

PRESS RELEASE

Interreg V-A Romania – Hungary Programme

The first technical meeting regarding the next programming period 2021-2027

On February 14, 2019, the management structures of the Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme met in Békéscsaba, Hungary, in the context of a first bilateral meeting, with the aim to initiate technical discussions on key topics regarding the future multiannual territorial cooperation framework.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the Managing Authority, the Hungarian National Authority, the Joint Secretariat, as well as of the First Level Control Bodies in the two countries.

The event was honoured by the presence of His Excellency Mr Marius Lazurca, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Romania to Hungary.

As a result of the meeting, important matters concerning the preparation of the 2021-2027 programming period were agreed, among which:

- The **work steps**, including indicative deadlines for achieving intermediate objectives
- Preliminary elements of the **working methodology** on identifying priorities and thematic objectives
- Basic principles for the setting up and working procedure of the **Joint Working Group** responsible for the programming activity, including aspects related to its size, composition and competencies, adapted to the reality of the programming process
- Establishing the **criteria for the expertise** needed in order to draft the future Romania-Hungary Cooperation Program.

The Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme aims at financing joint Romanian - Hungarian projects, which address needs that lie on both sides of the border, and that require a common approach and innovative solutions, aiming at facilitating the integrated, sustainable development of the eligible area. The Programme comes as a continuation of cross-border cooperation programmes implemented previously in the region and disposes of a total budget of approx. 232 million EUR, out of which 189 million EUR represent non-refundable support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The eligible programme area comprises the counties of Bihor, Satu Mare, Arad and Timiș, on the Romanian side of the border and the counties of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg, Hajdú-Bihar, Békés and Csongrád on the Hungarian side.