

## HANDOUT FOR GROUP WORK

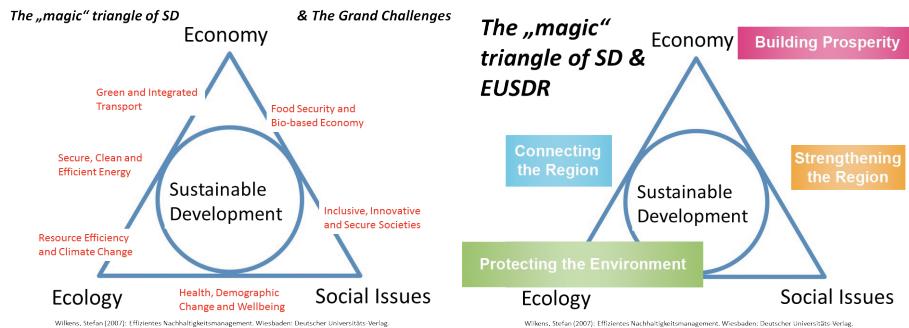
Working groups will develop a draft of an interdisciplinary and, if possible, relevant transdisciplinary project proposal. The topic of this proposal is free but it should be related to natural heritage and the sustainable development of the Danube River Basin (e.g. biodiversity and natural resources, sustainable agriculture). It should also take up the Societal Challenges of Horizon 2020 as main European research programs as well as the management priorities defined by the ICPDR, the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, as the main institution on basin-scale (see list below and matrix on the next page).

We do not expect that you will be able to develop in the available time a complete project proposal. Please focus in particular on some important parts. The first and most important one is a clear definition of the problem you want to address and the resulting objectives of your project. Describe how your project is connected to the sustainable development of the DRB in general and more specifically to a Societal Challenge and to the management priorities of the ICPDR (which problem it takes into account, how it contributes to an improvement of social, economic and/or ecological problems). Break down your overall objective to clear research questions and tasks and define for these the scientific disciplines which have to be involved and possible data and methods needed. Please select also a specific Danube Region area in which you plan to work and describe the particular environmental and/or socio-economic situation.

Further information can be found below and we are of course available during your group work for further questions and clarifications.

Important background documents such as the Horizon 2020 program and the DRB-Management Plan from 2009.

## Sustainable development, societal challenges addressed in Horizon2020 and the EU-Danube Region Strategy



### 1) TOPICS

The project idea should be developed by following these steps:

#### 1) Select the Social Challenge you would most like to work on:

We list here all six challenges but please keep in mind that your topic should be related to natural heritage!

- i. Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing
- ii. Food security, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine, Maritime and Inland Water Research and Bioeconomy
- iii. Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy
- iv. Smart, green and Integrated Transport
- v. Climate action, Environmental, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials
- vi. Europe in a Changing World – Inclusive, Innovative and Reflective Societies
- vii. Secure Societies – Protecting Freedom and Security of Europe and its Citizens

#### 2) Connect them to one or more challenges identified for the Danube River Basin:

- a) Safeguarding the Danube's Water resources for future generation
- b) Naturally balanced waters free from excess nutrients
- c) No more risk from toxic chemicals
- d) Healthy and sustainable river systems
- e) Damage-free floods

## Matrix of connections between Horizon 2020 and the challenges of the Danube river Basin

HORIZON 2020 (Social Challenges) / ICPRD Topics	a) Safeguarding the Danube's Water resources for future generation	b) Naturally balanced waters free from excess nutrients	c) No more risk from toxic chemicals	d) Healthy and sustainable river systems	e) Damage- free floods
i) Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing		X	X		X
ii) Food security, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine, Maritime and Inland Water Research and Bioeconomy	X	X	X	X	X
iii) Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy	X			X	X
iv) Smart, green and Integrated Transport	X			X	X
v) Climate action, Environmental, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials	X	X	X	X	X
vi) Europe in a Changing World – Inclusive, Innovative and Reflective Societies	X	X	X	X	X
vii) Secure Societies – Protecting Freedom and Security of Europe and its Citizens	X		X		X

### 3) Select a thematic focus

### 4) Focus on a specific area of the DR Basin, if your research is place-based

## **2) HOW WILL YOU WORK?**

Please take into account the following items

- How and why is your theme a sustainability problem for the DRB as regards the role of natural heritage?
- How does your topic relate to a Societal Challenge and to the ICPDR priorities?
- What are the main research questions and hypotheses?
- Which research/scholars are needed to tackle it and for what are they needed?
- Which methods do you envisage necessary for solving the problem and why?
- How is your theme connected with other sustainability issues of the DRB?