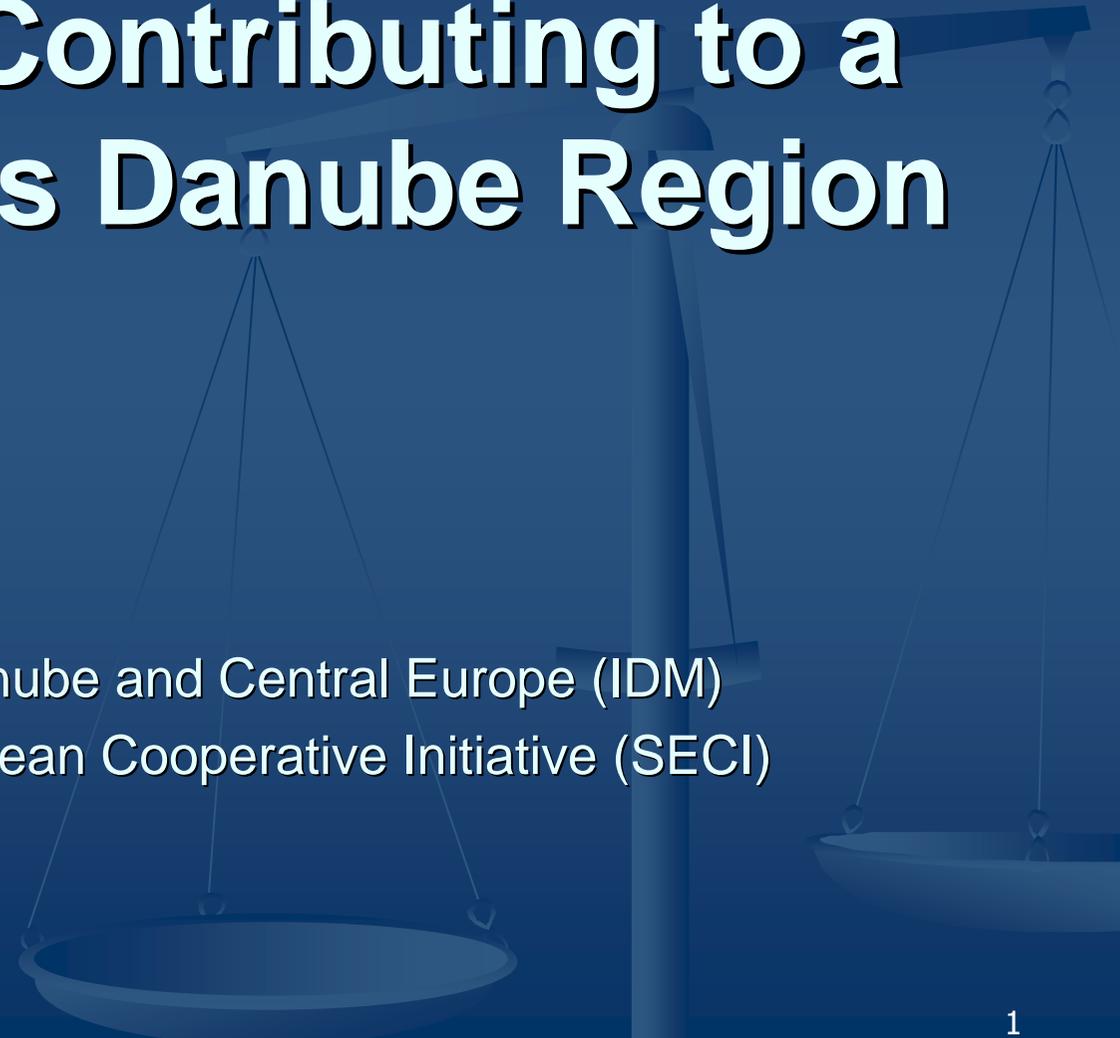


# **EU Strategy for the Danube Region - Contributing to a Prosperous Danube Region**



**Dr. Erhard Busek**

President, Institute for the Danube and Central Europe (IDM)

Coordinator, Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI)

# Content:

- I. EU Strategy for the Danube Region  
–Where do we stand?
- II. Financing Implementation
- III. Economic Impact
- IV. Some food for thought.

# I. EUSDR



# I. EUSDR – Structure

## THE FOUR PILLARS



11 priority areas, coordinated by a priority area coordinator

129 Actions

n Projects

# I. EUSDR – Implementation?

## ■ **3x NO to New:**

- institutions;
- legislation;
- funds.

## ■ **But, also 3x YES to:**

- alignment of funds;
- coordination of available instruments;
- new ideas

# I. EUSDR – Implementation

- Priority Coordinators and Steering Groups Established;
- Intensive consultation processes on priorities within each PA and their activities ongoing;
- PA 7 – Focus on Mobility, IT and Smart Specialisations, but other priorities also important.

