

## **European Union Strategy for the Danube Region**

### **Revision of targets**

#### **Annex 1: List the revised EUSDR targets proposals**

**SoP – 28 April 2016**

##### **Priority Area 1A "To improve mobility and intermodality of inland waterways"**

- I. Increase the cargo transport on the river by 20% by 2020 compared to 2010.
- II. Solve obstacles to navigability, taking into account the specific characteristics of each section of the Danube and its navigable tributaries and establish effective waterway infrastructure management by 2020.
- III. Develop efficient multimodal terminals at river ports along the Danube and its navigable tributaries to connect inland waterways with rail and road transport by 2020.
- IV. Implement harmonised River Information Services (RIS) on the Danube and its navigable tributaries and ensure the international exchange of RIS data preferably by 2020.
- V. Solve the shortage of qualified personnel and harmonize education standards in inland navigation in the Danube region by 2020, taking duly into account the social dimension of the respective measures.

##### **Priority Area 1B "To improve mobility and intermodality - rail, road and air"**

- I. Support efficient freight railway services and improved travel times for competitive railway passenger connections between major cities in the Danube Region (DR) by 2030.
- II. Support fully functional multi-modal TEN-T Core Network Corridors by 2030.
- III. Support the development of efficient multimodal terminals at sea, river and dry ports in the Danube Region and ensure their connectivity and access through the integration of all modes of transport and efficient logistics services by 2030.
- IV. Support improvement of the regional air connectivity and the implementation of the Single European Sky initiative.
- V. Facilitate the improvement of secondary and tertiary roads in the DR.
- VI. Support safe and sustainable transport and mobility in the Danube Region.

##### **Priority Area 2 "To encourage more sustainable energy"**

- I. To help to achieve the national targets based on the Europe 2030 climate and energy targets
- II. To remove existing bottlenecks in energy to fulfil the goals of the Energy Union within the Danube Region
- III. To better interconnect regions by joint activities with relevant initiatives and institutions

### **Priority Area 3 "To promote culture and tourism, people to people contacts"**

- I. Develop a Danube Brand for the entire Danube Region based on already existing work
- II. Support the implementation of a harmonised monitoring system, dedicated to tourism, able to provide complete and comparable statistical data in all the 14 states part of the EUSDR
- III. Develop new and support existing Cultural Routes relevant in the Danube Region
- IV. Develop green tourist products along the Danube Region
- V. To create a 'Blue Book' on Danube cultural identity
- VI. Ensure the sustainable preservation of cultural heritage and natural values by developing relevant clusters, and networks of museums, interpretation and visitors centres within the Danube Region
- VII. Promoting exchange and networking in the field of contemporary arts in the Danube Region

### **Priority Area 4 of the EUSDR "To restore and maintain the quality of waters"**

- I. Achieve the management objectives set out in the Danube River Basin Management Plan
- II. Reduce the nutrient levels in the Danube River to allow the recovery of the Black Sea ecosystems to conditions similar to 1960s
- III. Elaborate a Danube Delta Analysis Report as a step towards completion of the Delta management Plan
- IV. Secure viable populations of Danube sturgeon species
- V. Elaborate, adopt and implement the sub-basin management plans, such as Sava, Tisza and Prut sub-basin

### **Priority Area 5 of the EUSDR "To manage environmental risks"**

- I. To address the challenges of water scarcity and droughts in line with the Danube River Basin Management Plan – Update 2015, the report on the impacts of droughts in the Danube Basin in 2015 (due in 2016) and the ongoing work in the field of climate adaptation.
- II. Provide and enhance continuous support to the implementation of the Danube Flood Risk Management Plan – adopted in 2015 in line with the EU Floods Directive – to achieve significant reductions of flood risk events by 2021, also taking into account potential impacts of climate change and adaption strategies.
- III. To continuously update the existing database of accident risk spots (ARS Inventory), contaminated sites and sites used for the storage of dangerous substances.

