

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy - EDRS</b>
<b>Priority</b>	<i>III. Strengthening the Danube regional identity and cooperation</i>
<b>Name of the programme</b>	<b>10. Strengthening the Danube regional identity</b> – protection of heritage, cooperation
<i>The preliminaries, justification and objective of the programme</i>	<p>The coherence of the Danube area can be intensified by the mutual respect, which is based on the awareness of its population's (nations, minorities, ethnic groups, migrants) cultures, traditions, as well as cultural and historical heritage. Their intertwined history and cultural connections represent a force for cohesion and the creation of identity, which can serve as a basis for the region's common future. The protection of heritage and values, the knowledge and experience of intellectual heritage and the cooperation between regions, institutions and NGOs are important means for this. Educational activities at original locations, the interactive involvement of visitors, the revival of traditions in cultural history, the organisation of joint events, festivals and conferences play a substantial role in strengthening identity and getting to know our common history. Heritage sites contribute to a stronger feeling of belonging, boosting the sense of identity and also serve as means of increasing self-esteem and creating a European-level status.</p> <p>In cultural aspects, it is recommended to boost <b>regional “self-awareness”</b>, including the knowledge of <b>history, cultural history and visual culture</b>. Apart from secondary and higher education institutions, this can be done in institutions of general education and out-of-school cultural (art) education. By strengthening these systems and networks and supporting the connections of existing institutional systems, we can get a better understanding of our common cultural history, revive its characteristics and improve regional communication. Culture provides added value to developments, which creates unique products, as opposed to mass production and supply, thus increasing a region's/community's appeal and popularity among its visitors.</p> <p>The successful development of national and local government organisations largely depends on social acceptance and active participation. In order to promote these, we must mobilise the dominant players of civil society, who contribute to a stronger common identity primarily through cultural cooperation. Intensifying the relations of ethnic minorities can be the basis for mutual understanding among peoples, as well as a basis for joint actions.</p> <p><b>Education (general and higher education), training, as well as educational and cultural cooperation</b> and cultural services together play an important role in strengthening social and regional cohesion. One of the key roles in creating a stronger sense of identity and a network-based cooperation, which provides basic orientation for future generations, can be realised in the area of education by intensifying the exchange of experiences and knowledge</p>

	<p>transfer, introducing Danube-thematic educational and training programmes, expanding networks and influencing environmental awareness through a stronger sense of identity and the various means of education and training.</p> <p>As far as the material, intellectual, built/property cultural heritage and cultural assets are concerned, understanding and comparing the professional experiences of various countries can provide further opportunities to preserve this heritage in a professional way, while also renewing its functions. The limes (border system) and the fortresses of the Roman Empire ran by the southern banks of the Danubius river. Declaring Limes as a World Heritage Site will provide opportunities to create and also increase the awareness of the common historical heritage, while getting to know the history of Danube navigation increases the coherence of the region. Taking care of memorial sites and nurturing military culture are important elements of maintaining our identity, which is rooted in our common history.</p> <p>In our view, it is important that the strategy’s participating countries become increasingly and jointly involved in various EU programmes, such as “Culture 2000”, “Europe for Citizens”, “Youth” and student exchange programmes, cooperate in the best possible utilisation of grants and also join UNESCO’s heritage protection efforts.</p> <p>The objective of the programme is to boost cultural and civil cooperation, as well as preserve and use our common cultural heritage in order to establish the Danube regional identity, thus strengthening the region’s social solidarity and increase social cohesion.</p>
<p><i>The content of the programme, subprogrammes</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Cultural cooperation to strengthen the Danube regional identity:</b> organising joint cultural events, programmes, Danube festivals, reviving cultural history traditions, bringing cultural history events to heritage sites; international cooperation; conferences, exchange programmes, joint camps, thematic cooperation at original historical sites of the Danube, cooperation within the International Association of Music Schools and the DANUBIANA visual arts project. The latter aims to introduce particularly talented young artists from the region every second year.</li> <li>2. <b>Education, training, educational cooperation within lifelong learning, cultural cooperation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Joint educational programmes, events, concerts and school exchange programmes within the International Association of Music Schools.</li> <li>▪ The DANUBIANA visual arts project aims to introduce particularly talented young artists from the region every second year.</li> <li>▪ Revival and teaching of historic professions at international camps and courses.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