## II. Financing proposals

**Proposals for streamlining financing of Danube Projects and EUSDR are being considered:**

- a) **“DANUBE Brokerage PLATFORM FOR FINANCING”** would involve in particular the Structural Fund Programmes, the IPA Coordinators, representatives of the ENPI programmes, the National Funding sources and the main International Financial Institutions.

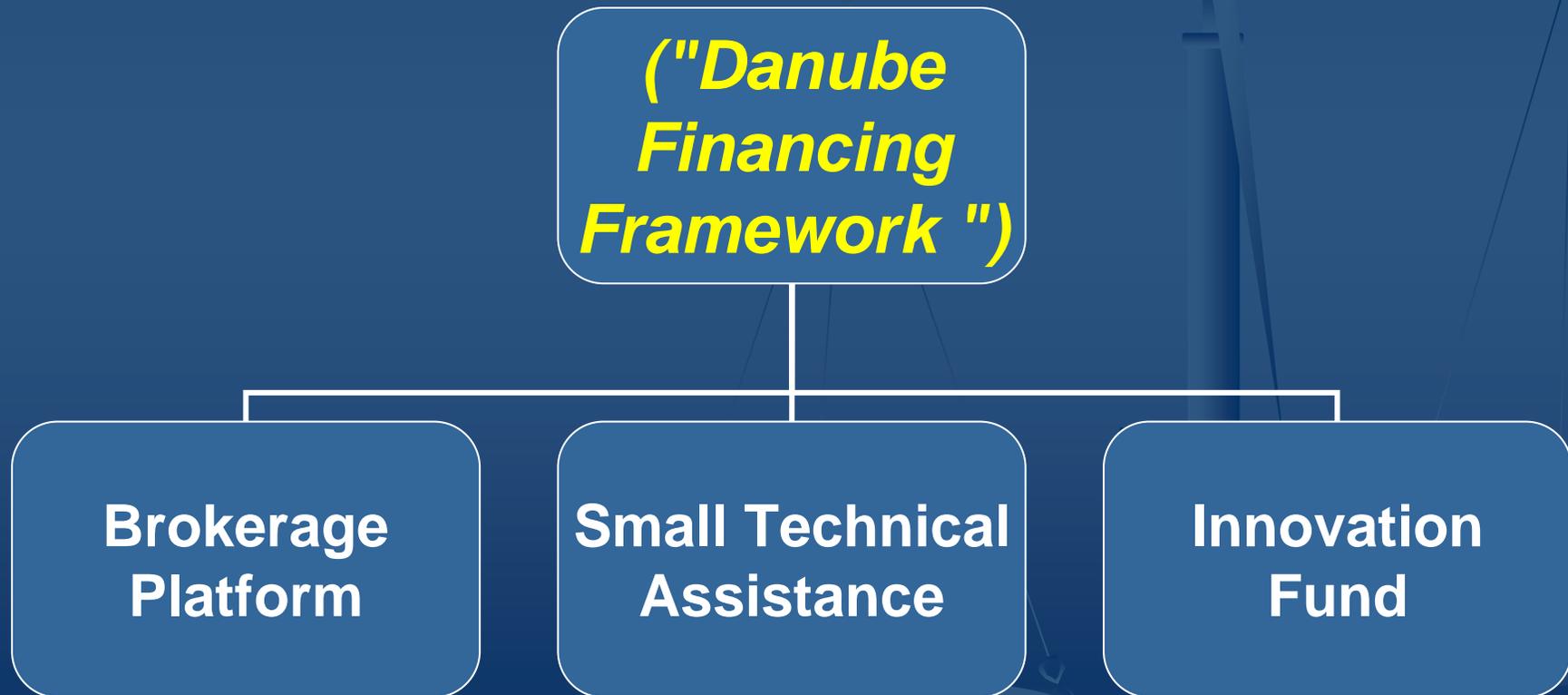
## II. Financing proposals

- b) **Danube Research and Innovation Fund (PA 7)** – a fund dedicated specifically to the needs and the requirements of research and education institutions from the Danube Region

**MAJOR FINANCING INSTITUTIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ARE DISCUSSING THE MOST SUITABLE SOLUTION.**

## II. Financing proposals

- **Potential financing structure**



### III. EUSDR – Economic impact

- EUSDR Implementation should produce sustainable economic benefits;
- Sustainable economic development is not possible if the members of the economic chain do not communicate with one another;
- Education and research should serve the needs of the market and the market should innovate to produce sustainability – economically as much as socially.

# III. EUSDR – Sustainability

- Coordination and communication between the various PAs is crucial for producing sustainable economic impact in the Danube Region;
- Each PA should identify how its activities directly / indirectly impact other PAs, both in terms of policies as much as in terms of projects.

## **HORIZONTAL ACTION**

**Specific PA priorities and projects should try to integrate the directly and indirectly affected PAs in the early stage of development of their activities.**

## IV. Some food for thought

- **Encourage**
- **Unite**
- **Support**
- **Develop**
- **Respect**

Communicate, Involve, Innovate,  
Coordinate, Integrate.... and contribute to  
the EUSDR process in a meaningful way.

THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION

