



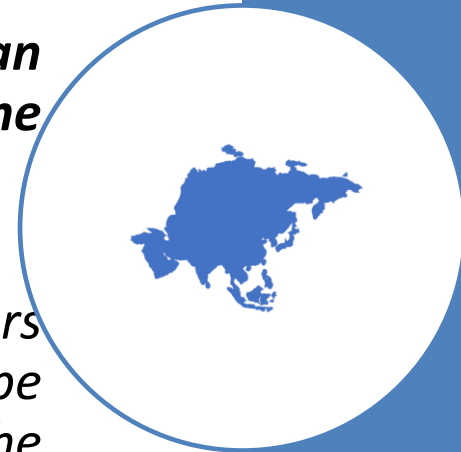
THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE GLOBALIZATION CONTEXT

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Premises

- Ten years ago was launched the "**European Union Strategy for the Danube Region**" the **first integrated action plan for this area.**
- The **partnership** between different stakeholders from the participating countries of the Danube Region **has proven to be realistic** and the **directions of action** prove the **positive impact** on the Danube Macro-Region and / or for a significant part of it.



Premises

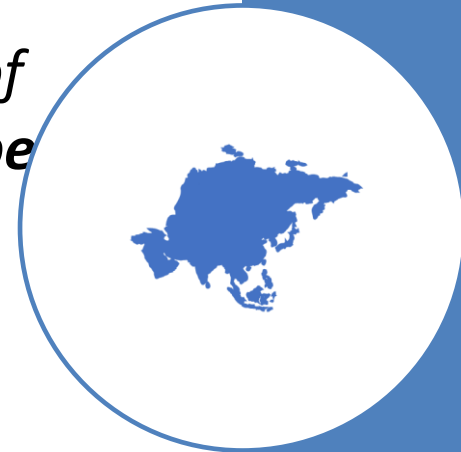
- In this context, ***The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda become technically feasible, but, also, require credible actions and more financial allocations.***
- The sustainable development objectives of the ***2030 Agenda*** represent for the Danube Macro Region an ***"update"*** of its ***priorities included in the "Strategy of the European Union for the Danube Region"*** from the year 2010.



Premises

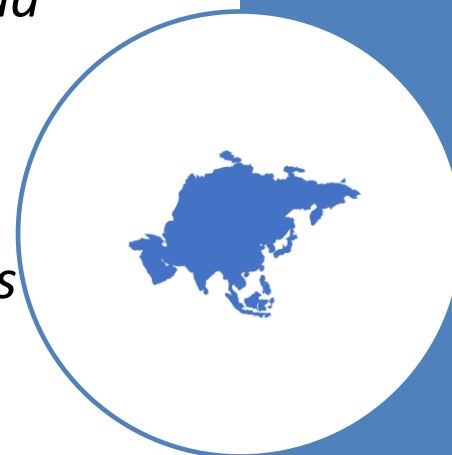
*The implementation of the 2030 Agenda will also continue to materialize the **Four Pillars of the "European Union Strategy for the Danube Region (DR)"**, which refers to:*

- i. **Connecting the DR;**
- ii. **Protecting the Environment in the DR;**
- iii. **Building Prosperity in the DR;**
- iv. **Strengthening and increasing the territorial cohesion in the DR.**



Premises

- *Through the **SYNERGIES** generated by the implementation of the **SDGs** from 2030 Agenda within the **Danube Region** will give us **coherently effects**.*
- In this context, in the **Danube Region** the focus will continue to be on the following **priorities**:
 - Better and smarter connections for mobility,
 - Action in the field of environmental and risk management;
 - Trade and energy;
 - Security cooperation.



Premises

- ***The effects of the 2030 Agenda implementation in the Danube Region***, also, will be found in the following issues:
 - Innovation partnerships;
 - Tourism;
 - The information society;
 - The activation of public and private institutional capacities;
 - Supporting marginalized communities;
 - Risk reduction - both by:
 - Applying long-term ecosystem solutions
 - Including the good practices as lessons learned by previous events.

