



**Hungary-Serbia**

IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme

The Programme is co-financed by the  
European Union



# HUNGARY - SERBIA

IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme



# PROJECT CATALOG



**Hungary-Serbia**

IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme

The Programme is co-financed by the  
European Union



# PROJECT CATALOG



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
HUNGARY



Република Србија  
Влада  
Канцеларија за европску интеграцију  

---

Republic of Serbia  
Government  
Serbian European Integration Office



# Thank you for the co-operation!

This Catalogue is conceived as a presentation of the work and cooperation of organizations from Hungary and Serbia which implemented projects in the cross-border partnerships. It is also envisaged as a summary of results of the joint and well-coordinated work of the numerous Programme implementing institutions from the European Commission, Hungary and Serbia.

In this publication, we present you a summary of the outcomes and impacts of the work in progress. As it is the case with most summaries, this one also does not do justice to the reality, complexity and all endeavors, efforts and enthusiasm of the people and institutions working on the implementation of the Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme and the projects. Thus, in summarizing the Programme's and project's goals, activities and their results and impacts, we inevitably had simplified and left something out, simply due to space constraints. Each implemented project is a story worth and deserving a separate volume in its own right. Yet, in order to equally promote all 204 projects to the general public from the region, but also internationally, we were bound to summarize and present, within one page, a six-month to two-year-long cooperation of cross-border project partners.

Aside from visible, easily-measurable and palpable results, such as kilometers of new cycling paths, rehabilitated roads, newly built or reconstructed buildings, facilities or outdoor spaces, the overall impact of the Programme can be and will be felt in the years to come. The contribution of the Programme to the less-tangible, but longer-lasting, result such as the creation of harmonious, economically well-developed and environmentally sustainable region is indisputable. Simply said, goal of the activities of the Programme bodies and institutions as well as project partnerships - to establish and strengthen durable cooperation of organizations, institutions and people from two countries - is a process which has started and is unraveling. The work of all institutions, Programme bodies, project partner organizations and project team members who jointly worked in the past eight years has already yielded its results and will continue doing so in the upcoming years.

Most importantly, the smooth implementation of the Programme and achievement of its planned aims and results would not have been possible without strong commitment and continuous support, timely reactions and hard work of all institutions from Hungary, Serbia and the European Commission - Programme bodies and authorities responsible for implementation of the Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border cooperation Programme. It also would not have been possible without efforts, dedication and work of the organizations, institutions and people who implemented the projects.

We invite the reader to engage in reading the stories about these cross-border encounters. The reader of this Catalogue is also invited to visit the region, its towns and settlements, and enjoy its natural beauties, cultural programmes, get involved in its scientific, academic or economic networks and experience the hospitality of its inhabitants.

*Joint Technical Secretariat of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme*



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## **I. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE HUNGARY–SERBIA IPA CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMME**

### **1. The EU and the ETC programmes**

1.1. About the European Union .....	6
1.2. About the ETC in general .....	8
a) Number of Programmes and finances.....	9

### **2.What is in a name?**

#### **Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme**

2.1. Hungary–Serbia.....	10
2.2. IPA .....	12
2.3. Cross-border Cooperation.....	12
2.4. Programme.....	13

### **3. Details of the Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme**

3.1. Objectives,priorities and actions of HU-SRB IPA CBC .....	14
3.2. Responsible institutions and their role.....	18
3.3. Facts and figures.....	20
3.4. Timeline of Calls for Proposals of the HU-SRB IPA CBC .....	22
3.5. Financial data .....	26

### **4. Programme bodies and institutions**

4.1. Management structure of the Programme.....	30
4.2. Illustration of communication among programme bodies.....	31

## **5. Description of the major procedures**

5.1. Application .....	32
5.2. Selection and contracting .....	36
5.3. Implementation and modifications .....	40
5.4. Reporting and payments .....	42
5.5. Diagram of the major procedures .....	45

## **II. OVERVIEW OF THE SUPPORTED PROJECTS**

### **1. First Call for Proposals**

1.1. Introduction .....	46
1.2. Presentation of the supported projects .....	49

### **2. Second Call for Proposals**

2.1. Introduction .....	122
2.2. Presentation of the supported projects .....	125

### **3. Third Call for Proposals**

3.1. Introduction .....	194
3.2. Presentation of the supported projects .....	197

# I. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE HUNGARY- SERBIA IPA CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMME

## 1. The EU and the ETC programme

### **In this chapter:**

*We give a brief introduction to the European Union, the history of its enlargement and a map of the EU-28. Then follows a brief description of the European Territorial Cooperation Programme with data on the programming periods, projects and finances.*

### 1.1. About the European Union<sup>1</sup>

The European Union is a unique economic and political partnership of 28 European countries, which was primarily initiated after the Second World War. The EU operates through a system of supranational independent institutions, including the European Commission, the Council of the European Union, the European Council, the Court of Justice of the European Union, the European Central Bank, the Court of Auditors and the European Parliament.

EU policies aim to ensure the free movement of people, goods, services and capital, enact legislation in justice and home affairs, and maintain common policies on trade, agriculture, fisheries and regional development.

#### **Did you know?**

When the EC adopted the Flag of Europe – consisting of a circle of 12 golden (yellow) stars on an azure background – in 1985, many people believed that the stars represented the member states. However, the stars do not represent the number of member states but they symbolise the ideals of unity, solidarity and harmony among the peoples of Europe.

<sup>1</sup> / [http://europa.eu/about-eu/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/about-eu/index_en.htm)

## Key dates in the development of the EU:

- 1952** Six countries (Belgium, France, Germany (Federal Republic), Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands) establish the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC)
- 1957** In Rome, the six countries sign the treaties establishing the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom)
- 1973** Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom join the European Communities
- 1981** Greece joins the European Communities
- 1986** Spain and Portugal join the European Communities, bringing the number of member states to 12.
- 1993** The Maastricht Treaty establishes the European Union under its current name
- 1995** Austria, Finland and Sweden join the EU (EU-15)
- 1999** The currencies of 11 EU countries are replaced by the euro, which is first launched on the money markets
- 2002** People in the Eurozone countries begin using euro notes and coins
- 2004** Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia join the European Union (EU-25)
- 2007** Bulgaria and Romania join the EU (EU-27)
- 2009** The Treaty of Lisbon enters into force
- 2013** Croatia becomes a member state (EU-28)



*Map of EU member states (EU-28)*

## 1.2. About the ETC in general <sup>2</sup>

Territorial cooperation in the European Union is about reducing disparities between regions, reinforcing cohesion and encouraging optimal economic development, through addressing issues of daily life, such as transport, education, energy, health care and environmental protection.

**European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) – EU's Cohesion policy encourages regions and cities to work together and learn from each other through joint programmes, projects and networks.**

European Union supports territorial cooperation through three policy instruments:

**European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** supports cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation programmes involving Member states

**Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)** – supports cooperation between EU regions and regions in pre-accession countries

**European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)** – supports cooperation between EU regions and regions of EU external neighbours

The European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) Programme supports cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation programmes.

---

**Cross-border Cooperation** helps transform regions located on either side of internal or external borders of the European Union into strong economic and social poles.

**Transnational Cooperation** promotes cooperation among greater European regions and facilitates coordinated strategic responses to joint challenges.

**Interregional Cooperation** provides a framework for the exchange of experiences between local and regional actors from across Europe in order to contribute to the EU's strategies on growth, jobs and sustainable development.

---

These cooperation programmes provide the framework and funding for local and regional institutions, universities, companies and research institutes from different EU member states to work together and learn from each other through joint programmes, projects and networks.

<sup>2</sup> / [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/cooperate/cooperation/egtc/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperate/cooperation/egtc/index_en.cfm); [http://www.interact-eu.net/etc/etc\\_2007\\_13/4/2](http://www.interact-eu.net/etc/etc_2007_13/4/2); [http://www.interact-eu.net/etc\\_2014/european\\_territorial\\_cooperation/486/14849](http://www.interact-eu.net/etc_2014/european_territorial_cooperation/486/14849)

### a) Number of Programmes and finances

These three types of territorial cooperation were supported with approved European funding through ERDF, IPA and ENPI in two programming periods:

**from 2000 to 2006 and from 2007 to 2013**

The new programming period for Cohesion Policy from 2014 to 2020 has just begun.

The number of ETC programmes for the previous programming periods, and the amounts of allocated EU funding, is summarized below.

**53 cross-border cooperation** programmes along internal EU borders. ERDF contribution: **€5.6 billion.**

10 cross-border cooperation programmes between the member states and (potential) candidate countries.

IPA and ERDF contribution:

**€184 + €200 million. 8 cross-border co-operation** programmes between (potential) candidates countries. IPA contribution: **€61.3 million**

**13 transnational cooperation** programmes cover larger areas of cooperation such as the Baltic Sea, Alpine and Mediterranean regions, for example. ERDF, IPA and ENPI contribution:

**€1.8 billion**

**The interregional cooperation** programmes provide a framework for exchanging experience between regional and local bodies in different countries. ERDF contribution: **€445 million.**

## 2.What is in a name? Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme

### In this chapter:

*We give a brief explanation of all the terms that appear in the programme title Hungary–Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme.*

The Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme was implemented within the 2007-2013 European Union financial framework. The Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme was in operation between 2007 and 2013 as an IPA (Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance) Programme.

## 2.1. Hungary–Serbia

### Hungary

Hungary (Magyarország) is a Central European country situated in the Carpathian Basin and bordered by Slovakia to the north, Ukraine and Romania to the east, Serbia and Croatia to the south, Slovenia to the southwest and Austria to the west. The country's capital and largest city is Budapest. Hungary is a member of the European Union (since 1 May 2004), NATO, the OECD, the Visegrád Group and the Schengen Area. The official language is Hungarian.

Capital and largest city **BUDAPEST**

Official language	Hungarian
Government	Parliamentary republic
Legislature	National Assembly
Currency	Forint (HUF)

Table 1. Quick facts about Hungary.

### Serbia

Serbia, officially the Republic of Serbia (Republika Srbija), is a country located at the crossroads of Central and Southeast Europe, covering the southern part of the Pannonian Plain and the central Balkans. The country's capital and largest city is Belgrade. Serbia initialled a Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) with the European Union on 7 November 2007. The accession of Serbia to the European Union reached a milestone when Serbia received full candidate status on 1 March 2012.

Capital and largest city **BELGRADE**

Official language	Serbian
Government	Parliamentary republic
Legislature	National Assembly
Currency	Serbian dinar (RSD)

Table 2. Quick facts about Serbia



## The border region of Hungary and Serbia<sup>4</sup>

The border Region of Hungary and Serbia covers 7 territorial units (NUTS III level or equivalent): Csongrád and Bács-Kiskun counties in Hungary, West Bačka, North Bačka, North Banat, South Bačka and Central Banat districts in Serbia as well as South Banat and Srem districts as adjacent regions.



Figure 1. Map of the border region



## 2.2. IPA<sup>5</sup>

Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) is a unified financial instrument of the European Union which brings all pre-accession support into one single funding instrument aimed at aiding the pre-accession process for candidate and potential candidate countries in preparing for their accession to the EU.

In the budgetary period 2007-2013 this support was allocated through five components:

- a. Transition Assistance and Institution Building
- b. Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC)
- c. Regional Development
- d. Human Resources Development
- e. Rural Development

According to Council Regulation No. 1085/2006 and Commission Regulation (EC) 718/2007 of 12 June 2007 implementing Council Regulation 1085/2006, this instrument for pre-accession assistance has served as a financial source both for candidate and potential candidate countries (among them Serbia, at that time).

Assistance was used to support both the adoption and implementation of the *acquis communautaire* (the accumulated legislation, legal acts and court decisions, which constitute the body of European Union law) and the preparation for the implementation and management of the Community's common policies.

## 2.3. Cross-border Cooperation

While other components of the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance are providing support inside of a beneficiary country, Component 2, called Cross-Border Cooperation (usually referred to as IPA CBC) has a broader character. Support is provided through cross-border initiatives designed to deliver focused support to cross-border cooperation between EU member states, and candidate and potential candidate countries, as well as between IPA beneficiary countries themselves, and may also fund participation of beneficiary countries in ERDF transnational cooperation programmes.

Promoting  
GOOD  
neighbourly  
Relations

5 / <http://www.hu-srb-ipa.com/en/information-about-the-programme>; [http://www.interact-eu.net/ipa/ipa\\_general/29/14](http://www.interact-eu.net/ipa/ipa_general/29/14)

The CBC component has the objective of promoting good neighbourly relations, fostering stability, security and prosperity in the mutual interest of all countries concerned, and of encouraging their harmonic, balanced and sustainable development.

## 2.4. Programme

IPA CBC programmes between a member state and a (potential) candidate country can be implemented in two modes: shared management and transitional approach.



### Hungary-Serbia

IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme

Hungary and Serbia have cooperated within a framework of a common programme based on a joint institutional background. The two countries laid down their strategic development priorities in a joint Programming Document. Calls for Proposals were available to non-profit organisations in both countries. Common financial resources available in the Programme were used within the framework of an open call system. Implementation of the Programme was carried out in a joint structure through common projects and joint decision-making.

*Shared  
management*

### 3. Details of the Hungary–Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme

#### **In this chapter:**

*We give details, facts and figures about the objectives, timing, organisation, responsible institutions and finances of the HU-SRB IPA CBC programme.*

The Hungary–Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme has offered a wide range of opportunities to potential beneficiaries for financing a range of activities. IPA funds enabled cross-border partners to maintain long-lasting, close and fruitful cooperation.

Within the programming period from 2007 to 2013, there were three Calls for Proposals, resulting in contracts covering the whole published allocation. The European Union financed 85% of the total budget of every joint project of the partners in Hungary and Serbia.

Hungary co-financed 10% or 15% of the budget of each organization from Hungary which has participated in the joint projects within the framework of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme.

#### **3.1. Objectives, priorities and actions of HU-SRB IPA CBC**

The long-term overall aim of the Programme is the facilitation of the development of a harmonic and cooperating region with a sustainable and safe environment, where common cultural and natural heritage is successfully managed. In such a regional setting, the opportunities for economic and cultural growth are induced and encouraged through closer and strengthened business, educational, research and cultural ties, resulting in the creation of job opportunities, and minimising the isolating effects of the Schengen external border situation.

In order to achieve the overall strategic aims, five specific objectives and four horizontal objectives were defined.

*Specific objectives:*

1. Reducing isolation of border areas by improving cross-border accessibility
2. Environmental sustainability and safety in the border zone
3. Synergies and cooperation in the economy
4. Managing common cultural heritage to promote cultural values, traditions and to develop tourism
5. Intense cultural, educational and research interaction

# Horizontal objectives:

1. Creating joint structures by maximising cross-border impact
2. Strengthening Hungarian-Serbian bilingualism in the eligible area during Programme implementation
3. Ensuring equal opportunities for the underprivileged population
4. Creating sustainability<sup>6</sup>

The different specific objectives are represented by the different Priorities, Areas of Intervention and Actions in the Programme, while all projects supported by the Programme have to comply with the horizontal objectives.

Figure 2. System of objectives of the HU-SRB IPA CBC Programme

## A HARMONIC AND CO-OPERATING REGION WITH SUSTAINABLE AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT

*Border region with a sustainable and safe environment, increased business, educational and cultural contacts resulting in new jobs, while mitigating negative effects of the Schengen external border situation*

1. Reducing isolation of border areas by improving cross-border accessibility

2. Environmental sustainability and safety in the border zone

3. Synergies and co-operation in the economy

4. Common cultural heritage for promoting cultural values, traditions and developing tourism

5. Intense cultural, educational and research interaction

*Creating joint structures by maximising the cross-border impact of Programme intervention*

*Strengthening Hungarian-Serbian bilingualism in the eligible area during Programme implementation*

*Ensuring equal opportunities for representatives of the underprivileged population*

*Creating sustainability*

Mission

Specific objectives: Horizontal objectives:

Source: Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme, Programming Document for the Programming Period 2007-2013. p. 30.

Table 3. The structure of Priorities, Areas of Intervention and Actions in HU-SRB IPA CBC Programme

# **PRIORITY 1**

## **INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

### **1.1 Infrastructure for physical connections**

#### **1.1.1 Border crossing infrastructure, construction, reconstruction of lead up roads**

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project:**

**500 000 - 1 500 000 EUR**

Border crossing infrastructure, construction, reconstruction of lead up roads. Minor improvements in heavy infrastructure of border crossings and smaller lead up roads in order to increase the capacity for travel of persons and transport of goods at smaller border crossing stations.

#### **1.1.2 Planning transport lines, harmonisation of public transport**

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project:**

**100 000 - 400 000 EUR**

Planning of connecting local transport lines in the border area micro-regions and harmonisation of public transport (bus and train) facilities across the border (networking and transition costs, minor developments in long distance public transport). These activities contribute to shortening of the travel time for inhabitants of the region when accessing the border crossings as well as larger urban centres.

### **1.2 Common responsibility for the environment**

#### **1.2.1 Minor actions in water management**

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project:**

**400 000 – 1 000 000 EUR**

Minor actions in the field of water management aiming at prevention of floods and inland inundations in the common border area.

Projects aimed at

- planning and related research activities
- developing a joint monitoring system (including equipment and necessary surveys)
- minor actions on a local scale for preventing inland inundation and floods (maintenance of local canals, local flood prevention measures).

#### **1.2.2 Animal health monitoring, minor actions for improving the quality of the environment**

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project: 100 000 - 400 000 EUR**

Animal health monitoring, minor actions for improving the quality of the environment. Co-operation in the field of animal health to eliminate epidemic diseases of wild and domestic animals. Animal health measures include:

- ongoing monitoring of animals
- regular surveillance of animals and reporting to the other country
- building databases
- local cleaning of waterways, forests and meadows
- elimination of illegal rubbish dumps
- landscape management actions for a more sustainable and healthy environment
- cutting of allergen plants e.g. ragweed
- protection and reconstruction of habitats with cross-border relevance

# **PRIORITY 2**

**ECONOMY,  
EDUCATION  
AND CULTURE**

## **2.1 Stimulating a synergic economy, tourism and R&D**

### **2.1.1 Trainings and partner finding facilitation for businesses**

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project:**

**50 000 - 200 000 EUR**

Facilitating the establishment of business contacts, exchange of experiences and development of co-operation skills through trainings in order to boost co-operation between companies and institutions from both sides of the border

### **2.1.2 Development of thematic routes of cultural heritage**

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project: 100 000 -**

**300 000 EUR**

Support for networked projects in the field of cultural heritage management, including

- common marketing,
- the creation of tourist thematic routes, as well as
- related small scale reconstruction and modernisation aiming to boost attractiveness of the border area

### **2.1.3 Coordinated studies for territorial and sectoral development of the region**

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project:**

**50 000 - 100 000 EUR**

Support for projects in the fields of

- spatial planning
- infrastructure
- education and other sectoral issues
- preparation of industrial zones
- environment protection such as climate change, biodiversity of the border area.

### **2.1.4 Product oriented research, development and innovation**

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project:**

**100 000 - 400 000 EUR**

Support is intended for joint efforts of university and non-university institutions, optionally in partnership with SME-s in order to increase the joint RDI capacity of the border region. Projects favouring sustainable, environmentally friendly technologies are supported.

## 2.2 Education and culture for a common mind

### 2.2.1 Educational cooperation

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project:**

**100 000 - 400 000 EUR**

Joint cross-border education and training partnerships between educational and other relevant institutions in order to strengthen cooperation in the education and vocational training sectors and to develop the local, regional institutional capacities of the border area. The activities include

- common training programmes,
- staff and student exchange projects
- the modernization and harmonization of curricula
- recognition of degrees or study periods
- joint measures contributing to the principles of the Bologna process in the field of higher education

### 2.2.2 People to people cooperation

**Minimum and maximum amount of the IPA subsidy per project: 50 000 - 100 000 EUR**

Through this Action the Programme supports people to people co-operations organised by municipalities and civic organisations in order to facilitate interaction between citizens and to strengthen the common identity of the border region. Projects lasting longer than a single event and including a large number of organizations and participants are supported. Cultural, sports, and tourist events, gastronomic festivals and similar are envisaged within this Action.



## 3.2. Responsible institutions and their roles

The Hungary–Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme was adopted by the European Commission on 25 March 2008. Since then three Call for Proposals (CfP) were published and a total of 204 projects implemented.

The relevant governmental bodies from Hungary and Serbia (the National Development Agency of Hungary<sup>1</sup> and the Ministry of Finance of Serbia, later the European Integration Office of the Government of the Republic of Serbia) launched three open Calls for Proposals within the framework of the Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme. The announcement of the Calls for Proposals was only one step in the entire implementation process of the Hungary–Serbia IPA CBC Programme.

7 / As of January 1st 2014 the tasks of the National Development Agency were taken over by the Prime Minister's Office, Hungary.



The implementation was realised in shared management between an EU Member State (Hungary) and non-Member State (Serbia), following these principles:

**joint management structures, single set of rules for implementation**  
**one single Managing Authority which concludes one subsidy contract**  
**(for community funding) with**  
**one Lead Beneficiary which represents the project and bears overall responsibility**  
**within the framework of a partnership agreement for all project partners**  
**single set of rules for project implementation and validation of expenditure**

The joint management structure requires joint programme bodies, the names and core tasks of which are listed in the table below.

Table 4. Programme bodies with their core tasks

Joint program body	Task
<b>Joint Monitoring and Steering Committee (JMSC)</b> – <i>Ministries and regional level stakeholders delegated by the Participating Countries</i>	Supervising and monitoring the programme implementation, selecting projects
<b>Managing Authority (MA)</b> - <i>Prime Minister's Office, Hungary,<sup>8</sup> Budapest</i>	Responsibility for the management and implementation of the Programme
<b>Certifying Authority (CA)</b> – <i>Hungarian State Treasury, Budapest</i>	Certifying statements of expenditure and application for payment and submits them to the European Commission
<b>Audit Authority (AA)</b> - <i>Directorate General for Audit of European Funds, Budapest</i>	Verification of the functioning of the management and control system
<b>Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS)</b> – <i>set up in Széchenyi Programme Office Nonprofit LLC., Budapest<sup>9</sup></i>	Support to Programme bodies and day-to-day management of implementation of the Programme
<b>Control Bodies - First Level Control</b> – <i>in Hungary set up in Széchenyi Programme Office Nonprofit LLC.<sup>10</sup> in Szeged and Békéscsaba and in Serbia set up within the Ministry of Finance)</i>	Responsible for validating expenditures at the national level in accordance with Community and national rules.
<b>Information Point (IP), in Subotica</b>	Support to JTS and the project partners in Serbia

Source: Hungary – Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION MANUAL. p. 10-11.

The detailed explanation of the Programme bodies and their roles and tasks is given in the Chapter 4 of this book.

8 / As of January 1st 2014 the tasks of the National Development Agency were taken over by the Prime Minister's Office, Hungary

9 / As of July 1st 2014 the hosting institution of the JTS became the SZPO Nonprofit LLC. as the successor of VÁTI Nonprofit Ltd

10 / As of July 1st 2014 the FLC is set up within the SZPO Nonprofit LLC., as the successor of VÁTI Nonprofit Ltd



### 3.3. Facts and figures

#### Results so far

All 204 projects finished implementation of all their planned activities. Output and immediate results of their activities are already visible and recorded. But it must be noted that the results and impact of the Programme, the implementation of projects, work of the cross-border partnership cannot be completely measured and fully represented in this publication at this time. Aside from visible, measurable and palpable results, such as kilometres of cycling paths, renovated roads, newly built or reconstructed buildings, facilities or outdoor spaces, the overall impact of the Programme can be and will be felt in the years to come. The contribution of the

Programme to the creation of harmonious, economically well-developed and environmentally sustainable region is indisputable. Simply said, goal of the activities of the Programme bodies and institutions as well as project partnerships - to establish and strengthen durable cooperation of organizations, institutions and people from two countries is a process which has started and is unravelling. The work of all institutions, Programme bodies, project Partners and team members who jointly worked in the past seven years has already and will continue to yield results in the years to come.

**Alongside the general improvement of the cross-border relationships, which general public sees as the biggest achievement, there are many other significant results of the programme so far:** 34 kilometres of new bicycle paths were constructed; 11 actions in flood protection; 66 events were organised to enhance the economic cooperation; 44 products were developed in the area of joint culture and tourism; 335 604 people were in one way or the other involved in the projects; 287 settlements; 181 690 people visited the cultural and historical attractions alongside the thematic routes supported by the Programme; 13 858 persons

were trained in the joint educational activities in various fields; 494 scientific researchers were involved in the R&D projects activities; 92 strategies, rules or regulations were harmonized within the action "Coordinated studies for territorial and sectoral development of the region"; 19 348 multilingual information materials were produced within the action "Trainings and partner finding facilitation for businesses"; 39 joint and continually updated websites are online to help the cooperation in education; 360 organizations participated in various joint events organised within "People to people cooperation" action.

People involved  
in the projects

**335 604**



Settlements affected

**287**



People visited cultural  
and historical attractions

**181 690**



Persons trained

**13 858**



Scientific researchers involved

**494**



Harmonized strategies

**92**



Multilingual information  
material produced for  
economic growth

**19 348**



Websites for cooperation  
in education

**39**



Organizations participated in joint  
events in actions 'People to People'  
cooperation

**360**



### 3.4. Timeline of Calls for Proposals of the HU-SRB IPA CBC

The Hungary–Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme was adopted by the European Commission on 25 March 2008. Since then, three Calls for Proposals (CfP) have been launched.

Table 5. Timeline of Calls for Proposals within HU-SRB IPA CBC Programme

Call for Proposals	Acronym	Date of launching	Submission deadline
1st	HUSRB/0901	29 September 2009	31 December 2009
2nd	HUSRB/1002	15 November 2010	14 February 2011
3rd	HUSRB/1203	1 March 2012	30 May 2012

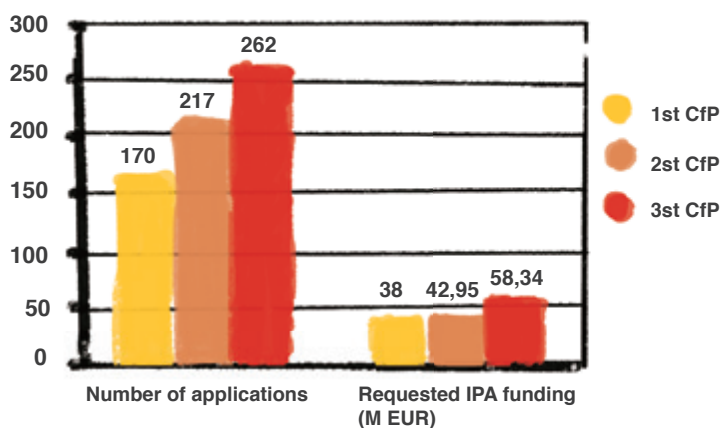
Since the launch of the first Call for Proposals on 29 September 2009, there have been a total of 204 contracted and implemented projects. All 204 completed their implementation.

Table 6. First, Second and Third Calls for Proposals in figures:

Main features	1st CfP	2nd CfP	3rd CfP
<b>Launching the CfP</b>	29 September 2009	15 November 2010	1 March 2012
<b>Submission deadline</b>	31 December 2009	14 February 2011	30 May 2012
<b>Main assessment phases</b>	1. Formal evaluation 2. Quality assessment	1. Formal evaluation 2. Quality assessment	1. Formal evaluation 2. Quality assessment
<b>Length of the whole evaluation process (from launching the CfP until the decision)</b>	8 months	8.5 months	7 months
<b>Length of the assessment (from submission deadline until the end of the quality assessment)</b>	3 months	3.5 months	3 months
<b>Number of submitted applications</b>	170	217	262
<b>Average length of the assessment per project</b>	0.6 days	0.5 days	0.4 days
<b>Number of contracted projects</b>	70	67	72
<b>Amount of IPA subsidy</b>	€ 18.2 million	€ 12.2 million	€ 19,52 million
<b>Number of withdrawn projects</b>	2	3	0
<b>Number of implemented projects</b>	68	64	72
<b>Amount of contracted IPA subsidy of implemented projects</b>	€ 17,93 million	€ 11,9 million	€ 17,65 million

Source: Final Evaluation Report of the Hungary–Serbia IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Programme (2007-2013) p. 53. and Working Table by JTS

Figure: 3: Number of Applications and requested funds per Call for Proposals

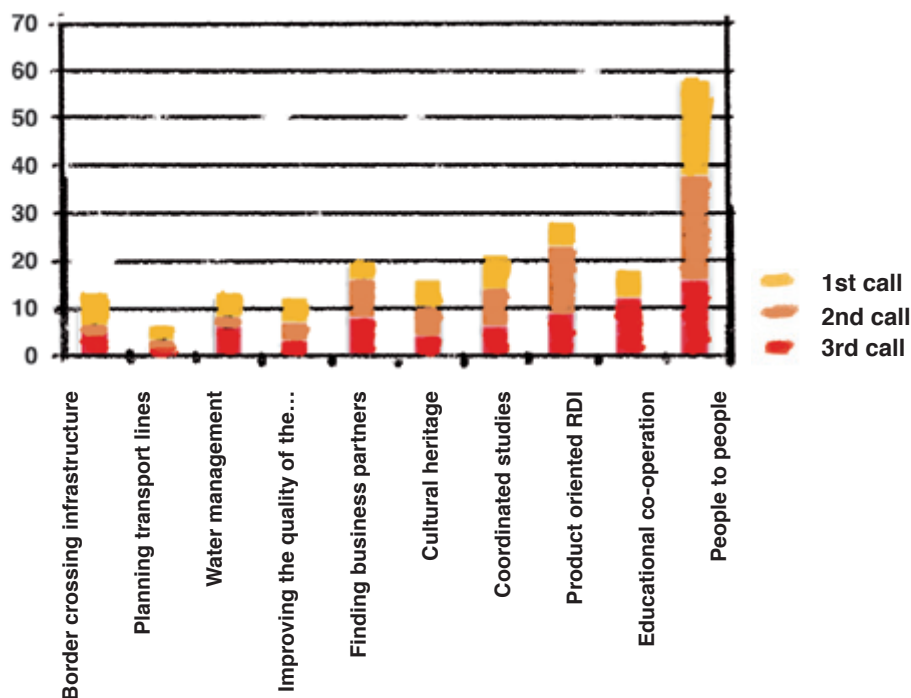


As this figure shows, the Programme has ensured the high and steadily growing interest of applicants since with each successive Call for Proposals the number of Applications increased almost by a quarter of the number of the previous one. This, in turn, significantly enlarged the pool of applications from which the best quality projects could be selected for co-financing. In each Call for Proposals the total of requested funds was three times higher than the available funds. This, and the increasing number of Applications, ensured that in each Call for Proposals only best quality projects receive the subsidy. Programme's well-targeted promotional activities greatly contributed to the increase in the number of Applications, but, more importantly, the work of the already contracted projects under implementation could as easily serve as the best recommendation of the Programme to potential Applicants.

Concerning the geographical distribution of project partners, Csongrád County was predominant with respect to the origin of the partners, since 35.7% of all partners were from this county. This was followed by South Bačka (24.3%), North Bačka (14.5%) and Bács-Kiskun (11.8%). These four counties / districts represented themselves jointly with 86% of the total number of participating partners.

The proportion of partners from other districts (Central Banat and West Bačka) was low (1-2%), while the proportion from Srem and South Banat was even lower (the latter two districts were adjacent regions in the Eligible area with different subsidy rules).

Figure 4. Number of supported projects per action.



Source: Final Evaluation Report of the Hungary–Serbia IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Programme (2007-2013), p. 28.

Figure 4 presents the number of supported projects by actions in all three CfPs. The aims of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme were divided into 2 main priorities, 4 interventions and 10 different actions. According to the Final Evaluation Report of the Programme, almost 30% of the supported projects were within the action “People to people cooperation”. Although the number of such supported projects is high, these were mainly small projects in terms of the amount of support. At the end of the Programme, the proportion of supported projects under this action was less than 10% from IPA Funding. On the other hand, 13 projects from the action “Border crossing infrastructure, construction of lead up roads” received 29% of IPA Funding, due to bigger project sizes and significant infrastructural investments.

Each project partner can be classified into one of these categories:

- Local government and its institution
- Public authority
- Non-governmental organisation
- Non-profit company
- Educational institution
- Development agencies
- Church
- Foundation
- Budgetary organization of the central state budget

While in Hungary most of the successful applicants were non-governmental or non-profit organizations (31%), in Serbia, local governments and their institutions were the participating partners with the highest frequency (29%).

### 3.5. Financial data

In order to present the relevant financial data concerning the Programme, first we provide two excerpts from the Programming Document for the Programming Period 2007-2013. The following tables show the indicative financial plan for the Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme for the period 2007-2013.

Table 7. Amount of available IPA funds, the national contributions and the rate of co-financing by priority axis (in EUR).

Priorities	Community funding	National contribution	Total funding
<b>Priority 1</b> Infrastructure and environment	24 555 090,00	4 333 251,00	28 888 341,00
<b>Priority 2</b> Economy, Education and Culture	20 546 095,00	3 625 782,00	24 171 877,00
<b>Priority 3</b> Technical Assistance	5 011 243,00	884 337,00	5 895 580,00
<b>Total</b>	<b>50 112 428,00</b>	<b>8 843 370,00</b>	<b>58 955 798,00</b>

Source: Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme, Programming Document for the Programming Period 2007-2013. p. 80.

The Programme had a total of 50.1 million Euros available, divided between three priorities:

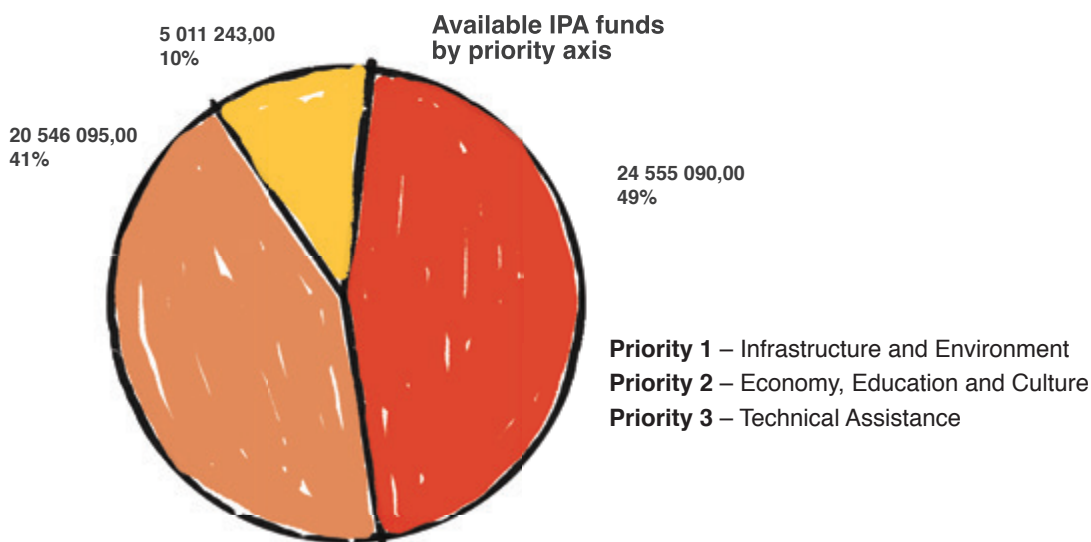


Table 8. Annual allocations indicated in EUR at current prices at the beginning of the Programming Period.

Year / Community funding	
2007	4,032,500
2008	6,889,525
2009	7,530,765
2010	7,681,381
2011	7,835,008
2012	7,991,707
2013	8,151,542
<b>Total</b>	50,112,428
(2007-2013)	

Source: Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme, Programming Document for the Programming Period 2007-2013. p. 80.

The process of allocating IPA funds started with the contracting. Although a total of 209 projects were contracted, five of them later withdrew due to different external circumstances.

Table 9 shows the number of progress reports, as well as their total values for each Call for Proposals. All 204 projects finished their implementation and 203 submitted their final progress reports by the time of publishing this revised edition of the Project Catalogue. By 1st December 2016, 811 project progress reports were approved with a total value of € 44 071 011,61 of validated IPA subsidy.

Table 9. Reporting dynamics per Call for Proposals.

1st Call	2nd Call	3rd Call
No of reports / Value	No of reports / Value	No of reports / Value
239 / 15 643 480,34	285 / 10 620 999,30	287 / 17 806 531,97

Source: Working Table by the JTS



Figure 5. Number of approved Progress Reports per Quarter

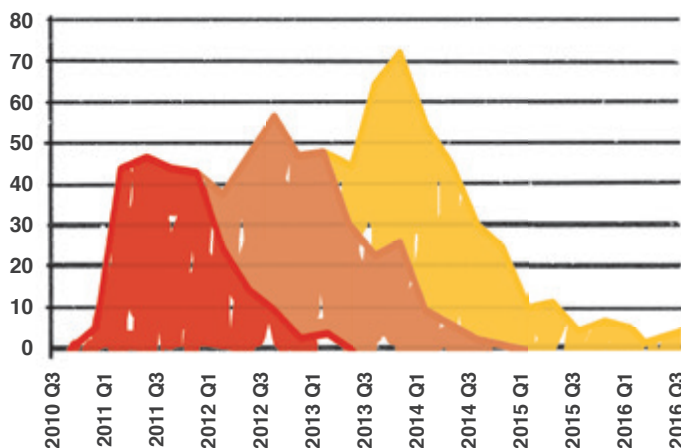
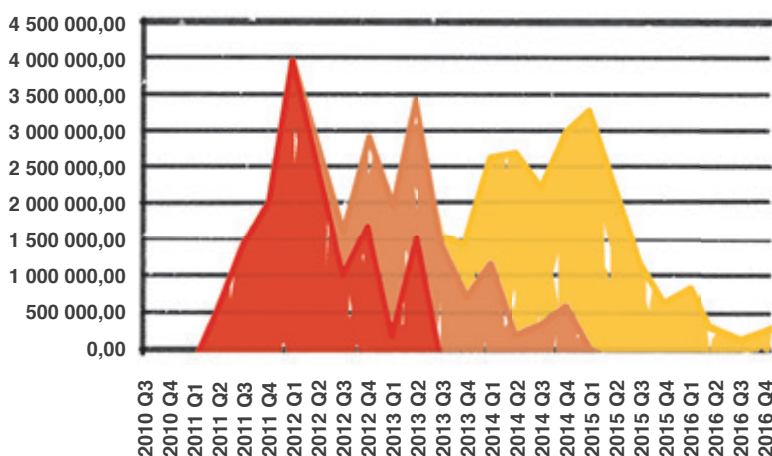


Figure 6. Amounts of IPA funds requested and approved in the progress reports per Quarter



Source: Working Table by the JTS

68 projects in the first Call for Proposals were completed, with a spending rate (ratio between the amount of contracted funds and reimbursed funds) of 87,24%. All 64 projects in the second Call for Proposals were finalized and closed, with a spending rate of 89,26%. By the beginning of December 2016, 72 projects in the third Call for Proposals were implemented, and 71 of them submitted their final progress reports with an overall spending rate of 91,65%. The overall absorption rate of 203 projects from all three Calls for Proposals which submitted their final project progress reports was 89,46%.

The distribution of these amounts is presented in Table 10.

Table 10. Final reports and closed project totals of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd CfP.

Call for Proposals (CfP)	Number of approved final reports €	Amount of IPA funds reimbursed in the final report €	Closed projects – reimbursed IPA funds €	Amount of IPA funds contracted €	Absorption rate
1st CfP	68	8 292 535,32	15 643 480,34	17 931 209,09	87,24%
2nd CfP	64	3 869 537,87	10 620 999,30	11 898 790,72	89,26%.
3rd CfP	71	7 640 382,17	17 650 117,22	19 257 141,48	91,65%

Source: Working Table by JTS

As the table above demonstrates, the absorption rate of the projects is around 90%. Spending (or absorption) rate is a ratio between the amount of contracted funds and reimbursed funds. High absorption rate can mean:

- Thoroughly planned and well-executed preparatory phase for the implementation of the Programme
- Careful, thorough and smart planning of the Programme in accordance with the realistic needs of the region, but also good planning of projects
- Good cooperation within the project partnership, but also smooth and timely communication and information-flow among Programme bodies
- Timely reactions in decision making based on the up-to-date information
- Flexibility of the system and procedures to accommodate change of the external circumstances and facilitate smooth implementation of all project activities to successful closure

The growth of the spending rate per Call for Proposals also implies that the flexibility of the system helps greatly to adopt smaller changes and adjustments in the procedures.. It demonstrates that the Programme bodies attentively monitor the ongoing processes and procedures, evaluate them and respond to them promptly. This way, the whole structure of the Programme continuously learns from the previous experiences. The Programme has been summarizing lessons-learned after each Call for Proposals, responding to the previous experiences and able to adjust the procedures to ensure efficiency, smooth implementation of projects and faster achievement of the overall objective and specific goals of the Programme.

## 4. Programme bodies and institutions

### In this chapter:

*We give a description of the institutions involved in the implementation of the Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme.*

### 4.1. Management structure of the Programme<sup>3</sup>

In line with Article 98 of the IPA Implementing Regulation, the Programme has been implemented through shared management under the responsibility of a single Managing Authority, a Certifying Authority and an Audit Authority. The participating countries regulate their relations and responsibilities in a Memorandum of Understanding.

The management structure of the Programme is the following:

**The European Commission** is the Donor of the IPA funds, and is establishing the IPA regulations.

**The Managing Authority (MA)** of the Programme is the Prime Minister's Office in Hungary, and is bearing overall responsibility for the management and implementation of the Programme towards the European Commission.

**The Certifying Authority (CA)** of the programme is the Hungarian State Treasury, responsible for submitting certified statements of expenditure and applications for payment to the European Commission.

**The Audit Authority (AA)** of the Programme is the Directorate General for Audit of European Funds (EUTAF) in Hungary. It is a body, functionally independent from the Managing Authority, the Certifying Authority and the Control Bodies, and it is responsible for ensuring the effective functioning of the management and control system, as well as for verifying the expenditures declared to the EC.

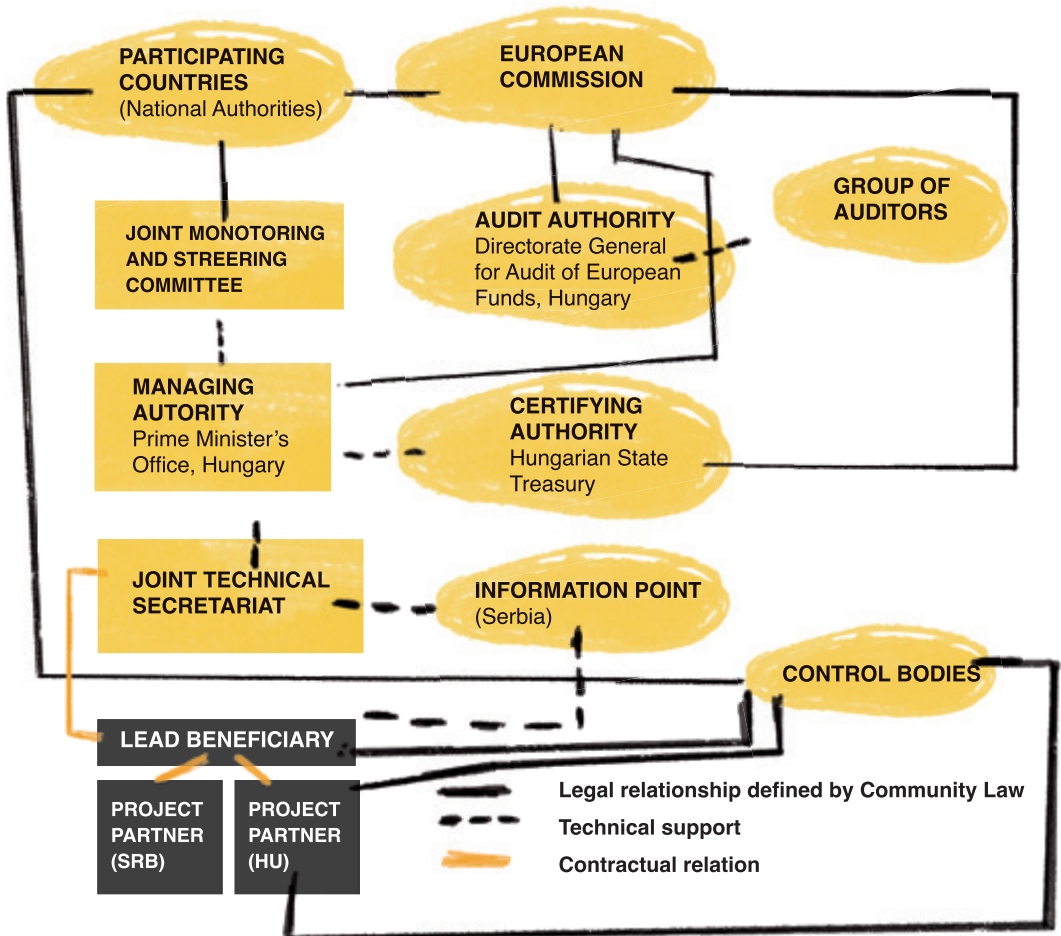
**The Joint Monitoring and Steering Committee (JMSC)** supervises and monitors the programme implementation, and is responsible for project selection. Its operations are regulated by the Rules and Procedures of the JMSC.

**The Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS)** maintains daily contact with potential Applicants and Lead Beneficiaries of contracted projects. The JTS member in Szeged and the Information Point, as an antenna of the JTS, set up in Subotica are responsible in particular for supporting efficient project development on both sides of the border, by giving direct assistance to potential Applicants. The JTS is the main contact of Lead Beneficiaries both in Hungary and in Serbia in relation to the implementation of their projects. Set up within Széchenyi Program Office Nonprofit LLC. in Budapest with a member in Szeged, the JTS assists Lead Beneficiaries during project development, application, contracting and project implementation. The JTS also assists the MA, CA, AA, the JMSC and the National Authorities in carrying out their respective duties.

**National Authorities (NA):** The Prime Minister's Office in Hungary and the European Integration Office of the Government of the Republic of Serbia are the National Authorities of this Programme. They are responsible for setting up the control system in order to validate the expenditures at national level and for ensuring national state co-financing. Moreover, NAs are responsible for investigation of suspicion, declaration and handling of irregularities.

**Control Bodies** are responsible for validating expenditures at national level in accordance with Community and national rules. In Hungary, they are set up in Széchenyi Program Office Nonprofit LLC. in Budapest and in its territorial offices in Szeged and Békéscsaba. In Serbia, they are within the Central Finance and Contracting Unit (CFCU) of the Ministry of Finance.

## 4.2. Illustration of communication among programme bodies



## 5. Description of the major procedures

### In this chapter:

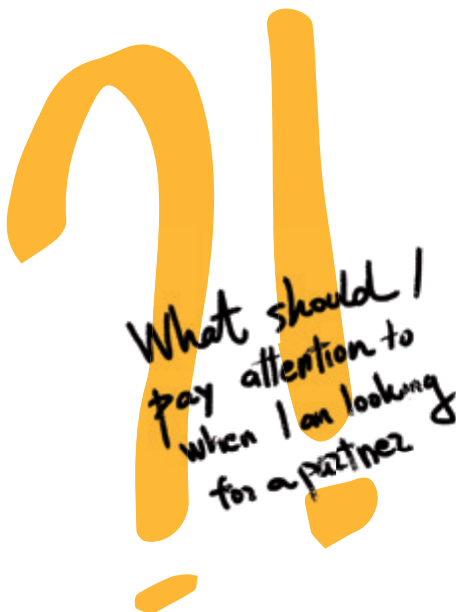
*We present the main steps, procedures and activities of the Programme with respect to the project cycle: from application and selection through the implementation, reporting, project closure to the audit of the projects.*

### 5.1. Application

#### Before the application

Cooperation among the partners within a project is one of the essential requirements of the Programme.

Cooperation among cross-border partners should start during the phase of project planning and it should continue smoothly throughout the implementation. Almost by rule, good cooperation among project partner institutions continues well after the projects ends.



When searching for project partner organisation, special attention is paid to:

- Joint interests and objectives,
- Type of activities which will be implemented,
- Partner's eligibility,
- Partner's financial and organisational capability to implement their respective project parts,
- Professional qualifications of partners to implement the project activities.

The intensity and quality of cooperation between partners is one of the key assessment criteria during the project selection.

