

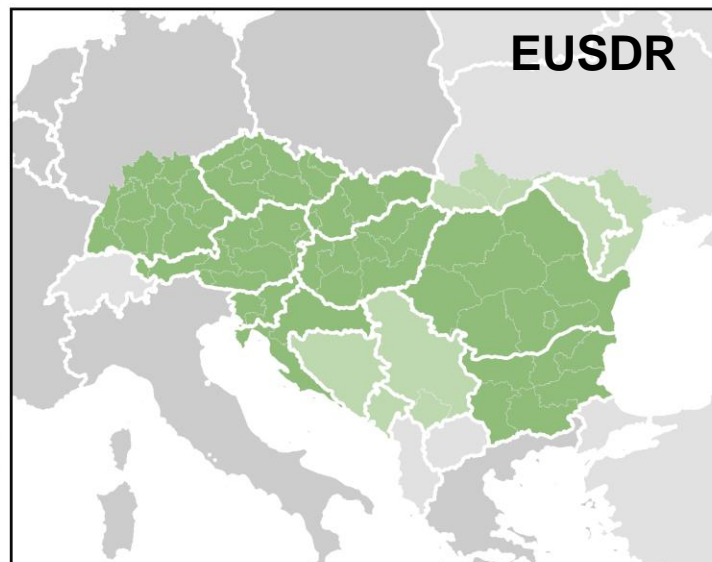
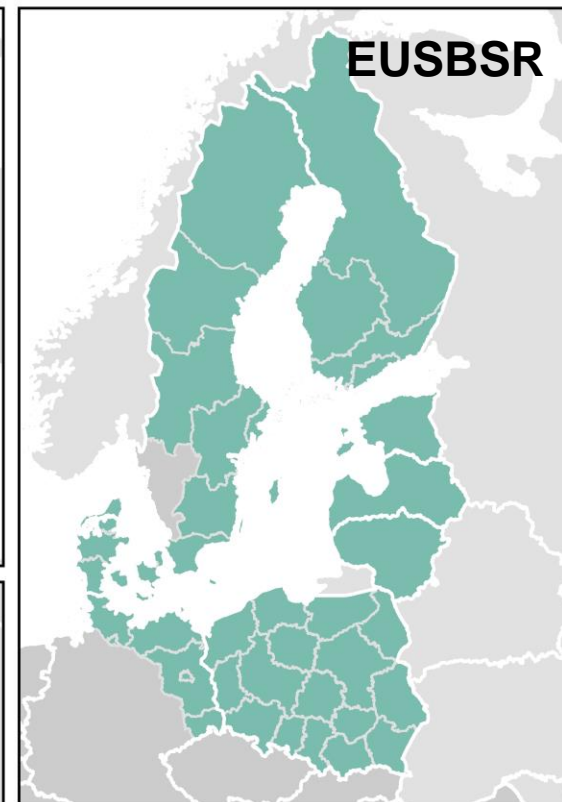