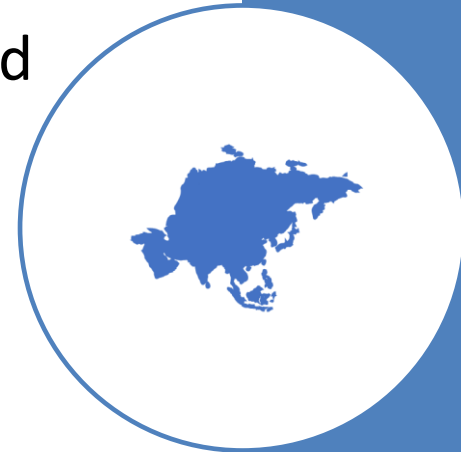


Premises

The objectives of this presentation:

- A short analysis of the ***status and trends of the globalization process*** and *the necessity to change our thinking and action;*
- ***The role of the regional markets*** *dedicated to protect and restore the environment and mitigate the climate change in the context of new thinking concerning globalization process.*

On get the last option because it is in accordance with the one of main feature of the Danube Region – see *Pillar 2 "Protecting the Environment in the DR"*.



1. Status and trends of the globalization process today

- The evolution of globalization induced not only to the *damages of territorial cohesion in developing countries*, but also to the *capitalization of certain resource categories preferred by the major international investors* without taking seriously into account the state of the environmental equilibrium in the supplying countries.
- In this context, a ***new concept of regional sustainable development*** is needed, aiming ***restoring of the environment and mitigating the climate change in order to reduce local development gaps and the increase of territorial cohesion.***



1. Status and trends of the globalization process today

- ***Redefinition of globalization*** - is generated by:
 - i. There is a UN's constant policy, together with their Member States of *generalizing and enhancing environmental concerns*, preserving biodiversity, restoring damaged areas, by the need to mitigate the effects of climate change which ask regional/local solutions;
 - ii. *The developed countries' policy of ensuring their macroeconomic balances by expanding their markets to the least developed countries and attracting their resources with low prices;*
 - iii. *The need for an active involvement of civil society actors in increasing the role and importance of the social economy sector;*
 - iv. *The need of capitalizing of the potential of contracts, especially partnerships, to manage the complex issues and the great diversity faced by communities today.*



1. Status and trends of the globalization process today

The *American economist Joseph Eugene Stiglitz*, winner of the Nobel Prize in 2001 for his analyses regarding the markets with asymmetric information, came to the conclusion that :

"... *intemperate (excessive) globalization has generated more intense disasters than on expected.*
...The economic crises from the late 1990s to the present ... illustrate that no country, region or bloc was spared by the instability inherent in the current world ... "

In this context, the J.E. Stiglitz pleads for **"*defining new rules concerning the governance of globalization*"**.

The idea is that **"*globalization should bring benefits to many more people in the world*** (not only in developed countries – our note) ***if on is organized and managed in a different way*** (than today - nn) ... "



1. Status and trends of the globalization process today

- ***The United Nations and The European Union try to identify ways for sustainable development according to the specificities of each state/region in the context of the globalization process taking into account local resources and partnerships which are out of the interest of major international firms (which are involved in the globalization) – on this way economic and social actors try to change the general development and sustain the new phenomenon of "GLOCALIZATION".***

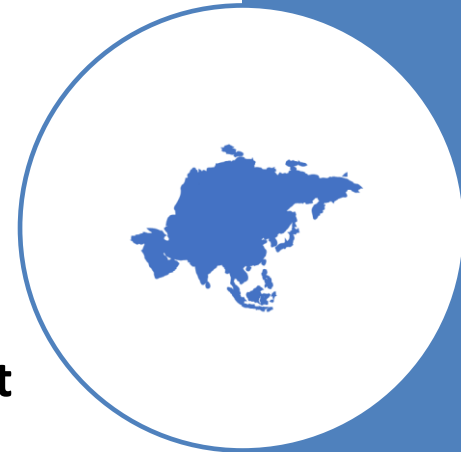


This concept (glocalization) is reflected in the adaptation of traditional products and services to the requirements of local markets.

