

Danube Transnational Programme

Call announcement for the Danube Strategy Point Call for Proposals

May 2018

1. Introduction

According to the implementation framework of the Specific Objective 4.2, the Danube Transnational Programme is launching the **Call for the establishment of the Danube Strategy Point (DSP)**.

The Programme offers financial support to transnational projects contributing to the development of a more innovative, better accessible and sustainable Danube Region. The programme has been designed under the territorial cooperation goal of the European Union. In practice, the programme combines financing from the EU structural funds - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the EU external funds – Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) and European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI).

The DSP Call of the Danube Transnational Programme is organised according to a one-step procedure.

Applicants are invited to submit electronically, through the programme website, an Application Form (AF), outlining mainly the intervention logic of the proposal and the strategic relevance for the EUSDR and the DTP.

The application and selection procedure is detailed in the *DSP Manual*.

2. Objectives and priorities

All projects submitted for the support of the EUSDR, including the one aimed at establishing the Danube Strategy Point, have to aim at *improving the governance system and the capabilities and capacities of public institutions and key actors involved in complex transnational project development to implement the EUSDR in a more effective way*.

The DTP offers its financial support in achieving the above mentioned objective, in line with the provisions of its Specific Objective 4.2 (according to the DTP Cooperation Programme, section 2.A.6.1/P4/11c).

3. Co-financing rate

The maximum EU contribution to the project is 85% (for ERDF, IPA and ENI project partners), while the remaining 15% shall be covered through national co-financing.

4. Timeframe

The Call will be open from 08.05.2018 to 11.06.2018.

The Application Form has to be submitted to the Joint Secretariat latest **by 15:00 Central European Time on 11.06.2018** by uploading it on the website of the programme (<http://www.interreg-danube.eu>). An earlier submission is recommended.

A Lead Applicant seminar is planned for the 17th May 2018 at the MA/JS premises in Budapest. Details are provided on the DTP website.

The eligibility check will be finalised in June 2018, as well as the quality assessment performed by the MA/JS will be finalised in June 2018. The proposals reaching at least 60% of the score will be invited to the second step of the assessment performed by the DTP Monitoring Committee through a structured interview which will take place on the 18th July in Split (HR). Applicants are expected to cover their travel and accommodation costs during the interview phase.

5. Duration of projects

The maximum project duration (implementation of project activities) is **till December 2021**. The earliest date for starting the project is planned for October 2018.

6. Programme Language

The official language of the programme is English. Therefore, all communication between applicants and the MA/JS is carried out in English. Information in the Application Form as well as official correspondence must be communicated accordingly.

7. Relevant documents

The official programme documents for the DSP Call for Proposals, besides this call announcement, are the following:

- Danube Cooperation Programme
- DSP Programme Manual

- DSP Application Form template
 - Declaration of support from EUSDR NC
 - Declaration of pre-financing and co-financing
 - Declaration on State Aid
 - Declaration for International Organisations
- Guidelines for the DSP Application Form
- Partnership Agreement template
- Subsidy Contract template

The Application Package and all relevant information about the programme are available on the programme website: <http://www.interreg-danube.eu>.

In case of questions, please contact both Johannes Gabriel (johannes.gabriel@interreg-danube.eu) and Simona Ene (simona.ene@interreg-danube.eu).