## Questions and Answers regarding the Guide for Applicants (GfA) for 1st Open Call for Proposal

Note: The answers to these questions is not a guarantee for selection. Only assessors propose and the Monitoring Committee decides on issues related to eligibility and scoring.

	Relevant section in		
No.	the Guide for	Question	Programme' answer
	Applicants (GfA)		
1	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	Can be eligible only the project/design costs within Ip 6/c Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage? The project would not include construction investment.	Under the present Open call, within Ip 6/c only <b>natural heritage conservation activities</b> are financed/supported. Each project must contribute to achieving the programme'specifically defined and measurable indicators proportionally with the financing amount, which in this case is <b>4,000 ha surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status.</b> For more information, please see the description of Ip 6/c within the Fact Sheets.
2	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	I would like to ask if the launched Open call documents are available in Hungarian.	The application documentation is available only in English version, for now. If so requested, the Joint Secretariat can provide you with help in Hungarian language, too. We invite you to write us as often as you need information, and even visit us, if the case. You can find our contact information on the Programme' website. Furthermore, we inform you that between February 6-9 and on February 10th we are going to organize Info days, respectively a Partner Search Forum. For more information, please follow the program website www.interreg-rohu.eu. The exact locations of these events will be communicated to each online registered stakeholder. The support materials concerning the Calls are going to be presented in the national language of the partner country, depending on the location of the event.
3	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	We would like to know if, in case of a project for preserving and revitalizing the Children's Park in Arad, which has a rich variety of secular trees and the land, according to GO976/2003 is in the Public Domain of Arad Municipality, as inventory of assets in the Arad Municipality Public Domain (as public park, recreation area), is the ownership by Title deed of the said area needed?	According to chapter 3 in Guide for Applicants, the Title deed is a mandatory document and must be <b>no older than 30 calendar days.</b> Such document is needed for proving the ownership of land/building when submitting the Application.
4	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	On page 28, related to preparation costs, it is not clearly explained whether such costs must be paid out within 60 days after reception or positive decision on project admission.	Preparation costs shall be <b>paid out in maximum</b> 60 days after the project is approved by the Monitoring Committee.
5	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	On page 34, related to translation of documents, the precise documents to be translated are listed. Is such requirement for documents translation in force? The reason for this question is the information we have got, that all documents must be translated to English.	Translations provided by certified translators are required only for documents relevant for quality assessment and are listed in Chapter 3. How to apply.
6	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	We would like a clarification on point 8, page 34, "Preliminary declaration of construction works". What does this declaration imply?	A standard template was provided for Preliminary declaration of construction works. This document is issued at the applicant' request by a licensed architect and stipulates the main terms regarding investments on the basis of the national legislation and information provided by the applicant.
7	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	On point 16, page 36, it is mentioned a bilateral agreement for CB infrastructure. Could you provide us with more information on this bilateral agreement?	According to point 16, a bilateral agreement between the member states is required, in case of CB infrastructure other than roads. I.e. a fiber optic network crossing the border.
8	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	If we understand correctly, then only the "financial management" may be considered as external service? General management of the project is possible only under commission contract or labor contract?	The eligible costs related to external services are listed in the General Matrix of Costs_RO-HU, Annex III.2. The costs for management team are eligible under staff costs (in case of labor contract) OR under external expertise and services costs (when a service contract is needed)
9	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	For what kind projects (how big)/When is the feasibility study necessary? Regarding this question, no reference has been found, except for the information that the feasibility studies are needed in case of investment projects. What does this mean, how should it be construed?	In order to support your project proposal, the <b>Feasibility study</b> will be submitted <b>for new investment objectives</b> , if there is available at the moment of submission. The template is provided by RO legislation. The attached version is an unofficial translation and it is subject to modification depending on legislative changes.

10	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	We would like to know the maximum eligible amount allowed for a project submitted under the Investment priority 5/b.	The rate of ERDF financing within a project is maximum 85% of the total eligible project budget; In case of <b>Ip 5/b</b> the minimum and maximum limits for ERDF are EUR 170,000 and EUR 2,550,000.  The rate of national state budget co-financing is maximum 13% of the total eligible budget for Romanian beneficiaries, other than Central Public Authorities that are financed through the Romanian state budget, and maximum 10% for Hungarian beneficiaries, except bodies that are financed from the Hungarian state budget, where the maximum rate of national co-financing is 15% of their total eligible project budget. This rate is depended on the granted ERDF, and may vary accordingly. Whereas the rate of ERDF decreases, the national co-financing drawn from the state budget is proportionally decreased as well.  Each Beneficiary has to bring an own contribution to the project, that shall be minimum 2 % in case of Romanian Beneficiaries, other than Central Public Authorities for which the contribution is fully ensured by the Romanian state budget, and 5 % in case of Hungarian Beneficiaries other than Central Budgetary Organs in Hungary who do not need to provide own contribution. Even there is no limitation regarding the own contribution, the maximum total project budget (ERDF + State Contribution + Own Contribution) for one project cannot exceed € 50,000,000.00.
11	GfA, Open Call for Proposal	What amount of financing can be requested under Ip 6/c within PA1?	The rate of ERDF financing within a project is maximum 85% of the total eligible project budget; In case of <b>Ip 6/c</b> the minimum and maximum limits for ERDF are EUR 425,000 and EUR 2,550,000.  The rate of national state budget co-financing is maximum 13% of the total eligible budget for Romanian beneficiaries, other than Central Public Authorities that are financed through the Romanian state budget, and maximum 10% for Hungarian beneficiaries, except bodies that are financed from the Hungarian state budget, where the maximum rate of national co-financing is 15% of their total eligible project budget. This rate is depended on the granted ERDF, and may vary accordingly. Whereas the rate of ERDF decreases, the national co-financing drawn from the state budget is proportionally decreased as well.  Each Beneficiary has to bring an own contribution to the project, that shall be minimum 2 % in case of Romanian Beneficiaries, other than Central Public Authorities for which the contribution is fully ensured by the Romanian state budget, and 5 % in case of Hungarian Beneficiaries other than Central Budgetary Organs in Hungary who do not need to provide own contribution. Even there is no limitation regarding the own contribution, the maximum total project budget (ERDF + State Contribution + Own Contribution) for one project cannot exceed € 50,000,000.00.
12	GfA	What about the difference related the eligibility conditions between the <i>Programme general rules on eligibility of expenditure</i> and <i>Guide for Applicants</i> ?	Please note that <i>Programme general rules on eligibility of expenditure</i> contain general rules, on Programme level. Specific rules are defined in the Guide for Applicants, dedicated for each Call for proposals. These specific rules prevail over the general ones.
13	GfA	Please be so kind to provide us information on the eligibility of a project proposal, in partnership with Bekes County, for a study regarding sustainable use of thermal water resources. The Priority Axes regarding water resources do not include such theme.	Having regard to the succinctness of the information provided, we can specify the followings: According to Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Cooperation Programme, the Investment priority Ip 6/b you are referring to is focused on implementing integrated water management actions related to cross-border surface water – rivers, streams, flows, including water quality monitoring, information and data exchange, as well as the rehabilitation of natural waters using eco-system based approach, even their original flow direction, flood-protection, retention of surface water resources, agricultural and energy generation use of water, protection of the common water basins.  In addition, the project indicator mentioned in the Programme is "Number of measurement points positively affected by the interventions (after the completion of the project)". In Annex I to the Guide for Applicants for Open call for project proposals, it is highlighted that "given the limited funding available for this intervention and the character of this programme, only the measurement points on cross-border rivers and flows are considered when the value of the indicator is measured. At the same time, in the Guide for Applicants is stated that under Ip 6/b, studies, seminars, workshops, training, awareness raising campaigns, exchange of best practice or similar activities may not be supported as standalone operations, but only as part of complex projects contributing to the specific objective.

14	GfA	The object of the project is the sewerage, drainage works in case of one street located on the territory of the municipality. The city is located low in a water area, and we would like to solve this problem. According to the Water Management Plan, the city lies in a water-based sensitive area.  Our question is whether the above-mentioned activity can be supported within the framework of the present Call for proposals, or we can apply strictly with activities aiming at the improvement of the quality of cross-border rivers, surface water?	The scope of the project and the related activities will have to ensure the fulfilment of the programme's specific objective related to the <i>Improved quality management of cross-border rivers and ground water bodies,</i> in a way that, following the investments, the water quality of cross-border rivers will increase at the measurement points. The proposed output indicator is "Number of measurement points positively affected by the interventions (after the completion of the project)", where "positively affected" means that the interventions delivered contribute to improving the ecological quality of the water measured at the given measurement point, and this has to be demonstrated at the end of the project.  Given the limited funding available for this intervention and the character of this programme, the interventions focus on improving the quality of cross-border rivers, thus only the measurement points on cross-border rivers and flows are considered when the value of the indicator is measured.  The relevant data are annexed in tabular form for reference (See Annex I-A and I-B) in Methodology for defining result indicators (Cooperation Programme, Annex IX.1.)  Activities like: mitigation of the negative impacts of significant water pollutions caused by flood, collection and use of excess water, measurements for the mitigation of flood risks will be subject of a future call for proposal.
15	GfA	Within Interreg V-A RO-HU, Investment priority 6/c, for the preservation of century-old trees from ancient parkland along Mures river, we would like to know if the financial allocation of 3,500 - 3,600 Euro/ha mentioned in Factsheet Ip 6/c, page 4, implies the following activities: -century-old trees preservation -re-arrangement of damaged landscape - small investments in signaling and information campaigns and in small pieces of furniture -investments in solar/photovoltaic lightning of the visited are.  Must the specific objective indicator, in case of an application submitted for century-old trees preservation, remain the number of overnight-stays as a result of visiting the improved area, following the implementation of the project?  The park is located in the protected area of Palace of Culture, historical monument and touristic attraction in Acad	1. According to the Guide for Applicants released in December, the common output indicator for Ip 6/c relates to the surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status. Thus, no matter what activities and eligible investment involves your project, the spent budget will have to be proportional to the number of hectares of the affected area.  2. Under the Call for proposals already launched, the output indicator is the one mentioned above, the activities having an impact on natural assets.  In respect of the cultural heritage, where the indicator is "increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attraction points, such indicator is going to be the subject of a future Call for project proposals.
16	GfA	I do turn to you with a question of eligibility being a full partner from a Hungarian side in a case a public utility having over 50% of shares of municipality (approx.40% private), provides water utility services for cities (sewer, watrer supply). Would be a part of a project targeted sewer and envioronmental issues, but needs to know if eligible for full partnership or not/ we can not decide from the Programme/ call Document, therefore kindly ask your kind reply on that.	The eligibility of the applicants is subject to administrative and eligibility assessement. However, based on the information you provided, in case you are compliant with the eligibility conditions described in Chapter 2.2.1.1. of GfA, and based on your establishing documents, it may be the case that your company is state owned.
17	GfA	Can a LLC be an eligible Hungarian applicant? (aren't these categorized as governmental organizations?) In case we would like to recondition an existing building, is it mandatory to attach to the application the feasibility study?  Who shall sign the documentation regarding the approval of intervention works?  Is there a need for the urban planning certificate if it is just the case of reconditioning and not extension? If we don't get the permit before the submission of the application, is it sufficient to prove that we submitted the plans to obtain the permit in question?  In case the investment is excepted from the permitting procedure, is it sufficient to attach only the authority' declaration stating this aspect?  Should be attached plans to the application?	1. The eligibility of the applicants is subject to administrative and eligibility assessement. However, based on the information you provided, in case you are compliant with the eligibility conditions described in Chapter 2.2.1.1. of GfA, and based on your establishing documents, it may be the case that the applicant is non-profit body.  2. The feasibility study is not a mandatory document to be attached to the application.  3. Documentation for approval of intervention works will be signed and elaborated by a certified designer/planner. However, please note this is not a mandatory document for Hungarian applicants.  4. In case the investment is excepted from the permitting procedure, it is no need for the Preliminary declaration of construction works (for HU applicants) or Urban planning certificate (for RO applicants).  5. In this case, it is sufficient to attach to the application the authority' declaration stating the investment is excepted from the permitting procedure.  6. Only if available. The plans are not mandatory to be attached to the application.
18	GfA	Can the University of Debrecen as public body, to apply within Ip 5/b with regard to prevention in case of damage caused by climate change?	The list of potential beneficiaries described in the Fact sheet is only indicative. A public university may be considered as eligible in the frame of Investment priority 5/b. At the same time, in order to be eligible, a potential applicant must have legal competencies in the project relevant field (Chapter 2.2.1.1 of the Guide for Applicants). For all projects, it is compulsory that the partner-applicant has among its attributions, according to their statute or according to the national legislation, the implementation of the proposed activities or it must prove that it has a partnership agreement with the institutions competent to implement such activities, according to their statute or according to the national legislation.

19	GfA	Is Satu Mare Municipality, having in its structure the Voluntary Service for Emergency Situations, eligible under 5b Investment priority?  The question arises in relation to FACTSHEET 5_Priority axis PA5 "Types of organisations having responsibility in risk prevention and disaster management activities in the eligible area are as follows: In Romania, all bodies that are members of the county level emergency response and disaster management committees." Should we consider that only county-level bodies are eligible?	As mentioned in the Factsheet for Investment priority 5/b, local administrations are mentioned among potential applicants. Please consider all eligibility criteria that an applicant must fulfill, mentioned in the Guide for Applicants. The paragraph you are referring to is included in the Methodology for defining and calculating the result (Programme's) indicators, the county-level authorities being the authority responsible for filling in the questioners regarding Programme evaluation.
20	GfA	Carei municipality: Regarding the first Open Call for project proposals, we are asking for some clarifications on PA5, Ip 5/b.  1. The list of indicative actions does not include building renovation and/or modernisation. Aren't those activities eligible? We mention that we are talking about the renovation and modernization of a building owned by Carei Administrative Territorial Unit, in order to be used as premises for an Integrated Centre for risk prevention and disaster management. In case the activity of building renovation/rehabilitation is eligible, are there any budgetary limitations for such activity?  2. Regarding the English translation of documents (certain documents), the following text is included in the Guide for Applicants (page 31): "The Application and its annexes must be filled in using English. The supporting documents issued by national/local authorities or other bodies shall be attached in the original language accompanied by a translation in English (translations provided by certified translators are required). Translations provided by certified translators are required. Translations provided by certified translators are required only for documents relevant for quality assessment, where required (See 3.2 List of mandatory Annexes to the Application Form). On the other hand, in the list of mandatory annexes there are many documents issued by local authorities such as Local Council Decision, Urban Planning Certificate etc. for which English translation is not required. Should the Application package be prepared according to the List of mandatory annexes?  3. Which are the documents to be attached in case of projects including activities of purchasing specific equipment, goods and services intended for risk prevention and disaster management, considering that the Feasibility study and the Documentation for approval of intervention works refer to new construction/rehabilitation works (according to GD907/2016)?  4. Are preparatory studies, to be used also as justifying documents for the project,	1. The activities list, mentioned in the Factsheet for Investment priority 5/b, is an indicative one. This list includes the activity of "development of regional level infrastructure in the field of emergency situations". At the same time, in the methodology for defining and calculating the output (project) indicators, "population safeguarded by improved emergency response services" is mentioned as indicator, and that includes new or improved infrastructure, buildings, facilities or new equipment and even coordination of and protocols for such services. There are no budgetary limits, yet please consider the proposed project indicators and project budget, so that the necessary proportionality is kept, according to the relevant Factsheet for lp 5/b.  2. The documents attached to the Application form shall be those mentioned in the table within Chapter 3.2. of the Guide for Applicants. The language requested for the submission of a document is specified in the table, near the relevant document.  3. In the current programming period, the Programme's approach is a more flexible-one, in order to reduce the administrative burden of the beneficiaries. Thus, for the purchase of equipment, goods or services, additional documents are not required. However, when you are drafting the Application, please pay attention to proper justify the necessity of their purchase, as well as to the amounts budgeted for such purchase. These aspects will be assessed and scored accordingly, during the qualitative assessment step.  4. Costs related to preparatory studies may be eligible during the project preparation phase, if they comply with the general eligibility rules mentioned in the Guide for Applicants. Preparation costs must be committed and incurred between 1 January 2014 and the date of the Application submission into eMS and must be paid out no later than 60 calendar days after the MC notification regarding the project approval. Moreover, as mentioned in Annex III.1 General rules on eligibility of expenditures, preparation costs
21	GfA	We would like to ask you whether within the Open Call for proposals under the Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Program can the Szegedi Vizmu ZRT. apply as an applicant in case of Ip 6/b and 5/b?  The Szegedi Vizmű is an exclusive shareholder group (ZRT). The City Hall of Szeged owns 51% of shares, and Veolia group owns 49% of shares. Our company is a profit-oriented organization, its main task consists of the operation of water utilities which are in municipal (state) property. The types of activities carried out by the company includes supplying the population with drinking water, waste and residual water drainage, purification (up to the Tisza River). The water quality protection level and type – in terms of the rivers and underground waters - are aspects which depend on us too. That is why we would like to participate in a cross-border project where we can assume the program' result indicators.	The eligibility of the applicants is subject to administrative and eligibility assessement. However, based on the information you provided, in case you are compliant with the eligibility conditions described in Chapter 2.2.1.1. of GfA, and based on your establishing documents, it may be the case that your company is state owned.
22	GfA	Is University of Oradea eligible to apply within Ip 6/c ?	The list of potential beneficiaries described in the Fact sheet is only indicative. A public university may be considered as eligible in the frame of Investment priority 6/c. At the same time, in order to be eligible, a potential applicant must have legal competencies in the project relevant field (Chapter 2.2.1.1 of the Guide for Applicants). For all projects, it is compulsory that the partner-applicant has among its attributions, according to their statute or according to the national legislation, the implementation of the proposed activities or it must prove that it has a partnership agreement with the institutions competent to implement such activities, according to their statute or according to the national legislation.

23	GfA	We cannot decide on the basis of the Call for proposals, and therefore we would like to ask you on behalf of the Szent István University, whether such a university can be a partner within the Interreg V-Romania-Hungary Program.	The list of potential beneficiaries described in the Fact sheet is only indicative. A public university may be considered as eligible in the frame of the launched Calls. At the same time, in order to be eligible, a potential applicant have to meet all the other eligibility criteria (Chapter 2.2.1.1 of the Guide for Applicants). For all projects, it is compulsory that the partner-applicant has among its attributions, according to their statute or according to the national legislation, the implementation of the proposed activities or it must prove that it has a partnership agreement with the institutions competent to implement such activities, according to their statute or according to the national legislation.
24	GfA	The factsheet (page 5) says at the "Definition": The operation may be carried out both in or outside of Natura 2000 areas. Our understanding is that applicants can also submit project applications with areas which are not Natura 2000 sites, and still be eligible. Is our understanding correct?	Yes, your understanding is correct. Even according to the Cooperation Programme, interventions in Natura 2000 sites represent only one possible category of operations.
25	GfA	1. The representative of the BRECO was told that an EGTC can submit the application without any other partner. Is that right? Do we understand clearly that those applications receive the maximum score (5 points) regarding the A.4 strategic criterion ("The project proves all 4 joint cooperation criteria.")?  2. Do we interpret properly the rules regarding Feasibility Study and DAIW: these documents do not mandatory according to the GfA and to the national legislation (neither for RO, nor for HU applicants)?	1.EGTCs may apply within the first open call for project proposals if it complies with the applicants eligibility criteria, described in the Guide for Applicants, under chapter 2.2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants; see details at point 8.e. An EGTC complying with the eligibility criteria may submit alone a project proposal, with no other partner or cross-border partner and may receive maximum score, 5 points, for criterion A4. However, please keep in mind that in the eMS application, reference to cooperation criteria has to be properly addressed and the field Project relevance C.1. / Cooperation criteria has to be properly filled in.  2.Within the first open call for project proposals, it is not mandatory to submit with your application Feasibility Study or Documentation for approval of intervention works. Those documents may be developed in the implementation phase of selected projects for financing. However, if valid F5 or DAIW are available for the foreseen works in the project, we recommend submitting it as supporting documents, translated in English language.
26	GfA	1. The Factsheet 5/b mentions two categories of interventions, with different code (087 si 088) each with a certain allocated amount. Should we understand that the proposed project activities have to belong to one of the categories of interventions? We have a draft of a project proposal that involve both, some actions in one category, some in the other.  2. The Factsheet 5/b also mentions that the application should contain details on how the output indicators will contribute to the achievement of the result indicators of the Programme. The identified result indicator is Quality of the joint risk management, measured as Rate of preparedness. Should we have such data, which result from studies, within ISU Satu Mare? Do we need supporting documents in order to demonstrate achievement of those indicators?	1.In order to prepare your project proposal, please see in the Factsheet 5/b, the types of indicative activities suggested for Priority investment 5/b. You may consider those activities as example for the activities you may implement in your project, taking into account the identified needs for the project.  The activities proposed in the project may fall under one or both categories of interventions mentioned aboved. 2.In your project proposal you should refer firstly to the output indicator and should estimate the number of people safeguarded by the improved emergency response services. Please take into account the information provided in Factsheet 5/b, page 4 and calculate proportion between the financial allocation and the number of people benefiting from the project, in order to properly contribute to the achievement of the Programme's output indicator, 700000 persons safeguarded by improved emergency response services.  The result indicator, Quality of the joint risk management, will be measured at Programme level. By achievement of the output indicator and implementation of actions aimed at improving emergency response services, your project will contribute to the achievement of the Programme's result indicator.

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	27	GfA	1.Is an organization having the registered office outside the eligible area, but owning "buildings and land" in such area, eligible? 2. Are Minorities Councils eligible under the Calls for project proposals?	1. According to the Chapter 2.2.1.1. of the Guide for Applicants, in terms of location, the applicants must have their seats or a regional/local branch registered in the eligible programme area. In case the entity's headquarter is registered outside the eligible programme area, but there is a regional/local branch office with a legal entity in the eligible programme area, then the regional/local branch shall apply for financing and in case of contracting, it shall be the beneficiary. The regional / local branch office needs to prove its existence and the relation with headquarter.  Exceptions are also possible – in the case of public entities not having their legal seat in the eligible area, but having legal competencies for implementing operations in the programme area. Two situations are identified: 1) In case the public entity's headquarter is registered outside the eligible programme area and its branch office is not a legal entity, the respective public entity may apply and, in case of contracting, it shall be the beneficiary. In this special case, the legal representative of the main entity shall nominate the person responsible for acting in the scope of the project implementation and the regional / local branch office needs to prove its existence and the relation with headquarter; or 2) In case the public entity's headquarter is registered outside the eligible programme area without a branch office in the eligible area, the respective public entity may apply. In conclusion, it is not enough to owning building and lands in the eligible area.  2. The Project Applicants have to be entities falling into one of the categories described in Chapter 2.2.1.1. of the Guide for Applicants. Also, the applicant must have legal competencies in the project relevant field. For all projects, it is compulsory that the applicant has among its attributions, according to their statute or according to the national legislation, the implementation of the proposed activities or it must prove that it has a partnership agreement w
	28	lp 5/b	National Institute for Earth Physics (NIEP) from Romania, the similar Institute from Hungary and other local authorities in the eligible area (ISU Timis or Bihor) wish to apply for a project under INTERREG V-A ROMANIA-HUNGARY PROGRAMME, Priority axis PA5_ Improve risk-prevention and disaster management (Cooperating on risk prevention and disaster management) - Investment priority 5/b: Promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems, categories of intervention- 088. Risk prevention and management of non-climate related natural risks (i.e. earthquakes) and risks linked to human activities (e.g. technological accidents), including awareness raising, civil protection and disaster management systems and infrastructures.  Mention that National Institute for Earth Physics has its social headquarters (with legal personality) in Magurele, Ilfov County, with a brabch in Timisoara, 59 Glad St. (without legal personality) and several measuring points in Banloc - Timis County, Siria-Arad County, Carei- Bihor County. Main task of NIEP is the seismic monitoring of the Romania territory, single entity nationwide and is coordinated by the Ministry of Research and Innovation.  Given the above, please let us know if NIEP is eligible to participate in projects under INTERREG V-A ROMANIA-HUNGARY PROGRAMME National Institute for Earth Physics (NIEP) from Romania, the similar Institute from Hungary and other local authorities in the eligible area (ISU Timis or Bihor) wish to apply for a project under INTERREG V-A ROMANIA-HUNGARY PROGRAMME, Priority axis PA5_ Improve risk-prevention and disaster management (Cooperating on risk prevention and disaster management) - Investment priority 5/b: Promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems, categories of intervention- 088. Risk prevention and management of non-climate related natural risks (i.e. earthquakes) and risks linked to human activities (e	Regarding your question, we would like to mention the followings:  The National Institute for Earth Physics (NIEP) from Romania is eligible to apply within our Programme, Priority axis PA5_ Improve risk-prevention and disaster management.  However, as mentioned in the Guide for Applicants, open call, in chapter 2.2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants:  1) In case the public entity's headquarter is registered outside the eligible programme area and its branch office is not a legal entity, the respective public entity may apply and, in case of contracting, it shall be the beneficiary. In this special case, the legal representative of the main entity shall nominate the person responsible for acting in the scope of the project implementation and the regional / local branch office needs to prove its existence and the relation with headquarter.  The National Institute for Earth Physics (NIEP) should be the applicant, as the branch in Timisoara is without legal personality.

