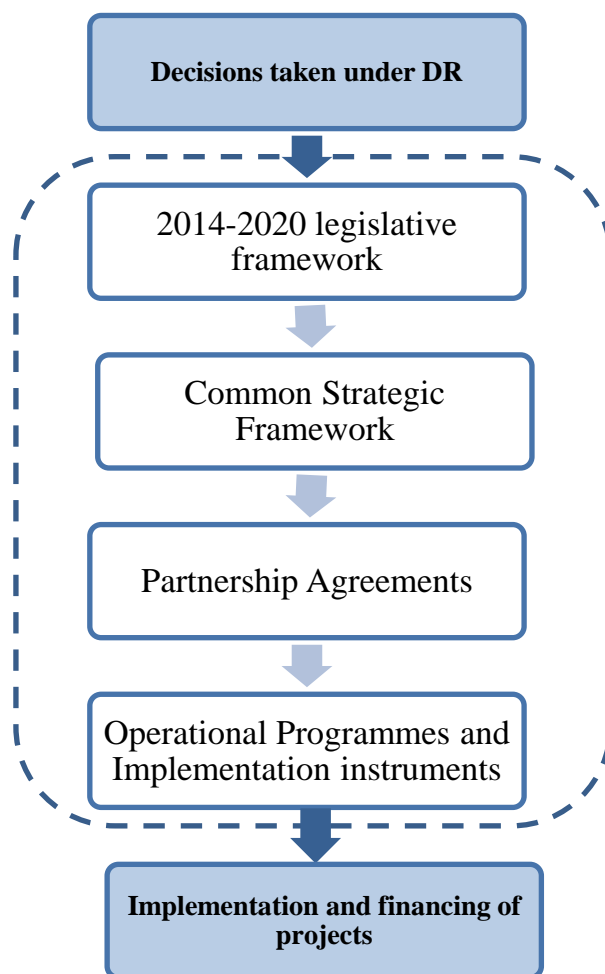


## BUDAPEST DANUBE CONTACT POINT

### Danube Strategy in 2014-2020

- Robust integrated cooperation framework
- Improve effectiveness and impact of EU policies
- Utilize all available programs and instruments
- Set of common challenges structured according to sectors
- Process driven by PACs (international) and NCPs (national and regional)
- Three principles:
  - i. better coordination of existing policies and funds,
  - ii. better use of existing institutions, and
  - iii. better implementation of existing legislation

### Embedding the Strategy in the Operational Programs 2014-2020



## BUDAPEST DANUBE CONTACT POINT

### The Operational Programs are characterized by:

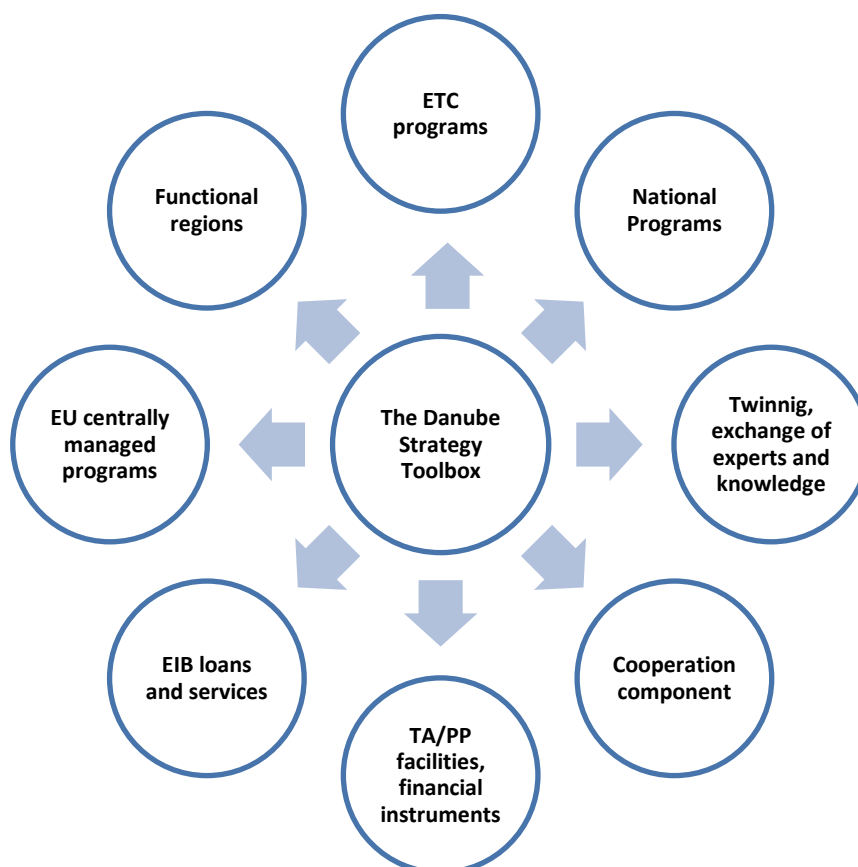
#### 1. More FOCUS – 11 thematic objectives

- Research & innovation
- Information and communication technologies (ICT)
- **Competitiveness of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)**
- **Shift towards a low-carbon economy**
- **Climate change adaptation & risk prevention and management**
- **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & RESOURCE EFFICIENCY**
- Sustainable transport & removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures
- Employment & supporting labour mobility
- **Social inclusion & combating poverty**
- **Education, skills & lifelong learning**
- **Institutional capacity building & efficient public administrations**

#### 2. but also more FLEXIBILITY

- Less programs
- Harmonized set of rules
- **Various implementation instruments and tools to help you finance and implement your project**

### How to implement DRS projects: the Danube Strategy Toolbox

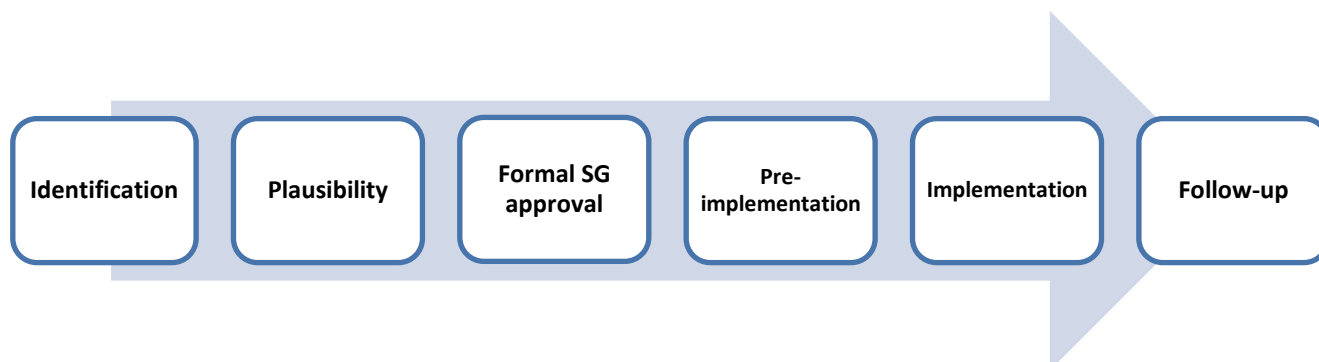


## BUDAPEST DANUBE CONTACT POINT

### Tools

1. ETC – Transnational Cooperation Programs
  - **Danube Transnational Cooperation Program**
    - 14 countries (EU, non-EU), Danube Strategy geography
    - Est. 200 MEUR; 85% co-financing (+ national?)
    - Programming is still ongoing in OP programming Task Force
    - Thematic Objectives not yet selected (TO4, 6, 7,?)
    - Danube Strategy support mechanism discussed
    - Approval expected in summer 2014
    - First call expected in late 2014/early 2015
    - Assumably similar conditions to SEE program
  - **CENTRAL Program**
    - Continuation of previous programme
    - Similar budget and conditions
2. ETC – Cross-border Cooperation Programs
  - Bilateral or smaller multilateral cooperation programs
  - EU, non-EU (IPA, ENI countries)
  - Programming of OPs still ongoing; approval by summer 2014
  - Danube Strategy objectives, projects taken into account
  - Budget varies according to border length, country allocation, etc. (in HU 20-160 MEUR est.)
  - Thematic Objectives currently being selected (TO4,6,7,?)
  - 85% co-financing + national co-financing (?)
  - Cross-border impact!
3. Sustainable Growth and Jobs Programs (EU national programs)
  - Sectorial OPs (Environment, Energy, Economic Development) and Regional OPs
  - Planning is ongoing; final approval expected in early 2014
  - Danube Strategy approach, objectives and projects taken into account
  - Identify priorities where there is need for cooperation
  - Possibility to implement cooperation projects between countries and programs:
    - Cooperation tools (joint platforms, EGTC, etc.)
    - Territorial flexibility rules (finance outside program area)
    - Specific calls for tender (strategic projects, geographical/thematic limitation, etc.)
  - Functional regions are more important than administrative borders → good news for international river basins!
4. Other programs and instruments
  - IPA
  - ENI
  - EU centrally managed programs (LIFE+, Horizon2020)
  - Other ETC programs
  - Financial Engineering Instruments
  - TA/PP facilities
  - EIB instruments, pre- and co-financing, advisory services
  - Etc.

**DRS project implementation scheme supported by BDCP**



1. Identification of
  - project, concept, functional region
  - promoter, stakeholders
  - level of commitment
  - management risk
2. Plausibility check
  - **Plausibility check:** content, fact finding, fitting into EU/national objectives, etc.)
  - **Commitment** check: partners/stakeholders committed? financing needed?
  - Is it based on **real needs**? Are the objectives well defined?
  - What has already been done and what is undergoing?
  - Capitalization, Innovation, Synergies
  - Is there a clear **need for cooperation**? What **added value** does it bring?
  - What is the easiest, most efficient and cost effective way to cooperate?
  - Recommendation for approval: yes, no, clarifications
3. formal SG approval
  - Meet macro-regional conditionality (targets, actions, roadmaps)
  - Issue formal SG approval based on well-funded facts →effect on financing decisions in 2014-2020
4. Pre-implementation
  - Kick-off meeting and detailed fact finding
  - Formalized cooperation framework (negotiate, sign)
  - Prepare study (feasibility)
  - Highlight main issues and obstacles: management, legal, environmental, technical
5. Implementation
  - Financial engineering; bring into programming 2014-2020
  - Is there a need for joint planning, decision making, funding, implementation?
  - What is the most suitable tool?
  - Technical/strategic assistance: steer the project and keep the ball rolling
6. Follow-up
  - Lessons learned
  - Use results, knowledge in other projects
  - Transfer knowledge to similar regions