The framework of joint criteria contains:

**Joint financing** – planned project budget must contain costs eligible for financing a core activity of the project (excluding project management activities) of at least one partner organisation from Hungary and one from Serbia. The distribution of financial resources should be balanced between the project partners and it should reflect the tasks and responsibilities of the partners.

**Joint development** – the Lead Beneficiary and the Project Partners actively participate in the generation of the project idea, definition of activities and development of the project application from the beginning.

**Joint implementation** – the Lead Beneficiary and the Project Partners from both sides of the border are jointly working on the overall goals of the project, where the tasks are distributed in accordance with the competencies, experience and the project design.

**Joint staffing** – the Lead Beneficiary and the Project Partners share their responsibilities for day-to-day management and operation of the project by involving at least one employee from each partner organisation.

## Partnership in Cross border Cooperation projects

Projects have to be implemented in partnership following the Lead Beneficiary principle.

**Lead Beneficiary:** the organisation assuming the leading role in the partnership, in accordance with the “Lead Beneficiary principle”. The “Lead Beneficiary principle” means that each partnership has to designate one Project Partner among them to act as the Lead Beneficiary, which will submit the Application on behalf of the entire partnership and will be responsible for the overall project implementation towards the programme management structures. Nevertheless, the Lead Beneficiary also acts as a Project Partner in relation to its own project part.


**Project Partner:** an organisation actively participating in the implementation of a project with responsibility for the proper implementation of its project part in particular.

**Partnership:** Projects have to be implemented in partnership, including a Lead Beneficiary and Project Partner(s), where at least one Project Partner is a cross-border Project Partner.

Who may be  
the project partner?!

The Programme imposes a set of eligibility criteria for Applicants. Potential Applicants have to fulfil eligibility criteria concerning their legal status, their geographical location and their professional and financial background.

## Each Lead Beneficiary and Project Partner must:

- 
- Be legally established entity
  - Be non-profit organisation
  - Have their headquarters or a registered regional/local branch office in the eligible area, or in the adjacent regions.
  - Have direct responsibility for the preparation and management of the proposed activities, not acting as intermediaries.

### Potential Applicants can be (the list is indicative):

- 
- Local governments and their institutions
  - Associations of local governments and their institutions
  - Development agencies
  - Non-governmental non-profit organisations (NGOs)
  - Water management authorities
  - Environmental management authorities
  - Management organisations of national parks and environmental protection areas
  - Tourist boards
  - Public enterprises
  - Universities and research institutes
  - Educational organisations and their non-profit organisations
  - Labour centres
  - Foundations and chambers of commerce



# Eligible area

The eligible area lies in the south of Hungary and the northern part of the Republic of Serbia. Landscape is characterized by plain topography (the Great Plain region) and two major rivers – the Danube and Tisa.

Eligible area in Hungary*:	Eligible area in Serbia*:	
Csongrád county	West Bačka	Adjacent regions: <sup>11</sup>
Bács-Kiskun. county	North Bačka	South Banat
	North Banat	Srem
	South Bačka	
	Central Banat	

\*NUTS III level or equivalent territory

## Project duration

The project implementation lasts between 6 months and 18 (or 24) months; and it must not start before the submission of the Project Application. The start and end date of the project implementation are specified in the Subsidy Contract for Community Funding for each selected project, based on the submitted Project Application.

## Indicators

Indicators show whether the project – and, as the sum of the projects, the Programme – has achieved its objectives. Therefore, the achievement of specific objectives of each project is measured by specific output and result indicators. For example:

Output indicators (relate to implemented activities)	Result indicators (refer to the effects and consequences of the achievement of project activities on the target groups)
number of jointly organised events held in connection with the action	number of organisations participating in the network
number of newly elaborated/harmonised documents, etc.	number of settlements influenced by the project, etc.

During the application period of the Calls for Proposals, the Joint Technical Secretariat and Info Point in Subotica support efforts in project development through several activities:

- On-line Partner Search Database on the Programme’s website
- Information Days held in various locations within the eligible area
- Helpdesk for potential Applicants
- FAQ about the Application regularly updated

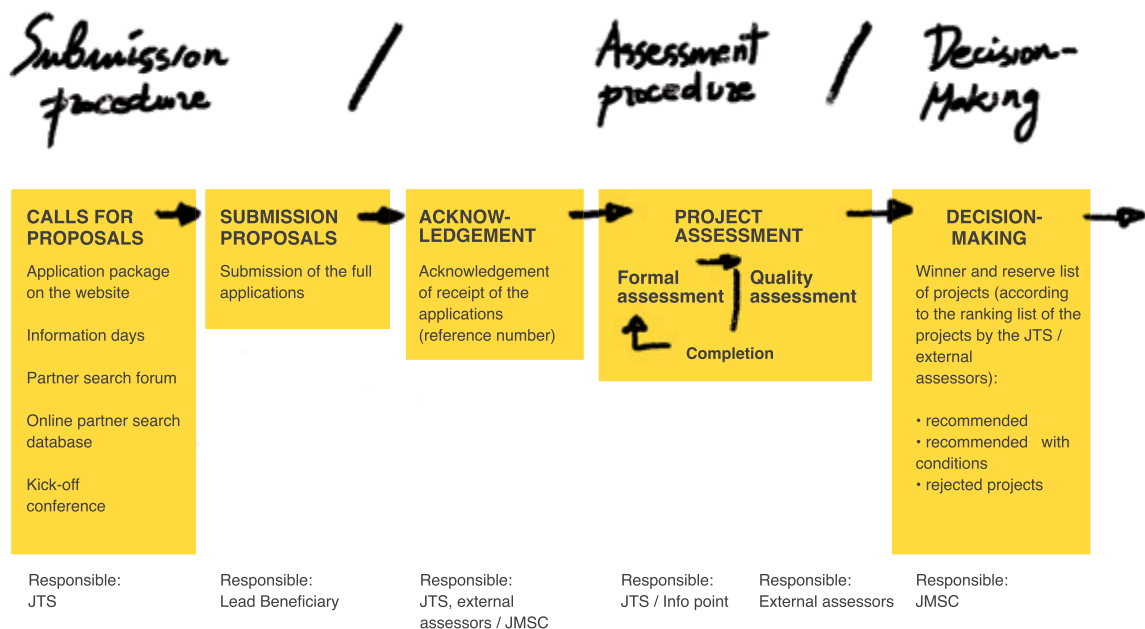
11 / In the above mentioned adjacent regions (South Banat and Srem) according to Article 97 of Commission Regulation (EC) 718/2007, Community funding may finance expenditure up to 20 % of the amount of the Community contribution.



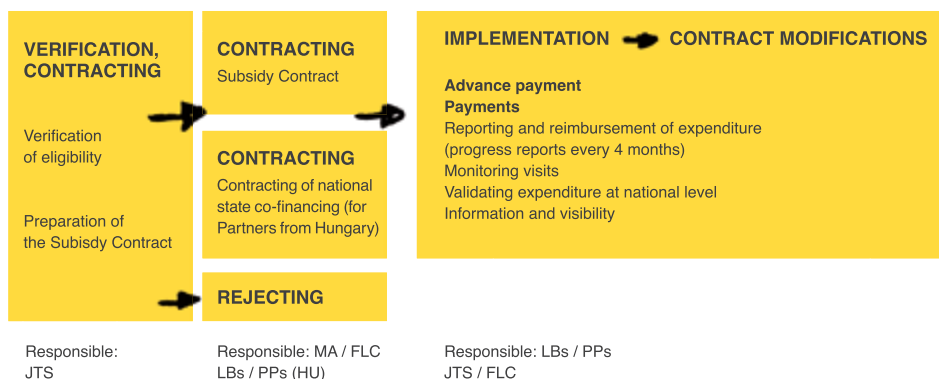
## 5.2. Selection and contracting

The Project Applications are assessed by the Joint Technical Secretariat for formal eligibility criteria while the external assessors, experts in the field of each of the Programme Actions, assess the quality of the submitted Applications. Joint Monitoring and Steering Committee (JMSC) makes the final decision about the projects selected for financing.

Figure 7. Application and project selection procedure



### CONTRACTING AND PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PHASE



Based on the Final Evaluation Report of the Hungary–Serbia IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Programme (2007-2013), p. 51.

1. Formal assessment
2. Quality assessment
3. Decision
4. Verification of eligibility and notification of the Applicants

## 1. Formal assessment

- Submission criteria (If the submission deadline was not met, the Application is automatically rejected)
- Formal completeness criteria
- Basic eligibility criteria
- Supporting documents

### Results:

1. Recommended for further evaluation.
2. Not recommended for further evaluation.

*Submission of  
missing documents  
and clarifications*

## Quality assessment

The quality of each project is assessed based on several groups of criteria.

- The financial and operational capacity evaluates the Applicant's ability to complete the proposed set of project activities and tasks. Applicants must have stable and sufficient financial resources, as well as professional competencies and qualifications necessary to complete the proposed action.

- The relevance of the Application is evaluated based on its compliance with the Programme strategy and horizontal objectives, objectives of the specific area of intervention and its cross-border effect.

- Methodology criteria assess the coherence of the proposed project design, appropriateness and efficiency of the activities, adequacy of indicators and feasibility of time-plan.

- Sustainability criteria establish the probable duration of achieved results, likelihood of multiplier effect and financial and institutional durability.

- The group of criteria related to the budget and cost effectiveness estimates the ratio between the proposed budget and expected results of the activities. The planned project must be cost-effective and planned costs must not deviate from realistic market-prices.

*budget of the  
application*



Table 11. Principles of the assessment procedure

Overall principles	
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- evident cross-border impact</li> <li>- high professional and administrative quality</li> <li>- matching the Programme objectives</li> <li>- contribution to the EU policies in general</li> </ul>
Transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- clearly described decision-making process</li> <li>- availability of information (taking into account the rules of confidentiality)</li> </ul>
Equal treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- equal treatment of applications regardless of the identity</li> </ul>
Efficiency and speed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reasonably fast procedures (while maintaining the quality and respecting the legal framework)</li> </ul>
Impartiality and confidentiality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4-eye principle</li> <li>- impartial treatment of applications</li> <li>- completely unbiased actors involved in the evaluation procedure</li> </ul>
Best available expertise for project selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- experienced external assessors</li> <li>- 4-eye principle (arithmetic average of the scores given by two individual assessors)</li> </ul>
Fulfilment of / compliance with the rules, regulations, legal provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- assessment process in line with the respective EC and national legal framework and with respect to the relevant programme-level documents</li> </ul>
Horizontal principles of the EU (equal opportunities and sustainable development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ensuring equal opportunities and sustainable development</li> <li>- fulfilment of EU horizontal principles described by the applicants in the AF</li> </ul>

Source: Implementation Manual (and its modification)

## Final selection

The Joint Monitoring and Steering Committee (JMSC) selects Applications which will be supported, based on the evaluation results summarized into a ranking list, having in mind the available financial allocation of the Call for each action. The outcome of the JMSC decision-making process is a list of the following decisions:

- **Projects recommended for financing**
- **Projects recommended for financing with conditions** (budget modification, budget decrease, compliance with EU or national regulations, horizontal principles, etc.)
- **A reserve list of applications** (used in case if remaining funds from the Programme become available to co-finance the projects on the reserve list)
- **Projects which are not recommended for financing**

Once the decision is delivered, the JTS on behalf of the Managing Authority sends a Notification Letter to the Lead Beneficiaries, informing them whether their project has been recommended for financing (with or without conditions). If yes, the Notification Letter invites them to submit the documents necessary for eligibility verification and preparation of Subsidy Contracts for Community Funding.

## Verification of eligibility

The eligibility is verified by:

- Making sure that the Declaration by the Applicant is corroborated by the supporting documents. Failure to provide the supporting documents as well as providing documents in discrepancy with the Declaration will lead to the rejection of the Application.

Selected projects, which have not corroborated the eligibility criteria with supporting documents and by the given deadline, are rejected. The verification of eligibility is carried out in parallel with the preparation of the Subsidy Contracts for Community Funding.



## Contracting

The Subsidy Contract for Community Funding is signed between the Head of the Managing Authority of the Programme, and the Lead Beneficiary (on behalf of the partnership).

The signed Partnership Agreement between the Lead Beneficiary and the Project Partner(s) is one of the most important documents within the partnership. The Partnership Agreement covers all aspects of the cooperation within the partnership, including a clear distribution and allocation of respective financial amounts – including the advance payment – reflecting the assigned tasks and responsibilities as well as the rights and obligations of the partners (reporting, financial flows between the partners, liabilities, etc.).

The contract enters into force on the date when the last of the contracting parties has signed it. The implementation of the project starts on the date indicated in the Subsidy Contract, which can be before or after the signature of the Subsidy Contract.

## 5.3. Implementation and modifications

The contracted projects are implemented according to the stipulations of the **Subsidy Contract for Community Funding**, the **IPA regulations**, the **Project Implementation Handbook**, the **Guidelines for Implementing Information and Publicity Requirements for the Projects**, the **Control Guidelines** and respective national regulations.

Important sets of rules to follow during project implementation:

1. **Information and publicity requirements**
2. **Public procurements**
3. **Contract modifications**

### Information and publicity requirements

Articles 62 and 63 of the IPA Implementing Regulation define the visibility and communication requirements for each project.

Lead Beneficiaries and Project Partners are required to:

- **Ensure the transparency with respect to the source of funding for the implemented activities**
- **specify in each notice or publication - including those given at conferences or seminars - that the project has received funding under an operational Programme co-financed by the IPA.**

With regards to the communication tools, Lead Beneficiaries and Project Partners are required to:

- **produce at least one item of bilingual (in Hungarian and Serbian) printed promotional publication about the project**
- **ensure at least one newspaper/public Internet site article (other than its own website) and one report on the radio/TV during the implementation period**
- **organise at least one visibility/communication event**
- **ensure that the Programme logo and EU logo with obligatory phrase (and where applicable slogan and disclaimer) are visible at the events and clearly displayed on each piece of promotional material.**

**Information on and detailed description of the compulsory and recommended communication elements** is presented in the *Guidelines for Implementing Information and Publicity Requirements for the Projects in the Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme* and it is available on the Programme's website.

## Public procurements

According to the IPA Implementing Regulation and other regulations relevant to the Programme, each project contracted under the Programme has to manage procurements of services, supplies and works in accordance with external aid rules, i.e. the provisions of Commission Decision C (2007) 2034 'Rules and procedures for services, supply and works contracts financed from the general budget of the European Communities for the purposes of cooperation with third countries' using the appropriate templates provided by the PraG (Practical Guide to contract procedures for EC external actions).

The public procurements have to be carried out independently by the Lead Beneficiary and the Project Partners, however, the procedures are subject to a verification process and costs are only eligible for reimbursement after validation of the procurement procedure.

According to the terms set out in PraG, it means that the Lead Beneficiary and the Project Partners are Contracting Authorities, the management mode of the procurement procedure is decentralised and the control is ex-post.

### 3. Contract modifications

Although projects need to be planned with care and attention to details, it might occur that the project implementation differs from the approved Application. In many cases there is a need to modify the contracts. The partners could request modifications of or changes to contracts for two major reasons:

- to accommodate change of the external circumstances (change of the regulatory legal framework, national legislature, or in case of events that could not have been foreseen, etc.)
- to ensure successful and smooth implementation of the project activities and ensure achievement of the planned results in the fastest and most economically efficient way, while attending to the change of the external circumstances (which were/are beyond the control of the project partners)

The procedure for requesting changes is as follows:

1. Only the JMSC can decide on substantial changes of the overall project objectives or change of the Project Partners.
2. The MA decides on reallocation of funds between the budget headings (exceeding 20% of the given budget heading), change of activities (either introducing new or replacing the old ones), change of outputs and result indicators (exceeding 20%) and modification of the project's duration.
3. In case the modification request does not fall under any of the abovementioned categories, it is classified as 'Other project change' which does not require modification of the Subsidy Contract for Community Funding. In that case, the JTS can approve it if the request is duly justified. These types of changes can be, for example, changes of the project team members, change of output and result indicators not exceeding 20%, budget reallocation between budget headings not exceeding 20%, etc.



However, the following three categories of modification are not allowed:

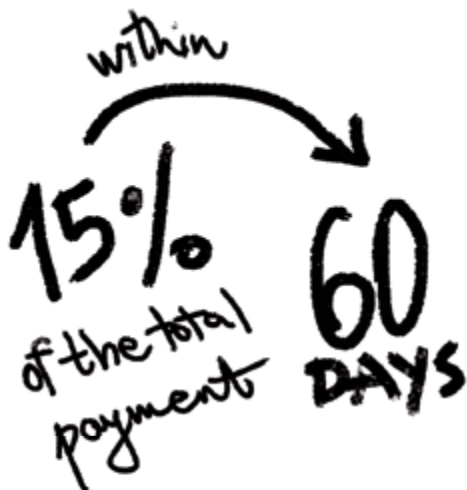
- Modifications of the Subsidy Contract which affect the basic purpose of the Project as approved by the JMSC when the project was selected for financing,
- Budget reallocations between Project Partners,
- Reallocation to budget lines which did not contain allocated amounts in the approved budget or to those which were decreased according to the decision of the JMSC.

## 5.4. Reporting and payments

### Project advance

Projects automatically receive an advance payment in the amount of **15 %** of the total IPA support awarded to the project in euros to the Lead Beneficiary's separate Euro bank account within **60 days** from the registration date of the signed Subsidy Contracts.

In case of Project Partners from Hungary the National state co-financing part is paid as advance in total.



### Reporting

The project implementation is divided into 4 month implementation periods and each is subject to the regular and same reporting procedure after its end.

Each Project Partner (in this respect the Lead Beneficiary is also regarded as a Project Partner) has to submit their reports and invoices or accounting documents of equivalent probative value to the Control Bodies – First Level Control (FLC) – within 15 calendar days following the end of the reporting period.

15 calendar days

For each Project Partner, a Declaration on Validation of Expenditure (DOVE) is issued by the respective Control Body (First Level Control) in Hungary or in Serbia within 45 calendar days (including completion of missing documents, if applicable). The Project Partners send their DOVE(s) to the Lead Beneficiary.

45 calendar days

On the basis of the received Declarations on Validation of Expenditure (DOVE) of all Project Partners,, the Lead Beneficiary compiles the 'Project Progress Report' and the 'Application for Reimbursement' on behalf of the entire partnership and submits them to the JTS within **90 calendar days** from the end date of each reporting period. These documents are submitted by the Lead Beneficiary for each four-month reporting period.

90 calendar days

The Project Progress Report provides an overview of the project implementation status and also shows deviations in relation to the planned project results presented in the Subsidy Contract.



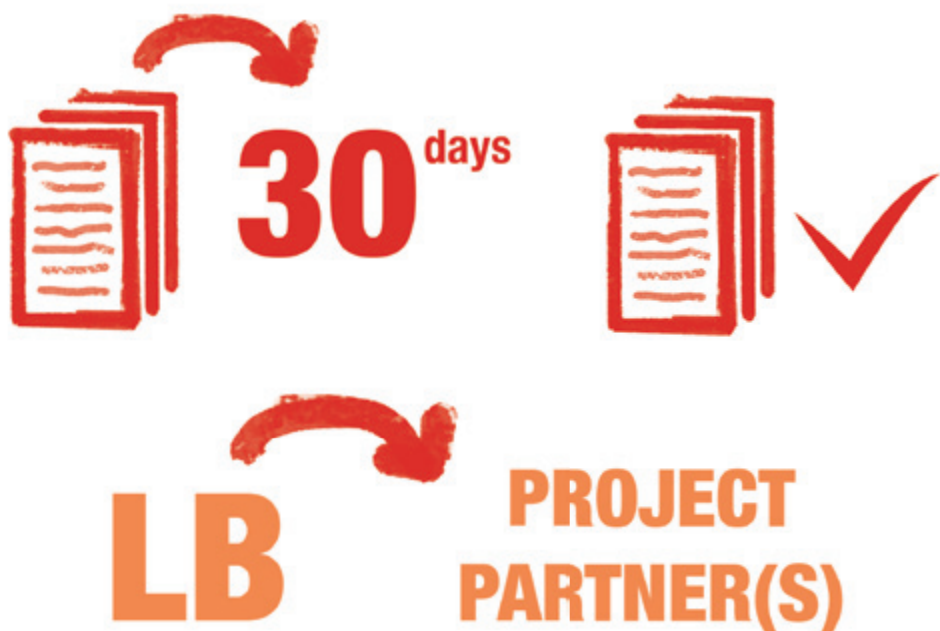
## Payment of the IPA contribution

The Joint Technical Secretariat checks the Application for Reimbursement and Project Progress Reports within 30 days.

The missing documents must arrive within a maximum of 30 days.

After successful verification of the 'Application for Reimbursement', the validated amount of IPA contribution is transferred in Euros to the separate project account held by the LB.

Finally, it is the task of the LB to transfer the respective IPA amount to each Project Partner within the deadline agreed in the Partnership Agreement.



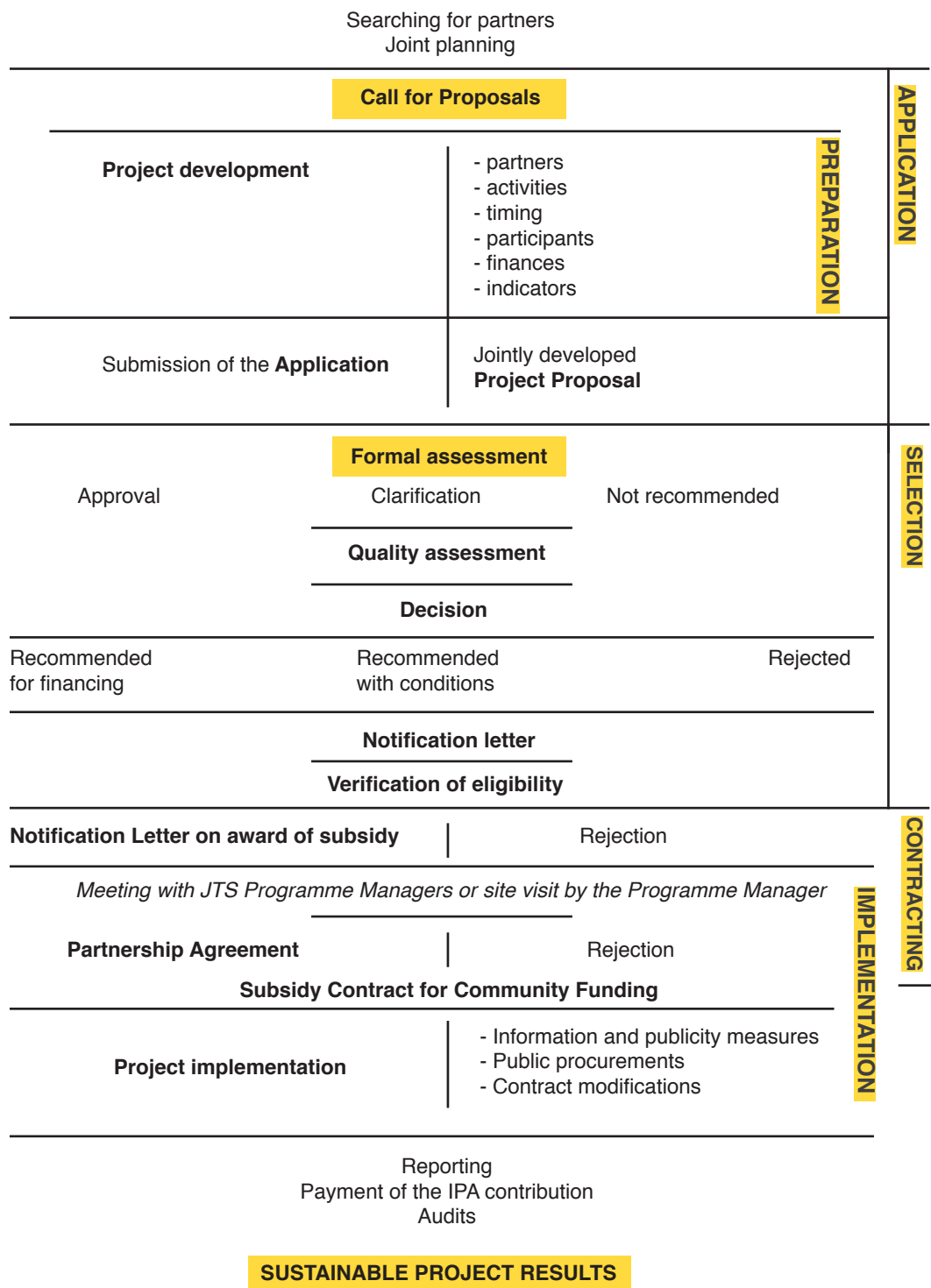
## Audits and sustainability of project results

The European Commission, the auditing bodies of the Participating Countries, as well as the Audit Authority, the Managing Authority, the Joint Technical Secretariat and the Certifying Authority of the Programme are entitled to audit the projects.

The Lead Beneficiary and Project Partners shall provide all documents and all necessary information required for the audit, as well as access to their business premises. The Lead Beneficiary and Project Partners are obliged to retain for audit purposes all files, documents and data about the Project for at least three years following the closure of the Programme by the European Commission.

Ownership of the results of the project should be maintained by the Lead Beneficiary and the Project Partners at least for five years after the end date of the project.

## 5.5. Diagram of the major procedures



# 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals

## 1.1. Introduction

Preparatory work related to the launch of the first Call for Proposals started in February 2009. The first Call for Proposals (1st CfP) was launched on the 29 September 2009. Applications had to be submitted (posted) to the Joint Technical Secretariat of the Programme (JTS) by the 31 December 2009. The formal and quality assessment was concluded by 5 April 2010. On 28 April 2010 the Joint Monitoring and Steering Committee of the Programme (JMSC) made the decision on the projects selected for financing. The JTS sent prepared Subsidy Contracts to the Managing Authority of the Programme for signature in early October 2010. The majority of contracts were signed by the Managing Authority and Lead Beneficiaries (on behalf of the project partnership) in a ceremony on the 20 October 2010 and all projects were contracted by November 2010.

The application and project selection procedure - from launching the Call for Proposals until sending the registered notification letters about the results to the Applicants - lasted for a total of 8 months; the evaluation process in a narrower sense (formal, eligibility and quality assessment) took around 3 months.

170 applications were submitted for the 1st CfP, out of which 71 projects were selected for co-financing and 68 finalised.

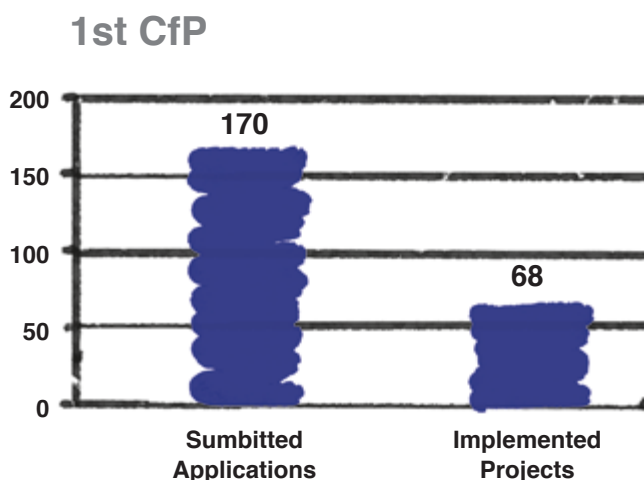


Figure 1: Number of submitted applications compared to the number of Implemented projects in the first Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme

# 1st CfP: requested, contracted and reimbursed IPA funds

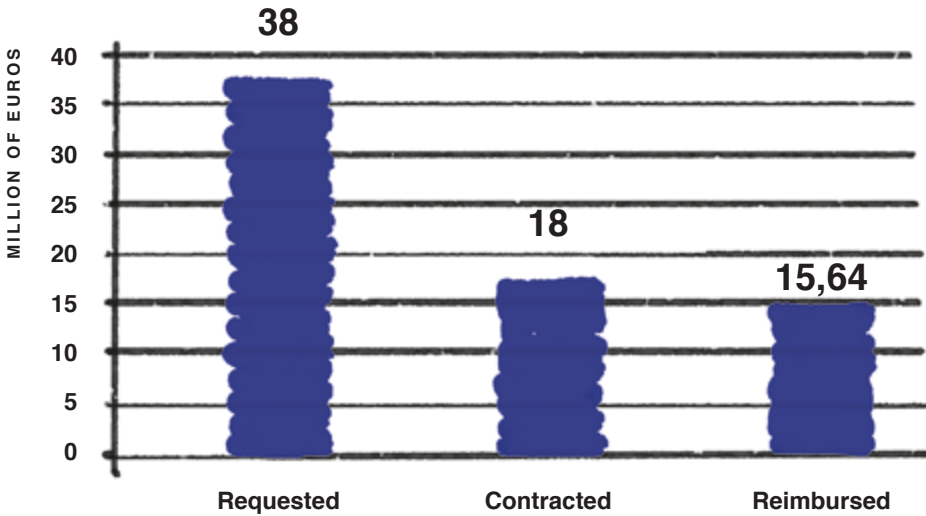


Figure 2: Requested amount of IPA funds (application) compared to the total amount of contracted IPA funds as well as total amount of IPA funds which the implemented projects reimbursed in the first Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme

# 1st CfP implemented projects: Distribution of the contracted IPA funds per country



Figure 3: Distribution of the contracted IPA funds of the implemented projects per country in the first Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme

# 1st CfP implemented projects: Distribution of IPA funds per NUTS III or equivalent territorial units

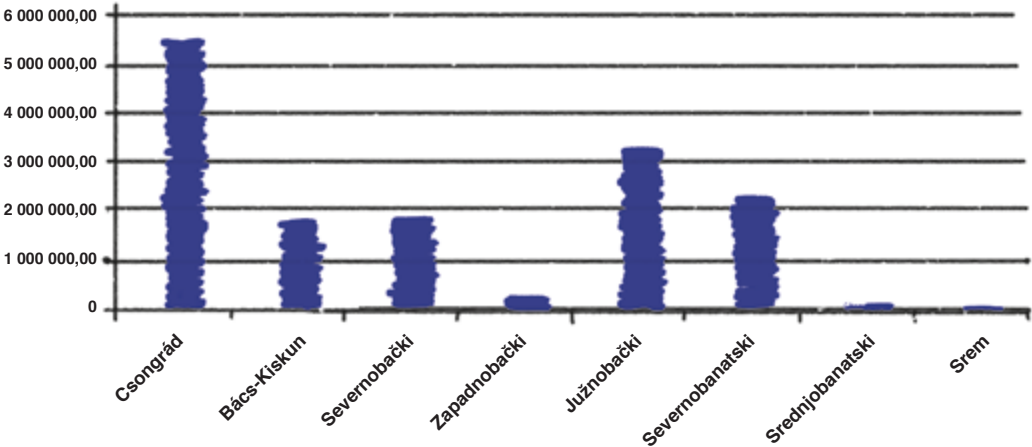


Figure 4: Territorial distribution of the contracted IPA funds of the implemented projects in the first Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme (according to the location of the headquarters/branch offices of the Project Partners)

# 1st CfP implemented projects: Distribution of contracted IPA funds per Action

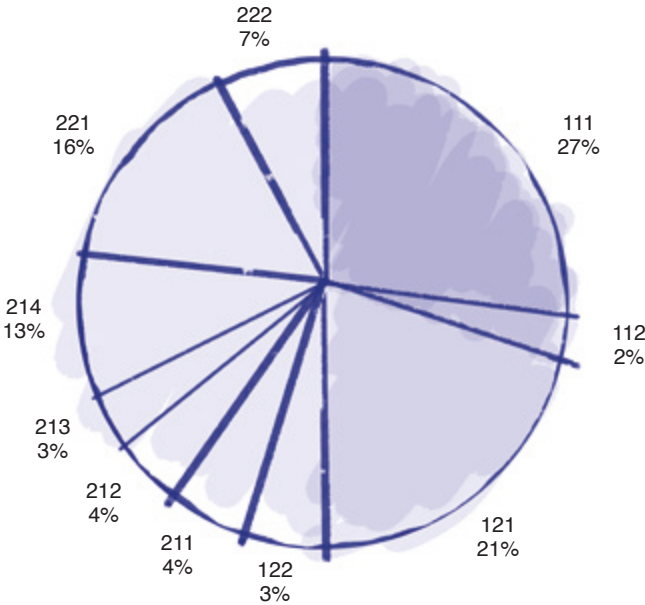


Figure 5: Distribution of the contracted IPA funds of the implemented projects per actions in the first Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme

## 1.2. Presentation of the supported projects

54	HUSRB/0901/111/003	Bácsal - Bajmok	Rehabilitation planning of Bácsalmás-Bajmok cross-border connecting road
55	HUSRB/0901/111/004	Tiszasz - Djala	Rehabilitation planning of Tiszasziget-Djala cross-border connecting road
56	HUSRB/0901/111/005	Ásotth. - Bvin.	Construction of a road to connect Ásotthalom and Backi Vinogradi, planning of necessary infrastructure
57	HUSRB/0901/111/006	Baja I. - Zombor	Building and Planning Cross-border road between Num. 51 road Baja I. part - Zombor
58	HUSRB/0901/111/095	KNESZECYC	SZEGED (SZŐREG) - NOVI KNEZEVAC BICYCLE ROAD CONSTRUCTION (phase 1)
59	HUSRB/0901/112/153	DKMT railway	Elaboration of a detailed feasibility study concerning Szeged-Röszke-Horgos-Subotica-Csikéria-Bácsalmás-Baja railway line
60	HUSRB/0901/121/002	RPBBC	Reconstruction Planning of Baja-Bezdan Canal
61	HUSRB/0901/121/060	TRMODELL	Tisza River Modelling on the common interest section of Hungary and Serbia and developing of the measuring equipment
62	HUSRB/0901/121/087	HUSEFLOOD	Building up and actuation of a Hungarian-Serbian cross-border flood and inland water protection system along the Tisza river
63	HUSRB/0901/121/098	WATERPROTECTION	Drinking-water basis protection on the Tisza-Maros field, that is an important focus area of the region
64	HUSRB/0901/121/116	OCEEFPTRWR	Optimization of Cost Effective and Environmentally Friendly Procedures for Treatment of Regional Water Resources
65	HUSRB/0901/121/152	DKMT Floods	Common preparation for floods
66	HUSRB/0901/122/120	CONSN2KBIRDS	Conservation management and animal health monitoring of NATURA 2000 bird species
67	HUSRB/0901/122/127	AHR	Animal health responsibility
68	HUSRB/0901/122/169	Animal Health	Implementation of nature conservation rescue center and animal health monitoring system with cross-border cooperation
69	HUSRB/0901/211/009	SME Network CB	Content Development of the SME related Services and the Establishment and Operation of a Unified Business Development Network
70	HUSRB/0901/211/010	CB Exhibitions	Programme series for the reinforcement of HUNGARIAN-SERBIAN business COOPERATION
71	HUSRB/0901/211/078	FRESC	Food Production and Renewable Energy Sectors Clustering Potentials in the Cross-Border Area
72	HUSRB/0901/211/122	PACCLE	Partnership Centre for Clusters and Enterprises
73	HUSRB/0901/211/129	SPF Network	South Pannon Food Chain Network
74	HUSRB/0901/211/159	ECO-COOP	Enhancing economic cooperation in the field of integrated agricultural supply of goods along the Serbian-Hungarian border
75	HUSRB/0901/212/034	MoDoBeTe-Route	Mórahalom-Domaszék-Becej-Temerin thematic route of cultural heritage

76	HUSRB/0901/212/038	MUTHER-CSNB	Mutual heritages of the border regions in Csongrád and North Banat Counties
77	HUSRB/0901/212/111	MONATUR	Medieval monasteries as part of the collective cultural heritage tourism, and as a potentially important factor of sustainable development
78	HUSRB/0901/212/148	Tasty DKMT	Egészségedre, Živeli
79	HUSRB/0901/213/013	CBD Strategies	Updating of the Development Strategies of Local Municipalities and Elaboration of Cross-Border Common Sectorial Development Operational Programmes and Projects
80	HUSRB/0901/213/028	INNOAXIS	The borderline as an axis of innovation
81	HUSRB/0901/213/050	InCoDeSME	Examination of innovation and cooperation abilities and development possibilities of small and medium sized enterprises in the Hungarian-Serbian cross-border region
82	HUSRB/0901/213/086	SUTODEVAMOXTI	Sustainable tourism development among the Oxbows of the Tisza River
83	HUSRB/0901/213/132	LOGIC	Harmonized Development of Logistics Centers in CB Region
84	HUSRB/0901/213/134	Hospise	Medical Home Care
85	HUSRB/0901/214/052	RISIND	Research cooperation to improve symptoms in neurological disorders, and quality of life of patients
86	HUSRB/0901/214/054	CoNfIDEKT	Cross-border Network for Innovative Development of Economies and Knowledge Transfer
87	HUSRB/0901/214/082	GynEndo	Gynaecological endoscopy for the assessment of infertility: joint capacity building to foster future cooperation in research and development
88	HUSRB/0901/214/108	Tainable Farm	Development of Sustainable farming model for the viable country life across the borders
89	HUSRB/0901/214/109	MORDIC	Multidisciplinary, market oriented development of joint RDI capacities of the border region
90	HUSRB/0901/214/110	PARES	CB Peloid and Highly-mineralised water research
91	HUSRB/0901/214/123	integr viticult	Evaluation and introduction to the integrated viticulture of the prospective grape varieties of vine regions at the Serbian-Hungarian border
92	HUSRB/0901/214/150	BIOXEN	Development of xenobiotic-degrading bioaugmentation products
93	HUSRB/0901/214/160	HANDICRAFT	HANDICRAFT. Tradition and innovation in handicraft industry
94	HUSRB/0901/221/001	DANUBE-EHT-2010	Cooperation in Education: Environmental-Hydraulics Field Training Reach on the Danube River
95	HUSRB/0901/221/023	LEARN	Life-long Education and Regional Networking
96	HUSRB/0901/221/041	EDUCO-NKD	Educational cooperation of Novi Knezevac and Deszk
97	HUSRB/0901/221/044	GastroTrain	GastroTrain - Joint Hungarian-Serbian gastronomical cross-border training programme
98	HUSRB/0901/221/045	SHAPE	Serbian-Hungarian Co-operation on Agrochemistry and Pest-control Education

99	HUSRB/0901/221/055	BOBO	"Boundless Borders" Police Training Cooperation
100	HUSRB/0901/221/076	MECHEDU	Educational cooperation for a joint mechatronic engineering degree
101	HUSRB/0901/221/088	TEAMATHMODSCI	Teaching Mathematics and Statistics in Sciences: Modeling and Computer-aided Approach
102	HUSRB/0901/221/099	Handshake	Handshake - Development of Hungarian and Serbian vocational and adult education systems through competency based training activities
103	HUSRB/0901/221/101	Logistics	Elaboration of joint logistics executive professional training programs for the development of enterprises in the border region
104	HUSRB/0901/221/168	TWOZOOS	Two European ZOO's enhancing education and environmental protection - second part
105	HUSRB/0901/221/170	EU Master Study	Preparation and Accreditation of New Master EU Study Programme in Faculty of Economics and Engineering Management
106	HUSRB/0901/222/012	PAKVOLLEYCHAMPS	Popularization, Awareness-building, and Knowledge-sharing of VOLLEYball towards Building Healthy Cross-Border Relationships and Developing New CHAMPionS
107	HUSRB/0901/222/014	CB TRADITIONS	Maintaining and Preserving Cultural Folk Traditions in the Cross-Border Area
108	HUSRB/0901/222/017	WARC	Welcome to Arts and Crafts!
109	HUSRB/0901/222/019	Health Basket	A Big Basket of Health
110	HUSRB/0901/222/025	CLT	CUL-TOUR
111	HUSRB/0901/222/031	CBSC-LEAGUE	Cross-border Sport Climbing League
112	HUSRB/0901/222/049	Cuman-Cult	Cuman cultural reunion and programmes
113	HUSRB/0901/222/085	SPORTSEHU	Sporting development of the Serbian -Hungarian cross-border cooperation
114	HUSRB/0901/222/103	Playhouse	Outdoor Playhouse without Frontiers
115	HUSRB/0901/222/104	Clay-play	Clay-play
116	HUSRB/0901/222/128	BRIRA	Bridgeraising
117	HUSRB/0901/222/130	SPORT-HU-SRB	Sport - Chance for development of health, tolerance and cooperation between youth on both sides of border
118	HUSRB/0901/222/131	Pannonian Care	From Pannonian Intercultural Heritage Preservation Towards Improved Social Care
119	HUSRB/0901/222/141	Falugondnokság	Village caretaking without borders
120	HUSRB/0901/222/165	LIM	International art workshops - intercultural dialogue (Low of intercultural mode)
121	HUSRB/0901/222/166	CIT	Cooperation of civil society organisations, for developing intercultural and touristical potentials of the region



# PROJECTS

1st  
call

## Rehabilitation planning of Bácsalmás-Bajmok cross-border connecting road

When neighbours want to become closer, they find a way to reduce physical obstacles. These obstacles can be, for example, a missing or ruined road. In this project the partners had one overall aim in mind: to strengthen the territorial cohesion of Serbia and Hungary by planning the rehabilitation of the road between two settlements, Bácsalmás in Hungary and Bajmok in Serbia.

The implementation of this project had multiple results and effects. The main result was the elaboration of the road reconstruction technical documentation. Based on those plans, the application dealing with the execution of road reconstruction activities was selected in the 3rd Call for Proposals of the Programme (HUSRB/1203/111/049). The total length of the road covered by the technical documentation is 45 km. On the Hungarian side it leads from Bácsalmás to the border crossing with Serbia (this is road number 5312), while on the Serbian side it starts from the border crossing and leads to a road junction at Bajmok, with one

direction going towards Madaraš and the other towards Bačka Topola.

The project contributed to the promotion of balanced territorial development in the region, and to the integration of the marginal, less accessible border areas of Bácsalmás and Bajmok. Finally, this development led to the establishment of cross-border partnerships between the relevant institutions that materialised in later co-operation projects.



### Project partners:

**Nemzeti Infrastruktúra Fejlesztő Zrt.**

**(National Infrastructure Development Ltd.)**

Javno preduzeće za prostorno i urbanističko planiranje i projektovanje „Zavod za urbanizam Vojvodine, Novi Sad“

(PE Institute for Town Planning of Vojvodina, Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 558,605.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 474,814.25 €**

**Project start date / 01 06 2010**

**Project end date / 30 11 2011**

*multiple results  
and effects*

## Rehabilitation planning of Tiszasziget-Đala cross-border connecting road

If people want to connect with one other, but cannot do so because of low quality road infrastructure, inventive individuals look for solutions to improve the situation. The road infrastructure between Tiszasziget in Hungary and Đala in Serbia was not of good quality, therefore, a project was developed with the aim of elaborating the planning documents for the rehabilitation of the cross-border connecting road between Tiszasziget and Đala, and further to Novi Kneževac and Čoka.

The main result of the project was the elaboration of the technical documentation for road reconstruction. Based on those plans, the application dealing with the execution of road reconstruction activities was selected in the 3rd Call for Proposals of the Programme (HUSRB/1203/111/050).

The total length of the road covered by the technical documentation is 10.4 km. On the Hungarian side it leads from Tiszasziget to the border crossing with Serbia (the planned road starts from Szőreg), while on the Serbian side

it starts from the border crossing at Đala and leads to a road junction at Novi Kneževac, with one direction going towards Čoka and the other towards Rabe.

This route is of strategic importance for the municipalities located along the border. If these reconstruction works are implemented, it also develops the road leading to the Romanian border, thus allowing travellers to reach all three countries along this route more quickly and safely. The new road could be a new opportunity to deepen the cross-border cooperation and diversify cross-border partnerships.



### Project partners:

**Nemzeti Infrastruktúra Fejlesztő Zrt.  
(National Infrastructure Development Ltd.)**

Javno preduzeće za prostorno i urbanističko planiranje i projektovanje „Zavod za urbanizam Vojvodine, Novi Sad“ (PE Institute for Town Planning of Vojvodina, Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 536,742.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 456,230.70 €**

**Project start date / 01 06 2010**

**Project end date / 30 11 2011**

*This route  
is of strategic  
importance*

## Construction of a road to connect Ásotthalom and Bački Vinogradi, planning of necessary infrastructure

Opening a new door provides us a wide range of opportunities. The same goes for opening a new border crossing. Two regions become closer to one another: one stimulates development of the other and vice versa. A direct connection between the wider areas of Szeged and Subotica has resulted in a significant tourist and economic boom.

The project partners from Hungary and Serbia dared to dream big, but they also thought and acted practically. They paved the way for dreams to be achieved by constructing

connecting infrastructure which has facilitated the faster movement of people and the exchange of goods and services, and this has also boosted tourism. The tangible result of this project is a road of 1.5 – 1.5 km on each side of the border, physically connecting Ásotthalom in Hungary and Bački Vinogradi in Serbia. Before the realization of this project, people from the neighbouring villages had to travel 50 km through the Röszke–Horgoš border crossing to meet each other.



After the construction of the road was completed, the most important cornerstone was the establishment of a new integrated border crossing between Hungary and Serbia, Ásotthalom–Bački Vinogradi, which was officially opened on 16 May 2013.

Travellers have quickly learned about new border crossing and have come to like it. It has made the everyday lives of the people living in the border area easier, has strengthened family relationships, friendships, and economic ties.

*The most important cornerstone: the new integrated border crossing*

### Project partners:

**Nemzeti Infrastruktúra Fejlesztő Zrt.**  
**(National Infrastructure Development Ltd.)**  
 Grad Subotica (City of Subotica)  
 Homokháti Önkormányzatok Kistérségi  
 Területfejlesztési Egyesülete  
 (Municipalities of Homokhát Small-  
 Regional Developmental Association)

**Project total budget / 1,387,726.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 1,179,567.10 €**  
**Project start date / 01 06 2010**  
**Project end date / 30 11 2011**

## Planning and building the cross-border road between road no. 51, part I, in Baja and Sombor

Transport infrastructure of suitable quality is one of the main foundations of economic growth. Infrastructural improvements facilitate intensified economic development, contribute to reducing the gap between developed and underdeveloped regions and settlements, and improve quality of life in general.

The distance between Baja in Hungary and Sombor in Serbia is about 60 km. These two towns have had close cooperation for decades, but the low quality of transport infrastructure in the border region has made this contact difficult. The objective of the project was to develop a section of road between Baja and Sombor.

On the Hungarian side, the building permits and the plans were secured as part of a previously completed Interreg III A project. The first part of the 30-km section of road between Baja and the border was reconstructed (1.1 km of road, and a roundabout). On the Serbian side, the planned technical documentation for constructing the road from the City of Sombor towards the Bački Breg border crossing was elaborated according to the initial plans.

The implementation of this infrastructural development project indirectly allowed better cooperation in several fields, such as tourism, culture and the arts, through improved accessibility of settlements.

Intensified  
economic  
development

Improved  
accessibility  
of settlements



### Project partners:

Nemzeti Infrastruktúra Fejlesztő Zrt.

(National Infrastructure Development Ltd.)

Grad Sombor (City of Sombor)

Project total budget / 1,703,837.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 1,448,261.45 €

Project start date / 01 06 2010

Project end date / 30 09 2012



## Szeged (Szőreg) - Novi Kneževac bicycle road construction (phase 1)

Harmonious transport is an important part of a harmonious region. Cyclists and car drivers should help and take care of one another in traffic as should the people, institutions and organisations in neighbouring countries and regions. In this project, neighbours came together with the aim of harmonising one part of the traffic in the border area. The project intended to facilitate the construction of a new cycle path between two neighbouring municipalities in Hungary and Serbia: Szeged and Novi Kneževac.

The implementation of the plan was divided into three phases, and the first of them was completed as part of the 1st Call for Proposals (the second and third phases of the project are HUSRB/1002/111/113 and HUSRB/1203/111/139).

Prior to the commencement of the implementation of the project, there were no cycle paths across the border in this region. Although IPA funds enabled the reconstruction of the road leading to the Đala - Tiszasziget border crossing, bicycles have remained the preferred means of transport for local people. This meant that the development of a cycle path between these settlements was the next logical step. This project, targeting both the local population and cycling tourists, had several positive effects: users of the cycle path can travel more safely, protected from traffic; cycling is environmentally friendly and contributes to decreasing air pollution; it is healthier to travel by bike and, depending on road congestion, may prove to be faster; the events accompanying the project reached people from both side of the border and helped them to get to know each other's culture and values much better.