### **Priority Area 6 "To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils"**

- I. By 2020 strengthen the work on halting the deterioration in the status of all species and habitats covered by EU nature legislation in order to achieve a significant and measurable improvement, adapted to the special needs of the respective species and habitats in the Danube Region
- II. Enhance the work on establishing green infrastructure and the process of restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems, including soil, in order to maintain and enhance ecosystems and their services by 2020 in the Danube Region and to improve air quality
- III. Encourage achieving significant progress in identification and prioritization of Invasive Alien Species and their pathways in order to control or eradicate priority species, to manage pathways

and to prevent the introduction and establishment of new Invasive Alien Species in the Danube Region by 2020

- IV. Continue the ongoing work and efforts to securing viable populations of Danube sturgeon species and other indigenous fish species by 2020

#### **Priority Area 7 "To develop the Knowledge Society (research, education and ICT)"**

- I. To increase the effectiveness of investment in R&I through establishment of a funding coordination network aiming to initiate a minimum of 2 dedicated EUSDR activities each year (e.g. joint calls; joint strategic project proposals (within a multilateral framework)).
- II. To increase the number of EPO and PCT patent applications filed from the Danube Region by 20% by 2020
- III. To enhance regional research and education co-operation to reach 20% of academic mobility within the region by 2020.
- IV. To increase the annual output of co-publications in the region by 15 % by 2020
- V. To develop RIS3 in all Danube countries (or their regions) by 2020

#### **Priority Area 8 "To support the competitiveness of enterprises"**

- I. Improvement of the innovations and new technologies transfer through establishing measures like consulting services by chambers and other institutions or organizations, in cooperation with other actions relevant Priority Areas of the EUSDR
- II. Establishing a cluster network with focus on connecting companies in bio-based industries and Analysis of Smart Specialization Strategies for the bio-based industry within Danube region.
- III. Improvement of the technological knowledge and implementation level of environmental technologies through presentation of the latest know-how and Best Practices in the area of sewage treatment, solid waste management, generation of energy from renewable sources etc., and through identification of the regional decision-makers responsible for submission of project application.
- IV. Improvement of framework conditions, support programs and capacity building of stakeholders, to enhance competitiveness and added value in rural areas and in particular of the agricultural sector.
- V. Development of best practise models for vocational training oriented towards employability and skills demand (theory and practice) by the implementing pilot projects.
- VI. Improvement of the entrepreneurship education in order to enhance the competitiveness of enterprises, especially SMEs through further development of the lifelong entrepreneurial learning system based on the identified set of strategic goals in line with Human Capital Dimension of the SBA for Europe.
- VII. Improvement of business support in particular to strengthen the competitiveness of SMEs for international cooperation and trade.

#### **Priority Area 9 of the EUSDR "To invest in people and skills"**

- I. Contribution to a higher employment rate in the Danube Region, especially through tackling youth and long-term unemployment

- II. Contribution to improved educational outcomes and relevant skills and competences in the Danube Region, focusing on learning outcomes for employability, entrepreneurship, innovation, active citizenship and well-being
- III. Contribution to increased quality and efficiency of education, training and labour market systems
- IV. Contribution to ensuring inclusive education and training and promoting inclusive labour markets, equal opportunities and non-discrimination as well as the promotion of civic competences and lifelong learning opportunities for all
- V. Contribution to a closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels.

**Priority Area 10 "To step up institutional capacity and cooperation"**

- I. Improve World Bank governance indicators related to government effectiveness, regulatory quality and control of corruption in comparison to 2011
- II. 80 % of participating countries involve the national, regional and local authorities and CSOs through annual National (provincial) EUSDR consultations in cooperation with the National Coordinators of the EUSDR
- III. The UPDR helps to generate, through the exchange of information and the support, on all levels of cooperation, for 25% of UPDR stakeholder organisations at least one Urban Danube Project, furthering the aim of better spending
- IV. Increase the average absorption rate of EU funds in the Danube Region in comparison to 2007-2013 period

**Priority Area 11 of the EUSDR "To work together to tackle security and organised crime"**

- V. Security offensive - Enhancing police cooperation with the aim of improving security and tackling serious and organised crime in the EUSDR countries and strengthening the efforts against terrorism threats
- VI. Developing strategic long-term cooperation between law enforcement actors along the Danube river by strengthening networks for cooperation by 2020.
- VII. Improving the systems of border control, document inspection management and cooperation on consular related issues in the Danube region.
- VIII. Promoting the rule of law and the fight against corruption.

