

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy (EDRS)</b>
<b>Horizontal aspect 3</b>	<i>Promotion of the single and consistent EU market</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>1. Seamless Europe – no more barriers, bottlenecks – but „kissing links”</b> Removal of transport bottlenecks and trade barriers
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>Improvement of the EU’s competitive edge depends on the exploration of reserves available for growth. The zone that developed along political boundaries became an internal socio-economic periphery in the enlarged EU and, in general, in the Danube Region. The human and, frequently, family, economic, entrepreneurial, cultural and other freedom rights of citizens living in a border zone inside the EU can be implemented only if all obstacles to the right to exercise economic freedom are removed and if the physical infrastructure of transport and its use within the Single Market satisfies expectations of all sorts. One of the Danube Region’s most characteristic features resides in the fact that the autochthonous national minorities living, in most cases, along borders drawn by politicians attach utmost importance to the traversability of such boundaries. The minorities have repeatedly expressed proposals aimed at improving cross-border relationships.</p> <p>Removal of obstacles to free trade can be facilitated also via the network of SOLVIT (i.e. the internal discussion platform of the Single Market). However, certain regulations adopted by national authorities are counted for as concealed obstacles to trade and the detriments are barely identified, a fact that requires improved information to be provided to citizens, entrepreneurs and municipalities of the borderline zones. Business communities indicated unequal quality of banking services and the lack of cross-border services. The selective effects produced by dissimilar technical standards on economic development (e.g. use of bio-diesel fuel) have become a matter of common knowledge.</p> <p>Within the EU segment of the Danube Region, the deficiencies and limited usability of transport infrastructure spanning both the internal borders and EU’s external borders which fall within the region have put a major obstacle to the implementation of a single internal market and trade development and, in consequence, prevented the evolution of human, political and mutual neighborly relations.</p> <p>Postponed restoration of road and railroad connections, missing or destroyed bridges that had spanned watercourses considered political boundaries (e.g. along the border between Romania and Bulgaria), missing ferry connections, inconsistently designed motorway projects or unmarked minefields deployed along borders are encountered almost everywhere along borderlines in the Danube Region.</p> <p>In respect to fluvial navigation on the Tisza River, an agreement concluded by the government of the Hungarian People’s Republic and the Yugoslav Federal People’s Republic on March 9, 1955 is yet in force. According to that agreement, only ships sailing under the colors of the two countries are permitted to navigate while ships of third</p>

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	<p>countries must obtain permit on a case-by-case basis. However, the validity of such permits shall actually be decided by the authorities of Serbia which enjoys the benefits of estuarine position. The agreement should be reviewed because Hungary, an EU member state, must ensure unimpeded traffic and transport along her navigable rivers but is prevented in doing so by legal obstacles imposed by the Agreement in respect to Tisza and its tributaries. Accordingly, the program is aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- setting uniform and harmonized national trade and economic regulations, in order to remove obstacles to the free cross-border transport of goods,</li> <li>- the development of cross-border transport infrastructure and elimination of all obstacles to its use.</li> </ul>
<i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversion of the currently temporary border crossing sites into permanent ones and building new crossing points, contribution to the implementation of such possibilities.</li> <li>• Elaboration of cross-border infrastructure for traffic and transport of regional and local importance</li> <li>• Improved conditions (tariffs, licensing regulations, timetables and transport routes) for cross-border traffic of passengers and goods</li> <li>• Introduction of uniform quality certification systems, licensing procedures and regulations furthermore elimination of veterinary and public health regulations which prevent free movement of goods and services.</li> </ul>
<i>Other countries potentially affected</i>	Austria, Slovakia, Romania, Ukraine, Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.
<i>Obligation (in terms of law etc.)</i>	EU Founding Treaties
<i>Complimentarity with the Danube strategy</i>	II. Improvement of good neighbourship, security, cultural/economic/transport relations and improved traversability of the national borders in the Danube Region.
<i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	HUNINEU (Office for the European Representation of Hungarian National Minorities), SOLVIT, National Infrastructure Development Co., Magyar Közút Nonprofit Co., Hungarian State Railways, VOLÁN Companies, trade organizations for truck companies, municipalities & local authorities.
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	<p>Easier ways of maintaining relationships and getting across boundaries bring nations, people and communities closer, help to intensify or restore former relationships between regions, districts and economic enterprises, to alleviate drawbacks attributable to the peripheral geographic location. As a result, cross-border trade shall brisk up, the region's economic performance shall grow, leading to improvements in the residents' quality of life and the relations of the neighboring states, together with the progress of the Region's attractiveness.</p> <p>The ability to consolidate all needs and problems encountered every day in a single package and to manage such problems relying both on projects governed under multilateral control and surveillance (Danube Region, European</p>

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	Union) and on utilization of the power of publicity could clearly convince the European citizens and entrepreneurs of the efficiency of interventions imposed by the EU, simultaneously highlighting the favorable political effects, as well.
<i>The source of the financing of the programme</i>	European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
<i>Term of implementation</i>	Continuously
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i>	Different in each sub-program
<i>Relationship with other programmes</i>	The projects can be combined with efforts made to develop the transport networks of neighbor countries.

<b>European Danube Region Strategy EDRS</b>	
<b>Priority</b>	<b>I. Strengthening the security of the Danube region within countries and across borders</b>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>2. Sustaining the values of our living waters in the Danube river basin – protection – management – mitigation “Pure Water”</b>
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>Preliminaries: At the level of the Danube river basin, the implementation of tasks related to the protection of living waters, in accordance with the Water Framework Directive (WFD), is coordinated by ICPDR. The Danube River Basin Management Plan (DRBMP) has been worked out and the Tisza Sub River Basin MP is being worked out within the framework of the above, specifying the actual measures to take. Concurrently with the implementation of the WFD, the requirements of the Flood Control Directive and the ICPDR Action Programme for Sustainable Flood Protection are also being implemented. Within the framework of the latter, in view of the EU Flood Directive and the Water Framework Directive, the Action Plans for Flood Protection for the 17 sub river basins of the Danube were completed by the end of 2009. From these, Hungary participated in the preparation of four and coordinated the completion of two. Hungary had a leading role in the coordination at the level of the Danube river basin.</p> <p>Flood protection is of special importance, especially in Hungary, and due to the flood events of the past ten years, it has become a focus of attention in the whole Danube river basin.</p> <p>Justification: Fresh watercourses and underground waters represent immeasurable values. The consequences of climatic change and societal-economic changes are likely to put a growing burden on our water supplies in future. The quantitative and qualitative preservation as well as sustainable utilisation of these values require large scale cooperation between both the various branches of the economy and the countries concerned.</p> <p>Objective: Harmonising the water management related activities of the countries of the river basin; strengthening cross-border programmes. Within the framework of these, special emphasis should be given to: the quantitative-qualitative protection of water supplies, flood protection, protection against drought and the protection and development of river sections and water systems representing special ecological, societal and economic problems and opportunities. It is necessary to establish uniform base Danube information systems by producing data sets of a required frequency for the international division of water supplies, protection against flood damage and for water management and river basin planning.</p> <p>Among countries on the Danube, Hungary has a special position since we have the biggest freshwater supply in the Carpathian Basin and one of the biggest in Europe, so the preservation of this is a task of high priority for the country. The bilateral cooperation of neighbouring countries in water management is an issue of high importance in the Danube river basin considering the high number of countries sharing the river basin. It is thus necessary to</p>

	support these cooperations within the framework of the programme.
<p><i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i></p>	<p><b>2.1. DANUBE RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT</b> – Attaining a good ecological status within the framework of a harmonised river basin management of countries in the Danube river basin, including guaranteeing a good status of surface waters (high priority river sections, regional water systems) and underground waters, by the projects with the following contents, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects aimed at curtailing water pollution (e.g.: developing sewage management and waste management)</li> <li>• Projects improving the hydromorphological state of watercourses and still waters</li> <li>• Projects aimed at establishing sustainable water utilisations (water base and drink water quality protection, agricultural water management)</li> <li>• Projects aimed at the management of quantitative and qualitative problems related to cross water surface and underground waters</li> <li>• Projects related to the management of water supplies (establishing the conditions of water retention, constructing water substitution systems, enlarging double-operation water retention-water substitution systems) in high priority sub river basins (by regional development adjusted to water supplies, granting water supply preservation)</li> </ul> <p>Such as, e.g.:</p> <p>2.1.1. Implementation of WFD-RBMP Measure Programmes – Danube River Basin</p> <p>2.1.2. Implementation of WFD-RBMP Measure Programmes – Completion and implementation of the integrated river basin management plan of the Tisza</p> <p>2.1.3. Prevention of pollution spreading across borders</p> <p>2.1.4. Improving water supply in Szigetköz (Upper Hungarian Danube Region)</p> <p>2.1.5. Rehabilitation of Ferenc canal (Baja-Bezdán canal)</p> <p><b>2.2. HARMONISED FLOOD PROTECTION IN THE DANUBE VALLEY</b> – Projects related to identifying risks and creating security, with the following contents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uniform European risk and security identification along the river</li> <li>• Establishing a harmonised flood protection in Danube river basin countries, enhancing security by cross-border cooperation</li> <li>• Establishing common flood protection information systems and open data bases</li> <li>• Interconnecting and jointly assessing the established model systems</li> <li>• Forming a management concept for flood (high tide) basins</li> </ul> <p>Such as, e.g.:</p>