### Project partners:

Újszentiván község Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Újszentiván)

Szeged Megyei Jogú Város Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Szeged County)

Tiszasziget Községi Önkormányzat  
(Local Government of Tiszasziget)

Opština Novi Kneževac  
(Municipality of Novi Kneževac)

Project total budget / 1,535,602.41 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 1,305,262.05 €

Project start date / 01 12 2010

Project end date / 31 10 2012

*a harmonious  
region*

## Elaboration of a detailed feasibility study concerning the Szeged-Röszke-Horgos-Subotica-Csikéria-Bácsalmás-Baja railway line

Intensive economic development began in the Hungarian-Serbian border region in the second half of the 19th century, after the construction of a railway through this area. Some sections of that former railway network are still present today, and the pan-European Corridor X passes through it. However, there is a zone of approximately 400 km in length between Budapest and Belgrade, where railway traffic going in the west-east direction is impossible without passing through one of the two capitals. The lack of a railway line intersecting the border region is a significant problem not only for passenger transport, but also for the transport of goods and could have a negative social and economic impact.

The most important result of this project was the creation of a detailed feasibility study concerning the Szeged-Röszke-Horgoš-Subotica-Csikéria-Bácsalmás-Baja cross-border railway line. This line can provide an overland connection between the two largest ports on the Adriatic Sea and the Black Sea, as part of the trunk line between Rijeka, Croatia, and Constanța, Romania, and may make freight transport between the ports, bypassing overloaded public roads, possible. Distances cannot be abolished completely, but they can be shortened, and this way people in the border region become better connected to one another.

*Distances cannot  
be abolished completely,  
but can be shortened*



### Project partners:

**DKMT Duna-Körös-Maros-Tisza Eurorégiós Fejlesztési  
Ügynökség Nonprofit Köhasznú Kft.**

(DKMT Danube-Kris-Mures-Tisa Euroregional  
Development Agency – Non-profit Public Benefit Limited)  
Vlada Autonome Pokrajine Vojvodine -  
Pokrajinski sekretarijat za privredu  
(Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina –  
Provincial Secretariat for Economy)

**Project total budget / 388,621.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 330,327.85 €**

**Project start date / 01 07 2010**

**Project end date / 30 11 2011**





## Planning of the reconstruction of the Baja – Bezdan Canal

The canal between Baja in Hungary and Bezdan in Serbia is located in the territory of two countries, but its maintenance should be regarded as a single whole. The canal can cause the same problems on both sides, thus the solution to these problems must be shared. The project partners' aim was to collaborate in the areas of flood and drainage control, allocation of water resources and protection of their quality.

As part of the project, the plans for the reconstruction of the Baja–Bezdan Canal were elaborated, and new equipment for monitoring the canal was purchased. The Baja–Bezdan Canal was investigated in order to survey the profile, the bottom and the banks of the canal.

The obtained data prove that the conditions of the Baja-Bezdan Canal are within normal ranges, and that there are no harmful environmental impacts. The cooperation was implemented under the supervision of the Water Damage Prevention Subcommittee of the Hungarian-Serbian Water Management Committee. The project was organically linked to the earlier works of Interreg IIIA and supports the objectives of the Water Framework Directive and Directive 2007/60/EC.

Cross-border partnership was of crucial importance in this project. Without joint project participation, cooperation, exchange of information, activities and the data obtained would not have been attainable. Both partners learnt a lot from each other, and together they contributed to improvement of the water management system of their countries.

Improvement  
of the water management  
system

**Project partners:**  
**Alsó-Duna-völgyi Környezetvédelmi és Vízügyi Igazgatóság**  
**(Lower-Danube-Valley Environmental and Water Directorate)**  
Javno Vodoprivredno Preduzeće „Vode Vojvodine“, Novi Sad  
(Public Water Management Company “Vode Vojvodine”, Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 852,960.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 725,016,00 €**  
**Project start date / 01 09 2010**  
**Project end date / 29 02 2012**



## Tisza River modelling on the common interest section of Hungary and Serbia and developing of the measuring equipment

Sándor Petőfi, the great Hungarian poet of the Tisza, in his famous poem speaks of the devout river's metamorphoses, depicts how it rushes the plains, and breaks through the dikes. This poetic image describes a phenomenon which is well known to the people living along this river. Since the consequences of river floods can be devastating, monitoring our waters is vital. And, as waters do not know state borders, the cross-border project partnership developed a modelling background for the River Tisza in order to ensure the selection of the right and most effective activities in between the dikes in both Hungary and Serbia.

The occurrence of large volumes of water in the River Tisza is caused by melting snow in mountainous areas in its catchment area, as well as by precipitation in Serbia and Hungary.

It causes rising of water levels and possible breaching of the embankment. In order to more accurately predict how high the water level might rise, and if the water will breach the embankment, the project partners designed a mathematical flood model, which is used to observe the height and duration of the flood wave.

The result of the joint project is harmonised river modelling on both sides of the border, which contributes to the effectiveness of flood prevention measures. The upgraded equipment will also help decision-makers in their further water management activities in both Hungary and Serbia.



### Project partners:

**Alsó-Tisza vidéki Környezetvédelmi és Vízügyi Igazgatóság**

**(Directorate for Environmental Protection and Water Management of Lower Tisza District)**

Javno Vodoprivredno Preduzeće „Vode Vojvodine“, Novi Sad (Public Water Management Company “Vode Vojvodine”, Novi Sad)

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Fakultet tehničkih nauka, Centar za hidrotehniku i geodeziju (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technical Sciences, Centre for Hydrotechnics and Geodesy)

**Project total budget / 660,805.82 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 561,684.95 €**

**Project start date / 01 08 2010**

**Project end date / 31 01 2012**

*Harmonised  
river modelling*

*Effectiveness  
of flood prevention  
measures*

## Building and actuation of a Hungarian-Serbian cross-border flood and inland water protection system along the Tisza River

The project partners are located in an area which has a high flood and inland water risk. Moreover, these settlements belong to an area which lags behind economically and socially. The River Tisza may cause serious damage during floods, but the safety of the lives and property of residents is also endangered by inland inundation.

The overall project objective was to enlarge the available technical equipment for preventing and averting damage caused by floods and inland inundations and to increase the capacity of the responsible authorities for cross-border communication regarding damage prevention.

The effectiveness of defence activities and international coordination in the case of flood and inland inundation disasters in the Tisza region, when they cannot be avoided through prevention, is facilitated with the help of a multilingual, modern Geographic Informa-

tion System (GIS). This system enables the disaster management bodies to communicate multi-directionally and more rapidly.

During the course of the project, the partners also acquired vehicles and equipment which increase the efficiency of preventive actions and reduce the response time of defence works in the endangered cross-border area when required.

This development has improved significantly the stability and security of the affected border areas – especially in small settlements. Minimising the effects of floods and inland inundation disasters has increased the security of property investments, which supports economic development in the region.

### Project partners:

**Kistelek Környéki Települések Többcélú**

**Kistérségi Társulása (Multi-purpose  
Microregional Association of Kistelek)**

Informacioni centar za razvoj potiskog regiona  
(Centre for information and Development of the  
Tisa Region)

Alsó-Tisza vidéki Környezetvédelmi és Vízügyi  
Igazgatóság (Directorate for Environmental  
Protection and Water Management of Lower  
Tisza District)

**Project total budget / 844,868.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 718,137.80 €**

**Project start date / 30 06 2010**

**Project end date / 31 12 2011**



*Preventing and  
averting damage caused  
by floods and inland  
inundations*

## Drinking water protection on the Tisza–Maros field that is an important focus area of the region

The implementation of this project was especially important due to the fact that the contaminating effects of communal sewage could be observed in the groundwater layers that provide drinking water. Since the Tisza-Maros field is one of the most significant water bases in Central Europe, this contaminating effect has to be stopped in the shortest time possible. This is a shared problem on the both sides of the border, so the solution had to be cross-border.

In Ada, Serbia, a modern, highly-efficient biological sewage treatment plant was built in order to complete the sewerage network that had been built earlier. This sewage treatment plant treats the wastewater of 3,000 households and several institutions connected to the sewage system in Ada and Mol. The maximum capacity of this plant is 120 m<sup>3</sup> of wastewater per day. The other element of the project was the procurement of one, highly efficient pipe cleaning/

washing vehicle in order to ensure the more secure operation of the sewerage system in Mórahalom, Hungary. This equipment is used not only in Mórahalom, but also in Ada, which demonstrates the long-term cooperation established between the project partners. In the long term, this project significantly contributed to protecting our environment and health.



**Project partners:**  
**Opština Ada (Municipality of Ada)**  
Mórahalom város Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Mórahalom)

**Project total budget / 1,176,470.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 999,999.50 €**  
**Project start date / 01 11 2010**  
**Project end date / 31 03 2012**

*The contaminating  
effects of communal  
sewage has to be stopped  
in the shortest time  
possible*



# Optimisation of cost effective and environmentally friendly procedures for treatment of regional water resources

The Danube, the Tisa and the Maros rivers are the most important environmental heritage of the border region between Hungary and Serbia, and its inhabitants and institutions are interested in the quality of these surface waters. Furthermore, the drinking water supply systems are based exclusively on local subsurface waters. The major problem is the high content of organic matter (humic acids, phenols, etc.) due to the lack of adequate water treatment, and usually subsurface water cannot be used without prior treatment. With respect to preserving natural and cultural heritage, steps need to be taken to improve environmental protection, to provide an adequate level of wastewater treatment and to stop uncontrolled pollution. As part of the project, simple and economic methods for cleaning and filtering waters which contain a high content of organic compounds and micro pollutants were developed. Also, the

chemical and microbiological parameters were improved, and simple biological and chemical procedures to characterise and remove the pollutants were developed. The partners improved the capacity and competitiveness of the region through joint activities. Knowledge transfer, overcoming language barriers and new connections are also important results of the project.

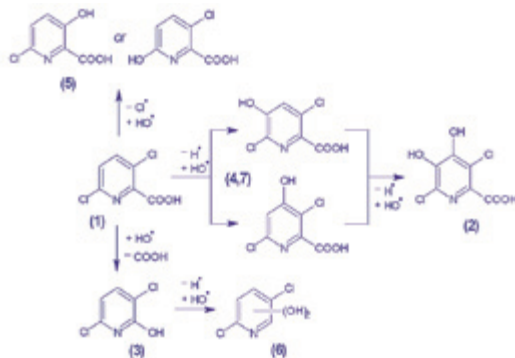


Fig. 9. Tentative pathways for photocatalytic degradation of CLP.

Simple and economic  
methods for cleaning  
and filtering waters

**Project partners:**  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu,  
Prirodno-matematički fakultet  
(University of Novi Sad, Faculty  
of Sciences)  
Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)

Project total budget / 454,980.60 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 386,733.51 €  
Project start date / 01 07 2010  
Project end date / 31 12 2011

## Common preparation for floods

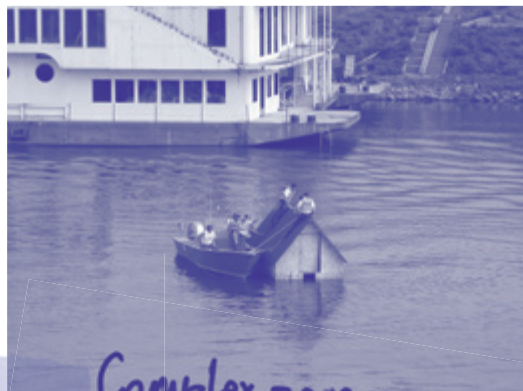
Floods in urbanised areas are a hazard for both the population and infrastructure. Therefore, public authorities have to take steps and measures to prevent floods, or at least to prepare for such occurrences by setting up rescue teams and crisis staff.

The overall objective of the project was to contribute to environmental sustainability and safety in the border area through the organisation of joint trainings and exercises in the field of water management and flood prevention and defence.

The direct objective of the project was to prepare the residents (teachers, pupils), employees of local governments and rescue teams and train them to react in the event of a flood emergency, how to participate in flood defence and to adhere to regulations.

The implementation of this project also resulted in the formation of the DKMT Rescue Team, a rescue unit trained for complex rescue activities in emergency situations.

The project activities involved trainings for teachers and for local government employees responsible for prevention and defence, the organisation of team competitions and youth camps for pupils, the creation and organisation of joint exercises for the DKMT Rescue Team, as well as the procurement of equipment that was needed to implement the project and which is required during prevention and defence activities. The project participants also made new friends, became closer to one another and got to know each other's cultures.



Complex rescue  
activities in emergency  
situations

=  
Environmental  
sustainability  
and safety in  
the border area

### Project partners:

**DKMT Duna-Körös-Maros-Tisza Eurorégiós  
Fejlesztési Ügynökség Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft.  
(DKMT Danube-Kris-Mures-Tisa Euroregional  
Development Agency – Non-profit Public Benefit  
Limited)**

Vlada Autonomne Pokrajine Vojvodine - Pokrajinski  
sekretarijat za regionalnu i međunarodnu saradnju  
(Government of the Autonomous Province of  
Vojvodina - Provincial Secretariat for Regional and  
International Cooperation)  
Crveni krst Vojvodine (Red Cross of Vojvodina)

**Project total budget / 390,071.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 331,560.35 €**

**Project start date / 01 07 2010**

**Project end date / 30 09 2011**

## Conservation management and animal health monitoring of NATURA 2000 bird species

Natura 2000 is a network of nature protection areas in the territory of the European Union. It consists of various types of protected areas, mainly Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas, but it also includes Marine Protected Areas and some special forms defined at national level.

The long-term overall objective of this project was to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for two bird species: the red-footed falcon (*Falco tinnunculus*) and the European roller (*Coracias garrulus*).

The sustainable conservation of both these birds is dependent on the cross-border cooperation between conservationists. The initial step in conserving these birds was to map their exact location and determine the number of specimens as well as assess how they fluctuate in number. This could only be achieved with a well-designed monitoring scheme, thus the partnership of four organisations developed and employed standardised monitoring protocols for both species ensuring precise, up-to-date information on the status

of these birds. Population monitoring of both the red-footed falcons and European rollers took place in the 2010 and 2011 breeding seasons.

Many general threats adversely affect these birds and one of the most severe was the lack of nesting sites in suitable habitats.

The project partners tackled this problem by installing artificial breeding platforms. In both countries, the colour ringing schemes of both species is now managed with a standard database, together with the nest-boxes already in place. The sustainable conservation of both these birds would have not been as effective without cross-border cooperation.

### Project partners:

**Magyar Madártani és Természetvédelmi Egyesület (BirdLife Hungary)**

Društvo za zaštitu i proučavanje ptica  
Vojvodine (Bird Protection and Study  
Society of Vojvodina)

Körös-Maros Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság  
(Körös-Maros National Park Directorate)  
Kiskunsági Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság  
(Kiskunság National Park Directorate)

**Project website / <http://husrb.mme.hu/en>**

**Project total budget / 247,834.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 210,658.90 €**  
**Project start date / 01 07 2010**  
**Project end date / 30 09 2011**



photo credit: Palatitz Peter



*favourable  
conservation status  
for two bird species*

## Animal health responsibility

One of the most challenging problems in the Hungarian–Serbian border area is the effective monitoring and health protection of domestic and wild animals. This problem does not know state borders, and its negative consequences can be felt equally in both border regions. Therefore, the establishment of cross-border cooperation was deemed a necessity. The overall aim of the project was to improve the system for monitoring and protecting animal health. During the project, the partners established continuing cross-border cooperation between the relevant institutions and increased the technical capacities of the relevant services. The activities also involved an educational component, which saw individual farmers introduced to and educated in the effective protection of animal health.

Additionally, important technical equipment was procured for animal hygiene services in Kikinda, Serbia and Makó, Hungary.

The results of the project include the development of an animal waste disposal system on both sides of the border in Makó and in Kikinda. Also, with the reconstruction of the building housing the animal waste treatment service and the purchase and upgrade of equipment, both settlements are able to continue and sustain the system for monitoring and protecting animal health. The protection of our environment and our responsibility to nature require coordinated cross-border activities, so the participants joined forces and solved their common problems, while strengthening cross-border ties.



### Project partners:

**Opština Kikinda**  
(Municipality of Kikinda)

Makói Kommunális Nonprofit Kft.  
(Makó Communal Non-profit Ltd.)

**Project total budget / 161,578.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 137,341.30 €**

**Project start date / 01 07 2010**

**Project end date / 31 01 2011**

*Protection of our  
environment and our  
responsibility to nature*



# Implementation of nature conservation rescue centre and animal health monitoring system with cross-border cooperation

Both Hungary and Serbia are countries through which birds migrate. This part of Europe is very special and highly protected with regard to the corridor used by migratory birds. Monitoring and animal rescue can be more effective with the cooperation of cross-border institutions, especially zoos. The project intended to establish standard monitoring of water habitats and membership of national and international databases. During the project, Kiskunság National Park Directorate and Palić Zoo together developed and coordinated a monitoring system, and Szeged Zoo and Palić Zoo developed a rescue centre for birds and built a repatriation aviary. The partners performed animal rescue activities on a regular basis, and continuously operated the Quarantine facilities. Injured animals were transported to Szeged Zoo and Palić Zoo for further treatment.

The partners started monitoring waterfowl in 16 areas, 15 of which are still-water wetlands and the remaining one is a section of the Danube. These monitoring activities continue to be performed regularly.

The partnership made special efforts to provide proper information about protected animals and how to treat sick animals to the inhabitants of the region and the general public. The joint work carried out by the project partners in this field has resulted in more effective measures and better harmonised systems that monitor animal health and operate nature rescue centres.



## Project partners:

**Szegedi Vadaspark (Szeged Zoo)**

Zoološki vrt Palić – Állatkert Palics  
(Palić Zoo)

Kiskunsági Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság  
(Kiskunság National Park Directorate)

**Project total budget / 328,197.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 278,967.45 €**

**Project start date / 01 08 2010**

**Project end date / 31 07 2011**

Standard  
monitoring  
of water-wetland  
habitats

# Content development of SME-related services and the establishment and operation of a Unified Business Development Network

The results of the SME Network CB project include a network of development organisations, responsible for providing services to SMEs in Vojvodina and the Southern Great Plain Region. Training sessions in various business topics, Corporate Finance, Business Law, EU Integration, Quality Assurance, Public Procurement, Liabilities, Economic and Financial Investment Requirements, Going Public, were organised with the involvement of professional trainers in each field.

The coordinators and project managers were backed up by an external team of experts which significantly contributed to the development of the study on the establishment of Hungarian–Serbian Unified Development Network. This network serves as a basis for the projected strategic plans relevant to the SME sector in the region covered by the project.

Data were collected during the workshops and trainings, and nine business, financial and marketing plans were developed in close cooperation with entrepreneurs, in order to

strengthen the private sector. As the final touch of the project, the SME Development Centres in Mórahalom and Kanjiža were successfully established.

This cooperation between the municipalities and SMEs from both sides of the border has created new connections and enabled the exchange of experience in the SME sector. It was also beneficial for the SMEs from Serbia, as they were able to become acquainted with EU policies and become prepared for future calls for proposals intended exclusively for SMEs.



## Project partners:

**Skupština opštine Kanjiža**  
**(Municipal Assembly of Kanjiža)**

Homokháti Önkormányzatok Kistérségi

Területfejlesztési Egyesülete

(Municipalities of Homokhát Small-Regional Developmental Association)

**Project total budget / 90,128.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 76,608.80 €**

**Project start date / 01 08 2010**

**Project end date / 31 07 2011**

*New connections  
and exchange of  
experiences in  
the SME  
sector*

## Programme series for the reinforcement of Hungarian-Serbian business cooperation

The Lead Beneficiary organisation, DEEF NP Ltd., has many years of experience in the fields of trade and economic development in the Serbian, Bulgarian and Romanian markets, while other two partners are farmers' associations.

The aim of the project was to facilitate cooperation between SMEs and farmers from the border region of both countries, through participation in international fairs, exhibitions and numerous public and professional events. Moreover, the project activities included various seminars in Hungary and Serbia,

as well as promotional activities with the aim of spreading the spirit of cooperation throughout the region.

The project partners recognised the power of joint action and the importance of effective promotion. During the project they overcame cultural and language barriers, exchanged knowledge and established new business relations, contributing to the development of the region's economy and competitiveness.



### Project partners:

**DEEF – Dél-Európai Együttműködések  
Fejlesztéséért Szolgáltató Közhasznú**

Nonprofit Kft. (South European Cooperation  
for Development Non-Profit Limited Company)

Udruženje Seljaka Opštine Subotica

(Farmers Association of Subotica Municipality)

Udruženje poljoprivrednika Senta

(Senta Farmers' Association)

**Project total budget / 133,400.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 113,390.00 €**

**Project start date / 15 06 2010**

**Project end date / 14 09 2011**

*The power  
of joint  
action and  
the importance  
of effective  
promotion*

# Food production and renewable energy sectors clustering potentials in the cross-border area

The food production and the renewable energy sectors are important factors in ensuring the competitiveness and sustainable development of the border region. These sectors were the key target areas of this project.

The partners' main idea was to create an environment in which enterprises cooperate with their cross-border counterparts in such way that they learn from the good practices and experiences of others and obtain joint access to larger and more developed markets. At the beginning of the project, the conducted research determined the essential factors for the establishment and development of clusters in the food production and renewable energy sectors. Based on the findings, the experts were able to devise the necessary activities for improving the functioning of such clusters. The research mapped the concentration and systemic relationships among food industry enterprises in the border region as well as the possibilities of creating efficient cross-border clusters of food production enterprises and

biomass producers. The results of the research were published in the form of a trilingual study in Hungarian, Serbian and English. The study Food Industry Cluster Perspectives serves as a guideline and a practical tool for policymakers and stakeholders in the region for generating and implementing cluster initiatives in the food production and renewable energy sectors. The publication was followed by an intense promotional campaign with seminars on both sides of the border at which the experts presented the opportunities for and emphasised benefits of cross-border clustering in these sectors.

Exchange of experiences was ensured through study visits organised for stakeholders from Serbia, separately for each sector. The project also improved the professional capacities of the employees in the Chambers through workshops designed to train them in providing support to the clustering initiatives of their member enterprises.

## Project partners:

**Privredna Komora Vojvodine**

**(Chamber of Commerce of Vojvodina)**

Csongrád Megyei Kereskedelmi és Iparkamara  
(Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Csongrád County)

Centar za strateška ekonomska istraživanja

„Vojvodina - CESS” doo Novi Sad

(Centre for Strategic Economic Studies “

Vojvodina - CESS” Ltd Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 127,804.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 4,893.70 €**

**Project start date / 01 08 2010**

**Project end date / 30 11 2011**



*Efficient  
cross-border  
cluster of  
food production  
enterprises and  
biomass producers*



## Partnership Centre for Clusters and Enterprises

The aim of the Partnership Centre was to create and operate a professional training centre for small- and medium-sized enterprises in the Hungarian and Serbian border regions, which could contribute to their dynamic growth and joint development. The target group of the project consisted of the export-oriented clusters of Csongrád County and Bács-Kiskun County, North Bačka, South Bačka, West Bačka, North Banat and Central Banat, and those enterprises endeavouring to establish partnerships with other operators in the same sector. The services and trainings established in the Partnership Centre are supported by market research conducted in the border region between Hungary and Serbia, focused on the frequency and content of cooperation between the operating clusters. The research especially focused on mapping the potential and previously unexploited cross-border cooperation. The Centre provides continuous counselling and regular training services for entrepreneurs, about basic business development

services, the operation of clusters and the enhancement of common projects. During the project two workshops about renewable energy and about water management were organised in Szeged, and in Subotica three trainings about cluster management, project cycle management, and intellectual property rights. The two study trips to Kerekegyháza and Sándorfalva in Hungary for exchanging experiences were especially successful as the participants had an opportunity to witness the benefits of clustering on-site.

The key to successful business is cooperation. The project partners strengthened cross-border collaboration, and also defined areas of interest for future trainings and upgrading knowledge, thus the project created the basis for long-term teamwork.



### Project partners:

**Otvoreni univerzitet doo Subotica**  
(Open University Subotica)

DAR „A Dél-alföldi Régióért” Nonprofit  
Közhasznú Kft. (DAR “A Dél-alföldi Régióért”  
Non-profit Public Ltd.)

Szeged Pólus Fejlesztési Nonprofit Korlátolt  
Felelősségű Társaság  
(Szeged Pólus Development Nonprofit Ltd.)

**Project total budget / 156,700.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 133,195.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 09 2010**

**Project end date / 31 10 2011**

*The key to  
successful business  
is cooperation*

## South Pannon Food Chain Network

The objective of this project was to strengthen collaboration between economic actors so that the major economic activity of the rural population – food production – can promptly respond to competitive challenges and adapt to the requirements of the single market. The project also contributed to the promotion of cooperation between agribusiness SMEs in the region through the functional expansion of the existing networks in Southern Great Plain, Hungary, and in Vojvodina, Serbia. The project partners created the technical and intellectual background for network cooperation. Due to its integrated approach, the project was very effective and created a sustainable cross-border structure. The key element of this efficiency was that the partners established a cooperation base on top of their already existing activities, thus the material requirements, personnel and expertise necessary for maintaining the central element of the project – the network – were available and easily expanded.

The project resulted in the creation of an online e-marketplace that enabled the users to offer their products or choose and order products. The project partners organised events and forums, seminars and promotional activities to present the achieved results to the general public. The designed network unites and improves the capacities of the agribusiness enterprises, making them more flexible in responding to global market challenges.



### Project partners:

**Csongrád Megyei Agrár Információs Szolgáltató és Oktatásszervező Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft.**  
**(Csongrád County Agricultural Non-profit Public Benefit Ltd.)**

Háló Vajdasági Fejlesztési Alap  
 (Development Foundation of Vojvodina "Háló")  
 Društvo za regionalne nauke  
 (Association of Regional Sciences)

**Project total budget / 156,642.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 133,145.70 €**  
**Project start date / 01 06 2010**  
**Project end date / 31 08 2011**

*Sustainable  
cross-border  
network  
of agribusiness  
SMEs*

## Enhancing economic cooperation in the field of integrated agricultural supply of goods along the Serbian-Hungarian border

Cross-border cooperation between Szeged and Subotica in the field of agriculture and food industry has a long and notable tradition. The preservation of this tradition is important to the inhabitants of this area. The municipalities of Szeged and Subotica thus decided to enhance the integrated agricultural supply of goods and agro-trade potential of the border region, relying on the common tradition, in the interest of increasing the economic competitiveness of the region. This was the overall objective of the project.

The specific objectives included exchange of experience, establishment and harmonisation of trade, establishment of an integrated agricultural supply of goods, the expansion of the market offer with better supply of organic products, promotional and training activities. The targeted agricultural producers have become familiar with organic food production, as well as the latest technologies and trends in agriculture. Furthermore, an integrated agricultural supply of goods was introduced and merchants got acquainted with integrated commercial channels.

Numerous stakeholders, entrepreneurs, agricultural producers and interested members of public had the opportunity to receive relevant,

up-to-date and systematically presented information during conferences, workshops, trainings for producers, business meetings, twenty caravans as well as product presentations in 4 cities in both countries. The partners also presented the recommendations through a market research study, establishment of a business database with product data, and the creation of publications in three languages. As a result of the project, a supply of high-quality agricultural goods, in accordance with EU policies, was developed which created respectable markets in the border area, thus strengthening cross-border business contacts and cooperation.



### Project partners:

Otvoreni univerzitet doo Subotica  
Grad Subotica (City of Subotica)

Szeged Megyei Jogú Város Önkormányzata  
Polgármesteri Hivatal (Municipality of Szeged  
County Rank City)

Project website / <http://www.eco-coop.eu/>

Project total budget / 162,000.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 137,700.00 €

Project start date / 15 07 2010

Project end date / 14 07 2011

*High-quality  
agricultural goods -  
respectable markets  
in the border area*

## Mórahalom-Domaszék-Bečej-Temerin cultural heritage thematic route

The four organisations formed a cross-border partnership to promote jointly organized cultural and tourism events focussing on the protection of historic and cultural heritage in the border region. A historic and cultural route linked the four settlements by creating and opening to the public the local historic exhibitions in the Economic School of Mórahalom, the Railway Museum in Domaszék, the Public Library in Bečej, and the House of Regional Traditions in Temerin. The exhibitions especially emphasised the characteristics of each of the settlements, such as wine, thermal water and literature. Once the project partners developed the route, the reconstruction and renovation of the four buildings commenced. Even though the buildings were functional and operating, they needed to be renovated in order to take on an additional function as an exhibition space. In Bečej, Serbia, in order to reduce heat loss and with that reduce heating costs, new tiles were placed on the roof of the library building, the walls were insulated and new doors and windows were also installed. In Temerin, Serbia, the roof of the House of Regional Traditions was retiled, returning it to its original state and the walls were insulated. In Hungary, the school build-

ing in Mórahalom was renovated, while the museum in Domaszék acquired the equipment needed to expand the exhibition content and items. The buildings not only opened their doors to numerous visitors from the neighbouring country, but also became sites of vibrant cultural life in their communities, offering a variety of programmes.



### Project partners:

**Narodna biblioteka Bečej**  
(Bečej Public Library)

TAKT Likovno Svaralačka Kolonija Temerin  
(Creative Workshop and Art Camp of Temerin)  
Domaszék Község Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Domaszék)  
Mórahalom Város Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Mórahalom)

**Project total budget / 171,604.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 145,863.40 €**

**Project start date / 01 07 2010**

**Project end date / 31 12 2011**

Vibrant  
cultural life  
in the  
communities



## Mutual heritages of the border regions in Csongrád and North Banat counties

Cultural heritage is the common treasure of the cross-border region. The shared love and concern for common values motivated the partners to create a thematic route of cultural heritage.

During the project, the partners developed two unique sites: the Border Guard Memorial was erected in Tiszasziget, and, in Deszk, the old, closed cemetery was moved to the Memorial Park. The Border Guard Memorial is not only a new attraction, but also expands local facilities for outdoor cultural activities and covers about 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> of land. The construction of the Memorial Park in Deszk solved the problem of cemetery maintenance by establishing a historic site that also serves as a park.

Five organisations from two countries formed a partnership and organised six popular tourist events. The events focused on popular traditional arts such as folk dance, folk music and handicrafts. Aside from exhibiting these cultural assets, the event showcasing gastronomic traditions also

attracted many participants and visitors.

During a year and a half, the numerous artists, craftsmen and people enthusiastic about preserving traditional cultural programs participated in the St. George Festival in Novi Kneževac, the Tisza River Festival and the Folk Dance International Festival in Srpski Krstur, as well as the Folk Dance Festival, the Banatski Sabor Musical Festival and the International Cooking Contest in Deszk.

The great turnout of people from all parts of the region, as well as international visitors, proved that the traditional performing arts and cultural assets of the region can be a way to promote the region. It is important to highlight that the partners continued their very successful cooperation in the 2nd Call for Proposals of the Programme (HUSRB/1002/212/157).

### Project partners:

**Deszki település-üzemeltetési Nonprofit Kft.**  
**(Municipality Service of Deszk Nonprofit Ltd.)**  
 Bánát Szerb Kulturális Közhasznú Egyesület  
 (Banat Serbian Cultural Public Benefit Association)  
 Tiszasziget Községi Önkormányzat  
 (Municipality of Tiszasziget)  
 Opština Novi Kneževac  
 (Municipality of Novi Kneževac)  
 Centar za ruralni razvoj, istraživanje i primenu  
 (Centre for Rural Development, Research and Implementation)

Project website / [www.csnb.eu](http://www.csnb.eu)

Project total budget / 269,190.00 €  
 Project EU funding (IPA) / 228,811.50 €  
 Project start date / 01 07 2010  
 Project end date / 31 12 2011



*Traditional performing arts and cultural assets as the way of promotion of the region*

## Medieval monasteries as part of collective cultural heritage tourism, and as a potentially important factor of sustainable development

Thematic routes are an element of cultural tourism and consist of three main components:

a well-defined and attractive theme, a geographic dimension and cultural heritage.

This project and its continuation, EXPOMONATUR (HUSRB/1002/212/196) in the 2nd Call for Proposals of the Programme, identified the ways in which archaeological sites, as well as historic and cultural monuments can become part of a thematic tourist route. The partnership of four institutions embarked on a venture to ensure responsible management of cultural heritage and proper support for related tourist programs. As part of the project, a thematic route linking the medieval monasteries of the region was created, in order to manage the shared cultural heritage and develop and support sustainable tourism.

The work and enthusiasm of the cross-border team of experts serve as an example of good practice for the development and broadening of cross-border cooperation. The joint work was divided into four major phases: cross-border archaeological research and studies regarding the appearance, construction phases and spatial concept of all three sites. Preliminary excavation works were carried out at Bugac-Felső Monostor through the preliminary surveying of the site, and geophysical sampling was carried out at the monastic sites at Alsómonostor and Felsőmonostor, to define the extension and ground plan of the complex. Silver coins, remains of a bronze bracelet and a bronze signet ring were uncovered. Archaeological research was carried out in Rakovac Dombo-Gradina. The remains of a Ro-

man villa were discovered, as well as the remains of frescoes, coins, Romanesque stone plastic, medieval graves, amongst others. Secondly, the experts worked on conservation and restoration. Then the development of the thematic route based on these monasteries could commence. The route included other locations of historic and cultural importance.

Once the previous three phases were finalised, the project partners organised a joint exhibition to present the research and locations, while embarking on an intense, well-devised promotional campaign focussing on tourist activities and joint offers. The Tourist Organisation of Vojvodina prepared an appearance at the "Utazás" tourism fair in Budapest in March 2011 in order to present and promote the route.

During the project the participants exchanged knowledge, made new personal and professional contacts, and forged a cross-border team dedicated to continuing collaboration to protect and promote the cultural heritage sites and locations in the region.



*Archaeological sites, historic and cultural monuments part of a thematic tourist route*

### Project partners:

#### Muzej Vojvodine (Museum of Vojvodina)

Bács-Kiskun Megyei Önkormányzat Múzeumi Szervezete (Museum Organisation of Bács-Kiskun County)

Pokrajinski zavod za zaštitu spomenika culture (Provincial Institute for the Protection of Cultural monuments of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina)

Turistička organizacija Vojvodine  
(Tourist Organisation of Vojvodina)

Project total budget / 290,374.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 246,817.90 €

Project start date / 01 10 2010

Project end date / 31 10 2012

## Egészségedre, Živeli

Twenty-first-century tourism is characterised by thirst for adventure, desire for knowledge and active participation in programs. When discovering a country, a region or a smaller geographical area, getting acquainted with local cuisine and specialities is its indispensable component. The project partners created thematic routes focussing on three gastronomic themes – beer, kadarka (a kind of wine) and brandy – with special emphasis on related local festivals and other events.

During the project implementation, the partners prepared a study to define the geographical destinations and characteristics of the three thematic routes (kadarka, brandy and beer) in the Bács-Kiskun and Csongrád counties and Vojvodina. The project partners created and designed a promotional campaign, promoted the region's values at international exhibitions and fairs, and they organised a study tour for European and national journalists. The campaign not only promotes the local brand of good quality products, but also familiarises tourists with the cultural and traditional gastronomic habits of the region, emphasising responsible consumption of kadarka, beer or brandy.

The partners created maps of the routes, a common brand, a route passport and stamps for destinations; they developed a very attractive and informative website. They also prepared a gastronomic guide with recipes linking traditional dishes with each type of promoted beverage and a brochure for the routes. All of the promotional material is available in five languages: English, German, Romanian, Hungarian and Serbian.

The project has undeniable merits in promoting the region. Jointly, the two partner organisations identified the gastronomic highlights by promoting the culinary and traditions of kadarka, beer and brandy production.

They worked together to make the entire region become a more attractive and popular tourist destination.



### Project partners:

DKMT Duna-Körös-Maros-Tisza  
Eurorégiós Fejlesztési Ügynökség  
Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft. (DKMT Danube-  
Kris-Mures-Tisa Euroregional Development  
Agency - Nonprofit Public Benefit Limited)  
Vlada Autonomne Pokrajine Vojvodine -  
Pokrajinski sekretarijat za međunarodnu  
saradnju (Government of the Autonomous  
Province of Vojvodina - Provincial Secretariat  
for International Cooperation)

Project website / [www.tasty.dkmt.eu](http://www.tasty.dkmt.eu)  
Project total budget / 151,085.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 128,422.25 €  
Project start date / 01 07 2010  
Project end date / 30 11 2011

*Attractive and  
popular destination  
in the region*

*Promoting the  
culinary and  
traditions of  
kadarka, beer  
and brandy  
production*

## Updating of the development strategies of local municipalities and elaboration of cross-border common sectoral development operational programmes and projects

The municipalities with the lead role in this project have had many years of cooperation in the areas of economic and territorial development. They have shared results in establishing institutional and organisational partnerships and project generation, as well as in the development and implementation of joint systems in the Hungarian-Serbian border region.

The objective of this project was to establish a Cross-Border Development Centre for Territorial Planning and Project Generation with its headquarters in Mórahalom, Hungary, and a sub-centre in Kanjiža, Serbia. They also created a pilot strategy by updating the existing five-year development plan of Kanjiža (restructuring, improvement, EU harmonisation, based on the Hungarian example). The project also elaborated cross-border operational programmes over the course of four workshops for four sectors and twenty development projects in tourism, renewable energy, innovative economic development, and the processing industry with

special emphasis on the food industry.

A strategy which precisely assesses the current situation and offers the most needed and the best development directions combining local and wider national and international perspectives, can essentially determine the future of a community. If this strategy is created with cross-border experience-exchange, the beneficial effects of implementing such strategy ensure the development of a harmonious region.

*Combining local,  
wider national  
and international  
perspectives*

### **Project partners:**

**Homokháti Önkormányzatok Kistérségi  
Területfejlesztési Közhasznú Egyesülete  
(Municipalities of Homokhát Small-Regional  
Developmental Public Beneficiary Association)**  
Skupština opštine Kanjiža  
(Assembly of the Municipality of Kanjiža)

**Project total budget / 99,800.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 84,830.00 €  
Project start date / 01 08 2010  
Project end date / 31 07 2011**



## The border as an axis of innovation

Successful development begins with a well-planned strategy, while timely analysis of the current situation is a necessary component of every good strategy. The aim of this project was to elaborate a coordinated study on the development potentials of the border region between Hungary and Serbia. Based on the project partners' concept of the border as an axis of innovation, the coordinated study aimed to recommend measures for strengthening cooperation and common exploitation of socio-economical opportunities.

The project's aim was to provide practical and scientific background material for the realisation of the EGTC, compensating for the shortage of necessity-oriented planning documents at the micro-regional level, as well as the lack of development strategies below the state level in Serbia.

The target area of the project covers two districts (North Bačka and North Banat) in Serbia and eight micro-regions in Hungary, and includes the towns of Szeged, Subotica, Sombor and Baja, home to a population of slightly more than 800,000.

The direct outputs of the activities of the project partners are eight sectoral strategic documents (in the fields of agriculture, industry, services, IT, transportation, infrastructure, environment, education, youth policy, culture, media, tourism, recreation and social inclusion) and two operative programs (Economic OP and Human OP). The project implementation facilitated and strengthened informal cooperation between several authorities and agencies, and it also promoted formal cooperation between the local governments within the framework of the Banat-Triplex Confinium EGTC.



### Project partners:

Magyar Tudományos Akadémia  
Közgazdaság- és Regionális Tudományi  
Kutatóközpont (Research centre for  
Economic and Regional Studies, Hungarian  
Academy of Sciences)

Društvo za regionalne nauke  
(Regional Science Association)

Project website / [www.innoaxis.hu](http://www.innoaxis.hu)

Project total budget / 89,980.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 76,483.00 €

Project start date / 01 08 2010

Project end date / 31 07 2011

*Successful  
development begins  
with a well-planned  
strategy*

## Examination of innovation and cooperation abilities and development possibilities of small- and medium-sized enterprises in the Hungarian-Serbian cross-border region

The objective of the project was to map the operation, innovation and cooperation capacities of small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the border region. The project had two phases. In the first phase, four background studies were carried out in the fields of the competitiveness, enterprise development and innovation strategies of the border region. The studies also identified the special characteristics of enterprises in border region in light of international scientific literature. The studies addressed issues connected to the development of border regions on the basis of their endogenous resources, adopting international experiences.

A benchmarking study provided an overview of other possible primary research and aimed to assess the innovation and cooperation activities of enterprises in the border region. In the second phase, the participants presented the obtained results to the general public. Thanks to the reliable research data collected during the course of on-field surveying carried out as part of the project, development programmes and actions were designed based on real development needs. Furthermore, the project has contributed to the strengthening of cooperation among SMEs, research institutions and enterprise development organisations in the border region between Hungary and Serbia.



**Project partners:**  
**Szegedi Tudományegyetem**  
**(University of Szeged)**  
Fakultet za ekonomiju i inženjerski  
menadžment (Faculty of Economics and  
Engineering Management)

**Project website / [www.fimekincodesme.rs](http://www.fimekincodesme.rs)**  
**Project total budget / 109,863.40 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 93,383.89 €**  
**Project start date / 15 06 2010**  
**Project end date / 14 06 2011**

Cooperation  
among SMEs,  
research institutions  
and enterprise  
development  
organisations

## Sustainable tourism development among the oxbows of the Tisza River

The oxbow lakes in Szeged, Rőszke (Hungary), Martonoš and Kanjiža (Serbia) are considered the biggest of the 150 most important oxbow lakes of the Tisza River. However, these significant and important natural assets may disappear in the near future. A previous project began the rehabilitation of the oxbow lakes to prevent this. The aim of this project was to define suitable tourism functions for the oxbow lakes.

The role of the development of aquatic tourism is emphasised in the development plans of both Rőszke and Kanjiža. At the moment, the oxbow lakes serve the needs of inland water and rainwater collection, but they are also used for fishing. Furthermore, they provide water for farmland irrigation.

Within the framework of the project, the partners produced a feasibility study, which concluded that this area could facilitate development of sustainable tourism. The study assigns an important role to communication activities which would initially target NGOs, anglers and entrepreneurs introducing them to the potential of tourist development of the oxbow lakes. The

study predicts that all inhabitants of the region might enjoy indirectly the benefits of tourist development in the oxbows of the Tisza.

The fact that the border between Hungary and Serbia goes through the middle of an oxbow lake nicely illustrates that only a common strategy for protecting and developing sustainable tourist programmes can benefit the region in the long-run. The study is only the first step in the cooperation between the two settlements in the field of tourism and joint responsible management of natural assets.



*Tourist  
development of  
the oxbow lakes*

*In the long-run,  
the region can  
benefit only through  
a common strategy*

### Project partners:

**Rőszke Község Önkormányzata**  
(Local government of Rőszke)

Skupština opštine Kanjiža

(Assembly of the Municipality of Kanjiža)

Project total budget / 95,378.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 81,071.30 €

Project start date / 01 09 2010

Project end date / 31 08 2011



## Harmonised development of logistics centres in CB region

The main aim of the project was to facilitate cooperation between the South Great Plain Region (Hungary) and Vojvodina (Serbia) in the fields of logistics planning and development. The concept of logistics service centres has been present in Hungary for over 5 years, but it has not been introduced in Serbia. The Hungarian experiences could greatly facilitate the development and operation of logistics centres in Serbia.

The project resulted in the establishment of co-operation between SMEs and logistics experts in the region throughout the establishment of business connections during project activities, such as workshops, conferences and B2B events.

The existing plans for developing logistics centres in the Hungarian border regions were also elaborated and evaluated, in order to gain clear insight into the existing network of logistics centres and their capacities, as well as the further development of this network.

A study regarding the development of logistics centres in Vojvodina was made and distributed to small- and medium-sized enterprises and local and regional governments. This document contains proposals for the classification and further planning and development of logistic

centres in Vojvodina. The study also proposed locations in which to establish the logistics centres, according to the evident needs of SMEs and with respect to existing logistic centres in the South Great Plain Region that offer the same services. The main point was to avoid unnecessary duplication of services in the region if there was no evident need for their expansion. The project partners capitalised on the power of exchanging experiences in devising a mutually beneficial proposal for establishing a network of logistics centres in Vojvodina. In close cooperation, the two partner organisations worked with experts, SMEs and stakeholders in the fields of economy, commerce and transport to expand and improve the logistics centres in the region.



### Project partners:

Otvoreni univerzitet doo Subotica  
(Open University Subotica)

Dél-alföldi Regionális Innovációs Ügynökség  
Közhasznú Egyesület (Regional Innovation  
Agency of South Great Plain Association)

Project total budget / 111,707.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 94,950.95 €

Project start date / 01 09 2010

Project end date / 30 11 2011

*The power  
of exchanging  
experiences*

*A network of  
logistics centres*

## Medical Home Care

The introduction and development of the home-care system and the medical supply system in Hungary is a success story, and serves as an example of best practice. The objective of the project partnership was to facilitate the efficient and cost-effective development of the medical supply system, as well as to implement a care service and professional medical supply system in Serbia within hospices utilising the Hungarian experiences in this field.

The project partners analysed the legal regulations governing the criteria with respect to medical home-care activities in Serbia. Based on this, they created a harmonised and standardised set of recommendations for health care workers and stakeholders in Serbia. The recommendations and study aimed to introduce and improve the palliative healthcare system. Firstly, the project partners embarked on the assessment of the home-care system and the medical supply system in Serbia.

Secondly, they devised a unique standard system for medical services cooperation, conducted a public survey and planned education in the field of medical home-care tailored to the circumstances in Serbia. Lastly and most importantly, they improved access to information and knowledge about innovative activities in home-care within the region and abroad through the preparation of PR materials and the

organisation of events and trainings. The target group of the information dissemination activities were hospitals and medical staff, as well as patients who need home-care services. The cooperation has been beneficial for both partners, helping them repeatedly assess their previous practices and grow professionally. By harmonising and improving the home-care system, the project benefited the medical practitioners and population in need of palliative care.



### Project partners:

**Grad Novi Sad (City of Novi Sad)**

Ölelő Kéz Ápolási és Hospice Alapítvány (Caring Hands Home Care & Hospice Foundation)

**Project total budget / 107,754.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 91,590.90 €**

**Project start date / 01 08 2010**

**Project end date / 31 10 2011**

*Harmonising  
and improving  
the home-care  
system*

## Research cooperation to improve symptoms in neurological disorders, and quality of life of patients

The diagnostics, treatment and curing of inherited monogenic diseases is of high interest for society. Treatment of neurological disorders, like spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) is extremely important. The partners' objective was to establish a cooperation framework for the diagnosis and testing of SMA, and develop a therapy for the disease, in model experiments with new artificial chromosome-stem cell technology.

The participants in this research gained a better understanding of the scope of inherited diseases and acquired new and modern diagnostic skills in their field of medicine.

The objectives of the research were achieved, and a therapeutic artificial chromosome (SMN1-tACE) was detected, which could be used for therapeutic model experiments in the near future. Moreover, the Patients' Care and Information Centre was set up with the role to disseminate information to the patients and their family members (possible carriers) about SMA, to collect and store blood samples, and diagnose them. The project partners developed a database which contains records of 400 people as well as a protocol for the clinical and

molecular diagnosis of SMA. Blood samples were collected from patients, their parents and siblings, and genetic screening of DNA samples began.

During the project, the scientists in a cross-border research team successfully worked on acquiring new insights and tackling an important aspect of health care while making new personal and professional contacts, and exchanging experiences, expertise and augmenting knowledge.



*Diagnostics,  
treatment and  
curing of inherited  
monogenic diseases*

### Project partners:

Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Szegedi  
Biológiai Központ (Hungarian Academy  
of Sciences, Biological Research Centre)  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu - Medicinski fakultet  
sa potpunom odgovornošću (University of Novi  
Sad – Faculty of Medicine with full liability)

Project total budget / 382,900.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 325,465.00 €

Project start date / 01 09 2010

Project end date / 31 12 2011

# Cross-border Network for Innovative Development of Economies and Knowledge Transfer

Innovation is indispensable for successful business. Thus, this project aimed to strengthen business and innovation support infrastructure and cross-border cooperation through the establishment of two Innovation Information Centres in Vojvodina (Serbia) and a cross-border innovation support network, including the existing Hungarian Consortium.

The current situation in Serbia is represented by a relatively high overall proportion of innovative enterprises, but the level of collaboration between the academic institutions and industry is very low, and there is an extremely low level of business R&D and patenting activities. Only a small proportion of enterprises operate in international markets. On the other hand, in Hungary, the support designated for innovation is not sufficiently goal-oriented because of the lack of communication between the user enterprises and the innovators.

