

Dear Danubians, dear stakeholders of the Danube Region Programme,

As summer is here, we warmly welcome you to this edition of the Interreg Danube Region Programme Newsletter. In this newsletter, we share the latest news from across the Programme, looking back at recent achievements and to the opportunities that lie ahead in the months to come.

June in Review: A Month of Meetings, Milestones, and Momentum

From National Contact Points and Monitoring Committee meetings to the first Task Force session on the new programming period and an Antifraud Training for Programme bodies, June 2026 brought the Danube Region Programme community together to strengthen cooperation, integrity, and readiness for what comes next.

Learn more: <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/june-2026-a-month-of-collaboration-and-progress-in-the-danube-region>



1st Task Force Meeting of Danube Region Programme 2028+

[First Task Force Meeting 2028+](#)

Third Call closed, and the numbers speak for themselves

The Danube Region Programme's Third Call closed on 15 December 2025. The response confirmed what we already knew: when it comes to tackling shared challenges, the Danube Region works closely together. 200 applications were received! The volume and diversity of applications received show just how strong the

interest for transnational cooperation remains across our 14 countries. The particularly encouraging rise in Lead Partners and Project Partners from non-EU countries, stand as proof that institutional capacity in these countries continues to grow, and that the Programme is becoming a truly inclusive space for cooperation across the whole region.

Learn more: <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/third-call-statistics-emphasize-the-need-for-coordinated-transnational-action-in-the-danube-region>

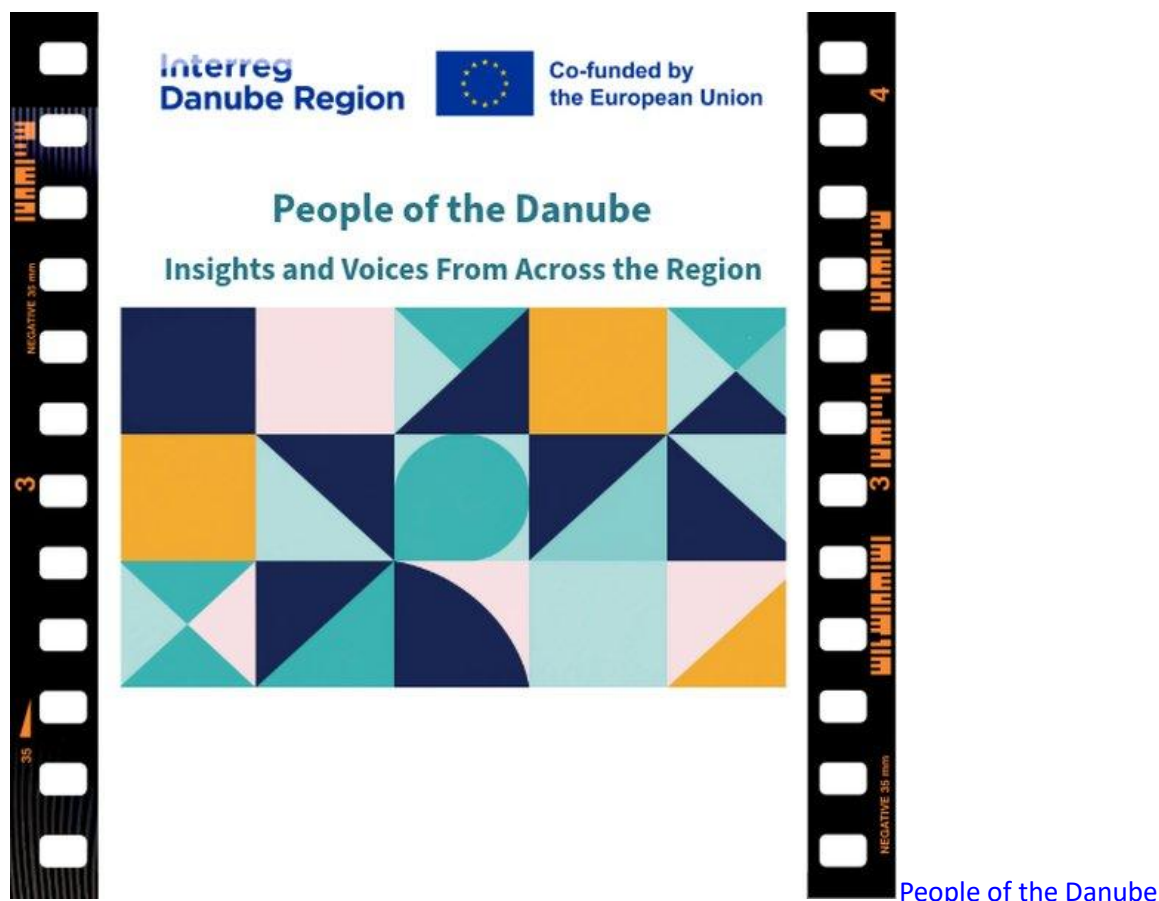
With the great interest confirmed, the timeline is taking shape: projects are expected to kick off on 1 December 2026, to be implemented over a 28-month period to be agreed before contracting. The decision on funding will be taken by the Monitoring Committee in mid-October 2026.

