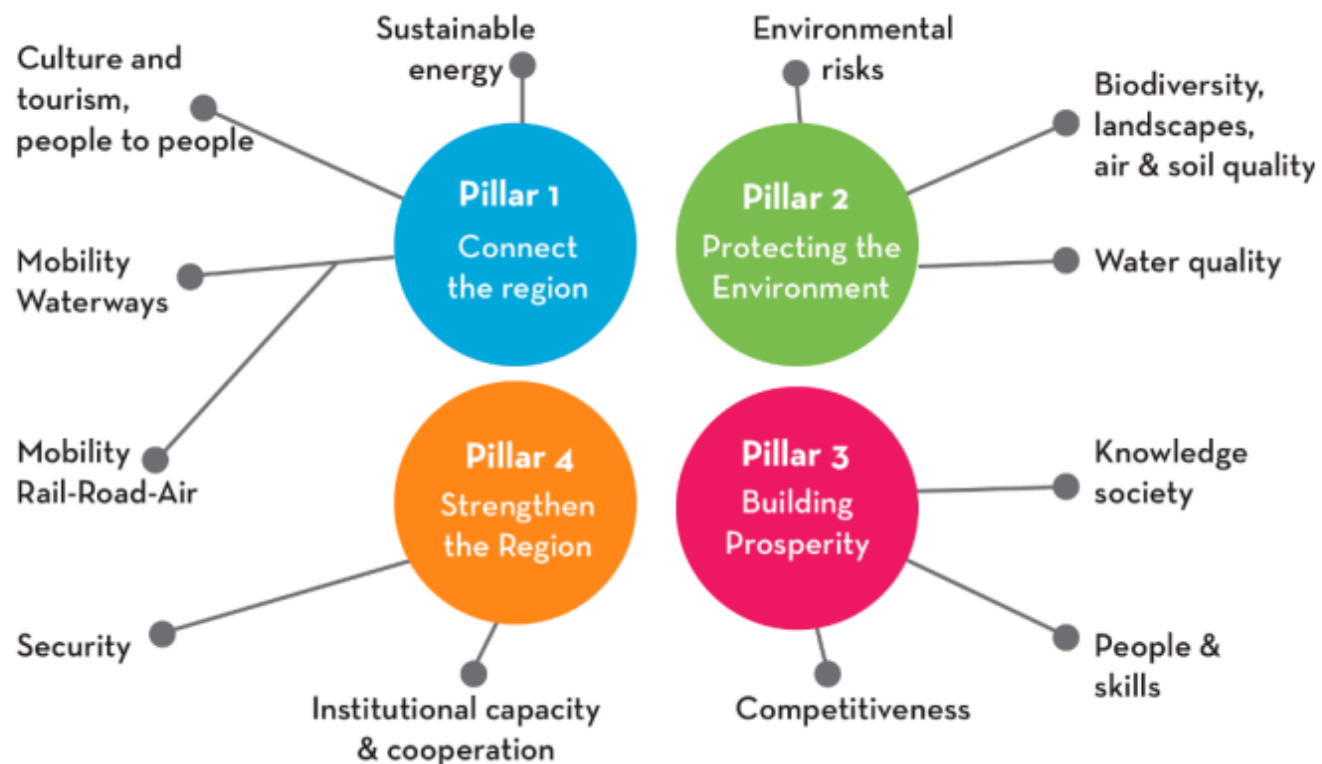
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Partnership requirements

- The involvement of relevant organisations from DRP non-EU Partner States is highly recommended.
- Project must have a transnational dimension (Envisioning the transnational outreach and macroregional dimension and impact)

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Content specifications



(Illustration from the action plan)

- Project topics must be aligned with the EUSDR Action plan
- Find detailed information in the [action plan](#) PA 8, see pages 59 ff
- Cohearance with the work plan

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Partnership composition

- Partnerships should be suitable to the approached output of the project
- Envisioned activities
- Address target groups
 - Awareness of the target groups must be proven
 - Explain in detail, how the target groups will be involved

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Content specifications

- Projects to be supported shall be in line with
 - The EU objective of promoting sustainable development
 - EU and national regulations
 - The UN Sustainable Development Goals
 - The Paris Agreement
 - The “do no significant harm” – principle

→ Projects are ideally expected to have **positive direct or indirect contributions to sustainable development** and within that to the **environmental and climate objectives**

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Budget

- Total budget of **4.5 million €** (including self-contribution)
 - **300 000€ maximum** EU contribution per Priority Area
- Maximum co-financing amount is **80% of the total budget**
- Staff costs are reimbursed on real cost basis. The other budget lines are reimbursed as flat rate of up to 40% of eligible direct staff costs

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Project co-financing

- Maximum project co-financing amount is 80% of the total budget
 - **50 000€ per project** if only mandatory outputs (*workplan, information on funding programme, needs analysis*) are developed (62 500€ total budget)
 - **100 000€ per project** if additional activities (*workshops etc.*) are included (125 000€ total budget)

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Besides the mandatory outputs the programme finances **additional preparatory activities** that are necessary for development of complex projects (with funding up to € 100.000) with impact in the Danube region.

Examples of additional preparatory activities (non-exhaustive list):

- community and stakeholders consultations
- socio-economic studies
- participative planning
- preliminary designs

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Assessment and Scoring

- Two step assessment
- Projects assessed and evaluated according to specific criteria
 - Only projects meeting at **least 60%** can be considered and **strategically discussed**
 - Projects scoring **over 75%** will automatically be made **available for selection**
 - Between 60 and 74 % will be discussed by MC

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Time limits

- Call is expected to open from **End of November 2023**
- Call is expected to close **End of March 2024**

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Webinars for interested Lead partners

- Managing Authority and Joint Secretariat will organize Webinars for interested Leadpartners, explaining the rules of the scheme
- PACs can organize thematic Webinars as well as face to face seminars, where MA/JS can be present

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- SMF will be published on website soon
- Info paper will be published
- Matchmaking platform will be established

THANK YOU!