

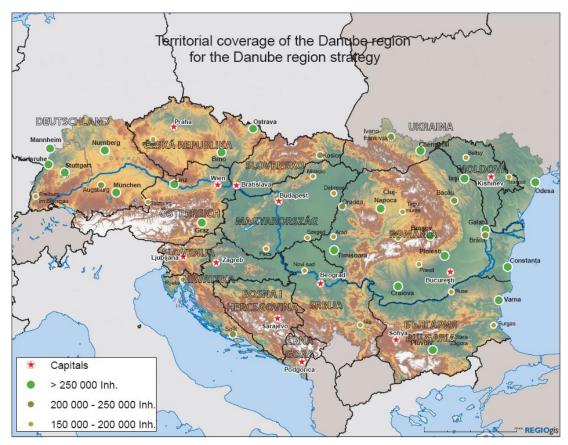
AUSSENWIRTSCHAFT ÖSTERREICH (AWO)

Danube Strategy
Mag. Georg Krauchenberg

Danube eRegion Conference Ljubljana, 20.9.2011

W K O

EU Strategy for the Danube Region



115 Million Inhabitants14 Countries



Strategy - Requests of the Member Countries

- EU-Danube Strategy Proposal of Austria and Rumania submitted at the EU-Commission
- Inclusion of all reparian states of the Danube Region
- EU and non EU countries
- Comprehensive consultations: 5 conferences along the Danube to collect proposals
- 800 written proposals originating from the Region via the National Contact Points
- EU-Commission requires concerted flagship-projects of the Danube Region countries

Specific Advantages for cross border activities in the Danube Region

- Geographical position near shore effect
- Close historical relations
- Backlog demand in the Region
- Attractive wage level, well educated work force
- Competitiveness
- Low taxation interesting for foreign direct investment Austria nr. 1 investor in several countries of the Region



Strategy with a clear alignment

Priorities and aims / Draft of the EU-Commission

- Cross linking of the Danube Region on several levels
- Power supply
- Traffic connections across the border
- Environment in the Danube Region
- Strengthening of the cooperation in the Danube Region
- no additional funds, no new legislation, no new institutions
- 3 times no



More freight traffic on the Danube

Danube: 50 Million Tonns

Rhine: 330 Million Tonns

Supported by Austria and most riparian countries:

- Increase of freight traffic by 20% until 2020
- → Elimination of traffic bottlenecks, line operation
- Multimodal traffic, RoRo-lines, Container services



Stronger Economy

- Better traffic connection across the border
- Completion of the corridors (roads and railways)
- Energy: supply from different sources, Network system
- Sources of renewable energy, energy efficiency
- More competitiveness/innovative companies
- Better education and employment conditions



Better environment

- Higher protection against floods
- Better quality of water
- Sewage treatment and other environmental projects

- Ecological tourism / Cross border tourism:
- for instance Danube hiking trail / cycle tracks
- improved information systems



DANUBE REGION BUSINESS FORUM

- The Austrian Federal Economic Chamber is organizing this Forum with the approval of the EU-Commission
- Aim of the Commission:
- The FORUM should facilitate a closer cooperation of companies, especially SME's cross border
- The FORUM should be of help to intensify the cooperation of companies with scientific organizations, such as Universities and research institutions



DANUBE REGION BUSINESS FORUM

- 1. DANUBE REGION BUSINESS FORUM: 3.-4. November 2011
- Topics: 1. Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
 - 2. Digital Agenda
 - 3. B2B Meetings: additional registration necessary, electronic matching

Participants: Institutions, regional authorities and companies from the 14 countries of the Danube Region



DANUBE REGION BUSINESS FORUM

- Free admission
- Registration and program:
- http://www.b2match.eu/danuberegionbusinessforum
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