Learn more: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/interregdanube_we-are-pleased-to-share-that-owing-to-activity-7439345236805558273-d2es?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABmK83UBJvnHJWGAL01O_Obt0KP4ti-6-d0

People of the Danube: Insights and Voices From Across the Region - New Blog

Projects end but the people behind them, and everything they've learned along the way, stay. Human capital is one of the Danube Region Programme's most valuable long-term investments: every coordinator who masters transnational management, every partner who steps into a leadership role for the first time, every expert who builds new networks across borders, becomes part of the region's lasting capacity for cooperation. Our new "People of the Danube" blog series exists to capture that. So we sat down with the people driving change across the region to hear what they've learned, what surprised them, and what stays with them long after the final report is submitted.

Learn more: <https://interreg-danube.eu/blogs/people-of-the-danube-insights-and-voices-from-across-the-region>



[People of the Danube](https://interreg-danube.eu/blogs/people-of-the-danube-insights-and-voices-from-across-the-region)

Programme objectives in focus. Achievements underway

Starting last year and continuing into 2026, we ran a dedicated article series exploring how Interreg Danube Region Programme-funded initiatives are driving progress on our objectives: one topic at a time. The series wrapped up successfully in April, and its real strength was clarity: for each objective, readers could see what achievements are expected and how projects on the ground are working to get there. In this edition, we're featuring the remaining articles from the series, so you don't miss a single thing

1. Energy Communities as a Driver of Renewable Transition in the Danube Region <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/energy-communities-as-a-driver-of-renewable-transition-in-the-danube-region>
2. Shaping Tomorrow Through Youth Empowerment Across the Danube Region <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/shaping-tomorrow-through-youth-empowerment-across-the-danube-region>
3. One Region Multiple Challenges: Collaborative Paths to Stronger Danube Communities <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/one-region-multiple-challenges-collaborative-paths-to-stronger-danube-communities>
4. Protecting the Danube Transnational Actions on Plastic Pollution Hazardous Substances and Water Quality <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/protecting-the-danube-transnational-actions-on-plastic-pollution-hazardous-substances-and-water-quality>
5. Connecting People and Places in the Danube Region Through Sustainable Mobility Solutions <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/connecting-people-and-places-in-the-danube-region-through-sustainable-mobility-solutions>
6. Building Inclusive and Resilient Labour Markets in the Danube Region <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/building-inclusive-and-resilient-labour-markets-in-the-danube-region>
7. Advancing Sustainable Heating and Cooling Solutions in the Danube Region <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/advancing-sustainable-heating-and-cooling-solutions-in-the-danube-region>
8. Building the Danube Region From the Ground Up: Citizen Participation and Collaborative Governance <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/building-the-danube-region-from-the-ground-up-citizen-participation-and-collaborative-governance>
9. Advancing Integrated, Inclusive and Digital Care Solutions in the Danube Region <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/advancing-integrated-inclusive-and-digital-care-solutions-in-the-danube-region>
10. Celebrating International Womens Day Women Driving Change Across the Danube Region <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/celebrating-international-womens-day-women-driving-change-across-the-danube-region>
11. Collaborating for Resilience Disaster Preparedness and Response in the Danube Region <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/collaborating-for-resilience-disaster-preparedness-and-response-in-the-danube-region>
12. Collaborating for Nature Preserving the Danube Regions Unique Biodiversity <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/collaborating-for-nature-preserving-the-danube-regions-unique-biodiversity>
13. Climate Resilient Water Management Actions Across the Danube Region <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/climate-resilient-water-management-actions-across-the-danube-region>
14. Exploring Innovative and Diverse Energy Storage Solutions in the Danube Region <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/exploring-innovative-and-diverse-energy-storage-solutions-in-the-danube-region>

15. Rethinking Industry and Construction Innovative Pathways for a Sustainable Danube Region

<https://interreg-danube.eu/news/rethinking-industry-and-construction-innovative-pathways-for-a-sustainable-danube-region>

