

Citizens' Summary of the Annual Implementation Report 2019

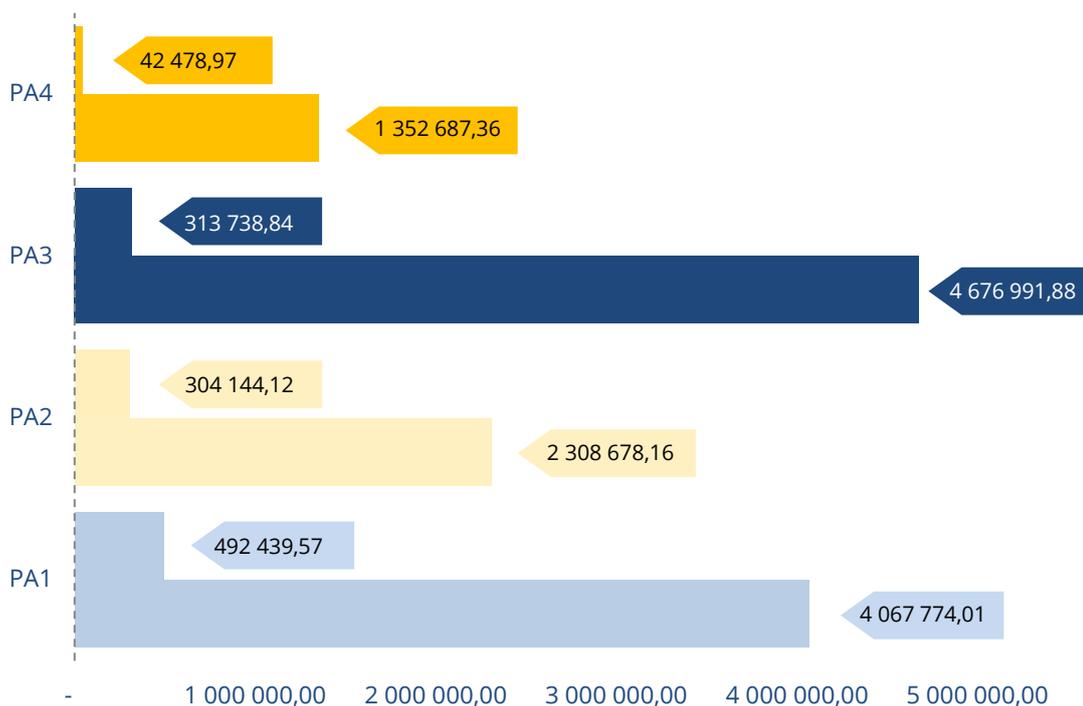


The Annual Implementation Report (AIR) of the Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Hungary-Serbia for 2019 provides detailed insight into the programme's operation between 1 January and 31 December 2019. The Citizens' Summary is a brief overview of this report.

