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| **Call: Open Call 1 for SOFT projects** |
| **Acronym & project ID** | **TURRIVER 2023 – ROHU00083** |
| **Project title** | **„Joint conservation management and public awareness of the natural values of protected areas along the Romanian and Hungarian course of the Tur River”** |
| **Priority**  | PRIORITY 1 - Cooperation for a green and more resilient cross-border area between Romania and Hungary |
| **Specific objective**  | Specific objective RS02.7 - Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution  |
| **Implementation period** | 30 months (18 March 2025 – 17 September 2027) |
| **Obiectiv** | Improving the conservation status of wetland ecosystems of community interest from the Natura 2000 sites on the lower course of the Tur River, through the conservation measures implemented within the project. |
| **Partnership** | **Lead Partner:** Hortobagy National Park Directorate (HU) |
| **Project Partner:**PP2: Transylvanian Carpathia Society - Satu Mare (RO) |
| **Associated organisations:**AO1: National Agency for Natural Protected Areas (RO)AO2: Association of Taurine Breeders from Turulung Village (RO) |
| **Total buget**  | EUR 1,306,691.95 out of which EUR 1,045,353.56 FEDR  |
| **Summary** | The project ***„Joint conservation management and public awareness of the natural values of protected areas along the Romanian and Hungarian course of the Tur River” (ROHU00083 – TURRIVER 2023)*** aims to improve the conservation status of natural values - habitats and species of conservation interest - from the protected areas located along the Tur river in Romania and Hungary areas, by implementing the joint conservation action plan adopted as a result of the Interreg RO-HU V-A project (ROHU-79 TURRIVER) and by the awareness campaign organized on the importance of preserving the natural values of the target area. In order to make the local communities aware of the need to preserve the natural values of the protected areas, the project addresses two important categories of stakeholders: children and youth from the educational units of the local communities and farmers, who, through their activities have a direct impact on the lands of protected areas.The proposed activities will emphasize the uniqueness of the landscape, the richness of habitats, and the species of the area, as well as the methods of coexistence with them. |
| **Main results** | The main results of the project are:* **A revised joint conservation action plan** of the protected areas along the Romanian and Hungarian course of the Tur River, through monitoring and re-evaluating the conservation status of conservation interest species and invasive ones;
* **Improving the conservation status of wetland ecosystems of community interest from the Natura 2000 sites** on the lower course of the Tur River,through conservation measures implemented within the project;
* **3 types of conservation measures** implemented, which will produce a landscape-scale improvement of the natural protected areas: the artificial shelters for bats and birds installed, the wet habitats restored, and the trees planted on the pastures;
* **Increasing the level of acceptance** of protected areas among local communities, through public awareness activities organized;
* **A joint strategy/action plan developed** by revising/ updating the commun conservation action plan developed through the Interreg RO-HU V-A project ROHU-79 by including a survey of bird species that were not studied in the previous project;
* **three types of solutions** **elaborated** for the restoration of wetland habitats, the restoration of wood pastures, and monitoring the species of bats and birds of conservation interest;
* The study of the **conservation status of habitats and species** of community interest and the preparation and prioritization of the necessary conservation measures during a 3-day workshop organized;
* **Survey/monitoring reports** elaborated on bird species, land invertebrates, Tur River (exotic) fish species, (exotic) aquatic macroscopic invertebrates, amphibian and reptile species, bat species, and invasive exotic plant species from the Romania-Hungary project area.
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