The newly created cross-border innovation support network provides a range of innovation support services: information, training and

consulting, technology transfer, partner search, and awareness raising about innovation. It also participates in the development of the Regional Innovation Strategy with the Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, academic institutions and other stakeholders from the region. In the future, there is an initiative to link the Network with the Enterprise Europe Network.

The project results enhance the competitiveness of enterprises through innovation, taking them from the stage of purchasing new machinery, equipment and skills to the stage of producing their own innovative products and processes for their own needs.



## Project partners:

**Regionalni centar za razvoj malih i srednjih preduzeća i preduzetništva, doo, Subotica**  
(Regional Centre for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises and Entrepreneurship, Ltd, Subotica)

DAR „A Dél-alföldi Régióért” Nonprofit  
Közhasznú Kft. (DAR “A Dél-alföldi Régióért”  
Nonprofit Public Ltd.)

Ekonomski fakultet Subotica  
(The Faculty of Economics Subotica)

Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)

**Project total budget / 365,185.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 310,407.25 €**

**Project start date / 01 08 2010**

**Project end date / 30 11 2011**

*The project  
results enhance the  
competitiveness of  
enterprises through  
innovation*



## Gynaecological endoscopy for the assessment of infertility: joint capacity building to foster future cooperation in research and development

The project activities focused on the area of gynaecological endoscopy and aimed to address the problem of infertility. The infertility experts from Szeged University and the General Hospital in Subotica ideally complemented each other's expertise and knowledge in order to tackle this problem that affects many women in the region. In the course of the project, both partners purchased professional equipment, which raised their capacities for gynaecological endoscopic interventions by roughly 20 percent. This capacity improvement enabled the clinics to increase the number of surgeries and doubled the size of the sample for the joint research. Furthermore, the assessment of infertility is more accurate and precise with the modern equipment. Besides the new equipment, there was scientific knowledge transfer through workshops, presentations, debates and the practical demonstration of surgeries with the newly acquired equipment.

The knowledge transfer went both ways and contributed to a joint knowledge base in this specific medical scientific field. The major outputs of the project were three scientific articles published in refereed journals. The experience and knowledge gained from the cooperation were applied in the delivery of faster, more efficient and successful treatments of infertility. Most importantly, the population of the region affected by infertility has benefited from the cooperation and the results of the joint research.



*Faster,  
more efficient  
and successful  
treatments of  
infertility*

**Project partners:**  
Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)  
Opšta Bolnica Subotica  
(Subotica General Hospital)

**Project total budget / 302 057.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 256 748.45 €**  
**Project start date / 15 06 2010**  
**Project end date / 14 08 2011**

## Development of a sustainable farming model for viable country life across borders

The project covered the Southern Great Plain in Hungary and the northern part of Vojvodina in Serbia. The Great Plain defines the common and special characteristics of this region. Most of the land – 71%, is used for agricultural production.

The region has high quality arable land and a strong agricultural tradition. Nevertheless, the agro technology applied in the small farms (machinery, seed, soil cultivation, pest management etc.) is still outdated and inefficient. Moreover, the farmers from Hungary are not organised in associations which would be indispensable in achieving market competitiveness.

The project developed a farming model which promoted efficient and economical production of quality traditional plants and animals through the sustainable development of small-scale farming and applied it in number of farms in the border region. The model produced excellent results. A register of farms, with information about 40 farms in each country was created. The studies based on expert's research of the farming model and the description of farms based on the farms register were published in the book titled Tainable Farming at Farmsteads which is used as a textbook in a number of universities in the region.



*farming model promoted  
efficient and economical  
production of quality  
traditional plants  
and animals*

**Project partners:**  
Gabonakutató Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft.  
(Cereal Research Non-Profit Limited  
Company)  
Kertészek Egyesülete (Association of  
Gardeners)

**Project total budget / 347,600.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 295,460.00 €**  
**Project start date / 01 06 2010**  
**Project end date / 30 09 2011**

## Multidisciplinary, market-oriented development of joint RDI capacities of the border region

One of the important factors of successful innovation is the extent of collaboration between universities and enterprises through technology transfer. This link between universities and the economy has so far been missing from the SMEs networking in the border region. This project was based on an idea of a Science and Technology (ST) Park and it was built upon the stable cooperation between the Universities of Novi Sad and Szeged. The prepared feasibility studies offer a systematic overview of the ST Park's economic, technological, environmental, financial and management potential and demonstrate the importance of these developments to decision-makers, and possible investors. The studies also serve as a basis for the establishment of the Science and Technology Park as well as for creation of a network of regional ST Parks (Serbia, Hungary and Romania) as a way to integrate economic and intellectual resources in the region and gather knowledge in one place.

Moreover, the project started the development of the highly innovative Science and Technology Parks and Universities Network which clearly defined possible areas of cooperation in the future. At present, there is a high possibility of further collaboration in the ITC sector and the development of a cooperation network in the field of biotechnology (bio gas) and advanced laser equipment.

This Network will continue to integrate economic and intellectual resources in the region, in order to improve and enhance the business climate for existing companies.

Development  
of a cooperation  
network in the  
field of  
biotechnology

### Project partners:

University of Novi Sad Faculty of Technical Sciences (Univerzitet Novi Sad, Fakultet tehničkih nauka)

DEAK Kooperációs Kutatási Zártkörűen Működő Non-profit Zrt.

Project total budget / 297.626,00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 252.982,10 €

Project start date / 01 07 2010

Project end date / 31 10 2011



## CB peloid and highly-mineralised water research

The objective of the project was to create a well-developed system for the application and distribution of peloid and highly-mineralised water from Orlovača in the border region to scientific institutions, local governments and SMEs, ensuring sustainable and environmentally responsible exploitation of natural resources and economic growth.

This objective was achieved through the promotion and development of the application of peloid and highly-mineralised water from Orlovača, and through medical and geological research. The potential of the Orlovača site had been unexplored for a long time. It was necessary to conduct research into the quantity and quality of the peloid and highly-mineralised water this site contains, in order to ascertain their geomorphologic qualities and exploitation potential and to confirm their positive impact on healing, rehabilitation and spa treatments. Qualitative and quantitative research of the peloid and highly-mineralised water was carried out in line with geological, balneal and medical research. As part of the research, the mineral water and peloid programme at Orlovača was

developed and a geodetic survey was carried out, followed by the development of the site plan covering an area of 5.2 hectares. Based on extensive laboratory analyses of the peloid and highly-mineralised water, a balneal opinion was obtained on the therapeutic value of the peloid at Orlovača. Based on these results, peloid from Orlovača was transported to spas in Rusanda (Serbia) and Makó (Hungary) for use in treatments. Several medical treatments and further medical analyses were carried out there, pursuant to an approved medical protocol. The results of the project thus clearly confirmed the medical and economic potential of the Orlovača peloid.



### Project partners:

Mesna zajednica Mol  
(Borough Council of Mol)

Dr. Diósszilágyi Sámuel Kórház- Rendelőintézet  
(Dr. Diósszilágyi Sámuel Hospital)

Project total budget / 304 022.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 258 418.70 €

Project start date / 01 08 2010

Project end date / 31 12 2011

Confirmed  
medical and  
economic  
potential  
of Orlovača  
peloid

## Evaluation of and introduction to the integrated viticulture of the prospective grape varieties of vine regions at the Serbian-Hungarian border

Grape cultivation and wine production play an important role in sustaining rural life and tourism both in Serbia and Hungary. However, viticulture is threatened by several pathogens and pests, which are transmitted by propagating material. Therefore, it is of crucial importance that only healthy plants are used in plantations. Virus-free plants are selected after indicator indexing, but this method does not eliminate bacterial infections. The project partners developed a special method of protection of 20 traditional and newly-bred grapevine varieties, from both countries. Exhaustive plant health quarantine studies were carried out to test and confirm the pathogen-free status of this material, followed by its certification. Propagating material of 10 pathogen-free varieties was transported from Hungary (Kecskemét) to the project partner in Serbia (Novi Sad) as part of an exchange of new varieties and clones.

The autochthonous and newly bred grapevine varieties grown in the Serbian-Hungarian border region underwent viticultural and oenological evaluation.

Finally, a book and a short film were made about regional viticulture in both languages.



### Project partners:

**Budapesti Corvinus Egyetem**

**(Corvinus University of Budapest)**

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Poljoprivredni  
Fakultet, Departman za voćarstvo,  
vinogradarstvo, hortikulturu i pejzažnu  
arhitekturu (University of Novi Sad, Faculty  
of Agriculture, Department of Fruit Science,  
Viticulture, Horticulture and Landscape  
Architecture)

**Project total budget /347,694.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 295,539.90 €**

**Project start date / 01 06 2010**

**Project end date / 30 11 2011**

*Developed  
a special  
method of  
protection  
of 20 traditional  
and newly-bred  
grapevine  
varieties*

## Development of xenobiotic-degrading bioaugmentation products

Pollutants in the environment, substances foreign to an entire biological system are called xenobiotics. Those most widely used in crop protection are pesticides.

Pesticide contamination of water must be prevented due to its direct toxicity to people and due to its influence on water biocenosis. Furthermore, many agent molecules of pesticides or their degradation products are very toxic to non-target organisms and may have carcinogenic, mutagenic, teratogenic, immuno-modulating or endocrine disrupting properties. Pesticides also affect soil: they reduce biodiversity and result in lower soil quality. Pesticide residues in the soil are taken up by plants and make their way into the human body through direct consumption of the crops or via the food chain, so it is important to ensure rapid microbiological degradation of pesticide residues in soil.

The pesticide active ingredients investigated in this project were the herbicides 2,4-D and diuron, and the fungicides carbendazim (systemic) and mancozeb (contact). Carbendazim was banned in Hungary in 2010, but has been used intensively in Serbia. Mancozeb is widely used in both countries, first of all for protection of vegetables.

The project partners' main aim was to develop an optimised bacterial mixture which allows the rapid and complete degradation of these harmful agents. Hence, they developed a multi-residue method able to simultaneously determine a group of selected pesticides with a broad spectrum of chemical characteristics in environmental matrices.

The joint research established and strengthened a sustainable partnership between the research groups and between the two faculties and universities, which could support researchers' and students' mobility and make future research activities possible.



*Developed an optimised bacterial mixture which allowed the rapid and complete degradation of harmful agents in water*

### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)**

Tehnološki fakultet, Univerzitet u Novom Sadu  
(Faculty of Technology, University of Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 248,000.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 210,800.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 10 2010**

**Project end date / 30 09 2011**

# HANDICRAFT

## Tradition and innovation in the handicraft industry

The gradual opening of the Hungarian-Serbian border offers the craftsmen in the border-region the opportunity to take advantage of the expanding market. The partners in this project hoped to ensure that these craftsmen are winners in this process, and wanted to develop a model which would be just as useful in other multicultural environments.

The project activities included the creation of a database of all the craftsmen in the border area, which was then uploaded to the partners' websites. Besides the contact information of the craftsmen, the database contains photos and descriptions of their products. Within the strategic planning part of the project, the studies, strategies, and guidelines were prepared, and their aim was to assist the craftsmen in developing their businesses: product development and marketing strategy, network building strategy, and publicity guidelines. This led to the establishment of a network of craftsmen, who have a shared brand of products and common market which consequently resulted in the creation of new jobs.



### Project partners:

Dél-Alföldi Regionális Társadalomtudományi  
Kutatói Egyesület (Southern Great Plains  
Region Social Research Association)  
Civilni centar „Ci-Fi” (Civilian Centre “Ci-Fi”)  
Duna-Tisza Közi Népművészeti Egyesület  
(Middle Danube-Tisza Folk-art Association)

Project total budget / 141,991.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 120,692.35 €

Project start date / 01 06 2010

Project end date / 30 09 2011

*The opportunity  
to take advantage  
of the expanding  
market*



## Cooperation in Education: Environmental-hydraulics field training reach on the Danube River

In the modern world, the exchange of methodologies, experiences and knowledge are essential components of education. Thus, this project aimed to create close cooperation between the partner institutions with respect to education in environmental hydraulics and water resources, both for students and teachers. The partners proposed the establishment of common environmental-hydraulics field training reach on the Danube River in the border area between Hungary (Mohács) and Serbia (Bezdán). Through this project, the two educational organisations applied a multidisciplinary team-work approach, adopting the latest advancements in field water quality data collection techniques.

The partners organised trainings for both teachers and students in the latest field data collection and data processing techniques and in model calibration, verification, and application. The results of the joint work were compre-

hensive and accurate data sets including flow characteristics, sediment and morphology data and data on selected chemical and biological constituents. Additionally, 1-, 2- and 3-D mathematical models for simulation of flow and transport processes were established.

The durability of these results is provided by the project objective to keep the selected Danube River reach as a continuous common training and research centre for teachers and students from both universities.

The benefit of the project can be seen in the improved curricula and level of education in the area of environmental hydraulics at both universities, and expertise of the young engineers who work in water management and environmental institutions in the border region of both countries.



The Danube  
1-, 2- and 3-D  
mathematical  
models for  
simulation of flow  
and transport  
  
continuous common  
training and  
research centre

### Project partners:

Eötvös József Főiskola, Baja  
(Eötvös József College, Baja)

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Građevinski fakultet  
Subotica (University of Novi Sad Faculty of Civil  
Engineering Subotica)

Project total budget / 274,640.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 233,444.00 €

Project start date / 01 07 2010

Project end date / 31 10 2011

# Life-long Education and Regional Networking

In the knowledge-based economy, people need to continuously improve their skills and knowledge in order to be competitive on the labour market. As learning does not end with school, adult education has a very important role, especially in modern society. The project partners recognised this challenge, and they initiated cooperation between institutions specialising in non-formal adult education in the border region. The organisations realised that the level of cooperation between non-formal educational institutions was minimal or even non-existent. Analysis of the situation on the labour market exposes a large gap between demand and workforce supply. Aside from the economic crises, the main reason for this gap can be found in the low level of recognition of the need for life-long learning.

During the project, the three non-formal educational institutions elaborated eleven common curricula in various fields identified as lacking in the region: Intercultural Management, Business Psychology, International Project Management

and Access Together with Dactylographic Training, Youth Worker, Social Entrepreneurship, Tourist Management and Computer Training for people with disabilities. The partners also developed and implemented online language courses in Hungarian and Serbian not only strengthening bilingualism of the population, but also improving the employability of unemployed people. During sixteen months, the three educational institutions held ten joint trainings, transferred eight curricula between the partners and educated eight trainers. In total, 140 people were educated in different fields as part of the joint educational activities.

During the course of the project, a cross border network with two Career Centres, in Subotica and in Kecskemét, was established. The centres continuously help to improve the non-formal knowledge and skills of unemployed people, but also the skills of those who want to improve their careers.

## Project partners:

**Dél-Alföldi Regionális Társadalomtudományi Kutatási Egyesület (Southern Great Plains Region Social Research Association)**

Civilni centar „Ci-Fi” (Civilian Centre “Ci-Fi”)  
Duna-Tisza Közi Népművészeti Egyesület  
(Middle Danube-Tisa Folk-art Association)

**Project total budget / 141,991.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 120,692.35 €**

**Project start date / 01 06 2010**

**Project end date / 30 09 2011**



*Adult education has a very important role, especially in modern society*



## Educational cooperation between Novi Kneževac and Deszk

Education is one of the pillars of society. High quality and accessible education is vital. During the project, two institutions from each side of the border focused on pupils aged up to 14 years. Through their activities and cooperation, the project partners aimed to improve the quality of education and indirectly the quality of life in the cross-border region.

In Serbia, the nursery and elementary schools from Novi Kneževac were included in the educational activities. In Deszk, Hungary, the participating institution, the Lead Beneficiary of the project, offers the local Serbian community the opportunity to attend studies conducted in Serbian language.

The main project activities evolved around the creation and implementation of a better quality joint educational programme by the institutions involved. Firstly, the project partners completed reconstruction works on the buildings of the institutions involved in order to ensure better conditions for pupils. In Novi Kneževac, the doors and windows were replaced to reduce heating costs, and the entire building in Deszk was renovated. Meanwhile, the project partners procured didactical materials and other teaching equipment to ensure a higher quality of

education. After the basic conditions were significantly improved, the joint educational programmes and teacher-pupil exchanges commenced. On three occasions, twenty pupils participated in a week-long cross-border exchange programme. Also, six one-week-long teacher exchange programmes were organised. As part of the joint educational programmes, more than 120 children spent a week in the neighbouring country learning and playing with their peers across the border. Their teachers, twenty-two of them, also gained an invaluable experience engaging in educational work in the neighbouring country, as part of a week-long teacher exchange programme.

Besides the visible results, the exchange of experiences, forging of new friendships and the discovery of similarities and differences between communities and educational practices enriched the lives of both students and their teachers.



### Project partners:

Budai Szerb Ortodox Egyházmegye  
(Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Buda)  
Opština Novi Kneževac (Municipality of Novi Kneževac)

Project total budget / 394,300.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 335,155.00 €

Project start date / 01 07 2010

Project end date / 31 12 2011

Improvement  
of the quality of  
education and the  
quality of life

# GastroTrain - Joint Hungarian-Serbian gastronomic cross-border training programme

The project partners' aim was to provide current and future chefs and waiters with common knowledge about the traditional local gastronomic values of the Hungarian-Serbian border region and to train them in using modern cooking equipment.

In accordance with its aims, the project addressed the specificities of the teaching process in the three vocational schools at various levels. Firstly, the project partners developed training materials about the traditional gastronomy of the border region and the use of modern technology and cooking appliances and equipment. The curricula for the chef and waiter professions and a bilingual food and drink dictionary of the border region were also elaborated. The project also included the education of the trainers and a student exchange programme – one week of summer practice in Sombor, Baja and Kiskunhalas.

Even though the project partner institutions had the basic infrastructure (buildings) and equipment, it was necessary to improve and modernise the facilities and equipment of the Lead Beneficiary institution. Part of an existing building was renovated so that the students could practice cooking in better conditions using

modern appliances and equipment. In the same organisation, the Hungarian-Serbian gastronomic demonstration room was created.

The project paid special attention to demonstrating the newly gained knowledge, skills and cooking techniques to the general public. At two regional fairs in Baja at the Bácskai Ízek festival and in Kiskunhalas at Halasi Szüreti Napok the participants presented the gastronomic values of the region, and the fair visitors were able to enjoy traditional meals prepared by the trainers and the students.

The partners jointly elaborated three training materials and curricula and published a recipe book focusing on the food and dishes of the border region. In addition to training high school students, an adult training programme was also organised in Kiskunhalas, where chefs and waiters could practice cooking dishes from Hungarian-Serbian gastronomy.

The joint work did not end with the completion of the project. At the closing event, the partners officially signed a cooperation agreement for the period after the closure of the project. The end of the project launched the beginning of new joint activities.

## Project partners:

Bács Kiskun Megyei Önkormányzat „Vári Szabó István” Szakközépiskolája, Szakiskolája és Kollégiuma, Kiskunhalas (“Vári Szabó István” Vocational Secondary and Training School of Bács-Kiskun County Council, Kiskunhalas)

Srednja Ekonomska Škola Sombor (Secondary Economics School in Sombor)

Bányai Júlia Kereskedelmi és Vendéglátóipari Szakképző Iskola, Baja (“Júlia Bányai”

Commercial and Catering Secondary Technical School, Baja)

Project total budget / 453,079.47 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 385,117.55 €

Project start date / 01 08 2010

Project end date / 31 01 2012



*Common  
Knowledge about  
the traditional local  
gastronomic values of  
the Hungarian-Serbian  
border region*

# Serbian-Hungarian Cooperation in Agro-chemistry and Pest-control Education

As the relationship between Serbia and the European Union is becoming closer and closer, the need to achieve harmonisation in the field of agricultural regulations is also becoming greater. The project aimed to address this: the partners developed teaching materials to promote plant protection knowledge (the use and effect of pesticides) among farmers and entrepreneurs on both sides of the Hungarian-Serbian border. The project engaged lecturers and teachers of the two universities, experts in the field of plant protection, advisors from the target area and agricultural entrepreneurs. The participants first carried out a survey into demand among agricultural enterprises and analysed the existing educational documents and experiences. On the basis of the results they developed teaching materials at two levels: for trainers and for adult students. The partners created the new bilingual e-learning platform, and they also published a 300-page textbook

about plant protection in the Hungarian and Serbian languages. They also prepared the accreditation documents for the new teaching materials in Serbia.

The cross-border partnership organised training courses for trainers and trainees and carried out one-day study trips to Hungary. During the implementation of the project, twelve tutors and 120 farmers were trained via these courses, and the farmers who completed the training received a certificate at the final conference. In order to reach a wide audience, the partners also disseminated their achievements through the electronic and printed media, online and in brochures.

The project's important result was the increased number of farmers who gained practical knowledge of and skills in how to professionally and safely use chemicals. This in turn, contributes to the protection of our environment and health.

## Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)**

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Poljoprivredni fakultet (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Agriculture)

**Project total budget / 211,750.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 179,987.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 07 2010**

**Project end date / 30 09 2011**



*Knowledge  
of how to  
professionally  
and  
safely use chemicals*

## “Boundless Borders” Police Training Cooperation

The police perform specific functions in the multicultural and multilingual border region. This project aimed to prepare young police students for this complex situation. The overall goal of this project was to promote general understanding of the minorities in the neighbouring countries and familiarise future police officers with the cultural and professional background of their colleagues from the neighbouring country. The police schools intensively worked on jointly introducing new and more effective teaching methods (e-learning) to police training. Through joint training sessions, exchange of knowledge and experiences, the trainers and police students learnt how to effectively cooperate through practice. In addition, a six-day field practice was held in Dóc, Csongrád County, with the participation of students and trainers from Hungary and Serbia, with the active support and engagement of the Hungarian Army.

The project partners not only organised exchange programmes for students and teachers in Szeged and Novi Sad, but also developed and elaborated e-learning software and an e-learning curriculum. They also procured hardware and software required for the e-learning programme thus ensuring sustainable educational cooperation well after the project ended.

It should be emphasised that the partners organised a Serbian language course in Szeged and a Hungarian language course in Novi Sad. This activity is very important because understanding one another starts with overcoming language barriers. The project saw the police students from Hungary and Serbia learn new techniques and methods, become familiar with each other's cultures, mentalities and languages.

*General  
understanding of  
the minorities in the  
neighbouring  
countries*

### Project partners:

**Szegedi Rendészeti Szakközépiskola  
(Law Enforcement School of Szeged)**

Republika Srbija Ministarstvo unutrašnjih poslova  
- Srednja skola unutrašnjih poslova Centar za  
osnovnu policijsku obuku (Republic of Serbia  
Ministry of Interior – Interior Affairs High School  
Basic Police Training Centre)

**Project total budget / 351,000.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 298,350.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 05 2010**

**Project end date / 31 10 2011**





## Educational cooperation for a joint Mechatronic Engineering degree

Experience shows that training programmes based on joint knowledge are very successful and competitive. In order to contribute to the overall human capital development of the region the colleges from the two countries jointly developed a BSc and MSc study programme in Mechatronic Engineering – a combination of mechanical, electronic and computer engineering. Before this project there were no integrated approaches to these subjects at the colleges neither in Bács-Kiskun County, Hungary nor in North Bačka District, Serbia.

Together the project partners developed, accredited and introduced the Mechatronic Engineering programme at the Bachelor and Master's degree levels in their institutions. Furthermore, they conducted high quality research and studies into mechatronics.

More than 20 organisations and over 70 people were directly engaged in the project and they created over 2500 pages of curricula. The developed curricula were carefully tailored while bearing in mind the results of the assessment of the labour market which the experts of the project team performed. Additionally, two conferences and two workshops organised in Serbia and Hungary provided a platform for

knowledge and experience exchange. The required teaching equipment was purchased in order to further the research in this multidisciplinary field and improve the effectiveness of the teaching and learning experience.

The project was developed to be multilingual, with content in both Serbian and Hungarian, and even English where possible.

The partners conducted very studious work on introducing joint study programmes in this multidisciplinary field which improves the competitiveness of the graduates in the labour market and facilitates mobility in the border region.



### Project partners:

Visoka tehnička škola strukovnih studija - Subotica

Kecskeméti Főiskola

Project total budget / 280,483.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 238,410.55 €

Project start date / 01 08 2010

Project end date / 31 01 2012

*Training programmes based on joint knowledge are very successful and competitive*

# Teaching mathematics and statistics in sciences: Modelling and computer-aided approach

In contemporary society, the importance of mathematics and sciences cannot be over-emphasised and the innovative and high-level teaching of these subjects is crucial. This project is a particularly good example of the popularisation of mathematics and sciences through interactive and interesting teaching methods. The objective of the project was to promote new means/methods of computer-aided teaching of mathematics in terms of science education in three languages: English, Hungarian and Serbian.

The partners developed common electronic teaching materials and an electronic book titled "Interesting mathematical problems in sciences and everyday life" which attracted the interest of various audiences. After procuring the necessary hardware and software in Szeged and Novi Sad, the project team members organised well attended workshops, conferences, intensive-learning schools, and PhD student exchange programmes. In order to attract the general public and especially the younger population, the project partners held open days, a series of popular lectures called "Meet the Professor", exhibitions and interesting popular science events in both countries. A competition "Maths in Science" for high school students was a great success in both Hungary and Serbia.

A joint project webpage is used as a communications and information platform to widely popularise mathematics through interesting and fun e-learning tools in the Hungarian, Serbian and English languages.

The project provided a strong, shared technical basis for further work, and even contributed to setting a standard for engaging and innovative teaching methods. The partners continued their joint work in the 3rd Call for Proposals (HUSRB/1203/221/024). Within the project, the partnership managed to improve creative thinking, problem-solving skills, application-oriented mathematical knowledge, interdisciplinary mathematical and scientific thinking, and increase the popularity of mathematics and sciences among the younger generation.



## Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)**

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-matematički fakultet, Novi Sad (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 210,430.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 178,865.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 07 2010**

**Project end date / 31 12 2011**

Engaging  
and  
innovative teaching  
methods



# Handshake - Development of Hungarian and Serbian vocational and adult education systems through competency-based training activities

One of the ways to facilitate and achieve personal growth throughout life is to take on new challenges. This appears to be especially applicable on the labour market.

In contemporary society, it has been proven over and over again that the quality of the education and adult education, in particular, often directly affects quality of life. A way of ensuring continuous development of adult education is through exchange of best practices, development and upgrade of curricula and teaching methods among educational institutions. The objective of the project partners was to increase the employability of the workforce in the region. The two organisations from Hungary and the two from Serbia achieved smooth and intensive educational cooperation by focusing on extended educational and vocational cooperation among institutions. Through the delivery of specialised joint vocational training programmes for people with disabilities and multiple disadvantages, the project partners set an example of inclusive practices in adult education. Through staff exchanges the four organisations strengthened cooperation among experts in the education and vocational training sector. And finally, through

student exchanges they facilitated learning in an international learning environment.

Three complex training curricula were also created: one for trainers "Adult Course Management" which introduces best practices and deals with issues in the areas of life-long learning and (continuing) education of adults. The two complex vocational trainings with bilingual training materials, "Hotel Assistant" and "Ecological Farming", especially target a niche in economic development of the region, namely development of tourist potential and environmentally-friendly agricultural methods. In the course of the project, Hungarian-Serbian bilingualism was strengthened through the use of bilingual curricula (hotel assistant, ecological farming) accredited in both countries, and bilingual training materials.

The cross-border project partners contributed to long-term results: improvement of the labour market situation in the partner regions, better employability of the labour workforce, and integration of vulnerable groups into social and economic life of the region.

## Project partners:

**Türr István Képző és Kutató Intézet, Kecskemét (Türr István Training and Research Institute)**  
 Obrazovno-kulturna ustanova "Cnesa", Kanjiža (Institution for Education and Culture "Cnesa", Kanjiža)  
 Bács-Kiskun Megyei Önkormányzat Bajai Óvodája, Általános Iskolája, Speciális Szakiskolája, Kollégiuma, Egységes Gyógypedagógiai Módszertani Intézménye és Gyermekeotthona (Nursery School, Primary School, Special Vocational School, Student Hostel, Public Educational Institution of Baja, Bács-Kiskun County)  
 Udruženje građana PROBITAS, Subotica (Non-governmental organisation PROBITAS, Subotica)

Project total budget / 394,430.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 335,265.50 €

Project start date / 01 06 2010

Project end date / 30 09 2011



*Increasing  
employability of  
the workforce in  
the region*

## Elaboration of joint logistics executive professional training programmes for the development of enterprises in the border region

Over the last century logistics has become one of the most important components of the global economy, and according to estimates further dynamic development is ahead. As the scope and complexity of logistics services continues to grow, the training of logistic experts proves to be a necessity.

The project partners set themselves the goal of solving two main issues observed in the cross-border regions of Bács-Kiskun County in Hungary and West Bačka district in Serbia: there has been relatively low level of cross-border cooperation between SMEs and the SME sector and public institutions have lacked knowledge, skills and experience in the fields of entrepreneurship, project management, access to EU funds and procurement procedures. To address these issues, the partners developed 13 curricula on various relevant and applicable topics in the field of logistics. Through an online and social media campaign, the project management in Hungary and in Serbia recruited participants to take part in vocational training for logistics specialists. The vocational training classes were held in

both countries in early 2011, with the participation of 32 and 33 people respectively. Finally, the partners prepared a common informative logistics portal to ensure the continuation of the project on a scientific basis and facilitate relationship-building in the field of logistics.

The project contributed to strengthening cross-border economic relations, indirectly facilitating the creation of new jobs, and improving the competitiveness of the whole region.



*Logistics = one of the most important components of the global economy*

### Project partners:

Dél-alföldi Regionális Szakképzés-szervezési  
Nonprofit Z.M. Kiemelkedően Közhasznú Zrt.  
(South Plains Regional Vocational-ZM-Non-profit  
Organisation Significantly Public Co.)  
Savez strukovnih društava i udruženja, Subotica  
(Association of Professional Organisations, Subotica)

Project total budget / 135 470.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 115 149.50 €

Project start date / 01 07 2010

Project end date / 31 07 2011

## Two European zoos enhancing education and environmental protection - second part

Creating a relationship between children and nature; increasing human beings' sensitivity for nature; creating and increasing the population's sense of responsibility for preserving natural resources; and helping people understand that coexistence is a necessity, as well as respect between nations and nationalities, are very important and crucial tasks. This project, which intended to familiarise the inhabitants of Szeged and Palić-Subotica and the region with the pedagogic work of the zoos, was implemented with these goals in mind.

The partners organised one-day field trips for primary school students 18 times a year, during which mixed groups of children from Hungary and Serbia participated in the fun and educational programmes in Palić and in Szeged. The zoos established new teaching and exhibition places: in Szeged a Penguin House, and in Palić a split-level stable with a teaching room on the mezzanine-floor.

They also purchased tools for zoo pedagogy, and organised a vocational conference in Szeged and training in Palić for 16 people from Szeged Zoo and 8 people from Palić Zoo who participated in the workers' exchange programme.

In the space of just one year, more than 3000 pupils from both countries participated in the educational programmes at the zoos in Palić and Szeged.

This great project has contributed immeasurably to the education of children into open-minded and nature-sensitive people.

The project partners hoped to transfer some of their love and reverence for nature and animals, hoping to help the children grow into environmentally conscious adults. Additionally, through playful outdoor activities, the mixed groups of pupils from the two countries learnt about the culture of their peers from the neighbouring country.



**Project partners:**  
Szeged Megyei Jogú Város Önkormányzata  
(Municipality of Szeged)  
Zoološki vrt Palić-Állatkert Palics (Palić Zoo)

**Project total budget / 46,020.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 294,117.00 €**  
**Project start date / 01 10 2010**  
**Project end date / 30 09 2011**



*Love and reverence  
for nature  
and animals*

## Elaboration of joint logistics executive Preparation and accreditation of new Master EU study programme at the Faculty of Economics and Engineering Management

One of the important factors in the success of European integration is high quality education. Recognising this, the project partners from Hungary and Serbia devoted their work to this issue and presented a study about EU integration experience and policies in education and another study about the Bologna Process. The result of the intensive research cooperation and all the project activities was the preparation and accreditation of the curriculum of the EU Master Study Programme at the Faculty of Economics and Engineering Management in Novi Sad. In the course of the project, the classrooms and library were equipped with teaching materials, IT and technical equipment to ensure its sustainability.

The planned Master EU Study was presented in six different towns in Serbia: Subotica, Sombor, Kula, Kikinda, Vrbas and Novi Sad. Guest professors from the University of Szeged held a series of open classes and lectures for interested students in Novi Sad – The Method of Integration: Challenges, Opportunities, Reforms, Policy or Politics and An Overview of EU Enlargement.

Additionally, open classes for 26 Serbian students in Szeged, at the EU Master Study Centre, were also organised. The interested students were introduced to major concepts and issues grouped around five topics: European Institutional Background, Nation State and European Integration, Free Movement of People, Economic Basis of European Integration, and Common Foreign and Security Policy.

The project partners jointly worked to help interested young people become well-educated in and knowledgeable about the policies and experiences of EU member states in the process of EU integration. Educating young people is the key to a harmonious common future.



### Project partners:

Fakultet za ekonomiju i inženjerski menadžment,  
Novi Sad (Faculty of Economics and Engineering  
Management, Novi Sad)

Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)

Project total budget / 156,898.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 133,363.30 €

Project start date / 01 06 2010

Project end date / 30 11 2011

*Educating young people  
is the key to a  
harmonious common  
future*



## Popularisation, awareness-building, and knowledge-sharing of volleyball towards building healthy cross-border relationships and developing new champions

Sport plays a major beneficial role in the education of children and their development into healthy and responsible adults. It can bring young people closer to one another by engaging them in playful activities while teaching them how to acknowledge, accept and respect differences. This project was guided by a vision to establish durable cross-border collaboration through the promotion of volleyball. It primarily focused on bringing young people together through educational and fun sporting activities and introducing them to the joys and rewards of playing volleyball.

At the beginning of this year-long project, the volleyball sport clubs from Szeged and Subotica started with the promotion of volleyball to a great number of young people in both countries. Young people interested in playing this team sport participated in a cross-border youth volleyball tournament in Szeged. During and after the tournament, the project partner sport clubs identified and selected future champions among the participants. After the talent selection process, the sport clubs organised a four-day training camp for advanced sports activities. Besides regular and intensive trainings, the participants of the camp also went

horse-riding, played squash, water volleyball and beach volleyball. One of the prominent and regular didactic activities was to provide solid knowledge about volleyball through seminars held by coaches.

During the activities the participating children improved their stamina and physical endurance, motor skills, and knowledge of volleyball. The young volleyball players from the region learnt to respect the opponent and to appreciate the benefits of team work. During their trips, sport camps, matches and trainings, the young people made new friendships, learnt about their neighbouring country and, in this process, learnt about themselves.



### Project partners:

Ženski odbojkaški klub Spartak, Subotica  
(Female Volleyball Club Spartak)  
Szegedi Röplabda Sportegyesület  
(Volleyball Sports Club Szeged)

Project total budget / 96,097.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 81,682.45 €  
Project start date / 01 09 2010  
Project end date / 31 08 2011

*Children learnt to  
respect the opponent  
and to appreciate  
the benefits  
of team work*

## Maintaining and preserving cultural folk traditions in the cross-border area

Folk traditions splice the past, the present and the future. One of the ways to build a harmonic future is by fostering our traditions. In this project, the tradition was the connecting link across the border between two communities.

The project offered groups of thirty-five students from Hungary and thirty-five from Serbia the opportunity to meet each other, and learn about each other's cultures. During the project, the infrastructural capacity of the two communities was significantly improved through the renovation of two buildings, the sites of lively communal activity. Namely, in Hungary, the Creative House (180 m<sup>2</sup>) in Üllés was extended and renovated, thus enabling it to diversify its programme and attract a wider audience. On the Serbian side, Róka's Farm, an authentic building situated in a nature reserve in Vojvodina was renovated and modernised.

The project partnership organised joint cultural events and dance performances on both sides of the border, to acquaint the citizens of the participating settlements to each other's cultures and folk art traditions. They also realised two camps for 13-15 year-old pupils, a folk dance camp in Üllés and a handicraft camp on the Róka's Farm. The project succeeded in keeping old folk traditions alive, and the folk art built a bridge between people living on the different sides of the border. The project target group, young people from the region, made long-last-

ing friendships in their formative years. The project partners believed that these friendships had the potential to last for an entire lifetime and hoped that they could be passed down to future generations.



*Keeping folk traditions alive*

### Project partners:

Üllés Község Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Üllés)

Etnolife Udruženje građana (Etnolife Civil Association)  
Fonó Alapítvány, Üllés (Fonó Foundation in Üllés)

Project total budget / 110,104.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 93,588.40 €

Project start date / 01 09 2010

Project end date / 31 08 2011



## Welcome to Arts and Crafts!

This project focused on innovative and creative use of arts and crafts to benefit cross-border cultural exchange and the economic sustainability of small communities from the border region. The two foundations from Szeged and Subotica, committed to fostering and encouraging creativity and artistic expression, joined together in a cross-border partnership. They embarked on finding the most viable and efficient way of supporting the learning traditional handicraft, envisioning it through arts and utilising it through entrepreneurial initiatives. They primarily engaged younger generations from smaller communities in order to help solve problems such as the low level of interactions between the citizens of the two countries, the lack of interest for traditional handicrafts, and the lack of support for young people living in smaller settlements. In addition to those problems, the project also focused on tackling high unemployment rates and emigration from rural areas. All of these problems contribute to the decision of young people to leave their homes in rural areas.

To resolve these issues, the project targeted 20 small, marginalised rural communities near the towns in which the partners are located – Subotica and Szeged. The aim was to create and ensure sustainable local and cross-border cultural and educational interaction between Hungarian, Serbian and minority communities.

The project team worked on connecting cultures and gathering young people from both countries around the shared interest in embracing entrepreneurial initiatives. In some cases, empowering young people and making them more aware of and interested in traditional handicrafts resulted in new businesses ideas. This great project continued with more excellent activities in the 2nd Call for Proposals (HUSRB/1002/222/145).

By encouraging curiosity in young people and highlighting the potential of combining traditional handicrafts with artistic expression and entrepreneurial spirit, the cross-border team made the first steps in helping young people start new businesses.



### Project partners:

**FOKUS Fondacija za omladinsku kulturu i stvaralaštvo, Subotica**  
(FOKUS Foundation for Youth Culture and Creativity)

**MÁTRIX Közhazsnú Alapítvány, Szeged**  
(Matrix Foundation for Public Benefit)

**Project total budget / 95,794.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 81,424.90 €**

**Project start date / 01 07 2010**

**Project end date / 31 08 2011**

*Helping young people  
start new businesses  
combining traditional  
handcrafts with  
artistic expression  
and entrepreneurial  
spirit*

## A big basket of health

Basketball is a team sport which teaches children about cooperation. By playing basketball, children can experience that a team is built from individuals, but that it can only be effective if it is guided by unity and team work. In addition to fostering team spirit, the members of the cross-border project team introduced basketball to as many children as possible in order to instil in them the habits which will lead them to fully embrace healthy and active lifestyles.

The project partners engaged children and youth from the region, introducing them to and familiarising them with basketball. In parallel, they addressed the methods used in educational practices in sport and improved the pedagogical work of basketball professionals and educators from the region.

During the implementation of the project, the project partnership organised one five-day long camp in Banat and two seven-day long camps in Szentes. Between these camps three tournaments were held, two in Serbia and one in Hungary.

Thanks to the project, more than 3000 children on both sides of the border were introduced to basketball through camps, trainings and tournaments. Additionally, more than 600 children were provided with effective, personalised

training plans based on the conducted physical screenings of each of them.

The project also involved professional trainings for basketball coaches and referees. Since the Serbian basketball community is widely recognised as one of the top in the world, this project enabled professionals from Hungary to learn from their colleagues from Serbia.

The project partners' team work was successful in widely promoting the major benefits of basketball: team spirit and a healthy lifestyle. They mobilised almost 4000 children in Hungary and Serbia, and harmonised the quality of basketball education on the both sides of the border.

*Basketball:  
Team spirit  
and a healthy  
lifestyle*

### Project partners:

**Szentesi Kosárlabda Klub**

**(Basketball Club Szentes)**

Srednjebanatski Okružni Košarkaški

Savez Zrenjanin (Basketball Association of Central Banat)

**Project total budget / 114,650.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 97,452.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 08 2010**

**Project end date / 31 07 2011**



## CUL-TOUR

The project was designed to promote closer ties between theaters for children from Hungary and Serbia by organising joint innovative events in the field of culture and performing arts.

The project stimulated dialogue, inter-cultural communication, respect and tolerance, exchange of ideas among artists and actively engaged theatre-goers. It offered audiences the possibility to experience contemporary theatrical productions from all over the world by attending the official programme of the International Festival of Children's Theatres in Subotica.

During the thirteen months, a plethora of events, targeting diverse audiences were held both in Vojvodina and Csongrád County. Citizens and children of both regions, along with the professionals and cultural organisations directly involved in the project, actively engaged in artistic endeavours and participated in the performing arts. The audiences, artists, performers, writers and educators from both countries jointly embraced creativity. The project activities included not only the organisation of the 17th and 18th International

Festival of Children's Theatres in Subotica, but also exhibitions, round-table discussions, play-days and workshops in doll-making for children, and workshops for experts. Through the publication of attractive and informative brochures and catalogues, the general public was familiarised with one of the most complex performing art-theatre and its benefits for children's development.

This excellent project brought children closer to the magical world of the theatre. It increased the popularity of theatres, and the exchange of ideas and experiences among artists improved the quality of the performances.



### Project partners:

Otvoreni univerzitet doo Subotica  
(Open University Subotica)

Kövér Béla Bábszínház, Szeged  
("Kövér Béla" Puppet Theatre, Szeged)

Project total budget / 89,800.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 76,330.00 €

Project start date / 01 05 2010

Project end date / 01 06 2011

The magical  
world of the  
theatre

## Cross-border Sport Climbing League

Sport climbing clubs located on each side of the Hungarian-Serbian border used the advantages of cooperation to improve the skills and knowledge of their members and diversify the sporting activities and training methods.

Exchange of experiences, improving skills and techniques, and learning about the culture of the neighbouring country encouraged the project partners to establish connections between the sport clubs practicing and competing in the same sport.

As part of this cooperation, the events which they usually organised locally were organised jointly and on both sides of the border.

The two climbing sport clubs jointly developed and produced educational material for teaching and promoting sport climbing. They organised camps on both sides of the border which gathered sport climbers from the border region.

They acquired and renewed equipment, enabling the clubs to widen the range of services available to members and attract more people interested in training in and practicing this sport. They especially attended to the needs of people with disabilities who showed interest in sport climbing, but previously faced many obstacles to engage in it. They defined and scheduled competitions and organised a sport climbing league which gathered many participants.

This project also demonstrates the tremendous

connecting power of sport. Through sport people can overcome cultural and language barriers, forge new friendships and improve cooperation skills.



### Project partners:

**Meteora Mászósapat, Zsombó**

(Meteora Climbing Team, Zsombó)

Željeznički Planinarski klub "Spartak", Subotica

(Mountaineering club "Spartak", Subotica)

**Project total budget / 62,740.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 53,329.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 07 2010**

**Project end date / 31 10 2011**

The tremendous  
connecting power  
of sport



## Cuman cultural reunion and programmes

This project, which mostly involved local cultural programmes organised in five settlements, demonstrates the preserving and cohesive power of culture. The five partners organised a series of joint cultural and traditional events based on their Cuman roots and traditions. The main subject of these events was the nomadic traditions of the 10th–13th centuries. The Cumans were nomadic warriors of the Eurasian steppe who exerted an enduring impact on the medieval Balkans. They played an active role in Byzantium, Hungary, Bulgaria, Serbia and in the Basarab dynasties in Wallachia, with Cuman immigrants being integrated into each country's elite.

The opening ceremony was in Pačir, while the closing ceremony took place in Stara Moravica. The programmes had common parts and elements, linking the series of events in Pačir, Stara Moravica, Bugac, Kunszállás and Feketić. These were common nomad flag, an archery show and competition, and the setting up of a yurt in every settlement. The partners made a programme guide (leaflet, booklet) in Serbian, Hungarian and English about the achievements of the project.

This successful series of events altogether had more than 150,000 guests.

*The preserving  
and cohesive  
power of  
culture*

### Project partners:

**Kunszállás Község Önkormányzata**  
(Local Government of Kunszállás)

Bugac Község Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Bugac)

Helyi közösség Pacsér, Mesna zajednica Pačir  
(Local Community of Pačir)

Mesna zajednica Stara Moravica  
(Local Community of Stara Moravica)

Mesna Zajednica Feketić  
(Local Community of Feketić)

**Project total budget / 104,700.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 88,995.00 €**

**Project start date / 31 03 2010**

**Project end date / 28 02 2011**

## Sporting development of the Serbian-Hungarian cross-border cooperation

The project was the joint initiative of ice-hockey section of Tisza Volán Sports Club from Szeged and Spartak from Subotica. Within the framework of the project, they established a joint ice-hockey team that would participate in the Hungarian championship.

The objective of the programme was to establish the financial background for the cooperation between people and young ice-hockey enthusiasts living on the two sides of the border.

Prior to establishing the cross-border partnership, children and youth trained in each of the clubs in six age groups. As ice-hockey is a sport dependent on favourable weather conditions, it can be practiced in the outdoor facilities only for a limited period during the year. In order to achieve good results, ice-hockey needs to be practiced for at least six months. The team from Subotica faced the problem of a lack of proper facilities, namely, a covered skating rink.

Children and youth from Subotica held ice-hockey training with their peers in the facilities in Szeged, thus allowing for uninterrupted training sessions. This, in turn, created amicable relationships among the players and devel-

oped the team spirit of the joint team. The two clubs organised joint activities, and participated as a single team in training sessions, training camps and age group championships.

The implemented project has strengthened sporting cooperation between the two ice-hockey clubs. Involving different target groups, it facilitated the creation of relationships between the participants and contributed to the advancement of the members of the two communities and the sporting environment.

This project may serve as a model for widening cross-border sporting opportunities, while participation in professional sports serves as a good example for the younger generation.



### Project partners:

**Tisza Volán Sport Club, Szeged**  
**(Tisza Volán Sports Club, Szeged)**  
Sportsko Društvo Železničara  
"Jovan Mikić-Spartak" Subotica  
(Railwaymen's Sports Club "Jovan  
Mikić-Spartak" Subotica)

**Project total budget / 110,215.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 93,682.75 €**  
**Project start date / 01 07 2010**  
**Project end date / 31 12 2011**

Widening  
cross-border  
sporting  
opportunities



## Outdoor Playhouse without Frontiers

Through the project Outdoor Playhouse without Frontiers, the project partners wanted to bring the diverse populations of the border area closer to one another. The objective of the project was to connect children and families with small children through series of events in which traditional children's games were revived. Like nursery rhymes, traditional games, toys and songs are important part of folklore and culture which need to be cherished. One of the best ways to cherish them is by simply engaging in them through song, play and enjoyment. During the project, the playhouse travelled to numerous settlements in the region. The partners in Hungary and Serbia selected ten children's entertainers and teachers who organised the playhouse games and activities. They entertained the children during the full-day programme. The programme and interactive performances were especially designed to engage

children and encourage the active participation of their parents and caregivers.

The professional entertainers performed the Playhouse activities in Földeák, Deszk and Ásotthalom, in Hungary, as well as in Mali Iđoš, Palić and Horgoš, in Serbia.

The participants of the play-days learnt about the traditions and customs of the people living in the area. The play and fun games strengthened cross-generational ties, as both children and adults played familiar or new games. As a result of this project, the participants became familiar with each other's cultures through a series of fun activities, which contributed to the active nurturing of traditions and cultural identity, as well as the establishment and cultivation of cross-border friendships.



### Project partners:

Mađarski kulturni centar „Népkör” Subotica  
(Hungarian Cultural Centre “Népkör” Subotica)  
Százszorszép Gyermekház, Szeged  
(Százszorszép Children's House)

Project total budget / 94,242.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 80,105.70 €  
Project start date / 01 06 2010  
Project end date / 01 09 2011

Revival of  
traditional  
children's  
games

## Clay-play

The project Clay-Play aimed to preserve, foster and develop cultural identity, traditions, art and multicultural values in the region of North Banat and the wider region, in the towns of Kikinda in Serbia and Makó in Hungary. The six-month project promoted common values and traditions, celebrated good relations between neighbours in a most effective way –through imaginative and creative children's play.

