

26-27 MARCH 2025

PROJECT  
**BOOKLET**



# CAPITALISATION WORKSHOP

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Boosting Knowledge  
and Competitiveness  
in the Danube Region



Co-funded by  
the European Union



REPUBLIC of CROATIA  
Ministry of  
Economy



Baden-Württemberg  
Ministry of Economic Affairs,  
Labour and Tourism



26th and 27th March 2025 in Bratislava (SK)

Venue: The Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information, Lamačská cesta 8/A, Bratislava, Slovakia

**The workshop is organized by the Priority Area 7 (PA7 Knowledge Society ) and Priority Area 8 (PA8 Competitiveness) of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and supported by the following institutions: Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information, Ministry of Investments and Informatization of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic, University of Belgrade, Serbia, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism Baden-Württemberg (Germany), and Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Croatia.**

The overall idea behind organization of this workshop is to establish links between the strategic and the project level. The main aim of the workshop is to create synergies between projects relevant for both PA7 and PA8, supporting new activities, platforms and projects in the future, in order to boost research, innovation and technology transfer in the Danube Region.

Within the Danube Region there are a number of ongoing projects funded through various national and EU funds, that cover similar topic, focus on similar challenges or intend to solve similar problems.

We believe there is scope for these projects to network and support each other in a more efficient way. The invited projects will be divided into 4 following focus groups during the workshop:



CIRCULAR  
ECONOMY



TECHNOLOGY  
TRANSFER



SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND REGIONS



SMART  
SPECIALISATION  
AND INDUSTRY 4.0

The formal and informal discussions between representatives of various projects, representatives of priority areas, Danube Region Programme and Danube Strategy Point, we will provide the opportunity:

- to create cooperation links using synergies
- to become a part of strategic thematic networks
- to build upon knowledge from projects in similar fields
- to increase sustainability of your projects
- to increase visibility of your activities and take-up of project outcomes
- to help to ensure policy impact on policy making process



# AGENDA DAY 1

INFORMATIVE DAY - CONFERENCE ROOM - 2ND FLOOR



**9:30 - 11:00**

**Site visit (optional): Slovak Business Agency / Trnavská cesta 486/100, Bratislava**

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**Venue: The Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information, Lamačská cesta 8/A**  
**Moderated by *Martina Hartl***

**11:30 - 12:30**

**Registration, light lunch**

**12:30 - 12:45**

**Official welcome notes**

**12:45 - 13:00**

**Presentations of the Priority Area 7 and Priority Area 8 of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region**

*Carmen Hawkins, Helia Kovačević Grčić, Ľubica Pitlová, Viktor Nedović*

**13:00 - 13:15**

**Danube Region Program as a support of the Danube Strategy, Introduction to the Capitalisation Seminar**

*Nina Bratková, Jaroslava Szüdi, Martina Hartl*

Short presentations of the projects - 8 min. per project

**13:15 - 14:15**

**Focus group I : CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

Projects: CI-HUB; CIRCULAR DigiBuild; DECORATOR; DIGI4CARE; GREEN-TEX; TEX-DAN; SYMCRAFT

**14:15 - 15:00**

Coffee Break

**15:00 - 16:20**

**Focus group II : SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND REGIONS**

Projects: DANOVA NEXT; DanuRELY-WS; GeoNetSee; HARMONMISSIONS; PilotInnCities; POLICY ANSWERS; SReST; TICCA4DANU

**16:20 - 17:50**

**Focus group III : SMART SPECIALISATION, INDUSTRY 4.0 and TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**

Projects: DanubeDNA; DRWO4.0; DIGI4CARE; BrAIIn; CapTTict; IaaS4DR; RISE; RTIT; SpinIT

**18:00**

End of the DAY 1

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**19:00 Networking dinner** on invitation of the Ministry of Investments and Informatization of the Slovak Republic (**venue: Patrónsky pivovar, Brnianska 57, Bratislava**)

