



Working Group “Clusters and Regional Development” (PA8 of EUSDR)

What's new?

Final event and last policy dialogue workshop

Organized by: Danube S3 Cluster

21st of October 2021 (Online)

Background

- The EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) from 2010
- Aim: to address common challenges together
- 4 pillars and 12 priority areas



PA8 = Competitiveness of Enterprises

Main goal: To support SMEs in the
Danube Region

- To foster **cooperation and exchange of knowledge**
- To improve the **competitiveness of rural areas** and in particular of the agricultural sector
- To improve **framework conditions for SMEs** in areas where competitive infrastructure is missing



How does PA8 function?

The complexity of the tasks > Working Groups

1. WG - Innovation and Technology Transfer
2. WG - Artificial Intelligence
3. WG - Clusters and Regional Development
4. WG - Digital Danube
5. WG - Female Entrepreneurship



WG - Clusters and Regional Development

Main objective:

To foster development of clusters and their collaboration on national, international, regional, and cross-sectoral level

Coordinated by:

Ana Dijan (Croatian Wood Cluster)
Gerd Meier zu Köcker (VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik)

Members:

Cluster experts from the Danube Region



WG – Main Topics 2019-2022



2019 - Strengthening of the cluster manager capacities and alignment with the regional development strategies



2020 - Clusters and reindustrialization of the Danube region

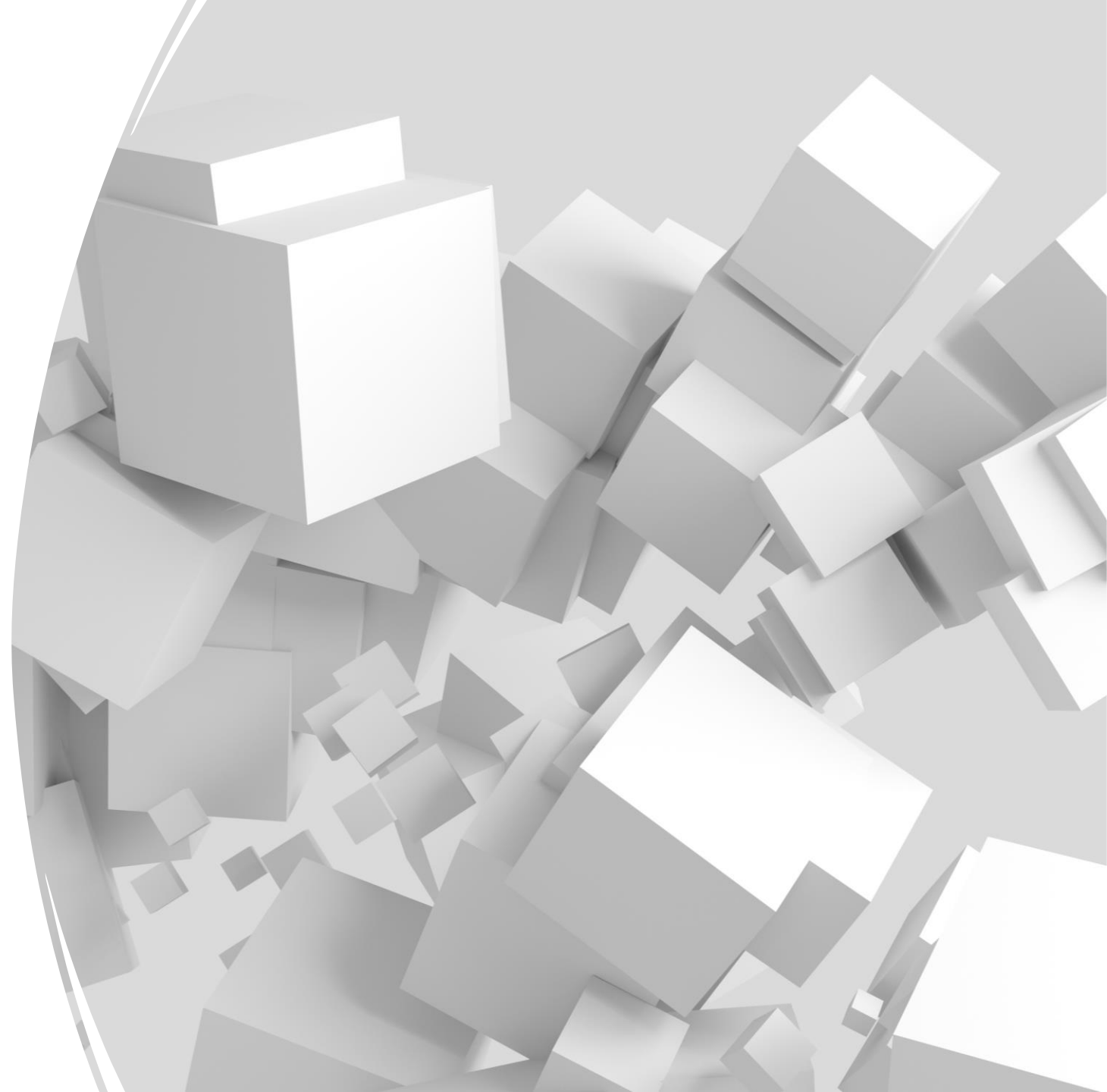


2021 - How can clusters support investments in the bioeconomy



2022 - Role of the clusters in the lifelong learning

Reality 2020



Reality 2020



Reality 2020



Reality in Croatia 2020



What we have learned:

THE NEEDED FUTURE VALUE CHAINS HAVE ...

...to fit into the economic structures of the Danube region (raw materials, intermediate products, processing, markets)

...to offer crisis resilience potential in nearshoring

...Flexible reconfiguration options based on changing environmental conditions

...Legislative changes

...Technological innovations

...flexible integration options for new suppliers in case of innovation or capacity/backup needs

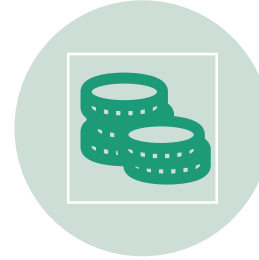
...To be smart and digital they interpret real-time data intelligently and fix incidents by themselves as quickly as possible

...Offer transparency that guarantee the customer ecological and regulatory standards

Danube Alliance



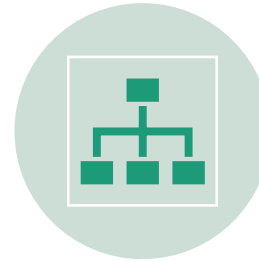
The new flagship project of PA8 aiming to support SMEs to become embedded in more resilient value chains



Supported by BW State Ministry and Ministry of Economic Affairs



Conducted in a consortium of VDI/VDE/IT, Biopro, Steinbeis Europa Zentrum, Hochschule Reutlingen



Focus: supply chain optimization and creation of sustainable and circular-based value networks



Economic, social and ecological benefits for the DR



Two pilot project: Sorghum and Mischanthus

Next Steps

- Cluster scene Europe wide is changing > New members
- New policies
- New market situation
- New needs > New ideas > New projects



Join us!

- Become a member
- Contribute with your expertise
- Develop ideas and projects
- Benefit from the networking

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