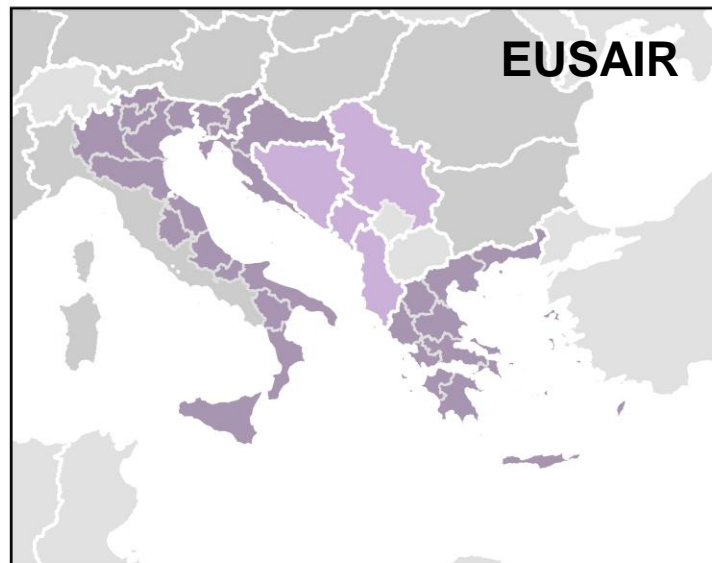
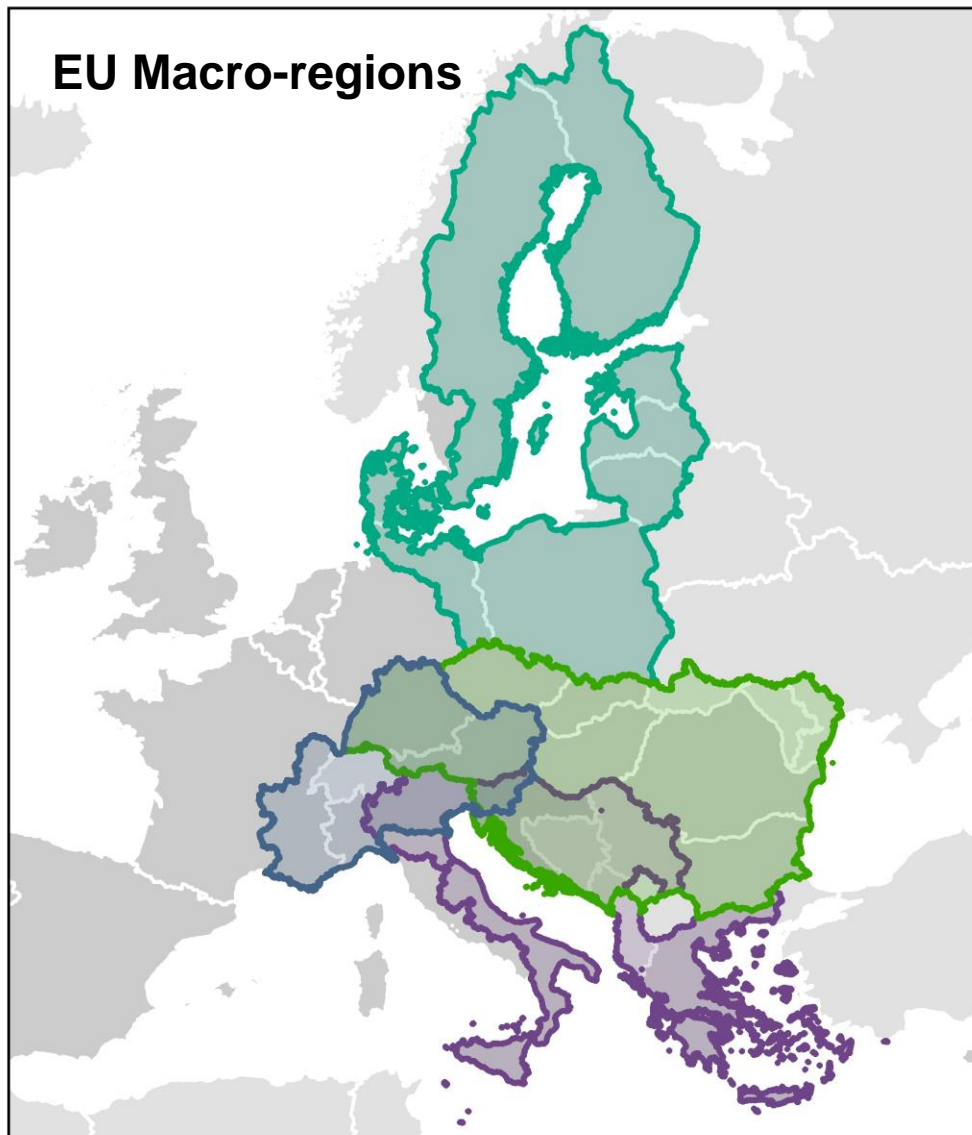