## European Union Strategy for the Danube Region

### Annex 2: Overview table on the revised EUSDR targets – PAs proposals and justifications (28.04.2016)

<i>Priority Area: 1a</i>			
<i>Target number</i>	<i>Revision of EUSDR Targets</i>		
	<i>Current EUSDR Targets</i>	<i>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i>	<i>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i>
<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>	<i>(c)</i>	<i>(d)</i>
I	Increase the cargo transport on the river by 20% by 2020 compared to 2010.		
II	Solve obstacles to navigability, taking into account the specific characteristics of each section of the Danube and its navigable tributaries and establish effective waterway infrastructure management by 2015.	Solve obstacles to navigability, taking into account the specific characteristics of each section of the Danube and its navigable tributaries and establish effective waterway infrastructure management by <b>2020</b> .	Though major steps towards more effective waterway management have been taken (creation of Fairway Rehabilitation and Maintenance Masterplan and setup of FAIRway Danube project), the achievement of the target requires ongoing activity
III	Develop efficient multimodal terminals at river ports along the Danube and its navigable tributaries to connect inland waterways with rail and road transport by 2020.		
IV	Implement harmonised River Information Services (RIS) on the Danube and its navigable tributaries and ensure the international exchange of RIS data preferably by 2015.	Implement harmonised River Information Services (RIS) on the Danube and its navigable tributaries and ensure the international exchange of RIS data preferably by <b>2020</b> .	First element of target (implement harmonised RIS) is largely achieved, but second part (international exchange of RIS data) is ongoing work.
V	Solve the shortage of qualified personnel and harmonize education standards in inland navigation in the Danube region by 2020, taking duly into account the social dimension of the respective measures.		

<b>Priority Area: 1b</b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I.	Improved travel times for competitive railway passenger connections between major cities;	Support efficient freight railway services and improved travel times for competitive railway passenger connections between major cities in the Danube Region (DR) by 2030.	
II.	Implementation of the 4 Rail Freight Corridors crossing the Danube Region as planned within 3 or 5 years and possible inclusion of a new corridor with added value of linking together the EU and non-EU member states' railway systems;	Support fully functional multi-modal TEN-T Core Network Corridors by 2030.	
III.	Development of efficient multimodal terminals at Danube river ports and dry ports to connect inland waterways with rail and road transport by 2020.	Support the development of efficient multimodal terminals at sea, river and dry ports in the Danube Region and ensure their connectivity and access through the integration of all modes of transport and efficient logistics services by 2030.	
IV.		Support improvement of the regional air connectivity and the implementation of the Single European Sky initiative.	
V.		Facilitate the improvement of secondary and tertiary roads in the DR.	
VI.		Support safe and sustainable transport and mobility in the Danube Region.	

<b>Priority Area: 2</b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I	Achievement of national targets based on the Europe 2020 climate and energy targets.	To help to achieve the national targets based on the Europe 2030 climate and energy targets	To change to the 2030 energy-climate framework to be in line with the current developments and to reflect new 2030 energy and climate targets
II	Remove existing bottlenecks in energy transport countries of the EUSDR in order to allow reverse flow of g by 2015;	To remove existing bottlenecks in energy to fulfil the goals of the Energy Union within the Danube Region	Not to limit the bottleneck only to the reverse flows but to extend it to the whole energy sector and to reflect the goals of the Energy Union
III	Strengthen cooperation of the Energy Community countries with international financial institutions to upgrade the countries' energy infrastructure and energy markets 2015.	To better interconnect regions by joint activities with relevant initiatives and institutions	To extend this target also to other relevant stakeholders in the region as well as to global actors in order to support more synergies and bring more benefits to the region
IV	Elaborate further the overarching European energy policy goals based on the Energy 2020 goals 'a strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy with special attention to the energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond and to work towards the completion of the energy internal market; the non-Member States are aspiring to achieving these goals.		This target is complicated and its goals are already supported in the remaining newly proposed targets, especially the target II. "To remove the existing bottlenecks in energy to fulfil the goals of the energy Union within the Danube Region" and the target III. "Better interconnected region by joint activities with relevant initiatives and institutions" regarding the non-EU participating states of the Strategy.