The children from Kikinda and Makó could easily ignore language barriers by using the universal language of imagination. The kindergarten children guided and accompanied by their teachers and preschool caregivers played with colours and crayons and sculpted with clay, creating borderless artwork.

Firstly, a large number of children participated in a drawing competition on both sides of the border. It was an opportunity for children to be creative and express their impressions of the notion of mutual cultural heritage through small-format artwork.

In the workshop in the Terra Centre in Kikinda twenty-five of the most talented children from both cities created clay artworks. Their art pieces were displayed at a well-attended exhibition. Finally, a smaller number of the children's artwork was preserved in a Time Capsule that has its own visual identity in accordance with the project. The Time Capsule will remain locked for 5 to 10 years, after which it will be opened, releasing the children's messages, paintings and artwork.



*Imaginative and  
creative  
children's  
play*

### Project partners:

Predškolska ustanova "Dragoljub Udicki" Kikinda  
(Preschool Institution "Dragoljub Udicki" Kikinda)  
Újvárosi Óvoda, Makó  
(Újvárosi Kindergarten of Makó)

Project total budget / 62,747.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 53,334.95 €

Project start date / 01 07 2010

Project end date / 31 12 2010

## Bridge-raising

Although the legal framework encourages the use of Hungarian language in everyday life as the mother tongue of Hungarian minority children in Serbia, in some communities the tendency to use it as little as possible has been noticed. Children appear to be unmotivated to invest the effort to learn Hungarian, and without their parents' persistence, they eventually lose their bilingual abilities and interest to continue their education in Hungarian.

In Zrenjanin, Central Banat District, and in Szentes, Csongrád County, schoolchildren between the ages of eight and eighteen, whose mother tongue is Hungarian, participated in educational programmes aimed at motivating them to use Hungarian language. Children played, danced and recited poetry in theatre and modern dance workshops, musical performances and reading corners with Hungarian writers. Regional Theatre festival and Summer Modern Dance Festival attracted numerous visitors and lovers of performing arts.

The children gained invaluable experience of consuming art in their own language. Art proved to be a good way to strengthen students' motivation to receive education in Hungarian and to increase the number of children in Hungarian classes.

Through this project the partners succeeded in creating cultural connections and interchange between the two adjacent areas, to highlight and strengthen the importance of minority language use and to increase motivation among young people to work and create in Hungarian. The project also contributed to establishing stronger ties between cultural institutions in the two regions and acquiring more information and knowledge about cultural heritage.

*Embracing  
the language and  
culture through  
Art*

### Project partners:

**Grad Zrenjanin**

**(City of Zrenjanin)**

Jövőkért Alapfokú Művészetoktatási

Intézmény, Szentes

("For Our Future" Art School, Szentes)

Osnovna škola "Servo Mihalj" Zrenjanin

("Servo Mihalj" Elementary School, Zrenjanin)

**Project total budget / 86,711.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 73,704.35 €**

**Project start date / 15 06 2010**

**Project end date / 14 06 2011**



## Sport - Chance for development of health, tolerance and cooperation between youth on both sides of the border

The overall objective of the project was to consolidate the institutionalisation of existing networks in the field of sport and culture among the sport clubs and the communities to which they belong.

The project partners motivated and encouraged young people to take an active role in cross-border sport events and competitions, which created a channel for interaction between the communities thus improving their cultural sensitivity.

The organisations worked on numerous levels in order to create a conducive environment and provide support to youth to engage in sport and cultural cooperation. By establishing a year-long competition season they built a multicultural bridge and provided access to sport activities for a number of young people from vulnerable minority groups. The number of young people who participated in the camps, joint trainings, seminars, tournaments and competitions organised on both side of the border increased. The partner organisations also laid the foundations for a regional junior football league. Intensive and appropriate promotional activities raised awareness and cultural sensitivity among

the general public living in border region.

In this project, the emphasis was placed on the involvement of supporters who are not active members of football clubs: parents of the players, company sponsors, local government officials and local media. These people acted as a channel for interaction between administrations, civil society and the private sector by establishing direct communication that will bring about new joint development projects.

The participants became friends, learnt a lot from each other and overcame cultural and language barriers during the camp seminars, trainings and the tournament.

*Becoming good friends and learning about other cultures through sport*

### Project partners:

Sportski Klub "Vojvodina RMR" Novi Sad

(Sport Club "Vojvodina RMR" Novi Sad)

Tisza Volán Sport Club, Szeged

("Tisza Volán" Sport Club, Szeged)

Méhecskék Sport Egyesület, Kalocsa

("Méhecskék" Sport Association, Kalocsa)

Sportski Klub "Ruma"

(Sport Club "Ruma")

Project total budget / 114,360.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 97,206.00 €

Project start date / 01 07 2010

Project end date / 30 06 2011





## From Pannonian intercultural heritage preservation towards improved social care

The project was envisaged as a joint action of the Gerontology Centre in Subotica and "Cedar" in Baja. The overall objective of the project was to contribute to the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage in the Pannonian region by means of fostering inter-ethnic and inter-generational dialogue and cooperation.

This was accomplished by involving high school students in workshops where young people could learn from the elderly about traditional handcrafts. As expected, this brought about inter-generational dialogue, as well.

The partners conducted regional research in the form of a survey, targeting rural households of, predominantly, elder people and high school students in Subotica and Baja. The aim of this activity was to increase the partners' knowledge of the targeted groups and the traditional handcrafts of the region, and to identify future workshop participants. The project partners re-decorated and furnished one facility in Subotica and one in Baja where the workshops would be held. After decorating the work and study units, the partners organised workshops where the elderly and young people had the opportunity to learn about and practice handcrafts. The hand-

crafted items were presented to the general public at cross-border exhibitions. The project partners also published a well-illustrated bilingual booklet about old, traditional handcrafts. Cooperation and joint creative activities by the young and older generations, as an excellent example of respect, understanding and tolerance were at the forefront of the project.

*Young people  
learning from  
the elderly  
about traditional  
handcrafts*



### Project partners:

Gerontološki centar: socijalna i zdravstvena ustanova za pružanje pomoći odraslim i starijim osobama, Subotica (Gerontology Centre: Social and Health Institution for Providing Care to Adult and Elderly Persons, Subotica)

Cédrus Református Egyesített Szociális Intézmény, Baja ("Cedar" Joint Social Institution of the Reformed Church, Baja)

Project total budget / 74,727.40 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 63,518.29 €

Project start date / 01 09 2010

Project end date / 01 07 2011



## Village caretaking without borders

The implementation and adoption of the village caretaking service in Vojvodina, Serbia, was the main goal of this project and achieved through intense workshops on village caretaking, professional study trips as well as trainings for caretakers and volunteers.

The main goal of one of the study trips was to learn about the village caretaking service in Hungary, while the purpose of the other was to get to know the cultural community and civil society organisations in Vojvodina. The project partners also organised village caretaking trainings for caretakers and volunteers and facilitated the exchange of experiences between village caretakers from Bács-Kiskun and Csongrád County with prospective village caretakers in the North Bačka region in Serbia.

The main achievement of this cross-border project was without a doubt the fact that the local communities of Horgoš, Male Pijace and Öttömös partnered with the Association of Village Caretakers devised and initiated an outstanding cross-border village caretaking service in northern Serbia with the ultimate socially-responsible aim of decreasing isolation of the population, especially elderly people in rural areas.



### Project partners:

**Falugondnokok Duna-Tisza Közi Egyesülete, Kecskemét**  
(Association of Village Caretakers Between the Danube and the Tisza, Kecskemét)

Mesna Zajednica Horgoš  
(Local Community of Horgoš)  
Öttömös Község Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Öttömös)  
Mesna Zajednica Male Pijace  
(Local Community of Male Pijace)

**Project total budget / 81,231.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 69,046.35 €**  
**Project start date / 01 09 2010**  
**Project end date / 31 08 2011**

*Village caretaking  
raises the quality  
of life of the  
community*



## International art workshops – intercultural dialogue (Law of intercultural mode)

The overall objective of the project was to encourage diversity in all areas of human life. The project promoted dialogue as a process in which young people can strengthen their willingness to solve common peer and social problems. Affirmation of artistic and creative approaches aimed at encouraging and strengthening intercultural dialogue among young people between the ages of 13 and 18. The project partners worked on creating the conditions for the preservation of youth health and quality free-time by organising ten art workshops: five in Serbia and five in Hungary. The art workshops engaged children in imaginative, playful and creative endeavours in diverse modes of artistic expression, such as acting, music, film and photography, artistic movement and visual arts. The artwork created during the workshops was displayed at exhibitions in Mali Idoš and Szentes. In addition to regular art workshops, the two foundations embarked on addressing issues which may trouble a number of young people in small communities. Interactive and open discussion/workshops were organised in order to tackle the topics of racism, domestic violence, trafficking, and substance abuse. For each of these threats to healthy and harmonious social and communal life, the participants discussed possible solutions, positive counter-examples and practices. Thus,

the topics such as practicing sport, respect for differences, gender equality and inclusion of people with disabilities, to name a few, were also discussed. A documentary film was prepared using the material recorded during the workshops.

In small and closed-off communities it is of utmost importance to create a space for open intercultural, peer-to-peer and intergenerational dialogue, in order to allow diverse perspectives to harmoniously co-exist. Through the series of well-designed workshops and promotional activities, the project partners opened a door to a dialogue-driven social and communal life.



### Project partners:

**Asocijacija za razvoj opštine Mali Idoš**  
(Developmental Association of the Municipality of Mali Idoš)

Szivarvany Alapfoku Művészeti Iskolaert Alapitvány,  
Szentes (Elementary Arts Rainbow Foundation,  
Szentes)

**Project total budget / 100,830.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 85,705.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 09 2010**

**Project end date / 28 02 2012**

*Creating a space  
for open intercultural  
peer-to-peer and  
intergenerational  
dialogue*

## Cooperation of civil society organisations, for developing intercultural and tourist potentials of the region

The overall objective of the project was to reinforce, expand and develop active socio-cultural networking, by means of facilitating numerous multicultural, civil events, based on common values, shared interests and joint actions. To achieve these goals, the partners organised joint actions aimed at fostering cultural identity and tourism, through the organisation of a new intercultural festival and the development of existing festivals. The popular "Pasuljijada" festival in Temerin, the festival "Traditional Days of Harvest" in Srbobran and the festival "Petrovdan Tamburica" in Srbobran attracted many tourists and visitors. The festivals were supplemented with workshops, a one-day workshop in Temerin and a one-day thematic workshop with lectures in Srbobran. At these events, the partners directed attention to the main themes of the project – socio-cultural networking, multicultural identity and common values. An important element of the project was the promotion of common and mutual values and traditions within the region and internationally.

They did this by creating joint promotional plans and materials for festivals. The three municipalities strongly supported activities that sustain the

identity and traditions of local communities by organising thematic workshops and seminars, with the active engagement of the associated NGOs. The operational capacities of the NGOs to organise events were improved by providing audio-visual equipment and mobile infrastructure.

With the festivals and workshops, the partners were successful in activating the civil sector, and strengthening networking between NGO representatives. The professional and the informal programmes helped to affirm multicultural identity.



### Project partners:

**Opština Temerin - Prva Mesna Zajednica**  
**(Municipality of Temerin - First Local Community)**  
 Jánoshalma Város Önkormányzata  
 (Local Government of Jánoshalma)  
 Opština Srbobran  
 (Municipality of Srbobran)

**Project total budget / 79,095.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 67,230.75 €**  
**Project start date / 01 08 2010**  
**Project end date / 30 09 2011**

*Affirmation  
of multicultural  
identity*

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals

## 2.1. Introduction

The preparatory work related to the launch of the second Call for Proposals (2nd CfP) ended in the 3rd quarter of 2010. The 2nd CfP was launched on 15 November 2010; applications had to be submitted (posted) to the Joint Technical Secretariat of the Programme (JTS) by the 14 February 2011. Formal and quality assessment was concluded by the end of May 2011. On 7 July 2011 the Joint Monitoring and Steering Committee (JMSC) made its decision. Notification Letters were sent to the Applicants on 3 and 4 August 2011. The majority of the Subsidy Contracts were signed by the Managing Authority and Lead Beneficiaries – on behalf of the project partnerships – in a ceremony held on the 24 October 2011. The application and project selection procedure – from launching the Call for Proposals until sending the registered notification letters about the results to the Applicants – lasted for 8.5 months; the evaluation process in a strict sense (formal, eligibility and quality assessment) took around 3.5 months. The Applications could not be submitted for the Action 221 (Educational Cooperation) within the 2nd CfP of the HUSRB IPA CBC Programme.

217 applications were submitted, out of which 69 projects were selected for co-financing, 67 contracted and 64 finalised.

### 2nd CfP

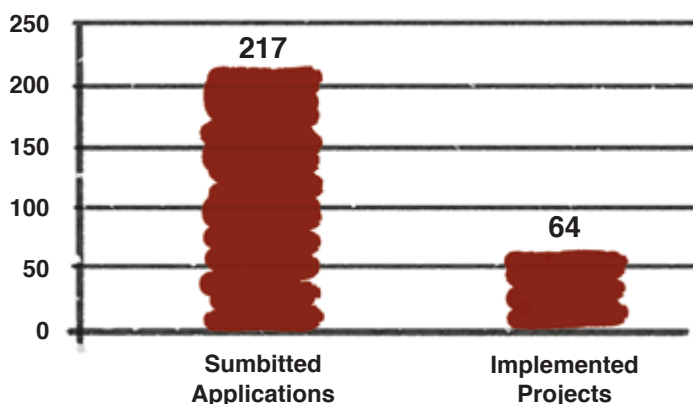


Figure 1: Number of submitted Applications compared to the number of projects implemented in the second Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme

# 2nd CfP: requested, contracted and reimbursed IPA funds

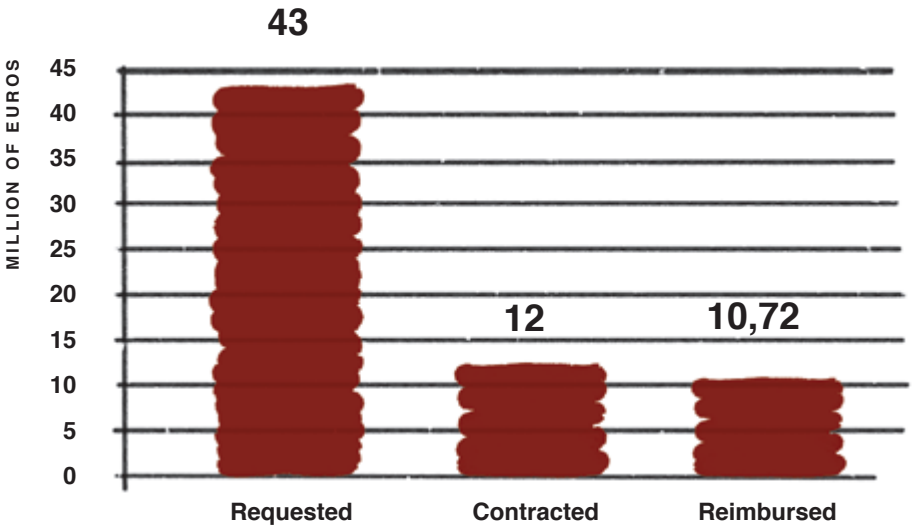


Figure 2: Requested amount of IPA funds (application) compared to the total amount of the contracted IPA funds as well as total amount of IPA funds which the implemented projects reimbursed in the second Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme

## 2nd CfP implemented projects: Distribution of IPA funds per country

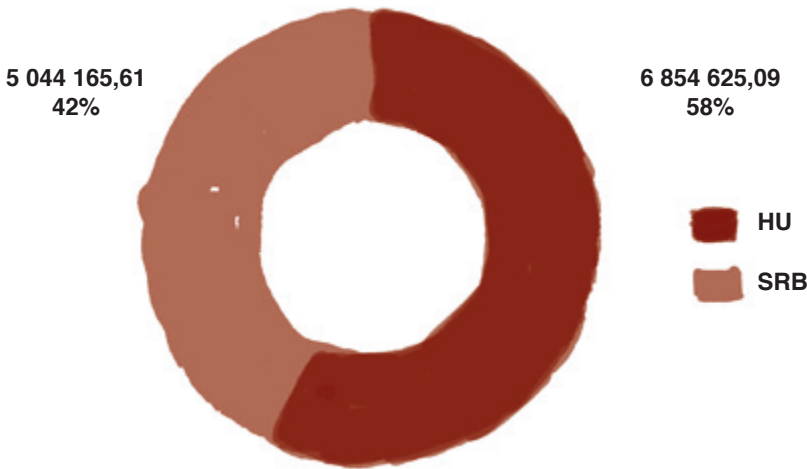


Figure 3: Distribution of the contracted IPA funds of the implemented projects per country in the second Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme

# 2nd CfP implemented projects: Distribution of IPA funds per NUTS III or equivalent territorial units

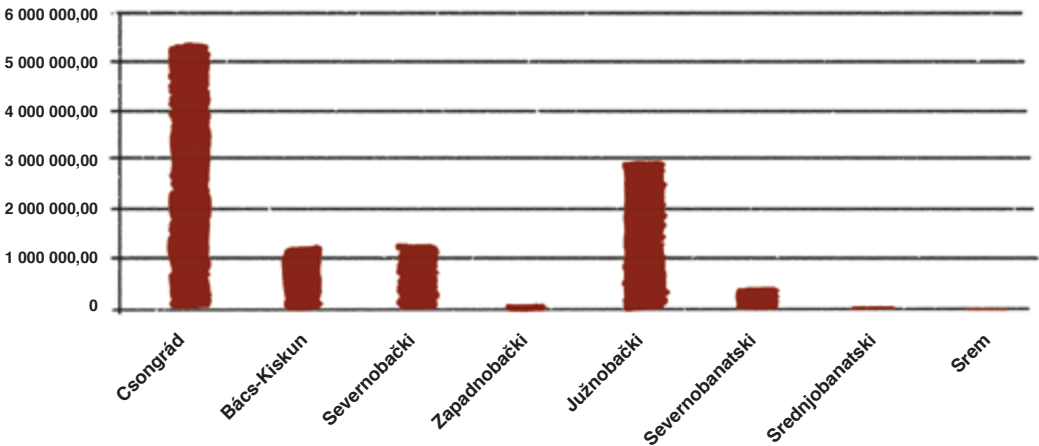


Figure 4: Territorial distribution of the contracted IPA funds of the projects implemented in the second Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme (according to the location of the headquarters/branch offices of the Project Partners)

# 2nd CfP implemented projects: Distribution of contracted IPA funds per Action

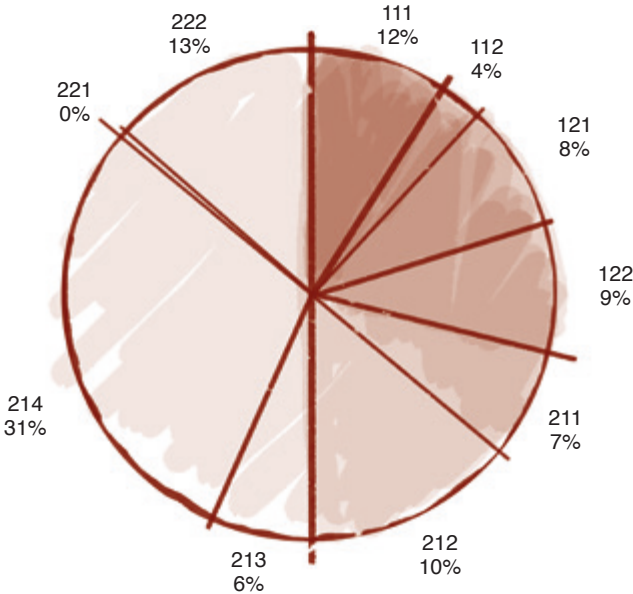


Figure 5: Distribution of the contracted IPA funds of the projects implemented in the second Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme



## 2.2. Presentation of the supported projects

130	HUSRB/1002/111/113	KNESZECYC2	SZEGED (SZŐREG) - NOVI KNEŽEVAC BICYCLE ROAD CONSTRUCTION (phase 2)
131	HUSRB/1002/112/030	BORDER-CROSSING	Technical, economical and environmental conditions of the opening and development of the road border crossing points on the Hungarian-Serbian border section (considering Serbia's planned EU accession)
132	HUSRB/1002/112/141	SuSze pubtrans	Development of an integrated public transport system in the Subotica-Szeged region
133	HUSRB/1002/121/075	ARSENICPLATFORM	Arsenic and ammonium in drinking water: implementation of a cross-border Platform for safe water
134	HUSRB/1002/121/088	MERIEXWA	MEasurement, monitoring, management and Risk assessment of inland EXcess WAtEr in South-East Hungary and North Serbia (Using remotely sensed data and spatial data infrastructure )
135	HUSRB/1002/122/062	ToxFreeFeed	Improvement of safety of corn-based feedstuffs through using more resistant hybrids and management of corn processing
136	HUSRB/1002/122/100	WITHOUT BORDERS	Environment Protection Without Borders
137	HUSRB/1002/122/137	Noise Mapping	Strategic Noise mapping and action plan
138	HUSRB/1002/122/195	SAFE	Support to Allergen-Free Environment
139	HUSRB/1002/211/043	COMPLEXIM	Complex Cross-Border Knowledge Transfer Activities for Innovation Management
140	HUSRB/1002/211/047	CompComp	Computer Industry Competency Based Cross-border Business Building
141	HUSRB/1002/211/074	PSupISSMFirms	Professional support of innovative starting small - and medium sized firms
142	HUSRB/1002/211/094	SMEINT	SMEs' Internationalisation in the Cross-border Region
143	HUSRB/1002/211/101	CBC Agro-Food	Cluster Building by Cooperation in the Agro-Food sector
144	HUSRB/1002/211/106	Advisor Net	Cross Border Business Advisor Network
145	HUSRB/1002/211/109	InnoInfo	InnoInfo: Innovatively demolishing business-information barriers between Serbian and Hungarian SMEs
146	HUSRB/1002/212/083	Towns in Puszta	Treasures of Puszta, One Region - One Future
147	HUSRB/1002/212/107	Museum pass	Museum pass
148	HUSRB/1002/212/111	Tiszafoldember	"Tisza, land folks" - cross border thematic route by the Tisza-river
149	HUSRB/1002/212/123	CHI	Common Heritage Based Initiatives in Joint Tourism Development
150	HUSRB/1002/212/157	MUTHER-2	Mutual Heritages saving common values and serving common purpose through borders

151	HUSRB/1002/212/196	EXPO MONATUR	Medieval settlements with monasteries, the collective cultural heritage, through expositions, and tourism of local communities
152	HUSRB/1002/213/017	Hailnet	Feasibility study of joint Hungarian-Serbian hail suppression network
153	HUSRB/1002/213/050	CBR-GEM	Cross-border regional green economy model
154	HUSRB/1002/213/069	INTERRIS	Transferring of Regional Strategic Planning and Interregional Innovation Strategies; South Great Plain Hungary and Vojvodina Serbia
155	HUSRB/1002/213/086	LearningRegion	Cross-border learning region: examination of universities' possible role in the economic development of the Hungarian-Serbian cross-border region
156	HUSRB/1002/213/096	JUAN	Joint Urban and Agglomeration Network
157	HUSRB/1002/213/132	Gate to Europe	A Gate to Europe. Elaboration of studies of a potential cross-border industrial park
158	HUSRB/1002/213/143	FOCUS	Fostering Cooperation, Utilizing Networking for Sustainable Regional Development in the Cross-Border Regions
159	HUSRB/1002/213/175	JCoSEC	Joint SMEs Co-operation for Strengthening Export Capability
160	HUSRB/1002/214/036	OXIT	Oxidative stress tolerance in plants: from models to trees.
161	HUSRB/1002/214/041	BIOGAS HU-SRB	Establishing the cross-border development of biogas industry via joint determination of biogas potentials, education, research and innovation
162	HUSRB/1002/214/044	CIRENE	Cross-border ICT Research Network
163	HUSRB/1002/214/045	BIOCEREAL	Improvement of cereals for conventional production and biofarming
164	HUSRB/1002/214/068	PHANETRI	Development of an in field, ecologically safe, continuously detoxifying technology for producing bio-vegetables
165	HUSRB/1002/214/078	DEVTEGEN	Development of innovative technology?s for prevention and treatment of female genital infections
166	HUSRB/1002/214/082	MultScler	Research cooperation to prepare cross-border patient database and establishment of first Liquor and Genetic banks in Vojvodina in order to improve Multiple Sclerosis diagnosis
167	HUSRB/1002/214/120	Feed-Pro-Food	Research cooperation on developing innovative fish feed for promotion of healthy food in the region
168	HUSRB/1002/214/126	MOLTUMOR	Characterization and Diagnosis of Novel Molecular Tumor Markers for Personal Treatment
169	HUSRB/1002/214/133	RECODAC	Research Cooperation of the University of Szeged and the University of Novi Sad in Development of Anticancer Drug Compounds
170	HUSRB/1002/214/147	LACREMED	Development of an enzymological (laccase-based) remediation product and technology
171	HUSRB/1002/214/148	AGROCRAFT	AGROCRAFT Coupling agriculture with craftsmanship to boost competitiveness

172	HUSRB/1002/214/188	MATCROSS	Development of new materials for application in environmentally friendly technologies for the cost-effective remediation of contaminated sites threatening cross-border regions
173	HUSRB/1002/214/193	BANAMOCA	Bile Acid Nanosystems as Molecule Carriers in Pharmaceutical Applications
174	HUSRB/1002/222/004	ICESEHU	Ice-hockey development of the Serbian-Hungarian cross-border cooperation
175	HUSRB/1002/222/022	Drugs	Drugs do not know borders
176	HUSRB/1002/222/024	SZE-SU CBN	Getting to know our neighbors
177	HUSRB/1002/222/033	VoV	Voice of the Village
178	HUSRB/1002/222/038	HU-SRB Events	Welcome to the Diverse World of Cultures
179	HUSRB/1002/222/053	EUNITY	Organization of Cross-Border Community Programmes
180	HUSRB/1002/222/058	BOK-MIL-PTP	Strengthening the bilateral social relations between the people of Bácsbokod and Nemesmilitics
181	HUSRB/1002/222/072	Cinema Contact	CINEMA CONTACT - Promotion intercultural exchange and understanding between people in border regions through film
182	HUSRB/1002/222/077	Inter Pingpong	Cross-Border, Integrated Table Tennis Program for Professional, Amateur and Handicapped Players
183	HUSRB/1002/222/119	TRADinBORD	Preserving tradition and identity with the help of joint programs and making value-saving films
184	HUSRB/1002/222/127	RoD	Rhythm of Drums
185	HUSRB/1002/222/128	SF-ADA MSC	Our common language is music - Concerts, music workshops, camps in Sándorfalva and Ada
186	HUSRB/1002/222/129	SHIPMILL	DANUBE AND PEOPLE
187	HUSRB/1002/222/138	PeopCult	Újszentiván - Novi Knezevac People to Culture Co-operation
188	HUSRB/1002/222/145	WARC2	WELCOME TO ART AND CRAFTS 2
189	HUSRB/1002/222/146	CUBE	Culture without Borders
190	HUSRB/1002/222/159	BORDERLESSEUR	Regional interethnic cultural youth camp
191	HUSRB/1002/222/168	WHOSEMUSIC	Whose is this music?
192	HUSRB/1002/222/198	LIM-II	International art workshop - public presentation of LIM method
193	HUSRB/1002/222/212	ThePer	Joint theatre performance: comprehensive and coherent focus on people living in the border region

# PROJECTS

2<sup>nd</sup>  
L call



## Szeged (Szőreg) – Novi Kneževac bicycle road construction (phase 2)

The distance between Szeged and Novi Kneževac is only about 25 kilometres and there are two villages between them on each side: Újszentiván, Tiszasziget, Đala and Sprski Krstur. One of the goals of Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Programme was to build new or strengthen existing physical connection between the two countries by supporting the development of traffic infrastructure. The three local governments seized the opportunity and through the cross-border partnership developed a three-phase plan for building a connecting bicycle path and implemented it. The first phase of the project was carried out in the 1st Call for Proposals (HUSRB/0901/111/095), the third in the 3rd Call for Proposals (HUSRB/1203/111/139). This project is the second phase of the whole implementation. Irrespective of the borders, the people who live in the border region have similar problems and joys in their everyday lives. So efforts to integrate this small region drove the need to develop infrastructure in order to significantly improve the links between the towns and to construct the bicycle road. The project partners intended to improve the everyday living and commuting of the local population in the settlements and offer new opportunities for bike tourists and sport and leisure enthusiasts.

The partners finalized the second phase of the previously planned bicycle road within this project. On the Hungarian side, the bicycle road connects Szeged with the border crossing at Tiszasziget–Đala, and on the Serbian side the bike road goes to Đala.

The bicycle road is equally useful for cyclists and runners. Users of the bicycle road can feel safer and people driving cars can reach their destination faster and without delays. Naturally, using the bicycle path is not only safe, but also environmentally friendly as it contributes to reducing air pollution.



### Project partners:

Újszentiván Község Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Újszentiván)

Tiszasziget Községi Önkormányzat  
(Local Government of Tiszasziget)

Opština Novi Kneževac  
(Municipality of Novi Kneževac)

Project total budget / 1,623,456.33 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 1,379,937.88 €

Project start date / 01 01 2012

Project end date / 31 10 2013

*Using the  
bicycle path  
is not only safe,  
but also environmentally  
friendly*

## Technical, economic and environmental conditions of opening and developing road border crossing points on the Hungarian – Serbian border section (considering Serbia's planned EU accession)

Because of its location, the Hungarian-Serbian border region is strongly affected by international transit traffic. Plenty of opportunities arise from this fortunate situation but they remain largely untapped and the conditions for fast and smooth transit through border crossings are not provided. This is what the project partners attempted to change. To solve the current situation and improve cross-border co-operation and international and regional economic and cultural development, the partners decided to prepare a comprehensive study on the technical, economic and environmental conditions of opening and developing road border crossing points along the Serbian-Hungarian border because the future development of the region is dependent on the flow of people, goods, services and information.

The main aim of this cross-border cooperation was to promote good neighbourly relations, strengthen stability and security and achieve common interests and harmonious, balanced and sustainable development for the two countries.

The project partners elaborated and finished the feasibility study and distributed it to the relevant stakeholders and institutions in the region for further consideration of the development of border crossing points on the Hungarian-Serbian border.

The project was a very important first step towards the harmonisation of border region; it drew attention to the current situation, uncovered problems and provided proposals for solutions for smoother and faster traffic and transport across the border.

*The Hungarian-Serbian border region is strongly affected by international transit traffic*

### Project partners:

Tudományos Ismeretterjesztő Társulat  
Bács-Kiskun Megyei Egyesülete  
(Association for Dissemination of Scientific  
Knowledge in Bács-Kiskun County)  
Skupština opštine Kanjiža (Assembly of the  
Municipality of Kanjiža)

Project total budget / 223,685.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 190,132,25 €  
Project start date / 01 10 2011  
Project end date / 30 11 2012



## Development of an integrated public transport system in the Subotica – Szeged region

Subotica and Szeged are closely connected to each other on many levels. Commuting between the two cities is an everyday, natural occurrence. An integrated public transport system in the Subotica–Szeged region makes it easier, faster and more comfortable. The new integrated system consists of harmonized public transport lines (rail and bus), an integrated electronic fare and ticketing system, real-time electronic information provision, and coordination of schedules of different transport operators. The new system is based on joint planning activities as a result of closer cooperation between public transport operators and authorities responsible for transport provision on both sides of the border. The cross-border project partnership's new network is supported by an electronic management, planning and information platform. As a demonstration of the cross-border electronic platform they introduced an integrated electronic ticketing solution in Subotica in November 2012 and a cross-border public transport study was also produced which included a proposal for new services based on the assessment of current and anticipation of future demand.

The project was very significant in terms of the modernisation of public transport. This process indirectly facilitates mobility and networking in the border-region, thus, playing an important role in the development of this area.



*Easier,  
faster and more  
comfortable public  
transport*

### Project partners:

Javno preduzeće za prevoz putnika u gradskom i prigradskom saobraćaju Subotica-trans Subotica (Public company for passenger transport in the urban and suburban traffic Subotica-trans Subotica)  
Közlekedéstudományi Intézet Nonprofit Kft (Dél-alföldi Regionális Közlekedésszervezési Iroda) KTI Institute for Transport Sciences Non Profit Ltd., Szeged

Project total budget / 301,613,96 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 256,371,86 €  
Project start date / 01 11 2011  
Project end date / 30 09 2013

## Arsenic and ammonium in drinking water: implementation of a cross-border Platform for safe water

Water is one of the most important elements on the earth. Water makes up more than two-thirds of the weight of the human body, and without it we would die within a few days, so securing clean drinking water is essential. Unfortunately, a section of the population in Hungary and Serbia drink water with concentrations of arsenic and ammonium that are above the maximum admissible levels. This very important health problem brought together the partner institutions from Hungary and Serbia.

The objective of the project was to implement a Platform, which initiated a research programme to address the matter of finding solutions to critical drinking water quality management problems in the region. The laboratory and the subsequent pilot-scale experiments (to investigate various types of basic mechanisms and the efficiency of technological units) performed by universities serve as the basis for determining the relevant environmental factors and the role of other pollutants in arsenic and ammonium removal.

Laboratory reconstruction and the supply of a mobile pilot plant were necessary preparatory steps for the investigation of removal of arsenic from groundwater in different localities in the border region. The partners also organized

several workshops and professional trainings with experts.

The partners placed huge emphasis on raising the public's awareness of the problem by disseminating the project results and recommendations. During the project, the research group successfully organised several seminars which served as a platform for exchanging ideas and presenting the results of the research to the wider public. They also organised popular science lectures in secondary schools to raise students' awareness of the problem.



### Project partners:

Eötvös József Főiskola

(Eötvös József College, Baja)

Univerzitet u Novom, Sadu Prirodno-matematički  
fakultet (University of Novi, Sad Faculty of Sciences)

Project total budget / 654,323.64 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 556,175.09 €

Project start date / 01 11 2011

Project end date / 31 10 2013

Securing clean  
drinking water is  
essential



## Measurement, monitoring, management and risk assessment of inland excess water in Southeast Hungary and North Serbia (using remotely sensed data and spatial data infrastructure)

Inland excess water is a serious hazard and represents a contemporary problem in Hungary, particularly in Csongrád County and in Serbia, especially in its northern part, the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. The project partners, recognizing the importance of the issue, embarked on finding a long-term solution to the yearly returning problem.

The partner institutions organized workshops, analysed the research area and important factors for precise measurements of the groundwater level, designed acoustic monitoring sensors, set up a system of 25 measurement wells, sensors, data storage and transfer units and weather resistant compact boxes, which collects groundwater data and sends it to a data processing unit, and analysed aerial photographs of both sides of the border. The result of the project was an Internet-based map-server which describes the state of inland excess water in the border region. The partners

also published a book containing results of their research and scientific studies on inland excess water in this area.

Integration of modern and traditional tools and approaches is the key to generating a change in the inland excess water management strategy which can also be harmonized with EU directives. This project is a perfect example of how to create a prosperous scientific cross-border relationship to strengthen environmental and economic sustainability in a larger area.



### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-matematički fakultet, Centar za prostorne informacije Vojvodine-CPIV (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Science, Centre for Spatial Information of Vojvodina Province-CSIVP)

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Fakultet tehničkih nauka (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technical Sciences)

**Project total budget / 507,630.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 431,485.50 €**

**Project start date / 15 01 2012**

**Project end date / 31 01 2014**

*Long-term solution to the inland excess water*



# Improvement of safety of corn-based feed-stuffs through using more resistant hybrids and management of corn processing

Corn is one of the most important ingredients of feed formulations worldwide. South Hungary and Vojvodina share the same climatic conditions, which are highly favourable for corn production. However, the cultivated corn hybrids differ on the two sides of the border. Several fungal pathogens are able to infect corn, and their mycotoxins may cause symptoms of various diseases to develop. One of the aims of the project was to examine the resistance level of the most frequently cultivated corn hybrids in the region in order to gain information on their safety as feed ingredients, and to clarify which cultivars are best suited to these climatic conditions. Another aim of this project was to examine the mycobiota and mycotoxin contamination of corn hybrids during harvest and after storage to obtain insight into their effects on animal welfare. The project also aimed to investigate the impact of various treatments on reducing mycotoxin content in corn and feed for farm animals.

The project partners experimented with 10 Hungarian and 10 Serbian hybrids with

differing resistance at the same time in Hungary and Serbia, and they carried out successful comparative research.

The impact and application of the results of the project will extend beyond the duration of the project. Besides improving animal health, it also benefits humans as the main consumers of animal products.

*Examination of the resistance level of the most frequently cultivated corn hybrids in the region*

## Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Poljoprivredni Fakultet

(University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Agriculture )

Gabonakutató Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft.

(Cereal Research Non-profit Ltd.)

Naučni institut za prehrambene tehnologije u Novom

Sadu (Institute of Food Technology in Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 342,990.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 291,541.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2012**

**Project end date / 31 12 2013**



## Environment Protection Without Borders

In contemporary society, the media maybe has the greatest power. The project partners capitalised on this fact by harnessing the power of television to draw attention to environmental sustainability. Their long-term objectives were to develop harmonious and balanced cooperation between the Hungarian KTV and the Serbian Pannonia Foundation to promote the common needs for environmental sustainability of the border region, to increase shared responsibility for common natural values and to help make the people of the region understand the necessity of building a common future. With this aim they made a series of multilingual short films to present the natural values of the border region, the environmental problems, possible and viable solutions and models of best practice. It should be mentioned that the project partners involved the younger generations and organised amateur photo competitions, a youth media camp and a travelling photo-exhibition for them which focussed on exposing the environmental threats and presenting the natural values in the border region.

This project is an excellent example of harnessing the power of media to protect the environment. The joint work of course brought the participants closer to each other, strengthened cross-border networking and generated further cooperation.



**Project partners:**  
Kecskeméti Televízió Nonprofit KFT  
(Kecskemét Television Nonprofit Ltd.)  
Fond „Panonija” (Pannonia Foundation Subotica)

**Project total budget / 234,425.75€**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 199,261.88 €**  
**Project start date / 01 01 2012**  
**Project end date / 31 12 2013**

*The power of media  
used in environmental  
protection*

## Strategic Noise mapping and action plan

Noise can be defined as any unwanted sound that negatively affects work or rest that has a proven negative overall effect on quality of life and particularly on health. Physically, noise is sounds of various intensities depending on the conditions in which it occurs. In view of the complexity of its impact on people's health, noise has been identified as one of the main environmental problems in Europe. Hence, protection from noise is one of the objectives of EU policies.

Being an EU member state, Hungary has valuable experience in addressing noise-related problems, so the University of Novi Sad elaborated a noise map in city of Novi Sad with the support and exchange of expertise with the Hungarian city of Baja.



The partner from Hungary elaborated a data-base model for input data required for noise mapping in Baja, and the experts also collected input data for noise mapping in Novi Sad.

The partners held two-day training sessions in Novi Sad for the main stakeholders in environmental noise with the participation of experts from Hungary and representatives of the Municipality of Baja. Based on the noise conflict maps elaborated as part of the project the project partners also provided action plans for Baja and Novi Sad in accordance with input data collection and noise mapping.

*Protection from noise is one of the objectives of EU policies*

$$L_{day} = 10 \log \frac{1}{24} \left( 12 \cdot 10 \frac{L_{day}}{10} + 4 \cdot 10 \frac{L_{evening} + 5}{10} + 8 \cdot 10 \frac{L_{night} + 10}{10} \right)$$

### Project partners:

**Baja város Önkormányzata (Municipality of Baja)**

Tehnološki fakultet, Univerzitet u Novom Sadu  
(Faculty of Technology, University of Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 335,270.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 284,979.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 11 2011**

**Project end date / 28 02 2013**

## Support for Allergen-Free Environment

Ragweed (ambrosia) allergy is a widespread condition which affects and incapacitates a large number of people. The seasonal increase in the concentration of ambrosia is a big problem in both Hungary and Serbia. This plant knows no borders, so the project partners came together to work on finding a cross-border solution. The project succeeded in achieving its aims: improvement of the environmental conditions in AP Vojvodina and Bács-Kiskun County (Baja) by preventing ragweed from spreading further. The activities involved mechanical and chemical treatment of ambrosia, measurement of pollen concentration in the air, data acquisition, awareness raising and education of target groups and informing the community about the negative effects of ambrosia.

The project partners removed ragweed in several locations as planned, and they established measurement stations in the programme area, in order to gain relevant information about air contamination by ragweed and other pollutant plants.

After the project, the count of ambrosia pollen in the border region was lowered, especially in Sombor, where it decreased by more than 50% in August 2013 in comparison to the values

before the project start. The project attempted to solve a common problem that can only be solved by joining forces. The results of the hard work are reliable and up-to-date data on air pollution, a higher level of awareness among the population in the border region, new personal and professional contacts between the authorities and last but not least a better quality of life.



### Project partners:

**Pokrajinski sekretariat za urbanizam, graditeljstvo i zaštitu životne sredine (Provincial Secretariat for Urban Planning, Construction and Environmental Protection)**

Fond "Evropski poslovi" Autonomne Pokrajine Vojvodine (European Affairs Fund of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina)

Baja város Önkormányzata (Local Government of Baja)  
Grad Sombor (City of Sombor)

**Project total budget / 390,349.90 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 331,797.42 €**

**Project start date / 01 10 2011**

**Project end date / 30 09 2013**

*Ragweed knows  
no borders, so the  
project partners  
found a cross-  
border solution*



# Complex Cross-Border Knowledge Transfer Activities for Innovation Management

COMPLEXIM - Complex Cross-Border Knowledge Transfer Activities for Innovation Management aimed to strengthen cooperation between innovation-related companies and organisations from Hungary and Serbia. The concept of the project was to share expertise and knowledge about professional innovation management, through mapping innovative companies and organisations, providing them information about the possibilities of technology transfer and industrial and academic R&D cooperation. Over an 18-month period the partners organised training sessions employing innovative methods, partnering days and a conference to help the participants establish new business contacts and exchange their experiences in innovation management practices. They also mapped and interviewed SMEs and organisations involved in research, conducted surveys, and developed a joint training curriculum. During the implementation, the project partners increased their skills and expertise in professional innovation management. In addition, the companies and organisations which participated in the project obtained precise information

about cross-border technology transfer and R&D activities. All the project achievements are directed towards boosting the region's economy.



*Sharing knowledge  
about professional  
innovation management,  
mapping innovative  
companies and  
organisations*

## **Project partners:**

**Univerzitet u Novom Sadu (University of Novi Sad)**  
**Magyar Innovációs Szövetség (Hungarian Association for Innovation)**

Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)  
Poslovni inkubator Novi Sad (Business Incubator Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 158,060.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 134,351.00 €**  
**Project start date / 01 11 2011**  
**Project end date / 30 04 2013**

# Computer Industry Competency Based Cross-border Business Building

Developing new business relationships requires gathering information about potential partners and that can be challenging when the partner is based in a foreign country. The project Comp-Comp aimed to find a solution to this problem. The main objective was to build new business cross-border connections based on competency research among the members of the Vojvodina ICT Cluster (VIC, Novi Sad) and the Software Innovation Pole Cluster (SIPC, Szeged). Both VIC and SIPC have their own methodologies to measure the competencies and market domain presence of the member companies.

The project partnership organised trainings about the protection and management of intellectual property rights in the field of information technology to help industry actors in the border region. They made a competency evaluation questionnaire, and an online application to process its results. Fifty-one evaluation questionnaires were collected; existing professional and business competencies were analysed and built into the competency database delivered to the member companies. Thus the project enhanced

the establishment of new business relationships, and indirectly assisted in the creation of job opportunities in the region.



*Building new  
business cross-border  
connections based  
on competency  
research*

## Project partners:

Dél-alföldi Regionális Innovációs Ügynökség  
Közhasznú Egyesület (South Great Plain Regional  
Innovation Agency)

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu (University of Novi Sad)  
Vojvođanski IKT klaster (Vojvodina ICT Cluster)  
Regionalna Agencija za razvoj malih i srednjih preduze-  
ca "Alma Mons" doo, Novi Sad (Regional Agency for the  
Development of Small and Medium Size Enterprises,  
Alma Mons Ltd. Novi Sad)

Project website / <http://www.compcomp.hu>

Project total budget / 109,948.53 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 93,456.26 €  
Project start date / 01 01 2012  
Project end date / 31 12 2012



## Professional support for the innovative start-up of small and medium-sized enterprises

It appears to be a general phenomenon that the number of enterprises is lower in cross-border regions than in the inner areas of countries. Moreover, the majority of these are small and medium-sized companies (SMEs). A sizeable number of these companies cease operations after a short period of time because they do not possess adequate professional background and infrastructure. Innovative ideas born in the region thus remain unrealised. The project participants from Hungary and Serbia wanted to change this situation; they dreamed about a future where every innovative idea became the foundation of a successful product or service. They would like to help the innovative starter SMEs in the border area to improve their own and the region's competitiveness. As part of the project activities, the partners created a Virtual Incubator, and a trilingual website, with 25 registered companies. They also organised trainings for SME representatives on both sides of the border, where the participants learned about projects, innovation, management, finance, accounting, marketing, incubators and business planning.

During the project, the partners recognised that the biggest problems SMEs in border regions face are low-quality market research, ineffective marketing and lagging behind in terms of introducing new technologies. The company representatives who participated in the trainings are now able to overcome these weaknesses using the knowledge they acquired thus making their businesses more successful. Another achievement of the trainings were newly formed cross-border business relationships.

*Helping the innovative  
start-ups to improve  
their own and the  
region's competitiveness*

### Project partners:

**Majsa Alapítvány, Kiskunmajsa**  
(Majsa Foundation, Kiskunmajsa)  
Grad Zrenjanin (City of Zrenjanin)  
Tiszasziget Községi Önkormányzat  
(Local Government of Tiszasziget)

**Project total budget / 99,570.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 84,634.50 €**  
**Project start date / 01 01 2012**  
**Project end date / 31 08 2012**



## SME Internationalisation in the Cross-border Region

This project's goal was to support the development of enterprises from Hungary and Serbia through knowledge transfer and increasing the number of cross-border business contacts.

A variety of activities were implemented in order to achieve the project objectives. At the start of the project, the partners carried out a joint survey to investigate the SME situation in the border region. Based on the survey, they prepared a study and presented the results.

The partners organised trainings, seminars and meetings, where the main themes were coaching, marketing and cluster management on the both sides of the border. They also held a B2B meeting in Szeged, where representatives of SMEs from Hungary and Serbia discussed joint business activities.

Altogether 400 companies participated in the project activities. They exchanged best practices, developed their management skills and, by establishing new business contacts, took important steps towards the internationalisation of the region.



*The development  
of Hungarian and  
Serbian enterprises  
through knowledge  
transfer*

### Project partners:

**Csongrád Megyei Kereskedelmi  
és Iparkamara**

**(Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
of Csongrád County)**

Regionalna privredna komora Subotica  
(Regional Chamber of Commerce of Subotica)

**Project total budget / 113,784.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 96,716.40 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2012**

**Project end date / 30 06 2013**

## Cluster Building by Cooperation in the Agro-Food Sector

The border area of Hungary and Serbia is characteristically agricultural with only scarce industrial operations; therefore, improvement of agriculture should not be neglected. Economic development programmes have often emphasised high-tech industrial sectors and agriculture is often left in an unfavourable position. Consequently, it is very important to enable companies in the agro-food sector to benefit from economic support programmes and this can best be achieved via the creation of clusters and their efficient cooperation across borders. This process can improve business cooperation opportunities in the agro-food sector which consequently affects other industrial sectors.

The project partners promoted cluster-based cooperation among businesses, enterprises and farmers in the agro-food sector. They organised joint trainings, consultations and business-related meetings which provided an overview of and practical information about the cluster building experience of the Kincses Bácska Cluster in Hungary to companies from Serbia.

The participants obtained general background information as well as practical suggestions about how to create clusters and manage business cooperation efficiently. All of them agreed that above all the production of high quality food coupled with close cooperation among food producing enterprises is the key to success.