# MACRO-REGIONAL STRATEGIES AND WATER RELATED ACTIVITIES

Bratislava, 24 October 2018



# EU STRATEGY REGIONS





# COUNTRIES AND REGIONS INVOLVED

## POPULATION

	EUSBSR	EUSDR	EUSAIR	EUSALP	EU28/Europe
No. NUTS2 regions	42	66	35	38	273
No. EU member states	8	9	4	5	28
No. non-EU member states	0	6*	4	2	8 in total
Population (million, 2016)	77	69	69	78	510
Area (thousand km2)	1 355	1 092	570	427	4 406

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.

\* Kosovo's designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



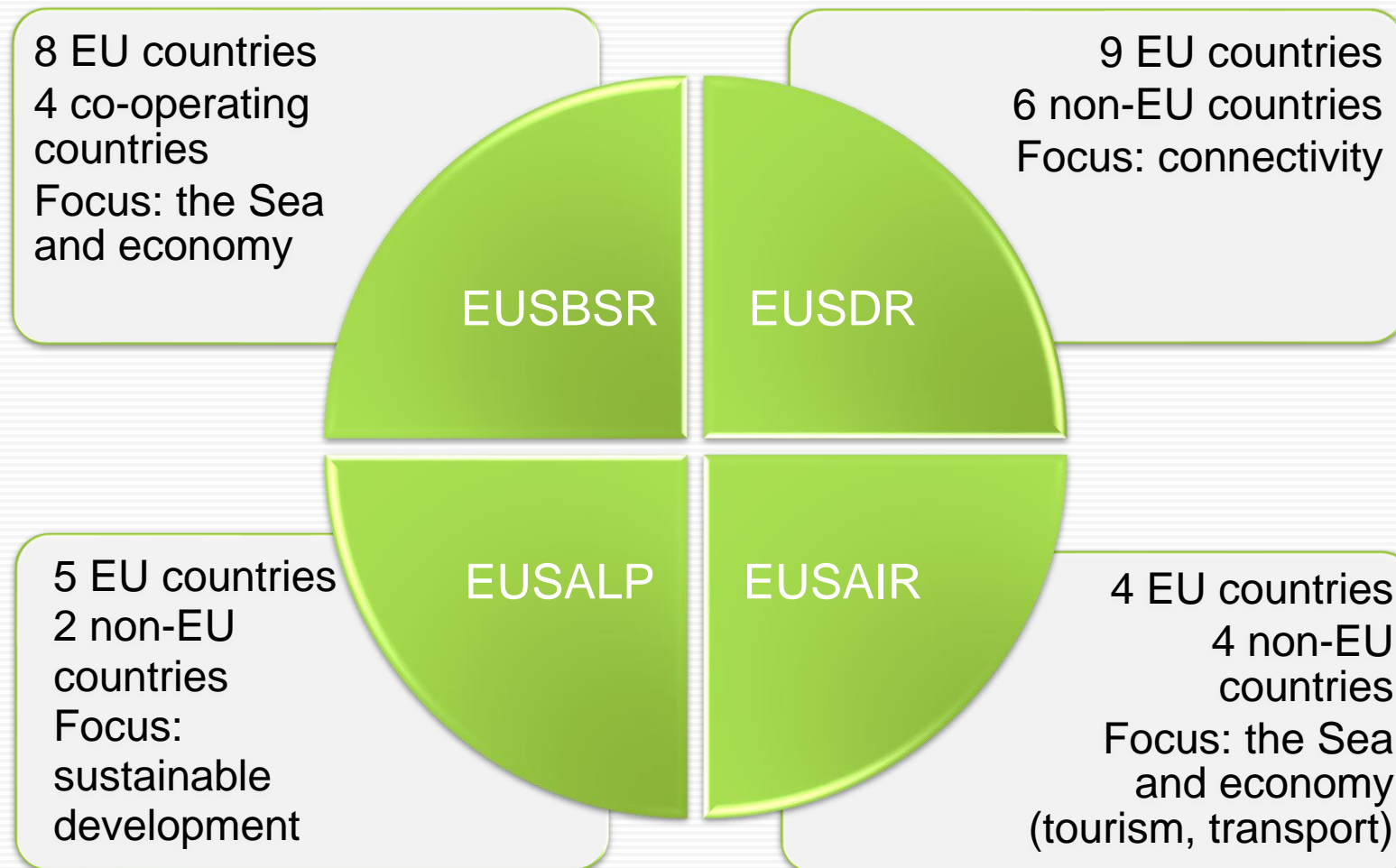
# COUNTRIES AND REGIONS INVOLVED ECONOMY

	EUSBSR	EUSDR	EUSAIR	EUSALP	EU28
<b>GDP</b> (million EUR PPS)	<b>2 021 261</b>	<b>1 213 275</b>	<b>1 458 904</b>	<b>2 916 967</b>	<b>14 876 271</b>
<b>GDP per Capita</b> (mean)	<b>26 220</b>	<b>18 481</b>	<b>23 057</b>	<b>37 430</b>	<b>29 153</b>
<b>St. dev.</b> (GDP per capita; NUTS2)	107	62	108	102	109
<b>Range</b> (GDP per capita; NUTS2)	44 788	49 590	33 460	42 428	169 877

