

CITIZENS' SUMMARY

of the Annual Implementation Report for 2019 regarding the
Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

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.

Approved by the European Commission on December 9, 2015 the Programme supports activities within the following 6 thematic priority axes:

- PA 1: Joint protection and efficient use of common values and resources (Cooperating on common values and resources)
- PA 2: Improve sustainable cross-border mobility and remove bottlenecks (Cooperating on accessibility)
- PA 3: Improve employment and promote cross-border labour mobility (Cooperating on employment)
- PA 4: Improving health-care services (Cooperating on health-care and prevention)
- PA 5: Improve risk-prevention and disaster management (Cooperating on risk prevention and disaster management)
- PA 6: Promoting cross-border cooperation between institutions and citizens (Cooperation of institutions and communities)

In general, beneficiaries of the projects funded by the Programme can be public organizations (national, regional or local authorities), organizations that fall under the public law, non-profit organizations (e.g. associations), European Groupings for Territorial Cooperation (EGTCs) and others.

Funding is offered in the framework of Open and Restricted Calls for proposals. The minimum requirement for a project partnership is the participation of at least 2 financing partners, one from Romania and one from Hungary. All the other eligibility criteria are detailed in the Guide for Applicants, specific for each Call.

The Programme is managed and supported by a series of different bodies, responsible to ensure that funds are spent in the best possible way. The main responsibility for Programme implementation belongs to the Managing Authority (Ministry of Public Works, Development and Administration in Romania), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade acting as National Authority from Hungary and the Monitoring Committee, a joint body consisting of local and central stakeholders, as well as representatives of civil society from both Member States.

For more information about the Programme, please consult its official [website](#). You can also find us on [Facebook](#).

AIR 2019 | CITIZEN'S SUMMARY

The Annual Implementation Report (AIR) of the Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme was prepared according to Article 50 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and was submitted to the European Commission for approval in May 2019. The current document provides a brief summary of the activities that were undertaken in relation to the Programme implementation in the previous year, 2019.

The AIR contains information on the following main topics: the assessment of the applications received and the results of project selection, the information and communication measures undertaken at Programme level, as well as the outcomes of the contracting process.

It worth mentioning that contracting of the ERDF allocation, accompanied by the national co-financing was the highlight of 2019.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2019

- ✓ **7 requests for payment submitted** to the European Commission in 2019, **worth 14,336,426.30 EUR, ERDF;**
- ✓ **7 strategic projects** selected (2nd phase of Restricted Calls) **worth EUR 70,683,686.70** out of which **EUR 59,636,733.77 ERDF;**
- ✓ **48 subsidy contracts** signed **worth EUR 114,306,958.94** out of which **EUR 95,289,222,77 ERDF;**
- ✓ **8 projects** ended their implementation;
- ✓ The **Annual event, titled “GREEN INITIATIVE”**, held on November 11th in Pecica (Romania) and on November 12th in Gyula (Hungary), featuring an environmentally friendly approach with a tree planting initiative, brought together more than **120 participants;**
- ✓ **18 training events** (seminars for beneficiaries, eMS trainings and webinars) organized **for the beneficiaries**, gathering **420 participants;**
- ✓ **3 Newsflashes** sent on the mailing list (**847 contacts**) and **2 Press releases** were prepared and published on the Programme website;
- ✓ The website (www.interreg-rohu.eu) registered over **284,133 visitors** and **1,816,059 views;**
- ✓ There were **242 new likes (972 in total)**, **264 new follows (1020 in total)** and **1 prize-winning interactive contest on Facebook;**
- ✓ **22 technical meetings** and **1 internal training session** organized **for programme structures;**
- ✓ **1 Monitoring Committee Meeting** held in 2019, in Nyíregyháza, Hungary; in addition, **25 MC written procedures** had been launched and **28 MC decisions** were issued;
- ✓ **450 consultations carried out**, via e-mail or phone, on the topic of designing and implementing **communication activities** in order to comply with the relevant I & C programme rules.