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	<p>2.2.1. DKMT RESCUE, Cross Border Cooperation Programme 2.2.2. Interconnecting the model systems of rivers 2.2.3. Harmonised management of high water river beds 2.2.4. FLOOD RESCUE MODULE European rapid reaction capability 2.2.5. Uniform European risk and security identification along the river 2.2.6. Establishing and setting into a system common flood protection databases</p> <p><b>2.3. UNIFORM BASE DANUBE INFORMATION SYSTEMS</b> – Projects related to monitoring and assessment, in the following fields</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further development of the uniform informatics system of ICPDR</li> <li>• Harmonisation/ Interconnection of the monitoring and assessment systems</li> <li>• Establishing relations between specialised institutions in the Danube Valley and interconnecting their operation</li> <li>• Promoting social responsibility, attitude formation for the creation of a uniform Danube river basin attitude (specialised water management training, Danube Day, Danube knowledge base)</li> </ul> <p>Such as, e.g:</p> <p>2.3.1. “Radiological control of the Danube ” 2.3.2. Process assessment of changes in river sediments in the Danube river basin</p>
<p><i>Other countries potentially affected</i></p>	<p>Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Slovenia, (countries under the WFD), the Ukraine, Croatia, Serbia</p>
<p><i>Obligation (in terms of law etc.)</i></p>	<p>The UN EEC Convention “On the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes” passed in Helsinki on March 16, 1992. The Convention “On the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube” signed in Sofia on June 29, 1994. Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000/60/EC: Under the obligations of the Directive, Member States of the European Union shall restore the good conditions of their surface and underground water supplies by 2015. In accordance with the framework directive, “good conditions” do not only mean that the water is clean but also that water-related habitats are in a state as undisturbed as possible and dispose of the water supply required. Directive 2007/60/EC on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks: for the assessment and management of flood risks, mitigating flood-related harmful influences on human health, the environment, the cultural heritage as well as on economic activities; educating the population and raising awareness of dangers; information transfer; involving the population in preliminary surveys and decision making; mitigating damage caused by flood, inland water or local water damage. Action Plan COM(2006) 216 for halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 and beyond</p>

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	92/43/EEC and 97/62/EC, 1882/2003 – Habitats Directive (nature conservation directive) and its amendments, Natura2000
<i>Complimentarity with the Danube strategy</i>	<p>I.A Protecting the values of the natural environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ establishing a common water basin and water supply management;</li> <li>▪ improving the conditions for drink water quality protection;</li> <li>▪ preventing the spreading of pollution (air, water, noise) across borders</li> </ul> <p>I.C Improving societal economic security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ protection against catastrophe (especially water damage, i.e. flood-inland water-drought damage or damage in water quality)</li> </ul>
<i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	<p>beneficiaries: the whole population  cooperating parties: relevant authorities of member states, local governments  target group: enterprises disposing of the relevant technical capacity</p>
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	<p>According to the January 12, 2010 stance of the National Sustainable Development Council, “the most important visions at the Danube river basin level are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• raw material pollution: unpurified sewage shall not be discharged into waters anywhere in the whole Danube river basin,</li> <li>• nutriment pollution: nutriment discharge from point and non-point sources shall be regulated in the whole Danube river basin in a way avoiding a danger of eutrofisation both in the waters of the river basin and the water of the Black Sea ,</li> <li>• pollution by dangerous materials: there shall be no such danger in the Danube river basin or the part of the Black Sea affected by the water of the Danube to human health or the conditions of water habitats,</li> <li>• hydromorphological changes: these shall be managed in a way that the past, current or future hydromorphologiacl changes in the river shall not prevent the migration and spawning of fish anywhere in the whole Danube river basin,</li> <li>• the connection of flood plains and water habitats to the Danube: in the whole Danube river basin, these shall be re-connected to the river and rehabilitated. The integrating function of these areas along the river will guarantee the survival of self-supporting coexistent water species, flood protection as well as pollution control in the Danube river basin,</li> <li>• hydrological changes: these shall be managed in a way to avoid any damage to the natural development and diversity of water habitats,</li> <li>• infrastructure projects to be implemented in future: these shall be implemented transparently, with the</li> </ul>

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	<p>application of the best environmental practice and the best potential technologies in the whole river basin, preventing the deterioration of good conditions and cross border effects and mitigating or compensating for negative effects,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pollution material emission to underground waters: these shall not worsen the conditions of underground waters anywhere in the whole Danube river basin and in places where the underground water has already been polluted, the aim is to restore good conditions,</li> <li>• the use of underground waters: this will not surpass the volume of sustainably used water supplies at our disposal anywhere in the Danube river basin.”</li> </ul> <p>Flood protection security shall be enhanced in the area of the Danube river basin. The water systems established are suitable for draining floods and for retaining water in periods of drought.</p>
<i>The source of the financing of the programme</i>	Cohesion Fund and European Regional Development Fund
<i>Term of implementation</i>	<p>River basin management until 2027, according to continuous, 6-year river basin management cycles (2015, 2021, 2027)</p> <p>A harmonised flood protection can be implemented according to a plan of measures designed on the basis of risk identification, the first step of which is to determine common (cross-border) developments. Activity shall be continuous, especially considering the changing environmental, societal and economic conditions.</p> <p>The scheduled implementation deadline of actual flood protection investments in Hungary is 2013. Further flood protection developments are expected in the next planning cycle, which are under preparation currently already.</p> <p>The establishment of a uniform monitoring network adjusted to the implementation of the river basin management plans.</p>
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i>	<p>According to the Water Framework Directive, member states have designed their river basin management plans, the harmonisation of which is necessary. The existing monitoring systems need to be extended and harmonised. The establishment and sustainment of flood protection shall proceed at the level of member states and within the framework of existing cooperations; in Hungary, its development has been continuous.</p> <p>Drought management shall proceed according to the White Book of the EU and the Climate Directive to be worked out as a further development of the former. The pilot projects shall be implemented by 2013.</p> <p>The establishment of common monitoring can be started within the framework of border water cooperations, using the experience of the Water Framework Directive.</p>
<i>Relationship with other programmes</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Biodiversity along the Danube</li> <li>6. Green Economy along the Danube</li> <li>7. Mitigating the effects of climatic change in the Danube river basin</li> </ol>

	12. Tourism from the Black Forest to the Black Sea
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	<b>European Danube Region Strategy - EDRS</b>
<b>Priority</b>	<i>II. Sustainable Development of the Economy</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>3. Environmental-Friendly Transport in the Danube Region “Trans-Port”</b>
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>In the countries of the Danube Region, trucks on highways following the route of the river handle the predominant part of the cargo transport between Europe and Asia, while passenger transport within Europe is predominantly by air flights. To reduce the resulting environmental pollution and over-crowdedness the opportunities for environmental-friendly transport forms should be set up, first and foremost by increasing the passenger and cargo transporting capacities of railways. Within international railway transport the goal is to get prepared for receiving close route high-speed day trains shuttling between big European cities, and, in the meanwhile, to preserve and develop existing high quality daytime connections between European megapolises at distances 400 to 600 km from each other, with EC train types for the day transport, and EN train types for night transport (air-conditioned, restaurant, speaking information service for the passengers in foreign languages, place reservations, etc.) while between localities at distances less than 400 to 600 km from each considering business political standpoints and the aspects of regional policy this should be solved by other international lines with 2 to 3 pairs of train per day.</p> <p>One of the goal of the program is to set up the infrastructural prerequisites for train connections in those relations (directions) that are the most important for the region.</p> <p>Other main task of the program under the improvement of the navigability of the Danube, the domestic TEN-T financed projects under realisation at present, are aimed at the establishment of VI/B category waterways along the segment between river kilometres 1812-1641, and category VI.C along the segment between river kilometres 1641-1433, in line with the AGN requirements of the UN-ECE. However, in the case of the Danube region, due to the drinking water supply and the natural treasures, the establishment of navigation equally sustainable from the social-economic and environmental aspects is necessary. Thus the complex handling of this issue is necessary, affecting the relationship of navigation with the other sub-branches of transport (railway and road), the consequences of the waterway temporarily and permanently affecting the natural environment, as well as taking into account the consequences of climate change.</p> <p>The Danube bed is getting continuously deeper along the Hungarian section, and the low water levels are</p>

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	<p>decreasing, which also deteriorates the conditions of navigation, as well as causes significant ecological damage. According to the requirements of the Water Framework Directive, in the interest of the mitigation and termination of the ecological damage, even without the technical interventions aimed at navigation, technical interventions are to be executed, which are to be planned in the water-catchment management plans, and these plans are to be finalised following social debates.</p> <p>According to the opinion taken by the Hungarian National Council on the Environment, the improvement of the conditions of navigability must be supported but only in such a manner that the interventions necessary for the prevention of the unfavourable ecological and environmental effects of the interventions executed in the interest of navigation are also executed, and the combined effect of the interventions will bring more substantial improvement in the ecological condition of the Hungarian section of the Danube than the unfavourable effects that might emerge in some places but which are still acceptable according to the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>By abiding by the requirements related to the sustainability of development, the aim of the programme is to increase the capacity of the Danube as a transportation waterway, and thus its proportion of utilisation in the execution of shipping.</p> <p>By taking into account the interests of the affected countries and the role and significance of navigation, the programme shapes the future of Danube navigation. This affects the navigation route, the fleet of ships, the port infrastructure, and the increasing role navigation plays in passenger transport. The application of information and communication technologies in inland waterway transport promotes the significant increase of the security and efficiency of inland waterway transport; while the development of the waste-management systems serves the prevention of contamination and the protection of the natural environment.</p> <p>The logistical role taken by Hungary in international transit transport of goods can be reinforced through the realisation of multi-modal developments, as well as the establishment of the missing public-road and railway connections of the present transport infrastructure.</p>
<p><i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i></p>	<p>3.1. The setting-up of high-speed connections between the capitals of the Danube Region. The main railway routes to set up are::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project TEN-T 6.of utmost importance, connecting Lyon-Triest-Divaca/Koper-Divaca-<b>Ljubljana-Budapest- Ukrainian frontier by a high-speed train</b> (Transport Corridor Helsinki5/b)</li> </ul>

- Project TEN-T 17 of utmost importance: extending the high-speed route connecting Paris-Strasbourg-Stuttgart-Vienna-Bratislava through **Győr-Budapest to reach Beograd (Bucharest-Constanza)** (Transport Corridor Helsinki 4)

The National Plan for Regional Planning (Hungarian abbreviation: OTrT) contains both track versions. The goal system of the railway sub-division of the Uniform Transport Development Strategy (Hungarian abbreviation: EKFS) supports the launching of high-speed international passenger transport without setting the concrete tracks yet.

