



Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri

DIPARTIMENTO PER LE POLITICHE DI COESIONE

The EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) and
the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP):
a governance analysis

EU Macro-Regional Strategies
COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Brussels
12 July 2017



8 COUNTRIES

EU Member States

Italy
Greece
Slovenia
Croatia

Non-EU Member States

Serbia
Montenegro
Bosnia&Herzegovina
Albania



PILLARS

1 Blue growth

2 Connecting the Region

3 Environmental quality

4 Sustainable tourism

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Capacity building and communication | Research and Innovation | SMEs Development

June 2014 - Communication from the Commission (COM(2014) 357 final)

June 2014 - Action Plan (SWD(2014) 190 final)

23-24 October 2014 - Endorsement by the Council of the European Union

The Governing Board (GB)

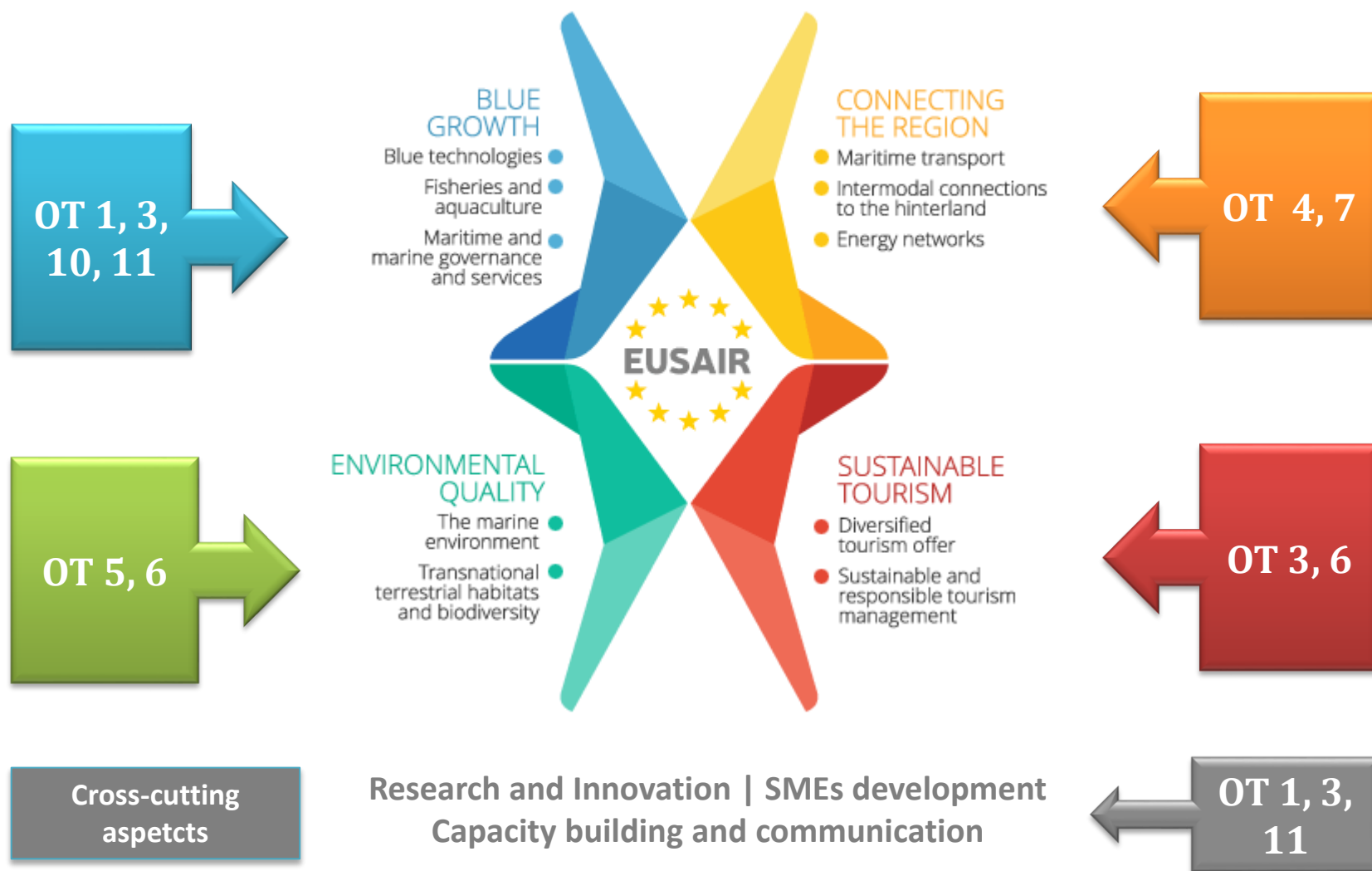
- Each participating country is represented by two delegates, one from the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the other from the national authorities responsible for the coordination EU Funds.
- The GB coordinates the work of the Thematic Steering Groups in charge of implementation through strategic guidance with respect to management and implementation of the EUSAIR and its Action Plan:
 - acting as interface between the operational/managerial level (Thematic Steering Groups) and the political/ministerial level;
 - proposing possible revisions of the Strategy and/or Action plan;
 - issuing strategic guidelines to the TSGs and ensuring linkages between them;
 - Issuing guidelines on information and publicity about the Strategy.

Thematic Steering Groups (TSGs)

- TSGs are responsible for:
 - developing specific criteria for selecting actions/projects within each pillar on the basis of the criteria included in the Action Plan;
 - identifying actions/projects complying with the Action plan pillars' objectives;
 - identifying relevant funding sources and liaising with managing authorities of EU Programmes;
 - facilitating and following up implementation of actions/projects, including monitoring and evaluation;
 - ensuring linkages with the other TSGs;
 - submitting to the Governing Board policy proposal and recommendations;
 - reporting to the Governing Board.