1. Status and trends of the globalization process today

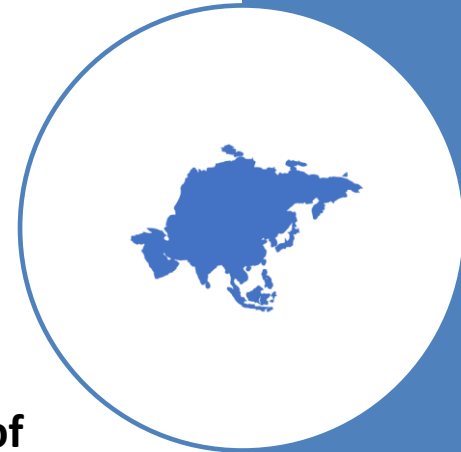
*If the "glocalization" phenomenon will to be removed at the level of regional/ local policies and strategies, included the **Danube Regions** also, concerning the environmental preservation and mitigation of climate change, on estimate that it **will lead to**:*

- i. **The transition** from the "classic/ standard globalization concept" arised after the Second World War to the construction and **development of socio-economic structures based on the "bottom – up" principle in order to encourage a new type of local / regional element as the dominant one;***
- ii. **A new geography** based on the specificity and status of env. and biodiversity of regional/ local systems;*



1. Status and trends of the globalization process today

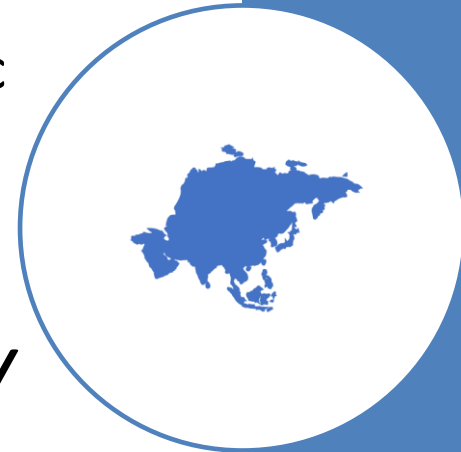
- iii. **Activating**, by supporting the idea of specificity of regional biodiversity, the *capacity of regions to set-up legal and institutional infrastructures*, based on:
- **Inventorizing, preserving and restoring biodiversity;**
 - **Protecting the environment;**
 - **Restoration - in entire or partly, or substitution - of some natural areas, where it is necessary;**
 - **Developing the local economy based on the ability of regions / communities to absorb knowledge and capitalize local traditions** by creating / re-creating infrastructures designed to solve local environmental issues, on the one hand, **and to ensure the socio-economic and cultural life**, on the other part;



1. Status and trends of the globalization process today

iv. The *valuation of ecosystem services* in view to influence the general socio-economic and cultural sustainable development of states, regions and local communities;

v. *Reconsidering the place and role of local / regional biodiversity*. Thus, local / regional biodiversity can be directed and developed on the axes defined and developed by the 1992 Rio Declaration on the Protection of the Environment and Biodiversity;

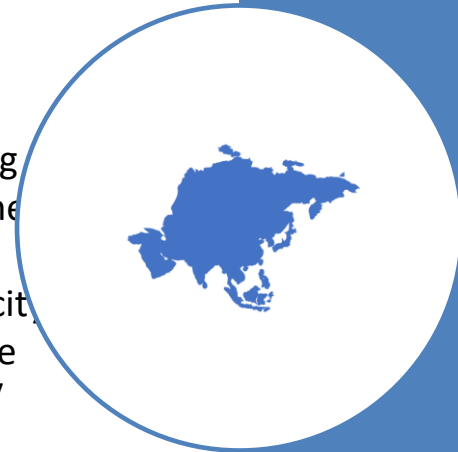


1. Status and trends of the globalization process today

vi. *Assimilation, suitability and spreading of existing knowledge* on the biodiversity and environment reconstruction in a way which can sustain this issues through regional diversity, namely by identifying priorities and developing horizontal activities, the proper techniques for each zone / community.