# AGENDA

## DAY 2

PRACTICAL EXERCISE - DIVISION TO WORKING GROUPS

**Venue: The Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information, Lamačská cesta 8/A**

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**09:00 – 09:30**

Registration

**09:30 – 10:00**

Introduction to the day II and introduction of the facilitators

Focus Group I CIRCULAR ECONOMY: *Goran Vasić*

Focus Group II SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND REGIONS: *Cristina Cuc*

Focus Group III SMART SPECIALISATION INDUSTRY 4.0 AND TECHNOLOGY  
TRANSFER: *Dijana Štrbac*

**10:00 – 12:00**

Work in the parallel focus groups on building up the capitalisation

**12:00 – 13:00**

Lunch break

**13:00 – 13:45**

Sharing the results from the focus groups

**13:45 – 14:30**

Q&A, discussion

**14:30 – 15:00**

Conclusion of the capitalization workshop



## PRIORITY AREA 7 (PA 7): Knowledge Society

PA 7 is one of 12 Priority Areas of the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR). PA 7 is coordinated by Slovakia and Serbia.

Priority Area Coordinators are Ľubica Pitlová (Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information) and Viktor Nedović (University of Belgrade). Further PAC team members are Jaroslava Szüdi (Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth, Slovakia) and Dijana Štrbac (Institute of economic sciences, Serbia).

PA 7 website: <https://knowledgesociety.danube-region.eu/>

### Main Actions of PA 7

1. To promote coordination of national, regional and EU funds to stimulate excellence in R&D&I in research areas specific for Danube Region;
2. To promote participation of Danube countries in EU R&I Programmes, in particular in Horizon Europe;
3. To strengthen cooperation among universities, research organisations and SMEs in the Danube Region;
4. To increase awareness and visibility of science and innovation in the region;
5. To support exchange of information and experience for the purpose of preparation of future strategic R&I documents applicable in the new programming period;
6. To promote horizontal cooperation in S&T across all PAs and other MRSs.

### Working groups (WG) of PA 7:

As of the beginning of 2020 with the adoption of the new EUSDR Action Plan and with the implementation of the new DTP-PAC2-PA7 project, the PA7 Steering Group members approved the so-called revitalization of PA7 working groups:

- WG 1: Higher Education and Mobility (i.e. WG HEM)
- WG 2: Danube Funding Coordination Network (i.e. WG DFCN)
- WG 3: Communication with Joint Research Centre with Special Emphasis on RIS3 (i.e. WG RIS3)
- WG 4: Better performance of the Danube Region Researchers in the European Research Area (i.e. WG ERA)





## Specific Objectives and Activities of PA 7

### SO1: Governance

- enhancing transnational, inter-sectorial and inter-institutional cooperation
- besides political representatives of the 14 participating countries also experts from various research fields (such as environment, IC, health etc.) and representatives of the international, European and national institutions (such as DG R&I, EACEA, JRC, funding Agencies, Horizon Europe support structures etc.) will be involved in the work of the SG



### SO3: To support ongoing projects and development of new projects

- supporting participation of the Danube countries in Horizon Europe, EIT, COST, EUREKA, ERASMUS+, etc.
- PACs will ensure continuation of successfully established platform the Danube Funding Coordination Network
- Flagship projects



### SO2: To Support Policy Development and Policy Initiatives

- contributing to full compliance of the Danube countries with ERA objectives and priorities
- supporting participation of the Danube countries in the EU funded programmes and ERA actions
- mid-term evaluation of the Danube countries participation in Horizon Europe including resulting recommendations
- political position of the Danube countries for designing the new 10th EU framework programme for research and innovation
- support to development of the S3 and S4 strategies of the Danube countries



### SO4: To enhance cooperation between core PA stakeholders

- PACs will cooperate with DSP and disseminate information on funding possibilities within DRP
- information on embedding the EUSDR in national operational programmes will be shared
- supporting awareness of young generation on environmental issues, in particular connected with water online educational activities and discussions with relevant experts will be organised in cooperation with PA4



## PRIORITY AREA 8 - Competitiveness of enterprises

**PA 8 is one of 12 Priority Areas of the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR).**

PA 8 is coordinated by Baden-Württemberg and Croatia.

