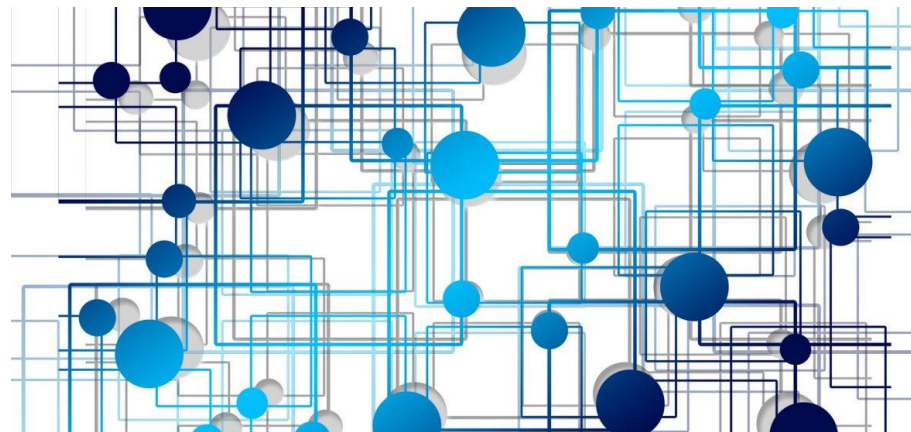


The 26th Steering Group Meeting of the Priority Area 2

May 31 2023, 10:00-13:00

Online



Agenda

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 09:45 – 10:00 | Registration (Connection to Webex) |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Welcome and Introduction, Introduction of Youth, Family Photo |
| 10:15- 10:20 | Opening remarks NC Coordinators |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | Report of the CZ And HU PAC's: Progress since the 22th Steering Group Meeting |
| 10:30 – 11:30 | Roundtable Discussion between PAC's and SG Member's |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Lunch break |
| 12:00- 12:25 | Actualities from DG REGIO, Q&A |
| 12:25- 12:50 | Actualities from DSP, Q&A |
| 12:50 - 13:00 | AOB |
| 13:00- 13:05 | Closing Words |

Opening remarks NC Coordinators

Ms Karolina Liskovcova, Office of Government, CZ

Report of the PACs: Progress since the 23rd SG Meeting

- Ms Zuzana Šimicová, PAC (CZ), Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic
- Ms Annamária Nádor, PAC (HU), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

Joint activities

- Strategic meeting February
- Money facility project
- Involvement of Stakeholders

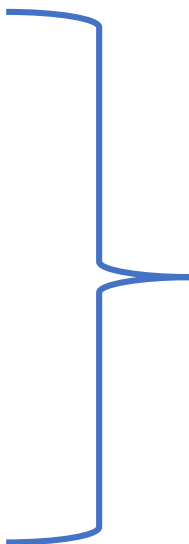
Progress on CZ side

- **Newsletter 2022**
- **Preparation of study on Energy efficiency in industry in EUSDR**
- **Consideration as Associated partner in energy industry project**

Progress on HU side

- ✓ Finalisation of PAC 3 project contract
- ✓ Danube Youth council intro meeting online (Marc 8) (Dávid Kecskeméti – HU, Irina Apostol – MD, Anna Strigl – AT)
- ✓ Project database – aim: better stakeholder involvement, strengthening contacts

- *Project acronym*
- *Project full title*
- *Program /Call*
- *Duration*
- *Objectives*
- *Key-words*
- *Partners info (names contacts)*



Interreg Central Europe 2014-2020, 2021-2027
Danube Transnational Programme 2014-2020, 2021-2027
Horizone Europe, Life, etc.

Progress on HU side

2 intro keynotes
Borbála Tóth – REKK, Ben Mc Williams – Bruegel
Online poll with audience
Panel



4TH EU MACRO-REGIONAL STRATEGIES WEEK
24-28 APRIL 2023

DRAFT PROGRAMME
HYBRID FORMAT

Monday 24 April

Online sessions held on Zoom:

09.30 – 11.00	1st stakeholder session: Local energy community as small hydrogen valley – H2LEC.
11.00 – 11.30	Break
11.30 – 13.00	2nd stakeholder session: Real-Time Economy – new mindset and skills for the regions.
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break
14.00 – 15.30	3rd stakeholder session: How to accelerate natural gas phase out in Europe – First Hand Experiences and strategies from EUMRS.
15.30 – 16.00	Break
16.00 – 17.30	4th stakeholder session: Accelerating sustainable, strategic innovation collaboration across the EU's macro-regions.






46 participants



4TH EU MACRO-REGIONAL STRATEGIES WEEK
24-28 APRIL 2023



How can policies serve the goals of energy independence and decarbonisation?

EU POLICY PERSPECTIVE	HYDROGEN	SPACE HEATING	ENERGY NETWORKS	DIVERSIFICATION AND DECARBONISATION
				
András Hujber Head of unit, DG Ener	Etienne Viénot co-leader, AURA-EE, EUSALP AG9	Annamária Nádor Coordinator, EU Strategy for the Danube Region	Davide Tabarelli President, Nomisma Energia Srl	Fabio Tambone Director of external international relations, ARERA Italy
EU27	ALPINE REGION	DANUBE REGION	ADRIATIC-IONIAN REGION	ITALY

Thursday 27 April

Event Lounge sessions:

09.00 – 09.30

Welcome coffee

09.30 – 10.45

Energy security and clean energy transition: which role for the EU macro-regional strategies?