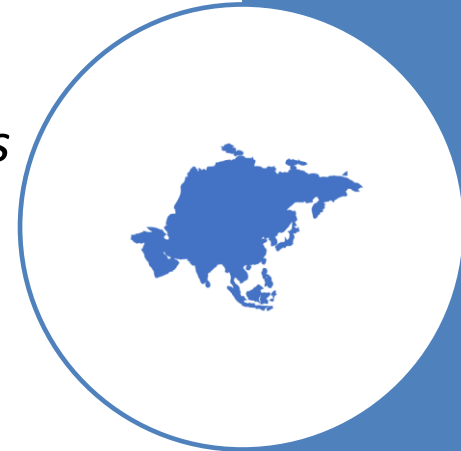
vii. *Adopting of the new way of protecting the environment* or preserving biodiversity *must be in accordance with:* regional knowledge capacities; the level of development of science and technology; the existing of economic base (general level of development); the legislative and institutional capacity to absorb the knowledge of the processes and phenomena imposed by the protection of biodiversity, the environment, in general, and of the region / local, in particular;

The new concept (glocalization) based on the protection and reconstruction of the environment and regional systems will have to be the subject, on the one hand, **to the rules of international and national institutions** and, on the other, **of the socio-economic order** (as property rights, post-industrialism, market, individual interest etc.).



2. The regional markets dedicated to protect and restore the environment in the context of new tendencies

- ***Rethinking the level and structure of public resources allocated to support regional markets for protection, environmental and biodiversity restoring and climate change is based on the change in the importance of the “engines” which support the new institutional structures / actors and of transmission vectors of links between entities involved in supporting the new regional markets consecrated.***



Engines of globalization on standard acceptance and the ones concerning the regional markets (glocalization) dedicated to the protection and restoration of the environment

Engines which support the globalization of international standard markets	Engines to support the regional markets for the protection and restoration of the environment
1. <i>Economic activity with emphasis on commercial activity.</i>	1. <i>Research-development-innovation (RDI) & Knowledge transfer</i>
2. Management of interest resources for the big investors.	2. Technology and later on information, technology and communication (ICT) and digitization
3. Public and private finance.	3. A multi-level and multi-actor approach - the interactions among all these actors are not organized in a hierarchical way but as a network
4. Technology and later on information, technology and communication – ICT.	4. Public and private finance
5. The interactions among all the actors involved are organized in a hierarchical way with few commander center and several point of execution	5. Managing local/ regional resources, especially those that are not in the "hands" of major investors, who can develop local/ traditional brands and can help to rebuild the environment.
6. <i>Research-development-innovation (RDI)& Knowledge transfer</i>	6. <i>Economic activity with emphasis on commercial activity</i>



2. The regional markets dedicated to protect and restore the environment in the context of new tendencies

*Supporting the regional/ local markets for environmental protection and restoration as well as biodiversity **will require**, also:*

- ***Redefining all categories of relationships*** within the material and virtual world, in general, and, in particular, those issues related to environmental protection, biodiversity, respectively, structure, functionality, complexity, etc.
- Establishment of ***new institutional structures / actors and transmission vectors for regional markets*** in view to protect and restoration the environment and biodiversity, as well as to mitigate climate change, which will not *rely only on new human-nature relationships but on will have to either multiplied and diversified, especially for next generations for which environmentally sustainable practices* will no longer be an exception.



