



*The European Union Strategy for the Danube Region
in the programming process for 2014 -2020: Second joint meeting*

**"Embedding the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) in European
Structural and Investment Funds programmes"**

21 June 2013

Stuttgart, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

DRAFT AGENDA

Thursday, 20 June 2013 – Württembergischer Kunstverein Stuttgart

19:00-21:00 Evening reception at the invitation of the Government of Baden-Württemberg

Friday, 21 June 2013 – Alte Reithalle Stuttgart

8:00 - 9:00 Registration

Welcoming speeches

- 9:00 – 9:30**
- **Peter Friedrich**, Minister for Bundesrat, Europe and International Affairs
 - **José Palma Andrés**, Director, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

Plenary Session 1: State-of-play of the preparation of Partnership Agreements and Operational Programmes

Moderated by **David Sweet**, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy

- 9:30 – 11:00**
- Key note speech by a representative of the European Commission
 - Panel discussion with representatives of the EUSDR, the Managing Authorities and the European Commission
 - Questions and answers

11:00-11:30	Coffee break		
11:30 – 13:00	Parallel Workshops – Part 1		
	<p>Infrastructure Investments including energy and environmental dimension</p> <p><i>The workshop will examine how OPs in the field of energy, environment or transport can contribute to the implementation of the EUSDR by investing in projects that are beneficial for a larger part of the Danube region.</i></p> <p><i>Confirmed speakers:</i> Anita Orbán, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, EUSDR Priority Area Coordinator 2 'Energy' Frac Žepič, Ministry of Infrastructure and Spatial planning, Office for International Affairs, Slovenia, PAC 1b "Rail, Road and Air" Ongjen Miric, Serbian European Integration Office, National Contact Point, Serbia David Pelech, Budapest Danube Contact Point, Hungary</p>	<p>Competitiveness and innovation</p> <p><i>The workshop will discuss how the different ERDF OPs can support the implementation of the EUSDR, especially in the fields of research, innovation, competitiveness of SMEs, low carbon economy and sustainable energy.</i></p> <p><i>Confirmed speakers:</i> Matija Derk, Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds, Croatia Georg Ris, Ministry for Rural Affairs and Consumer Protection (ERDF MA), Baden-Württemberg Norbert Höptner, Steinbeis Europa Zentrum, Germany Christian Weinberger, DG ENTR, European Commission</p>	<p>Social Affairs</p> <p><i>The workshop will focus on how ESF OPs can contribute to the implementation of the EUSDR in the areas of education, labour mobility, social inclusion and, the fight against poverty. The use of the provisions for transnational cooperation (Art. 10 draft ESF regulation) will also be discussed.</i></p> <p><i>Confirmed speakers:</i> Ronald Hanak, Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, EUSDR Priority Area Coordinator 9 'People & Skills', Austria Christian Råbergh, ESF MA, ESF Baltic Network, Sweden Albert Nemeth, Ministry of Employment, Slovakia</p>

13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:30	Parallel Workshops – Part 2
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 16:45	Plenary Session 2: Reports from the parallel workshops, next steps and closure Moderated by José Palma Andrés , Director, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conclusions and recommendations from the three parallel workshops• Discussion of next steps• Closing words
16:45	End of the meeting