*The production  
of high quality food  
coupled with close  
cooperation is the key  
to success*

**Project partners:**  
Baja város Önkormányzata  
(Municipality of Baja)  
Opština Kikinda (Kikinda Municipality)  
Vojvođanski fond za razvoj „Háló”  
(Development Foundation of Vojvodina Háló)

**Project total budget / 121,210.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 103,028.50 €**  
**Project start date / 01 01 2012**  
**Project end date / 30 04 2013**

## Cross-Border Business Advisor Network

The project increased cooperation between actors in the labour market to a higher level. The general objective of Advisor Net was to develop collaboration between relevant stakeholders in the cross-border region in terms of competitiveness and employment through creating and strengthening business and educational connections.

The target groups of the programme, SMEs, clusters that successfully operate in the border region, start-up enterprises and entrepreneurs, secondary schools and the unemployed have gained updated knowledge and the necessary skills for more successful business cooperation. The partners organised a very useful workshop titled "Current Challenges of the Cross-border Labour Market" with the participation of stakeholders from both countries. A successful Career Days event was also held in Subotica as part of the project.

The special feature of the programme was that it was a combination of market research, analytical work, trainings, consultancy, experience exchange and networking.



*Combination of  
market research,  
analytical work,  
trainings, consultancy,  
experience exchange  
and networking*

### Project partners:

#### Otvoreni univerzitet Subotica (Open University Subotica)

Nacionalna služba za zapošljavanje, Subotica  
(National Employment Service Subotica)  
Álláskereső Egyesületeinek Bács-Kiskun Megyei  
Szövetsége (Jobseekers Association of  
Bács-Kiskun County)

DAR „A Dél-alföldi Régióért” Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft.  
(DAR “A Dél-alföldi Régióért” Nonprofit Public Ltd.)  
Közép-Kelet-Európai Rekreációs Társaság  
(Central-Eastern-European Recreation Association)

**Project total budget / 185,778.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 157,911.30 €**

**Project start date / 01 12 2011**

**Project end date / 30 11 2012**



## InnoInfo: Innovatively demolishing business-information barriers between Serbian and Hungarian SMEs

Information is one of the biggest values in business. The InnoInfo project helped entrepreneurs find the information they require and it also offered them opportunities to search for and get introduced to partners in the neighbouring countries. If the companies achieve success on the market of the neighbouring countries, they could be also prosperous on the international level, so the project partners encouraged the participants to take the first step towards international success.

The partners from Hungary and Serbia established an information centre for enterprises in the border area. The system's main objective was to facilitate the establishment, operation and cooperation of companies in the border region.

As part of the programme, the partners organised ECDL and EBCL trainings, created a documentary about InnoInfo and a short, one-minute PR film about the project to popularise the partners' services and to increase publicity of the joint chambers. They also created a bilingual community portal for Hungarian and Serbian entrepreneurs.

The most visible result of the project has been the establishment and reconstruction of an information and training centre in Mali Idoš. Beside the visible results, we should also mention the establishment of new contacts, widened knowledge and improved competitiveness.



### Project partners:

Magyar–Szerb Kereskedelmi és Iparkamara  
(Hungarian–Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry)

Opština Mali Idoš (Municipality of Mali Idoš)

Project website / <http://www.mszkik.hu/innoinfo>

Project total budget / 146,481.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 124,508.85 €

Project start date / 01 11 2011

Project end date / 28 02 2013

Information  
is one of the  
biggest values  
in business



## Treasures of Puszta, One Region – One Future

The Hungarian–Serbian border region shares a common culture and heritage. This project explores the potential for cooperation which the common heritage offers. The Thorma Museum in Kiskunhalas and the Municipal Museum in Subotica jointly promoted the necessity of common heritage management through a variety of well-targeted events, well-attended exhibitions and informative and interesting promotional materials. The project partner institutions, two museums located on each side of the border, realised that common responsibility for shared natural and cultural values as well as traditions can be a solid foundation for the development of tourism in the region.

The partners organised an exhibition of architectural and cultural heritage of the towns in the plain – The Cultural Treasures of the Kiskunhalas District and North Bačka. They edited and distributed a well-researched and interesting exhibition catalogue in four languages for various local and international audiences and visitors. In this project, the younger generation and children also had the opportunity to learn about common heritage. The two museums coupled the exhibition with interesting educational and fun activities, for example Game Days for nursery children and schoolchildren. From this material they also arranged joint travelling exhibitions in Hungary and Serbia. The project's enduring result is the cultural thematic route

of architectural heritage from Pirtó to Kelebia. They also held a successful conference about Art Nouveau in Subotica, organised lectures about the exhibitions and the thematic route, workshops with the representatives of touristic and cultural organisations.

The cross-border project partners found a viable and sustainable way of coupling the regular museum activities, preservation of shared cultural and architectural heritage, with improvement of the touristic attraction of the region. They collected information about interesting and important sites, compiled it into an interesting educational and promotional message, and attracted tourists with it. By highlighting the cultural values the project contributed to increasing income from tourism in the border area.



### Project partners:

Kiskunhalas Város Önkormányzatának Thorma János Múzeuma (János Thorma Museum of Local Government of Kiskunhalas town)  
Gradski Muzej Subotica (Municipal Museum in Subotica)

Project total budget / 241,744.62 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 205,482.92 €

Project start date / 01 01 2012

Project end date / 31 12 2013

*Preservation of  
shared cultural and  
architectural heritage  
and improvement of touristic  
attraction of the region*

## Museum Pass

The project partners realized that the major problem of the development of the tourism in the Hungary–Serbia border region is the lack of accessible information about the tourist attractions in this area. The region is rich in cultural and natural assets, historically significant settlements and artefacts as well as preserved traditional customs. Yet, the museums in the region seem to be fairly unknown to the international as well as visitors from the region. This resulted in low number of visitors which, on one hand negatively affected income from tourism. On the other hand, it simply meant that many people missed on the opportunity to see and learn about interesting facts and sites from the region.

Due to similar endowments, the two sides of the border can be connected with thematic tourist routes that are suitable for improving the tourism image of the region. The project developed cooperation and integration between museums in the border region. The two organizations especially insisted on joining the circulatory system of international tourism and strengthening the tourism-related competitiveness of the region.

The project partners established a network of a total of 53 museums in Hungary and Serbia, and they created the Museum Pass, which

offers a variety of benefits to its users in the Hungarian–Serbian border region. Besides this, the partners created a brochure about the museums in the border region offering systematic, well-mapped and useful information about historic, traditional, cultural and architectural jewels of the region. Their attractive and informative website promotes the museum network in five languages. As a result of this project, the museums in the region now host the electronic touch-screen info terminals which display the information about the museum route and recommendations for future visits.

The project partners achieved their aim to establish fruitful cross-border cooperation between museums. After the mapping of these institutions they created their common product, the Museum Pass, which encourages tourists to visit the museums which take part in this program, and familiarise themselves with the history and culture of the neighbouring countries. This initiative improves the whole region's tourism, and by focusing on similarities in cultural and historical heritage fosters tolerance and multiculturalism.

### Project partners:

DKMT Duna-Körös-Maros-Tisza Eurorégiós  
Fejlesztési Ügynökség Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft.  
(DKMT Danube-Kris-Mures-Tisa Euroregional  
Development Agency – Non-profit Public Benefit  
Limited)

Muzej grada Novog Sada (City Museum of Novi Sad)

Project website / <http://museumpassdkmt.eu/>

Project total budget / 214,190.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 182,061.50 €

Project start date / 01 01 2012

Project end date / 30 06 2013



*Established a  
network of a total of  
53 museums in  
Hungary and Serbia*

## “Tisza, land, folks” – cross-border thematic route by the Tisza-river

The River Tisza is a link between Hungary and Serbia. It has been shaping the way of life in this region for centuries. Unfortunately, this area does not receive the tourist attention it deserves. Three partners collected information about interesting and significant sites in the settlements along the River Tisza. The established cross-border cultural route highlights the characteristics of the common cultural history and presents interesting contemporary sites in twelve settlements along lower-Tisza: Csongrád, Szentes, Ópusztaszer, Hódmezővásárhely, Deszk, Rőszke, Horgoš, Kanjiža, Senta, Ada, Mol and Bečej.

After initial research and collection of information, the partners designed a catalogue of common values. The catalogue served as the basis for the creation of a professional study of tourism and a marketing plan, the tourism website and the travelling exhibition. The cooperation and work on the cultural thematic route was crowned with a very rich and informative guidebook about the region's significant tourist destinations, architectural and cultural values. The guidebook containing recommendations about three-day tourist routes, bicycle paths, perfect picnic sites on the banks of the river, historic and architectural monuments as well as specificities of the region such as the park of ground pepper spice, just to name a few,

was published in Hungarian, Serbian, English and German languages. The project did not focus on attracting the tourists only. The partner from Serbia organised a camp for secondary school pupils along the established thematic route, thus showing the younger generation jewels of the region they grew up in. The project emphasized the cultural similarities between Hungary and Serbia, facilitating the dialogue between cultures and nations and nourishing reverence for the great natural asset of the region – the Tisza. By uncovering the hidden historical and natural treasures of the region and promoting them to the public they increased the visibility of the number of tourist attractions worth visiting and admiring.



### Project partners:

**Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár, Szeged**  
(National Archives of Hungary, Szeged)

Délvidék Ház Közhasznú Nonprofit Kft., Szeged  
(Southland House Nonprofit Limited Liability Company, Szeged)

Istorijski archiv Senta (Historical Archive, Senta)

**Project total budget / 199,800.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 169,830.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2012**

**Project end date / 30 04 2013**

*The River Tisza  
Is a link between  
Hungary and Serbia*

# Common Heritage Based Initiatives in Joint Tourism Development

The project partners embarked on creating a Szeged–Subotica–Sombor cross-border tourism micro-region. They were guided by the vision that instead of rivalry, cooperation, partnering and joint cross-border tourist programmes will result in a competitive edge. They identified the common interest of the three largest towns in the region: none of them want to be just a 'one day' destination from the point of view of visitors. The core idea of this project was to create a joint development strategy and implement it through joint appearances at tourism exhibitions and fairs, distribution of designed promotional material and joint improvement of equipment.

The partners first defined a common value that could be the basis of their partnership. They identified Art Nouveau architecture as an untapped common potential and transformed it into a building block for further joint tourism development initiatives.

The project partners prepared a joint tourism strategy and published studies about Art Nouveau in the South Great Plain and in Vojvodina, as well as about cross-border cooperation in the European Union in the field of tourism. They created a tourism film about the Art Nouveau values of Szeged, Subotica and Sombor, made an Art Nouveau benefit card, organized exhibitions, trainings, study tours and appeared together at tourism exhibitions and fairs in

Hungary and Serbia. The partners acquired info terminals and designed its software and content. The placement of touch screen info terminals in the cities is a way to offer accessible information about the most important buildings and sites. In the spirit of equal opportunities, architectural models of Subotica and Szeged for the blind and visually impaired were made and placed in the main squares of the two cities. The project reflects a very cooperative and inclusive approach to tourism in the border region. By exchanging ideas and utilising common strategic planning, the two partner institutions from two countries enriched the tourist offer with joint programmes which highlight the similarities between the two countries.



## Project partners:

Szeged és Térsége Turisztikai Nonprofit Kft.  
(Szeged and Surroundings Tourist Nonprofit Ltd.)  
Grad Subotica (City of Subotica)

Project website / [http://www.ipa-chi.com/?page\\_id=8](http://www.ipa-chi.com/?page_id=8)

Project total budget / 227,749.96 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 193,587.46 €

Project start date / 01 12 2011

Project end date / 01 03 2013

*Highlighting  
the similarities  
between the two  
countries*



## Mutual Heritages saving common values and serving common purpose over borders

This project was the continuation of the project MUTHER-CSNB: Mutual Heritage in the Cross-Border Region of Csongrád County and North Banat District (HUSRB/0901/212/038), with a regional extension establishing new pillars of the mutual heritages of the region and building on the already existing attractions. The project combined preservation of cultural heritage through the renovation of existing cultural sites and organisation of events which revive and celebrate traditions and customs of the region while intensively promoting them through media outlets, brochures, leaflets and posters. The popular folk festivals and events such as the Ethno Food Festival in Novi Kneževac, the Pannonia Fair and Exhibition in Vrbas, the May Fair Festival in Tiszasziget as well as EU Folklore festival and the Wedding Feast in Deszk attracted thousands of visitors from local communities, the region and the neighbouring countries. In addition to organising popular folk and traditional art festivals, the project partners from Deszk and Vrbas focused on reviving and promoting folk art and traditional crafts through seminars and workshops. The project also emphasised the preservation and renovation of cultural and traditional sites important for maintaining a vibrant community life. The St Archangel Gavriilo Church in Novi Kneževac was renovated and the open air mu-

seum in Tiszasziget was enlarged by adding an open air fishery exhibition with an attractive and interesting supplementary programme. In order to diversify the content and functionality of existing communal meeting places the project partners purchased cinema equipment in Novi Kneževac and developed the collection of the Serbian Museum of Bánát in Deszk. This is an exemplary project about how to build and maintain a cross-border network-partnership. Five organisations from two countries joined the partnership and worked on achieving the same objective for almost four years. The project partners succeeded in organising very rich and colourful programmes to preserve their important cultural heritage and encourage multiculturalism in the border region.



### Project partners:

**Deszki Település-Üzemeltetési Nonprofit Kft.**  
(Municipality Service of Deszk Nonprofit Ltd.)  
Bánát Szerb Kulturális Közhasznú Egyesület  
(Banat Serbian Cultural Public Benefit Association)  
Tiszasziget Községi Önkormányzat  
(Municipality of Tiszasziget)  
Opština Novi Kneževac (Municipality of Novi Kneževac)  
Opština Vrbas (Municipality of Vrbas)

Project website / [www.csnb.eu](http://www.csnb.eu)

Project total budget / 275,199.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 233,919.15 €  
Project start date / 01 01 2012  
Project end date / 31 10 2013



*Preservation of  
the cultural heritage  
and encouraging  
multiculturalism*



## Medieval settlements with monasteries, the collective cultural heritage, through expositions, and tourism of local communities

The project was developed to include four localities in Serbia, Bač, Rakovac-Gradina, Klisa and Novi Bečej-Arača, and Bugac-Felső Monostor and Kecskemét in Hungary. The overall goal of the project was to improve joint responsibility for cultural heritage achieved through smaller scale activities and planning, encouragement of cross-border cooperation in the field of research, cultural relations, development and tourism, planning and realisation of a joint tourist programme and its favourable impact on the sustainable development of the area. It was built on the previous project, MONATUR Medieval monasteries as part of collective cultural heritage tourism, and as a potentially important factor of sustainable development (HUSRB/0901/212/111).

The participants of the cross-border project carried out archaeological research in Bugac-Felső Monostor, organised exhibitions in Kecskemét, Bač, Novi Bečej and Rakovac-Beočin, created a multimedia CD, held seminars, lectures, workshops, appeared at tourism exhibitions in Hungary and Serbia. The target groups of the project were experts from relevant institutions, local residents, tourist groups as well as the general public.

Museums entered into dialogue with the municipal and regional decision-makers regarding the policies and activities and showed them the

possible economic benefits arising from responsible management of cultural heritage and proper support for related tourist programmes. Equally important is the education of people living in settlements near archaeological sites and buildings about tourism development possibilities.

The joint work was particularly important in this project; the teamwork yielded results the likes of which the participants would not have achieved alone. The specific feature of this partnership of three organisations was that archaeological work and research was coupled with expertise in tourism. The different approaches, methodologies and fields of expertise not only demonstrated the benefits of successful cross-border cooperation but also re-contextualised the role of museums in contemporary society.



### Project partners:

Muzej Vojvodine Novi Sad  
(Museum of Vojvodina Novi Sad)  
Kecskeméti Katona József Múzeum  
(Katona József Museum of Kecskemét)  
Turistička organizacija Vojvodine  
(Tourist Organisation of Vojvodina)

Project total budget / 279,319.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 237,421.15 €  
Project start date / 01 02 2012  
Project end date / 31 01 2013

*Re-contextualisation  
of the role of  
museums in  
contemporary society*

## Feasibility study of joint Hungarian-Serbian hail suppression network

Areas of Bács-Kiskun County and Csongrád County are frequently hit by storms and severe hailstorms, which cause enormous damage, especially to agriculture. Vojvodina has a good hail suppression system based on the radar measurements of convective clouds and silver-iodide-based reagent cloud seeding. This kind of modification of these dangerous meteorological phenomena in the Republic of Serbia has been carried out for over 40 years and there is an excellent team of experts, a clearly defined methodology for hail suppression and modern technical support. There was also large mutual interest in building a similar system in Bács-Kiskun and Csongrád counties and reaching maximum efficiency, especially in the border area as clouds know no borders and there should be no interruption cloud seeding zone. Thus cross-border cooperation is essential for protecting crops.

As part of the project, the partners carried out a feasibility study into a joint hail suppression system, informed people about prevention methods and began harmonising regulations concerning the operation of the hail suppression system in the border area. In addition to

knowledge transfer, valuable hands-on experience in hail protection practices was gained. The project was not only a great opportunity to increase the partner organisations' institutional and professional capacities, it also initialised preparatory work for introducing harmonized hail suppression system in the border regions of two countries. By combining and complementing expertise, harmonizing practices, policies and regulatory framework, the project partners started the struggle to minimize the destructive consequences of one of the unpredictable forces of nature - hail.



### Project partners:

**Bács-Kiskun Megyei Önkormányzat  
(Bács-Kiskun County Council)**

Ministarstvo unutrašnjih poslova, Sektor za vanredne situacije (Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Interior, Sector for Emergency Management)

Udruženje građana „Savez Vojvođanskih Mađarskih Gazdi, Horgoš (“Society of Vojvodina Hungarian Farmers, Horgoš)

**Project total budget / 116,365.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 98,910.25 €**

**Project start date / 01 11 2011**

**Project end date / 31 01 2013**

Hailstorms  
Know no  
borders

## Cross-border regional green economy model

Green economy and renewable energy sources are crucial and topical themes, especially when it comes to envisaging economically and environmentally sustainable future. The project partners, two regional chambers of commerce, recognised the need to address the issues of economic development and policies in the region from the perspective of their sustainability. They assessed the availability, feasibility and long-term sustainability of the renewable energy input required in both regions. On the basis of their research and analyses, they devised a technical and green economic model for the border region presented in the two major strategic documents as a green economy development model and a feasibility study.

While assessing the availability of renewable energy sources, they analysed the availability of agricultural and communal waste in both regions as they can serve as input for the energy systems of the district heating plants. In order to introduce the green economy development model to the relevant industry and economy stakeholders, municipal officials and regional decision-makers, the partners organised several conferences, thus kick-starting discussion and dialogue among the participants. Apart from presenting the objectives and themes of the project as well as the achieved results, the partners made recommendations

as to the partial or, potentially, full conversion of the systems of the district heating plants involved in this project to renewable energy sources.

In order to introduce their results to the general public, the partnership distributed brochures about renewable energy sources, held public meetings and consultations and attracted the interest of the local and regional media.

This project is the start of a long-term process in the border region, which may result in more environmentally sustainable economic development, creation of new jobs, and a healthier environment.



*Green economy  
and renewable  
energy sources  
are crucial themes*

**Project partners:**  
Bács-Kiskun Megyei Kereskedelmi  
és Iparkamara (Chamber of Commerce  
and Industry Bács-Kiskun County)  
Regionálna privredna komora Sombor  
(Sombor Regional Chamber of Commerce)

**Project total budget / 78,104.40 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 66,388.74 €**  
**Project start date / 01 11 2011**  
**Project end date / 31 10 2012**

## Transferring Regional Strategic Planning and Interregional Innovation Strategies; South Great Plain Hungary and Vojvodina Serbia

A region's innovation strategy aims to increase the economic competitiveness of that region through the correct selection of innovation activities which form the innovation system.

The innovation system cannot be interpreted separately or in isolation from other innovation systems designed for larger geographical units. The economic relations of particular regions include innovation connections, cooperation and, in this particular case, also healthy and motivating competition.

Strategic planning requires cooperation with the neighbouring region and harmonisation and optimal exploitation of resources.

The South Great Plain region has vast experience in creating innovation strategies. The region's first strategy was made in 2004 and it has been constantly revised since 2008. Thus the partner from Hungary was able to provide a lot of help to the partner from Serbia.

In order to achieve their objectives, the project partnership organised trainings, devised a joint questionnaire, and created a common database for participants in innovative ventures in different fields. On the basis of the statistical analyses of 100-100 completed questionnaires and performed secondary data collection, the partners were able to formulate recommendations and, in the end, elaborate regional and interregional strategies in the cross-border region.

The efforts of the project partners to increase competitiveness in the border region are essential and exchange of experiences, skills and knowledge can prove to be resourceful. Most importantly, their efforts encourage innovative practices and ideas while significantly reducing an organisation's reaction time in accommodating the quickly changing and innovative business environment.

### Project partners:

Dél-alföldi Regionális Innovációs Ügynökség  
Közhasznú Egyesület (South Great Plain Regional  
Innovation Agency)

Informativni centar za poslovnu standardizaciju i  
sertifikaciju, Novi Sad (Information Centre for Business  
Standardisation and Certification, Novi Sad)

Project total budget / 109,911.16 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 93,424.48 €

Project start date / 01 11 2012

Project end date / 31 12 2012

*Quickly  
changing and  
innovative business  
environment*



## Cross-border learning region: examination of the possible role of universities in the economic development of the Hungarian-Serbian cross-border region

The primary objective of the project was to discover how universities could be driving factors of economic development in the border region. This is a role that entitles them to be the forerunners of a learning region, an idea which works successfully in economically developed countries. Thanks to the reliable research data that was collected in the course of surveying carried out as part of the project, development programmes and actions solving relevant problems and addressing real development needs were created.

On the basis of the research conducted in Hungary and Serbia, the project partners developed their final study, Salient characteristics of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises regarding the concept of learning regions in the Hungarian-Serbian cross-border area. The authors outlined the situation with respect to entrepreneurship education within the Hungarian-Serbian Cross-Border Region, the innovative activities of knowledge-intensive companies in both countries and attitudes towards creativity and tolerance in micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. After presenting their results, they formulated suggestions for improving the border

region. The partners promoted the project through the media, printed materials and joint conferences.

Furthermore, the project contributes to the strengthening of cooperation among companies, research institutions and enterprise development organisations in the Hungary-Serbia border region. The results of project partners' research could form the basis for universities to assume a more active role in economic development. The practical implementation of the results could in the long run lead to the improvement of the region's competitiveness.

*Universities  
can become the  
driving factors  
of economic  
development*

### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)**

Univerzitet Educons u Sremskoj Kamenici  
(Educons University in Sremska Kamenica)

**Project total budget / 112,720.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 95,812.00 €**

**Project start date / 15 11 2011**

**Project end date / 14 11 2012**





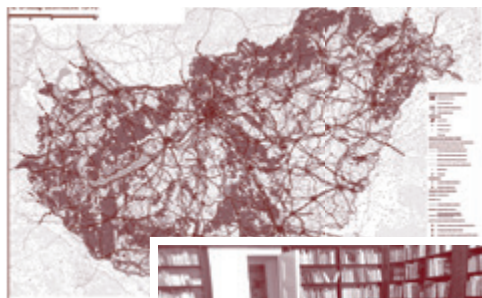
# Joint Urban and Agglomeration Network

Our era is sometimes called the “Urban Millennium”, because now for the first time in history, more than half of the population lives in cities. In all likelihood this trend will continue, resulting in a large numbers of the rural population moving to the cities. On one hand, this trend affects not only the development, but the survival of rural areas. On the other, the permanent and steady increase in the urban population will create new challenges for urban planners and experts involved in improving urban areas.

The cross-border project partners, in preparing and implementing this project, tried to summarise and synthesise Hungarian experiences, by merging methodological practices gained in previous projects. In their Summary Study, they presented the experiences of local decision-makers and experts in the field of planning and partnerships. They gave an overview and listed the characteristics of the cities that the foundation studies defined as research objects in Hungary and Serbia.

The partners concluded that professional teams were formed in Hungary and Serbia and they can make a significant contribution to the creation of integrated projects which aim to develop centres of economic and social life in

the region. Successful improvement of cities is a complex task and requires all planned activities to have a high level of harmonisation. The methodological material, prepared within JUAN project, formulates the proposals and recommendations necessary for all those dealing with urban development. Integrated urban development, when planned thoroughly, has huge potential to strengthen social cohesion and facilitate economically sustainable life in urban centres.



## Project partners:

Kistérségek Fejlesztéséért Tudományos Egyesület,  
Kecskemét (Academic Society for the Development  
of the Micro-regions, Kecskemét)

Agencija za ravnomerni regionalni razvoj Autonomne  
Pokrajine Vojvodine (Agency for Balanced Regional  
Development of AP Vojvodina)

Project website / [www.juan.hu](http://www.juan.hu)

Project total budget / 99,565.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 84,630.24 €

Project start date / 01 01 2012

Project end date / 30 04 2012

*Integrated  
urban development  
has huge potential  
to strengthen  
social cohesion*

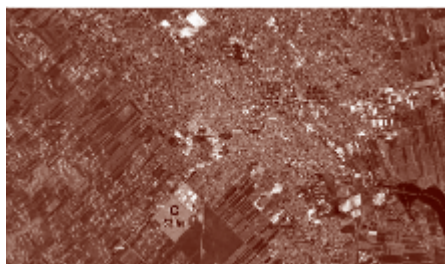
## Gate to Europe: Elaboration of studies of a potential cross-border industrial park

A cross-border industrial park is an industrial park operating on both sides of the border and can involve two industrial parks operating in close vicinity. The partnership of three chambers of commerce and industry from Hungary and Serbia sought to find a solution for forming cross-border industrial parks on such border-sections where one side is an EU member state (Hungary) and the other is still in the pre-accession stage (Serbia). The operation of cross-border industrial parks is based on joint cooperation and a joint strategy. Beyond benefiting from the favourable geographic location, i.e. close vicinity of the neighbouring country, a presence on the neighbouring country's market can intensify and encourage economic activities.

The project partners elaborated several professional documents for preparing the establishment of the joint industrial park: an analytical situation study, a complex realisation and economical study, a legal analysis, a marketing plan and a technical study plan. Besides this, they created a joint management organisation that would manage the development of the new industrial park, and they popularised the initiative among potential investors, suppliers,

manufacturers and decision - makers.

The Chambers expect their joint efforts to establish an industrial park to have significant long-term results. In the long run and as a result of an operational cross-border industrial park, the number of both investors and jobs may rise, which would in turn lower the unemployment rate. Additionally, intensive and well-targeted dissemination and marketing activities would attract foreign investors. An economically vibrant, successful and competitive region can be formed around the cross-border industrial park along the Hungarian-Serbian border.



### Project partners:

**Magyar-Szerb Kereskedelmi és Iparkamara**  
(Hungarian-Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry)

Regionalna privredna komora Subotica (Regional Chamber of Commerce Subotica)

Csongrád Megyei Kereskedelmi és Iparkamara  
(Chamber of Commerce and Industry Csongrád County)

**Project website / [www.gatetoeurope.info](http://www.gatetoeurope.info)**

**Project total budget / 108,966.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 92,621.10 €**

**Project start date / 01 12 2011**

**Project end date / 30 11 2012**

*Economically vibrant,  
successful and  
competitive region*

## Fostering Cooperation, Utilising Networking for Sustainable Regional Development in the Cross-Border Regions

The main aim of the project was to foster cooperation and networking in the cross-border region of Bačka and Csongrád County in order to establish sustainable regional development and minimise marginalisation of the border areas. The project partners defined and implemented 5 steps that led to them achieving their goals. The partner from Hungary, amongst other things, shared experiences and transferred knowledge to RDA-Bačka in Serbia through workshops, cooperation forums and study visits. The most important event of the project was the Hungary–Serbia Cooperation Forum, which was attended by representatives from over 50 local governments. They got acquainted with EU funded projects, and also visited successful companies. Furthermore, the partners created and developed the Database of key regional players in South Hungary and Bačka structured around 4 designated priorities: regional economic development, tourism-related development, transport infrastructure development and settlement development.

This database stimulates partnerships, revives the economy and fosters the long-term sustainable development of the region. The partners also devised a flexible action plan. In order to promote their activities to the general public the partnership prepared a documentary film about the project and distributed brochures about their objectives.

The main aim of the project was to encourage local governments in the border regions to improve their economy by establishing cross-border cooperation. The participants learnt how the periphery can become the centre.



### Project partners:

Dél-alföldi Regionális Fejlesztési Ügynökség  
Nonprofit Kft. (South Great Plain Regional  
Development Agency)

Regionalna razvojna agencija Bačka, Novi Sad  
(Regional Development Agency Bačka Ltd., Novi Sad)

Project total budget / 93,147.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 79,174.95 €

Project start date / 01 01 2012

Project end date / 31 12 2012

*Reviving the  
economy and fostering  
the long-term  
sustainable development  
of the region*

## Joint SME Cooperation for Strengthening Export Capability

The main objective of the project was to increase synergies and cooperation between the economies by improving SME competitiveness, create joint structures by maximising cross-border impact, develop the enterprises which were involved in the project through innovative knowledge transfer, increase the number of cross-border business contacts between enterprises and their joint cooperation in order to strengthen export capabilities to third markets. The main activities of the project were an entrepreneurial survey of the possibilities, an elaborated study, a guide for entrepreneurs, workshops and conferences.

The project partners created a bilingual leaflet and project promotional material in 3 languages, and carried out a promotional campaign on the Hungarian and Serbian sides of the border. During the programme, several companies from the banking sector, insurance and construction industries embarked on cross-border cooperation, and further results are expected. In order to promote their activities to the general public the partners prepared a documentary film about the project and distributed brochures highlighting their objectives.

The elaborated studies of this project are very important strategic documents, which could greatly help the formation of a competitive and progressive region along the Hungarian–Serbian border.



*Formation of  
a competitive and  
progressive region  
along the border*

### Project partners:

**Regionalna privredna komora Subotica**  
**(Regional Chamber of Commerce Subotica)**  
Csongrád Megyei Kereskedelmi és Iparkamara  
(Chamber of Commerce and Industry Csongrád County)

**Project total budget / 88,534.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 75,253.90 €**

**Project start date / 01 12 2011**

**Project end date / 31 03 2013**



## Oxidative stress tolerance in plants: from models to trees

Reforestation and sustainability of forest habitats is of crucial importance in South Hungary and North Serbia. Environmental stresses such as drought, extreme temperatures, soil salinity and heavy metals seriously limit plant growth and affect the success of reforestation efforts. Accumulation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and oxidative stress is the common component of such environmental stresses, which damage cellular structures and interfere with the metabolic processes of plants. Alleviation of oxidative damage is one of the most important components of tolerance to environmental stresses. Therefore, information on oxidative stress is essential for improving the abiotic stress tolerance of crops and woody plants. In this project research institutions from Hungary and Serbia collaborated to analyse oxidative stress responses of a model and a woody plant (poplar). Poplar is extensively used for forestation in the region. This plant's roots grow deeply into the soil and depend on ground water for its water supply. Drought, salinity and inundation can affect its water parameters through the stomatal regulation of transpiration and root hydraulic conductance. The project started with the opening conference which defined the details of the research. The partners conducted an in-depth study to understand the physiological and biochemical

differences between tolerant and sensitive plants. They comparatively analysed the contrasting poplar clones to identify proteins and genes which can be associated with the tolerance trait. The aim of their well-planned and rigorous research was the development of molecular and genetic tools and breeding strategies to improve oxidative stress tolerance in poplar and possibly other woody plants. During the project the partner institutions obtained the necessary equipment and research materials and the researchers exchanged, presented and published their results and improved cross-border cooperation. The OXIT project identified and characterised key components of oxidative stress responses and developed novel strategies to improve the drought, salt and heavy metal tolerance of poplar, thus contributing to reforestation efforts in the region.



### Project partners:

Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Szegedi Biológiai Kutatóközpont (Biological Research Centre Hungarian Academy of Sciences Szeged)  
 Institut Za Nizijsko Šumartsvo I Životnu Sredinu (Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment)  
 Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)

Project website / [www.ilfe.org/oxit/sr/](http://www.ilfe.org/oxit/sr/)

Project total budget / 383,520.00 €  
 Project EU funding (IPA) / 325,992.00 €  
 Project start date / 01 01 2012  
 Project end date / 31 12 2013

*Reforestation  
and sustainability of  
forest habitats is of  
crucial importance*



# Establishing the cross-border development of biogas industry via joint determination of biogas potentials, education, research and innovation

The project aimed to introduce and strengthen biogas technology in Serbia by applying the expertise accumulated in the Hungarian partner's laboratory. Biogas is a renewable energy carrier produced from biomass. Biogas can be used in several ways: burning the gas generates heat, conversion in a gas engine leads to "green electricity" and heat, and purified biomethane can replace natural gas.

The partners learnt about each other's prior activities at the first meeting, after which four students from Serbia went to the University of Szeged (Hungary) in order to get acquainted with the latest biogas biotechnologies and to participate in various joint experimental projects. In addition to conducting research, the partners also organised seminars, trainings and conferences, and also carried out and published studies. As part of efforts to promote results to a peer audience, one article was published by the University of Szeged in the international journal *Biotechnology for Biofuels*. The partners also engaged a non-science audience. A study about the future of the biogas industry in north Serbia (Vojvodina) was presented to decision-makers and major players who might have been interested in implementing biogas

technology, such as municipal and regional officials, food industry professionals, agricultural land owners, and waste collection and treatment facility operators. The study, modified according to the recommendations from the workshop, was presented to the general public at an Information Day. The project partners also included the media in disseminating the results and recommendations on both sides of the border. In this twenty-month-long project, the two institutions worked on strengthening cross-border friendship and promoted renewable energy in the border region.



## Project partners:

Szegedi Tudományegyetem, TTIK,  
Biotechnológiai Tanszék (Department  
of Biotechnology, TTIK, University of Szeged)  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Fakultet tehničkih nauka  
(University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technical Sciences)

Project total budget / 282,887.20 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 240,454.12 €  
Project start date / 01 11 2011  
Project end date / 30 06 2013

*Introducing  
and strengthening  
biogas technology*

## Cross-border ICT Research Network

The project aimed to strengthen cross-border cooperation between university research teams, develop a new testing methodology for embedded systems, and to define new, common research topics and suggestions.

CIRENE consisted of the following activities: survey of industrial needs; knowledge transfer events; definition of research agenda with specific testing methodology and platform; adaptation of methodology to the specific pilot project. The project partners organised meetings, held workshops in order to facilitate the exchange of knowledge among the partners, and published two studies. By combining the experiences of the two universities, the partners were able to develop a methodology which is not only helpful in the equipment testing process but can also

make the testing truly efficient. To demonstrate their new method they improved the earlier established set-top-box-testing environment with a new function in Serbia.

The cross-border scientific team jointly worked on scientific articles and trilingual brochures, investing around the same amount of work and closely collaborating with one another with the partners reviewing, commenting and correcting each other's work. Following the creation of the general methodologies, the adaptation of them has begun. The cooperation was smooth and the continual exchange of ideas, fine-tuning of methodology and research procedures culminated in the creation of a vibrant cross-border scientific network.



*Creation of  
a vibrant cross-  
border scientific  
network*

### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Fakultet Tehničkih nauka  
(University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technical Sciences)  
Vojvođanski IKT klaster (Vojvodina ICT Cluster)

**Project website / <http://cirene.sed.hu/>**

**Project total budget / 146,290.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 124,346.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2012**

**Project end date / 30 06 2012**

## Improvement of cereals for conventional production and biofarming

At present, agricultural production appears to be in crisis. The most important challenge in the agricultural sectors in Hungary and Serbia is the revival of cereal cultivation and trade. New and modern products – like biofarm cereals – are not only high quality products but also a trading opportunity. The modern cereal market needs new products with high nutritional value for basic human and animal food.

The common goal of the partners from Hungary and Serbia was to improve certain types of cereals by strengthening specific agronomical parameters in both traditional and biofarm crops. The joint programme was based on complementary experiences. In organic production, the resistance of a cereal is very important, more so than in traditional production, so the project's subject was very relevant. The results of the research could improve organic farming and the quality of organic products, as well as indirectly affect the agriculture and economy of the whole region.

The partner from Serbia, utilising the Hungarian side's basic research, carried out field experiments. The results of the project have been

integrated into the curriculum of the Biofarming Faculty in Bačka Topola, and the partners also promoted the results to organic farmers from the two countries.



*Improving organic farming and the quality of organic products*

### Project partners:

**Gabonakutató Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft.  
(Cereal Research Non-Profit Limited Company)**

Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Szegedi Biológiai  
Kutatóközpont (Biological Research Centre  
Hungarian Academy of Sciences Szeged)  
Fakultet za biofarming Backa Topola, Megatrend  
Univerzitet (Faculty of Biofarming Bačka Topola,  
Megatrend University)

**Project total budget / 354,002.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 300,901.70 €**

**Project start date / 01 02 2012**

**Project end date / 31 10 2013**

## Development of in-field, ecologically safe, continuously detoxifying technology for producing bio-vegetables

The project aimed to develop an ecologically safe, plant protecting and soil cleaning agricultural technology that aids organic vegetable production. There is increasing demand for sustainable agricultural practices that produce safe food. These farming technologies rely on techniques such as crop rotation, green manure, compost and biological pest control to maintain soil productivity and control pests. The use of manufactured fertilisers and pesticides, plant growth regulators, livestock antibiotics, food additives, and genetically modified organisms is excluded or strictly limited. However, in order to convert land previously used in common agricultural practice and prepare it for organic management practice, efficient technologies are needed. Addressing these problems, the partners established the basis of a fungus-based product and technology which are able to quickly transform the problematic groups of pollutants to less toxic or nontoxic compounds in organic farmland soils, to suppress plant pathogenic fungi and to induce pest resistance in plants.

The partners from Hungary and Serbia implemented the project with the aim of developing in-field, ecologically safe, continuously detoxifying technology for producing bio vegetables. The project partners created a website with continuously updated content, prepared a trilingual project leaflet and brochure to disseminate the project achievements. They organised four

working visits, conducted research, presented the results at national and international conferences, and published research papers.

The partners themselves stated that the results of the project could not have been reached without their cross-border partner. The expertise of the partner institutions ideally complemented each other during the realisation of the project. During the implementation of the project, new ideas emerged which indicates the possibility of continuous, further collaboration between the cross-border partners. The project enabled the participating research units on both sides of the border to procure new instruments, which can be continuously operated, thereby aiding the realisation of recently started and future projects. The positive feedback and great interest from other, non-participating scientists as well as from farmers in Hungary and Serbia indicates that the developed strategy has the potential to be introduced into agricultural practice. Besides the professional partnership, the participating scientists also made new friends with their colleagues from the cross-border partner institution.



### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**  
Univerzitet Educons u Sremskoj Kamenici (Educons  
University, Sremska Kamenica)

Project total budget / 280,000.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 238,000.00 €  
Project start date / 01 02 2012  
Project end date / 31 12 2013

*Plant protecting and  
soil cleaning agricultural  
technology that aids  
organic vegetable  
production.*



## Development of innovative technologies for prevention and treatment of female genital infections

The fungus *Candida albicans* accounts for approximately 80-90% of all vulvovaginitis (VVC) cases. It is estimated that 75% of women have at least one episode of VVC within their lifetime, with 40% to 45% having two or more episodes. The scientists from Hungary and Serbia realised that the population faces the same problems on both sides of the border, thus they decided to solve them together. The overall and long-term goals of the project were to decrease and mitigate the effects of microbial vaginal inflammation. As part of the project, the participants intended to define the genetic factors that are susceptible to genital infections and thus define which patients are at higher risk and develop a new, nanotechnology-based treatment for the treatment of bacterial vaginosis.

The partners together defined the methodology of the determination of different pathogens, conduct of the sampling process and harmonisation of the sampling process between the Hungarian and Serbian partners. They carried out the entire research venture in close cooperation. The cross-border research team presented and published the obtained results.

Without the cross-border partnership they could not have performed the comparison of population genetics. The cooperation greatly helped the partners to achieve their goals and signifi-

cantly augmented the body of knowledge on this common problem, thus facilitating its faster and more efficient treatment.



### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu - Medicinski fakultet sa  
potpunom odgovornošću (University of Novi Sad,  
Faculty of Medicine with Full Liability)

**Project total budget / 271,100.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 230,435.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2012**

**Project end date / 31 12 2013**

*Faster and  
more efficient  
treatment of  
female genital  
infections*



## Research cooperation to prepare a cross-border patient database and establish the first liquor and genetic banks in Vojvodina in order to improve multiple sclerosis diagnosis

Multiple sclerosis is one of the most common diseases of the central nervous system and has to be rigorously investigated because of increasing occurrence of the disease. Young adults in particular are affected by the disease which is currently incurable. The aim of the partners from Hungary and Serbia was to aid the provision of more information about the genetic background of the disease. Finding the proper biomarker could help provide characterisation or prognosis with respect to the effects of multiple sclerosis in the future. Liquor and genetic banks with proper certifications can serve as a basis for further genetic, investigative research. The cross-border team of scientists conducted very effective work, which, in addition to scientific research, included member training and project meetings. They purchased the necessary equipment, established and improved liquor and genetic laboratories on both sides of the border. The scientists continually developed the multiple sclerosis biobank by collecting 500-500 blood samples from patients and from the not-affected population in the border region. The scientists published several studies from

the research results, thus familiarising the general public with this illness. The partners were also able to create new jobs for young doctors and biologists, and succeeded in improving the quality of medical care in the border region. The most important outcomes of the cooperation were significant research results, a validated questionnaire, published peer-reviewed articles and last, but not least, the establishment of active cross-border research cooperation between the scientists of the two institutions.



### Project partners:

Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)  
Opšta Bolnica Subotica (General Hospital Subotica)

Project total budget / 347,800.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 295,630.00 €

Project start date / 01 01 2012

Project end date / 31 12 2013

*The multiple sclerosis biobank finding the proper biomarker*

## Research cooperation on developing innovative fish feed for promotion of healthy food in the region

Hungary and Serbia are similar countries in terms of fish production and consumption, but also cardiovascular disease (CVD) rates. In both countries carp is the main cultivated fish, while the CVD mortalities are over 50%. It is well established that consumption of omega fatty acids favourably affects CVD mortality. The main aim of the project was to develop carp feed enriched with omega fatty acids and to increase the amount of these beneficial-for-health omega fatty acids in carp meat.

This was achieved by using new improved feed for carp. During this project, a new fish feed with superior physical and nutritional characteristics was developed using contemporary feed technology. This feed improved the quality of fish meat in terms of its positive effects on human health. The groups which benefit from project results are those involved in the feed-to-food chain. Feed manufacturers have been provided with a high-quality, environmentally sustainable new fish feed. Fish producers are able to offer healthier fish meat. The main beneficiaries are end-users of fish meat, i.e. consumers. Consumer sub-groups are those with cardiovascular disease (CVD), who will benefit by decreasing further CVD development, and those who are CVD-free, who will benefit by lowering the risk of CVD development.

Without the cooperation of the cross-border partners it would have been impossible to achieve the same results. On the one hand, the Institute of Food Technology has a pilot plant for feed pro-

duction, which is unique in this region and which allows the very precise adjustment of processing parameters for carp feed production in order to produce feed with the desired properties. On the other hand, the partner from Hungary has a substantial research background in both animal and human nutrition and it provided cooperation with institutions in Hungary that have vast experience in fish feeding and rat feeding experimentation. This allowed the project partners to complement one another to a great extent and thus facilitated the successful implementation of the project activities. The project provided the cross-border partners with an overview of whole chain, from fish feed production parameters and quality of produced feed to the impact of the improved fish meat on mammalian model animals.

As carp is widely consumed in both Hungary and Serbia, an increase in production and consumption of higher quality carp meat would contribute to a decrease in the CVD rate in the region. By addressing feed and fish quality, this project indirectly enhanced the innovative capacities of SMEs and contributed to promoting healthy food to the population of the border region.

### Project partners:

Naučni institut za prehrambene tehnologije  
u Novom Sadu (Institute for Food Technology  
in Novi Sad)

Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)

Project website / <http://feed-pro-food.uns.ac.rs/>

Project total budget / 277,820.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 236,147.00 €

Project start date / 01 01 2012

Project end date / 30 09 2013



*Food rich in omega  
fatty acids =  
lower risk of  
cardiovascular  
diseases*

# Characterisation and Diagnosis of Novel Molecular Tumour Markers for Personal Treatment

The research topic of this project was the investigation of the molecular mechanisms in tumour cells. The overall objective of the project was the integrated development of a molecular diagnostic test system that not only enables targeted, individualised tumour therapy, but also provides deeper insight into the molecular mechanisms of carcinogenesis by discovering new scientific evidence.

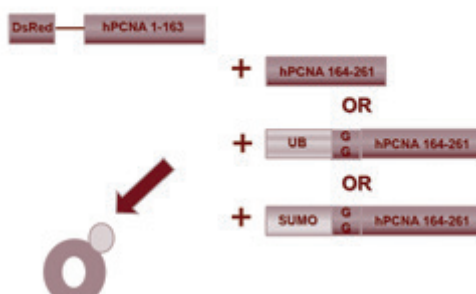
Based on previous research into novel tumour suppressors and tumour marker genes, which partners published in more than forty high-impact research papers, they expected to discover and characterise a new therapeutic drug target molecule(s) and to obtain information facilitating the early diagnosis and potential prevention of certain malignancies. The partnership focused its research efforts on common cancers of significance for public health, with particular focus on colon and lung cancers. One of the main objectives was to establish a multidisciplinary consortium which is intended to act as a special mediator between basic research and clinical practice. The research was carried out in close collaboration and the partners achieved their aims: identification of specific markers was

performed on both primary cell suspensions and tumour tissue.

The rigorous and joint work resulted in the development of a new method for detection of frequent mutations in the PIK3CA gene.

The importance of the research for the health care system and the health of the population cannot be over-emphasized.

The model of Ub-PCNA and SUMO-PCNA



## Project partners:

Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Szegedi Biológiai  
Kutatóközpont (Biological Research Centre  
Hungarian Academy of Sciences Szeged)  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu - Medicinski fakultet sa  
potpunom odgovornošću (University of Novi Sad –  
Faculty of Medicine with full liability)  
Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)

Project total budget / 416,510.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 354,033.50 €  
Project start date / 01 12 2011  
Project end date / 30 11 2013

Identification of  
specific markers on  
both primary cell  
suspensions and  
tumour tissue

## Research Cooperation of the University of Szeged and the University of Novi Sad in Development of Anticancer Drug Compounds

Breast and prostate cancers are among the most common tumours and the leading causes of death. These tumours are mostly steroid hormone dependent and can be treated effectively with antiandrogen or antiestrogen drug therapy. Development of new compounds possessing these antihormonal effects is an important and promising field of anticancer research in both Hungary and Serbia. This project established a cross-border research network between the Universities of Novi Sad and Szeged for the pre-clinical research of novel anticancer drug compounds. The complementary expertise and research capacities of the Hungarian and the Serbian universities were combined in aim of developing new antihormonal and anticancer drug compounds. The cooperation of the project partners included knowledge transfer through working visits and joint workshops. Implementation of the project resulted in highly positive scientific, economic and social effects. New compounds were synthesized and the presumed antihormonal and anticancer effects were investigated by in vitro laboratory tests and by in vivo animal experiments. The scien-

tific results were presented in research articles, widely publicised at scientific conferences and integrated into the university education programme. A new collaboration was initiated by the cross-border programme. Highly productive professional partnerships and friendly personal connections were established during the project implementation. The new technological, scientific and organisational developments, as well as the unique know-how and the gained cross-border expertise of the research staff will be used for the implementation of other academic and industrial research programmes between the two countries and within the region.



### Project partners:

Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-matematički  
fakultet (University of Novi Sad Faculty of Sciences)

Project website / [www.recodac.pmf.uns.ac.rs](http://www.recodac.pmf.uns.ac.rs)

Project total budget / 335,084.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 284,821.40 €

Project start date / 01 02 2012

Project end date / 31 01 2014

*Development of new compounds possessing the antihormonal effects is an important and promising field of anticancer research*



## Development of an enzymological (laccase-based) remediation product and technology

Pesticides pollute water and soils. Microbial degradation of pesticides like chlorinated aniline and phenol herbicides results in highly toxic aniline and phenol derivatives. These herbicides are frequently used on grain cultures both in Hungary and in Serbia. Therefore, there is great interest in tackling the challenges of soil and water quality, providing solid bases for sustainable farming and safe food production.

Laccases are copper-containing proteins called "blue oxidases". They are able to convert polluting compounds into less soluble substances that may be easily removed from water by sedimentation or filtration. Laccases also have the potential to clean polluted soils.

