

1st Open Call- Normal Projects	
Project code	ROHU-7
Project title	JCJCMCBNH Joint challenge and joint cooperation for the management of cross-border natural heritage
Priority axis	1 - Joint protection and efficient use of common values and resources (Cooperating on common values and resources)
Investment priority	6/c - Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage.
Implementation period	29 Months (March 01, 2018 - July 31, 2020)
Objective	The project's overall objective was the preservation and development of a cross-border system to protect the natural values located in the Koros-Maros Natural Park (HU) and up to the Crişul Repede River Defile (RO), aiming to maintain the environmental balance, the resource's natural identity and to integrate the natural values into the modern tourist circuit.
Partners	Lead Beneficiary: Don Orione Beneficence Charity Society Oradea (Romania)
	Project Partners: PP2: Bekes County Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Hungary) PP3: Körös-Maros National Park Directorate (Hungary)
TOTAL Budget	€ 1,117,788.09 out of which ERDF € 950,119.87 Total eligible expenditure certified within the project: € 1,079,097.91 Budget execution: 96.54%
Summary	Through joint efforts for conservation and education for nature, ROHU-7 aimed to improve the environmental quality and to increase access to a natural network full of protected species located in the cross-border area. The main activities implemented within the project:: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a tourist park in the village Zece Hotare and a Belvedere touristic refuge – Observer, fully equipped • Construction of a 750 sq. wooded hurdle for grazed cattle.

- Elimination of invasive species along River Cris/Körös – Gyomaendrod by forestry mulching (land clearing method that uses a single machine - Forestry Mulcher - to cut, grind and clear vegetation)
- Developing a Cris/Körös Valley Visitor Centre and Animal Park - Szarvas, Bekes county
- Purchasing equipment for the Tourist Info Point in Békéscsaba (laptops, smartphones, smart TV, etc.)
- Organization of educational training sessions for children and young people ("School in nature", Survival classes for scouts, The importance of protected areas and Natura 2000 sites, Nature knowledge courses, Courses on nature protection)
- Setting up 31.36 km of thematic and educational routes (Cave Route and Flora Route) by LB with high school students
- Cleaning up 120 hectares of land on the Natura 2000 Crişul Repede River Defile – Craiului Forest site, with the participation of children and young people, members of the Orion Scouts Community
- Elaboration of Joint Tourism Strategy by PP2
- Organizing the conference “Conserving and Protecting Biodiversity and Natural Heritage” by PP3
- Organizing 4 conferences that gathered regional experts and actors from the field of nature protection and conservation and also from the tourism domain –PP2
- Participating at six trade fairs in the cross-border area: 2 times in Oradea, two times in Arad, and two times in Bekescsaba - PP2
- Elaboration of 5 surveys by PP3, whose results will guide the target groups in the process of taking decisions related to conservation and protection of natural heritage in general and on Natura 2000 sites in particular

***On July 31, 2020, the project was successfully finalized.
All activities provided in the project were completed (100%).***

Programme Output Indicator is “CO23 Nature and biodiversity: Surface area of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status”. Through the activities implemented within the ROHU-7 project, **486.5 ha of land have a better conservation status.**

<p>Main results</p>	<p>The main results of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 new buildings where trainings on educational and environmental topics will continue to take place, aiming to encourage young people toward a "greener" lifestyle through activities creating healthy living habits; • 486.5 ha of habitats attained a better state of conservation (Natura 2000 flora and fauna habitats), protected by all activities carried out in Şuncuiuş, Bihor County, Romania, and the Directorate of the Körös Maros National Park, Bekes County in Hungary; • 1 Joint Tourism Strategy, aiming to promote the joint touristic destination generated through this project, namely <i>The Crişul Repede/Sebes Koros Valley Road</i>, to create an authentic experience while developing a positive attitude and a sustainable behavior towards natural heritage. <p>Website/webpage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.oradea.donorioneromania.ro/societatea-de-binefacere-don-orione-finalizeaza-proiectul-provocari-comune-si-cooperare-pentru-gestionarea-patrimoniului-natural-transfrontalier/ • https://www.bmkik.hu/index.php?id=2889
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