2. The regional markets dedicated to protect and restore the environment in the context of new tendencies

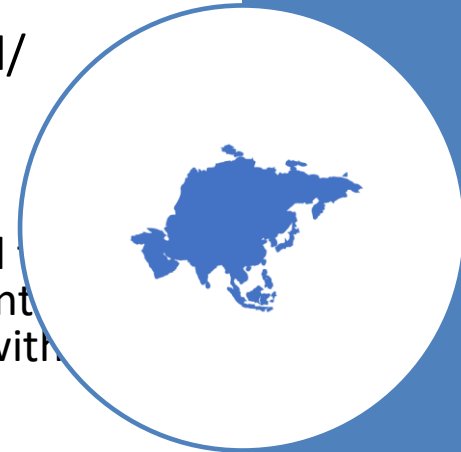
- On can mention that the **European Union adopted a series of Directives, strategies and programmes designed to move MS of Europe towards a sustainable growth**, based, in particular, on environmental protection activities, ***BUT these actions do not include yet issues about the role and the implication of local/ regional economies and actors.***
- ***A multi-level and multi-actor approach are needed.*** In this context, states/ nations, international and regional organizations, transnational policy networks and non-governmental actors are the building blocks of the multilateral system — individual states and others actors from a region are merely players among the others *in view to solve a reference issue and them are working on partnership basis. Moreover, the interactions among all these actors are not organized in a hierarchical way but as a network.*
- **The first issue regarding regional priorities in the strategies of the EU will be included in the next programming period 2021-2027**, when the MS of EU will ***design their national strategies in accordance with concrete local needs.***



2. The regional markets dedicated to protect and restore the environment in the context of new tendencies

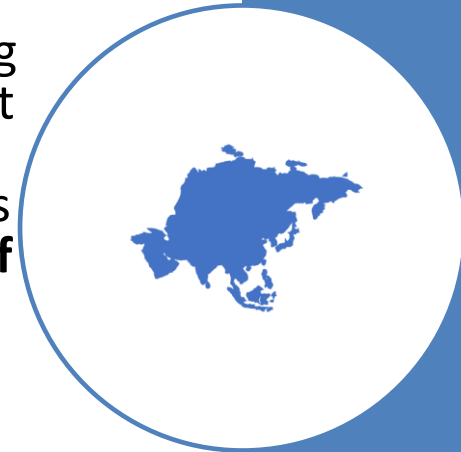
By generalizing regional markets for the protection and restoration of the environment as well as for biodiversity - compared to the globalization of the international “classical/standard” markets - the following *effects are estimated*:

- ***Increase the number of actors involved*** in view to respond adequately and to increase the speed of the challenges induced by: new research and digitization results; the need to integrate them into the social and cultural life, in the current productive activity, and transforming them into elements which can generate added value; attracting local environmental resources into the economic activities and not under the influence of major investors.
- ***The gradual involvement of the large masses of entrepreneurs / producers*** - This will imply a **multi-level and multi-actor approach** – the interactions among all these entities must be organized not in a hierarchical way but as a network and the partnership agreements must be the basis of their joint actions.



2. The regional markets dedicated to protect and restore the environment in the context of new tendencies

- *Increasing the possibilities of expanding the **knowledge transfer** and **digitization market** both at the level of the big players on the market (for the big companies the access to the knowledge market is not a problem, because their economic situation permit them to conduct own research or to get direct results from the research) as well as for the large number of **small and very small entrepreneurs/ producers that will also drive this last category of actors to the increase of the local / regional social cohesion.***



*Stimulating the technical progress through the **knowledge transfer will generate:***

- (a) New regional and national challenges regarding environmental protection,
- (b) Mitigating climate change,
- (c) An efficient use of local experiences & resources.

