



BACKGROUND FOR WATER RELATED ACTIVITIES IN EU MACRO-REGIONAL STRATEGIES

Budapest, 05 November 2019

THE (SERIES OF) STUDIES

- Concept note
- The study on Water Related Themes in EU Macro-regional Strategies
 - Document review – strategies and action plans
 - Analysis of data on projects (keep.eu; Interreg transnational; projects put forward by PAs, DG ENVI and DG REGIO)
- Proposal for Water Related Co-operation among EU Macro-regional Strategies
 - Potential benefits / potential objectives
 - Forms of co-operation

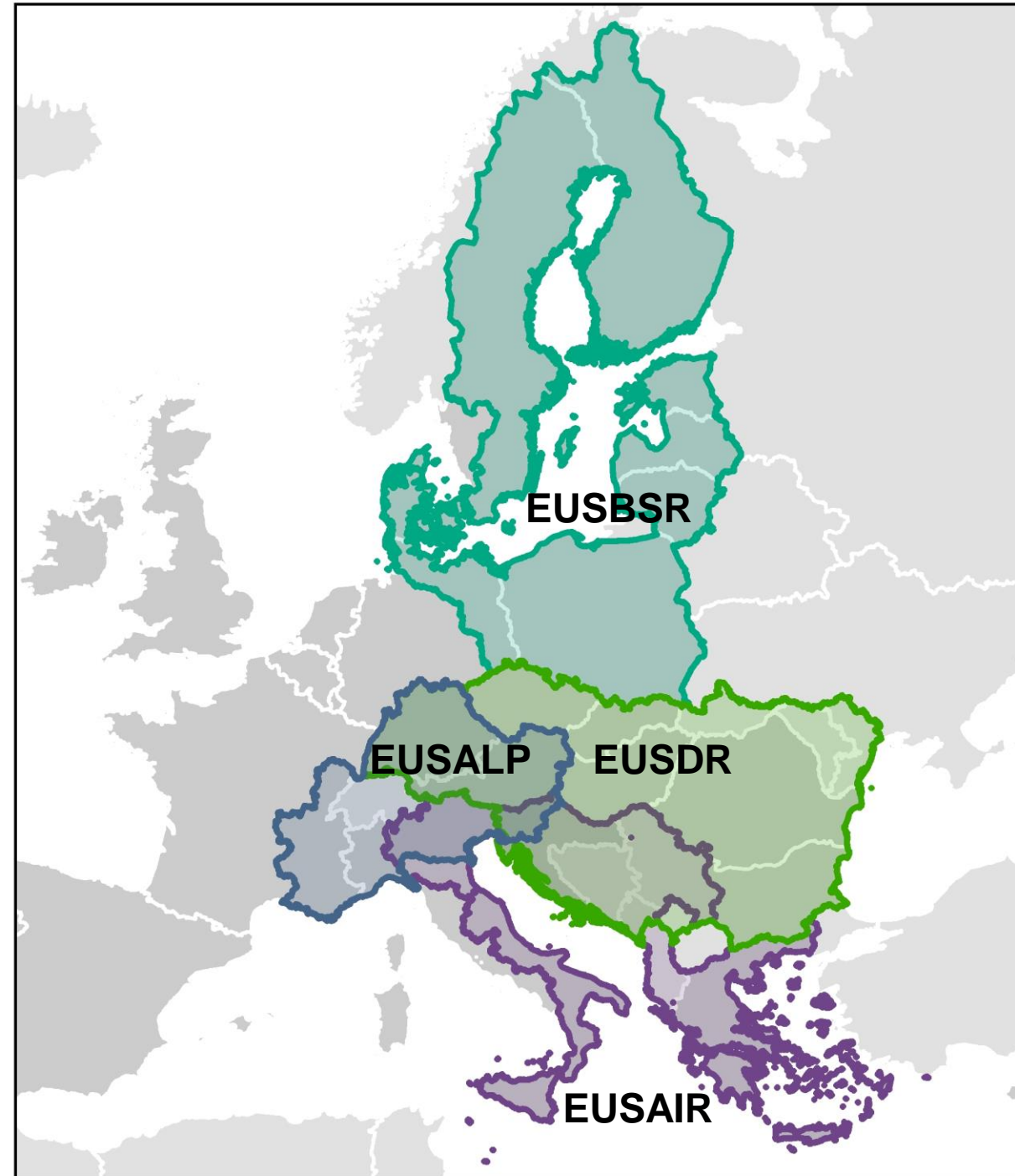
EU STRATEGY REGIONS

EU member EUS regions make up the 46.2 % of the population and the 59.9% of the area of the EU28.

