

EU STRATEGY FOR THE DANUBE REGION - EUSDR



Dragica Karajić, M.Sc.

*Priority Area 8 Coordinator
Ministry of Entrepreneurship
and Crafts, Croatia*

14th Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce

Corfu, Greece, Holiday Palace , 10-12 June 2014

PRIORITY AREA 8 - COMPETITIVENESS INCLUDING CLUSTERING

- **Croatian Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Crafts** co-ordinates together with **Baden-Württemberg's Ministry of Economy and Finance** the EUSDR Priority Area 8 „To Support Competitiveness of Enterprises, Including Cluster Development“
- The Danube Strategy is **one of the priorities of the Croatian Government**
- The **role** of PA Coordinators 8: sophisticated process **to bring all Stakeholders in Danube region together** and through **networking to boost projects**

Croatia recognizes the importance of the Danube Strategy and support it because:

- It is a key for strengthening **transnational cooperation**
- It is a tool for strengthening cooperation between **SMEs** (99.5% of all registered enterprises in Croatia are SMEs)
- Has great potential in rural development and cooperation between **clusters**
- It supports **lifelong entrepreneurial learning**, vocational education, training and research
- It gives us the opportunity for further development and for **creation of new jobs**

Priorities and Activities Coordination:

- promotion of **cooperation** and exchange of knowledge among **SMEs**, **academia** and **public sector** in Danube region;
- improvement of business support in order to enhance capacity of SMEs for **international** cooperation and **trade**;
- quality **training**, entrepreneurial **learning** and **vocational education** to enhance competitiveness of enterprises;
- efficient SMEs measures and activities especially to support **innovations** and **new technologies**;
- strengthening of **entrepreneurship** and **competitiveness in rural** areas, especially in processing, industry and **clusters** development;
- efficient **infrastructure** to support SMEs performance

Operational Structure

- **Priority Areas**

- **Priority Area Coordinators (PAC)**

- **Projects Ideas**

- Many different areas

- Sophisticated Process to bring all Stakeholders together

- Experts Working Groups to cover all areas

LIFELONG ENTREPRENEURIAL LEARNING in EUSDR

Lifelong Entrepreneurial Learning significant contribute to the economic competitiveness

Croatian flagship project on **Entrepreneurial Learning** is implemented by South East European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning – **SEECEL** with seat in Zagreb:

- The first institutional structured example of successful cooperation of 8 South East European countries in mutual implementation of the Small Business Act for Europe
- Entrepreneurship as a KEY COMPETENCE APPROACH** in all levels of formal, non formal and informal education

CLUSTERS EXCELLENCE in EUSDR

Cluster workshops “Cluster Networking and Development Prospects in the Danube Region”

1st Cluster workshop - September 2012, Vukovar, Croatia

2nd Cluster workshop - September 2013, Vukovar, Croatia

- Focus on **funding possibilities** for cluster development
- Potential sectors recognised for further development and clustering - especially **metal** and **wood** processing, **organic food** processing, **services** in tourism
- Each Workshop gathered about 100 participants from 14 Danube Region countries



DanuClus

Danube Cluster Networks

Passion precedes prosperity

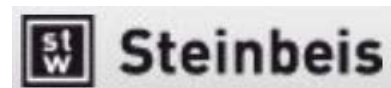
Projects DanuClus

- **High impact** experimentation projects in strong areas (automotive, wood processing, ICT)
- Cluster **mapping** and **benchmarking** exercise
- **Next Generation Competitiveness Initiative** expanded to whole Danube Region, **focus on clusters**

Potential Partners



Ministerium für Finanzen und Wirtschaft Baden-Württemberg



**Thank you
for your
attention!**



Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Crafts

Ulica grada Vukovara 78, 10 000 Zagreb

M.Sc.Dragica Karajić

Tel: 00385 1 610 6812

e-mail: dragica.karajic@minpo.hr

www.minpo.hr

Wirtschaftsministerium Baden-Württemberg

Theodor-Heuss-Str. 4, D-70174 Stuttgart

Dr. Hans Peter Herdlitschka

Tel.: 0049 711 123 – 2413

e-mail: hans-peter.herditschka@wm.bwl.de

www.groupspaces.com/Competitiveness