



Socio-Economic, Human and Institutional Development

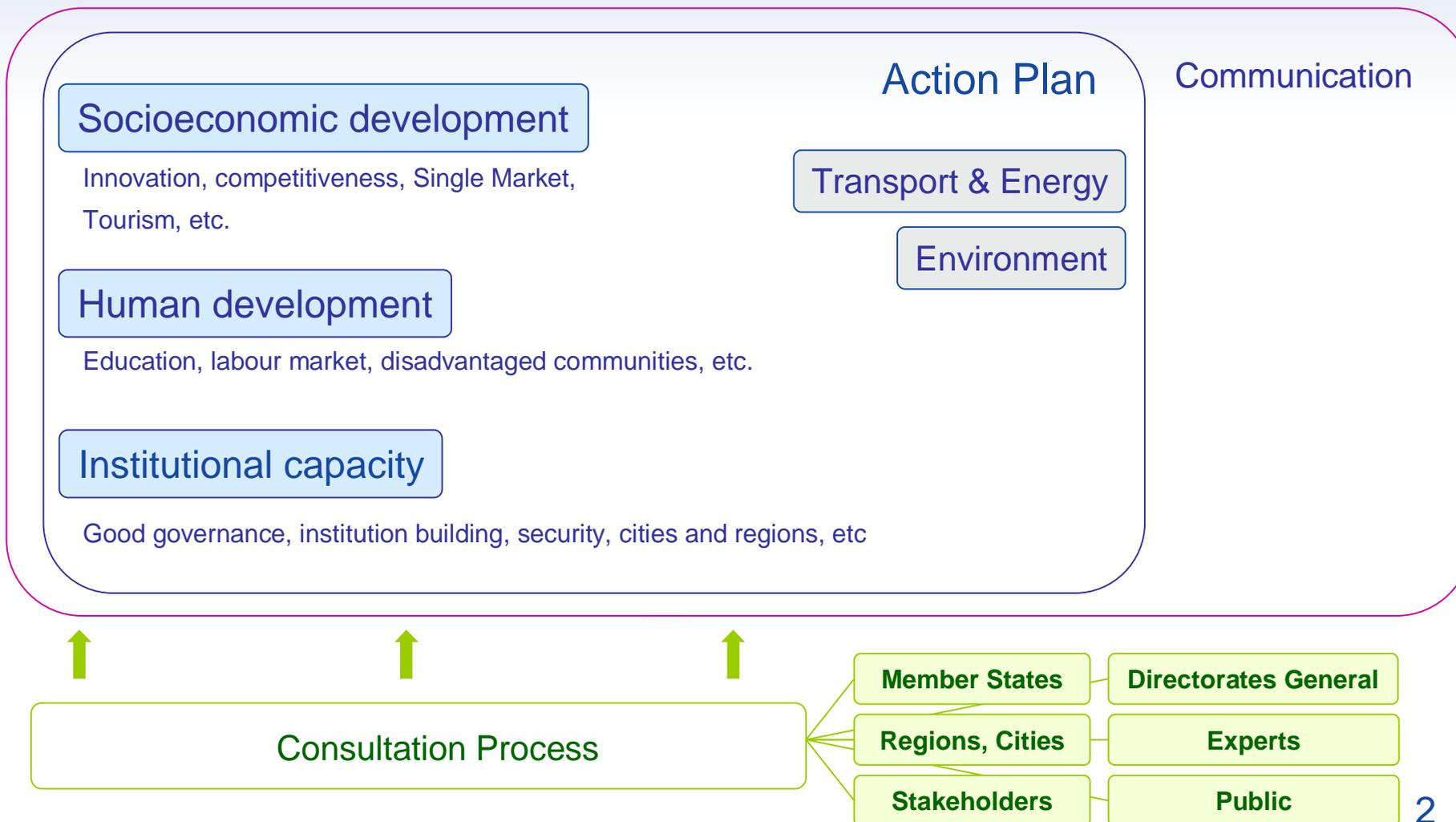
Eva Nussmueller, REGIO/E1

Mamaia, 10 June 2010



Outline

EU Strategy for the Danube Region





Knowledge and Innovation

- Different regional innovation systems in the Danube Region
- Links between knowledge providers and applicants
- Potential: High density of universities, research institutes