Interreg Danube brings its community's voice to the European Parliament

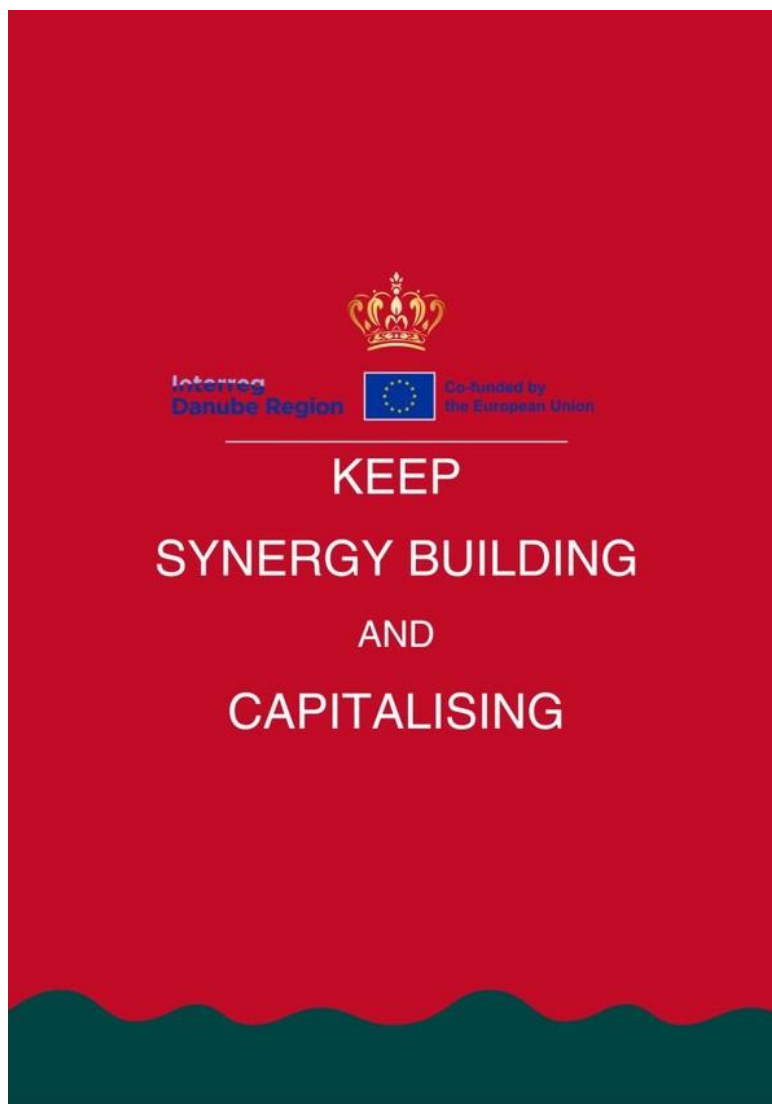
Earlier this year, the Danube Region Programme took the floor at a European Parliament roundtable on Interreg's future, presenting the DANOVA NEXT project as a powerful example of people-centred, accessible cooperation. The message: diversity across our 14 countries isn't a challenge but a strategic advantage:

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7424037577063628800>

<https://interreg.eu/news-stories/interreg-brings-its-community-s-voice-to-the-european-parliament/>

Synergy-building and capitalisation activities: turning project outputs into lasting change

Over the past months, the DRP MA/JS held a series of webinars with Lead Partners across related thematic areas, looking beyond individual project boundaries to find where results reinforce each other and where real synergies can be built. Connections were made, complementarities identified, and we're already looking forward to the results this exercise will bring for the Danube region.



[Synergy-building and capitalisazion activities in the DRP](#)

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7453396125174145024>

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7460311684973248513>

SpongeCity project Takes the Stage in Brussels

Last December, SpongeCity project got a seat on the panel at the EU's first-ever Water Resilience Forum in Brussels sharing the stage with top EU policymakers. It happened a few months ago, but it's too good a moment not to share: proof of how far this Interreg Danube project's voice has travelled. Congratulations!

Learn more: <https://webstreaming.cor.europa.eu/en/cor/water-resilience-forum-urban-water-resilience>

Beyond EU Borders: The Danube Programme's Real Impact in Moldova

In Chişinău, a street redesign piloted in the CityWalk 2.0 project, convinced the municipality to invest nearly €600,000 of its own funds in scaling it up - proof that the Danube Programme's impact reaches well beyond EU borders, helping candidate country Moldova build European-standard cities on its own path to accession.

Learn more: <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/moldova-and-the-interreg-danube-region-programme-a-partnership-that-transforms-cities-and-builds-european-futures>

We are hiring - Office Manager (temporary position) Open!

The DRP MA/JS office has launched the vacancy! Check it out!

Learn more: <https://interreg-danube.eu/news/office-manager-temporary-position-open>



Go to programme website