

## Citizen's summary 2019

of the

INTERREG V-A SLOVAKIA-HUNGARY COOPERATION PROGRAMME The Annual Implementation Report 2019 of the Interreg V-A Slovakia-Hungary Cooperation Programme has been prepared pursuant to Annex X of Commission implementing regulation (EU) 2015/207. The report is intended to give a brief overview of the activities that were undertaken in the frame of the programming process, focusing on the year 2019.

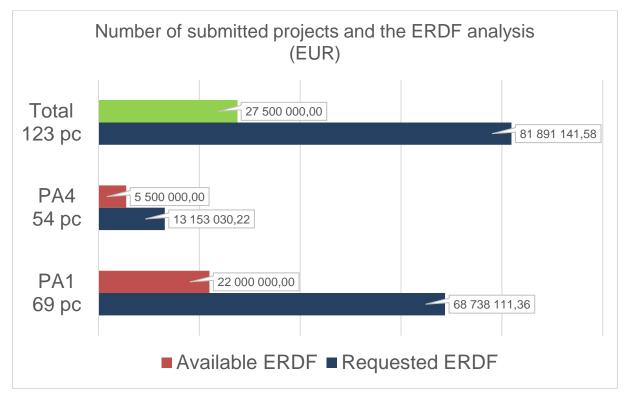
One of the main focuses of the Interreg SKHU programme in this programming period was to elaborate the methodology to do strategic action plans to enhance employment in the border area (Priority axis 3). The Territorial Action Plan for Employment (TAPE) is a complex development plan that aims to decrease employment inequalities among the regions with a view to improving the level of employment within the programming region. This strategic grouping of 4-8 projects is a unique approach in Europe in the field of regional development.

The Programme reached the point in 2019 when finally the individual projects belonging to one of the already approved 9 TAPE-s could start implementation. The TAPE projects will be carried out in the upcoming years investing more than 34 million EUR into the border region to improve quality employment:

- <u>Cserehát AP</u> aims to re-establish the "Beautiful Cserehát" by among others creating market places and a local brand while helping the local producers.
- <u>RE-START</u> will create job based on new services, social care and silver employment in the Lower Ipel Valley through various measures.
- <u>Novum Danuvium</u> set up a complex innovation program for creating jobs in the Pons Danubii Region.
- <u>IG Heritage</u> intends to contribute to the improvement of the employment situation by rediscovering local heritage through product development and sales based thereon which implies gentle land use in the Ister-Granum area.
- <u>ORG-EMP</u> will reconstruct a bridge between Ipel'ské Predmostie and Drégelypalánk to support the improvement of employment situation by facilitating labour mobility.
- <u>JOBS</u> will create new jobs in the Ipel' valley with the eco-friendly development of the building industry. Bridge construction between Vrbovka-Őrhalom and development of local products and services will take place.
- <u>FUTURE IN HEMP</u> focuses on the ecological approach, sustainable farming and the processing of raw materials (e.g.: hemp) from the green economy, in parallel improves cross-border labour mobility by building the road linking Nagyrozvágy (HU) and Nagygéres (Veľký Horeš, SK)
- <u>R2 and M3</u> aims to launch a North-South development axis between Hatvan and Losonc, mainly supporting the supplier background of the Bosch Company, which operates in the Industrial Park of Hatvan, and similar other transnational companies.
- <u>FOOD INDUSTRY</u> is to establish triple cooperation between research facilities, entrepreneurs and advocacy chambers. Providing innovative manufacturing technologies will help with the production of new healthy regional products by processing locally produced raw materials on the basis of scientific results acquired by institutions involved in the project.

Related to the TAPE-s a restricted call for proposals was opened in 2019 (<u>SKHU/1901</u>) with the aim to help and keep alive the promising ideas showed by partners falling out for different reason during the assessment procedure concerning the previous round of TAPE Call for Proposals.

The Programme opened a regular call for proposals (<u>SKHU/1902</u>) between 12 September 2019 and 17 December 2019. Priority Axis 1 (PA1 – Nature and culture) and Priority Axis 4 (PA4 – Institutional cooperation) were opened, where PA1 could accept Small and medium size enterprises, as well. The indicative ERDF amount available under the Call for proposals was 27 500 000 EUR. Preliminary information about the submitted projects can be seen below.



One Monitoring Committee meeting was held on 16-17 April 2019 to ensure the smooth implementation of the Programme. Also a Programming Committee meeting was held on 6 November 2019 where we started the planning of the new programme for 2021-2027 between Slovakia and Hungary.

The Programme joined the initiative of the **European Cooperation Day** (since 2012) to draw the attention of the public to the Interreg project results. In 2019 we chose the region of Bratislava to show its citizens some of the awesome EU funded developments in the area on the occasion of European Cooperation Day. The JS arrived with an interactive exhibition and game to the annual festival of Vrakuňa on 8 September 2019. The visitors of the event could draw, write and colour on big panels, whose topics were related to the European Union. We also got the visitors familiar with the Danube Bike and boat project, which made sportrelated developments in 30 municipalities in 5 Slovak and Hungarian regions along the Small and Moson Danube rivers.

Other activities include reconstructed watermill in Jelka, new bike road of 2,2km in Vrakuňa and Kolárovo, relax zone in Vrakuňa, and new corso in Zálesie, and almost 30 new or reconstructed entry points to the Danube for boats (for example: kayaks).

During the day the Danube Islands projects – also financed from the Interreg SKHU programme – organized a duathlon for the visitors of the festival. They could freely use e-bikes and boats, which was very popular among the participants.

At the end of the activities we asked our players to stand as models for an instax photo, which was placed on our Photo wall. Our players could also enter a prize game, where the lucky winners could receive an intelligence health bracelet, which helps them track their physical activities throughout the day. Our winners are: Jozef Pavlov, Martin Koller, Eva Csomor, Rasto Lauko.





## István Pálfi award to our colleague

Our deputy head of Joint Secretariat, Mr. Silvester Holop was awarded with the István Pálfi prize<sup>1</sup> by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary on 28 October 2019 for his extraordinary work done for the cross border region of Hungary and Slovakia. Mr. Levente Magyar, Secretary of State was handing over the prize.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>http://cesci-net.eu/palfi\_istvan</u>