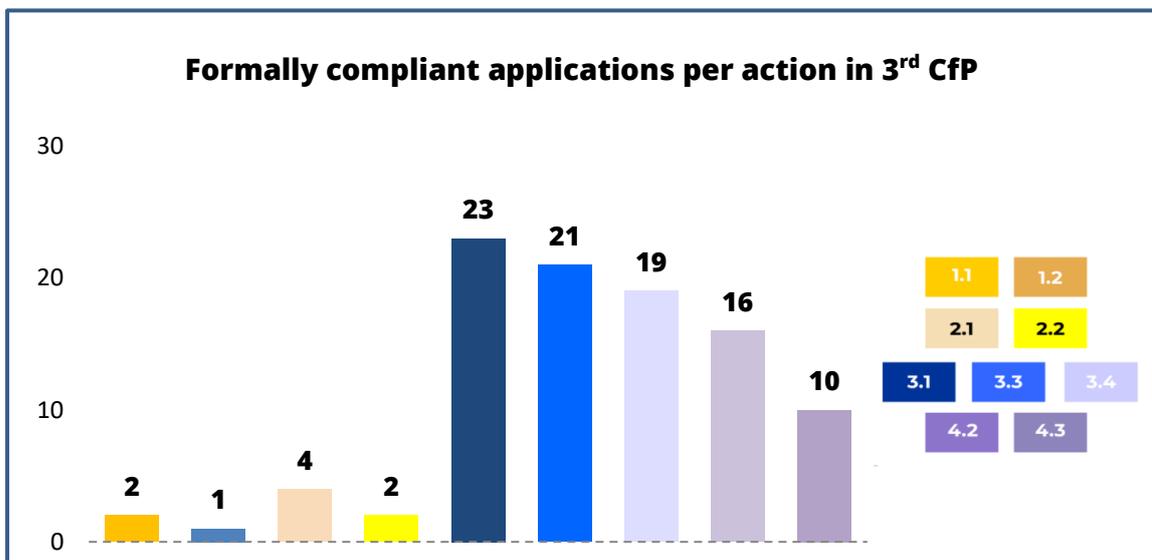
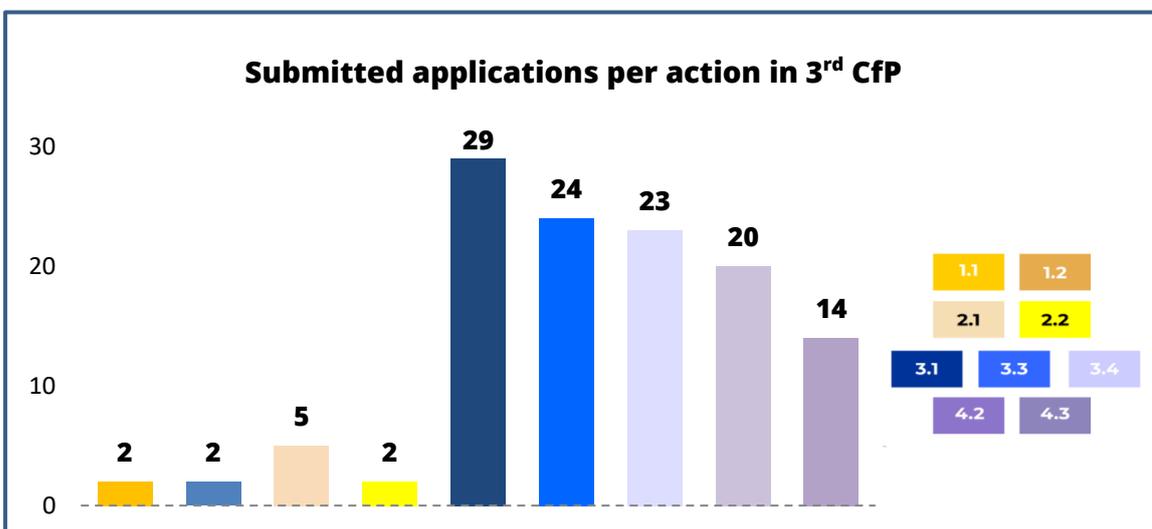
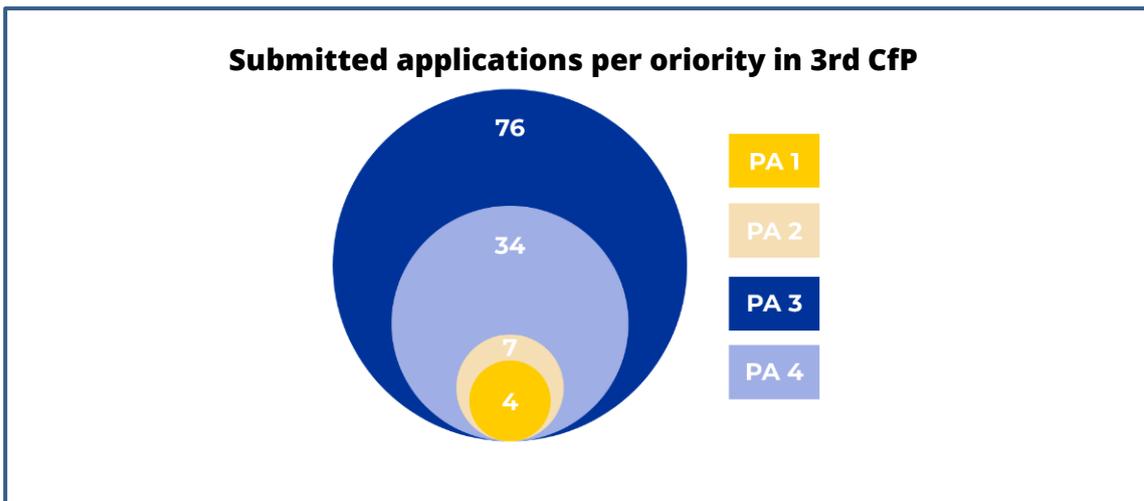
The programme bodies – the Managing Authority/MA (Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade), the Serbian National Authority/NA (Serbian Ministry of EU Integration), the Joint Secretariat of the programme/JS, the Joint Secretariat Antenna/JS Antenna, the First Level Control/FLC in Hungary and in Serbia, and the European Commission representative – the Desk Officer in charge of the programme, contributed to great progress of the programme implementation in 2019. Year 2019 was a year of great increase in over-all activities and achievements.