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



## DATA AND METHOD

- Document review – strategies and action plans
- Web-based questionnaire (addressed to PA co-ordinations) – limited reaction
- Data on keep.eu, the Interreg transnational programmes of the corresponding areas, and projects put forward by PAs, DG ENVI and DG REGIO co-ordinators were considered
- Only water related projects were selected and analysed
- With a budget of minimum 1MEUR

Number of projects	70
EUSR Adriatic-Ionian	7
EUSR Alpine	17
EUSR Baltic	12
EUSR Danube	15
Multi-regional	19

# CHALLENGES AND OBJECTIVES

## EUSAIR



- ☐ mutual relations: inhabitants and institutions
- ☐ sustainable conditions for economic development
- ☐ common development strategy
- ☐ cultural exchange
- ☐ exchange of experiences and implementation of EU programmes

## EUSALP



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

## EUSBSR



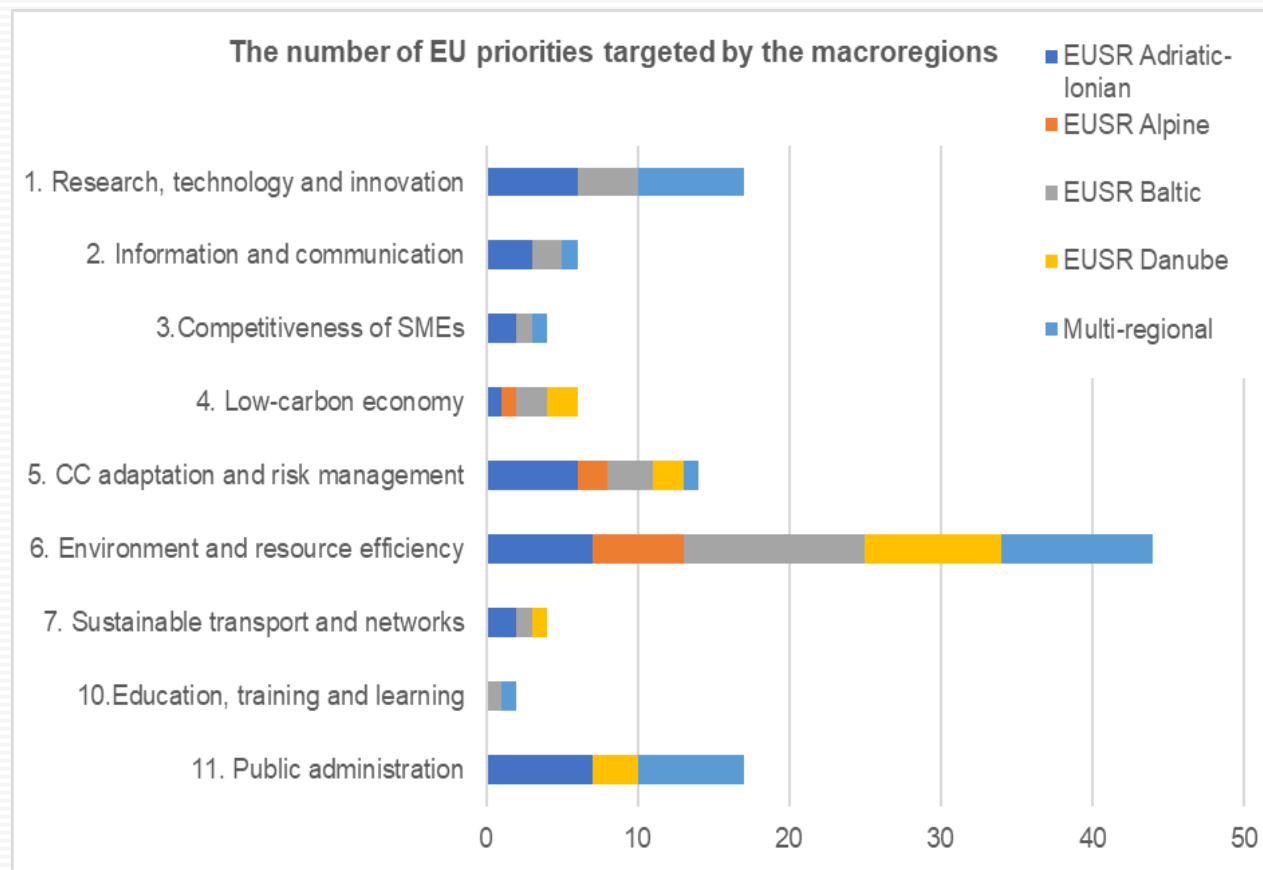
- ☐ Sustainable environment
- ☐ Prosperity of the region
- ☐ accessibility and attractiveness
- ☐ safety and security

