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| **Call: TARGETED CALL FOR OPERATIONS OF STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE(OSI)** | |
| **Acronym & project ID** | **DREAM – ROHU00632** |
| **Project title** | **„SZEGED-TIMISOARA DREAM RAILWAY”** |
| **Priority** | PRIORITY 3 - A more sustainable, community-based and effective cross-border cooperation |
| **Specific objective** | Specific objective (ISO) 6.2 - Enhance efficient public administration by promoting legal and administrative cooperation and cooperation between citizens, civil society actors and institutions, in particular with a view to resolving legal and other obstacles in border regions |
| **Implementation period** | 36 months (23 Decembre 2024 – 22 Decembre 2027) |
| **Obiectiv** | The elaboration of the design documentation, with specific studies and expertise, and other documentation concerning environmental and sustainability issues related to the Timisoara-Szeged railway line. |
| **Partnership** | **Lead Partner:**  DKMT Danube-Kris-Mures-Tisa Euroregional Development Agency - Nonprofit Public Benefit Limited (HU) |
| **Project Partners:**  PP 2: Timis County  PP 3: County Government of Csongrád-Csanád (HU) |
| **Total buget** | EUR 3,605,345.26 out of which EUR 2,884,276.20 FEDR |
| **Summary** | The project ***„SZEGED-TIMISOARA DREAM RAILWAY” (ROHU00632 –* DREAM*)*** addresses the absence of a direct rail line crossing the cross-border region, which is a significant problem not only in terms of passenger transport but also in terms of freight transport; the social and economic impact of this lack beeing a negative one.  Transport infrastructure is fundamental for the mobility of people and goods and the territorial cohesion of the European Union. An integrated market with free movement of goods, people, and services cannot function without providing transport networks connecting the regions; building these networks helps to stimulate economic growth and employment.  Railways, as a means of transportation, reduce environmental impacts and, therefore, indirectly ensure sustainability for the inhabitants.  At present, the connection between the main cities of the cross-border region, namely Timisoara and Szeged, is not ensured. Therefore, the main objective of the project is to develop the design documentation, with specific studies and expertise, and other documentation related to the environmental and sustainability aspects of the Timisoara-Szeged railway line. Thus, the project aims to prepare the feasibility study for the Szeged-Timisoara railway line, climate resilience test document, Natura 2000 impact assessment document, wildlife survey document, and DNSH assessment document and to organize several workshops for the partnership members and other stakeholders and experts.  The Szeged-Timisoara railway line started as an initiative from the DKMT Euroregion and its constituent county/province governments and was supported by both countries through the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure (RO) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (HU), which signed on July 24, 2024, the Memorandum of Understanding on the restoration of railway connectivity between Timisoara and Szeged. |
| **Main results** | The main results of the project are:   * Elaboration of the **design and other environmental and sustainability-related documents** for the Szeged - Timisoara railway; * **A Climate resilience test, A Natura 2000 Impact Assessment, a DNSH assessment, a Wildlife Survey,** etc elaborated; * **Organize workshops** to facilitate the elaboration of the feasibility study (HU), the technical documentation (RO), and other environmental and sustainability-related documents for the railway linking Szeged to Timisoara; * **Development of a joint strategy/action plan** that will include both the technical description of the rail investment as well as elements and data related to biodiversity and environmental protection as derived from the environmental studies elaborated through the project. |