Priority Area Coordinators are Carmen Hawkins (Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism Baden-Württemberg) and Helia Kovačević Grčić (Croatian Ministry of Economy). Further PAC team member is Alexandra Gölz (Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism Baden-Württemberg).

PA 8 website: <https://competitiveness.danube-region.eu/>

### The Main Actions of the PA 8 are

- To foster cooperation and exchange of knowledge between SMEs, creative industry, academia, the public sector and civil society in areas of competence in the Danube Region;
- Establishment of an Innovative Digital Ecosystem in the Danube Region in order to support SMEs when tackling the challenges of a digitalised world;
- Improvement of framework conditions, support programs and capacity building of stakeholders, to enhance the collaboration between cluster initiatives and regional innovation strategies, with an accent on rural areas;
- To improve business support to strengthen the innovative and digital capacities of female-led-SMEs;
- Enhance the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies in the Danube Region.

### Working Groups of the PA 8

Given the complexity of the tasks and activities, the Priority Area 8 set up Working Groups. Their role is to reveal, synthesize and present concrete projects, which are in line with the Actions set for the Danube Region Strategy by Priority Area 8.

The Priority Area Coordinators together with the Steering Group established **six thematic Working Groups**, which are as follows:



**WG Innovation and Technology Transfer**



**WG Digital Danube**



**WG Artificial Intelligence**



**WG Clusters and Regional Development**



**WG Circular Economy and Bioeconomy**



**WG Female Entrepreneurship**

Information concerning the Coordinators of the Working Groups, the members, objectives can be found on PA 8 website.





## Specific Objectives and Activities of PA 8

**The PAC team has four specific objectives with several activities:**

### **SPO 1 Steering Group Meetings**

PA 8 organises two Steering Group meetings a year. These meetings bring together representatives of the 14 economic ministries of the EUSDR. Other members of the Steering Group are the coordinators of the six PA 8 working groups, five members of the Danube Youth Council, observers from the PA 8 SG and representatives from DG REGIO and DSP. Other activities under SPO 1 include increasing visibility, e.g. through the PA 8 website, evaluation, etc.

### **SPO 2 Embedding**

PA 8 is keen to collaborate with other Priority Areas, other MRS and beyond, and informs its stakeholders of a wide range of funding opportunities.

### **SPO 3 Policy development and policy initiatives**

PA 8 supports policy development and policy relevant initiatives through preparing recommendations and studies as well as organizing events on topics relevant for PA 8. Actions are the current study "Identification of Lighthouse Projects in the Danube Region and communication measures" in three relevant fields. PA 8 is regularly inviting to Thematic events like the Congress "Virtual Worlds - Experiencing Opportunities in the Metaverse" on 8 May 2025 in Stuttgart and is organising events like the series "The Danube Region at the Turn of Times".

### **SPO 4 Flagship projects**

To facilitate on-going projects and development of future projects for the Priority Area, specifically project generation, partner search and identification of funding opportunities for the Priority Area stakeholders.

Actions are the support of the development of projects or the support of PA 8 Flagship projects like the cooperation with the project WE.Circular, project meeting on 25 November 2024 in Stuttgart.



# PROJECTS

## CIRCULAR ECONOMY





## Circular DigiBuild

The Circular DigiBuild project is part of the Interreg Danube program in collaboration with a consortium of 18 project partners aims to promote the circular economy in the construction industry through digital innovation. The construction industry in the Danube region faces challenges such as resource scarcity, substantial waste generation and significant greenhouse gas emissions, especially pronounced in less developed countries. By utilizing technologies such as big data, artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain and the Internet of Things (IoT), the project aims to transform construction practices across the Danube region.

**LP: Business Agency Association, Bulgaria**

<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/circular-digibuild>

**Who attends the workshop:**

**Katarína Gavalcova**, gavalcova@sbagency.sk and  
and **Lucia Kurcz**, kurcz@sbagency.sk

## CI-HUB



The project will provide real-life testing environment for innovative approaches with developed user entered, open innovation system, integrating relevant quadruple helix stakeholders from partner ecosystems to help uptake circular technologies in less developed partner regions and accelerate cross-border marketability and technology uptake.