EUSDR / MRS implementer: Ms. Annamária Nádor, Coordinator of Priority Area 02 (Energy), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

EUSALP / Funding authority: Ms. Christina Bauer, Head of the Interreg Alpine Space Managing Authority

EUSAIR / Project developer: Mr. Alessandro Carollo, Technical support to the Lead Partner of the Interreg ADRIAN project “EnerMOB - Interregional Electromobility Networks for intERurban low carbon MOBility”, IDEA URBANA Engineering s.r.l.

EUSBSR / Stakeholder: Ms. Karen Marie Sandgren, Founder & Strategic advisor at the Nordic Energy Connection

DG ENER: Ms. Yolanda García Mezquita, Head of Unit “Relations with Member States and the Neighbourhood”



Gas phase out – 1 page flyer

Also distributed at MRS week

⚠ SURGING GAS PRICES IN THE DANUBE REGION
Between 2021 Oct. and 2022 Oct., the most significant price increase was in the central part of Europe and in Estonia. **HOUSEHOLD GAS PRICES** rose by more than 200% in many countries, while in the case of industrial gas prices the increase is even more significant.

DEMAND SIDE	SUPPLY SIDE
<p>Household sector: Increasing gas prices can incentivize households to reduce their consumption. However, if the price signals do not reach consumers, the reduction will not materialize.</p>	<p>LNG dependency: If the LNG market is tight, there is a risk for Danube Region countries to suffer from higher price.</p>
<p>Industry sector: On the short-term, curtailing industry gas demand means the limiting the production and decreasing industrial output.</p>	<p>Pipeline congestions: With the current pipeline network, the LNG coming to South-West Europe cannot reduce the prices of the Central-East European region.</p>
<p>Power sector: On the short-term, gas phase-out potential of the power sector depends highly on the availability of nuclear and hydro plants.</p>	<p>Production: The potential increase of domestic production can only slightly decrease the Danube Region gas bill.</p>

Supply Change

Year	TWh/Year
2021	3974
2022	1228
2023	78
2024	2955
2025	375
2026	518
2027	326

DR Gas bill


Scenario	DR gas bill 2021	REPOWER 2022	Full Cut 2022	LNG	TIGHT	AVERAGE	GLUT	DR gas bill 2030
	100%	104%	187%	334%	110%	92%	48%	

📋 REQUIRED ACTIONS
Demand reduction is key: We encourage the Danube Region countries to prioritize demand reduction measures that target gas savings and avoid direct subsidization of gas prices to household consumers. Most vulnerable households might be a temporary exemption.

Rapid development of infrastructure: Supply options – mainly the LNG infrastructure already under construction – if implemented, will help the EU and also the Danube Region countries to mitigate the energy crisis, both in terms of high prices and to avoid supply disruptions.

Share of best practices and cooperation: Solidarity and interconnection of the Danube Region countries is key to keep the energy supplies under control. We suggest monitoring the development of the solidarity mechanisms between Danube Region countries as well.

STUDY AVAILABLE AT
REXX WEBSITE



Promoting green district heating

2 events (October 5 – Zagreb, October 12 – Tuzla)

Organized by HU PAC, Hungarian Attachés at the Embassys, and MATÁSZSZ

Draft agenda

- welcomes (PA2, national energy ministries, ambassadors)
- The role of green dsitric heating in the national (HR and BH) energy strategies
- Hungarian experiences and best practices on the planning, execution and operation of geothremal distric heating systems
- Financing opportunities of geothremal district heating projects (bank, market, EU funds)
- B2B meetings with HU and HR/BH comapnies

DTP Call HU PAC involvement as ASP

5 of 6 submitted proposal were invited to stage 2 application – June 16

DAnube Mobility and Energy traNsition - DAMEN – Jointly developed energy and sustainable mobility planning activities will be implemented, together with 6 Pilot actions.

LP: University of Zagreb, PP-s: Steinbeis 2i GmbH (D), Pannon Business Network Association (HU), GEOSTUD (RO), CALARASI COUNTY COUNCIL (RO), Association of Danube River Municipalities (BG), SILISTRA MUNICIPALITY (BG), DEX Innovation centre (CZ), Split-Dalmatia County (HR), Municipality of Tolmin (SI), Public company Elektroprivreda BiH d.d. – Sarajevo (BH), Association Hub 9 (SRB), Technical University of Moldova (MD),

DTP Call HU PAC involvement as ASP

5 of 6 submitted proposal were invited to stage 2 application – June 16

Integrated and decentralised concept rethinking energy and transport systems based on renewable energy in the Danube region- Danube Indeet - Develop and implement an integrated and decentralised concept for establishing transnational, sustainable and cross-sectoral transport and energy systems based on renewable energy