2. The regional markets dedicated to protect and restore the environment in the context of new tendencies

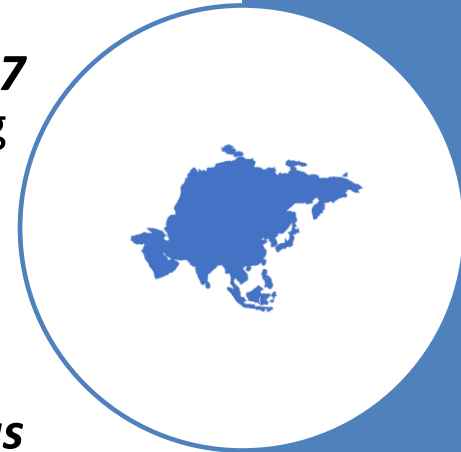
- *Transferring the globalization principles to regional markets* (glocalization) will be facilitated the **development of partnerships and the extension of associative and cooperative entities.**
- ***Policies which support the regional markets*** for the protection and restoring of the environment and biodiversity as well as for combating the climate change ***will be:***
 - (a) Differentiated by regions/ local communities*** and these **will be oriented towards the use and adjustment to the concrete conditions in accordance with the "good practice models/ best practice models"** of available local technologies and of cultural traditions;
 - (b) A way for enhancing public-private partnerships;***
 - (c) Taken into account and re-evaluate the local resources,*** including the natural , social and cultural ones.



2. The regional markets dedicated to protect and restore the environment in the context of new tendencies

- *Addressing the policies and strategies for sustainable development of the regions / communities in each country will imply: (a) the implementation of the 17 SDGs set* will be made fully and/ or partly according to local priorities and the level of community development (available resources); (b) ensuring, on the one hand, *the need to preserve, rebuild the environment and biodiversity* and, on the other hand, *the activating of innovative processes, knowledge transfer and generating synergies for as many citizens as possible.*

It is estimated that *SDGs developed at the regional / local level of each country will contribute to increasing of social cohesion, in a balanced and integrated way, in line with the UN's global vision.*



2. The regional markets dedicated to protect and restore the environment in the context of new tendencies

BUT in view to get effects estimated above *it is necessary to take into account some specific requirements for setting-up of new institutional structures/ actors on can mention the following issues:*

- *The need to know and assessment the differences between supply and demand in the case of regional markets of protection, environmental rehabilitation and biodiversity markets;*
- *Identification and stimulating the knowledge transfer vectors within the new regional markets, which may be representing by:*
 - Regional/ local existing R & D institutions;
 - National, regional and international institutions involved in this field;
 - NGOs and other actors with appropriate environmental and biodiversity objectives;



Conclusions

1. *In the future, **re-thinking** the idea regarding the functional regional markets for the environment restoration - in accordance with their **local resources and knowledges** and which are out of the interest of large investors - **is a challenge** that can no longer be expected, including the states/ nations, actors and regions from the Danube Regions.*



Conclusions

*2. Implementing the set of 17 SDGs from the Agenda 2030 - fully and / or partially – is depending **on local priorities** and community development levels and **on** can provide:*

- **Sustaining the conservation needs** - reconstruction of the environment and biodiversity;
- **Development of innovative processes and generating synergies** for as many citizens as possible;
- **Capitalizing of local resources** - inclusively the natural ones, **knowledge transfer** and **best practices**;
- **Increasing social cohesion** at the level of each country or region in a balanced and integrated way, in line with the UN's global vision.



Conclusions

3. ***By changing the place of "engines"*** on is estimated that in glocalization *a key role will be played by the:*

- R&D activities, information and communication technology,
- The extent of local/ regional networks, with interactions among all the actors involved in network,
- Developing the partnership agreements, etc.

4. Detailed information which covers the regional/ national SDGs implemented in the future can be used by a ***horizontal attitude*** with **relevant and most important local needs** on can design policy scenarios ***in view to sustain synergies in policymaking initiatives and in financing them in view to demonstrate that investing in green sectors can sustain development in accordance with available local resources and traditions.***



Conclusions

5. The process of a **new line in understanding of globalization** meaning by transferring this issue to the regional and environmental development (glocalization) **can give us:**

- The ***opportunity to build the necessary public-private partnerships in the R & D-innovation processes and knowledge transfer;***
- ***Capacity to sustain the expansion of information, technology and communication (ICT) and regional networks*** in accordance with the 21st century challenges;
- ***The improvement of socio-economic cohesion as a prerequisite issue for a balanced overall sustainable growth at local level.***



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Thank you!



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