



10th EUSAIR Forum

Bridging Horizons: Strengthening Cooperation, Resilience and Cohesion in the Adriatic Ionian Region

Presentation of the Adriatic-Ionian communication and revised action plan



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Crete*

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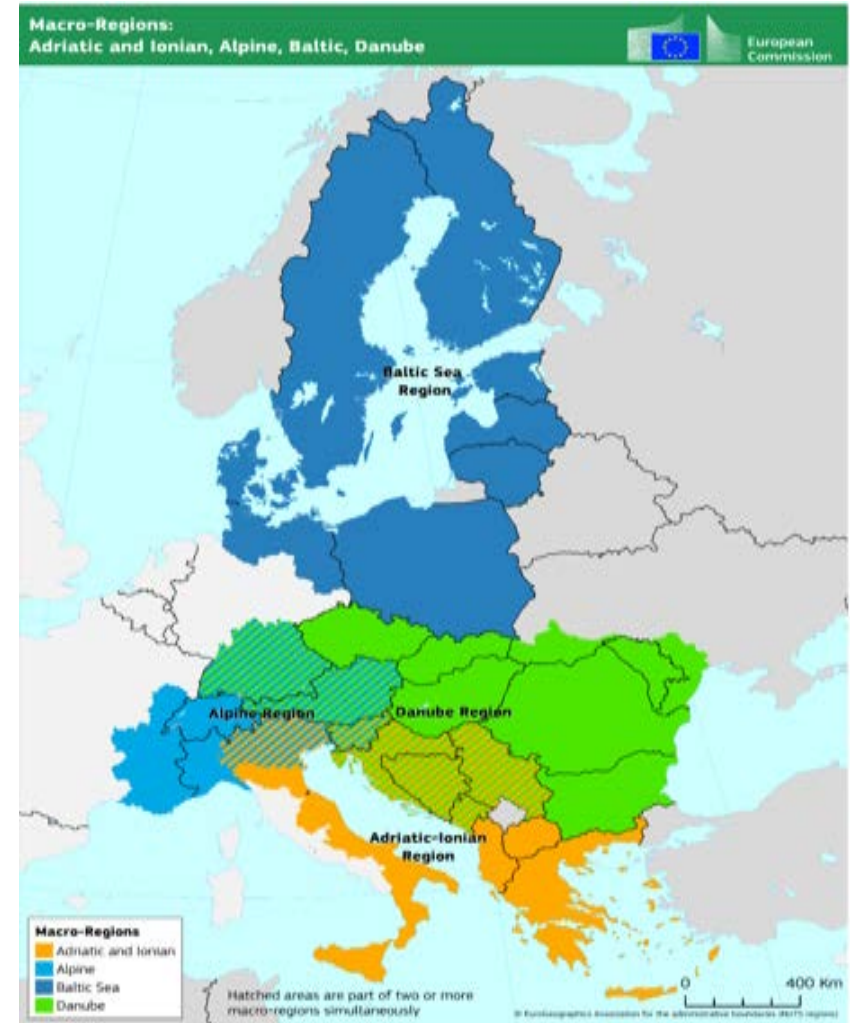
Why macro regional strategies? Laboratories for a new Europe



European
Commission

Macro-Regional Strategies (MRS) can:

- play a key role and set the example of **successful cooperation** in Europe.
- enable an even playing field reducing **regional disparities** and increasing **cohesion and convergence**.



Why are macro regional strategies needed?

More cost effective solutions:

- **Solving problems together** instead of “re-inventing wheels” from country to country, region to region, etc

Macro regional strategies are laboratories for a new Europe, in need of **more targeted solutions** to our societal challenges.



1

The EUSAIR has a distinct value!

IPA Adrion & EUSAIR MRS facilitating the Enlargement process of the Western Balkans

- A regional dimension that reconnects the WB to the EU;
- A horizontal cooperation based on equal footing;
- A convergence of interests on the enlargement between EU member and IPA countries;
- A capacity building effect;
- An emphasis on the relevance of territorial cooperation and cohesion;
- An inclusive approach towards stakeholders with participatory processes (consultation, engagement and mobilisation).



EUSAIR main achievements and value so far

Key Achievements

- Increase in cooperation capacity (generation of joint actions/policy)
- Increase in dialogue
- Bringing actors together
 - Across countries and sectors
 - Across levels comes with maturity (time) and capacity
- Cooperation with the EC is a sign of maturity.

Added-value

- Cooperation brings legitimacy to the work - key added value.
- Working with issue on a transnational basis can increase awareness and attention (nationally).
- Facilitate synergies across sectors (closely linked with policy dialogue).



2

EUSAIR – A new EC Communication and a major revision of the action plan



EUSAIR – A new EC Communication and a major revision of the action plan

- **In 2014, more than 10 years ago, the European Commission adopted a Communication and the Action Plan on the Strategy.**
- Since then, no Revision has been done, this is a reason.
- But also:
 1. New challenges (Pact for Competition, War in Ukraine, Energy prices, Green Deal, Demographic shifts, etc.).
 2. Evolution of the governance structure and set-up of the EUSAIR Youth Council.
 3. Need to align the Action Plan with the new EU political priorities.


Revised EUSAIR action plan

- Main areas of revision:

- **Social Dimension in the EUSAIR:** A new 5th Pillar on 'Improved Social Cohesion' added in addition to the original four.
- **A new structure with three horizontal and three cross-cutting topics:**
 - ❖ The three horizontal topics are: **enlargement; capacity building; and research, innovation and development.**
 - ❖ The three cross-cutting topics are: **circular economy, green rural development and digitalisation.**
- **Identifying green rural development as a cross-cutting issue** emphasises the importance and challenge of **balancing the 'blue' and 'green' development** of the wider region. -> Continental (green) component under all five pillars to various degrees, with emphasis on supporting local fisheries communities, sustainable energy production, mobility, environment and agricultural practices, and preventing brain drain

Revised EUSAIR action plan

- Main areas of revision:
 - An instrument to achieve **the European Green Deal, the Digital Transition and the Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas in the region**, beyond Member States
 - **Adaptive multi-level governance** better enshrined in the partnership
 - Mainstreaming of **gender equality and youth involvement**
 - **Urban-rural linkages** to be stimulated
 - **A new coherent system of indicators** with a common methodology
 - **Other new cross-cutting topics:** skills, smart specialisation

A group of people are seated at a long table in an outdoor restaurant setting. The table is set with white plates, glasses, and bottles. The background shows a city street with buildings and a balcony with plants. The scene is captured in a wide-angle shot, showing the length of the table and the surrounding environment.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all EUSAIR colleagues for their dedication and hard work during the past three years. Your efforts, despite some challenges, have been greatly appreciated.



More information

Feel free to visit the following websites
for more information



Living Without Leaving
exhibition



EUSAIR

Living Without Leaving?

The Perspective of
Adriatic-Ionian
Young Artists



Interreg



Co-funded by
the European Union



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“If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go together.”

African proverb



Any Questions?

#ThisIsTheEU



#ThisistheEU



Thank you

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