The JS coordinated the approval of 12 addenda, has considered and approved 70 other project changes. The JS has also approved 179 project reports (6-fold increase from 2018) of the value of 12 403 131,41 EUR (9-fold increase from last year) of which IPA EU Contribution is 10 542 659,95 EUR. The PRs were approved in following breakdown per priority axis of IPA:

Spent EU (IPA) Contribution in 2018 and 2019 per Priority (EUR)



One of the main achievements of the programme in 2019 was the preparing, organising and concluding the 3rd Call for Proposals. 121 applications were received through the monitoring system and their formal assessment was concluded by the Joint Secretariat. Altogether 98 applications were found formally compliant. The following charts show the breakdowns per priority and per action:



The JS and the JS Antenna organized **4 Info Days seminars** for potential beneficiaries of the 3CfP. The events took place in **Kecskemét**, Hungary on 30 July with 27 attendees, in **Novi Sad**, Serbia on 14 August with 111 attendees, in **Szeged**, Hungary on 27 August with 56 attendees, in **Subotica**, Serbia on 28 August with 67 attendees.



Info Days within the third call for proposals – in Kecskemét, Szeged, Novi Sad and Subotica

The programme celebrated the European Cooperation Day (EC Day), an annual event honouring the achievements of the territorial cooperation throughout Europe, with events throughout Europe on 21 September and the surrounding weeks. In 2019, the programme collaborated with the following nine projects: **C-AGRO-Dev** – “Cross-border Agrobusiness Development Program”, **ColourCoop** – “Colourful Cooperation”, **CommonHeritage** – “Together for Common Future of Common Cultural Heritage”, **Modern Folkling** – “Strengthening multicultural relations by youth events organization in the border region”, **NATESS** – “Natural selfness”, **PLANTSVITA** – “Development of soil type adapted microbiological products promoting ecological pest management”, **PROTECT** – “Nature Protection from Invasive Plant Species”, **THEATRO** – “Theatre art as a regional hub for children's socialization”, and **WATERatRISK** – “Improvement of drought and excess water monitoring for supporting water management and mitigation of risks related to extreme weather conditions”.

This JS initiative helped the projects receive more visibility via programme’s channels. The initiative received media attention and the events were featured in 18 media reports, including five TV reports.



European Cooperation Day 2019 celebration with project events

Some of the projects undergoing implementation took part in the European-level initiatives, organized by the European Commission. In August 2019, the European Commission organized an initiative within its annual campaign “[EU in My Region](#)” intended for EU-funded projects, turning photos that best represent the projects into postcards for promotional use. The projects [ActiveGirls](#) and [CommonHeritage](#) were selected among the best and received postcards.

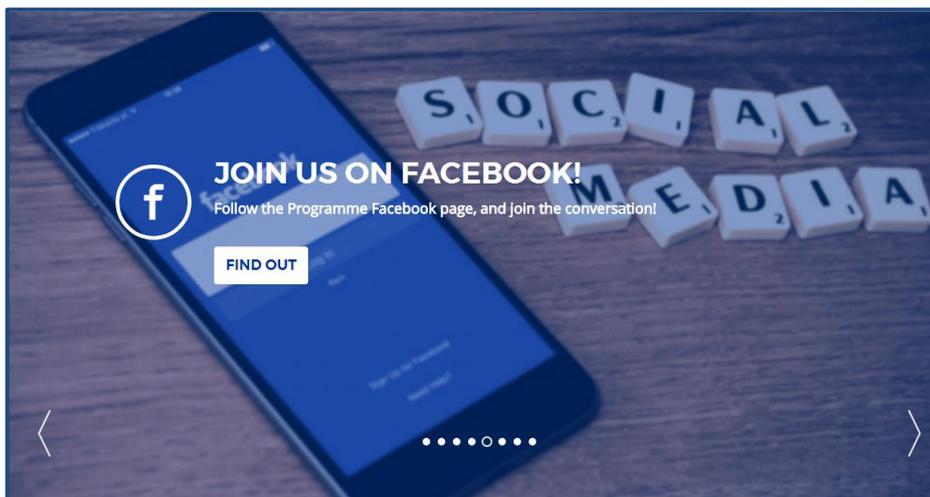
When it comes to the project events, 54 projects organized over 360 events that contributed to the projects’ and the programme’s visibility. According to the estimates provided¹ via projects, the events hosted approximately 39,900 attendees.