29	lp 6/c	1. Could the project partner implement <u>only complementary activities</u> during the project?  For example: The LP implements its activities on a surface area of 200 ha and the PP contributes to these activities with complementary activities (i.e. studies, conferences, etc.).  2.Regarding an area of land which comprises several parcels (with different land registry numbers, but the owner is the same) is it possible to implement activities on the area of land as a whole or the activity will be measured and monitored on each individual parcel?	1. The project partner could implement only complementary activities, but you have to take into consideration what it is mentioned in the Guide for applicant, related to the eligibility of the applicant and/or actions.As is stipulated in the Guide for Applicant, it is expected that when a partnership is designed, only partners who can make an important and real contribution in achieving the proposed indicators will be invited in the partnership. Also, the (Lead) Applicant must have legal competencies in the project relevant field. For all projects, it is compulsory that the applicant has among its attributions, according to their statute or according to the national legislation, the implementation of the proposed activities or it must prove that it has a partnership agreement with the institutions, competent to implement such activities, according to their statute or according to the national legislation. All these aspects will be assessed and scored in the qualitative assessment phase.  2. The project will be assessed as a whole, regardless of the number of land parcels.
30	lp 6/c	Regarding the chapter 2.2.1.1 of GfA, state-owned companies are eligible applicants. But this type of applicants is not listed in the factsheet for IP 6/c. Can a state-owned forest management company be involved as project partner?	The eligibility of the applicants is subject to administrative and eligibility assessement. However, based on the information you provided, in case you are compliant with the eligibility conditions described in Chapter 2.2.1.1. of GfA, and based on your establishing documents, it may be the case your organisation falls under one of the following categories:  -a state owned company listed in annex 2 of Act CXCVI of 2011 on National Assets, OR -state owned company based on matching the criteria defined for bodies governed by public law. (Article 2. 1. (4) of Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement).  Please be advised that, in the context of the active calls for proposals, projects generating net revenues are not eligible.
31	lp 5/b	I am writing on behalf of an organization, Szegedi Vízmű Zrt. from Szeged, Hungary who is considering to submit an application in the Open Call for project proposals in Ip 5/b.  The question is related to eligibility: we are uncertain as to whether they are eligible to apply in this call. The company's shares are owned in 51% by the Municipality, while Veolia Víz Zrt., the Hungarian subsidiary of the French professional investor, Veolia Eau is a 49% owner. The company is performing obligatory state tasks according to national legislation: production and supply of drinking water, sewage disposal, waste water treatment, planning of drinking water and sewage system, etc.  In this respect we would like to ask is the named company eligible to apply in the Open Call of the Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme?	The eligibility of the applicants is subject to administrative and eligibility assessement. However, based on the information you provided, in case you are compliant with the eligibility conditions described in Chapter 2.2.1.1. of GfA, and based on your establishing documents, it may be the case that your company is state owned, thus falling under one of the following categories: -state owned company listed in annex 2 of A-ct CXCVI of 2011 on National Assets, OR -state owned company based on matching the criteria defined for bodies governed by public law. (Article 2. 1.  (4) of Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement).  Please be advised that, in the context of the active calls for proposals, projects generating net revenues are not eligible.
32	lp 6/b	If the project proposed by us on some old water courses that cross the border through the interventions we increase water flows that we use to feed lakes, wetlands respectively as irrigation water. I mention these channels appearing in Joint internal waters Regulation Romania-Hungary. I received from Oradea ANIF a table of Annex I "Annex I-A "The ecological status / ecological potential of the natural / highly modified and artificial water Bodies, rivers in the Hungarian side of the eligible area of the Interreg Programme V Romania-Hungary - Year 2013 " which strings measuring points that are eligible in the INTERREG V -a. If it means that other points we can not sampled water that will not be considered in case of indicators? I note, as mentioned before studying table may be set as in this case, no project may affect more than two measuring points. This means the value of one million euro. Of this amount can not run effective interventions in the field of water quality.	As stated in the Factsheet for Ip 6b, no matter what your project involves in terms of activities or investments, each 500,000 euro spent will have to ensure at least 1 measurement point positively affected by the interventions. The measurement points are those mentioned in Programme documents, for your county may be found on the Programme website: http://interreg-rohu.eu/en/programme-documents/ Annex IX.1  The Factsheet for Ip 6b also mentions that: no support will be provided to projects envisaging activities that may have economic character, i.e. irrigations.
33	GfA	Our association has its head office in Csongrád County. Can we apply for funding having as Romanian partners organizations from other counties than the counties bordering Csongrád County? In this respect, can the activities be implemented in the eligible area, but not in a neighboring county?	As mentioned in the GfA, open call, chapter 2.2.1.1., in terms of location, the applicants must have their seats or a regional/local branch registered in the eligible programme area: Satu Mare, Bihor, Arad and Timiş counties in Romania, and Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg, Hajdú-Bihar, Békés and Csongrád counties in Hungary. It is not mandatory to have a partner from a neighboring county.

