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| **1st Open Call for HARD projects** | |
| **Project code & acronym** | ROHU00528 – Swabian Heritage |
| **Project title** | Creation of a ‘Swabian Cultural-Touristic Route’ and a historical memorial site through the research and showcasing of the rich Swabian culture and fostering community engagement across borders |
| **Priority** | P2 - Cooperation for a more social and cohesive PA between Romania and Hungary |
| **Specific Objective** | RS04.6 - Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation |
| **Implementation period** | 30 months (June 2nd 2025 – December 1st 2027) |
| **Objective** | The Swabian Heritage project’s overall objective is to research and present the cultural and historical heritage of the Swabians by establishing a sustainable cultural and touristic route linking Nyíregyháza (HU) and Palota (RO). |
| **Partnership** | **Lead Partner:** Jósa András Múzeum (Hungary) |
| **Project Partner:**  **PP2 RO**:Fundatia de Protejare a Monumentelor Istorice din Județul Bihor (Romania) |
| **Total budget** | EUR 1,663,530.01, out of which  ERDF EUR 1,330,824.00 |
| **Summary** | The project’s objective will be reached through the development of the following main outputs and the implementation of the following activities:   1. **Research** **of the Swabian heritage** in Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg, Bihar, Bihor and Satu Mare counties. 2. Organisation of **4 joint expert workshops** serving the dual purpose of disseminating fundamental knowledge to members of the target groups, in addition to expanding professional knowledge on the topic. 3. Creation of an **expert publication** to synthesise the gathered knowledge from the research and present it in 3 languages (HU, RO and EN). 4. **Construction of the Swabian porta** (along with a pigsty and barn) in the Sóstó Skanzen, to create a historical memorial and exhibition space within the largest regional open-air ethnographic museum in Hungary. 5. **Exhibitions supporting community engagement** in the new Swabian Porta in Nyíregyháza and a smaller exhibition will also be hosted at Oradea Heritage. 6. Creation of a **joint website featuring an interactive map** of the Swabian Route, enriched with the findings derived from the research conducted. 7. Organisation of **4 thematic caravans and travelling festivals** to foster community engagement, providing participants with immersive experiences of Swabian culture. 8. Development of a **joint strategy for the tourist-oriented use of the Swabian Route**, its expansion, and the exploration of best practices to ensure its long-term sustainability. |
| **Main results** | Swabian Heritage strives to establish a distinctive, long-term, sustainable development. Throughout the project implementation, the outputs and deliverables will assist partners and target groups in gaining a deeper understanding of Swabian heritage, acquainting themselves with Swabian culture, and firsthand experiencing elements that define the everyday life of this ethnic group.  The project aims to achieve several key results:   1. **Expanded Swabian Route**, incorporating new locations, along with updates to information about the discovered locations in the project, alongside the update and maintenance of the website and its interactive map. 2. **Exhibitions** on the topic of Swabian heritage arranged by both partners. 3. **Sharing the knowledge gathered during the research** of the Swabian heritage with experts, the general public and educational institutions. 4. A **recurring Swabian festival** established along the Swabian Route. 5. Enhancing the cultural diversity of the European Union by **the tourist route established** along the Romanian-Hungarian border area. This route will showcase the values, daily practices, objects, gastronomy, and other aspects of a specific cultural group – the Swabians. 6. Enhanced tourist and cultural experiences for interested travellers and an **increased number of visitors** to cultural and tourism sites along the Swabian Route. |