**LP: Pomurje Technology Park**

<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/ci-hub>

**Who attends the workshop:**

**Nusa Lišjak**, nusa.lisjak@p-tech.si



## DECORATOR

The project aims to develop and test a new model of collaboration and intervention structured around the cradle-to-cradle (C2C) approach (building materials as nutrients in metabolic building cycles and processes designed to prolong quality of raw materials to eliminate idea of waste altogether). A model that breaks professional silos, nurtures collaboration between sectors and functions, forms new alliances between technology and culture, and incorporates social innovation.

**LP: Technology Park Ljubljana**

<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/decorator>

**Tamas Gyulai**, gyulai.tamas@iqkecskemet.hu

**Who attends the workshop:**

**Gaspar Juvancic**, gasper.juvancic@tp-lj.si  
and **Marsa Tavcar**, marsa.tavcar@tp-lj.si

## DIGI4Care



DIGI4Care - Transforming patient journeys through digital innovation in healthcare across the Danube Region DIGI4Care, a new initiative of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (Danube Region Programme), aims to redefine patient pathways through innovation and collaboration by testing, validating and strategically integrating digital and AI solutions. By fostering collaboration, knowledge sharing and innovation capacity, the project aims to bridge the digital divide between newer and older European Union Member States, as well as non-EU countries in the Danube region.

**LP: Semmelweis University, Hungary**

<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/ci-hub>

**Who attends the workshop:**

**Dr. Borbála Besseney**, besseney.borbala@emk.semmelweis.hu  
and **Ágnes Makai**, makai.agnes@emk.semmelweis.hu



The project is applying a multi-sectoral approach by integrating partners & stakeholders from the textile, waste collection and recycling, product design and other sectors. It is also integrating all actors within a quadruple innovation helix framework, relevant for the successful application of circularity in the textile sector.

**LP: SERDA - Sarajevo Economic Region Development Agency**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/circular-digibuild>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Tadeja Colnar and Zoja Leskovšek**  
tadeja@nativa-institute.eu, Nativa.institute@gmail.com

## TEX-DAN



The project aims to improve circularity in the value chain of the textile and fashion industry through transnational cooperation in the Danube Region. The main focus is on four areas: 1) Bioeconomic clothing; 2) Circular design; 3) Circular production processes; 4) Recycling. An important part of the project is the transfer of knowledge to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which is made possible by the development of awareness-raising measures, training concepts and best practice solutions.

**LP: South Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency, Hungary**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/ci-hub>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Zoltan Bendo,**  
[benдозoltan@ddriu.hu](mailto:benдозoltan@ddriu.hu)

## SYM-CRAFT



Creative craft for industrial symbiosis in circular economies Approaches to circular economy are often fragmented and inefficient. They suffer from a lack of cooperation and symbiosis across sectors. The SYM-CRAFT project fosters collaboration between the craft sector and key industries like textiles, wood, furniture, and agri-food. The partners focus on the challenge of repurposing industrial waste from these sectors into innovative craft products. They pioneer eco-friendly business models tailored to the craft sector and pave the way for a more environmentally conscious and economically viable future.