34	GfA	I am writing to you on behalf of AQUATIM Water and Sewerage Company Timisoara, where the State holds a majority stake of 99%. We would like to know if our company is eligible and if we can participate as a consortium leader of an application submitted under this Programme.  We would like to apply under Priority Axis PA5 - Improve risk-prevention and disaster management (Cooperating on risk prevention and disaster management) 5/b Promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems Improved cross-border disasters and risk management.	Regarding the eligibility of applicants in the framework of Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme, the relevant Guide for Applicants for each Call for Proposals clearly defines the possible categories. As regards public enterprises, according to GED no. 109/30.11.2011 (as amended) regarding corporate governance of public enterprises, Art. 2, such enterprises may be:  a) government business enterprises established by state or by an administrative-territorial unit; b) national companies and enterprises, companies where State or an Administrative-territorial unit is sole/majority/controlling stakeholder; c) companies where one or more public enterprises under letter a) and b) hold a majority stake or a controlling stake; As to the eligibility of applicants similar to local public administrations, such applicants are also defined in Chapter 2 of the Guide for Applicants and in Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement. For all projects submitted, it is compulsory that the applicant has among its attributions, according with its statute or according to the national legislation, the implementation of the proposed activities or it must prove that it has a partnership agreement with the institutions competent to implement such activities.  Please be advised that, in the context of the active calls for proposals, projects generating net revenues are not eligible.
35	GfA	1. We would like to submit an investment project regarding a project with Feasibility study. Please confirm that the Feasibility study is an eligible expenditure under preparation costs and that its value and all preparation costs may not exceed 5% of the total eligible project costs.  2. In case the project is approved, we would like to make the acquisition of technical project and the execution of works within the same procedure. In this case, should we budget the technical project value under external services or under investment, together with construction works?  3. For direct procurement (for example Feasibility study) finalized by a service contract concluded in compliance with public procurement law, for the reimbursement of the related expenditures, is there a different procedure than provided for in the public procurement law? For example, if the procurement has been made through direct purchase from SEAP (ESPP), is it necessary to have at lest 3 offers, in order to	1. Feasibility study is eligible under preparation costs. As mentioned in the GfA, open call, chapter 2.2.1.3 Eligibility of costs/expenditure: The rate of the eligible preparation cost shall generally not exceed 5% of the total eligible project cost.  2. You may budget the technical project under the line External expertise and services costs, and the execution of works under the line Infrastructure and works.  3. As mentioned in the GfA, open call, chapter 2.2.1.3 Eligibility of costs/expenditure: In case of already existing Feasibility Studies, the Feasibility Study itself or its revised version shall be valid according to the national legislation (the document must bear the date of elaboration/revision).
36	GfA	The project's activities refer to an investment on a piece of land owned by the beneficiary, but the execution works (underground intermediate high-tension cable) involves the economic agent holding the said units (Electrica). How can be such activity - preservation of a Natura 2000 site supported under the project? Is a partnership agreement between the two parties - the beneficiary and Electrica - sufficient for being able to implement such investment?	As mentioned in the GfA, open call, chapter 2.2.1.2 Eligibility of actions, poit 14: For infrastructure investments, the applicants must prove they have the legal right to perform the project activities in the specific location (see complete requirements in the GfA).  Municipality Salonta may apply within lp 6/c and prepare a project proposal aiming at preservation of a site Natura 2000, if has the legal right to perform such activities. The Company Electrica may not be your partner in the project, as it is not eligible. However, Electrica shall give you a letter of approval of the project and of the special works that need to be done. If your project will be successful, in the implementation phase, Electrica may be contracted, in compliance with the Romanian legislation on public procurement, to perform the specific works.
37	GfA	Is it justified to include in the number of people safeguarded by improved emergency response services, the traffic participants passing through Nadlac- Csanadpalota cross-border point, estimated, according to Border Police evidence, at 68652 people in 4 days (17163X4), in addition to the inhabitants of the localities served by 3 intervention teams, considering that such teams also serve A1 motorway?	Yes, when calculating the population served by the emergency response service you may also include the estimated population transiting A1 motorway, such inclusion being justified.

38	GfA	1. SC PARCURI INDUSTRIALE BIHOR SRL is a limited liability company which operates under Act no. 31/1990 on trading companies and Government Emergency Decree no. 109/2011 on corporate governance of public enterprises. The company is registered in the Trade Register under no. J5/1998/2012, tax code 30944434. According to the Deed of Foundation, the company has two associates, as follows:  - Bihor County Council as majority stockholder, with the official seat in Oradea, Parcul Traian no. 5, tax code 4244997, legally represented by Mr. Sandor PÁSZTOR as president of the County Council  - Tileagd Town Hall with the official seat in Tileagd, Trandafirilor no.1088, Bihor County, tax code 4820321, represented by Adrian - Romus CODREAN, as mayor.  2. The company is financed by the Bihor County Council.  3. The company has not developed economical or industrial activity so far.  According to the documents of the Romania - Hungary Cross-Border Cooperation Programme 2014-2020 the eligible applicants accessing the funds are the following: Local and county governments/administrations and their institutions.  Given these aspects, please send us your answer on the possibility of the company to be a beneficiary (lead or partner) of the Romania-Hungary Cross-Border Cooperation Programme 2014-2020.	Regarding the eligibility of applicants in the framework of Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme, the relevant Guide for Applicants for each Call for Proposals clearly defines the possible categories. As to public enterprises eligibility, according to GED no. 109/30.11.2011 (as amended) regarding corporate governance of public enterprises, Art. 2, such enterprises may be:  a) government business enterprises established by state or by an administrative-territorial unit;  b) national companies and enterprises, companies where State or an Administrative-territorial unit is sole/ majority/controlling stakeholder;  c) companies where one or more public enterprises under letter a) and b) holds a majority stake or a controlling stake;  As to the eligibility of applicants similar to local public administrations, such applicants are also defined in Chapter 2 of the Guide for Applicants and in Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement.  For all submitted projects, it is compulsory that the applicant has among its attributions, according with its statute or according to the national legislation, the implementation of the proposed activities or it must prove that it has a partnership agreement with the institutions competent to implement such activities.  Please be advised that within the framework of the launched Calls, revenue generating projects are not eligible.