## EUSDR



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

# TARGETED EU PRIORITIES BY THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS



The most frequent EU priority:  
*6. Environment and resource efficiency*

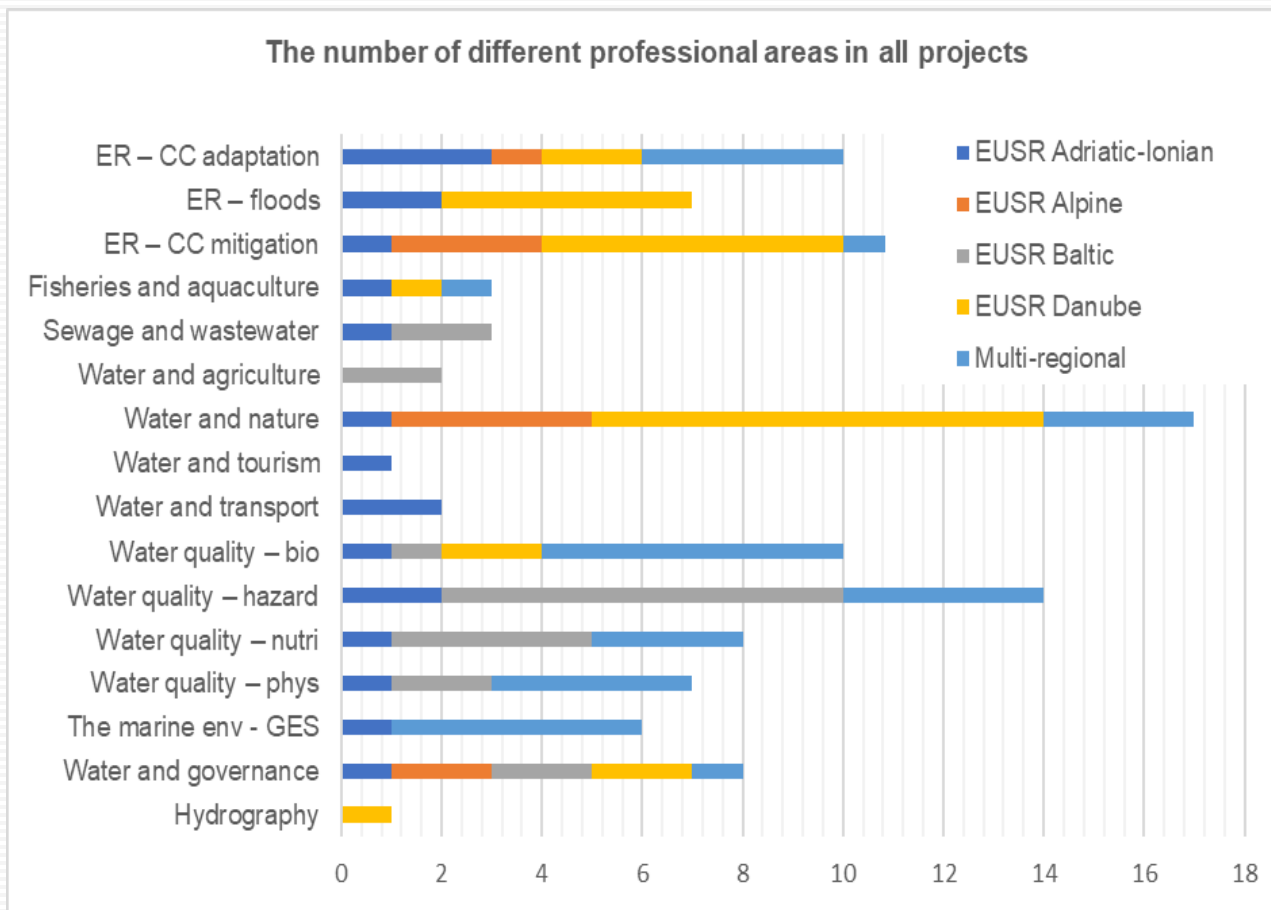
Regions look for new solution in tackling environmental problems