¹ Project event reports are a part of the obligatory communication-related reporting to JS. The projects are required to upload the event related information onto the back office of the programme’s website in the set schedule, in order to provide JS with timely and newsworthy content.

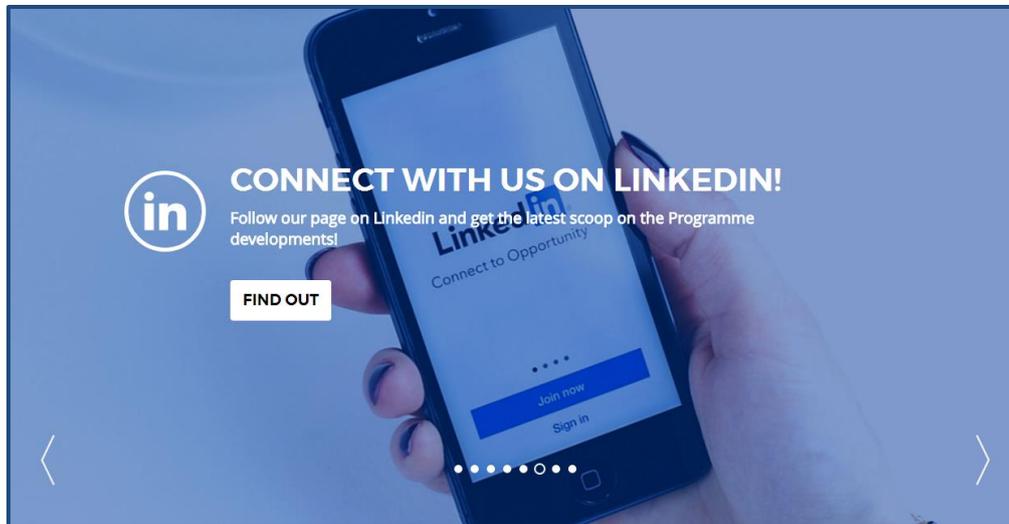


Project events in 2019 contributed to their own and the Programme's visibility

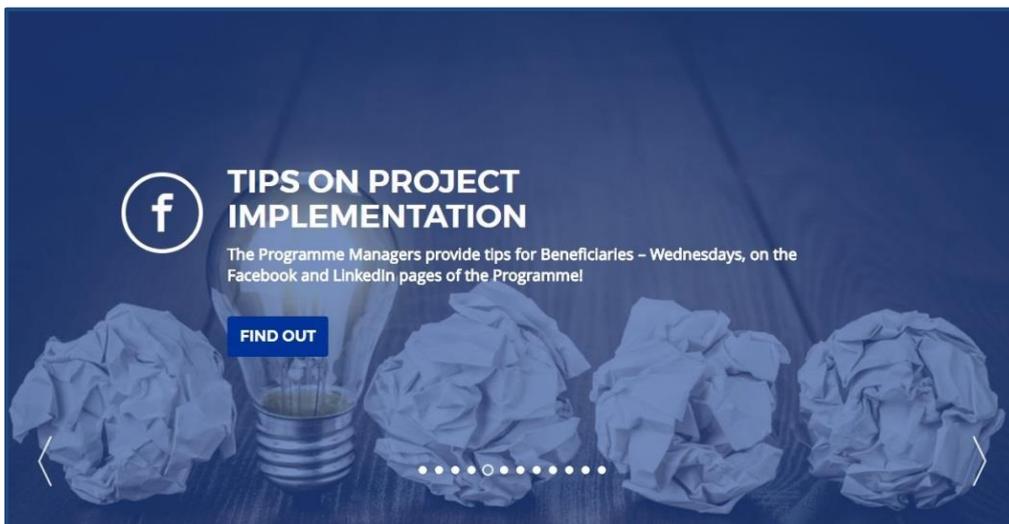
The programme's website www.interreg-ipa-husrb.com remained the main communication hub of the programme towards the general public, the interested potential applicants, the beneficiaries and other programme's stakeholders. It features information related to the calls for proposals, results of the calls, selected projects, the [summaries of the contracted projects](#) and the programme-related and EU-level news. Additionally, the website contains the photo and video content and [the infographics about the programme](#) and [the infographics about project implementation](#) that depict complex processes and information in a visual way that is easy to understand.