➔ Diffusion mechanisms

➔ Targeted support for research infrastructure

➔ Networks of research institutions

➔ *Action: Coordinate efficiently national and regional funds to establish a **Danube Region Research Fund***

➔ *Action: Establish a **Danube Region Education, Research and Innovation Platform** to deepen cooperation between knowledge providers*



Competitiveness and the Single Market

- Different levels of competitiveness and different framework conditions for enterprises
 - Implementation gaps in the Single Market
- ➔ Improve framework conditions for doing business better
- ➔ Identify implementation gaps in the Single Market
- ➔ *Action: Cooperate stronger in a **Danube Region Business Support Network** to strengthen the skills of SME for cooperation and trade.*
 - ➔ *Action: Identify **areas of competence** in the Danube Region and foster cooperation and exchange of knowledge in the “triple helix”.*
 - ➔ *Action: Raise the efficiency of **training and qualification schemes** in Danube countries*



Tourism and Danube Culture

- Tourism: richness of touristic highlights in the Region
 - Tourism: interlinks with other sectors -> demands a holistic approach
 - Danube culture: diverse; but common interests
- ➔ Use the critical mass of touristic highlights in the Region to create joint tourism products and promotional strategies
- ➔ Link with mobility, environment, knowledge, human development activities
- ➔ Joint cultural events to promote inclusiveness, openness, mutual respect
- ➔ *Action: Cooperation of national and regional tourism agencies to develop a common Danube **tourism trademark**, a **quality label** for Danube tourism and joint tourism **projects***
- ➔ *Action: Joint **communication and information platform** on scholarship programmes for cultural exchanges for different target groups*



To Make Full Use of the Region's Human Capital

- Declining population
 - Potential: young population, in relation to EU 27
 - Mobility: implementation gaps in the free movement of people
-
- ➔ Reinforcing EU policy on mutual recognition of qualifications
 - ➔ Need to develop joint strategies on migration flows
 - ➔ Greater integration of countries in the Western Balkans
-
- ➔ *Action: Develop joint Danube Region **labour market statistics***
 - ➔ *Action: Establish an **education and training reform initiative** for the Danube Region*



To improve institutional capacity

- Varying degrees of decentralisation
- Differences in political bargaining power and institutional capacity
- Institutional fragmentation and relatively weak civil society

- ➔ Institutional capacity building
 - ➔ Intensifying cooperation
 - ➔ Strengthening the civil society
- vertically*
horizontally
territorial

➔ *Action: Joint platform to strengthen the **civil society** in the region; **Regular forum of exchange**; joint **tailored action plans***

➔ *Action: Guidelines and best practices on **spatial planning***

➔ *Action: **Cooperation between cities** on urban technologies and integration and migration policies*



Security

- Precondition for investments and long term development: rule of law, good governance, effective institutions, responsible use of political power, respect human rights
 - Countries within and outside the Schengen area
- ➔ Cooperation of police and law enforcement institutions
 - ➔ Secure the independence of judiciary
 - ➔ Cooperation in the fight against organised crime and corruption
 - ➔ Cooperate to improve the situation for disadvantaged communities
-
- ➔ *Action: **Information days, training** seminars for juridical authorities*
 - ➔ *Action: Danube Region **Public Administration School***



Disadvantaged Communities

- Discrimination, social exclusion and spatial segregation
 - 80% of the Roma population in the Danube Region
 - Lack of resources and experience of local public administration to address the issues in a holistic way
- ➔ Need for coordination of policies within the countries or between communities with similar challenges
- ➔ Need to deploy an integrated approach
- ➔ *Action: Comprehensive **studies to collect comparable data***
- ➔ *Action: Strengthen and support **local communities** in addressing the environmental dangers for Roma settlements*



*Thank you for your inputs and
your attention!*