<b>Priority Area: 3</b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I	Develop a Danube Brand for the entire Danube Region based on already existing work	No	Target still considered relevant.
II	Support the implementation of a harmonized monitoring system, dedicated to tourism, able to provide complete and comparable statistical data in all the 14 states part of the EUSDR	No	Target still considered relevant.
III	Develop new and support existing Cultural Routes relevant in the Danube Region	No	Target still considered relevant.
IV	Develop green tourist products along the Danube Region	No	Target still considered relevant.
V	To create a 'Blue Book' on Danube cultural identity	No	Target still considered relevant.
VI	Ensure the sustainable preservation of cultural heritage and natural values by developing relevant clusters, and networks of museums, interpretation and visitors centres within the Danube Region	No	Target still considered relevant.
VII	Promoting exchange and networking in the field of contemporary arts in the Danube Region	No	Target still considered relevant.



<b>Priority Area 4</b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I	Achieve the management objectives set out in the Danube River Basin Management Plan	No	Not applicable
II	Reduce the nutrient levels in the Danube River to allow the recovery of the Black Sea ecosystems to conditions similar to 1960s	No	Not applicable
III	Elaborate a Danube Delta Analysis Report by 2013 as a step towards completion of the Delta management Plan, which shall be adopted by 2015	Elaborate a Danube Delta Analysis Report as a step towards completion of the Delta management Plan	The target has been revised (due to its timing) by eliminating deadlines from the text and prolonging the related task (relevant discussion held - see minutes of SG9 of PA4, page 5).
IV	Secure viable populations of Danube sturgeon species	No	Not applicable
V	Elaborate, adopt and implement the sub-basin management plans, such as Sava, Tisza and Prut sub-basin	No	Not applicable

<b>Priority Area 5</b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I	To address the challenges of water scarcity and droughts based on the 2013 update of the Danube Basin Analysis and the ongoing work in the field of climate adaptation, in the Danube River Basin Management Plan to be adopted by 2015.	To address the challenges of water scarcity and droughts in line with the Danube River Basin Management Plan – Update 2015, the report on the impacts of droughts in the Danube Basin in 2015 (due in 2016) and the ongoing work in the field of climate adaptation.	Target is still considered as long term and more and more relevant issue. Wording of the target has changed refer to the fact that the Danube River Basin Management Plan (DRBMP) has been finalized at the end of 2015 and the work on the impacts of drought and climate change are ongoing.
II	Implement Danube wide flood risk management plans – due in 2015 under the Floods Directive – to include significant reduction of flood risk by 2021, also taking into account potential impacts of climate change.	Provide and enhance continuous support to the implementation of the Danube Flood Risk Management Plan – adopted in 2015 in line with the EU Floods Directive – to achieve significant reductions of flood risk events by 2021, also taking into account potential impacts of climate change and adaption strategies.	Target is still considered of high importance. Wording of the target has changed as the 1st Danube Flood Risk Management Plan (DFRMP) has been accomplished by the beginning of 2016. The modified text focuses on the support of the implementation of the already adopted 1st DFRMP, which is more in line with the activities of PA5.
III	Update of the accidental risk spots inventory at the Danube River Basin level by 2013.	To continuously update the existing database of accident risk spots (ARS Inventory), contaminated sites and sites used for the storage of dangerous substances.	Minor wording changes have been made: the modified text emphasises the continuous update of the existing database of accident risk spots. It is still ongoing.

