

Citizens summary

2015 was a fruitful year for the Danube Transnational Programme implementing bodies as the programme started in full speed in order to support the development of the Danube Region.

The Cooperation Programme was approved by the European Commission on 20th August 2015 and the first Monitoring Committee was organised approximately one month later, on 24-25 September 2015, back to back with the Programme Kick-off event. 500 people in the venue and around 100 viewers more via web-streaming followed the event which took place in Budapest on 23 and 24 September 2015.



The first step of the first call for proposals of the Danube Transnational Programme was launched on 23rd September 2015 and it was open until 3rd November 2015. The official launch of the First call took place during the Kick-off event organised in Budapest on 23 and 24 September 2015. The 1st call, open to all priorities (except Priority 4, open only to Specific Objective 4.1), created enormous expectations in the whole Danube Region. 547 submitted Expressions of Interest (EoI) were considered for assessment. In terms of the Specific Objectives open in this call, SO 2.2 and 1.2 were the ones receiving a higher number of EoI. 5223 institutions from all Danube regions were involved as project partners in the 547 EoI considered

for assessment. On 17th December, the Monitoring Committee approved the findings of the eligibility check performed by the JS. Consequently, 64 EoI were considered ineligible and were given the possibility to appeal within 5 calendar days from the official notification from the MA/JS about the results of the project selection process. 4 project proposals submitted complaints within the set deadline but these were analysed and answered in 2016.

In terms of implementation of Specific Objective 4.2 *Support to the governance and implementation of the EUSDR*, the programme and the Strategy implementing bodies started the development of a common governance paper that would lay the ground for the smooth implementation of the SO. Furthermore, important decisions regarding the practical implementation were taken during the first MC meeting such as: amount to be allocated for the PAC support including eligible budget lines, proposed calls and amounts for seed money facility, including typology of expected projects.

In October 2015, the programme initiated also the designation process and Partner States were requested to fill in the questionnaire regarding the national control systems. The designation process was still on going at the end of 2015.

By the end of December 2015 the baseline values for the result indicators were determined by external experts and consequently, the programme bodies will initiate the modification of the CP in 2016.



More information in the programme website (launched in September 2015): www.interreg-danube.eu