LP: Landshut University of Applied Sciences (D), PP-s: Ilzer Land e.V. (D), Energieinstitut an der Johannes Kepler Universität Linz (AT), Citizens' Association No Grvaity (SK), URBASOFIA (RO), The Alba Iulia Association for Intercommunity Development (RO), Regional Agency for Socio – Economic Development – Banat Ltd (SRB), Regional Development Agency of South Bohemia – RERA (CZ), LIR Evolution (BH), University of Zagreb Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing (HR), Paks Transportation Limited Liability Company (HU)



DTP Call HU PAC involvement as ASP

5 of 6 submitted proposal were invited to stage 2 application – June 16

Fostering the implementation of shallow geothermal hybrid heating and cooling systems in the Danube region
GeHeCO - integration of shallow geothermal solutions into existing fossil-fuel based domestic HC systems

LP: Medjimurje Energy Agency Ltd (SI), PPs: CROST Regional Development Nonprofit Ltd. (HU), InnoGeo Research and Service Ltd (HU), University of Zagreb, Faculty of Mining, Geology and Petroleum Engineering (HR), Research Burgenland Ltd. (AT), Energy and Innovation Centre of Weiz (AT), Local Energy Agency Pomurje (SI), Geological Survey of Slovenia (SI), Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information (SK), Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (RO), Faculty of Engineering in Kragujevac (SRB)

DTP Call HU PAC involvement as ASP

5 of 6 submitted proposal were invited to stage 2 application – June 16

Green Finance Solutions advancing Renewable Energy –GREENFO increasing the share of renewable energy through improving access to green finance solutions for small and medium-sized enterprises with a special focus on blended finance solutions.

LP:HEPA Magyar Exportfejlesztési Ügynökség (HU), PP-s: South Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency (HU), Research Burgenland Ltd (AT), International Sustainable Finance Centre (CZ), Istrian Regional Energy Agency Ltd (HR), ROSIF ASSOCIATION (RO), National Institute for Research and Development in Environmental Protection (RO), Scientific Research Centre Bistra Ptuj (SI), IPM Advisory (SK), Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia (SRB), Chamber of Economy of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BH), Montenegrin Investment Agency (ME), Chamber of Economy of Montenegro (ME)



DTP Call HU PAC involvement as ASP

5 of 6 submitted proposal were invited to stage 2 application – June 16

Creating appropriate operational conditions for renewable energy communities in the Danube Region- NRGCOM
identifying and improving the operational conditions of energy communities in the Danube region, increase local/regional energy production and consumption, while inducing more sustainable and efficient energy management

LP: South Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency (HU), PP-s: IMRO-DDKK Nonprofit Ltd (HU), South Bohemian Agency for Support to Innovation (JAIP) (CZ), Research Burgenland Ltd. (AT), IRENA Istrian Regional Energy Agency (HR), Energy Agency of Savinjska, Šaleška and Koroška Region (SI), Pazardzhik Regional Administration (BG), Regional Economic Development Agency for Sumadija and Pomoravlje (SRB), Romanian Network of Energy Cities (OER) (RO), FORS Montenegro – Foundation for the Development of Northern Montenegro (ME), DIT - Institute of Technology (D), National Energy Cluster (SK)

DTP Call HU PAC involvement as ASP

5 of 6 submitted proposal were invited to stage 2 application – June 16

Supporting Transition to Renewable Energy by Empowering Municipalities in the Danube Region- STREAM Danube - to establish a long-term and sustainable one-stop-shop advisory service for local governments (LG) in 6 countries that empowers them with tailor-made tools and methods on how to uptake low-carbon (RES-based) energy systems under a comprehensive local energy planning and management framework,

LP: Hungarian National Association of Local Authorities (HU), PP-s: National Society of Conservationists (HU), Energy Institute Hrvoje Pozar (HR), Croatian Union of Municipalities (HR), Danube Office Ulm/ Neu-Ulm (D), National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria (BG), Black Sea Energy Research Centre (BG), Centre for Ecology and Sustainable Development (SRB), Friends of the Earth Czech Republic (CZ), Technical University of Kosice (SK), Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency (SK), Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia (SK)

How to make SG (and Stakeholder) involvement more efficient? - DISCUSSION

- A certain core of SG members attends the meetings, while others remain absent – general problem at all PA-s
→ deeper discussion with NC-s
- PAs themselves have only limited influence over who is appointed as an SG member
- Complexity of the topics covered by PA2 – no-one is a universal expert, not all the topics are relevant to all SG members → loose of interest/motivation
- Re-think SG roles and responsibilities → collecting information/opinions and bringing them forward to their national levels - 2011: SG= ‘National Contact Points’ and multipliers.**
- What do you see as an added value of participating in the EUSDR?**
- Linking the SG meeting to a larger event,
- Cross-cutting PA/MRS activities – role of DSP, Interact, EPSON in a structured way

Actualities from DG REGIO

- Mr Johan Magnusson, DG REGIO, D1

Actualities from DSP

- Ms Cristina Cuc, DSP

Closing words

- Ms Zuzana SIMICOVÁ, PAC (CZ), Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic
- Ms Annamária NÁDOR, PAC (HU), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary