Danube eRegion Conference
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Dr. Kurt Puchinger, City of Vienna

Irena Lukač, Center of Excellence in Finance

Priority Area 10 Coordinators

Danube Region & e-Government

▶ Definition of e-Government:" The use of information and communication technologies in government **to provide public services, improve managerial effectiveness and to promote democratic values**; as well as regulatory framework that facilitates information intensive initiatives and fosters the **knowledge society**."

▶ Danube region is not homogenous, also in terms of e-Government application and experience.

▶ E-Government solutions and projects **to improve cohesion** and facilitate digitally remote countries to catch up.

Benefits of e-Government in Practice

Impacts on interaction mechanisms between:

▶ Citizens and state

▶ Private sector and state

=> To broaden **public access to information** ensuring **transparency** and government **accountability**.

Factors Impeding Use of ICT in Public Administration

▸ Unreadiness to perform public administration functions under conditions of information openness, accessibility and transparency;

▸ Lack of effective mechanisms promoting ICT introduction in all areas of social life;

▸ Lack of open dialogue between state, civil society and private sector.

=> **step-by-step implementation** of e-solutions and reform of admin. procedures

Danube Region & e-Government

▶ e-Government tools and activities not only technical issue, they are embedded in day-to-day life.

▶ **Political leadership** and **good governance** necessary for successful implementation (democratization, political influence, involvement of citizens).
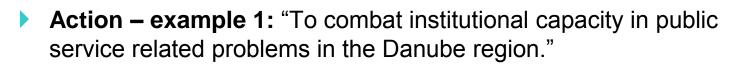
EU Strategy for the Danube Region Priority Area 10

▸ **To Step up Institutional Capacity and Cooperation**

▸ Main Issue: structures and capacity for private and public sector decision-making need to improve, including good planning and international cooperation, and supported by the macro-regional approach. The optimal use of resources essential.

▸ **Actions and Projects**

EU Strategy for the Danube Region Priority Area 10

▶ **Action – example 1:** "To combat institutional capacity in public service related problems in the Danube region."

▶ **Project – example 1: "**Building capacities and policy design and implementation. Based on needs assessment, good practices & know-how. Trainings covering decision making, information flow and proactive policy making in the area of public finance reforms, project preparation, impact assessment."

▶ **Action – example 2:** "To ensure sufficient information flow and exchanges at all levels".

▶ **Project – example 2:** "Public procurement project developed by Austrian procurement Agency"

▶ ICT = necessary tool for strategy implementation.