3.2. Reconstruction and improvement (development) of the Trans-Balkan line on the Constanza – Timisoara – Szeged –Subotica – Baja – Gyékényes - Zagreb – Rijeka line. The works to be accomplished are as follows:

- Renovation: Bácsalmás-Csikéria: 10 km; the track network of the Subotica (Subotica) railway station;
- Re-setting of superstructure: Csikéria-frontier crossing: 2.5 km, Újszentiván-state boundary: 6 km, state boundary -Banatso Arandjelovo (Oroszlámos): 6 km;
- Reinforcement of understructure: Újszentiván-state boundary: 6 km; state boundary-Banatso Arandjelovo (Oroszlámos) 6 km;
- New construction: by the construction of the public road railway bridge at Szeged, reinstatement of the functions of the Nagyállomás as a transit station.

**3.3. The environment-friendly and sustainable improvement of the navigability of the Danube; the performance of preliminary examinations:**

- The strategic environmental examination of the entirety of the Danube navigation route development
- The exploration of the habitat significance of Danube ports and the examination of the establishability of special ecological functions
- The examination of the potential effects of climate change on Danube navigation
- To achieve the criteria of international navigable route parameters (VI.C) and the improvement of navigable routes might be necessary in the following countries: Germany: (Straubing-Vilshofen); Austria: the section below Vienna; Hungary: (between Győrzámoly and Nagybajcs) Szap – the southern state border (Kölked); Romania: the entire Romanian section of the Danube, thus the Danube-delta in the territory of Romania and the Ukraine as well.

**3.4. The development of the system of information and environmental conditions of sustainable navigation** (Implementation of the River Information Services – the extension of the IRIS project: Donau River Information Service - DonauRIS, Waste Management for Inland Navigation on the Danube - WANDA project further development)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within the community inland waterway network of the European Union, in the interest of securing a harmonised, connectible and open navigation and information system, common requirements and technical specifications are to be introduced. Within the framework of the river information system (RIS), there is a possibility for the position of every boat to be known, especially that of boats transporting hazardous materials, as well as for the existence of the port bank infrastructure that can react to and neutralise extraordinary and industrial contaminations. At the same time, navigation may continuously contribute to the currently most up-to-date information on the condition of the riverbed and shoals, as well as that of navigable water, boat-crossing possibilities, and at the same time the directions currently regulating navigation.</li> <li>• The promotion of the establishment of the system of conditions of environment protection and waste management based on uniform principles and requirements in Danube navigation (on the basis of the results of the WANDA project)</li> </ul> <p><b>3.5. The development of the ports of the Danube region and the related complex transport infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The harmonised development of the system of ports and multi-modal logistical centres along the Danube and the Tisza (e.g. Szeged) (in Hungary: the port system of small and medium-sized towns: Győr (passenger terminal), Győr-Gönyű, Komárom, Adony, Dunaújváros, Kalocsa-Foktő or Bogyiszló-Fadd, Baja, common Hungarian-Croatian at Mohács, etc.)</li> <li>• The development of public-purpose internal port railway, road and water-side infrastructure, as well as boat-repair capacities</li> <li>• The development of the missing transversal expressway and railway connections (the construction of M8, M9, Győr-Gönyű port – M19 – M1 expressways, V0 the railway going around Budapest in the south)</li> </ul> <p><b>3.6. Supporting navigation initiatives constituting international connectedness within big cities and between urban zones e.g.:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Danube Express: the river-bus connection of the Danube bend and the settlements of the agglomeration of the capital, the new boat construction is also suitable for transport along the Danube – Main – Rhine waterway, therefore, it can be extended to the neighbouring countries as well.</li> <li>• CityLine: the extension of the Vienna – Bratislava express boat service towards Győr and Budapest</li> </ul>
<p><i>Other countries potentially affected</i></p>	<p>Bavaria (emphasized railway developments), Austria (the Vienna-Budapest-Bucharest axis name has been set), Slovakia, Romania, Serbia At the meeting of the V4+2 countries at ministerial level held on 29 March 2010 Romania supported the plan of the</p>

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	<p>construction of NSV (with reduced speed). The joint communication emphasized that the vision outlined in the V4+2 level regional development plan should form the background for the revision of the TEN-T network. Austria (according to the non-paper: the Danube is an environment-friendly transport artery), Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, Croatia, Serbia (according to the non-paper, the role of river transport is important).</p>
<p><i>Obligation (in terms of law etc.)</i></p>	<p>In case of the TEN-T projects: Chapter XV (Articles 154, 155 and 156) of the Treaty on the European Union and Decision No 884/2004/EC</p> <p>In case of the Trans-Balkan line: Communication COM [2007/32] of the European Committee, dated 31 January 2007 on the transport political guidelines, according to which <i>“The Commission considers that the extent of the Pan-European Corridor/Area concept needs to be updated to reflect the new geopolitical context following the EU enlargement and to better connect the major axes of the trans-European networks with those of the neighbouring countries. It therefore proposes to ...connect the Mediterranean, Black and the Caspian Sea areas with the countries with no sea shores.”</i></p> <p>The decision adopted by the latest Hungarian-Romanian joint cabinet meeting prescribed for the ministers responsible for the transport of the countries concerned to consider, as part of the high-speed line, the opportunities for railway construction on the section between Szeged and Timisoara. Act XXVI/20003 on National Plan for Regional Planning.</p> <p>Harmonisation with Chapter XV of the EU treaty (Articles 154, 155 and 156). Directive number 2000/60/EC: the EU Water Framework Directive related to the directions of Decision 884/2004/EC of the European Parliament and the Council and Act XLII of the year 2000, on river transport. The position taken by the Hungarian National Council on the Environment (16 November 2009) on the ideas in connection with the improvement of the navigability of the Hungarian section of the Danube</p> <p>The legal regulation background of the European Union with respect to river information systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directive 2005/44/EC of the European Parliament and the Council (7 September 2005) on harmonised river information services (RIS) on inland waterways in the Community</li> <li>• Commission Regulation number 414/2007/EC (13 March 2007) concerning the technical guidelines for the planning, implementation and operational use of river information services (RIS) referred to in Article 5 of Directive 2005/44/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on harmonised river information services (RIS) on inland waterways in the Community.</li> <li>• Commission Regulation number 415/2007 (13 March 2007) concerning the technical specifications for vessel tracking and tracing systems referred to in Article 5 of Directive 2005/44/EC of the European</li> </ul>

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	<p>Parliament and of the Council on harmonised river information services (RIS) on inland waterways in the Community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission Regulation number 416/2007 (22 March 2007) concerning the technical specifications for Notices to Skippers as referred to in Article 5 of Directive 2005/44/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on harmonised river information services (RIS) on inland waterways in the Community</li> <li>• The Hungarian legal regulation background: Government Decree number 219/2007. (VIII. 15.) on “river information services”</li> <li>• KöViM Decree number 17/2002. (III. 7.) on the declaration of natural and artificial surface waters suitable for navigation or suitable to be made navigable to waterways</li> <li>• Act XXVI of the year 2003, on the National Area Management Plan</li> <li>• Inter-modal developments: Hungarian Logistical Strategy.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Complimentarity with the Danube strategy</i></p>	<p>II. Improvement of the Transport Relations and the Permeability of the Frontiers</p>
<p><i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i></p>	<p>EU coordinators:: Laurens Jan Brinkhorst (TEN-T 6. project) and until April 2009: BALÁZS Péter (TEN-T 17. project). Citizens and enterprises of the countries involved Target group: the population of the towns affected, residents of the area, those arriving in the area by boat Beneficiaries: freight shippers and forwarding agents using the services Cooperating partners: self-governments, research institutions, affected civil organisations and enterprises</p>
<p><i>Vision/effects/results</i></p>	<p>The Communication of the European Committee to the Council and the European Parliament [COM (2007) 135 final] with the title "Trans-European Networks: Towards an integrated approach", emphasized the considerable added value resulting from the combination of the various infrastructural elements such as, for example, efficient use of space, decreasing costs and environmental impact and the synergies that may be offered by the three transport methods (i.e., public road, railway and water transport). In addition to protecting the natural environment, and reduction of pollution and over-crowdedness, the infrastructural elements to be created shall contribute to the abolition of commercial obstacles and, thereby, to the creation of a single market. The high-speed lines would considerably decrease the time demand of transport and, thereby, would considerably contribute to redirecting passenger transport from flying to railway transport which latter exposes the environment to considerably less pollution. The Trans-Balkan line would make it possible to link the regional centres (e.g., Timisoara, Szeged, Subotica) by railways.</p> <p>The communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament [COM (2007) 135 final]</p>