**LP: t2i - technology transfer and innovation, Italy**  
<https://www.interreg-central.eu/projects/symcraft/>

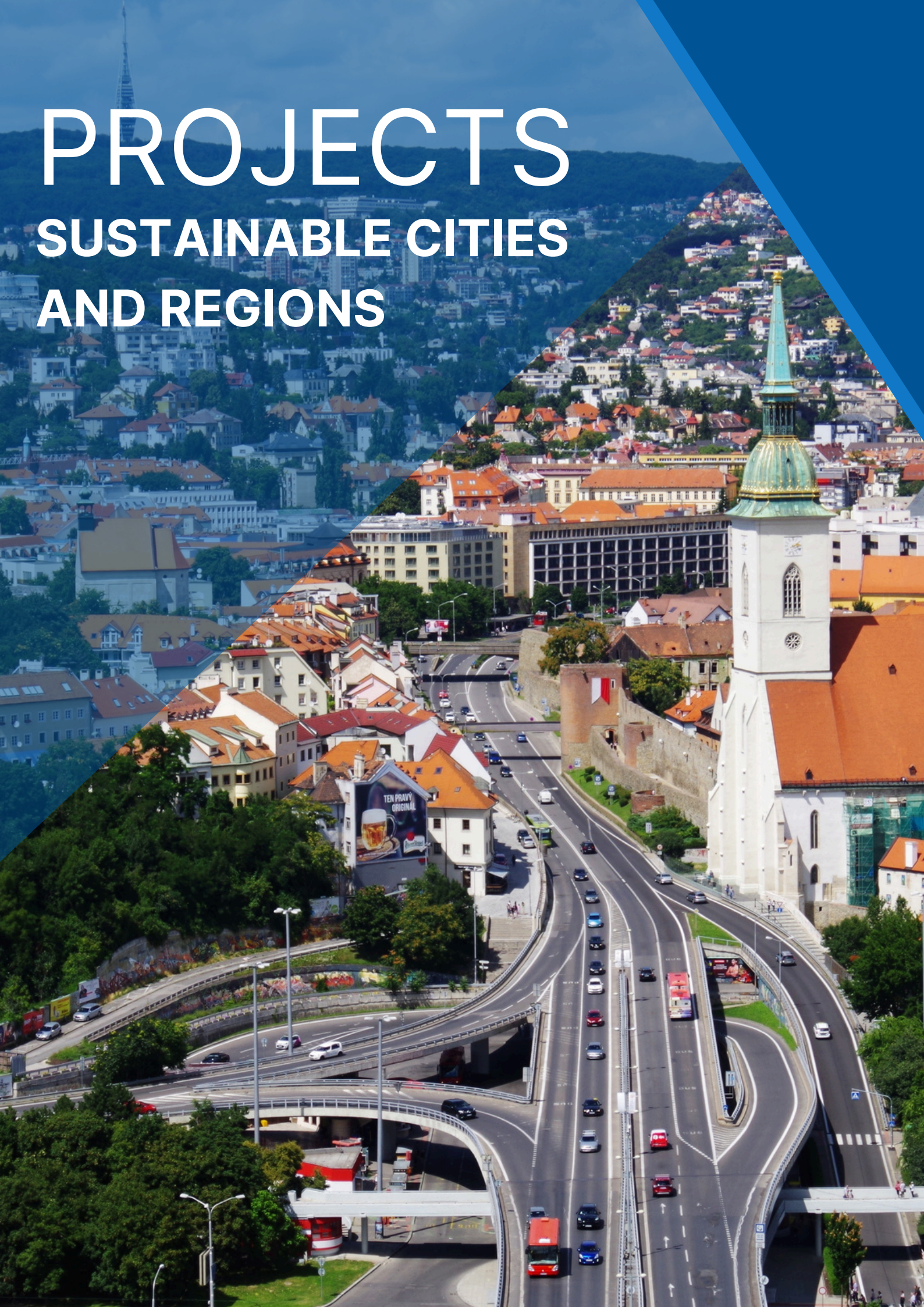
**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Heidrun Bichler-Ripfel,** [heidrun.bichler-ripfel@wko.at](mailto:heidrun.bichler-ripfel@wko.at)



# PROJECTS

## SUSTAINABLE CITIES

### AND REGIONS





The aim of the project is to enhance the accessibility of transportation in the Danube Region for all individuals with disabilities by strengthening innovation and technology transfer to create new tailored innovative services and provide fully accessible digital travel information services through the creation of an intelligent network between airports, ports and local urban transport.