<b>Priority Area 6</b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I	To halt the deterioration in the status of all species and habitats covered by EU nature legislation and achieve a significant and measurable improvement, adapted to the special needs of the Danube region by 2020	By 2020 strengthen the work on halting the deterioration in the status of all species and habitats covered by EU nature legislation in order to achieve a significant and measurable improvement, adapted to the special needs of the respective species and habitats in the Danube Region	As the targets will be the basis for future monitoring carried out by DSP it was recommended to specify them for Danube Region and focus on the contribution of PA 6 to reach the addressed overall biodiversity targets.
II	By 2020, ecosystems and their services are maintained and enhanced by establishing green infrastructure and restoring at least 15% of degraded ecosystems, including degraded soils	Enhance the work on establishing green infrastructure and the process of restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems, including soil, in order to maintain and enhance ecosystems and their services by 2020 in the Danube Region and to improve air quality	As the targets will be the basis for future monitoring carried out by DSP it was recommended to specify them for Danube Region and focus on the contribution of PA 6 to reach the addressed overall biodiversity targets.  The new annex “to improve air quality” was proposed by EC (DG Environment).
III	By 2020, Invasive Alien Species and their pathways are identified and prioritised, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and pathways are managed to prevent the introduction and establishment of new Invasive Alien Species.	Encourage achieving significant progress in identification and prioritization of Invasive Alien Species and their pathways in order to control or eradicate priority species, to manage pathways and to prevent the introduction and establishment of new Invasive Alien Species in the Danube Region by 2020	As the targets will be the basis for future monitoring carried out by DSP it was recommended to specify them for Danube Region and focus on the contribution of PA 6 to reach the addressed overall biodiversity targets.
IV	Secure viable populations of Danube sturgeon species and other indigenous fish species by 2020	Continue the ongoing work and efforts to securing viable populations of Danube sturgeon species and other indigenous fish species by 2020	As the targets will be the basis for future monitoring carried out by DSP it was recommended to specify them for Danube Region and focus on the contribution of PA 6 to reach the addressed overall biodiversity targets.

<b>Priority Area: 7</b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I	To invest 3% of GDP in Research and Development by 2020	To increase the effectiveness of investment in R&I through establishment of a funding coordination network aiming to initiate a minimum of 2 dedicated EUSDR activities each year (e.g. joint calls; joint strategic project proposals (within a multilateral framework)).	The new target is much more realistic and in line with activities of PA7.
II	Broadband access for all EU citizens in the Region by 2013		PA7 SG members from the Working Group on ICT consider that there is no need to have a target related to ICT.
III	Increase the number of patents obtained in the Region by 50%	To increase the number of EPO and PCT patent applications filed from the Danube Region by 20% by 2020	EPO and PCT patents are those of higher value (more expensive, more effort). The time lag is not as long as for patents (EPO patents are published after 18 months)
IV	Greater share of EU population age 30-34 with tertiary education – aiming towards 40% by 2020		This target cannot be significantly influenced by the activities of PA7 so the SG members agreed to omit it.
V	To reach 20% of academic mobility by 2020	To enhance regional research and education co-operation to reach 20% of academic mobility within the region by 2020.	The wording of the target is more precise.
VI		To increase the annual output of co-publications in the region by 15 % by 2020	We consider this indicator is very relevant and should be included in new PA7 targets.
VII		To develop RIS3 in all Danube countries (or their regions) by 2020	New indicator, related to PA7 activities which the SG members consider as important for effectiveness of R&I in the Danube region.

<b>Priority Area: 8</b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I	Improvement of the technological transfer through establishing measures like consulting services by chambers and other institutions or organizations, typically in cooperation with the Priority Area Coordinator 7 (PAC 7)	Improvement of the innovations and new technologies transfer through establishing measures like consulting services by chambers and other institutions or organizations, in cooperation with other actions relevant Priority Areas of the EUSDR	The current targets were broken down into two targets:  -improvement of the innovations and new technologies transfer and improvement of business support in particular to strengthening of SME capacities to improve their competitiveness in EU regional markets
II	Establishing a cluster network for the EUSDR (identification of the founded institutions in this connection, as well as the existing networks)	Establishing a cluster network with focus on connecting companies in bio-based industries and analysis of Smart Specialization Strategies for the bio-based industry within Danube region.	By now, due to a missing holistic transnational approach Danube actors in Bio-based Industry operate disconnected and cannot properly benefit from the future potential  Aim of the WG is to create new value chains by connecting key actors from bio-based industry across Danube Region. The WG aims to contribute for better the framework conditions for eco-innovation and lead to new bio-based products
III	Better use of environmental technologies, like for example: sewage treatment, refuse disposal, generation of energy from renewable sources etc., first of all, through determination of the regional decision – makers concerning submission of the applications	Improvement of the technological knowledge and implementation level of environmental technologies through presentation of the latest know-how and Best Practices in the area of sewage treatment, solid waste management, generation of energy from renewable sources etc., and through identification of the regional decision-makers responsible for submission of project application.	This target has been made more concrete considering the current level of implementation of environmental technologies in the Danube Region and the obstacles regarding the application procedure for EU-funding
IV	Improvement of the competitiveness of rural areas and in particular of the agricultural sector	Improvement of framework conditions, support programs and capacity building of stakeholders, to enhance competitiveness and added value in rural	To recognize competitiveness and innovative environments as a result of a multi-sectoral approach depending on several factors ranging