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	<p>under the title “Trans-European Networks: Towards an integrated approach”, emphasised the significant added value emerging from the combination of different infrastructure elements, as efficient use of space, decreasing costs and environmental effects, as well as the possible synergies originating from the three (road, railway, boat) methods of transport.</p> <p>As the expectable result of the programme, the load on the environment originating from carrying by road in the areas of the region burdened with transit traffic will ease, in addition, industrial-trade activities will be boosted in the environment of the developing infrastructural investments, as well as new workplaces may be established.</p>
<i>Type of program</i>	Cohesion Fund and European Regional Development Fund
<i>Term of implementation</i>	<p>The TEN-T 17. (Paris-Bratislava) project shall be implemented until 2020 and Project 6 (Lyon-Trieste-Ukrainian state boundary) until 2025 (and, as part of it, the Ljubljana-Budapest line until 2015).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The exploration of the habitat significance of Danube ports and the examination of the establishability of special ecological functions 2011-2015</li> <li>• The definition of the ecological target status in the system of conditions of the complex utilisation of the Danube 2011-2015</li> <li>• River Information Systems: the term of implementation is 30 months (between 2010 and 2013), while in the case of the majority of the developments it is 2-5 years. The expectable time required by the preliminary examination in the interest of the navigability of the Danube is 4-5 years</li> <li>• The time required by port developments varies</li> <li>• The time required by the preparation of road and railway developments is minimum 5-10 years</li> </ul>
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i>	<p>Concerning the Trans-Balkan line we have a preliminary draft study, and a SEE application was filed for the elaboration of the feasibility study in 2009. The decision adopted at the recent Hungarian-Romanian joint cabinet meeting prescribed for the ministers responsible for the transport of the countries concerned to revise the possibilities for railway constructions on the Szeged-Timisoara section as part of the Budapest-Bucharest high-speed line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The basis of the research on the exploration of the habitat significance of Danube ports and the examination of the establishability of special ecological functions and the definition of the ecological target status in the system of condition of the complex utilisation of the Danube is secured by Consortium Danubiale (on the basis of the system of connections of MTA Danube Research Institution established with the International Association for Danube Research [IAD]).</li> <li>• For the establishment of international navigation routes, the preliminary versions of the environmental impact studies have been prepared.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The concept with respect to the river-bus connection has been prepared and its detailed development is underway. The project (under the name Danube Express Project) is in the planning phase. The expected date of launch is 2010. Development transit time 2.5 years. First services launch in 2013 (M0 North / M0 South).</li> </ul>
<p><i>Relationship with other projects</i></p>	<p>4) Maintainable Navigation on Danube and Inter-modality The high-speed line projects are linked to other TEN-T network elements The Trans-Balkan railway development is supported by other related development projects, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the plan for the Szeged „Biopolisz-Bridge” (in case of a combined public road-railway bridge).</li> <li>○ the plan for the Budapest-Bucharest-Constanța high-speed line and the relevant inter-governmental treaties (14 November 2007).</li> <li>○ the modified OTrT (routing the Hungarian section of the European high-speed line with the direction of Szeged and the construction of a branching towards South – South-East</li> <li>○ the Ljubljana-Nagykanizsa-Szeged-Oradea–Sibiu international public road corridor shall follow the railway line (May 2008).</li> </ul> <p>Developments to be accomplished following 2014 in connection with the Single Transport Development Strategy (EKFS) (Dombóvár – Kaposvár (construction of a double track understructure, a single track superstructure, the building out of the single European Train Control System); Kaposvár – Gyékényes (construction of a one track understructure and superstructure)</p> <p>Resolution number 2008/XI/17 awarding the financial support of the improvement aimed at the navigability of the Danube (the section of the Danube between river kilometres 1708,2. and 1433.), in the area of trans-European transport networks (TEN-T) “Studies on the improvement of the navigability of the Danube (the Hungarian part of priority project number 18)” - 2007-HU-18090-S on providing community financial support for the project with a common interest (implementation underway at present!)</p> <p>IRIS II: within the framework of the trans-European network of infrastructures and the annual transport programme (TEN-T), the implementation of the river information services in Europe (IRIS-Europe), on awarding community financial support for project number 2005-95003 S-S 07.57527 of common interest, resolution of 7 June 2006 on the modification of resolution number C(2006)2299. The project is already in the implementation phase; it is realised according to the already approved Strategic Action Plan.</p> <p>WANDA – Waste Management on the Inland Navigation of the Danube (aim: the development of sustainable, environmentally appropriate and trans-nationally coordinated national navigation waste-management concepts, the application of pilot plants, and the formation of a financial model for financing, which all take the “polluter pays”</p>

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principle into account.)

The research project related to navigability is closely connected to Programme 2. *The safekeeping of the treasures of our living waters.*

*The transport investments are to be in harmony with the programme 11. Tourism from the Black Forest to the Black Sea.*

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy (EDRS)</b>
<b>Priority</b>	<i>I. Strengthening the safety in the Danube Region within the country and across the borders</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>4. Biodiversity along the Danube</b> – Conservation of natural heritage and ecological services
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>Justification: Natural and semi-natural ecosystems represent outstanding value in our country and also at a European level. The entire Hungarian section of the Danube and many water bodies in its catchment area are part of the National Ecological Network. In terms of types, the river and its floodplain belong mostly in the category of <b>ecological corridor</b>, but certain sections, such as Szigetköz, Béda-Karapancsa and the Gemenc area are <b>core areas</b> in the most natural state and the surrounding areas that protect them from external damage are <b>buffer zones</b>. 21 percent of Hungary is a Natura 2000 site and the entire Hungarian section of the Danube - except for the Budapest stretch - is part of the chain of Natura 2000 sites (European Ecological Network), along with many other Hungarian water bodies. The side arms along the Hungarian Danube section have outstanding importance from both a nature protection and a water protection point of view. One way to conserve natural values is to protect genetic resources, including the local varieties adapted to local circumstances.</p> <p>Objective: Conserving the natural values and processes of riverside habitats also helps protect water stocks. At the same time, semi-natural environments also offer opportunities for developing water, eco and bicycle tourism. The conservation of aquatic and waterside ecosystems and natural values, along with the assertion of a sustainable growth perspective contribute to the enhancement of the quality of life and employment opportunities for local populations. An ecological network is essentially a system of spatial links between various natural and semi-natural habitats via ecological corridors whose conservation is a must in order to maintain the functionality of the ecosystem. The conservation of Natura 2000 sites is based on the provisions under the Birds and Habitats Directives, which are mandatory for the Member States. All in all, the objective of the project is to maintain, improve and/or conserve Danube-related natural values, ecological connections and systems for future generations, in keeping with the efforts of conservation experts.</p>
<i>The content of the programme, subprogrammes</i>	<p><b>4.1. Establishment and development of cross-border nature conservation sites</b></p> <p>4.1.1. Establishment of the Mura-Drava-Danube Biosphere Reserve across the Hungarian-Croatian border</p> <p>4.1.2. Danubeparks - Danube River Network of Conservation Sites - development and implementation of transnational strategies in order to conserve the natural heritage along the Danube.</p> <p>4.1.3. Conservation of the natural values and drinking water stocks of Szigetköz-Csallóköz</p> <p><b>4.2. Development of ecological networks in the Danube Region</b></p>

	<p>4.2.1. Identification of ecological target situation in terms of criteria for a complex utilisation of the Danube 4.2.2. Improvement of projects related to Natura 2000 maintenance plans and improvement of communication regarding Natura 2000 sites 4.2.3. Building a network of Danube ‘forest’ schools</p> <p><b>4.3. River side-arm rehabilitation interventions, rehabilitation of aquatic habitats</b></p> <p>4.3.1. Habitat reconstruction of Danube islands <i>Ongoing and prepared projects in Hungary that may serve as examples as to ensuring the continuity and coordination of riverside rehabilitation activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reconstruction of saved-side wet meadow habitats at Bagamér</li> <li>• Habitat reconstruction of the Kucsér marshland at Ásványráró</li> <li>• Preservation, presentation of, and research into, nature conservation sites and natural values</li> </ul> <p>4.3.2. Rehabilitation of the Danube backwaters at Fadd, Bogyiszló, Tolna and Bába</p> <p><b>4.4. Assessment of the services of the Danube ecosystem, development of a framework for the sustainable use of resources</b></p> <p><b>4.5. Hydro-ecological assessment of the Tisza water system</b></p> <p><b>4.6. Ensuring the longitudinal connectivity of the river for wildlife</b> - extension of the Sturgeon 2020 Programme in order to ensure longitudinal connectivity of the Danube for migratory fish, analysis of the longitudinal connectivity of Portile de Fier I and Portile de Fier II.</p> <p><b>4.7. Conservation of genetic pool and gene bank co-operation along the Danube</b></p>
<i>Potentially affected countries</i>	Countries alongside the Danube and countries bordering on Hungary
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	<p>Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio de Janeiro) Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention) Convention of the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn) Convention of the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern) Country reports must be submitted to UNESCO every 5 years on MAB (Man and Biosphere) programme sites</p> <p><b>43/92/EEC</b> Habitats Directive <b>79/409/EEC</b> Birds Directive</p> <p><b>2000/60/EC Water Framework Directive (WFD):</b> European Union Member States must comply with the requirement of ensuring the good quality of their surface and groundwaters by 2015. Under the Framework Directive, ‘good condition’ means not only that the water is clean, but also that water-bound habitats are disturbed as little as possible and supplied with adequate quantities of water.</p>