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	<p>3. <b>Protection of the Danube region’s cultural values:</b> cooperation in the protection of values and heritage, joint scientific research, exchange of experiences, courses, conferences, events, traineeships; preservation of military memorial sites</p> <p>4. <b>Cooperation of ethnic minorities, cultural, church and religious communities</b></p> <p>5. <b>Cooperation of NGOs for a successful EDRS:</b> knowledge base, exchange of experiences etc.</p>
<i>Potentially affected countries</i>	Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, the Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	<p>Moral and political commitment; the maintenance of military graves is governed by international laws on the humanitarian treatment of the victims of war. The Geneva Conventions, governing international humanitarian rights, were signed on 12, August 1949. The remains of victims are protected by Article 130 of the Fourth Geneva Conventions and Article 34 of the Additional Protocol I of 1977, while military graves and military monuments are protected by Article 16 of the Additional Protocol II.</p> <p>One of the key tasks and elements of the European Danube Region Strategy is to enforce, within the strategy’s participating nations, regions and neighbours of the Danube region, those <b>values</b>, political norms and criteria, which have been adopted by the European Union and represented within the system of international relations. <i>Historical reconciliation between peoples and nations, democratic rule of law, tolerance, as well as the respect of human and minority rights</i> play an important role within these values.</p>
<i>Complementarity with the Danube strategy</i>	III.A Values and heritage protection, III. B. Cultural cooperation, III. C. Educational cooperation, III.D. Cooperation and partnership
<i>Parties affected by the subprogramme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	NGOs, national minority organisations and minority self-governments, churches and educational-cultural organisations, National Office of Cultural Heritage, Hungarian Society for Urban Planning, directorates of County Museums, Fort Monostor, municipalities involved, Secretariat of Church Relations at the Ministry of Education and Culture, Danube church communities involved,
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	Strengthening identity while emphasising differences, getting to know each other’s traditions and characteristics
<i>financing of the programme</i>	European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund
<i>The term of implementation</i>	Continuous implementation
<i>The level of preparedness of the programme</i>	<p>Existing cooperation in certain elements, several (cooperation) projects do not require planning or authorisation procedures.</p> <p>There are several known projects within the area of cultural heritage preservation;</p> <p>Danube Limes project – Central Europe (launched in 2009 and to be completed by 2012)</p> <p>Existing cooperation and joint research between cultural, educational and training institutions</p>

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<i>Relationship with other programmes</i>	11. Programme: Tourism from the Black Forest to the Black Sea 9. Institutional cooperation in the Danube region
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	<b>European Danube Region Strategy - EDRS</b>
<b>Name of subprogramme</b>	<b>10.1. Cultural cooperation for strengthening the Danube regional identity</b>
<i>Potentially affected countries</i>	Hungary, Slovakia, Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, the Ukraine
<i>Territorial limitation</i>	Cultural institutions and organisations of the countries involved
<i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i>	The intertwined history as well as the cultural (and sometimes linguistic) coherence are able to create a strong sense of cohesion and identity, which can serve as the basis for the region's common future. The cultural relations of local communities and municipalities by the Danube are very important and their effectiveness needs to be intensified by stronger relations in the area of churches and religions.
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	None
<i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i>	Strengthening common identity
<i>Parties affected by the subprogramme</i>	Affects wider areas of society
<i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Organising joint cultural events, programmes, Danube festivals, reviving cultural history traditions; international cooperation; conferences, exchange programmes, joint camps, thematic cooperation at original historical sites of the Danube</li> <li>▪ The DANUBIANA visual arts project aims to introduce particularly talented young artists from the region every second year.</li> </ul>
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	Strengthening identity, while emphasising differences, getting to know each other's traditions and characteristics
<i>Cost requirement of subprogramme, projects</i>	Currently unknown
<i>Type of subprogramme, projects</i>	European Social Fund
<i>The term of implementation</i>	Continuous implementation
<i>The level of preparedness of the subprogramme</i>	Existing cooperation in certain elements

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy - EDRS</b>
<b>Name of subprogramme</b>	<b>10.2. Education, training, educational cooperation within lifelong learning, cultural cooperation</b>
<i>Potentially affected countries</i>	Essentially Germany, Austria, Slovakia, while in the case of maintaining military graves Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Romania and the Ukraine are also affected
<i>Territorial limitation</i>	
<i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i>	<p>In cultural aspects, it is recommended to strengthen the <b>regional “self-awareness”</b>, including the knowledge of <b>history, cultural history and visual culture</b>. Apart from secondary and higher education institutions, this can be done in institutions of general education and out-of-school cultural (art) education. By strengthening these systems and networks and supporting the connections of existing institutional systems, we can get a better understanding of our common cultural history, revive its characteristics and improve regional communication.</p> <p><b>Education, training, as well as educational and cultural cooperation</b> and cultural services together play an important role in strengthening social and regional cohesion. One of the key roles in a stronger sense of identity and a network-based cooperation, providing basic orientation for future generations, can be realised in the area of education by intensifying the exchange of experiences and knowledge transfer, introducing Danube-thematic educational and training programmes, expanding networks and <b>influencing environmental awareness through</b> a stronger sense of identity and <b>the various means of education and training</b>.</p>
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	Unknown
<i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i>	Exploring and preserving cultural roots for increasing the Danube identity
<i>Parties affected by the programme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	General and higher education institutions, institutions and organisations with cultural activities, wider public,
<i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Joint educational programmes, events, concerts and school exchange programmes within the International Association of Music Schools</li> <li>- Revival and teaching of historic professions at international camps and courses.</li> </ul>
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	Teaching at original heritage sites, the interactive involvement of visitors, the revival of cultural history traditions, the organisation of joint events, festivals and conferences play a substantial role in strengthening identity and getting to know the common history.
<i>Cost requirement of the subprogramme</i>	
<i>Financing of the subprogramme</i>	European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund

<i>The term of implementation</i>	continuous
<i>The level of preparedness of the subprogramme</i>	There are existing projects and also others that are in the preparatory phases

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy - EDRS</b>
<b>Name of subprogramme</b>	<b>10.3. Protecting the cultural heritage of the Danube region</b>
<i>Potentially affected countries</i>	Essentially Germany, Austria, Slovakia, while in the case of maintaining military graves Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Romania and the Ukraine are also affected
<i>Territorial limitation</i>	Danube areas of the affected countries
<i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i>	<p>The coherence of the Danube area can be intensified by the mutual respect, which is based on the awareness of its population's (nations, minorities, ethnic groups, migrants) cultures, traditions, as well as cultural and historical heritage. Their intertwined history and cultural connections represent a force for cohesion and the creation of identity, which can serve as a basis for the region's common future. The protection of heritage and values, the knowledge and experience of intellectual heritage and the cooperation between regions, institutions and NGOs are important means for this. Educational activities at original locations, the interactive involvement of visitors, the revival of cultural history traditions, the organisation of joint events, festivals and conferences play a substantial role in strengthening the identity and getting to know our common history. Heritage sites contribute to a stronger feeling of belonging, boost the sense of identity and also serve as means of increasing self-esteem and creating a European-level status.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– cooperation in the protection of values and heritage, joint scientific research, exchange of experiences, courses, conferences, events, traineeships;</li> <li>– preservation and maintenance of military memorial sites</li> </ul>
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	Moral and political commitment; the maintenance of military graves is governed by international laws on the humanitarian treatment of the victims of war. The Geneva Conventions, governing international humanitarian rights, were signed on 12, August 1949. The remains of victims are protected by Article 130 of the Fourth Geneva Conventions and Article 34 of the Additional Protocol I of 1977, while the places of worship, including military graves and military monuments are protected by Article 16 of the Additional Protocol II.
<i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i>	Exploring and preserving cultural roots for increasing the Danube identity
<i>Parties affected by the subprogramme</i>	National Office of Cultural Heritage, Hungarian Society for Urban Planning, directorates of County Museums, Fort Monostor, municipalities involved, educational institutions, National Administration of

	Monuments, wider public
<i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i>	<p>1. Danube area <b>cooperation in heritage protection for the preservation of the built heritage</b> (specific project proposal “King Sigismund’s European Parliament at the Buda Castle”, the restoration of the “Giant Room”; this original site can be used for cultural history and cultural events, as well as the macro-regional or local meetings of the Danube Strategy)</p> <p>2. <b>Maintenance of Central European military memorial sites and preservation of the military culture</b> (Fort Monostor)</p> <p>3. <b>Preservation of Danube navigation relics</b></p>
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	Preserving and utilising the built heritage, organising cultural history and cultural events at original sites can generate the functional renewal of certain urban areas, leading to a better quality of life and creating new tourist attractions. International cooperation is required for the dissemination of best practices on preservation.
<i>Cost requirement of the subprogramme</i>	1. 100-200 million HUF 2. 2-6 billion HUF 3. 500-700 million HUF
<i>Financing of the subprogramme</i>	European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund
<i>The term of implementation</i>	In 3-5 years, continuously
<i>The level of preparedness of the subprogramme</i>	<p>1. Currently at the level of ideas only</p> <p>2. The preparation of the international legal declaration requires at least one year. Restoration projects could be started after compiling the list of military cemeteries and memorial sites.</p> <p>3. Currently at the level of ideas only</p>

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy EDRS</b>
<b>Name of subprogramme</b>	<b>10.4. Socio-cultural cooperation of ethnic minorities, cooperation of church and religious communities</b>
<i>Potentially affected countries</i>	Hungary, Slovakia, Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, the Ukraine
<i>Territorial limitation</i>	Minority, church and religious organisations of the countries involved
<i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i>	The intertwined history as well as the cultural (and sometimes linguistic) coherence are able to create a strong sense of cohesion and identity, which can serve as the basis for the region's common future. The cultural relations of local communities and municipalities by the Danube are very important and their effectiveness needs to be intensified by stronger relations in the area of churches and religions.
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	None
<i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i>	Strengthening common identity
<i>Parties affected by the subprogramme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	Primarily members of linguistic and cultural minorities, religious groups and organisations
<i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i>	Organising joint cultural events, programmes, Danube festivals, reviving the traditions of cultural history, international cooperation; conferences, exchange programmes, joint camps
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	Strengthening identity, while emphasising differences, getting to know each other's traditions and characteristics
<i>Cost requirement of the subprogramme</i>	Currently unknown
<i>Financing of the subprogramme</i>	European Social Fund
<i>The term of implementation</i>	Continuous implementation
<i>The level of preparedness of the subprogramme</i>	Existing cooperation in certain elements

	<b>European Danube Region Strategy</b>
<b>Name of subprogramme</b>	<b>10.5. Cooperation of NGOs for the sustainable implementation of EDRS - data collection and establishing the knowledge base</b>
<i>Potentially affected countries</i>	Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania
<i>Territorial limitation</i>	NGOs of the countries involved
<i>Preliminaries, justification and objective of the subprogramme</i>	<p><i>Preliminaries:</i> Phare cross border and large projects, joint project management offices, dealing with issues, such as the Danube, its river basin, the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable development and water use. Large projects of the CEE region in sustainable tourism (Interreg CADSES IIIB)</p> <p><i>Justification:</i> It is important that during the approval and implementation of EDS, instead of short-term economic interests we focussed on the long-term interests of the population of the Danube's river basin areas. In order to do this, credible and high standard information must be collected and provided for decision-makers and stakeholders on economically, socially and environmentally sustainable practices, which are also beneficial from the aspects of climate protection and adaptation.</p> <p><i>Objective:</i> Supporting the preparation for the approval and the implementation of EDS during and after Hungary's 2011 EU presidency. Assisting decision-making in order to focus on aspects, which promote nature preservation, sustainable development and also help to mitigate the impacts of climate change. Involving countries of the Lower Danube in data collection and the development of EDS. Collecting, getting to know and disseminating positive experiences, providing information and promoting cooperation.</p>
<i>Obligation (in terms of law, etc.)</i>	<p>EU Directives: Directives on the conservation of natural habitats and wild birds, Water Framework Directive</p> <p>EU Sustainable Development Strategy, Hungary's Sustainable Development Strategy</p> <p>EU and national legislation on river basin management</p> <p>EDS principles</p> <p>Danube River Protection Convention (ICPDR)</p>
<i>Common interests of the Danubian Member States</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wider dissemination of best practices</li> <li>• Establishing specific forms of Danube cooperation</li> <li>• Better implementation and long-term realisation of the Danube Strategy</li> </ul>
<i>Parties affected by the subprogramme (target group, beneficiaries, cooperating parties)</i>	<p><i>Target group:</i> decision-makers (European Commission, European Parliament, European Council, national governments of participating Lower Danube countries)</p> <p><i>Beneficiaries:</i> NGOs, regional and local decision-makers, individuals, farmers, scientific institutions</p> <p><i>Cooperating parties:</i> National member organisations of the CEEweb</p>

	for Biodiversity network ( <a href="http://www.ceeweb.org/hun/tagsag/index.htm">http://www.ceeweb.org/hun/tagsag/index.htm</a> )
<i>The content of the subprogramme, projects</i>	<p>The project has several components, all of which are related to the collection of data and information for the EDS, as well as the processing and dissemination of these data. The main objective of these activities is to prepare for and support the decision-making process and to implement the EDS more effectively through the dissemination of positive examples. The following activities are planned within the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection in the river basins and water surfaces of the project, with an emphasis on the sustainable use of these areas and ecosystem services, right and wrong management of the area's water assets, which also has climatic impacts</li> <li>• Processing information, preparing summary reports for decision-makers and stakeholder groups</li> <li>• Development of an online knowledge portal and EDS Information Service in order to facilitate the extensive dissemination and exchange of EDS-related information</li> </ul>
<i>Vision/effects/results</i>	<p><i>Vision:</i> during the implementation of EDS examples from best practices become widely known and accepted, and more emphasis is laid on economic activities and management forms that are beneficial from a climate protection aspect. Sustainability, the preservation of biodiversity, the mitigation of climate change and the right measures for the adequate adaptation to these changes are regarded by decision-makers as the principles of EDS, while the best available information will be used during the implementation of the strategy.</p> <p><i>Effects:</i> it provides effective means for decision-makers and target groups involved in the implementation.</p> <p><i>Results:</i> effective regional contribution from the Lower Danube to the development and long-term implementation of EDS through well-organised data collection, the evaluation and synthesis of data, the development of a knowledge base and the EDS Service (CHM - Clearing House Mechanism) and the effective channelling of available information. Promotes the cooperation of EDS participants.</p>
<i>Cost requirement of the subprogramme</i>	<p>Project management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project team: 4,500 000 /year</li> <li>- Lower Danube partners 3,500 000 /year</li> <li>- Development of an IT knowledge base: 5,000 000</li> <li>- Operation of the EDS Service 2,000 000 / year</li> </ul> <p>Total: 3 years* 10,000 000) + 5,000 000 = 35,000 000 HUF = 134.615 EUR</p>
<i>The term of implementation</i>	18 months (working months) following approval, divided into 3 years
<i>The level of preparedness of the</i>	It can be launched after a 2-month preparatory phase, following approval

<i>subprogramme</i>	
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