<b>Priority Area: 8</b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
		areas and in particular of the agricultural sector.	from the policy framework/ infrastructure to enhanced cooperation and entrepreneurial skills.
V	Improvement of the vocational training, subject to participation by the private sector (a dual system of practice and theory) through pilot projects identifying the potential institutions, as well as the partners and projects)	Development of best practise models for vocational training oriented towards employability and skills demand (theory and practice) by the implementing pilot projects.	No major changes
VI	Improvement of the entrepreneurship education in order to enhance the competitiveness of enterprises, especially SMEs through SEECCEL flagship project's implementation	Improvement of the entrepreneurship education in order to enhance the competitiveness of enterprises, especially SMEs through further development of the lifelong entrepreneurial learning system based on the identified set of strategic goals in line with Human Capital Dimension of the SBA for Europe.	Streamlined justification is to increase competences for business and social innovation. Furthermore, to foster innovative learning systems to increase competences of employees in the business sector, to strengthen entrepreneurial culture and learning contributing to better meet social needs and the delivery of services in the general interest
VII	Strengthening of SME capacities to improve their competitiveness in EU regional markets	Improvement of business support in particular to strengthen the competitiveness of SMEs for international cooperation and trade	The current targets : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthen SME capacities to improve their competitiveness in EU Regional markets.</li> <li>- Encourage SME associations to participate effectively in national dialogues that help set the strategic frameworks for development</li> <li>- Promote policy coherence at EU regional and national level</li> </ul>

<b><u>Priority Area 9</u></b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b><i>Revision of EUSDR Targets (cut-off date 30.04.2016)</i></b>		
	<b><i>Current EUSDR Targets</i></b>	<b><i>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i></b>	<b><i>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i></b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I		Contribution to a higher employment rate in the Danube Region, especially through tackling youth and long-term unemployment	<p>Revised targets correspond better to current challenges, are more thematically focussed and additionally facilitate monitoring progress in accordance with the new reporting requirements. The revised targets will also better contribute to a possible future revision of the EUSDR Action plan, deriving from the natural link between these two essential features of the EUSDR.</p> <p>As PA9 targets should provide a comprehensive and conclusive set, PA9 SG opted in favour of replacing all current targets with new ones, instead of an adjustment of the text of some or all current targets.</p>
II		Contribution to improved educational outcomes and relevant skills and competences in the Danube Region, focusing on learning outcomes for employability, entrepreneurship, innovation, active citizenship and well-being	
III		Contribution to increased quality and efficiency of education, training and labour market systems	
IV		Contribution to ensuring inclusive education and training and promoting inclusive labour markets, equal opportunities and non-discrimination as well as the promotion of civic competences and lifelong learning opportunities for all	
V		Contribution to a closer cooperation between	

<b><u>Priority Area 9</u></b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b><i>Revision of EUSDR Targets (cut-off date 30.04.2016)</i></b>		
	<b><i>Current EUSDR Targets</i></b>	<b><i>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i></b>	<b><i>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i></b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
		educational, training, labour market and research institutions, in particular on transnational, regional and bilateral levels	
I	Contribution to the Education and Training 2020 strategic framework and its four strategic objectives	To be replaced by new	
II	Contribution to the achievement of EU 2020 targets, in particular with regard to smart and inclusive growth	To be replaced by new	
III	To foster creative partnerships at the interface of education, training and culture	To be replaced by new	
IV	Contribution to the improvement of labour markets and social inclusion in the region	To be replaced by new	
V	Contribution to higher synergies of education systems and labour market demands on all levels	To be replaced by new	
VI	Establishment and implementation of a small project funding mechanism	To be replaced by new	