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	<p><b>COM(2006) 216</b> Action Plan on Halting the Loss of Biodiversity by 2010 - and beyond</p> <p><b>Regulation (EC) No 1882/2003</b> Nature Conservation Directive and amendments, Natura 2000</p>
<i>Complementarity with the Danube strategy</i>	<p>I.A Conservation of the values of natural environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisation of biosphere conservation</li> <li>• Establishment of cross-border water stock management</li> </ul> <p>II B Sustainable development of tourism</p> <p>III.A Educational and cultural co-operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancement of environment-consciousness</li> </ul>
<i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	<p>Target group: natural environment, (habitat, rare species, local varieties, other values, etc.), local population, farmers</p> <p>Beneficiaries, co-operating parties: non-governmental organisations, local governments, government agencies, geographically competent national park authorities, geographically competent nature, environmental and water conservation inspectorates, water management directorates, forestry companies and local enterprises</p>
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	<p>Cross-border co-operation and communication with the affected residents and users of the site promote the conservation of natural environment along the Danube. Environmental consciousness, attitude development and environmental education result in a stronger relationship between landscape and man, help conserve natural values, promote related efforts, and - through the conservation of resources - are essential for future generations. The assessment of ecosystem services and the environmental-social-cultural-economic frameworks enable the conservation of the Danube as a living stream. The existence of natural values allows for establishing a diversified management structure and provides a favourable background for the propagation of soft forms of tourism.</p>
<i>Programme type</i>	Cohesion Fund and European Regional Development Fund
<i>Term of implementation</i>	The term of implementation is 2-5 years or ongoing, depending on the individual project
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i>	The level of preparedness with regard to individual programme elements is indicated in the project sheets
<i>Relationship with other programmes/projects</i>	<p>2 Conservation of our freshwater values in the Danube Region</p> <p>11 Tourism from the Black Forest to the Black Sea</p>

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy EDRS</b>
<b>Priority</b>	<i>II. Sustainable economy development</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>5. Green Economy along the Danube</b>
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>The so-called Green Economy is a promising way of renewing the economy, affected by the global climate change, increasing unemployment and considerable limits in development (e.g. increasing power and raw material demand and prices). In the course of the complex management of the issue, covering several factors and conditions, in addition to producers, the role played by the consumers of products and the function of government in the economy need to be reconsidered.</p> <p>Owing to the imminent environmental effects of the global climate change, the green economy, and more specifically green employment, the promotion of job creation in relation to green investment projects, is increasingly gaining ground. The extension of green employment is included among the priorities of the Spanish, Belgian and Hungarian presidency as an area in which specific action is planned to be taken in progress (the facilitation of green job creation in joint effort with the social partners in order to support an economy with low CO2 emission).</p> <p>The objective of this programme is to contribute to the maintenance of and increase in biological diversity, support natural self-regulatory procedures, preserve endangered species that are important for reasons of cultural history and genetics, protection and improvement of the biological condition of the soil, and facilitation of food safety by joining the forces of countries along the Danube. Additional programme objectives include the direct reduction of environmental load by businesses through technological development, in other words, encouraging them to increase the efficiency of their power, water and other raw material consumption, and cut the volume of waste generation and the emission of hazardous substances along with reducing their hazard. The aim is to have an environment-conscious approach and consideration for sustainability regularly and consciously included in the operational and decision-making practice of companies. The traditional form of economy, significant for maintaining the landscape, needs to be maintained, and the benefits of small quantities of plant-protecting agents and optimum nutrient management must be increased.</p> <p>As a significant element in maintaining biological diversity, growing genetically modified plants should be avoided and impeded on areas under agricultural cultivation. Consequently, the traditional plant species need to be preserved and re-included in production, and the traditional forms of farming must be revived.</p>

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<p><i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i></p>	<p>The Green Economy programme can be implemented and reinforced by way of the following interventions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encouraging the reinforcement of Green Economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The elaboration of a performance measuring system that can demonstrate environmental effects in the economy.</li> <li>▪ As a result of improvement in their current activities and the operating technologies businesses apply (perhaps capacity improvement), they should make the best of environment friendly technologies and production methods, increase their competitiveness and economic efficiency.</li> <li>▪ Encouraging product and technology development in the environment protection industry</li> <li>▪ Support to employment and job creation in the environment protection industry</li> <li>▪ Raising environmental awareness in the participants of the economy and consumers</li> <li>▪ The establishment of social economy (as a non-profit sector) and local markets</li> <li>▪ Rules to govern the production processes and products, explicitly aimed at the protection of employees, health and the environment against the harmful effects of economic activity</li> <li>▪ Green tax and support policies may contribute to a fairer economy in terms of social as well as environmental considerations (e.g. environmental taxes and bonuses, Green Bank)</li> <li>▪ Reinforcement of financial means or raising funds to facilitate the activities of small, medium and fledgling businesses with the help of the European Investment Bank</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. High-standard food supply, agricultural development based on ecological and the traditional food production culture, and provision for the conditions of maintaining the genetically non-modified status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reinforcement of dialogues, information flow and cooperation between businesses and organisations engaged in eco-farming</li> <li>▪ Targeted support to processing agricultural products from eco-farming and facilitating their marketing</li> <li>▪ Setting up a monitoring and control system for the analysis of the use and spread of genetically modified plants, and the extension of long-term scientific research in the physiological effects of GMO plants.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Promotion of green employment: facilitating job creation in relation to green investment projects</li> </ol>
<p><i>Other countries potentially affected</i></p>	<p>Countries along the Danube River, like Germany, Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, the Ukraine, Croatia and Serbia</p>
<p><i>Obligation (in terms of law etc.)</i></p>	<p>Position by the European Greens: “A Green Economic Vision for Europe”; Relevant provisions of the Community rules on GMO-free organic foodstuffs (Council Regulation 834/2007 EC and its enacting rules, as well as Commission Regulation 889/2008);</p>

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	The 18-months programme of the Council (16771/09) – programme of the Spanish-Belgian-Hungarian presidency
<i>Link with the Danube strategy</i>	<p>I. D Food safety</p> <p>II. C Sustainable industrial development</p>
<i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	Economic research institutes, environment businesses, scientific and technological development institutes, consumer protection organisations, non-government organisations, producers, SMEs, dealers
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	<p>In the course of the expected transformation, the environment will become cleaner, smaller and medium-sized businesses will be established, and the ratio as well as the significance of environmental research will increase. Through capitalisation on the natural endowments of the region, production and trade performance as well as food and environment safety will increase in the region. In agreement with the rural development objective, retaining rural population, the creation of attractive living and working conditions by a carefully considered, integrated and sustainable exploitation of the local resources.</p> <p>Through the reinforcement of green economy, the environmental infrastructure will be developed with a view to sustainability considerations, while natural resources will be used more efficiently and economically. The individual environment technological developments should serve the preservation of the quality and functions of the most possible environmental constituents, and convert a complete production and consumption structure into a more sustainable pattern (requirements, demand and production capacities).</p> <p>In the framework of the programme, dialogue, the information flow and cooperation between the businesses and organisations engaged in eco-farming along the Danube River must be strengthened. The establishment of joint ventures and the optimisation of the available resources must be encouraged by methods elaborated by businesses that can be cited as examples in other areas (e.g. the Novohrad–Nógrád Geopark).</p> <p>With a view to the fact that the ratio of processed eco-products remains low among others for the reason that due to undercapitalisation, businesses have not built the required capacities to the sufficient extent, the processing and marketing of the produced eco-products should be given targeted support. This way the price of eco-products may be reduced and their spread can be facilitated in order to promote the achievement of the programme objectives. The Member States located along the Danube River may contribute greatly to the realisation of the priority objectives of the European Union, like sustainable development, sustainable consumption and production. As a result of improvement in their activities and the operating technologies businesses apply (perhaps capacity improvement), they should make the best of environment friendly technologies and production methods, increase their competitiveness and economic efficiency.</p>

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<i>Funding sources for the programme</i>	European Regional Development Fund, European Agricultural and Rural Development Fund
<i>Term of implementation</i>	ongoing
<i>Progress made in preparation for the program</i>	The conceptual and theoretical regulatory elements of the Green Economy as well as the individual constituents of the system of support to businesses and the ecological production culture – e.g. in respect of technological development and agricultural environment protection – have already been elaborated.
<i>Relationship with other programmes and projects</i>	They are connected with interventions made in order to preserve the natural and biological heritage and promote social integration.

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy EDRS</b>
<b>Horizontal aspect 2</b>	<i>The mitigation of the social-economic and environmental consequences of climate change</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>6. The mitigation of the effects of climate change in the Danube catchment area</b>
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing society and the economy in our age, especially in the areas exposed to the extremities of the weather. These effects vary in their type and extent in the countries of the Danube catchment area. Therefore, it would be necessary to approach the road to solution with a uniform philosophy from the Black Forest as far as the Black Sea, and, by designating sample areas, compare the steps that are necessary to be taken in the interest of the mitigation of these effects. There are research projects underway in several areas (ESPON Climate, the Hungarian Változás Hatás Válaszadás (Change – Effect – Response) (VAHAVA) project, AGRISAFE, Water CoRe, etc.), the results of which can be used and specialised in the catchment area of the Danube.</p> <p>In connection with the topics of drought and climate change, expert-level negotiations and a related conference are organised during the course of the presidency. During the course of the Hungarian presidency, cooperation could be launched with the development of the projects directed at the mitigation of the negative effects of climate change. By 2012, the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) scheduled the development of a climate adaptation strategy.</p> <p>During the summer and the fall, an increase in temperature higher than the annual average can be expected in the area of the Carpathian Basin, and in general, the extent of the warming of the climate in the catchment area of the Danube will be greater than the global average. The water shortage as well as the drought have a direct effect on people, on the natural fauna and flora, and the sectors using and dependent on water, especially on water management and agriculture. The establishment of sustainable, competitive, cooperating agriculture keeping in mind the population retaining ability of the provinces as its target, is a common interest in the central and lower Danube Valley countries.</p> <p>The appearance of prognosticated changes and long-term droughts make the modification of the existing water systems, on occasion, the establishment of new water systems necessary. Through water retention of a greater extent and the regional re-channelling of water reaching areas that are unprovided for, it can be secured that the economic, environment protection and communal water-demands are continuously satisfied. TICAD project</p>