39	GfA	The list of Potential beneficiaries for lp 6 b/c includes the category of "Environmental protection institutions"  We would like to know if the following institutions running activities/projects related to Environmental protection and Education for Environment are eligible within the present programme:  1. National Research/Development Institute for Electro-Chemistry and Condensed Substance/Renewable energies  2. Faculty of Industrial Chemistry and Environment Engineering within Polytechnic University  3. University of Szeged	Regarding your question, we would like to mention that the list of potential applicants afferent to each Ip is an indicative-one.  For being eligible, the applicant must fulfill all criteria defined under chapter 2.2.1.1 Eligibility of Applicants. Such criteria refer, inter alia, both to beneficiary's category and to its legal competences regarding the domain the beneficiary intends to apply for. It is important the project addresses an intervention category mentioned in the Guide for Applicants which can lead to the achievement of indicators proposed in the Cooperation Programme.
40	lp 6/c	1. Annex no. 6: What does exactly mean Letter of empowerment from Romanian, respectively Hungarian part? 2. If a designer has a project including about 300 ha, but effective construction will be executed only on one ha, how many title deeds are needed? 3. Annex 12 Declaration from the land and/or building/ item of infrastructure owner and from the concessioner/administrator stating that the land and / or building / item of infrastructure is free of any encumbrances, not the object of a pending litigation, not the object of a claim according to the relevant national legislation - Which are the precise documents requested here? 4. When submitting the Application, do we have to present price offers also? If positive, please define the number and specifications of such offers. 5. Is an EGTC eligible without any partner?	1. Letter of empowerment is necessary when a person, other than the legal representative, is going to sign certain official documents.  2. As mentioned in the GfA, open call, chapter 2.2.1.2 Eligibility of actions, poit 14: For infrastructure investments, the applicants must prove they have the legal right to perform the project activities in the specific location through a the legal act (e.g. government decision, law, government ordinance, decision of local counties, etc.) or contract stating the fact that the land and/or building/item of infrastructure is in concession/administration / owned by the applicant;(see complete requirements in the GfA).  The applicant will need the title deed for the piece of land where will implement the infrastructure.  3. The Applicant submits only declarations of the owner and concessioner/ administrator stating that the land / building/ item of infrastructure are free of any encumbrances, not the object of a pending litigation, not the object of a claim according to the relevant national legislation.  4. No, price offers is not needed to be submited.  5. EGTCs may apply within the first open call for project proposals if it complies with the applicants eligibility criteria, described in the Guide for Applicants, under chapter 2.2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants; see details at point 8.e. An EGTC complying with the eligibility criteria may submit alone a project proposal, with no other partner or cross-border partner. However, please keep in mind that in the application, reference to cooperation criteria has to be properly filled in.

41	lp 6/b	1.The EGTC can apply, but it is not clear whether in this case it is considered one or two partners (considering that its members are two cities)?  2.The second issue is related to the eligible activities within the water management priority, respectively what exactly can we apply for? The eligible activities are described in an unspecific way by the Call. It would be of a big help if you mentioned a few specific examples.	1. EGTCs may apply within the first open call for project proposals if it complies with the applicants eligibility criteria, described in the Guide for Applicants, under chapter 2.2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants; see details at point 8.e. An EGTC complying with the eligibility criteria may submit alone a project proposal, with no other partner or cross-border partner. However, please keep in mind that in the application, reference to cooperation criteria has to be properly addressed and the field Project relevance C.1. / Cooperation criteria has to be properly filled in.  2. The indicative activities for lp 6b are describe in the relevant Factsheet. Each applicant should select activities for its project according to the identified needs, in order to improve the water quality in measurement points in the area. As stated in the Factsheet, no matter what your project involves in terms of activities or investments, each 500,000 euro spent will have to ensure at least 1 measurement point positively affected by the interventions. The measurement points for your county may be found on the Programme website: http://interreg-rohu.eu/en/programme-documents/
42	GfA	Taking into consideration the objectives of the Environmental Action Plan of the County on development of eco-tourism through promoting alternative transport (i.e. cycling), which implies the construction of cycle path, respectively, the knowledge of the natural assetes, cultural and historic values of Satu Mare County, the UAT Ardud (UAT means administrative and territorial unit) in partnership with UAT Ville Satu Mare and UAT Satu Mare, also supported by the County Council, the Water Management Body and the Environmental Protection Agency as associated partners, as well as with the Hungarian partner from Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County, the UAT Napkor would like to apply for funding under the INTERREG V-A Romania-Hungary Programme with he project named "let's start cycle tourism in the Satmar Region".  The project involves the construction of a cycle path with overall length of 22840 metres, starting from the Citadel at Ardud - along the bank of the Canal Homorod (9030 metres) - the crossroad at Cioncheşti forest with the path which runs from the departure point of Municipality of Satu Mare (CBA shop) with a length of 860 metres - location Viile Satu Mare (statue of Páskándi Géza) with overall length of 129950 metres - ornithological lookout point - 2 picnic areas and information and documentation contact points - 2 service points for rental alternative means of transport; Taking into consideration the fact that regarding the cycle path - planned within the framework of the project - there are some parcels of land which are not fully registered in the Land Register (i.e. Real Estate Register) or some parcels belongs to the Romanian State (for example the Honorod Canal), therefore the title deeds are not available we would like to ask for another type of supporting document which could prove the legal situation of such parcels?	In accordance with Chapter 3.2 of the GfA, the title deed (extras de carte funciară) is a mandatory document. In case the land and / or building is in concession/administration, it must be proved that the duration of the concession/administration of the land and/or building is based on a long term contract/enactment (i.e. min. 5 years after the estimated month for the financial closure of the project) and that the owner of the real estate has given his written agreement that the applicant is free to perform the investment.  The Declaration from the land and/or building/ item of infrastructure owner and from the concessioner/administrator stating that the land and / or building / item of infrastructure is free of any encumbrances, not the object of a pending litigation, not the object of a claim according to the relevant national legislation, are included among the mandatory documents, as well.  On the other side, please keep in mind which are the calls for proposals launched in December 2016, the launched investment priorities and the related indicators needed to be achieved by a project to be eligible.