During the LACREMED project, an enzyme mixture deriving from fungi was developed. The enzyme mixture is able to detoxify a wide range of compounds that pollute natural waters and agricultural soils. This easy to produce and cheap product can be applied in water treating plants and it enables the preservation of the soil quality in the Hungary-Serbia border region known for its rich agricultural tradition.

The realisation of the project significantly contributed to knowledge about the application of microorganism-based technologies in reducing environmental contamination. The

expertise and knowledge of the members of the cross-border research team perfectly complemented each other. Additionally, the interest from farmers in Hungary and Serbia indicates that the developed strategy has the potential to be turned into agricultural practice.



*The enzyme mixture is able to detoxify a wide range of compounds that pollute natural waters and agricultural soils*

### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**  
 Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Tehnološki fakultet Novi Sad  
 (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technology  
 Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 287,000.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2012**

**Project end date / 31 12 2013**



## AGROCRAFT Coupling agriculture with craftsmanship to boost competitiveness

The AgroCraft project is a continuation of Handicraft project (HUSRB/0901/214/160). The term agro-craft is used to indicate products that are produced in a small area, with extensive manual work, that are durable, storable, transportable and marketable, and which are produced from agricultural products. The combination of agriculture and handicraft is a specific feature of the Hungarian–Serbian border region. However, most of the agro-craftsmen are not able to get their products onto the market.

The project partners mapped a clear picture of the possibilities for producing and marketing agro-crafts in the region. They organised 2-2 workshops in Hungary and Serbia, and developed 10 products in Hungary in close cooperation with producers. Local farmers and specialists from Hungary and Serbia exchanged experiences, discussed agro-craft product development, envisaged a shared brand and analysed possibilities for establishing modern cooperatives. The participants also prepared a useful joint agro-craft design manual, a survey and a database on the craftsmen of Vojvodina and an agro-craft market research study. The efforts of the partners improved economic development in the cross-border region and encouraged the generation of new ideas.



*The combination of agriculture and handicraft is a specific feature of the Hungarian-Serbian border region*

**Project partners:**  
Dél-Alföldi Regionális Társadalomtudományi  
Kutatói Egyesület (Southern Great Plains  
Region Social Research Association)  
Regionalno Udruženje Građana „Ludašpusta”  
(Regional Civic Association “Ludaspuszta”)

**Project total budget / 158,816.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 134,993.60 €**  
**Project start date / 01 10 2011**  
**Project end date / 31 03 2013**

## Development of new materials for application in environmentally friendly technologies for the cost-effective remediation of contaminated sites threatening cross-border regions

The project partners created cross-border co-operation in environmental research, to develop cost-effective and environmental friendly monitoring and remediation technologies, thus addressing serious issues relating to contaminated sites in the border zone. After upgrading research equipment at both universities to increase their R&D capacities, they carried out an overview study of water/sediment/soil quality in the border zone followed by investigations into the current condition of waters and sediments in the most critical locations identified.

The research focused on the use of novel materials as electrochemical sensors for environmental monitoring and as materials used in a variety of sediment remediation technologies. The region has significant water resources in the form of surface waters. Namely, the Danube, Sava and Tisza rivers and the well-developed Danube-Tisza-Danube (DTD) canal system, the water quality of which is lowering due to pollution. For some of the most affected sites the MATCROSS project developed and proposed technical solutions for remedying the polluted sediments. The innovative character of the project is in its use of nanomaterials as absorbents in technologies for cleaning the waters and remedying the sediment as well as materials as electrochemical sensors for environmental monitoring.

**Project partners:**  
**Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-**  
**matematički fakultet (University of**  
**Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences)**  
Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)

**Project website / <http://matcross.pmf.uns.ac.rs/>**

**Project total budget / 439,612.60 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 373,670.71 €**  
**Project start date / 01 11 2011**  
**Project end date / 31 10 2013**

The cross-border project team encouraged dialogue and partnership between scientific institutions and interested stakeholders in environmental protection through workshops and dissemination of results. Their first workshop in Szeged had more than 200 participants from the region and all over the world. Through this and similar activities, the project achieved a lasting influence on regional environmental policies. This in turn is bound to enhance regional economic and social development by creating a region that is more attractive for investment, especially in agriculture and ecological tourism.

Combining expertise in the development and characterisation of new materials for adoption in environmental technologies at the University of Szeged and expertise in the development of remediation technologies at the University of Novi Sad, the project partnership succeeded in solving common problems in the field of environmental protection. The researchers were given the opportunity to exchange their knowledge and experiences in problem solving from different perspectives, and all this has contributed to unlocking regional research capacity in the field of environmental protection.



## Bile Acid Nanosystems as Molecule Carriers in Pharmaceutical Applications

The goal of this project was to research the usefulness of bile acid oxo derivatives as excipients in pharmaceutical preparations of some drugs. Bile acids are an essential and interesting group of biological molecules. Their useful function in living systems is due to their ability to aggregate (several molecules form “bubbles” in which they transport other molecules, aiding food digestion). The project began with basic sciences such as chemistry and proceeded to applied biomedical sciences. Direct project phases included the synthesis of bile acid oxo derivatives and their characterisation. By employing new computational techniques, the use of chemicals in direct experiments was reduced as well as the associated economic burdens and environmental pollution.

The cross-border team purchased the necessary equipment, which helped them to learn more about the structure of micelles. On the basis of this knowledge, they were able to optimise the experimental conditions. Without the cross-border cooperation they would not have been able to carry out such high-quality experimental research, as the conditions were not optimised in advance so they would have used larger amounts of substances, and the burden

on the ecosystem would be considerable.

As part of the project, the partners organised trainings, meetings, workshops, a conference and a public debate; burned lectures onto CD and the results of the research were published in international journals and conferences/seminars.

The results will also be of use in the development of animal farms, serving as a source for the isolation of bile acids and the starting compounds for the synthesis of bile acid oxo derivatives. In light of this, bile acids will have wider pharmaceutical application, which will have a favourable impact on animal husbandry and the meat processing industry.



### Project partners:

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-matematički fakultet u Novom Sadu (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences)

Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Medicinski fakultet  
(University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine)

Project website / [www.banamoca.dh.pmf.uns.ac.rs](http://www.banamoca.dh.pmf.uns.ac.rs)

Project total budget / 362,146.50 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 307,824.52 €

Project start date / 01 11 2011

Project end date / 31 10 2013

*Usefulness of bile  
acid oxo derivatives  
as excipients in  
pharmaceutic  
preparations of  
some drugs*

## Ice-hockey development within Serbian-Hungarian cross-border cooperation

Tisza Volán Szeged SC and Spartak Subotica cooperated in the field of ice hockey, continuing their previous common project SPORTSEHU Sporting development within Serbian–Hungarian cross-border cooperation (HUSRB/0901/222/085). During this six-month project, the two clubs jointly participated in the 2011/2012 championship and their members held joint preparations for the matches. In addition to having regular training sessions together, the team members and coaches also attended three joint summer training camps. Furthermore, the clubs procured the necessary equipment, such as hockey sticks and pucks. They travelled together to championship matches, and together provided referees and a sports doctor.

This project had great significance because it brought together young talented sports players into one cross-border team. During the regular and intense training activities, matches and preparations for the championship, they not only improved their sports skills but they also forged new friendships and learnt about the importance of team spirit.



Importance  
of team  
spirit

### Project partners:

**Tisza Volán Sport Klub, Szeged**  
(Tisza Volán Sport Club, Szeged)

Sportsko Društvo Železničara Jovan Mikić – Spartak  
Subotica (Sport Society of Railwaymen – Spartak  
Subotica)

**Project total budget / 88,073.10 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 74,862.13 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2012**

**Project end date / 30 06 2012**



## Drugs know no borders

Border regions, in particular, have been exposed to the risk of higher levels of drug abuse. This problem is partially a consequence of weak connections and lack of harmonised policies and coordinated actions among all institutions that deal with the prevention of drug abuse in the two countries. While border protection forces and the police from Hungary and Serbia cooperate and exchange information, other relevant state and municipal institutions and drug prevention NGOs do not maintain contact with their counterparts from the neighbouring country. The objective of the project was to harmonise drug prevention programmes on both sides of the border in order to prevent and reduce drug abuse in the region. To achieve the set goals the partnership presented these programmes to the institutions and organisations which deal with drug prevention, opened the door to the exchange of experiences and translated this knowledge into practical joint actions.

The project partners organised workshops, study visits and meetings on the both sides of the border. In order to contribute to the drug prevention efforts, the two organisations also focused on working with the vulnerable population. For that reason, elementary and high

school students from Hungary and Serbia visited the Exspecto Mental Hygiene Foundation, where they participated in workshops, viewed the exhibition and participated in a research questionnaire. The results of this one-year cooperation and the field work were presented in Zákányszék at the closing conference. The partners can take undeniable credit for raising awareness about the destructive consequences of drug use and for contribution to the prevention of drug abuse. The dissemination of information about the perils of drug abuse coupled with educational activities directly affects the quality of life of young people and their families and communities.



### Project partners:

Homokháti Kistérség Többcélú Társulása Integrált Szociális és Gyermekjóléti Központ (Homokhát Microregion Multi-Purpose Association Integrated Social and Child Welfare Centre)

Exspecto Fondacija Mentalne Higijene, Subotica (Exspecto Mental Hygiene Foundation, Subotica)

Project website / <http://www.exspecto.org.rs/>

Project total budget / 63,600.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 54,060.00 €

Project start date / 01 11 2011

Project end date / 31 10 2012

*Harmonised  
drug prevention  
programmes on  
both sides of  
the border*



## Getting to know our neighbours

Sometimes it seems that people learn a lot about remote countries and distant places, but know so little about their own neighbours. This project aimed to change this. The overall objective of the project was to preserve and introduce traditions, arts, nature and national values of one neighbour to the other. The long-term aim of the project was to create a prejudice-free cross-border co-operation based on positive thinking through a series of well-designed and targeted programmes for children in the region. Each of the events and programmes upheld the values of friendship and mutual respect and emphasised the importance of employing a bias-free approach in intercultural dialogue. Firstly, the project partners acquired the necessary equipment for the planned children's camps, published a bilingual publication for the participants, visited schools, met with teachers and parents and at the end selected the camp participants. They organised two-day camps for primary school children from the border region. Every group spent two days in Serbia and two in Hungary. More than four hundred children participated in twelve camps in both countries. The children participated in outdoor activities

and sport competitions, visited significant historic and cultural attractions as well as natural beauties in the border region.

The project partners were guided by the notion that prejudice-free and positive thinking is more necessary today than it has ever been before. During the activities, the children were able to experience that their peers from the neighbouring country are similar to them and have similar interests, needs and aspirations. Through play, sport, excursions and educational trips, the children gained practical first-hand experience that forming opinions and building relationships based on similarities is, by far, more beneficial, more fun and more interesting than close-mindedness.



### Project partners:

**Etnolife udruženje građana, Subotica**  
**(Etnolife Civil Association, Subotica)**  
Gyermek Mosoly Erdei Iskola és Óvoda  
Közhasznú Alapítvány, Szeged  
(Kids Smile Forest School and Nursery  
School Charitable Foundation, Szeged)

**Project total budget / 101,227.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 86,042.95 €**  
**Project start date / 01 01 2012**  
**Project end date / 31 12 2012**

*Upholding the  
values of friendship  
and mutual respect*

## Voice of the village

Migration is a topical phenomenon in contemporary societies; big cities, financial centres and economically advanced regions are attractive migrant destinations for people living in rural areas. Villages and small towns chronically suffer from a lack of job opportunities, and lower average salaries which in turn affect quality of life. Migration to larger cities or to prosperous parts of Europe causes significant problems both in Hungary and in Serbia. The small and medium-sized towns in the border area face numerous problems as a major portion of the young and educated population leave their hometowns, the places of their schooling.

The two organisations formed a cross-border partnership in order to understand the mechanisms of migration in the border area, address the negative effects and envisage possible and viable solutions. Firstly, in order to map the directions, motivation and reasons for migration, scientific research was conducted in four settlements, one in Hungary, Lajosmizse, and three in Serbia, Ada, Bečej and Temerin. After grasping the major tendencies of migration in (from) these four settlements, the involved experts developed a new model of networking with emigrants.

A major result of the project was the exchange of knowledge and experiences about migration processes in similar settlements on both sides of the border and the elaboration of joint solutions to the problem. Spiritual Information Points are located in the four settlements and they act as an institutionalised way of maintaining contact with emigrants originating from the towns in the region. With the

setting up of local Spiritual Information Points, the partners envisaged the creation of an example of best practice that could be utilised by other organisations as well. Besides the establishment of Spiritual Information Points, the project partners intensively engaged in the dissemination of their results and recommendations. They organised workshops, conferences and a travelling exhibition. They published studies, a trilingual guidebook about the project and also developed an informative website to promote their achievements to the general public.

During this one-year project, the participants established connections with almost 1000 emigrants. These relationships were as beneficial for the local community as for the emigrants. People who live abroad sometimes have better insight into the events of their hometown and they can help its development. It is very important for them to know that their opinion is heard and valued in their place of origin. The special merit of the project is that the partners drew attention to the positive aspect of migration and offered ways to encourage back-migration processes.



### Project partners:

Kistérségek Fejlesztéséért Tudományos Egyesület (Academic Society for the Development of the Micro-regions)  
Zavod za kulturu vojvodanskih Mađara  
(Institute for Hungarian Culture in Vojvodina)

Project website / <http://vov.vmmi.org/>

Project total budget / 89,312.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 75,915.20 €

Project start date / 01 02 2012

Project end date / 31 01 2013

*The positive aspect of migration and encouraging of the back-migration process*

## Welcome to the Diverse World of Cultures

The main goal of the project was to bring the people from the two communities and guests from two nations and cultures together by organising joint events in both countries. From the beginning of this eight-month project, the two project teams cooperated actively to carefully plan and harmonise preparations for cultural, artistic and gastronomic events. They organised four joint events: the "Welcome our Dear Guests" art and culture day, the Wine Festival in Csongrád, the St Stephen's Day and the Ricsaj Folklore Festival event in Bečej with the participation of performers from Hungary and Serbia. After acquiring equipment for public events, such as plastic chairs, wooden cottages and audio equipment, the partners embarked on ensuring the active participation of people from various domains of artistic life, cultural and traditional performers, folklore enthusiasts and wine producers. Well-prepared promotional materials and a promotional campaign attracted numerous visitors to these events. The events revealed the beauty of the border region's cultural assets and gastronomy to the visitors. The four organised cultural events also offered an excellent opportunity for multicultural encounter and interaction.

Through active participation in the full-cycle organisation of the events, the people from towns also gained invaluable insight into cultural background and working habits of their colleagues from the neighbouring country. This series of events had a positive impact not only on the tourism sector by putting these two settlements on the map of interesting destinations for visitors, but also on the promotion of knowledge about the cultural heritage of these regions and harmonious neighbourly relations.



### Project partners:

Csongrádi Városkép Nonprofit Kft.

(Culture Centre and Town Gallery, Csongrád)

Petefi Sándor Magyarorsko Kulturno Društvo

(Petőfi Sándor Hungarian Culture Organisation, Bečej)

Project total budget / 100,000.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 85,000.00 €

Project start date / 01 07 2011

Project end date / 29 02 2012

*The beauty of  
the border region's  
cultural assets and  
gastronomy*

## Organisation of Cross-Border Community Programmes

This was a complex programme based on Christian values, which aimed to revive cross-border public life, and strengthen community ties and relationships. Through their people-to-people meetings and cooperation, the project partnership promoted Christian community values and popularised family and moral values and disseminated these ideas to the citizens living along the border. The project partners planned and successfully realised a series of fourteen events for various participants and visitors. A week-long camp saw encounters between young people and adults from both countries. People interested in strengthening community ties were able to participate in three one-day community meetings or attend a training of community leaders. "The River that Connects", a flood memorial day, was a celebration of volunteering and selfless assistance from many countries in the efforts to rebuild Szeged after the flood in 1879. In order to reach the wider public, they also held a Christian Camp at the event Szegedi Ifjúsági Napok (Youth Days in Szeged) and four lectures on topics related to the notion of family. For the fourth lecture they invited a group of underprivileged children from Serbia to come to Szeged and a whole day full of different pro-

grammes was organised for them, programmes they would not have been able to take part in otherwise.

The Day of Craftsmanship gathered producers of traditional crafts and the interested public. Artisans and music lovers gathered at a gala concert of the choirs of Zrenjanin and Szeged Dóm. Both meetings of the choirs provided perfect occasions for the members of the choirs to make new relationships, both professional and personal.

Almost five thousand people participated in the events. The organisers placed emphasis on multilingualism, Christian values and prejudice-free positive thinking. The events offered an exceptional opportunity to attract and ensure a high number of volunteers, thus popularising the importance of volunteering and the benefits of active pro-bono engagement in the life of communities.



### Project partners:

**KatHÁZ Közhasznú Nonprofit Kft, Szeged**  
(Catholic House Public Benefit Nonprofit Ltd., Szeged)

Háló Közösségfejlesztő Keresztény Egyesület,  
Zrenjanin (HÁLÓ Christian Association for  
the Development of Communities, Zrenjanin)

**Project total budget / 68,995.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 58,645.75 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2012**

**Project end date / 31 12 2012**

*Multiculturalism,  
Christian values and  
stereotype-free  
positive thinking*



## Strengthening the bilateral social relations between the people of Bácsbokod and Nemesmilitics

The project's overall objective was to reduce the isolating effect of the border region by intensifying cultural interaction and through the responsible management of common cultural heritage. During this project, children between 6 and 15 years of age learnt about the daily life of the Serbian-Croatian-Hungarian community. The partners organised joint cultural and sporting events for the children in both villages. Bácsbokod was the host of the Serbian-Croatian Days event, the Children's Day and the Sports Day, while Svetozar Miletic organized the Harvest Feast, the Soccer Day and the Village Day. The partners renovated parts of the buildings important for enriching the social life of the local communities, especially the lives of the younger generations. The partner from Serbia upgraded its sports facility by building a grand stand and also fences around the sport court. The partner from Hungary renovated the showers and restrooms of the sports hall, and also changed the windows and doors of the community centre to prevent heat loss during the colder months and make the building more energy efficient.

The project greatly improved the quality of social life in the two villages and helped revive the community programmes for youth. The common work resulted in common successes, which encouraged the partners to think about new project ideas together. Due to this project, people's attitudes towards the other nation changed, the inhabitants of the two settlements became friends, and, in the opinion of the partners, this was the project's greatest achievement.



**Project partners:**  
Bácsbokod Nagyközség Önkormányzat  
(Local Government of Bácsbokod)  
Mesna Zajednica Svetozar Miletic  
(Local Community Svetozar Miletic)

**Project total budget / 113 001.89 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 96 051.61 €**  
**Project start date / 01 02 2012**  
**Project end date / 31 08 2013**

*The project greatly improved the quality of social life in the two villages*



# CINEMA CONTACT – Promotion of intercultural exchange and understanding between people in border regions through film

Film can be a very powerful tool for intercultural exchange and understanding between people. The two organisations formed a cross-border partnership in order to organise screenings of Hungarian films in Serbia, and Serbian films in Hungary. In order to ensure the active engagement of artists, film production company workers, young aspiring artists and cinemagoers, each of the screening sessions and events included appearances by special guests, authors and young film professionals from both sides of the border. The screenings and supplementary events provided a platform for future cooperation and artistic endeavours in the domain of film and culture. A forum for professionals, intellectuals and interested members of the general public living in the region intensified the feeling of belonging to the common region.

The artists and film enthusiasts attended workshops, trainings, and public and professional events. Aspiring young artists and film students

from both sides of the border presented their work in the Young Talents Competition. The films were also screened at the Cinema City Festival in Novi Sad, introducing them to the general public. Cinemagoers, film artists and enthusiasts also attended Master Classes and panel discussions held and moderated by world renowned film experts. In 2012, in the programme Focus: Hungary, the Hungarian cult director Bela Tarr selected ten films from Hungarian cinematography for screening. This great project built its activities and programmes around the tremendous culture mediating role of films. The artists, cinema lovers and general public became acquainted with artworks while they were introduced to the culture of the neighbouring country through its cinematographic production.

*Film can be a  
very powerful tool  
for intercultural  
exchange*

## Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)**

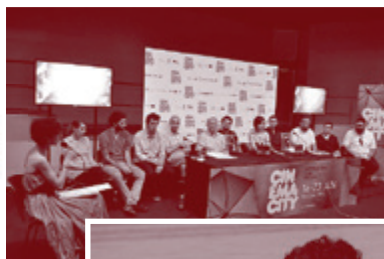
Udruženje Cinema City, Novi Sad  
(Association Cinema City, Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 88,230.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 74,995.50 €**

**Project start date / 15 12 2011**

**Project end date / 14 12 2012**



## Cross-Border, Integrated Table Tennis Program for Professional, Amateur and Handicapped Players

Table tennis is a sport that can be enjoyed by individuals of any age and physical ability. Playing table tennis is a great way to stimulate the brain and promote quick thinking. It is generally viewed as a sport with a low risk of injury that keeps one fit and flexible and increases one's agility. It helps develop the ability to concentrate on applying a tactic, something which is good for all ages. It is one of the few sports in which size, age, and gender often appear to be irrelevant competitive factors and it is also enjoyed by millions of people with disabilities as well as people in retirement homes.

The two table tennis sport clubs seized the opportunity and partnered up in order to capitalise on the all-encompassing characteristic of table tennis. One can train professionally, but it can also be a family sport and an intergenerational sport, and it is inclusive in terms of physical ability.

Table tennis clubs from Szeged (Hungary) and from Senta (Serbia) designed a complex twenty-four-month project to popularise sport, table tennis in particular, and provide an outlet for lively and vibrant table tennis gatherings.

Through a series of popular events, the two clubs gathered highly skilled professional players, amateur players, students, children and their parents from both countries at events: Open Table Tennis Days, Sports Day for People with Disabilities, Table Tennis Day for Families, to name just a few. The partnership did not stop there. They designed programmes for players with disabilities, thus contributing to their inclusion in society by encouraging them to play sport regularly and participate in competitions.

The partners also devised a multilevel education-

al programme and improved their pedagogical practice by organising training camps, several tournaments and lectures on health and sport. Through the table tennis programme for schools, joint trainings and open table tennis days, the playfulness and benefits of this sport were promoted to the inhabitants of the region.

The organizers considered the Sports Day for People with Disabilities, the Health Symposium and the table tennis programme for schools as the most successful events in terms of their long-term impact on the community. The joint programs provided opportunities for exchanging experiences, inventing novel solutions to professional problems, establishing personal contacts, and overcoming cultural and language barriers. The project also increased the clubs' capacity (in terms of both equipment and personnel). The occasional contacts between the two clubs were replaced by regular, well organised and enduring cooperation, which continues to attract people of all ages, nations and cultures to train in table tennis professionally or for recreational and health reasons. The partners continued their fruitful, joint work with the Inter Pingpong2 project (HUSRB/1203/222/021) in the 3rd Call for Proposals.



### Project partners:

**Asztalitenisz Sport Klub Szeged**  
(Table Tennis Sport Club Szeged)  
Stonoteniski Klub "Senta" Senta  
(Table Tennis Sport Club Senta)

**Project website /** <http://interpingpong.atsk.hu/en/>

**Project total budget /** 92,585.00 €

**Project EU funding (IPA) /** 78,697.25 €

**Project start date /** 01 01 2012

**Project end date /** 31 12 2013

*Table tennis  
is a sport for  
everyone*

## Preserving tradition and identity with the help of joint programmes and making value-saving films

The project partners intended to strengthen culturally and ethnically diverse cross-border connections and to make cooperation become a natural part of everyday life by unfolding common cultural traditions. The media has an undisputable role in forming opinions, so the partnership took advantage of the power of the media to preserve and develop the national identities of the Serbian and Hungarian minorities in the border region.

In the course of the project the partners made a PR documentary movie and short films about craftsmanship, folk and traditional values and practical skills. The medium of film enables the complex perpetuation of the local cultural heritage, and it is also an effective tool in the popularisation of the old customs. The prepared short films were presented at the Cultural Media Festival, the main theme of which was the preservation of traditions and their application in contemporary society.

The keywords of the project were mutual understanding, friendship and trust, as well as international security and stability. To achieve these goals the partners also organised civil forums on both sides of the border and a joint closing conference at which people could learn from one another and about each other's traditions through common activities.

An important part of the project was the project website with continuously updated new information about the activities and local values. This way the spread of information about local traditions information may continue in the long term.

As a result of the project, the region's folk values received greater publicity, and cross-border economic and social relations became stronger. The partners tried to preserve and popularise old traditions using modern tools, and this approach is one of the reasons for their success. The population in the border region learnt new information and expanded their views. They became more willing to cooperate as they preserved existing relationships, formed new cooperation and preserved their customs and those of the regional minority.



### Project partners:

Egy-másért Ifjúsági és Közösségfejlesztő  
Közhasznú Egyesület, Mórahalom  
("Egy-másért" Community Development  
Association for Youth, Mórahalom)  
Regionalno Udruženje Građana „Ludašpusta”,  
Hajdukovo (Regional Civic Association  
"Ludaspusztza", Hajdukovo)

Project total budget / 96,264.00 €

Project start date / 01 11 2011

Project end date / 31 10 2012

*The preservation  
of traditions and  
their application  
in contemporary  
society*

## Rhythm of Drums

The drum is believed to be one of the oldest known musical instruments. When played with other instruments, the drum is a musical instrument with great power and presence that gives pulse to the music with which it is incorporated. Around the world and throughout history, drums have been used for a variety of purposes, but mostly for entertainment and communal celebrations, and they have been integrated into rituals. The Municipalities of Čoka (Serbia) and Bordány (Hungary) revived drumming as a common tradition and aspect of communal life through the Rhythm of Drums project. Over the course of one year, young people from both communities learnt drumming and continue to perform throughout the region.

In order to accommodate the high interest of young people/future drummers and upgrade the instruments, the partners acquired a total of twenty drums. As drumming is by its nature a communal activity, a mobile stage was purchased to ensure visibility of the drummers throughout the region and engage the general public in the joys of drumming. The partners organised a camp where thirty young people

from one village in Serbia and one in Hungary underwent intensive educational and fun drumming training. Trained drummers and dancers performed at a number of public events and festivals in both countries where they were welcomed with great enthusiasm by the audience. The young drummers opened the drumming festival in Čoka with their performances, and it encouraged a large turnout at the festival and the public and the young performers were immersed in the rhythm of drums.

The creative and playful activities brought together pupils from both sides of the border, thus preserving this common traditional art in practice and bestowing it to the younger generation.



### Project partners:

Opština Čoka (Municipality of Čoka)  
Bordány község önkormányzata  
(Municipality of Bordány)

Project total budget / 93,690.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 79,636.50 €

Project start date / 01 10 2011

Project end date / 30 09 2012

*The public and  
the young performers  
were immersed in  
the rhythms of  
drums*



## Our common language is music – Concerts, music workshops and camps in Sándorfalva and Ada

People can communicate and connect through dialogue and conversation; yet another way of interacting might be more accessible and influential than words. Almost every person responds to sound arranged as music. Perhaps music is even more important than language in helping people from different cultures to connect with and understand one another.

The two music schools, one in Sándorfalva, Hungary, and the other in Ada, Serbia, found an excellent medium for cross border connections: music.

The music educators from the two schools devised a series of interesting educational events designed to introduce the neighbouring county's culture to the participating children from Hungary and Serbia. The improvement of pedagogical practice through the exchange of teaching methods between teachers from Hungary and Serbia was also the focus of the professional gatherings.

In order to make music-playing accessible to a larger number of children, both schools upgraded their teaching tools and acquired additional musical instruments. Children attended an ed-

ucational programme and creative workshops in camps which specialised not only in classical music, but also in contemporary musical production, such as electronic and pop music. Thus, the mixed group of seventy children played music and practiced their instruments in the Spring Camp. The Electronic Music Camp and the Pop Music Camp each had more than seventy young musicians. The music educators did not neglect public performances either. Thus, they prepared the School Day in Ada and the Town Day in which more than fifty children from both countries performed an interesting and engaging musical programme for an audience comprising their peers and people from their communities.

Actively engaging in creative artistic expression, practice and performances coupled with intensified peer interaction, the young musicians from both countries experienced in practice that music knows no borders and can surpass language barriers.

### Project partners:

Sándorfalva Város Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Sándorfalva)

Škola za osnovno muzičko obrazovanje  
i vaspitanje "Bartok Bela" Ada (Elementary  
Music School "Bartók Béla" Ada)

Project total budget / 92,209.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 78,377.65 €

Project start date / 15 01 2012

Project end date / 14 01 2013



*Music knows no  
borders and can  
surpass language  
barriers*





## Danube and people

Watermills had been the cornerstone of power generation for centuries. Our predecessors knew that the energy from rivers and streams could be harnessed relatively easily. They were located by flowing water, usually rivers, and used for processing grain. In a large part of the world, availability of cheap electrical energy made the watermill obsolete. Some of the watermills were transformed into popular tourist sites, saving them from becoming ruins. Lovers of the river Danube and watermills from two towns located along the river, Baja (Hungary) and Bogojevo (Serbia), partnered up in their desire to revive the harmonious relationship of two trades which were important for the prosperity and wellbeing of communities living by the river bank: water millers and fishers. A number of Danube traditionalists would like to collect and preserve long forgotten fisher's tools for future generations. As part of the promotion of customs and crafts related to life by the Danube, the Shipmill Association of Baja replanted the fishing skanzen previously located at the Türr István monument. On the Serbian side, the construction work on the fisherman houses and a mill structure preserved the authentic look, functionality and tools of water millers and their families. These elements were situated near Bogojevo with a view to creating a social place for local people and potential tourists.

Apart from the construction and preservation work, the major long-term success of the project was the publication of the book *Mills on the Water*, a result of the joint scientific research. The book

summarises the historical development of water mills, gives recommendations on their preservation and possibilities for sustainable alternative use of watermills in contemporary society. The potential for tourism, feeding the local economy and the preservation of natural water assets was especially emphasised not only in the book, but through all the programmes organised during the year.

The project partners organised a total of four popular events on the both sides of the border. In their efforts to connect traditional and contemporary water enthusiasts, they organised a tour for kayakers. One hundred and forty-two kayakers attended this tour enjoying the beauties of the river. There is a variety of ways to manage our natural and cultural heritage responsibly and sustainably. The two cross-border partners showed that tourism and promotion of water related trades and professions, such as water millers and fishermen can be economically and environmentally sustainable, benefiting water sports enthusiasts, inhabitants of local communities and tourists.



### Project partners:

Bajai Hajómalom Egyesület  
(Shipmill Association of Baja)  
Mesna zajednica Bogojevo  
(Local Community of Bogojevo)

Project total budget / 87,462.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 74,342.70 €  
Project start date / 01 01 2012  
Project end date / 31 12 2013

*Managing  
natural and cultural  
heritage responsibly:  
The Danube,  
watermills and  
fishermen*

## Újszentiván – Novi Kneževac People to Culture Cooperation

The more equally joined two communities are, the stronger their relationship is. The project partnership representing this position organised a multifaceted series of programmes in both countries. The main theme, the connecting link between Újszentiván, in Hungary, and Novi Kneževac, in Serbia, was religious heritage, but they widened the scope of their activities, incorporating typical cuisine and other traditions into the project as well.

The partners started their common work from scratch: they published a trilingual publication about the project and placed 10 information signs, namely settlement maps, to inform local people and tourists. Two festivals were organised in Újszentiván: the Rétes Festival and the Serbian Patronal Festival. These events familiarised the general public with the customs and cultures of the project partners, strengthened the relationships between the people living on both sides of the border in other cultural areas, harmonised cultural differences, supported multilingualism and advanced prosperous long-term cooperation between the two partners and other border settlements.

The partner from Serbia, as part of the 8th Chamber Music Festival "Tisa Flower", organised 8 concerts in the local library and the Music School in Novi Kneževac, with participation of a total of 1000 visitors.

Besides the various programmes, the partners renovated the roof of the building next to the mortuary and placed two wooden headboards dedicated to the cooperation in Újszentiván. The exterior of the community building was fully renovated and the interior (the reading room), which hosts different cultural programmes in Novi Kneževac, was partially renovated. The diverse range of programmes attracted different types of audiences, thus the project partners succeeded in reaching as many people as possible. The project's less palpable, but nevertheless significant results are new personal and professional contacts in the border region, which will serve as the basis for further cooperation.



### Project partners:

Újszentiván Község Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Újszentiván)  
Opština Novi Kneževac  
(Municipality of Novi Kneževac)

Project total budget / 100,000.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 85,000.00 €  
Project start date / 01 02 2012  
Project end date / 30 09 2012

*The more equally  
joined two communities  
are, the stronger  
their relationship is*

## Welcome to art and crafts 2

Like the previous project from the 1st Call for Proposals (HUSRB/0901/222/017), WARC 2 also encouraged young people to investigate business opportunities and explore entrepreneurial initiatives by embracing traditional handicrafts and coupling them with artistic endeavours. This multifaceted project reached out and educated underprivileged young people living in smaller settlements to foster traditional arts and crafts and to dare to venture into entrepreneurial and business initiatives, as well as to diversify social life and programmes in small communities located along the border.

The two foundations continued their work with youth from Algyő, Apátfalva, Deszk, Dóc, Domaszék, Kübekháza, Röske, Szatymaz, Újszentiván, Üllés near Szeged in Hungary, and Bajmok, Djurdjin, Donj, Tavankut, Stari Žednik, Novi Žednik, Horgoš, Čantavir, Višnjevac, Bikovo near Subotica in Serbia. After the initial research, the two foundations prepared an action plan specifying the institutional means that could provide help and suggestions for resolving specific problems in the area of culture. A mixed group of one hundred young people from both countries attended a seven-day camp where various educational and artistic workshops introduced handcraft tools and technologies. The young artisans also practiced

and produced handcrafted artwork. In order to introduce them to business and trade-oriented thinking and product marketing, two sales trade fairs were organised.

The project, ultimately, mapped the cultural situation in rural settlements and produced viable and effective policies and actions with respect to business opportunities for the younger generations living in rural areas. Most importantly, in the cross-border interactions, young people were encouraged to rethink, re-contextualise and modernise traditional handicrafts through the lens of modern and contemporary artistic expression, while nurturing entrepreneurial spirit.



### Project partners:

**MÁTRIX Közhasznú Alapítvány**  
(Matrix Foundation for Public Benefit, Szeged)  
Danilo Kiš Fondacija za omladinsku kulturu  
i stvaralaštvo, Subotica (Danilo Kiš Foundation for  
Youth Culture and Creativity, Subotica)

Project total budget / 76,120.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 64,702.00 €

Project start date / 01 02 2012

Project end date / 28 02 2013

*Entrepreneurial  
spirit, traditional  
handicrafts and  
artistic endeavours*

## Culture without Borders

The project involved cultural cooperation between people with different backgrounds, belonging to various nationalities and ethnicities through the adaptation and implementation of the Self Portrait and Minorities with Cameras programmes, thus enhancing dialogue between nations as well as between nationalities and creating cross border cooperation. The project has encouraged minorities to protect their traditions and cultural and artistic values, and gave (marginalised) ethnic groups a toolbox of methods of artistic self-expression and self-presentation, thus fighting prejudices and stereotypes. Within the project the minority groups presented themselves with personal messages through innovative artistic tools, illustrating the region's inherent value of diversity.

The project partners organised training for self-portrait teachers, self-portrait workshops, the Minorities with Cameras workshops, exhibitions of self-portraits and a handicraft fair. They also edited and published a book drawing on the materials from the exhibitions. The project was followed by an awareness-raising media campaign in both countries.

The specific feature of the project was that it presented the region's multiculturalism using artistic tools, thus, multiculturalism was portrayed as a value which should be attained and nourished. Art represents a different kind of perspective, and it can successfully bring different nationalities closer to each other, as this project has demonstrated.



*Toolbox of methods  
of artistic self-expression  
and self-presentation*

### Project partners:

Agora alapítvány a társadalomkutatásért, Szeged  
(Agora Foundation for Social Research, Szeged)  
Udruženje građana „Svi“ Bajša  
(Non-governmental organization "Svi", Bajša)

Project total budget / 103,890.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 88,306.50 €

Project start date / 01 01 2012

Project end date / 31 12 2012



## Regional interethnic cultural youth camp

European experience so far shows that ethnic communities can be endangered by globalisation in two ways: seclusion and deliberate self-marginalisation, or assimilation into the societal majority. The two organisations, a foundation from Szeged and an NGO from Subotica, embarked on preserving the spiritual values of the border region: ethnic diversity and peaceful cohabitation of communities of different nationalities.

Facilitating the formation and continuous affirmation of a collective regional consciousness across multi-ethnic and multilingual communities, stimulates economic relations, inter-cultural exchange, educational development and civic activism in the long term. This ideal goal can be reached by focusing on mutual interests and values. Talented high school students, the potential community leaders of the future, attended camps, youth expert activities and similar programmes specially designed to instil in them the values of cooperation and openness by familiarising them with neighbouring communities. A formed sense of belonging to a common social space and open rather than closed off ethnic communities in turn increase understanding and trust, while equally respect-

ing one's own and others belonging to an ethnic community. Young people, through this project, experienced for themselves that belonging to an ethnic group does not exclude upholding the interests and values of the wider region.

Through a series of well-designed youth training and skills development events, the mixed groups of participants formed a regional generational network of young people able to facilitate and maintain open-minded and prejudice-free intercultural communication. The network of cross-border connections can greatly contribute to furthering economic relations, intercultural exchange, and civil activism.



### Project partners:

Dél-alföldi Ifjúsági Életmód és Szabadidő Alapítvány, Szeged (Foundation for Youth Activity and Lifestyle, Szeged)

UG SPOT, Subotica (NGO SPOT, Subotica)

Project website / [www.borderlesseur.eu](http://www.borderlesseur.eu)

Project total budget 83,985.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 71,387.25 €

Project start date / 01 01 2012

Project end date / 31 10 2012

*Ethnic diversity and  
peaceful cohabitation  
of communities of  
different nationalities*



## Whose is this music?

Music can create a bridge between countries and nationalities. The beautiful melodies can not only make life nicer and more enjoyable, but also encourage understanding, peace and brotherhood among people. Thus, the project partners tried to achieve a very intense cultural interchange, engaging young people in the counties of the border regions of Csongrád and Bács-Kiskun in Hungary and Bačka and Banat in Serbia. The students, young musicians, and their professors of music through joint practice and preparations and performances discovered their common roots and experienced that music and culture are not isolated things but treasures to be shared. The project partnership organised a total of fifteen events, eight in Hungary and seven in Serbia. The project also included professional and artistic programmes. A series of very demanding concerts attracted audiences on both sides of the border. Lovers of chamber music, religious music, choir music and folk music were all catered to by the musical offer of the project partnership. Education also had an important role in the project: the partners organised a conference on musical education, and their largest events were two one-week interactive and educational camps in Csongrád, where forty-four children and sixteen-sixteen teachers from both countries participated.

Each performance had a separate promotional campaign including colourful and attractive flyers, invitations and a Web 2.0 application. The programme guide was published for the opening seminar in both languages. The project webpage was set up and continuously regularly updated with interesting content. The partners would not have been able to organise such a large scale series of programmes without the cross-border partnership. The connections established during the common activities have remained alive following the completion of the project, and music has continued to be a bridge between the two communities.



### Project partners:

Szegedi Tudományegyetem Zeneművészeti Szakközépiskolájáért Alapítvány  
(Foundation for the Secondary School of Music of the University of Szeged)

Udruženje Kamerni Ansambli „Garden Kvartet”-”Garden Quartet” Kamaraegyüttes Egyesület (”Garden Quartet” Chamber Ensemble Association, Subotica)

Project website / <http://www.whosemusic.eu/>

Project total budget / 105,938.80 €

Project EU funding ( IPA ) / 90,047.98 €

Project start date / 01 11 2011

Project end date / 31 10 2013

*Music can  
create a bridge  
between countries  
and nations*

## International art workshop – public presentation of LIM method

The basis of this project was the successful LIM method which had a very impressive result in the project partners' previous joint project (HUSRB/0901/222/165). The essence of this method is that the participants become familiar with social issues with the help of five areas of art (music, dance, theatre, film and photography, and visual arts). It is not just a simple learning method, but an interactive, experience-centred approach. The synergy of the areas of art and social issues ensures the effectiveness of the programme.

The project partners presented their innovative method in eight towns in Serbia and Hungary. They organised a series of forums, round-tables and discussions about contemporary interculturalism and nationalism, tolerance and exclusion, racism and people with disabilities from the point of view of young people and the effects of social issues on the younger generation. They also presented the LIM method to NGOs, representatives of educational institutions and the general public through talks, a film screening and an art exhibition. The professional activities were complemented by exhibitions, street flash mobs about related subjects, free discussions and cultural shows.

The participants of these programmes not only learnt about or became familiar with the selected topics, but through participation in creation of the artistic works they experienced them. It resulted in increased sensitivity, empathy and understanding for minority and vulnerable groups.

This project had a direct effect on the participants and also indirectly affected the whole community. The methods of intercultural dialogue and the sense of tolerance which they embraced help them in their everyday lives and strengthen cooperation in the border region. In the long-term the project has improved the living conditions for minority groups.



### Project partners:

**Asocijacija za razvoj opštine Mali Idoš**  
(Developmental Association of the Municipality of Mali Idoš)

Szivárvány Alapfokú Művészeti Iskoláért  
Alapítvány, Szentes (Elementary Arts  
Rainbow Foundation, Szentes)

Project total budget / 117,600.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 99,960.00 €

Project start date / 01 02 2012

Project end date / 31 05 2013

*Proactive  
experience-centred  
learning method  
Intercultural  
dialogue*

## Joint theatre performance: comprehensive and coherent focus on people living in the border region

The project's keyword was fear. Everything we fear characterises us, characterises our society, our connections, our apathy, our battles. The project focused on the differences in the lives, way of thinking and fears in the two settlements, Subotica and Szeged, on the two sides of the border. The partners conducted a survey involving people from both sides of the border, which helped identify major issues that could be addressed and challenged in a theatrical piece. The artists and theatre professionals used the information obtained from the survey in the preparation of the joint performance.

This way the project contributed to the specific objectives of the programme: intense cultural interaction and the promotion of the cultural values and traditions of the different nationalities living on both sides of the border.

As part of the project, there were performances of the plays PassPort 1 – The City of the

Daemons and PassPort 2 – The Devil Himself in both Subotica and Szeged, as well as at several important theatre festivals. The theatre performances attracted enormous attention and provoked different reactions. In order to promote their activities the partners prepared a brochure on the preparation of the performance and a DVD on the same topic.

The project partners presented the life in the border region using the very expressive tools of the theatre. They managed to convey the moods, the problems and the situations which characterise the border area in an excellent way.

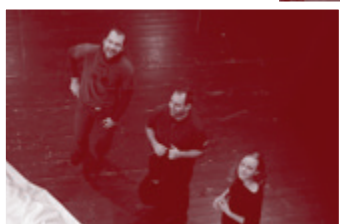


photo credit: E. Molnar

### Project partners:

Kosztolányi Dezső Színház, Subotica  
(Kosztolányi Dezső Theatre, Subotica)

MASZK Magyarországi Alternatív Színházi Központ,  
Színházi Szaktevékenységeket Támogató Egyesület,  
Szeged (MASZK Centre for Hungarian Alternative  
Theatres Association, Szeged)

Project total budget / 99,915.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 84,927.75 €

Project start date / 01 09 2011

Project end date / 28 02 2013

*The very expressive  
tools of the theatre*

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for Proposals

## 3.1. Introduction

The third Call for Proposals (3rd CfP) was launched on the 1st March 2012. Applications had to be submitted (posted) to the JTS by the 30 May 2012. Formal and quality assessment was concluded by the end of August 2012. On the 22 September 2012 the JMSC made decision on the selection of projects for financing as well as reserve list of projects to be financed in case remaining funds become available. Notification Letters to the Applicants informing them about the decision were sent on the 25 September 2012. The Managing Authority of the Programme and Lead Beneficiaries (on behalf of the partnership) concluded the majority of Subsidy Contracts by the end of 2012. The application and project selection procedure – from launching the Call for Proposals until sending the registered notification letters about the results to the Applicants – lasted for a total of 7 months. The evaluation process in a narrow sense (formal, eligibility and quality assessment) took around 3 months.

Within the 3rd CfP, 262 applications were submitted. In total 72 projects signed the Subsidy Contracts. By the end of 2012, 60 projects selected for funding signed the Subsidy Contracts, while projects selected and placed on the reserve list were to sign the contract and receive the subsidy if and when the funds become available in the Programme. During the course of the upcoming three years – as the funds were becoming available – additional 12 projects from the reserve list signed the Subsidy Contracts. Firstly, 7 projects signed the contracts in early October 2013, then 1 project in April 2014, 3 in March 2015 and, finally, an additional project in June 2015. All 72 contracted projects from the 3rd CfP successfully finalized their implementation and, by December 2016, 71 of them submitted their final project progress reports.