	<p>underway at present, developing the Tisza catchment area regional development strategy (Tisza Catchment Area Development), with is being prepared in the European Territorial Cooperation in the South-East European Programme (ETC - SEE) with the participation of 5 countries (2009-2012). As part of the Danube catchment area, the recommendation planned in the European Danube Strategy is the continuation of this project under the name TICAD<sup>ADAPT</sup>, which deals especially with adaptation against the effects of climate change (drought, floods).</p> <p>From the aspect of urban air quality, big cities are endangered by the emergence of heat islands. Smog alerts, the prevention of which is an important task, are increasingly more frequent every year. The international transfer of knowledge, the establishment of a satellite map system and common legal institutions are necessary.</p> <p>Through the realisation of sample programmes and projects, and the international sharing of experience, the aim of the programme is to increase the success rate of the measures taken against the effects of climate change, thus increase the adaptability of the region increasingly exposed to the effects of climate change. The aim is to step up together, in the interest of the re-establishment of the ecological balance, by securing the harmonious development of people, nature and the economy, as well as by reinforcing environment-conscious attitudes.</p>
<p><i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i></p>	<p><b>6.1. Homokhátság (Sand Ridge) - complex area management</b> – The aim of the sub-programme, through keeping the residents in the area and improving their conditions of life (the isolated nature of farm life, the bad health and mental hygiene condition of the residents), is to support the maintenance of traditional sand farming and farm lifestyle – as a characteristically Hungarian cultural history treasure. On the other hand, solutions are to be found for the improvement of the operation of the ecological system and the water-management problems in the interest of the improvement of the conditions of farming.</p> <p><b>6.2. Living and liveable Tisza-region - Tisza Complex Sub-programme</b></p> <p>6.2.1. The development of the catchment area of Tisza - TICAD</p> <p>6.2.2. The climate adaptation strategy of the catchment area of Tisza - TICAD<sup>ADAPT</sup> – by analysing the vulnerability against climate change, the sub-programme recommended puts the emphasis on the establishment of the adaptation strategy against the two main dangers characterising the catchment area: drying out and increasing flood risk, with the integration of area development, area management and water catchment planning.</p> <p><b>6.3. The minimisation of heat islands</b> in the interest of a healthy environment and urban air quality – Its aim, by identifying the areas warming up, is to develop such long-range measures that mitigate the negative effects of heat islands, furthermore, to understand the space- and time-dynamics of the heat islands, both on small and large scale, which allows for the development of the energy-balance model of big cities and settlements.</p>

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	<p><b>6.4. Securing the water-management conditions of a sustainable and competitive agriculture</b> –To guarantee the safety of food production, the securing of the conditions of sustainable water management, the prevention of water damage of a sufficient level, flood and inland water protection, the management of the risk of water shortage and drought (water retention, water storage, irrigation, saving water, etc.), as well as adaptation to the effect of climate change, are key issues.</p>
<p><i>Other countries potentially affected</i></p>	<p>In the interest of the establishment of common adaptation strategies, the countries of the Danube catchment area can join the two programmes with one sample area each with similar features: The Homokhátság project is conducted primarily in Hungarian-Serbian cooperation; the common adaptation strategy can be formed with the participation of Romania and Bulgaria, countries with extensive agricultural areas exposed to significant climate change effects. The TICAD<sup>ADAPT</sup> project is conducted with the countries of the Tisza catchment area; the project can be joined by Germany and the Czech Republic, countries with subsidiary Danube catchment areas fighting increasing flood threats. The minimisation of the heat islands affects primarily the big cities of the Danube region.</p>
<p><i>Obligation (in terms of law etc.)</i></p>	<p>Government decrees with respect to Homokhátság, the National Regional Development Plan, the National Climate Change Strategy The Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Regional Planning (CEMAT) – Tisza Convention; Flood Risk Management Directive number 2007/60/EC;</p>
<p><i>Complimentarity with the Danube strategy</i></p>	<p>Horizontal aspect: the mitigation of the social, economic and environmental effects of climate change</p>
<p><i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i></p>	<p>The residents and farmers of the Danube catchment area as a target group The water management sector, regional and settlement development and management, the role-players of the agricultural sector as co-operating partners</p>
<p><i>Vision/effects/results</i></p>	<p>Exchange of experience in the activities against climate change and planning; the re-establishment of ecological balance; the conscious development of the relationship of man, nature and economy; the improvement of climate and environment consciousness; the improvement of the quality of urban life; the improvement of the operational ability of natural systems;</p>
<p><i>The source of the financing of the programme</i></p>	<p>Cohesion Fund, European Regional Development Fund, European Agricultural and Regional Development Fund</p>
<p><i>Term of implementation</i></p>	<p>The establishment of a cooperation programme by using the existing studies – 2011</p>

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	The preparation of sample projects on the basis of uniform approach – 2012 Action plan for the period after 2013-14
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i>	Sub-programmes and projects, foundation studies prepared for the area of the Homokhátság TICAD – project currently underway under the title the regional development of the Tisza catchment area can be considered a precedent
<i>Relationship with other projects</i>	2. Sustaining the values of our living waters in the Danube catchment area

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy EDRS</b>
<b>Priority</b>	<i>III. Strengthening of Danubian identity and cooperation</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>7. Danube Science - Danubian Scientific cluster and research field “Science – Work network!”</b>
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>In the modern higher education institutions of the 21st century the role of scientific research has been significantly strengthened. There is an ever increasing competition between universities at European level, and even at a global level, for quality students. Accordingly, not even the universities of the region can avoid international competition. By the increase of international competition also the importance of efficient cooperation between universities, and the coordinated utilisation of the complementary resources of certain universities, must be increased in order to promote academic excellence.</p> <p>The Danube Rectors’ Conference (DRC) was established by the University of Ulm, the University of Linz and Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem (of Budapest) in Vienna in 1983. Currently the network has 51 member institutions from 13 countries. The general objective of the DRC is to develop education and research in the region by building up bilateral and multilateral relations between the member universities. The Danube Scientific Cluster develops cooperation in the field of education and research in order to harmonise the supply in training, and the research fields.</p> <p>There is a traditionally high level bilateral cooperation in the field of research and development between Hungary and Germany as well as Austria, and recently also Romania, which needs to be continued and broadened. The programme must include research fields which have results directly affecting the region and contributing to the sustainable development of the region. There are dedicated inter-university researches focusing on the strengthening of the internal cohesion of the Danube macro-region, and the strengthening of social and economic cohesion, and there are vocational training courses in transportation and logistics that are implemented in the framework of international cooperation.</p> <p>The objective of the programme is to strengthen and broaden cooperation between major universities of the region in the field of education and research, in order to improve the competitiveness and the innovation potential of universities, and also increase the level of contribution of universities to the renewal of the economic development of the region.</p>

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<i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i>	<p><b>7.1. Broadening of the inter-university cooperations of the Danube Rectors Conference concerning the topics PhD studies, lecturer and student mobility, climate change and world heritage, in order to improve higher education services.</b></p> <p><b>7.2. Determination of the framework of the Danube Region Common Research Programme (ERANET), and the implementation of the programme.</b></p> <p><b>7.3. Setting up the Danube valley knowledge base and regional scientific cooperation</b></p> <p><b>7.4. Setting up a common inland waterway centre, and the implementation of educational and training programmes on this basis, in the field of river navigation, forwarding and logistics.</b></p>
<i>Other countries potentially affected</i>	Germany (non-paper: educational, research and scientific cooperation projects), Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, the Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro
<i>Obligation (in terms of law etc.)</i>	Commitment of political decision-makers at the Budapest Stakeholder Conference
<i>Complimentarity with the Danube strategy</i>	III. C Educational and training cooperation
<i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	University students, lecturers, scientific researchers, higher education institutions
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	Due to inter-university relations in the Danube region, thematic specialisation is getting stronger, and a common research field is set up, by which the competitiveness of universities will increase, their impact on the economy will get stronger, and the innovation potential of the economy of the region will get stronger. Regional research strengthens the internal cohesion of the region.
<i>The source of the financing of the programme</i>	European Social Fund
<i>Term of implementation</i>	Continuously from 2012
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i>	The inter-university cooperation form required for the project (DRC) has been in existence since 1983. The preparation of the programme affecting the common research area requires 2-3 years (setting up ERA_Net for the preparation of the programme). Then the implementation of the programme under Article 169 of the Treaty of Rome requires around 6 years, of which the first phase takes around 12-18 months, and the second phase 4.5-5 years.
<i>Relationship with other projects</i>	Relating priority and measure: III. A. Value and heritage protection, III. B. Cultural cooperation, III. C. Educational and training cooperation projects. Currently running projects e.g. within the following programmes: II. Central

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	Hungarian Regional OP 4.2.1. Liszt Ferenc (Hungarian Academy of Music), the renewal of the centre of the European higher level musical education in Budapest, and III. Central European Educational Cooperation (CECE; Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia).
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	<b>European Danube Region Strategy EDRS</b>
<b>Priority</b>	<i>I. Strengthening the security of the Danube region within the country and across the border</i>
<b>The name of the project</b>	<b>8. Secure Danube region</b>
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>The security of the Danube region has several dimensions. They are: public security (action against migration and crime), healthcare and environmental safety, as well as energy security, and the relating issues of energy generation and transport.</p> <p>The Danube, as waterway, is one of the most important international route for not only workforce and goods but also for migration and organised crime. Investigations and surveillance activities affecting multiple countries are essential part of prevention, and the spread of diseases is in close connection with migration and the free movement of labour; and it is primarily within the framework of international cooperation that such consequences may be mitigated. It is a requirement to prevent the occurrence and mitigate the impact of cross-border environmental risks such as floods and pollution.</p> <p>Provision for the security of energy supply will decrease the exposedness of the society and the economic operators. Security relates to the provision of the conditions of secure operation of systems and facilities and the prevention of harmful effects on human health and the environment, on the one part, and the supply of energy for consumers with due reliability, on the other part. Therefore special attention should be attached to the development of energy networks and production capacities, taking into view the need for energy efficiency and the safety of energy generation (e.g. nuclear), and also to the setting up of local renewable energy systems (sun, wind, geothermic), in which regard the conditions are very favourable in several countries.</p> <p>The purpose of the programme is to increase the various dimensions of security in the region and thereby increase the stability of economic activities, and improve the quality of life, which would promote competitiveness and the stability of the society in the entire region.</p>
<i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i>	<p><b>8.1. Improvement of the public security of the Danube region</b> (harmonisation of common actions against migration and crime, establishment of a water emergency centre)</p> <p><b>8.2. Prevention of epidemics - set up and operation of a macro-regional healthcare monitoring network</b> (Smart River Health)</p> <p><b>8.3. Cooperation of nuclear power plants along the Danube (exchange of operational experience, training,</b></p>