<b><u>Priority Area 9</u></b>			
<b>Target number</b>	<b><i>Revision of EUSDR Targets (cut-off date 30.04.2016)</i></b>		
	<b><i>Current EUSDR Targets</i></b>	<b><i>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i></b>	<b><i>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i></b>
<b><i>(a)</i></b>	<b><i>(b)</i></b>	<b><i>(c)</i></b>	<b><i>(d)</i></b>
VII	Efficient cooperation between relevant actors through involvement and extension of existing regional cooperation networks and initiatives	To be replaced by new	

<b><i>Priority Area: 10</i></b>			
<b><i>Target number</i></b>	<b><i>Revision of EUSDR Targets</i></b>		
	<b><i>Current EUSDR Targets</i></b>	<b><i>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i></b>	<b><i>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</i></b>
<b><i>(a)</i></b>	<b><i>(b)</i></b>	<b><i>(c)</i></b>	<b><i>(d)</i></b>
I		Improve World Bank governance indicators related to government effectiveness, regulatory quality and control of corruption in comparison to 2011	
II		80 % of participating countries involve the national, regional and local authorities and CSOs through annual National (provincial) EUSDR consultations in cooperation with the National Coordinators of the EUSDR	
III		The UPDR helps to generate, through the exchange of information and the support, on all levels of cooperation, for 25% of UPDR stakeholder organisations at least one Urban Danube Project, furthering the aim of better spending	
IV		Increase the average absorption rate of EU funds in the Danube Region in comparison to 2007-2013 period.	
I	Maximum 4 weeks for business start-up permissions by 2015	To be replaced by new	
II	Establishing a platform including civil society organizations and open governance networks by 2013	To be replaced by new	
III	Establishing benchmarks for e-government and reducing excessive bureaucracy by 2012.	To be replaced by new	
IV	Facilitating a network of metropolitan areas and systems by 2014	To be replaced by new	
V	Establish a Danube Financing Platform by 2013	To be replaced by new	

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<b>Target number</b>	<b>Revision of EUSDR Targets</b>		
	<b>Current EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>	<b>Justification for the proposal for revised EUSDR Targets</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>
I	Efficient exchange of information between relevant law enforcement actors by 2015 with the aim of improving security and tackling serious and organised crime in the 14 countries.	Security offensive - Enhancing police cooperation with the aim of improving security and tackling serious and organised crime in the EUSDR countries and strengthening the efforts against terrorism threats	<p>Justification for Targets I - IV and Actions:</p> <p>Driven by the ambition to be flexible, open and creative in our work, in the last Steering Group meeting of PA 11, held in Berlin on 1-2 July 2015, the PACs introduced their suggestions for revising PA 11 targets and actions. The revisions of the targets concerned two main aspects - introduction of two new topics in PA 11 portfolio (combatting terrorism and migration) and enlarging the time framework (2015 was replaced by 2020).</p>
II	Effective cooperation between relevant law enforcement actors by 2015	Developing strategic long-term cooperation between law enforcement actors along the Danube river by strengthening networks for cooperation by 2020	
III		Improving the systems of border control, document inspection management and cooperation on consular related issues in the Danube region	
IV	Promoting the rule of law - Assistance for participating countries by deepening and promoting the idea of the rule of law and strengthening and developing further democratic structures. Promoting (legal) certainty or the people by fighting against corruption.	Promoting the rule of law and the fight against corruption.	<p>Taking into account the dynamic changes in the Danube region and the changes in the field of security, in 2013 PA 11 added the topic "cybersecurity" among its activities (the topic was approved in the Ministerial conference of EUSDR Ministers of the Interior in May 2013 in Munich). Two years later PA 11 broadens the scope of its work with the topics of combatting the terrorism and migration.</p> <p>Thus PA 11 portfolio will be fully corresponding to the latest European Agenda on Security (COM(2015) 185 final). The European Agenda on Security prioritises terrorism, organised crime and cybercrime as interlinked areas with a strong cross-border dimension, where EU action can make a real difference. The topic of the organized crime and the cybercrime are already part of PA 11 work. With the insertion of the priority "combatting</p>

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			<p>terrorism” in our revised targets and objectives, our activities are fully embedded in the EU Agenda.</p> <p>Following the Rules of procedure within PA 11, the suggestions were sent to PA 11 Steering Group for approval. Following the electronic endorsement procedure, in which the SG unanimously agreed on the amendments, the revised targets and actions are considered to be approved.</p>