



DANUBE CHAMBERS OF
COMMERCE
ASSOCIATION (DCCA)

Annual report

2015/2016

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GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The organization and its activity

MISSION

DCCA's mission is to create a single platform of economic opportunities enhancing the economic - financial cooperation, strengthening the cohesion between the entrepreneurs and enterprises operating in different countries of the macro-region, along horizontal principles.

PROFILE

DCCA was established on the 30th June 2010 in Budapest to harmonize the activity of the chambers along the Danube region while abolishing the boundaries, in consideration of the Danube Strategy, attend to the interest of the area's enterprises.

The Association is model of the cross-border macro-regional institutional cooperation, which aim is to revive the region's economy and competitiveness and at last but not least to increase the welfare of the inhabitants.

On its first General Assembly, which took place on the 10th September 2010 in Pécs delegates of following chambers signed the Statute:

- Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ulm
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry for Lower Bavaria in Passau
- Vienna Economic Chamber
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Győr-Moson-Sopron
- Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Pécs-Baranya
- Croatian Chamber of Commerce - Regional Chamber Osijek
- Regional Chamber of Commerce Novi Sad
- Timisoara Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture
- Belgrade Chamber of Commerce
- Bucharest Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Later on, considering the initiative effective and useful, other regional chambers joined from the Danube Region:

- Upper Austrian Economic Chamber (signed the Statute on 11 November 2010)
- Lower Austrian Economic Chamber (signed the Statute on 4 November 2010)
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry Csongrád County (signed the Statute on July 2012)
- Ruse Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Croatian Chamber of Economy - County Chamber Varazdin (signed the Statute on July 2012)
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Fejér County (signed the Statute on July 2012)
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry Vratsa (signed the Statute in June 2013)
- Vidin Chamber of Commerce and Industry (signed the Statute in June 2013)
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Pest County and Érd City with County Status (signed the Statute on 13 June 2014)
- Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Navigation and Agriculture of Constanta (signed the Statute on 10th June 2015)

Partners of the DCCA:

- Bratislava Regional Chamber of SCCI (became a key strategic partner at the begin of June 2011)
- Arad Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (became a key strategic partner at the begin of June 2011)

DCCA considers the economic cohesion of the Danube region as the engine of an economy sustainable development for future generations.

STRATEGY

The Strategy of the Danube Chambers of Commerce Association is based on the following principles (2010 – 2016):

1. Participation in the development of the principles of the Danube Strategy

- 1.a. Access to available EU funding for participating chambers enabling cooperation between members
- 1.b. Carrying out research in relevant areas of the cooperation

2. Information circulation, initiatives, integration and cohesion

- 2.a. Providing members of the association's chambers with useful information
- 2.b. Building relationships among members
- 2.c. Knowledge transfer, education and dissemination of advanced business culture
- 2.d. Emphatic appearance on civil negotiating forums

3. Environment, trade, tourism

- 3.a. Participation in the Danube Strategy's Danube Regional Macro Program
- 3.b. Better use of the Single Market

4. Promoting and advocacy of interests

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2015-2016

- Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation of Constanta - Camera de Comert, Industrie, Navigatie si Agricultura Constanta signed the Statute on 10th June 2015 in Linz and at the same time, the president of the Chamber, Mr. Mihai Daraban became the Vice-president of the Danube Chambers of Commerce Association.
- Cross-strategical cooperation - Economic Impacts of the Cruise Industry on Coastal and Insular and River Destinations
- Closing Conference of the South East Europe Programme
- Joint conference with EUCham – GreenAdvisor
- Cooperation with Slovenian Chamber of Commerce and Industry / Bulgarian-Romanian Bilateral Chamber – question raised: how to join to DCCA for National and Bilateral Chambers?
- 1st cooperative bilateral discussion on the project possibilities with the project officer of the Danube Transnational Programme
- Annual Danube Conference, Ulm
- Development of the initiative of Learning by Doing – 1st phase deadline
- Joint Meeting on the PA8 (Competitiveness) and PA7 (Knowledge Society)
- Participation on the Foreign Economic Relations meeting
- Bilateral meeting with EUSDR Secretary of Hungary
- Submission the finalized project proposal with 8 project partners from DCCA network: Targeted capacity building of VET partnerships in the Danube Region for the effective modernization of VET systems
- Danube Financing Dialogue, Bratislava
- Danube Region VET Cluster Annual Meeting 2016
- EUSDR PA8 Steering Group Meeting
- Conference on Importance of Triple Helix of the EUSDR projects