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	<p><b>research and development)</b>  <b>8.4. Improving the safety of energy supply</b> (development and erection of cross-border energy lines - natural gas and electricity)  <b>8.5. Strategies and research cooperations concerning the usage of renewable energy, and setting up systems of renewable energy in small regions</b></p>
<i>Potentially affected countries</i>	Czech Republic, Austria, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	Primarily political commitment to reduce energy dependence and improve the security of the region
<i>Complimentarity with the Danube strategy</i>	I.B Security of energy supply and I.C Improvement of social and economic security, I.A Protection of the natural environment
<i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	State Public Health and Medical Officer Service, Magyar Villamos Művek Zrt (Hungarian Electricity Works Company), Földgáz-szállító Zrt (Gas Supply Company), local energy generating enterprises, local governments, law enforcement and border patrol organisations, Directorates of National Parks, Directorates of Environmental and Water Affairs, Environmental, Wildlife and Water Management Inspectorates, civil organisations, state administration bodies concerned.
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	As a result of the measures, migration and crime will be mitigated, and the risk of epidemics will probably decrease. As a result of investment in the safety of power plants, the risk of disasters will decrease, and the development of cross-border transportation capacities will improve the security of energy supply in the region. As a result of local development measures aimed at renewable energy generation the level of direct dependence on big supply systems will decrease. Expected result: By 2020 the use of renewable energy should reach 186PJ/year. Strengthening of environmental security, decrease of cross-border pollution. Improvement in the area of Critical Infrastructure Protection set out in EU Directive 114/2008 EC.
<i>Programme financing</i>	European Regional Development Fund, Cohesion Fund, European Social Fund
<i>The term of implementation</i>	Continuous
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme</i>	Projects with various levels of preparedness
<i>Relationship with other projects</i>	Alignment with measures aimed at the increase of social and economic cohesion, Social Renewal Operative Programme 3.4.1.b (migrant) tender

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy, EDRS</b>
<b>Priority</b>	<i>III. Strengthening of Danube identity and cooperation</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>9. Institutional cooperation in the Danube region</b> <b>“MacrosCOOPe”</b>
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>Since the change of the political system and the country’s accession to the EU, Hungary has taken great strides forward on the way to the threefold unit, building up to a paradigm, consisting of a democratic society, a market economy that serves this society, and a multilevel governance culture that is built on the previous two elements and is able to govern these systems. During the change of the paradigm, the logics of the (co)operation of these three areas have pointed from a centralized, sectoral and basically normative governance/development system of organizations and institutions toward a multilevel (decentralized), cooperative (strategic) structure with a regional approach.</p> <p>However, this transformation, on the one hand, involved rather varied results with regard to these areas and the (co)operation thereof, and, on the other hand, the latter has been intensely affected by the dynamics of transformation up to this date. The Danube region has created a new opportunity, as the matter of the Danube Strategy, the social, economic and political players that have been addressed, as well as the institutional and organizational system of the cooperation that has developed between them may become the starting point and driver of the full-fledged development of good governance and the cross-border cooperation of the governance players of the various levels, as part of the integration process.</p> <p>The key principles of “good governance” are usually characterized by the following, as accepted internationally: wide participation; endeavor to reach consensus; taking responsibility, accountability; transparency; quick response to events; effective and efficient operations; fairness, comprehensive operations that include everybody; rule of law. Through these, the reduction of corruption to the minimum can be ensured, as well as a situation where the decision-makers can hear the voice of the minorities and those who are the most vulnerable can be achieved. Good governance is responsive not only to the needs of the present but also to those of the future.</p> <p>A closer cooperation of the Danube region, the exploration of growth potentials depend on the trust between the cooperating parties. An obstacle to this is that the protection and respectful treatment of the rights of the indigenous national minorities are lagging far behind the best practices in some countries. The cooperation and bridging role of these minorities are in the interests of the Danube region and the EU alike. The representative office of the</p>

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	<p>Hungarian national minorities living in the neighboring countries made a proposal on this subject to the European Commission in Brussels and it initiated that a permanent forum to make proposals be established by relying on the existing network of cooperation, with the participation of the representative offices of the national minority groups of the nations in the Danube region, by establishing Danube H-SOLVIT, besides SOLVIT, which is the dispute settling forum of the Single Market.</p> <p>The goal of the programme is to improve the quality of social governance on each regional level of the governance in the region primarily be encouraging cooperation, and thus, to strengthen the social efficiency and economic competitiveness of the region.</p>
<i>The content of the programme (subprograms)</i>	<p><b>9.1. Cross-border cooperation of municipalities, associations of settlements, euro regions, primarily economic and indigenous minority advocacy groups, as well as state institutions</b></p> <p><b>9.2. Development and implementation of cross-border cooperation programs in settlement and regional planning and the process of licensing procedures</b> (sample projects: Budapest European Metropolis Program, Danube Main Street Program, Rehabilitation of Historical Danube City Centers)</p>
<i>Other countries potentially affected</i>	<p>Germany (non-paper: cooperation in legal security and good governance), Austria, Slovakia, the Ukraine, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia (non-paper: contacts with the Danube towns), Romania, Bulgaria (non-paper: Ruse international information and cooperation center for the regional and local authorities)</p>
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	<p>The joint closing statement of the regional development ministers of the V4+2 countries of their meeting of 29.03. 2010 emphasizes that the regular cross-border cooperation programmes in regional development be continued and extended to further countries.</p> <p>On the subject of governance, a dialog has started on the European level as well, the result of which is the separate chapter on governance appearing in the Europe 2020 strategy. The weight of the subject is indicated by that the principles of multi-level governance and subsidiarity were dealt with by the EU member states in the form of an informal meeting of ministers during the Spanish presidency (Malaga, March 16-17, 2010).</p>
<i>Compliance with the Danube strategy</i>	<p>III.D. Cooperation and partnership</p>
<i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	<p>Municipalities, groups of citizens, associations of local governments, state institutions and organizations</p>
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	<p>Governance will become more efficient, the funds, utilizations, costs and benefits will become more transparent.</p>

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	The effectiveness of governance may also grow if action is extended to everyone, if the partners are involved by the government in the responsibility to be taken for the social programmes on all levels. The Danube Strategy will give new momentum to the process of transformation, thus contributing to a more coherent, efficient, flexible governance culture, which is more easily accessible and foreseeable by everybody. The regional umbrella of the Danube Macro will create the organizational and institutional system of cooperation.
<i>The source of the financing of the programme</i>	European Social Fund, Citizens for Europe, Culture 2014, Youth
<i>Term of implementation</i>	Continuous from 2012
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i>	The program does not require any licensing procedures, while the existing cooperation programs such as the Danube Partnership Network may provide a good basis.
<i>Relationship with other programmes</i>	Hungary-Slovakia Initiative for a Sustainable Network Cooperation II, (European Regional Cooperation Program), DunaLog programme

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy - EDRS</b>
<b>Priority</b>	<i>III. Strengthening the Danube regional identity and cooperation</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>10. Strengthening the Danube regional identity</b> – protection of heritage, cooperation
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>The coherence of the Danube area can be intensified by the mutual respect, which is based on the awareness of its population's (nations, minorities, ethnic groups, migrants) cultures, traditions, as well as cultural and historical heritage. Their intertwined history and cultural connections represent a force for cohesion and the creation of identity, which can serve as a basis for the region's common future. The protection of heritage and values, the knowledge and experience of intellectual heritage and the cooperation between regions, institutions and NGOs are important means for this. Educational activities at original locations, the interactive involvement of visitors, the revival of traditions in cultural history, the organisation of joint events, festivals and conferences play a substantial role in strengthening identity and getting to know our common history. Heritage sites contribute to a stronger feeling of belonging, boosting the sense of identity and also serve as means of increasing self-esteem and creating a European-level status.</p> <p>In cultural aspects, it is recommended to boost <b>regional “self-awareness”</b>, including the knowledge of <b>history, cultural history and visual culture</b>. Apart from secondary and higher education institutions, this can be done in institutions of general education and out-of-school cultural (art) education. By strengthening these systems and networks and supporting the connections of existing institutional systems, we can get a better understanding of our common cultural history, revive its characteristics and improve regional communication. Culture provides added value to developments, which creates unique products, as opposed to mass production and supply, thus increasing a region's/community's appeal and popularity among its visitors.</p> <p>The successful development of national and local government organisations largely depends on social acceptance and active participation. In order to promote these, we must mobilise the dominant players of civil society, who contribute to a stronger common identity primarily through cultural cooperation. Intensifying the relations of ethnic minorities can be the basis for mutual understanding among peoples, as well as a basis for joint actions.</p> <p><b>Education (general and higher education), training, as well as educational and cultural cooperation</b> and cultural services together play an important role in strengthening social and regional cohesion. One of the key roles in creating a stronger sense of identity and a network-based cooperation, which provides basic orientation for future</p>