**LP: Dubrovnik Airport Ltd., Croatia**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/circular-digibuild>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Alexandra Benkovska**, [benkovska.alexandra@dpb.sk](mailto:benkovska.alexandra@dpb.sk)

## DanuRELY-WS

The DanuRELY project, led by GWP CEE, focuses on empowering youth in the Danube Region to contribute to water security and resilience in the face of extreme events like floods and droughts. The project aims to address key challenges such as water quality, biodiversity loss, and waterborne transport by building youth knowledge, leadership, and skills in water management. It emphasizes intergenerational cooperation and creates platforms for meaningful youth participation in decision-making processes. Through collaboration with national and transnational institutions including EUSDR, ICPDR, and GWP, the project supports the EU Strategy for the Danube Region by aligning with priority areas on water quality, environmental risks, and knowledge society.

**LP: Global Water Partnership CEE**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/ci-hub>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Alžbeta Socháňová**, [alzbeta.sochanova@gwpcee.org](mailto:alzbeta.sochanova@gwpcee.org)  
and **Stanislav Hronček**, [stanislav.hroncek@gwpcee.org](mailto:stanislav.hroncek@gwpcee.org)



A response to climate change can be effective only when implementation is a collective effort transcending national borders. Project HARMONMISSIONS facilitates cooperation between partners in the areas of the European Missions areas

1. Adaptation to Climate Change
4. 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030 to achieve their greater impact, especially in the Danube region.

The main objective is to harmonise the implementation of the European Missions on the Danube region level. We observe significant disparities in the level of understanding, setup, and implementation of the European Missions among European regions. Therefore, within the proposed project, we aim to minimize these disparities and help set up an effective Missions governing model on the Danube region level.

**LP: Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/harmonmissions>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Ondrej Zachar**, [ondrej.zachar@cvtisr.sk](mailto:ondrej.zachar@cvtisr.sk)



GeoNetSee aims to create a solution for monitoring unstable terrain and artificial structures, which will include a geosensor network and a platform for collecting, processing, and visualizing collected data in real-time. An innovation chain of technology and knowledge-intensive activities within the DRP region will be created to close off innovation gaps and the uptake of advanced technologies for a smarter and greener Danube region.

**LP: University of Belgrade, School of Electrical Engineering, Serbia**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/geonetsee>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Iustina Popescu**, [iustinapopescu@yahoo.com](mailto:iustinapopescu@yahoo.com)  
and **Vladimir Rajovic**, [rajo@etf.rs](mailto:rajo@etf.rs)

**PilotInnCities**

PilotInnCities (Pilot-based Innovation Ecosystems for Smart Cities) is a project led by the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic, participated in by an 11-member consortium from six countries of the Danube Region. The goal of the project is to support the introduction of innovative Smart City solutions into the daily life of Region's cities and, to initiate widespread, systemic changes towards this direction. The project relies on the Finnish-inspired method of agile piloting, in which stakeholders across the innovation ecosystem participate in small innovative experiments based on the principle of living labs (where new innovations can be tested in the real-world).

**LP: Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic**

<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/circular-digibuild>

**Who attends the workshop:**

**Miroslav Scheiner**, [miroslav.scheiner@mpo.gov.cz](mailto:miroslav.scheiner@mpo.gov.cz)  
and **Zuzana Fečová**, [zuzana.fecova@mirri.gov.sk](mailto:zuzana.fecova@mirri.gov.sk)

**TiCCA4Danu**

TiCCA4Danu proposes a novel and comprehensive transformative innovation framework to accelerate just climate change adaptation (CCA) at the level of cities and their surrounding administrative regions. In order to address the structural barriers for CCA implementation at the city-region level, TiCCA4Danu proposes a systems-level approach, which requires effective governance changes, introduction of directionality, and a different use of policy instruments favouring discovery and experimentation processes. TiCCA4Danu directly relates to the EU Cities- and Adaptation Mission frameworks and builds on the emerging literature discussing the opportunities and limitations to governing socio-technical change for addressing grand challenges, such as climate change, through novel transformative approaches. TiCCA4Danu focussing its activities on four "Anchor Cities" and their surrounding regions in the Danube Macro Region, all constituting different bio-geographical regions, i.e. Coastal, Mountain and Continental. By establishing a direct link to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) and by working with the relevant Priority Area Working Groups, TiCCA4Danu will scale results up to the Macro-Regional level. Applicability at the EU level will be tested as part of the EU's "Week of Regions and Cities".