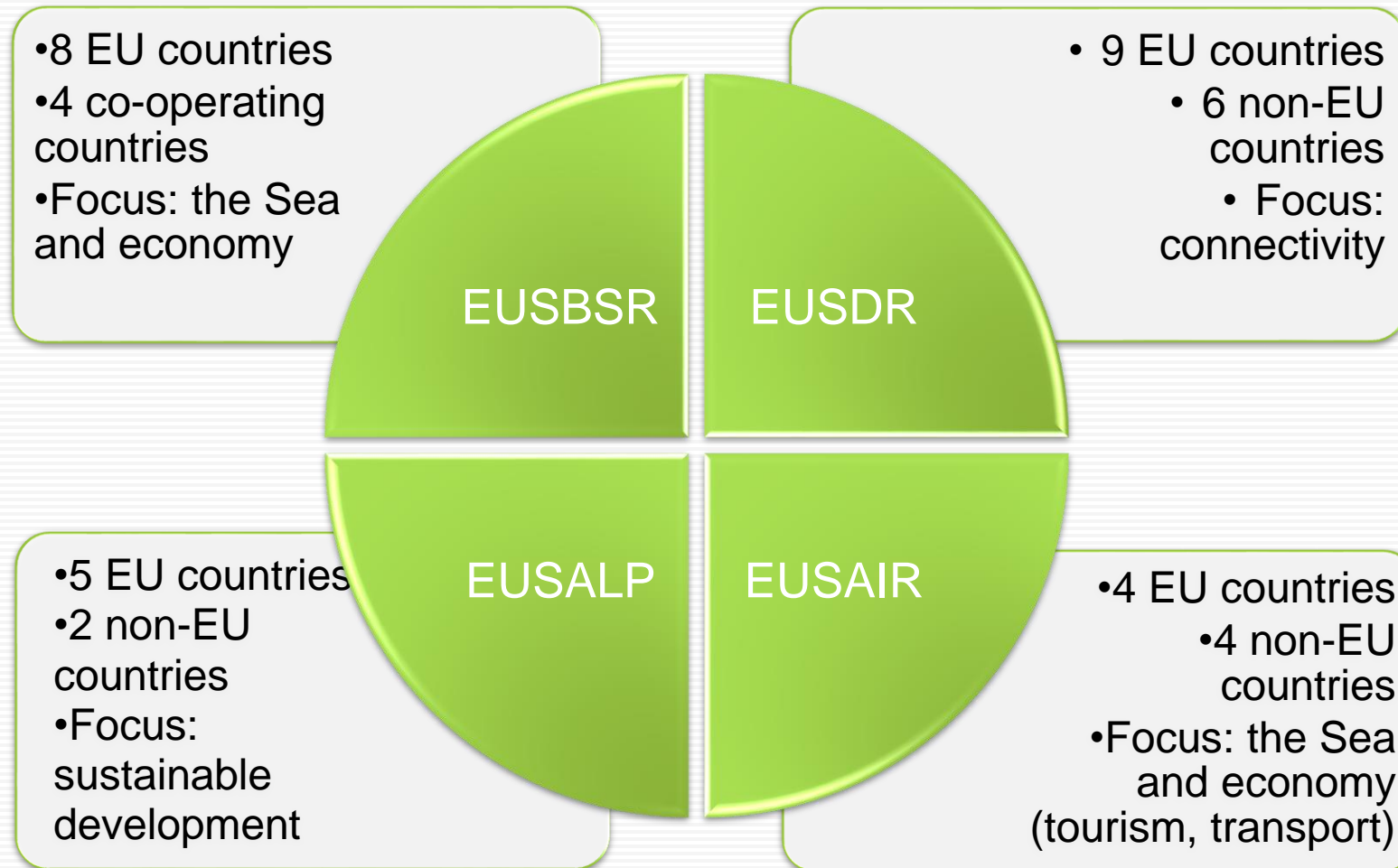
Non-EU EUS members add an extra population of almost 34 million (6.6% of the EU28 population) and 325 km² (7.4% of the EU28 area) to the EUS areas.