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	43	lp 5/b	The application would be developed by the UAT Municipiul Lugoj (UAT means administrative-territorial unit), in partnership with at least one local administrative unit from the eligible area in Hungary, quite possibly even more partners. Within the framework of UAT Municipiul Lugoj there is a Voluntary Service for Emergency Situations, subordinated to the Local Council (of Lugoj) (and in particular, acting in the field of prevention). Since this voluntary service does not have adequate staffing, the emergency interventions in the area of Municipiul Lugoj usually shall be carried out with the help of another company (i.e. limited liability company), which is fully owned by the Local Council of Lugoj.  Taking into consideration this special situation, I would like to clarify the following aspects:  a) Considering the project, in case of the partner UAT Lugoj would purchase equipment used for emergency management, with regard to the financial requirements of the Programme would be possible if UAT Lugoj provides for use free of charge these equipment for the company, whose owner (in 100%) is the Local Council of Lugoj.  Putting into use of such equipment purchased in order to improve the effectiveness of the emergency interventions at UAT Lugoj would also be necessary, as mentioned above, for emergency interventions carried out in the area of Lugoj by the staff and equipment provided by this company, which is fully owned and coordinated by the local public authority. b) Another option would be - if the Programme would not allow the transfer of free usage of the equipment purchased - the involvement of this company as a partner in the CBC project, is it possible? I ask you this question because the Guide for Applicants mentions on page 20 point c) the "state owned companies" among the eligible partners. I suppose that if 100% of a company's shares are held by the Local Council, this could be considered as "state-owned company".	a) government business enterprises established by state or by an administrative-territorial unit; b) national companies and enterprises, companies where State or an Administrative-territorial unit is sole/ majority/controlling stakeholder; c) companies where one or more public enterprises under letter a) and b) hold a majority stake or a controlling stake; As to the eligibility of applicants similar to local public administrations, such applicants are also defined in Chapter 2 of the Guide for Applicants and in Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement. For all projects submitted, it is compulsory that the applicant has among its attributions, according with its statute or according to the national legislation, the implementation of the proposed activities or it must prove that it has a partnership agreement with the
	444	GfA	The question is about the eligibility of the Institute for Nuclear Research, Hungarian Academy of Sciences Section of Environmental and Earth Sciences Hungary, 4026 Debrecen, Bem tér 18/c	According to the Chapter 2.2.1.1. of the Guide for Applicants, in terms of location, the applicants must have their seats or a regional/local branch registered in the eligible programme area. In case the entity's headquarter is registered outside the eligible programme area, but there is a regional/local branch office with a legal entity in the eligible programme area, then the regional/local branch shall apply for financing and in case of contracting, it shall be the beneficiary. The regional / local branch office needs to prove its existence and the relation with headquarter.  Exceptions are also possible – in the case of public entities not having their legal seat in the eligible area, but having legal competencies for implementing operations in the programme area. Two situations are identified:  1) In case the public entity's headquarter is registered outside the eligible programme area and its branch office is not a legal entity, the respective public entity may apply and, in case of contracting, it shall be the beneficiary. In this special case, the legal representative of the main entity shall nominate the person responsible for acting in the scope of the project implementation and the regional / local branch office needs to prove its existence and the relation with headquarter; or 2) In case the public entity's headquarter is registered outside the eligible programme area without a branch office in the eligible area, the respective public entity may apply.  Also, the applicant must have legal competencies in the project relevant field. For all projects, it is compulsory that the applicant has among its attributions, according to their statute or according to the national legislation, the implementation of the proposed activities or it must prove that it has a partnership agreement with the institutions, competent to implement such activities, according to their statute or according to the national legislation.
	45		How should the indicators for Ip 6/b be interpreted? Please, provide details regarding the entities which shall take the samples at the measurement points (19), where will be analyzed, etc.  Considering the fact that there are 5 water quality grades, the two values of the indicator regarding the quality of the water are 2,4 and 2,2; are these figures representing an average? The base value of 2,4 shall be calculated before the submission of the project, but shall the quality of the water be demonstrated at this value or this represents an average value which was already calculated at territorial level? Is the value of 2,2 an average of the values which should be reached by all projects financed within this budget line or should each individual project reach this value (partially)?	The output indicator is "number of measurement points positively affected by the interventions" (after the completion of the project). Positively affected means that the interventions delivered contribute to improving the ecological quality of the water measured <b>at the given measurement point(s)</b> . Costs of building new measurement points are not eligible. The regional water management organisations measure the water quality of rivers and surface water bodies at the existing measurement points and provide reports about the results. In the implementation of your project, please take into account that the scope of the project and the related activities will have to ensure the fulfilment of the programme's specific objective related to the Improved quality management of cross-border rivers and ground water bodies, in a way that, following the investments, the water quality of cross-border rivers will increase at the measurement points.

46	In 6/h	In order to implement a cross-border development by the partnership between KÖVIZIG and ANIF, we consider necessary to increase the number of measurement points, on Hungarian side, in Békés County. It is proposed that the data of the accredited laboratory which - based on the annual timetable according to the EU Framework Direvtive on water policy - performs measurements in the water catchment area should be accepted and the project indicators should include these measurement points, as well as the table "point of the water quality.xslx" indicated in the Call for Proposals should contain these measurement points.	Only the given measurement points on cross-border rivers and flows are considered when the value of the indicator is measured. The regional water management organisations measure the water quality of rivers and surface water bodies at the existing measurement points and provide reports about the results.  The output indicator is "number of measurement points positively affected by the interventions" (after the completion of the project). Positively affected means that the interventions delivered contribute to improving the ecological quality of the water measured at the <b>given measurement point(s)</b> . The relevant data regarding the measurement points are annexed in tabular form for reference (See Annex I-A and I-B) in Methodology for defining result indicators (Annex. IX.1 at the Cooperation Programme).
47	lp 6/b		In order to certify the conformity of the copied documents, please take into consideration the internal procedures of your institution and the legislation in force.