



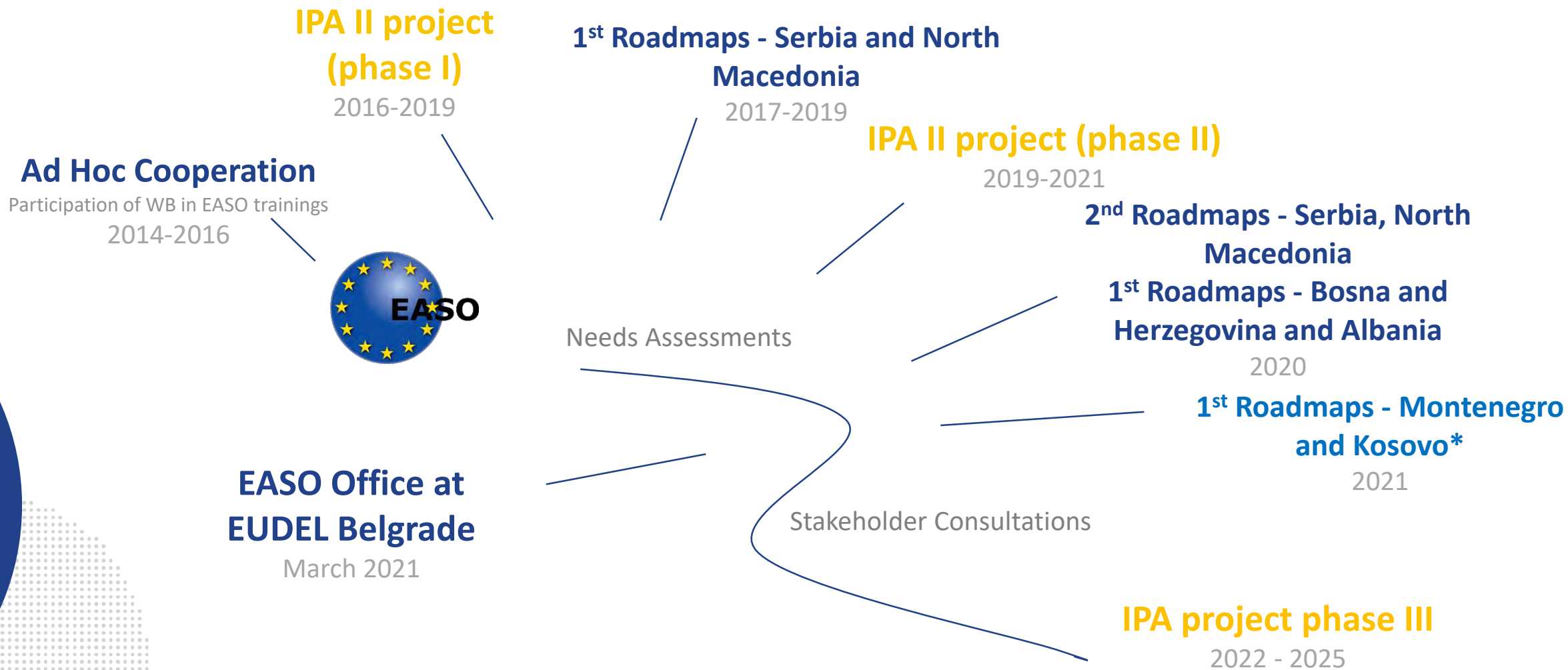
STEPPING UP COOPERATION AND SUPPORT TO THE WESTERN BALKANS

EASO

05-06 OCTOBER 2021
LJUBLJANA

EASO - Western Balkans Cooperation

Timeline



*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

EASO in the Western Balkan region

Key features and drivers of EASO's engagement

- A combined regional and national approach
- **Selected thematic areas on asylum and reception** characterized by a clear added-value, efficiency in resource allocation and **buy-in and ownership from the WB partners**
- **Capacity development** vs capacity substitution
- **Peer to peer approach** (EU+ national system expertise)
- **EU accession perspective (EU enlargement policy)**
- **Team Europe** - delivering as one - by coordinating and facilitating EU+ support, including with partner EU agencies (FTX) and other int. partners (IOM, UNHCR, CoE)



Identified priorities for EASO support in the field of asylum and reception



EASO Support to Western Balkans

Bilateral cooperation with Western Balkans

Targeted, national cooperation frameworks with tailored activities meeting the specific needs of the national administrations, addressing EU accession priorities (Chapter 24 Action Plans)

Regional priorities

- Facilitating exchange of practices with peers across the region and with the EU;
- Dissemination of EASO tools and guides
 - WB COI practitioners' network
 - Expanding professional development opportunities
 - Age assessment procedures



- Contributing to the reinforcement of asylum related legislation, institutions and systems
- Contributing to effective asylum procedures
- Contributing to an effective reception system



Future

EUAA:

- EASO Liaison officers, Working Arrangements with Third Countries
- Programming enhanced, action-oriented support for 2022-2025
- Implementation of International Agreements

Enhanced protection space for asylum seekers and refugees in Western Balkans





THANK YOU