	<p>generations, can be realised in the area of education by intensifying the exchange of experiences and knowledge transfer, introducing Danube-thematic educational and training programmes, expanding networks and influencing environmental awareness through a stronger sense of identity and the various means of education and training.</p> <p>As far as the material, intellectual, built/property cultural heritage and cultural assets are concerned, understanding and comparing the professional experiences of various countries can provide further opportunities to preserve this heritage in a professional way, while also renewing its functions. The limes (border system) and the fortresses of the Roman Empire ran by the southern banks of the Danubius river. Declaring Limes as a World Heritage Site will provide opportunities to create and also increase the awareness of the common historical heritage, while getting to know the history of Danube navigation increases the coherence of the region. Taking care of memorial sites and nurturing military culture are important elements of maintaining our identity, which is rooted in our common history.</p> <p>In our view, it is important that the strategy’s participating countries become increasingly and jointly involved in various EU programmes, such as “Culture 2000”, “Europe for Citizens”, “Youth” and student exchange programmes, cooperate in the best possible utilisation of grants and also join UNESCO’s heritage protection efforts.</p> <p>The objective of the programme is to boost cultural and civil cooperation, as well as preserve and use our common cultural heritage in order to establish the Danube regional identity, thus strengthening the region’s social solidarity and increase social cohesion.</p>
<p><i>The content of the programme, subprogrammes</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Cultural cooperation to strengthen the Danube regional identity:</b> organising joint cultural events, programmes, Danube festivals, reviving cultural history traditions, bringing cultural history events to heritage sites; international cooperation; conferences, exchange programmes, joint camps, thematic cooperation at original historical sites of the Danube, cooperation within the International Association of Music Schools and the DANUBIANA visual arts project. The latter aims to introduce particularly talented young artists from the region every second year.</li> <li>2. <b>Education, training, educational cooperation within lifelong learning, cultural cooperation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Joint educational programmes, events, concerts and school exchange programmes within the International Association of Music Schools.</li> <li>▪ The DANUBIANA visual arts project aims to introduce particularly talented young artists from the region every second year.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Revival and teaching of historic professions at international camps and courses.</li> </ul> <p>3. <b>Protection of the Danube region’s cultural values:</b> cooperation in the protection of values and heritage, joint scientific research, exchange of experiences, courses, conferences, events, traineeships; preservation of military memorial sites</p> <p>4. <b>Cooperation of ethnic minorities, cultural, church and religious communities</b></p> <p>5. <b>Cooperation of NGOs for a successful EDRS:</b> knowledge base, exchange of experiences etc.</p>
<i>Potentially affected countries</i>	Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, the Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	<p>Moral and political commitment; the maintenance of military graves is governed by international laws on the humanitarian treatment of the victims of war. The Geneva Conventions, governing international humanitarian rights, were signed on 12, August 1949. The remains of victims are protected by Article 130 of the Fourth Geneva Conventions and Article 34 of the Additional Protocol I of 1977, while military graves and military monuments are protected by Article 16 of the Additional Protocol II.</p> <p>One of the key tasks and elements of the European Danube Region Strategy is to enforce, within the strategy’s participating nations, regions and neighbours of the Danube region, those <b>values</b>, political norms and criteria, which have been adopted by the European Union and represented within the system of international relations. <i>Historical reconciliation between peoples and nations, democratic rule of law, tolerance, as well as the respect of human and minority rights</i> play an important role within these values.</p>
<i>Complementarity with the Danube strategy</i>	III.A Values and heritage protection, III. B. Cultural cooperation, III. C. Educational cooperation, III.D. Cooperation and partnership
<i>Parties affected by the subprogramme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	NGOs, national minority organisations and minority self-governments, churches and educational-cultural organisations, National Office of Cultural Heritage, Hungarian Society for Urban Planning, directorates of County Museums, Fort Monostor, municipalities involved, Secretariat of Church Relations at the Ministry of Education and Culture, Danube church communities involved,
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	Strengthening identity while emphasising differences, getting to know each other’s traditions and characteristics
<i>financing of the programme</i>	European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund
<i>The term of implementation</i>	Continuous implementation
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme</i>	<p>Existing cooperation in certain elements, several (cooperation) projects do not require planning or authorisation procedures.</p> <p>There are several known projects within the area of cultural heritage preservation; Danube Limes project – Central Europe (launched in 2009 and to be completed by 2012) Existing cooperation and joint research between cultural, educational and training institutions</p>

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<i>Relationship with other programmes</i>	11. Programme: Tourism from the Black Forest to the Black Sea 9. Institutional cooperation in the Danube region
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	<b>European Danube Region Strategy EDRS</b>
<b>Priority</b>	<i>II. Sustainable economic development</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>11. Tourism from the Black Forest to the Black Sea “Black to(ur) Black”</b>
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>The Danube: it is an important traffic corridor offering a lot of tourism potentials, and the need for its treatment as a common tourist destination has already arisen in several national position papers. A joint tourism development strategy is needed in order to provide for the ecological and environmental conditions, the network-based development of tourism infrastructure, and the coordination, and enhancing of the efficiency, of development. Within the framework of the SEE Programme, DATOURWAY project is being developed, involving 16 partners from 7 countries, with respect to the middle and the South European sections of the river, aiming at the development of a joint tourism strategy and information base, etc., and will be completed in last until 2012. The Programme’s primary aim is to extend the current geographical coverage of the DATOURWAY Project to those regions in Germany and Austria (and possibly in Ukraine and Moldova), which are located along the Danube (DATOURWAY<sup>Black to Black</sup>), and to provide opportunity to work out other thematic tour packages and routes as well. Its final purpose is to set up an organisation (network) called Danube Destination Management which will operate based on international co-operation. The Project must especially focus on the utilisation of tourism opportunities offered by along the Danube, the improvement of access by water, and the improvement of the horizontal and vertical connections of towns and cities with the river. It is necessary to develop and improve the sites of cultural heritage and present them to the general public, thereby including them in heritage tourism to the widest possible extent.</p>
<i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i>	<p><b>11.1. DATOURWAY<sup>Black to Black</sup></b> – (from 2013) sustainable tourism development strategy concerning the Danube, from the Black Forest to the Black Sea:</p> <p>11.1.1. development of the Danube destination management (3DM), sample project</p> <p>11.1.2. the preservation and authentic restoration in terms of cultural history and development of cross-border thematic routes and tourism programme packages (cultural heritage sites along the Danube /castles, fortresses, palaces, house of folk arts, museum institutions, archaeological sites and show rooms, clerical built heritage, historical gardens, etc./ a chain of historical town centres, religious tourism, etc.). Elements of the project package:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ restauration of the clerical built heritage in Szentendre-Budapest-Baja-Novi Sad</li> <li>▪ restauration of the clerical built heritage between Bratislava and Budapest (Győr,</li> </ul>

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	<p>Pozsony, Komárom, Esztergom, Visegrád)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ restauration of the clerical built heritage in Timisoara-Budapest</li> <li>▪ network of European Heritage Title sites</li> </ul> <p><b>11.2. Duna SPA</b> – a complex development of medicinal potentials along the Danube Duna menti gyógy-potenciálok harmonizált fejlesztése</p> <p><b>11.3. Danube Region High Street</b> – the riverside experience, development of a panorama route in the Danube Valley</p> <p>11.3.1. The full construction and the promotion of EuroVelo 6</p> <p><b>11.4. Network-based development of “landing piers along the Danube for water tourists”</b></p> <p>11.4.1. Water Sports Centres Chain along the Danube</p> <p><b>11.5 Danube Limes project – Central Europe</b> (excavation and presenting the limes as part of the UNESCO world heritage)</p>
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Croatia, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria (Ukraine, Moldova)
<i>The content of the programme (subprogrammes)</i>	Non. Therefore, it is necessary that in the case of some project proposals a uniform system of requirements is worked out (Danube SPA, water sports centres, and regulations and conditions for water- and bicycle traffic) in order to coordinate the conditions.
<i>Other countries potentially affected</i>	II. B – Sustainable development of tourism III.B. Protection of interests and joint planning: preservation of the common (built) heritage
<i>Obligation (in terms of law etc.)</i>	Tourism organisations (Magyar Turizmus Zrt. and domestic tourism enterprises) regions, local governments
<i>Complimentarity with the Danube strategy</i>	A uniform and thematic positioning in terms of tourism of the Danube region, establishment of new attractions and network-based cooperation, thereby enhancing the role of tourism in the development of countries in the regions
<i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund
<i>Term of implementation</i>	In general 2-3 years per project DATOURWAY <sup>Black to Black</sup> – expected to be launched in 2013, duration: 1 year Duna Spa – 2 years

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	<p>Danube Region High Street – EuroVelo6 – building:2-3 years, promotion: 2 years Water sports centres chain – 2010-2020 Landing piers along the Danube for water tourists – 2013-2017</p>
<p><i>The level of preparedness of the programme (permits, plans, expected time of start, etc.)</i></p>	<p>Projects in progress: - DATOURWAY project – South East Europe (launched in 2009, to be completed by 2012) Project proposals: (The preparation of the project at concept level is in progress. Proposed launching: 2013):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DATOURWAY<sup>Black to Black</sup></li> <li>• Danube Spa -</li> <li>• Danube Region High Street</li> <li>• EuroVelo6</li> <li>• Water Sports Centres Chain along the Danube</li> <li>• Landing piers along the Danube for water tourists</li> </ul>
<p><i>Relationship with other project</i></p>	<p>Projects to ensure adequate water quality and ecological environment, heritage protection activities, primarily: 6. Biodiversity along the Danube 10. Strengthening of the Danube identity</p>