**LP: VDI/VDE INNOVATION + TECHNIK GMBH, Germany**

**Who attends the workshop:**

**Oliver Ziegler**, [Oliver.Ziegler@vdivde-it.de](mailto:Oliver.Ziegler@vdivde-it.de)

**SReST**

The main objective of the SReST project is to promote "slow food" tourism in the Danube region and enhance the employability of vulnerable groups by providing solutions that enable the valorisation of agrobiodiversity and gastronomic heritage and a fair distribution of generated benefits, including the well-being of the host communities.

**LP: Municipality of Postojna, Slovenia**

<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/srest>

**Who attends the workshop:**

**Martin Novysedlák**, [martin.novysedlak@euba.sk](mailto:martin.novysedlak@euba.sk)





The Western Balkans Info Hub is currently (March 2022-February 2026), provided by the Horizon Europe funded project, called POLICY ANSWERS, which deploys a vast array of tools – from high-level meetings to information services, from pilot activities to policy recommendations on key innovation issues – to support a better integration of the Western Balkans into the European Research Area (ERA).

The project aims at continuing and scaling up the common efforts of the European Union and the Western Balkans – Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia – for cooperation on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport. The background of the project is the enlargement policy and association of the WB to Horizon Europe and inclusion to the European Research Area, Higher Education Area etc. The goal is to ultimately foster stability and prosperity while strengthening the European perspective of the region.

**LP: Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI) in Vienna, Austria**

[www.westernbalkans-infohub.eu](http://www.westernbalkans-infohub.eu)

**Who attends the workshop:**

**Fiorda Llukmani**, [llukmani@zsi.at](mailto:llukmani@zsi.at)

and **Sanja Popović-Pantić**, [sanjap.pantic@pupin.rs](mailto:sanjap.pantic@pupin.rs)



# PROJECTS

## SMART SPECIALISATION AND INDUSTRY 4.0 & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER



**BrAIIn****BrAIIn -  
BRinging ArtificialIntelligence towards SMEs**

The main objective of the BrAIIn project is to tackle a key challenge – to increase competitiveness of SMEs in the Danube Region by familiarising them with the relevance and potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) enabling technologies and equip the main stakeholders with the necessary skills to follow i5.0, to support a sustainable, human-centric and resilient industry in the Danube Region. This aim is to be achieved with technology transfer of novel AI solutions in key areas with reducing the negative effects of the value chain challenges.

**LP: Pannon Business Network, Hungary**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/brain>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Renata Csabai**, [renata.csabai@pbn.hu](mailto:renata.csabai@pbn.hu)

**CapTTict****CapTTict**

A consortium of 16 partners from 9 countries aims to reduce the innovation gap and enhance the capacities for technology transfer in the field of ICT. This project addresses the lack of synergies, cooperation and exchange among knowledge transfer and innovation stakeholders and insufficient business support services for SMEs in the Danube Region. An important part of the project is the creation of an acceleration program – ICT Danube Digital Accelerator, which will support over 30 innovative technologies.

**LP: Czech Technical University, Faculty of Information Technology**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/capttict>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Martin Guba**, [martin.guba@fit.cvut.cz](mailto:martin.guba@fit.cvut.cz)

**Danube DNA****Danube DNA**

The project addresses the challenge of synchronized transnational digital transformation of SMEs towards industry and logistics 4.0, across the Danube Region. To address the challenge, the main objective of the project is to create the Danube DNA Network – Digital Transformation Network of Active SMEs Training and Knowledge Transfer Centers.