EU member EUS regions produce the 42.5% of the GDP of the EU28 and their GDP per Capita is slightly below the EU28 average (26 834 EUR; 92%).

Non-EU EUS members produce an extra value reaching 6.6% of the EU28 GDP; their GDP per Capita is 68% of the EU28 average. (Switzerland greatly influences aggregate data.)



COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE REGIONS



CHALLENGES AND OBJECTIVES

● EUSAIR



- ☐ inhabitants and institutions
- ☐ sustainable conditions for development
- ☐ common development strategy
- ☐ cultural exchange
- ☐ exchange of experiences and EU programmes

EUSALP



- ☐ Economic globalisation
- ☐ Demographic problems
- ☐ High vulnerability to climate change
- ☐ Energy challenge
- ☐ Seasonality (especially in tourism)

EUSBSR



- ☐ Sustainable environment
- ☐ Prosperity of the region
- ☐ accessibility and attractiveness
- ☐ safety and security

EUSDR



- ☐ Mobility
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Risks
- ☐ Very wide socio-economic disparities
- ☐ Security

PRELIMINARY ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

1) Water quality and availability

- Pollution control (nutrients, plastics, toxic substances)
- Integrated and smart water resource management

Environmental risks related to waters

- Droughts and water scarcity
- Flood events
- Prevention, forecast techniques and/or eco-friendly solutions

Water in the support of biodiversity

- Ecological state of waters
- Water related ecosystems
- Migratory fish species

Climate change

- Adaptation
- Resilience
- Resource efficiency

Spatial planning

- Agriculture
- Urbanisation
- Transportation

SOME COMMON ACTIVITIES...

1) Policy making, planning

- (Integrated) policy formulation
- Spatial planning / land use / landscapes / rural areas
- River Basin and Coastal Management Plans
- Flood management plans
- Co-operation

Spatial focus

- Wetlands, coastal areas
- Connecting ecosystems / blue corridors, floodplains

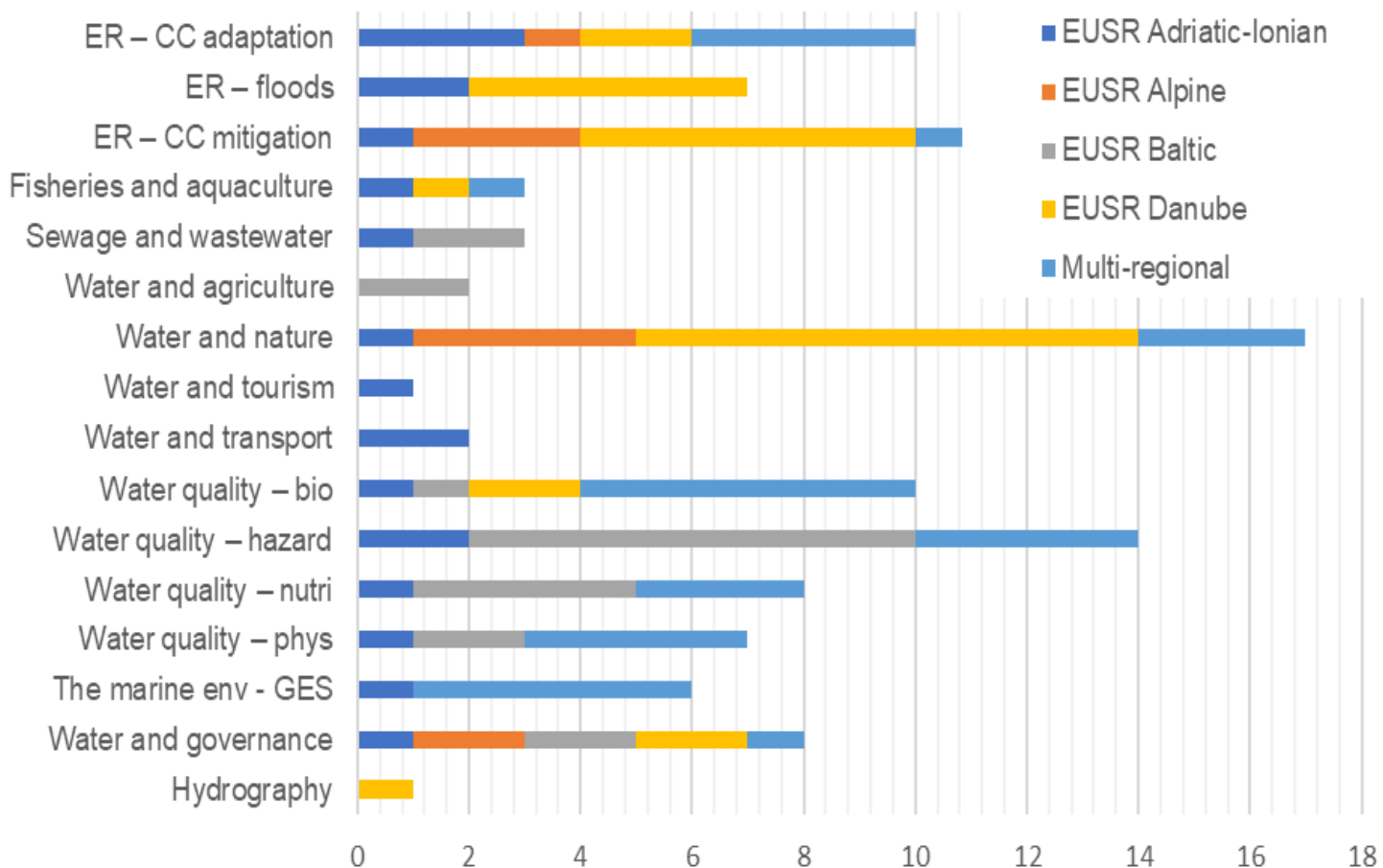
Climate change

- Adaptation / research and planning



TARGETED PROFESSIONAL AREAS BY THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS

The number of different professional areas in all projects



Wide selection of covered areas

The most frequently covered are

- *water and nature conservation,*
- *climate change related issues*
- *and water quality related areas.*

Less frequently covered:

- *tourism*
- *hydrography*
- *transport*
- *agricultural issues*
- *waste water*
- *fisheries / aquaculture*

COMMON PROBLEMS AND SPECIFIC ACTIONS

- Planning and management - various fields
- Climate change – adaptation and mitigation
- Nutrient loads / pollution / contamination of waters with hazardous substances (e.g. pharmaceuticals)
- Impact of water pollution on water-based (eco)systems
- Development needs of water transportation

| Specific professional areas | Number of projects |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Sustainability planning & management | 13 |
| CC and natural risk management | 7 |
| Hazardous materials & economy | 6 |
| Sustainable ecosystem management | 6 |
| The marine & coastal environment | 6 |
| Water management in rural areas | 6 |
| Flood management | 5 |
| Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture | 3 |
| Environment and energy | 2 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 2 |
| Sustainable maritime transport | 2 |
| Sustainable river navigation & transport | 2 |
| Water management & tourism | 1 |
| Total | 61 |

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF CO-OPERATION

Influence / increase visibility in policy making;

- EU level policies;
- EU strategy region policies and, through the above;
- national policies.

Improve EU level standards

- Data collection / measurements
- Data storage and presentation / database management
- Data analysis

Develop common solutions

- All professional issues, notably including: water related risks, pollution control, availability of water for different uses
- funding and application procedures;
- building partnership;
- dissemination of information for stakeholders / communication to EU level authorities and others

Dissemination of best practices / solutions for specific water related problems

Increase public visibility of water management



THANK YOU



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