

EU sea basins and macro regions

EU sea basins and macro-regions are strategic policy framework, offering a space for collaboration and coordination of efforts across countries and regions of Europe for a **long-term impact/ change**:

Cross-sectoral approach

Cross-policy coordination to deal with the issue.

Engagement of stakeholders

Relevant stakeholders are engaged in various coordinated activities.

Actions on the ground

Implementation and coordination of various relevant activities to achieve a shared objective.

Alignment of resources

Any resource: financial, human, institutional, legislative.

Managing Authorities Cooperation

Coordinate efforts

As Strategies have no own resources, they rely on various sources at European, national, and regional levels to address identified challenges.

Transnational cooperation

Challenges regions face cannot be addressed by a single fund or project, thus require systematic approach to innovation and coordination. Networks help this.

Integrate Strategies into programmes

Help embed the Strategies into funding programmes and developing a common understanding of the role of the Strategies.

Foster learning

Networks support peer-learning and know how exchange on transnational cooperation in the regions.

Exchange experience

on the implementation of the Mainstream Programmes under investment for growth and jobs objective



Examples managing authorities cooperation



Baltic Sea Network ERDF

Partners

The network includes managing authorities of ERDF programmes in the Baltic Sea Region: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Brandenburg (Germany), Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Sweden.

Scope

- Facilitate the coordination of transnational projects, primarily in the framework of the EU strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.
- Foster learnings on transnational cooperation within the ERDF programme in the Baltic Sea Region and beyond in other regions.
- Exchange experiences and know how.

How

- Regular meetings following the rotating chairmanship principle.
- Mapping of ongoing calls and priorities.
- Discussing links between ongoing projects and calls (e.g., cluster calls), efforts to streamline monitoring of the cooperation component in projects

ESF MA Network in the Danube Region

Partners

Representatives of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region Priority Area 9 (People and Skills) and Priority Area 10 (Institutional Capacity), ESF Managing Authorities (Baden-Württemberg/Germany, Slovakia, Croatia, Slovenia, Hungary, Czechia, Bulgaria), national line ministries dealing with labour market policy in candidate countries in the Danube Region, European Commission (DG EMPL and DG REGIO), and other partners.

How

The network serves as a platform to exchange on implementing transnational cooperation through the ESF Programmes in the region. It provides a platform for informal mutual learning on aspects of programme development and implementation.

Results

- At the programming level: unified draft text module for ESF+ programmes referencing the EUSDR.
- At the policy level: agreement on the key topics for transnational cooperation
- At the cooperation and implementation level: a shared vision was developed

Baltic Sea Network of ESF+ programmes

Scope

The cooperation amongst the ESF programmes in the Baltic Sea Region has been active since the establishment of the cooperation network in 2011. The Network holds regular meetings supporting work on joint topics and allowing room for exchange and peer learning.

ESF's Common Framework for Transnational Cooperation

Network partners from Sweden, Finland, and Poland participated in the ESF's Common Framework for Transnational Cooperation, initiated by the European Commission in 2016.

Lessons

- Synchronising call timelines does not require calls to launch simultaneously across regions; launching within six months is adequate for supporting project cooperation.
- Cooperation networks ease defining common cooperation themes.
- Small lump-sums effectively aid partner search

ActionLab in the Adriatic- Ionian Region

To support Interreg programmes in embedding EUSAIR flagships in the programming and implementation phases through:

- Structured dialogue between programmes
- Thematic working groups
- Joint communication activities and inter-programme capitalisation



Financial Dialogues in the Alpine Region

- A thematic focus highlighting:
- green hydrogen,
 - digitalisation,
 - mobility.





Multilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation in the Danube Region

The joint funding call was created based on existing bilateral cooperation programmes, using already tested application and evaluation schemes.





How is the cooperation organised?

Scope	<p>The Multilateral Call for the Danube Region was specifically created to foster scientific cooperation between the countries of the Danube Region, focusing on creating new partnerships. For the funding of the multilateral project's budget initially available for bilateral funding has been repurposed for the calls. Some countries have made an available extra budget for the calls.</p>
How	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is up to the applicants to find their own research partners.• Proposals must be submitted to all responsible national funding bodies of the participating partners simultaneously. Application follows national rules.• Proposals which have not been received by all participating partners are not considered for funding.
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3rd call resulted in agreement to finance mobility costs of 24 co-operation projects lasting from July 2023 to June 2025.• Next call to be launched in the fall of 2024. The selection meeting is planned in the second half of 2025.