Policy formulation and management of resources





# TARGETED PROFESSIONAL AREAS BY THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS



Wide selection of covered areas

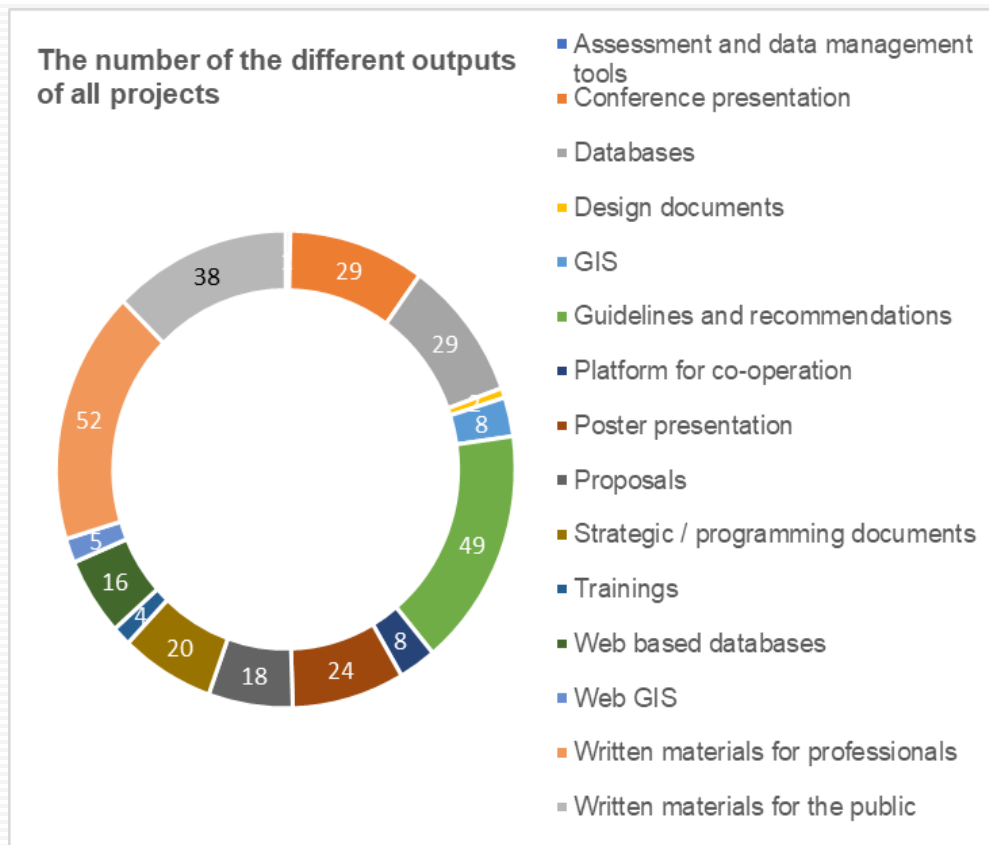
The most frequently covered are

- *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*

# ACTIONS AND OUTPUTS BY THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS



*Most common:*

*guidelines and presentations*

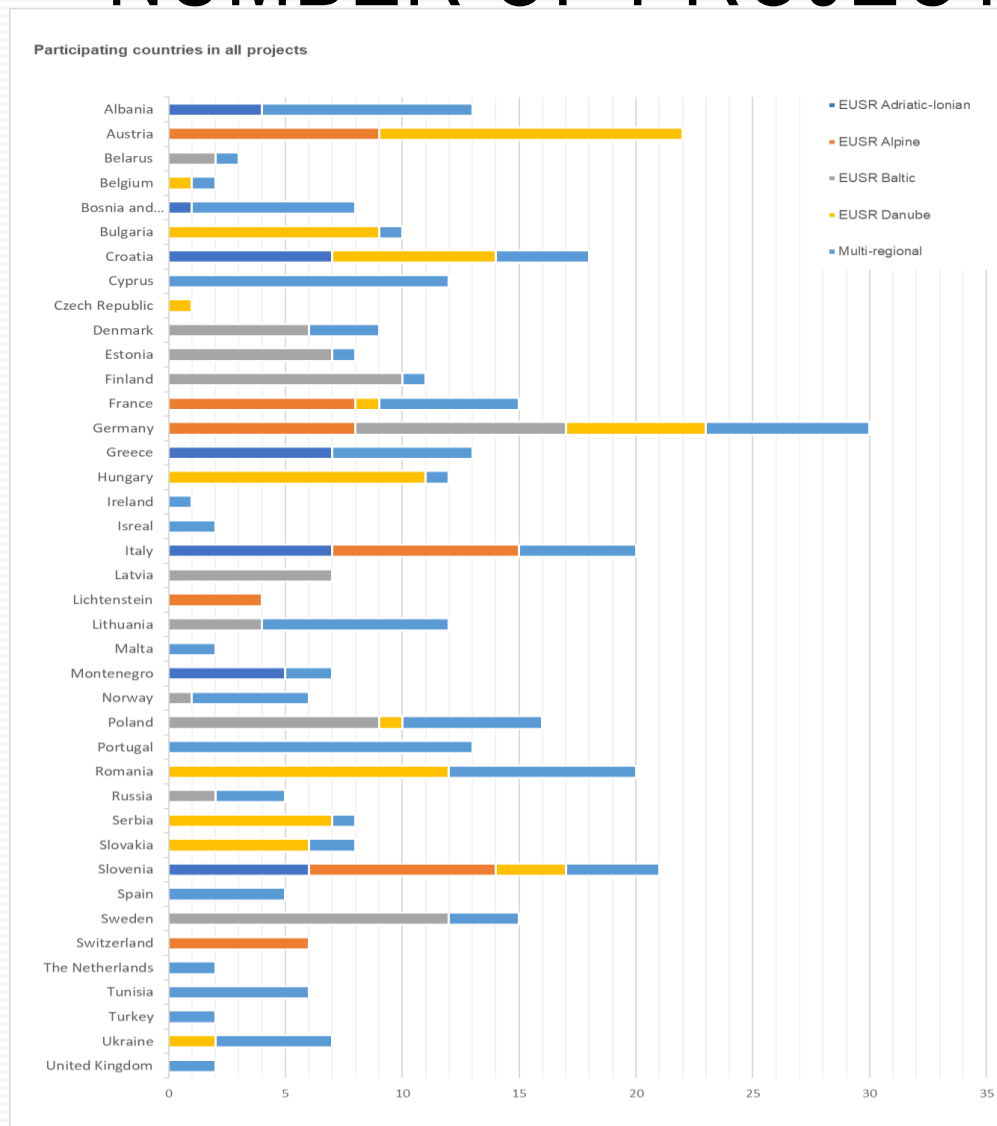
*Many cases:*

*online materials; databases and assessment tools*

All regions utilise the potentials of the international knowledge-sharing and networking activities.



# PARTICIPATING PARTNERS / COUNTRIES BY THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS



The most active country in terms of water-related projects is Germany (25 projects)

Austria, Italy, Romania and Slovenia also participate very actively.

Italy, Romania and Croatia are among the most active countries in total, being the members of two regions.

# COMMON PROBLEMS AND SPECIFIC ACTIONS

- Nutrient load reaching the waters from agriculture or poor sewage/waste treatment
- Contamination of waters with hazardous substances (e.g. pharmaceuticals)
- Impact of water pollution on water-based ecosystems; e.g. plastics / new and poorly studied pollutants
- Increased risk of water related hazards due to climate change (floods, droughts)
- Development needs of water transportation

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



