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| **1st Open Call – Culture and tourism** |
| **Project code & acronym** | ROHU00530 - MoN - Architecture |
| **Project title** | Memories of Nations - Architectural and Social Heritage of Cooperatives |
| **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 (30 May 2025 – 29 November 2027) |
| **Objective** | The principal activity of the project is to digitize and promote sources of common history, (written or material) as important pieces of cultural heritage. The aim of the project is to promote cooperation among different social strata for understanding cultural heritage and contribute to the preservation of cultural heritage and increase its accessibility in the cross-border areas of Romania and Hungary.  |
| **Partnership** | **Lead Partner:** Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár (Hungary) |
| **Project Partner:** PP2 Muzeul Judetean Satu Mare (Romania) |
| **Total budget** | EUR 1.050.858,00 out of which ERDF EUR 840.686,40  |
| **Summary** | The project aims to uncover and showcase the historical self-organization of disadvantaged small villages in the Romanian-Hungarian border region, specifically the pre-1945 achievements of the cooperative movement.Documents preserved in archives and local museums will be activated (digitizing nearly 800,000 documents), presenting the existing architectural heritage of cooperatives (exhibitions, publications, conferences) and illustrating the conditions of a historical peasant household (at Ady Memorial Museum, village Ady Endre, Ro). A multifunctional Archival Visitor Center will be established in Debrecen, serving as a sustainable tourist attraction to promote cultural heritage among youth, local residents, and tourists. An interactive map of the region, involving local memory through community research methods will be created.Long-term collaboration is ensured through the activities of digitization of common historical sources (written and material) and the development and implementation of a cross-border research database as the initial step in maintaining the entire system, continually expanding it with the addition of new data.The project emphasizes "Consumer communities", connecting cities with the countryside, school cooperatives providing children's meals, and local markets, following these historical patterns in their thinking, carrying them forward and creating significant cultural and tourist value. The project's implementation coincides with Romania's entry into the Schengen Zone thus creating an opportunity to establish direct connections among smaller communities in the border region.  |
| **Main results** | The project aims to achieve several key results:1. A joint digitalization strategy will be developed through close cooperation among the partners to ensure the uniform digitalization of historically relevant documents in accordance with international scientific standards. The strategy ensures compliance with international expectations while addressing the specific values and needs of the documents concerned.
2. Development of a cross-border touristic application with study tour that with the selected elements from the treasury of cultural heritage values, regional tourism experts can discover numerous new attractions and destinations to offer guests and historical knowledge can be activated for cross-border collaborations.
3. The processing of multi-volume, bilingual printed fond indexes and the organization of museum object and document data into a structured database that creates a network of connections that spans multiple counties within the Interreg Ro-Hu program area.
4. Archives and museum educational programs for general and high school students with the aim to get them to know these historical sources.
5. Workshop on the digitization of archival documents and the databases for public institution employees in their research, exhibitions, and cultural activities for teachers in school education; for the public in family tree and local history research.
6. Rehabilitation of Ady Memorial Museum, comprising two buildings: the Birth-house of Ady Endre and the Manor-house of Ady family and the permanent exhibition at Ady Memorial Museum renewed as an important element of the integrated cultural tourism of the cross-border target area.
7. A multifunctional Archival Visitor Center will be established in Debrecen, serving as a sustainable tourist attraction to promote cultural heritage among youth, local residents, and tourists.
8. The partners will organize attention-grabbing, multilingual exhibitions at 6 locations in the Hungarian program area and at the Ady Endre Memorial House as well as an international conference as final event of the project in order to disseminate the outcomes, summarize the achieved results, outline the methods of sustainability, and present the directions for the continuation and future development of collaboration.
9. Following project completion, the partners intend to maintain their cooperation across borders and their museum and archival pedagogical programs for a further 5 years in order to deepen and solidify social connections among individuals and groups in the region.
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