- Knowledge Transfer Community to Bridge the Gap between R+I and Business Creation, Cluj-Napoca
- Danube Business Actors – Baden initiative – workshop on the project brainstorming of the approach of business organization's cooperation.
- DERC2016 – Panel discussion on the Chamber's cooperation
- EUSDR PA8 – WG Cooperation of Business Organizations
- Non-Strategy Based initiative – CEFTA cooperation: Liberalization of Trade and Services in the Danube, Western Balkans and CEFTA Regions
- Blue Danube – Event on EUSDR water-based topics, and networking possibilities of the EUSDR community
- GA of the DCCA - Varazdin

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2016 – 2017

- European Economic Danube Forum 'Smart Cities' Göttweig, Austria 21 October 2016.
- 5th Annual Forum of the EUSDR Bratislava, Slovakia 3-4 November 2016.
- „Connecting – Networking – Financing Sources for Cluster Development Projects in the Danube Region“ Vukovar, Croatia 9-11 November 2016.
- EUSDR PA8 Steering Group Meeting Stuttgart, Germany 14-15 November 2016.
- Kick-off event of the Learning by Doing project and next day EUSDR PA8 WG Vocational and Education Training Budapest, Hungary, January-February 2017 (exact date is not defined yet.)
- Proposal: **Next GA to hold in Budapest:** great opportunity of visibility:
6th Annual Forum of EUSDR in 2017 Budapest is a host of the event - Section to introduce/panel discussion with members of DCCA network – details of the opportunity to be discussed with Hungarian National Coordinator

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS IN THE LAST 5 YEARS

Total amount available in the budget (2010-2016):

2010, Income:	1.443.528 HUF ≈ 4810 €	Cost:	1.813.721 HUF ≈ 6.045 €
2011, Income:	3.409.970 HUF ≈ 11.370 €	Cost:	6.457.728 HUF ≈ 21.530 €
2012, Income:	3.836.368 HUF ≈ 12.790 €	Cost:	2.834.892 HUF ≈ 9.450 €
2013, Income:	4.070.468 HUF ≈ 13.568 €	Cost:	1.189.445 HUF ≈ 3.965 €
2014, Income:	2.251.588 HUF ≈ 7.505 €	Cost:	250.000 HUF ≈ 800 €
2015, Income:	5.312.622 HUF ≈ 17.708 €	Cost:	2.493.330 HUF ≈ 8.043 €
2016, Income:	2.356.152 HUF ≈ 7.853 €	Cost:	-
Total:	≈ 75.604 €		≈ 49.863 €

Total accessible amount in the account of DCCA (2016): 25 741 EUR

Discussion on ongoing topics with representatives of DCCA

- Discussion on enlargement of the DCCA network – give opportunity to other regional chambers to join and think over and discuss to possibility for National Chambers and Bilateral Chambers of being a member/partner chambers of DCCA
- Vice-president's Chair - as we have one Vice president from Constanta, and would like to be filled in the both chairs. Proposals are welcome.
- Discussion on support the updated topics of the Strategy - methodology to overthink
 - a) More frequent and multidirectional cooperation – bilateral and trilateral meetings with direct involvement of SMEs (B2B or workshops for knowledge exchange on topics' or professions' level)
 - b) EUSDR support – EUSDR PA8 – working group involvement and Events of the EUSDR
 - WG - Innovation and Technology Transfer
 - WG - Cluster of Excellence
 - WG - Vocational Education and Training (BCCI leadership)
 - WG - Cooperation of Business Organizations (BCCI leadership)
 - WG - Environmental Technology and Energy Efficiency
 - WG - Competitiveness in Rural and Urban Areas
 - WG - Entrepreneurial Learning

- c) Cross-Strategical cooperation - EUSBSR, EUSAIR, EUSALP or BCCA, AIC Forum
- d) Involvement of (Danube) regional non-strategy-based initiatives – Western Balkan, CEFTA, EGTC, WG CIF
- e) Transnational, interregional and cross-border projects

- Accessable budget to use:

- Visibility: promotion materials proposal – layouts of the products will be seen in the presentation
- Study tour, as a cross-strategic approach: cooperation with AIC Forum (Association of Adriatic-Ionian Chambers, Ancona) – topics which could be interesting for both organization – know-how exchange on chamber's cooperation. – find out who is interested in.