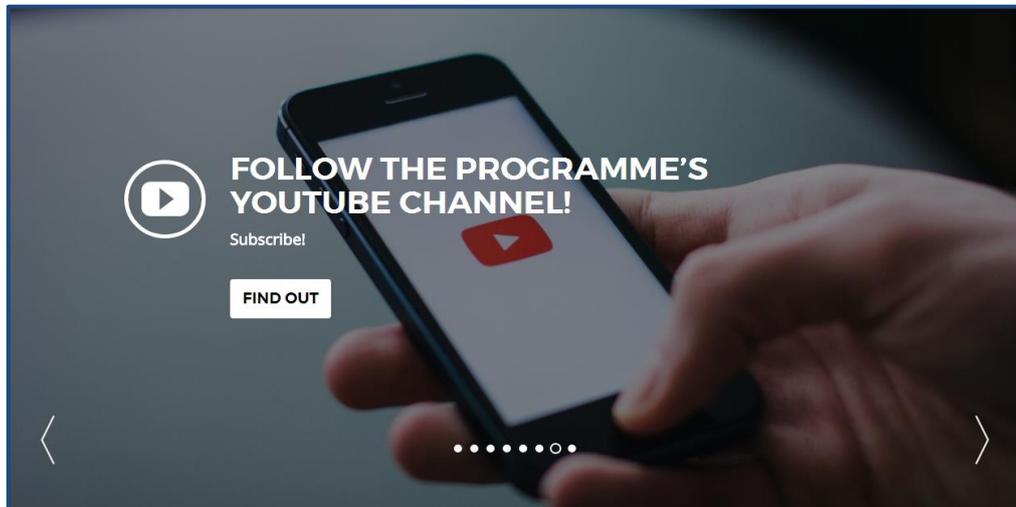
The [programme's Facebook page](#) and [programme's page on LinkedIn](#) featured all programme- and project-related news and announcements, tips for the applicants and beneficiaries, the regional and the European-level news relevant to the Programme.



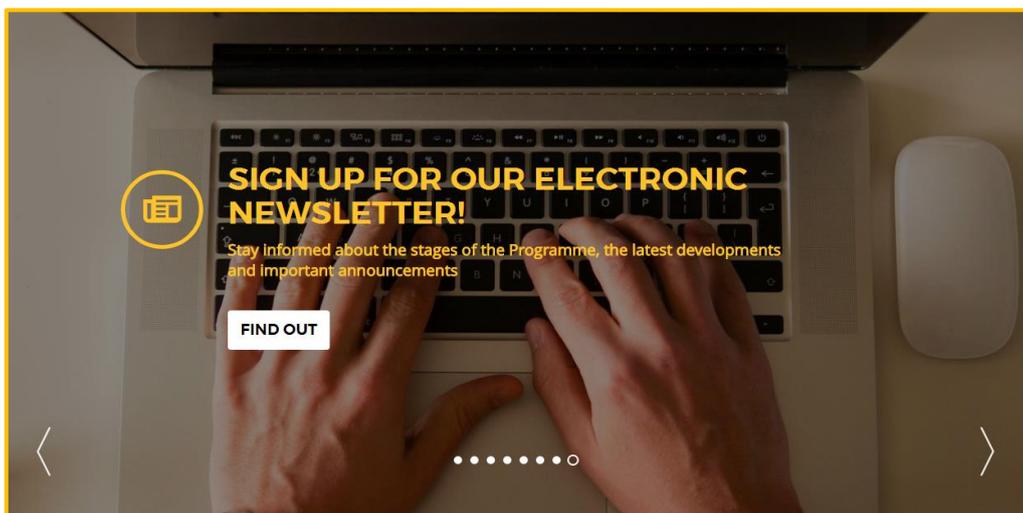
The programme's pages on Facebook and LinkedIn feature the series *Programme Managers' Tips*, launched in 2016. In 2017, the series included posts related to the application phase the second call, as well as the contracting period of the strategic calls and their implementation phase. The series continued in the first half of 2018, providing [project implementation tips](#).



The [programme's YouTube channel](#) continued to be a video content-sharing platform in 2018, as well. In addition to the programme-related content, it also featured the videos related to the project launches events and achieved results.



Four quarterly [programme's newsletter](#) issues were distributed in 2018, featuring the highlights about the Programme implementation, the latest developments and other important announcements.



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