**LP: University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technical Sciences, Serbia**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/danube-dna>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Sanja Bojic**, [sanjabojc17@gmail.com](mailto:sanjabojc17@gmail.com) and  
**Vladimir Todorovic**, [todorovic.ftn@gmail.com](mailto:todorovic.ftn@gmail.com)

**DRWO4.0****DRWO4.0**

The DRWO4.0 project focuses on regions along the Danube in EU and non-EU countries in order to strengthen local players in the timber industry, primarily small and medium-sized enterprises, through knowledge and cooperation. In particular, cooperation across borders within the forestry and timber value chain is to be promoted in order to boost the resilience and competitiveness of these regions. This includes the improvement of the DR wood-based industry through its transformation towards Industry4.0 supported by transnational development of the applicable, modifiable and replicable forest-based I4.0 transformation model as a solution for the DR wood-based industry improvement.

**LP: Competence Centre Ltd. for Research and Development, Croatia**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/drwo40>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Danijela Šarić Bartolović**, [bartolovic@cekom.hr](mailto:bartolovic@cekom.hr) and  
**Ana Boskovic**, [boskovic@cekom.hr](mailto:boskovic@cekom.hr)



The aim of the project is to transform traditional top-down approaches into dynamic and integrated services. Through the cooperation and transnational support of 16 project partners, the current possibilities of innovation service providers in the regions are to be significantly improved. This strategic change is intended to create a more competitive Danube region that is well equipped for future challenges of industrial change and innovation.

**LP: Technical University of Kosice, Slovakia**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/iaas-4-dr>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Laura Fotulová**, [laura.fotulova@tuke.sk](mailto:laura.fotulova@tuke.sk)  
and **Marek Kolarčík** [marek.kolarcik@tuke.sk](mailto:marek.kolarcik@tuke.sk)

## RISE



The project aims to address innovation capacity and economic challenges in rural areas, particularly in the food industry. It aims to improve entrepreneurial skills and harness the potential for food innovation to stimulate economic activity and counteract declining employment opportunities. The analysis shows that the food sector, together with other value chain-related sectors, represents one of the most important areas of potential for improving the socio-economic situation in rural areas.

**LP: Pomurje Technology Park, Slovenia**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/rise>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Nika da Silva Cavalheiro**, [nika.dasilva@p-tech.si](mailto:nika.dasilva@p-tech.si)



## RTIT>>

Knowhow Communities for Accelerating RTI Transfer in the Danube Region

A consortium of 13 partners from 8 countries aims to build knowhow communities, introduce new RTI to markets as well as market pull of RTI mechanisms and support SMEs in commercialising RTI through design management. By creating better framework conditions and structure for RTI transfer in a key technology area such as materials/material technologies, this project contributes to resource-efficiency, sustainability and digitalisation, and strengthens the resilience of SMEs in European value chains

**LP: Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center Tehnopolis, Crna Gora (ME)**  
<https://tehnopolis.me/en/project/knowhow-communities-for-accelerating-rti-transfer-in-the-danube-region-rtit/>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Ziga Lampe**, [ziga.lampe@gzs.si](mailto:ziga.lampe@gzs.si) and  
**Andjela Nikcevic**, [andjela.nikcevic@tehnopolis.me](mailto:andjela.nikcevic@tehnopolis.me)



By promoting knowledge exchange and transnational implementation of pilot projects, the project aims to support digitalization, smart specialization, and sustainable development in 10 locations across 8 countries in the Danube Region. What is new and original about the SpinIT project is its focus on special niches of three pre-defined clusters: IT, I4.0 (Industry 4.0), and IT cross-sectoral collaboration. By concentrating on these areas and targeting less developed geographies where the distance to global best practices is greatest (Southern and Eastern Europe), the project aims to maximize its impact. Additionally, the project emphasizes the importance of diversity and transnational cooperation as catalysts for innovation, market growth, resilience, sustainability, and financial performance.

**LP: Zenica Development Agency ZEDA Ltd, Bosnia and Hercegovina**  
<https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/spinit>

**Who attends the workshop:**  
**Mirza Sikirić**, [mirza@zeda.ba](mailto:mirza@zeda.ba)  
and **Senad Pasalic**, [senad@zeda.ba](mailto:senad@zeda.ba)

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