# APPROACHES TO CO-OPERATION

## The “common experience” approach

- Learning from one another
- Best / worst practices

## The “common practices for the future” approach

- Common methods for data collection, management and analysis
- Management tools; guidelines, etc.
- Policy formulation

## The “pioneer” approach

- Issues not in the mainstream; dealt with occasionally by specific regions
- Newly emerging, “hot” issues; e.g. plastics, pharmaceuticals tourism ,etc.

## The geographical approach

- Freshwater and marine issues – everything ends at the seas
- Coastal areas
- Mainland areas with scarcity or abundance of water / with quality problems

# POSSIBLE OBJECTIVES OF CO-OPERATION

- Objective 1: Increase influence on EU level strategy formulation and programming

Possible tools:

- Common standards
- Common policies
- Public events
- Events for decision makers

- Objective 2: Share knowledge and experience on water related issues among professionals

Possible tools:

- Common projects
- Common standards
- Common databases
- Professional events

- Objective 3: Develop standard and EU-wide solutions for water related issues

Possible tools:

- Common projects
- Common standards
- Common databases
- Common policies
- Professional events



Photo: <https://images.trvl-media.com>

THANK YOU AND

PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER ACTIONS  
FOLLOWS...



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Attila Fürstand. PhD – Trenecon Ltd.