EUSAIR lesson learned

- Difficult environment and place for experiment
- Positive role of the Adriatic Ionian Initiative (since 2000)
- Ownership and relations among Member and Non-member countries
- Balancing the authonomy of the TSGs with a Presidency Trio
- Towards a stronger EB role
- Towards alignment of CTE PON POR and regional strategy
- Role of the Commission (political and technical)



7 COUNTRIES AND 48 REGIONS

EU Strategy for the Alpine Region



EU Member States

Italy
Austria
France
Germany
Slovenia

Non-EU countries

Liechtenstein
Switzerland

THEMATIC AREAS

1
2
3

Economic Growth and Innovation

Mobility and Connectivity

Environment and Energy

CROSS-CUTTING POLICY AREA

Governance, including institutional capacity

28 July 2015 - Communication from the Commission (COM(2015) 366 final)
28 July 2015 - Action Plan (AP) EUSALP by the European Commission
27 November 2015 - Endorsement by the Council of the European Union
28 June 2016 - Endorsement of the European Council

The General Assembly (GA)

- The GA is responsible for laying down the general **political guidelines** for the Strategy.
- The GA gathers the **high-level political representatives** of States and Regions involved in the Strategy, the **European Commission** and the **Alpine Convention** as observer. Decisions should be made by consensus, with one vote for each country delegation. The European Commission will act as a facilitator and coordinator and will co-chair the meetings, without voting right. The Commission will confirm that decisions taken by the General assembly comply with EU legislation, when appropriate.
- It is to be held on a **regular basis**. Annually, the GA can meet in an extended format, open to all relevant stakeholders (**Annual Forum**). Furthermore, the GA has the possibility of organizing **ministerial meetings** in order to create the necessary political awareness for the Strategy.

The Executive Board (EB)

- The EB is responsible for the overall horizontal and vertical **coordination of the Strategy** and the preparation of the General Assembly meetings.
- The **responsibilities** of the EB include mainly:
 - The endorsement of proposals of actions which need to be implemented to secure the effective implementation of the EUSALP
 - The endorsement of the selection criteria, work plans and actions proposed by the Action Group Leaders (AGLs)
 - The collection of the reports of the Action Groups (AGs) and the monitoring of implementation
 - The approval of all proposals, e.g. on evaluation, monitoring and possible revision of the EUSALP, before they are submitted to the General Assembly (GA)
- It is formed by representatives of the States and Regions involved in the Strategy. To ensure coherence, the rotating chair of the EB coincides with the presidency of the GA. The EB may invite AGLs in charge of the implementation of the actions to certain thematic meetings.

The Action Groups (AG)

The task of the EUSALP nine Action Groups (AG) is to implement the EUSALP Action Plan. They are organized thematically along the 4 Objectives of the strategy.



ACTION GROUP 1

To develop an effective research and innovation ecosystem



ACTION GROUP 2

To increase the economic potential of strategic sectors



ACTION GROUP 3

To improve the adequacy of labour market, education and training in strategic sectors



ACTION GROUP 4

To promote inter-modality and interoperability in passenger and freight transport



ACTION GROUP 5

To connect people electronically and promote accessibility to public services



ACTION GROUP 6

To preserve and valorise natural resources, including water and cultural resources



ACTION GROUP 7

To develop ecological connectivity in the whole EUSALP territory



ACTION GROUP 8

To improve risk management and to better manage climate change, including major natural risks prevention



ACTION GROUP 9

To make the territory a model region for energy efficiency and renewable energy



EUSALP lesson learned

- Very rich environment
- Positive background and place for autonomy
- Central and regional participation
- General Assembly and Executive Board
- Presidency and Executive Board
- Governance of the AGs
- Representation in the AGs
- Towards alignment of CTE PON POR and regional strategy
- Role of the Commission



1st Thematic Policy Area: Economic Growth and Innovation

OBJECTIVE 1: *Fair access to job opportunities, building on the high competitiveness of the Region*

Action 1	To develop an effective research and innovation ecosystem
Action 2	To increase the economic potential of strategic sectors
Action 3	To improve the adequacy of labour market, education and training in strategic sectors



2nd Thematic Policy Area: Mobility and Connectivity

OBJECTIVE 2: *Sustainable internal and external accessibility to all*

Action 4	To promote inter-modality and interoperability in passenger and freight transport
Action 5	To connect people electronically and promote accessibility to public services



3rd Thematic Policy Area: Environment and Energy

OBJECTIVE 3: *A more inclusive environmental framework for all and renewable and reliable energy solutions for the future*

Action 6	To preserve and valorise natural resources, including water and cultural resources
Action 7	To develop ecological connectivity in the whole EUSALP territory
Action 8	To improve risk management and to better manage climate change, including major natural risks prevention
Action 9	To make the territory a model region for energy efficiency and renewable energy



Cross-cutting Policy Area: Governance, including Institutional Capacity

OBJECTIVE 4: *A sound macro-regional governance model for the Region (to improve cooperation and the coordination of action)*



Going further: post-2020

- Positive experience of macro-regional strategies
- Beyond fenced State and European policies: joint and coordinated governance of strategic policies
 - Beyond compliance
 - Beyond difference in funds
 - Simplification (homogenization of instruments)
- Role of the Commission and of the Executive Board
- Central and regional representation in the TSGs/AGs - autonomy and governance of the TSGs/AGs
- Towards alignment of macro-regional strategies with CTE PON POR and direct instruments (e.g.: transport, blue growth, etc, etc)
- More macro-regional strategies



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