

PRESS RELEASE

The Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme supports hospitals in managing the COVID-19 pandemic

The Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme announces the **signing**, by the Ministry of Public Works, Development and Administration in Romania (MPWDA), as Managing Authority, **of the first amendments to the financing contracts for the projects in the field of healthcare and risk and disaster management**. The approved modifications **will allow the purchase of medical equipment** that is so very needed in the treatment of **COVID-19**.

In the frame of **project ROHU 361** "Joint prevention and surveillance of infectious diseases and hospital-acquired infections in Arad, Makó and Hódmezővásárhely", **the Infectious Diseases Department of Arad County Emergency Clinical Hospital will benefit from medical equipment** as follows: **25 secretion vacuum cleaners, 25 air purifiers, 15 emergency trolleys and 1 video laryngoscope**. The project started its implementation in November 2019 and it aims to improve the health and safety of patients in three hospitals, from Arad and Csongrád counties, by purchasing medical equipment, organizing workshops, developing infrastructure and strategies, as well as training and consulting activities. The total budget of the project is of approximately 3 million euros, of which the ERDF funding represent 2.55 million euros.

Arad County Emergency Clinical Hospital will be **also supported in managing the COVID-19 pandemic through project ROHU 72** „Cross - border network for disaster resilience and emergency situations risks management”. **Over 160 pieces of equipment or furniture** will be purchased, such as: **19 intensive care beds, 50 injectomats, 35 infusomats, 2 portable fans, 8 monitors for vital functions, 3 central monitoring stations, 5 portable monitors, 4 foldable patient transporters, 5 portable pulse oximeters, 2 defibrillators, 1 aspirator set for intubation and aspiration of bronchial secretions, 1 portable ECG machine, 25 stands for infusion etc.** With a total budget of approximately 2.68 million euros, of which the ERDF funding is over 2.28 million euros, the project started in May 2019. Its objective is to increase the capacity of intervention and to purchase the necessary equipment for managing the risks in the cross-border area between Romania and Hungary.

The MPWDA, through the Managing Authority and the Joint Secretariat of the Programme within BRECO Oradea, encourage beneficiaries with projects in the field of healthcare and

risk and disaster management to identify similar solutions, in order to support the population, the patients diagnosed with COVID-19 or the staff with responsibilities in the pandemic management.

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 Arad, Bihor, Satu Mare and Timiș, on the Romanian side of the border and the counties of Békés, Csongrád, Hajdú-Bihar and Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg on the Hungarian side.