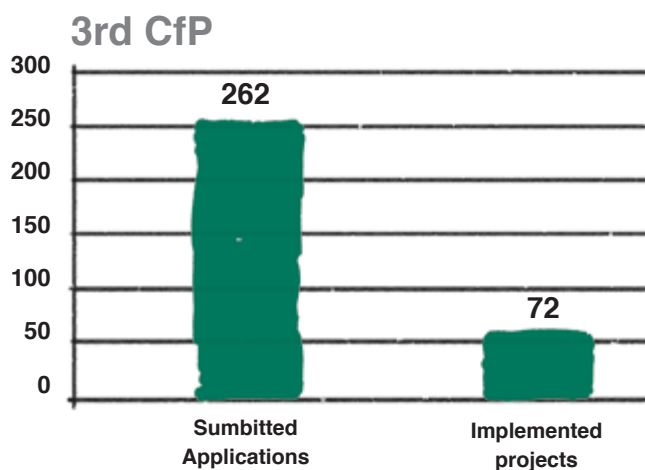


Figure 1: Number of submitted Applications compared to the number of the projects implemented in the third Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme

# 3rd CfP: requested, contracted and reimbursed IPA funds

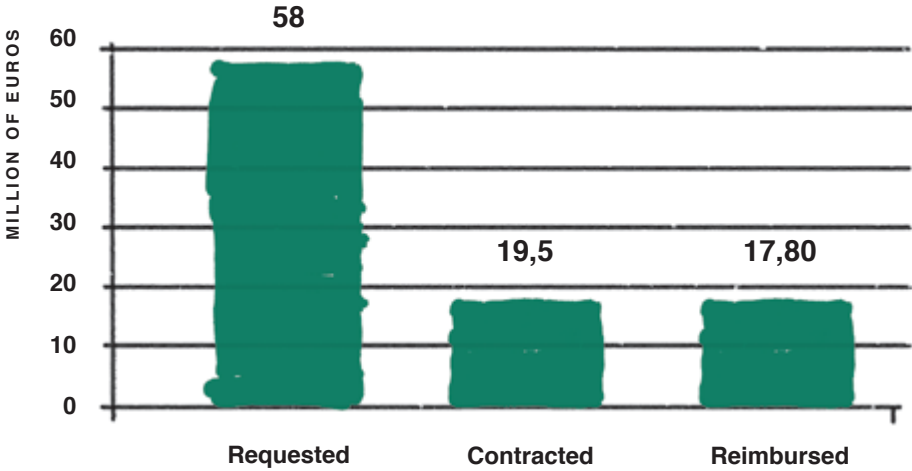


Figure 2: Requested amount of IPA funds (application) compared to the total amount of contracted and reimbursed IPA funds of the projects implemented in the third Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme

## 3rd CfP implemented projects: Distribution of IPA funds per country

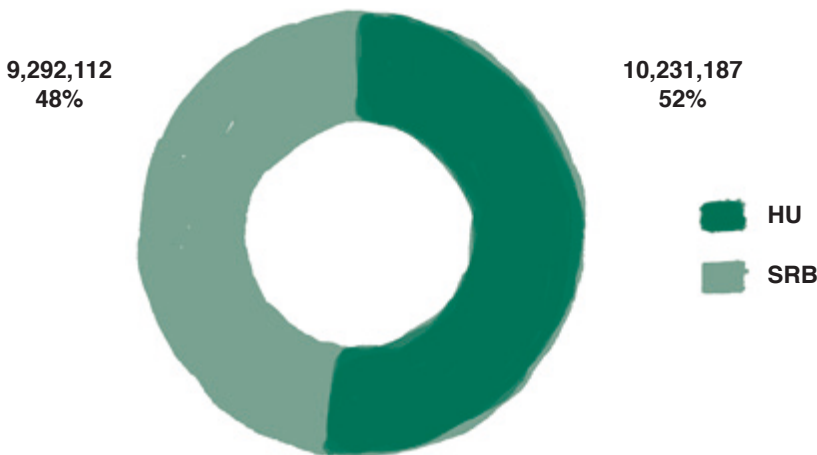


Figure 3: Per country distribution of the contracted IPA funds of the projects implemented in the third Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme



### 3rd CfP implemented projects: Distribution of IPA funds per NUTS III or equivalent territorial units

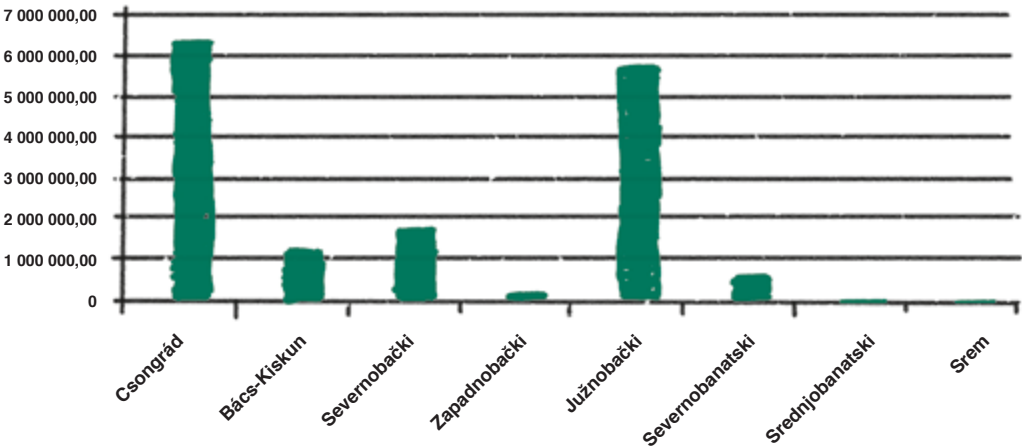


Figure 4: Territorial distribution of the IPA funds of the projects implemented in the third Call for Proposals of the Hungary-Serbia IPA CBC Programme (according to the location of the headquarters/branch offices of the Project Partners)

### 3rd CfP implemented projects: Distribution of contracted IPA funds per Action

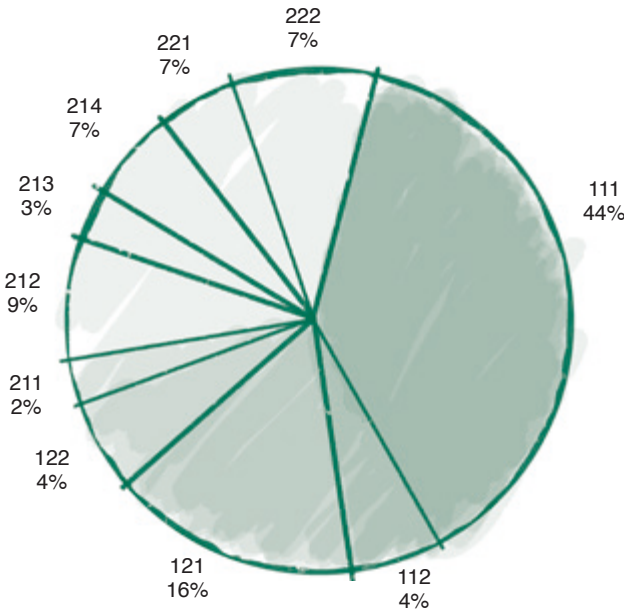


Figure 5: Distribution of the contracted IPA funds of the projects implemented in the third Call for Proposals per Action of the Hungary – Serbia IPA CBC Programme

## 3.2. Presentation of the supported projects

202	HUSRB/1203/111/026	Across the Tisa	Establishment of Hungarian-Serbian fluvial border crossing stations at the river Tisa
203	HUSRB/1203/111/030	NAMap	Strategic Noise and Air mapping related to border crossings and related infrastructure
204	HUSRB/1203/111/038	HUSRB Railway	Elaboration of design for approval of Szeged-Röszke-Horgoš-Subotica railway line and further documentation concerning Subotica-Csikéria-Bácsalmás-Baja railway line
205	HUSRB/1203/111/049	Bácsal-Bajmok	Rehabilitation of cross-border connecting road between Bácsalmás-Bajmok
206	HUSRB/1203/111/050	Tiszasz - Djala	Rehabilitation of Tiszasziget-Djala cross-border connecting road
207	HUSRB/1203/111/139	KNESZECYC-3	Szeged (Szőreg) – Novi Knezevac Bicycle Road Construction (phase 3)
208	HUSRB/1203/111/261	HUSERIDE	"Ride across Europe" - Construction of bicycle lead up roads for better physical connections in the Hungarian-Serbian border region
209	HUSRB/1203/112/047	PCP	Paths Connecting People
210	HUSRB/1203/112/245	CBC Trans-Plan	Cross-border transport route planning and scheduling platform
211	HUSRB/1203/112/246	UniTransModel	Joint Public Transport Information System as a Unified Model
212	HUSRB/1203/121/130	WAHASTRAT	Water shortage hazard and adaptive water management strategies in the Hungarian-Serbian cross-border region
213	HUSRB/1203/121/132	DrWaS	Drinking Water Safety - Quality Assessment of a Cross-Border Subsurface Water Body in the Baja - Sombor Region
214	HUSRB/1203/121/145	CROSSWATER	Harmonized activities related to extreme water management events especially flood, inland inundation and drought
215	HUSRB/1203/121/179	DrainStorming	Draining inland and storm water - Újszentiván - Novi Knezevac
216	HUSRB/1203/121/237	eWAM	Environmentally friendly water management in plain areas
217	HUSRB/1203/122/166	URBAN-PATH	Evaluations and public display of URBAN PATterns of Human thermal conditions
218	HUSRB/1203/122/200	AHP	Animal Health Protection
219	HUSRB/1203/122/216	Green School	Environment protection and utilization of renewable energy sources for green future of children
220	HUSRB/1203/122/224	WILDCOND	Wildlife health and conservation of selected NATURA 2000 species within Danube cross-border region in Serbia and Hungary
221	HUSRB/1203/122/257	PROTECT	Protection of Environment in Cross-Border Territories
222	HUSRB/1203/211/063	Cross-cluster	Cross-border cooperation in innovation process for the development and harmonization of clusters to increase competitiveness of their SMEs
223	HUSRB/1203/211/116	ExpoTrain SME	Organization of Cross-border Expo and Training Sessions for the benefit of empowering SME's
224	HUSRB/1203/211/162	Gastro-club	Joint Hungarian-Serbian business club of gastronomical organisations
225	HUSRB/1203/211/228	Business Women	Business Linkages Among Women Living in Rural Areas

226	HUSRB/1203/212/117	CULT-NAT HERIT	Discovery of our forgotten cultural and natural heritage in the Hungarian-Serbian border region
227	HUSRB/1203/212/121	DIAMOND	Jewels in turn of century - thematic rovinos of the world of Art Nuoveau
228	HUSRB/1203/212/136	Horse-trails	Horses in the Hungarian-Serbian cultural heritage
229	HUSRB/1203/212/144	FAB	Fine Arts In The Development Of Bácska region's Tourism
230	HUSRB/1203/212/164	HONEY-CHERRY	Our common cultural heritage and culinary traditions, thematic way with strengthening the role of fruit growing and apiary (beekeeping) in the cross-border region
231	HUSRB/1203/212/259	EDICT	Common cultural heritage, as a consequence from Edict of Milan, implemented in tourist presentation
232	HUSRB/1203/213/085	Ruralnet	Joint farm diversification strategy in the Hungarian-Serbian borderline
233	HUSRB/1203/213/086	CITYLOG	City Logistics helping the city development of Szeged and Subotica
234	HUSRB/1203/213/122	FARMADDINC	New farming models in backyards as possible solutions for generating additional income and self-employment in the rural cross-border area
235	HUSRB/1203/213/131	LOLAMAR	Toward a local based labour market policy approach in cross-border rural regions
236	HUSRB/1203/213/151	CODEX	Coordinated Development and Knowledge Exchange on Spatial Planning Methodology
237	HUSRB/1203/213/155	Cooling Cubes	Integrated spa development strategy for the spas situated in the area of the main traffic route through the Hungarian-Serbian cross border region
238	HUSRB/1203/213/251	SMESCBC	Joint Creation of Conditions for Development of SMEs in the Cross-border Region
239	HUSRB/1203/214/025	NCTCNSHIFSSZ12	Novi Sad - Szeged cross-border cooperation in development of harmonized methods and production of common database for the analysis of designer drugs
240	HUSRB/1203/214/091	CrossBiomark	Cross-border biomarker research of ovarian cancer
241	HUSRB/1203/214/230	HELICO	Cross-border cooperation in development of a novel herbal drug targeting Helicobacter pylori
242	HUSRB/1203/214/248	REVLAB	Renewable energy virtual laboratory
243	HUSRB/1203/214/250	NNAA	Novel natural antimicrobial agents for bacterial pathogen control
244	HUSRB/1203/221/020	CEFAIC	Center of Excellence For Advanced and Intelligent Control
245	HUSRB/1203/221/024	MATHPHYS-BRIDGE	Non-Standard Forms of Teaching Mathematics and Physics: Experimental and Modeling Approach
246	HUSRB/1203/221/075	DEVMECUR	Joint development of curricula and teaching materials of mechanical engineer on MSc. Level
247	HUSRB/1203/221/110	HeritagEDU	Cherishing Common Cultural Heritage through Education to Create a United Region - A Precondition for Sustainable Development
248	HUSRB/1203/221/196	WATERFRIEND	Cross-border network for knowledge transfer and innovative development in wastewater treatment
249	HUSRB/1203/221/204	EDUCOOP	Educational Cooperation for Disadvantaged Children and Adults

250	HUSRB/1203/222/021	Inter Pingpong2	Extension of Cross-Border, Integrated Table Tennis Program for Professional, Amateur and Handicapped Players
251	HUSRB/1203/222/029	TO BE! HU-SRB	TOgether is BEtter! Cooperation of the for-profit and non-profit sectors across the border to facilitate social development
252	HUSRB/1203/222/031	Basketball	Sports without Borders: Bringing Together Hungarian and Serbian Youth through Basketball
253	HUSRB/1203/222/041	Cities4Cycling	Cities 4 Cycling: Hungarian-Serbian borderless fun bike road show
254	HUSRB/1203/222/051	FOR	Friendship over rivalry
255	HUSRB/1203/222/065	ProChess	Promotion of chess sport and fostering youth chess education within the Hungarian-Serbian border region
256	HUSRB/1203/222/066	CSA-PA-DEV	Csanádpalota and Padej for joint cultural development
257	HUSRB/1203/222/071	CIVILINFO	Civil knowledge for the successful cross border cooperation
258	HUSRB/1203/222/082	SZEZETEKE	Improving Cross-border cooperation by Promoting cooperation between Bowling Clubs
259	HUSRB/1203/222/083	VIDEB	A világ deszkáin bez granica
260	HUSRB/1203/222/088	TECOS	Toward Equal Opportunities for Children in Sport
261	HUSRB/1203/222/093	FTBCRB	Crossborder League
262	HUSRB/1203/222/104	BACON	Borderland Area COoking Network
263	HUSRB/1203/222/113	CULTRAIL	Cultural travels in the region of Szeged and Subotica
264	HUSRB/1203/222/125	Falugondnokság	Cross-border village caretaking service
265	HUSRB/1203/222/127	MUSICBRIDGE	Handshaking of cultures, religions and generations on the border of Hungary and Serbia
266	HUSRB/1203/222/142	Inter - Media	Cross-border media promotion of interculturalism across the Pannonian region
267	HUSRB/1203/222/156	ORGAN	Music without borders
268	HUSRB/1203/222/161	Border-Ball	Football clubs and citizens cross-border cooperation based on the common past, present and future
269	HUSRB/1203/222/199	New VollAge	Finding, training, and developing the skill of young volleyball talents on both sides of the border
270	HUSRB/1203/212/090	FRESCO	Fostering cooperation in the cross-border Regions through Enhancing the Sustainable development of Cultural heritage and tourism Offer
271	HUSRB/1203/214/123	PEASEMAKERS	An interdisciplinary research on the past and present of legumes for a higher and sustainable protein production to the benefit of both Pannonian and European farmers in the future
272	HUSRB/1203/221/173	PLANTTRAIN	Joint development of higher education and training programmes in plant biology in support of knowledge-based society
273	HUSRB/1203/221/252	MEPHYSTE	Cooperation in Medical PHYSicist Training and Education

# PROJECTS



3rd  
3call

## Establishment of Hungarian-Serbian fluvial border crossing stations on the river Tisa

The River Tisa can be seen as the most striking geographical element which unites the border region between Hungary and Serbia. The potential of the river had been almost completely unutilised from a tourist, transport and a freight-forwarder's perspective. Recognizing this, the partnership of five organizations from two countries identified and assessed these problems and tackled them by joining forces, skills and expertise in the project Across the Tisa. The partnership, thus, embarked on joint cross-border collaboration in order to explore and realize the opportunities for the economic and tourist development of the large area along the Tisza River. The expected long-term result of this project was the opening of a permanent fluvial border crossing for both cargo and passenger traffic. This required a range of complex, thoroughly planned and well-coordinated actions. Infrastructural investments included reconstruction of the mooring point/port of the floating dock situated between 174+060-174+210 river kilometres of the Tisa and construction of floating dock for passenger border-crossing control function. In order to ensure the smooth border-crossing experience, the partnership also organized Serbian language training for the officers from Hungary, while Hungarian language training was held for border control and customs officials and local officers from Serbia.

Renewed border-crossing point started operating on 1 August 2015. In addition to infrastructural improvements of the border-crossing stations, the partnership initiated and maintained the close cooperation with relevant national authorities from the two countries which are responsible for categorisation of the River Tisa as an international waterway. The partnership expects the River Tisa to be categorized as international waterway by the end of 2016.

In addition to a study which analyses the transport aspects of development implemented in the basin port of Szeged, the partnership also explored the potential for intensifying and diversifying tourist offers on and related to the

ivers. To this end, the partners designed interesting and informative tourist guides in Hungarian, Serbian, Romanian, English and German languages and disseminated them to tourist offices, travel agencies as well as primary, secondary and higher educational institutions of the Hungarian-Serbian border region.

Info Days were crucial in introducing and promoting the reconstructed border crossing stations to tourist organizations and travel agencies from Hungary and Serbia. At these events, the partners presented the established Hungarian-Serbian thematic water route and the possibilities for diversifying the tourist offer with excursions, site visits, water-sports or hiking along the Tisa and the Danube.

Even though Across the Tisa project focused on the River Tisa, its beneficial impact has not been limited to this river only. By creating proper infrastructure during the project implementation, transport and tourism on the River Tisza will intensify, but it will also improve the traffic and transport on the Danube.

### Project partners:

**DKMT Duna-Körös-Maros-Tisza Euroregións Fejlesztési Ügynökség Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft., Szeged**

**(DKMT Danube-Kris-Mures-Tisa Euroregional Development Agency – Non-profit Public Benefit Limited, Szeged)**

Pokrajinski sekretarijat za međuregionalnu saradnju i lokalnu samoupravu, Novi Sad (Provincial Secretariat for Interregional Cooperation and Local Self-Government, Novi Sad)

Alsó-Tisza-vidéki Vízügyi Igazgatóság, Szeged (Lower Tisza District Water Directorate, Szeged)

Csongrád Megyei Rendőr-főkapitányság

(Csongrád County Police Headquarters, Szeged)

Skupština opštine Kanjiža (Assembly of the Municipality of Kanjiža)

**Project total budget / 1 592 798.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 1 353 878.30 €**

**Project start date / 31 05 2013**

**Project end date / 31 07 2015**

# Strategic noise and air mapping related to border crossings and related infrastructure

People and organisations from Hungary and Serbia intended to build long-term relationships to facilitate cooperation in the fields of economy, society and culture.

Infrastructure development is one of the key elements of this cooperation as efficient transport of people and goods is a crucial factor in ensuring competitiveness.

As environmental protection is a core concern in all kinds of construction projects, the preparation phase should expressly focus on the assessment of the environmental impact. In this respect, expanding the focus of the European Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC mapping the effects of environmental noise is of key importance.

*A complex traffic  
condition assessment  
&  
measurements of  
noise and air pollution*

## Project partners:

KTi Közlekedéstudományi Intézet Nonprofit Kft.  
(KTI Institute for Transport Sciences Non-Profit Ltd.)

Javno preduzeće Putevi Srbije  
(Public Enterprise "Roads of Serbia")

Project total budget / 666,512.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 566,535.20 €  
Project start date / 01 12 2012  
Project end date / 31 12 2014

Hungary has valuable experience in addressing the problems related to noise and air pollution.

The purpose of this project was to assess the levels of noise and air pollution on the roads leading to the border-crossing points and in related areas, focusing both on functioning and out-of-operation roads on both sides of the border.

Within the framework of the project, a complex traffic condition assessment was conducted, measurements of noise and air pollution were made in areas defined by the traffic survey and an action plan was made to deal with the development needs and potentials of border-crossing points and access roads.

The resulting database serves as input data for environmental impact assessments related to the preparation of future developments, thus providing valuable information to authorities and companies carrying out road reconstructions.

The project is beneficial for the whole population of the border area as it leads to a better understanding of the air and noise pollution level.



## Elaboration of design for approval of the Szeged-Röszke-Horgoš-Subotica railway line and further documentation concerning the Subotica-Csikéria-Bácsalmás-Baja railway line

Infrastructure is the main prerequisite for building and sustaining a network of well-functioning economic and social relationships and increasing the competitiveness of joint border regions formed as a result of territorial and economic integration.

The Szeged-Röszke-Horgoš-Subotica-Csikéria-Bácsalmás-Baja railway line had operated as part of the Fiume-Constanta line since the 1910s. As a result of the economic and social changes following the Second World War, large part of this railway line was eliminated, and it has never been reconstructed.

In November 2011, a Feasibility Study concerning the Szeged-Röszke-Horgoš-Subotica-Csikéria-Bácsalmás-Baja railway line was completed (within the HUSRB/0901/112/153 project). The study determines the improvement possibilities of east-to-west railway connections of Subotica to Szeged and to Baja across the HU-SRB border.

The objective of the current project was to implement the next step towards constructing the cross-border railway line in the programme area.

### Project partners:

Vlada Autonomne Pokrajine Vojvodine -  
Pokrajinski sekretarijat za privredu, zapošljavanje  
i ravnopravnost polova

(Government of the Autonomous Province of  
Vojvodina - Provincial Secretariat for Economy,  
Employment and Gender Equality)

DKMT Duna-Körös-Maros-Tisza Eurorégiós Fejlesztési  
Ügynökség Nonprofit Közhasznú Kft. (DKMT Danube-  
Kris-Mures-Tisa Euroregional Development Agency –  
Non-profit Public Benefit Limited)

Project total budget / 1,649,733.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 1,402,273.05 €

Project start date / 01 02 2013

Project end date / 30 11 2014

The achieved outputs of the project are: designs for approval of the Szeged-Röszke-Horgoš-Subotica section; base documentation of the future transport network that underpins the modification of the regulation plans concerning the Subotica-Csikéria-Bácsalmás-Baja section; an Environmental Impact Assessment concerning the Subotica-Csikéria-Bácsalmás-Baja section.

The project achieved the first stage of the overall strategic objective to improve accessibility of the border region from the neighbouring countries and the rest of Europe by creating a high-quality interoperable railway connection for passenger and freight transport in the east-west axis of the region.

*Having a good and  
cost-effective transport system  
is a precondition for  
maintaining high economic  
growth*



## Rehabilitation of the cross-border connecting road between Bácsalmás–Bajmok

When neighbours want to become closer, they find a way to surpass physical obstacles. These obstacles can be, for example, a missing or ruined road. In this project the partners had two overall aims in mind: to strengthen the connection between Hungary and Serbia by bringing two settlements, Bácsalmás and Bajmok, closer, and to facilitate faster border-crossing from one country to the other.

The direct objective of this project was the rehabilitation of the cross-border connecting road between Bácsalmás and Bajmok. The project is closely connected to the previous planning project (HUSRB/0901/111/003) which was implemented within the 1st Call for Proposals of the Programme.

The Lead Beneficiary completed the planned activities: implementation of correction on national road no. 5312 in the section between 65+017 km and 65+610 km (593 m) and rehabilitation of the road in the section between 64+384 km and 65+017 km, and 64+000 km and 64+384 km, connected to the sheet-correction activity.

In Serbia the rehabilitation of the road connecting the local community of Bajmok with the Bajmok–Bácsalmás border crossing was completed in spring 2015.

Since the former road system did not have the necessary abrasive and other layers, the conditions on this road connection were unsafe, thus

slowing down traffic. For these reasons, mostly locals used this border-crossing point. It was a huge problem, especially in peak seasons, in summer, at weekends, and around holidays, making the Horgoš–Rőszke and Kelebija–Tompá border crossings overcrowded. Due to the rehabilitation of this 6000 meter long road section, it will be categorised as an urban road with a speed limit of 80 km/h, allowing faster travel from one country to the other.

*crossing the border*

=

*Faster and Smoother*

### Project partners:

Nemzeti Infrastruktúra Fejlesztő Zrt.  
(National Infrastructure Developing  
Private Company Limited)  
Grad Subotica (City of Subotica)

Project total budget / 1,672,835.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 1,421,909.75 €

Project start date / 01 03 2013

Project end date / 30 04 2015





## Rehabilitation of the Tiszasziget – Đala cross-border connecting road

Roads connect people. For this reason it is crucial to keep infrastructure in good condition. The border-crossing road between Tiszasziget in Hungary and Đala in Serbia had not been in a satisfactory condition for a long time.

The direct objective of this project was the rehabilitation of this road. The undertaken rehabilitation work relies on the documentation completed during the planning project (HUSRB/0901/111/004) which was implemented within the 1st Call for Proposals of the Programme.

The Lead Beneficiary was working on the rehabilitation of national road no. 43104 in the section between 5+630 km and 8+143.26 km in Hungary, which was upgraded at the beginning of 2015. The rehabilitation also involved widening the road from 5 to 6 meters between Tiszasziget and the Hungarian-Serbian border. The length of renovated road on the Hungarian side is 2513.26 m.

In Serbia the road section 00+000,000 - 02+675,000 km from the border crossing point in Đala and Novi Kneževac was upgraded at the beginning of 2015, while another road section between Novi Kneževac and Čoka was reconstructed in 2014.

Roads  
connect  
people

—  
widening  
the road  
from 5 to 6  
meters

### Project partners:

**Nemzeti Infrastruktúra Fejlesztő Zrt. (National Infrastructure Developing Private Company Limited)**

Javno preduzeće za prostorno i urbanističko planiranje i projektovanje „Zavod za urbanizam Vojvodine, Novi Sad“ (PE Urban and Spatial Planning Institute of Vojvodina)

**Project total budget / 1,735,460.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 1,475,141.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 02 2013**

**Project end date / 30 04 2015**



## Szeged (Szőreg) – Novi Kneževac bicycle road construction (phase 3)

The project, divided into three phases, aimed to facilitate the construction of a new cycling path between two neighbouring municipalities in Hungary and Serbia: Szeged and Novi Kneževac. These two settlements are located about 25 km away from each other and both of them have two smaller villages in their vicinity: Újszentiván and Tiszasziget, in Hungary, and Đala and Sprski Krstur, in Serbia. Before the project implementation began, there were no designated cycling paths across the border in this region. Bicycles are important means of transport for local people and this necessitates the development of a cycle path between these settlements.

The partnership implemented two earlier sections of the cycle path between Szeged and Novi Kneževac in the previous phases of the Programme (HUSRB/0901/111/095 and HUSRB/1002/111/113).

By the end of the project, a dual-purpose road was built, in Újszentiván, as well as a two-lane cycling path connecting Đala and Srpski Krstur. The total length of the path is 4,265 m with a surface area of 13,909 m<sup>2</sup>.

This project and its previous phases, targeting both local population and cycling tourists, have several positive effects: users of the cycling path can travel safely and protected from the traffic; cycling is environmentally friendly and contributes to the decrease of air pollution; it is healthier and, at times, faster to commute by bike. The accompanying events of the project have reached the people from both sides of the border and helped them to get to know each other's culture and values better.

4,265m  
with a surface  
area of  
13,909 m<sup>2</sup>

Bicycles  
are important  
means of  
transport

### Project partners:

Újszentiván község Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Újszentiván)  
Opština Novi Kneževac  
(Local Government of Novi Kneževac)

Project total budget / 1,042,038.42 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 885,770.90 €

Project start date / 01 04 2013

Project end date / 31 01 2015



## “Ride across Europe” – Construction of bicycle lead up roads for better physical connections in the Hungarian-Serbian border region

This project deals with infrastructure development in the border regions of Hungary and Serbia, and the expansion of the transport network between the two countries. The ultimate objective was the implementation of a cross-border cycling network, consisting of several sections and leading to the EuroVelo network. The present project involves a section of the network on each side of the border.

In the course of the project, a 4.28 km cycling road was constructed on the Hungarian side, which can be used by cyclists with various needs.

The partner from Serbia prepared the construction plans for a 27.5 km section connected to the Hungarian sections and to the cycling path of the Serbian Pannonian Eight.

There are different cycling needs along the roads in the target area: tourism-related (scenery and spa tourism), educational (schools, educational paths) and professional (commuter) traffic.

In Hungary, the construction included the building of a cycling path between Mórahalom and Rőszke parallel to the public road no. 5512 between 4+720 km (school of Nagyszéksós) and 0+383 km (service road by motorway M5). On the Serbian side, the cycling paths were constructed in Novi Sad, from the Temerin Road to the E75 highway, which connects Serbia with Hungary. These constructions connect the direct target areas of the project to the EuroVelo cycling network.

The partner institutions from Mórahalom and Novi Sad also developed feasibility studies on future road constructions, which will create an even tighter connection between the neighbouring countries.



*The implementation  
of a cross-border  
cycling network  
(4,28 km cycling road)*

### Project partners:

**Javno komunalno preduzeće „PUT”**  
(Public Utility Company City Roads)

Mórahalom Városi Önkormányzat

(Local Government of Mórahalom)

Javno preduzeće Zavod za izgradnju grada Novog Sada  
(Public Enterprise for City Construction and Development Novi Sad)

**Project website:** <http://www.huseride.rs/index.php/en/about-project>

**Project total budget / 1,307,458.40 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 1,111,339.64 €**

**Project start date / 15 03 2013**

**Project end date / 14 06 2014**

## Paths Connecting People

Bačka Topola in Serbia and Kelebia in Hungary started their cooperation five years ago. In 2009, Kelebia and Bajša – one of the settlements in Bačka Topola Municipality, signed a memorandum of understanding on strengthening, expanding and strategically developing partnership relations through sport tournaments, cultural exchange, cooperation between institutions, youth exchange programs and joint participation in national and international calls for proposals.

This project was an opportunity to upgrade their cross-border cooperation by solving a problem identified by both partners: the need for better connections in the border area. This is directly linked to the overall aim of the Programme, which is to facilitate the development of a harmonious and cooperative region with a sustainable and safe environment.

The locations of the bike lane constructions were Bačka Topola, Bajša, in Serbia and Kelebia in Hungary. Firstly, the project partners embarked on the construction of cycling lanes and parking spaces for bicycles and the installation of traffic signs along the built bike paths. In addition to the construction works, the project partners published maps for cyclists and prospective users of the bike

lanes. Information booklets with bus and train schedules are especially useful for people who would like to or need to combine public transport and cycling. For that reason, for example in Kelebia, the bike path starts from the train station where international trains stop, such as the Budapest-Belgrade railway line. The maps and booklets enable and promote safe and environmentally friendly travel between the two countries. As a result of this 17 month-long cooperation, accessibility of major urban centres has significantly improved in the border region. The project has improved links between the partners, as well as physical connections between the settlements through the construction of safe cycle routes in the border region.



**Project partners:**  
**Opština Bačka Topola**  
**(Municipality of Bačka Topola)**  
Kelebia Község Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Kelebia)

**Project total budget / 348,015.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 295,812.75 €**  
**Project start date / 01 03 2013**  
**Project end date / 31 07 2014**

Safe and  
environmentally  
friendly travel  
between the  
two countries



## Cross-border transport route planning and scheduling platform

This project aimed to address the need for reliable and accurate information regarding both public and commercial transport and service routes, and timetables in the North Bačka District (Serbia) and Csongrád County (Hungary). In this way, the project contributes to the objectives of the CBC Programme by tackling the logistical isolation of border areas and enhancing cross-border mobility. The end product of this project also tackled environmental concerns related to CO2 emissions from vehicles and energy consumption, and created further opportunities for improving business practices in the border region.

Previous research in the area and organisations working on GIS mapping in the City of Subotica and route planning in the City of Szeged found a lack of easily accessible accurate information about routes and timetable of public and commercial transport in the Hungary-Serbia cross-border region.

During the year and a half long implementation of the CBC Trans-Plan project, the two institutes from neighbouring countries jointly worked on solving this problem. Firstly, they organised a workshop on methodology development in Szeged and commenced the collection of data from the two counties for the route planning platform. Then, they conducted a regional research study on the current route planning

management systems utilised by public utility and private companies, and a study visit for data collection in Subotica. After developing the bilingual route planning platform, trainings for public and private company representatives were held. The trainings were a part of the dissemination activities aimed at promoting the route planning platform and raising awareness about the advantages of efficient transportation planning.

Local communities, local governments and municipalities, as well as small businesses operating in the project area, directly benefit from the platform and accessible information on transport routes and timetables. Since efficient route planning allows for better and faster connectivity, fewer resources are wasted, thus allowing more funds to be invested in offering necessary routes and services which currently do not exist.



### Project partners:

Zavod za Urbanizam Grada Subotice

(City Planning Institute of Subotica)

KTI Közlekedéstudományi Intézet Nonprofit Kft.

(KTI Institute for Transport Sciences Non Profit Ltd.)

Project total budget / 239,895.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 203,910.75 €

Project start date / 01 12 2012

Project end date / 31 05 2014

Bilingual  
route planning  
PLATFORM



## Joint public transport information system as a unified model

During a sixteen-month cross-border cooperation project, public transport institution from Novi Sad and the University from Szeged joined forces, specialized expertise and resources to create transport information system. By the end of the project, the partnership achieved its goal: a creation of a user-friendly public transport information system that enables tourists, commuters and everyday passengers to plan their journey in the border region between Hungary and Serbia. Not only that, but this public transport information system enables passengers to plan their journey in a personalised way by allowing them to choose their own travel parameters. As travellers are able to use just one coordinated system for the border region, the travel planning process is much easier and faster.

The creation and publishing of the coordinated public transport information system required a careful planning, sequencing and execution of a number of complex activities. Firstly, the partners collected the relevant data and created a database. Database covering the Serbian border-region contains data for buses, trains and rent a bike in whole Vojvodina region and Hungarian database contains all data for buses, trams and trolley-buses for the whole Del-Alfold region. The Project Partner from Novi Sad collected data about bus stops and timetables for buses and trains for whole Serbia and they plan to expand and use this data for further developments and projects. The Partner from

Szeged, then, developed a mathematical model through several phases. Furthermore, the partners developed mobile application for Android with similar functionalities as web portal and the application on iOS platform, using the database and mathematical models elaborated earlier. Software module named "Journey Planner" is a part of the UniTransModel project, a web based journey planning solution for the general public covering the geographical area of Vojvodina (Serbia) and Del-Alfold region (Hungary). All platforms accessible to the public and interested users are available in both languages. A special web portal and a communication shell, two smartphone applications (Android and iOS), and "Journey planner" all help visitors as well as people from regions in planning their trips. By enabling passengers to efficiently plan their trips within the region, the public transport is more predictable and thus, more comfortable. Also, it promotes services provided by transport operators and it contributes to increasing demand for their services. By organizing and presenting the up-to-date and easily accessible information about travel options, the partnership contributed not only to a more user-friendly public transport experience, but also to stimulating the use of public transport, which has a positive environmental impact.

### Project partners:

Javno gradsko saobraćajno preduzeće  
„Novi Sad” (Public City Transport Company  
"Novi Sad")

Szegedi Tudományegyetem  
(University of Szeged)

Project total budget / 278,332.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 236,582.20 €

Project start date / 01 10 2013

Project end date / 31 01 2015

Comfortable  
and  
predictable  
public  
transport



# Water shortage hazard and adaptive water management strategies in the Hungarian-Serbian cross-border region

As a member of the European Union, Hungary is devoted to fulfilling the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive. Serbia, being an EU candidate country, also has an interest in meeting the requirements of this document. To achieve the goals of the directive, catchment management plans, which provide a framework for major water related issues, need to be implemented. However, the management of future weather extremes and hydro-climatic hazards, along with their progressively severe consequences, requires an even more integrated approach.

Conflicts related to water shortage must be treated in a complex manner by resolving the interests of different stakeholders (environmental protection, irrigation and industrial use) which, at times, may be conflicting interests. The project, therefore, aimed at and succeeded in finding and offering integrated water management solutions for the increasing water shortage problem.

Catchments and water related problems know no administrative boundaries, thus any measure in this area requires strong cross-border cooperation. The project was generated, planned and implemented by the most important research centres in the region (universi-

ties in Szeged and Novi Sad) in cooperation with professionals from the Hungarian Water Management Directorate. The joint efforts of the partners heralded the implementation of successful research activities and the initiation of valuable strategies designed to increase the adaptability, sustainability and competitiveness of the border region.

The project managed to conduct complex research to determine the most important water shortage related conflicts, to measure and monitor drought events, to model the short-term and long-term changes of water resources in the most affected areas, to develop plans and strategies to mitigate problems. Finally, the project partners succeeded in urging and convincing society and stakeholders to act in unison so as to preserve one of the most important resources of our future: water.

## Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-matematički fakultet (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences)

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu Fakultet tehničkih nauka (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technical Sciences)

Alsó-Tisza-vidéki Vízügyi Igazgatóság (Lower Tisza District Water Directorate)

**Project website:** <https://wahastrat.vizugy.hu>

<https://www.facebook.com/Wahastrat>

**Project total budget / 630,340.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 535,789.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 02 2013**

**Project end date / 31 07 2014**

*The project partners succeeded in urging society and stakeholders to act in unison so as to preserve one of the most important resources of our future*



## Drinking Water Safety – Quality assessment of the cross-border groundwater body in the Baja-Sombor region

Due to the special structure of terrain in the Upper Bačka area on both sides of the border, the drinking water supply can either come from large wellfields of waterworks, or the water can be taken from individual abstractions (drilled wells).

In the drinking water well capture zones, the quality of the supplied water might fail to satisfy the requirements set by the EU limit values for various reasons. Potential water quality problems may originate from natural sources or human pollution spreading in the continuous groundwater body located on both sides of the border. Contamination can also be caused by poor technical status of the operating wells or the individual drilled abstractions, letting more contaminated unconfined groundwater to seep down through the aquitard to the older, cleaner, lower aquifers.

Over the course of the DriWAS project, the four organisations from two countries jointly gathered information on the water quality status of the trans-boundary water body, followed by the assessment of the technical status of wells and abstractions, and finally the determination of the actions required to raise the condition of the water body to a suitable level. This was

achieved by means of data collection, database development, sample collection, laboratory analysis, evaluation of the results, and elaboration of action plans.

The area of the confined subsurface water body in this region is rather large, shared in almost equal measure by the two countries. Groundwater pollution does not stop at the state borders, so contamination from one country inevitably spreads to the other, making cross-border action the only solution for maintaining the safety of drinking water in this large region.



*Solution  
for maintaining  
the safety of  
drinking water in  
Baja-Sombor region*

### Project partners:

#### Grad Sombor (City of Sombor)

Zavod za javno zdravlje (Institute of Public Health)  
Nemzeti Környezetügyi Intézet (National Institute for Environment)

Alsó-Tisza-vidéki Környezetvédelmi, Természetvédelmi és Vízügyi Felügyelőség (Lower-Tisza District Environmental, Nature Conservation and Water Management Inspectorate)

**Project total budget / 501,539.52 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 426,308.58 €**

**Project start date / 01 02 2013**

**Project end date / 31 03 2014**

## Harmonised activities related to extreme water management events – especially floods, inland inundations, and drought

Considering that the target area is highly affected by water scarcity and the high environmental risks of uncontrolled urbanisation, the joint management of the area's complex development with the participation of the most relevant institutions from both sides of the border is required.

In this water management cooperation of two organisations from Hungary and one from Serbia, documents were prepared to provide answers to important water management challenges with cross-border relevance. The three extensive expert studies also contain mapping and modelling solutions. The focus of the professional work was on the urbanisation of border areas and its dangers, which were modelled and analysed in Homokhátság and Novi Sad.

The second project partner was involved in spatial sensitivity research and conducted an independent study on the special regional aspects of water management in Homokhátság. The problem affects more than 1 million inhabitants who are the final beneficiaries of the project's long-term impacts. The objectives of the project were to develop sufficient profes-

sional competences and provide equipment to avoid extreme water management events as well as to inform the population through spectacular exhibitions.

Based on the professional work, two high-value investments were concluded. An excavator was purchased to ensure the proper maintenance of canals in the cross-border area and a pump station was equipped with modern apparatus. A dam guardhouse called "Homokhátság Visitor Centre" was also built and it hosts temporary and permanent exhibitions that present water management and protection actions.

This cooperation raised the management of common water problems in the border settlements to a higher level and heralded the re-evaluation of the question of water management within settlements and spatial developmental strategies with the help of professional forums.

*Answers to  
important water  
management challenges  
with cross-border  
relevance*

### Project partners:

**JP Zavod za izgradnju grada Novog Sada  
(Public Enterprise for City Construction  
and Development Novi Sad)**

Alsó-Tisza-vidéki Vízügyi Igazgatóság  
(Lower Tisza District Water Directorate)  
Homokkert Kistérségi Integrációs Nonprofit  
Közhasznú Kft. (Homokkert Micro Region  
Integration Non-profit Ltd.)

**Project total budget / 1,136,330.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 965,880.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2013**

**Project end date / 30 06 2014**





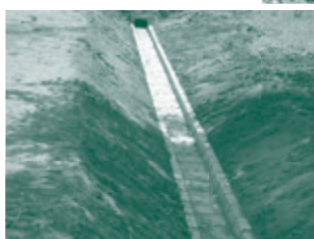
## Draining inland and storm water- Újszentiván - Novi Kneževac

Csongrád County and North Banat District belong to lowland border areas. For the settlements located there, the lowland terrain causes many difficulties in draining excess surface water and rainwater that accumulates during years which see higher levels of precipitation. Both the region and the individual settlements have already made significant efforts to strengthen the security of immovable and movable property in the communities. Újszentiván and Novi Kneževac have been cooperating for many years and have already worked together within the framework of other cross-border projects.

Both villages face a common problem with drainage management, so they decided to resolve it by means of a joint project. Within the framework of the project, improvement of the drain system infrastructure continued. In addition to this, a conference on water management for the settlements of the region

was organised, and the plan for a storm water detention basin with a capacity of 50 000 m<sup>3</sup> in Újszentiván was created.

During the course of the joint work, the partners closely collaborated with members of the local governments, settlements in the border area which are in a similar situation, and the construction industry in the region. The project indirectly contributed to the reinforcement of cross-border relationships, sustainable development, and the creation of a more liveable environment for the affected inhabitants.



**Project partners:**  
Újszentiván Községi Önkormányzat  
(Local Government of Újszentiván)  
Opština Novi Kneževac  
(Local Government of Novi Kneževac)

**Project total budget / 609,300.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 517,905.00 €**  
**Project start date / 01 05 2013**  
**Project end date / 31 08 2014**



## Environmentally friendly water management in plain areas

The Jegrička River and the Kurca Stream are constantly affected by pollutants from agricultural lands and surrounding settlements. As a result, low water flow rates were observed and the quality of water has deteriorated. With this in mind, the project aimed to improve cooperation and monitoring in the area of water management in AP Vojvodina (Serbia) and Csongrád County (Hungary).

The three organisations formed a cross-border partnership to improve the watercourse of the Jegrička River and the Kurca Stream in the border region by dredging and removing the sludge and excess vegetation from the riverbed, develop a joint monitoring system in order to prevent flooding in the border region and preserve the biodiversity of the Jegrička River and the Kurca Stream by improving the water quality.

In the course of the project, part of the watercourse of the Jegrička River (from 44+015 km to 37+892 km) and the Kurca Stream (from 1+857 km to 4+750 km) have been cleaned of excess vegetation and sludge, while flood prevention has been achieved. In compliance with Article 8 of the Water Framework Directive, monitoring of the quality of the water

and sludge was performed in the chosen localities before and after the realisation of the project. The partners from Hungary and Serbia exchanged their experiences and results of monitoring. Finally, a joint database and software solution with a website was created as a platform for the exchange of experiences and future cooperation.

Farmers, the population in areas at risk of flooding, institutions involved in water management and tourist organisations from both countries benefited from the results of the project by gaining access to precise and timely information about potential flood risks.

*A joint monitoring and analysis system - to prevent flooding in the cross-border region and preserve the biodiversity*

### Project partners:

Javno Vodoprivredno Preduzece „Vode Vojvodine“,  
Novi Sad (Public Water Management Company  
“Vode Vojvodine” Novi Sad)

Alsó-Tisza-vidéki Vízügyi Igazgatóság  
(Lower Tisza District Water Directorate)  
Fond „Evropski poslovi“ Autonomne Pokrajine  
Vojvodine (European Affairs Fund - AP Vojvodina)

Project website: <http://www.ewamcbc.org/>

Project total budget / 598,624.60 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 508,830.91 €

Project start date / 01 02 2013

Project end date / 31 07 2014



## Evaluations and public display of URBAN PATterns of Human thermal conditions

More and more people are living and/or working in urban environments as a result of intensifying urbanisation processes. In terms of urban climate development, the most obvious change compared to rural areas is the temperature. This change is an increase in the temperature manifested in the urban heat island. Changing and increasing urban climate phenomena induce bioclimatic stress, which leads to a number of health problems. This issue is gaining great attention, as it implies a change in the background climate on a global scale, and the expected conclusion is that climatic stress on the human body is more intense in cities.

The Department of Climatology and Landscape Ecology of the University of Szeged, as the lead Beneficiary, and the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Novi Sad, as the project partner, intended to develop a joint innovation unique to Central Europe in order to provide a solution to the above problems. The project was an outstanding opportunity for the universities on both sides of the border and their partners to exchange their experience and combine their expertise. In addition to focusing on the target specifications, it was also an excellent occasion for setting the guidelines for future developments. The partners built a monitoring system in

Szeged and Novi Sad with a total of 51 measurement stations to measure and collect meteorological and human comfort parameters. The data is updated every ten minutes and can be followed on public displays in both cities and on the project website. The database built from the measurements and the consequent analyses can contribute to the development of regional weather forecasting and climate models. The partners prepared a brochure in the Hungarian and Serbian languages and a city climate guide in order to offer useful information and to disseminate their results and recommendations to general public. They also published studies and presented their results at scientific conferences.

The researchers' innovation is unique to our area, and it is also rare worldwide. By constructing their innovative meteorological network, the partners pushed the boundaries of science, extended their research field and fostered joint professional development. The project reinforces professional relationships among climate researchers, and is also beneficial for the urban population and public bodies and authorities.

### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-matematički fakultet (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences)

**Project total budget / 245,220.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 208,437.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 02 2013**

**Project end date / 31 07 2014**

The researchers' innovation is unique to our area, and it is also rare worldwide

## Animal Health Protection

The overall aim of the project was to create a system for monitoring and protecting animal health that would be able to deal with the problems on both sides of the border. More specifically, the partners wanted to improve hygienic conditions in the zoo in Makó, Hungary, and in Kikinda, Serbia, in order to reduce the risk of cross-border epidemics. The long-term cooperation among the participants in this field was facilitated through the organisation of monthly project meetings as well as two workshops for exchanging experiences and good practices between the partners and the associates.

By publishing brochures and leaflets with instructions and a strong message of responsibility special attention was given to the task of promoting safe ways of looking after animals and harmonious coexistence with them. The partners also used the media to raise the general public's awareness of the importance of animal protection.

The successful implementation of this project has contributed to the improvement of public health and the quality of the environment, both of which are important aspects of the sustainable development of the entire border region.



Improvement  
of public health  
and the  
quality of the  
environment

### Project partners:

**Makói Kommunális Nonprofit Kft.**  
(Communal Nonprofit Ltd. of Makó)  
Opština Kikinda (Municipality of Kikinda)

**Project total budget / 257,102.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 218,536.70 €**  
**Project start date / 01 01 2013**  
**Project end date / 31 12 2013**

## Environmental protection and utilisation of renewable energy sources for the green future of children

Education and the exchange of experiences at an early age can raise awareness about the importance of environmental protection and also about the use of renewable energy sources and efficient energy consumption. This project contributed to the exchange of experiences between partner institutions in the field of educating children about sustainable development, environmental protection and the use of renewable energy sources.

The main goal of the project was to introduce responsibility for the environment in the early stages of institutional education, and to help children recognise that this should be a common goal of all human endeavours. In order to achieve this goal, the partners organised two Green School camps, one in Serbia and one in Hungary, to familiarise elementary school pupils with renewable energy sources. The children took part in team work tasks, study visits to energy companies and sightseeing trips. The partners also organised an online competition to strengthen energy-awareness. Beside these activities, a park demonstrating the use of renewable energy sources was organised in Algyő. Light sources, doors and windows at the Nikola Tesla Elementary School were modernised to reduce energy consumption, especially during colder periods of the year, and a solar panel was installed on top of the

building. These specific infrastructural investments helped the two institutions demonstrate the benefits and sustainability of green technologies and environmentally conscious reconstructions of the buildings and the use of renewable energy sources to other organisations, especially educational ones, in the region. The objectives of the project were widely promoted and the partners developed educational methods that instil in children respect for the environment and contribute to the use of renewable energy sources and increase the efficiency of energy consumption.

*The use of  
renewable energy sources  
+ the efficiency of  
energy consumption  
= respect of the  
environment*

### Project partners:

Agencija za energetiku grada Novog Sada  
(Energy Agency of the City of Novi Sad)  
Algyő Nagyközség Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Algyő)

Project website: <http://greenschool.hu/>

Project total budget / 134,245.48 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 114,108.65 €

Project start date / 01 01 2013

Project end date / 30 04 2014





## Wildlife health and conservation of selected NATURA 2000 species within the Danube cross-border region in Serbia and Hungary

Béda-Karapanca Park and the Gornje Podunavlje Special Nature Reserve both have unique and special flora and fauna, typical of the Danube-Drava Basin. Both protected areas are vulnerable in terms of the hydro-morphology of the rivers crossing the areas. The quality of water is especially affected by the threats that are observed and monitored within this project. Ectoparasites and ecotoxicological threats (heavy metals, pesticides etc.) are common in both regions. As fish and birds know no borders, they are affected by toxins and parasites and their protection must be harmonised in both countries in order to be effective.

The primary task of the project was to support the development of a harmonious and cooperating region with a sustainable and safe environment where well-managed natural heritage is the centre of rural and nature tourism, leading to socio-economic development in the region. The project resulted in the creation of joint studies, one ornithological (birds) study and one ichthyological (fish) study. Based on the findings of the studies, the mobile monitoring units can continue monitoring the Natura 2000 protected species in the post-project phase. The mobile monitoring units will then be able to serve as early warning units for environmental

changes and hazards in different contexts even after the conclusion of the project activities. The common research work and its conclusions were disseminated electronically and through the media, and the project partners especially engaged children and teachers from schools in the target and surrounding areas in the promotional and environmental awareness activities. The latter serves not only to support environmental protection but also indicates the values and opportunities that can be exploited in rural and nature tourism development.



### Project partners:

Javno preduzeće Vojvodinašume, Petrovaradin,  
šumsko gazdinstvo Sombor, Sombor  
(Public Enterprise Vojvodina šume Petrovaradin,  
Forest Estate Sombor)

Duna-Dráva Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság  
(Danube-Drava National Park Directorate)

Project website: <http://www.wildcond.com>

Project total budget / 158,558.60 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 134,774.81 €

Project start date / 01 02 2013

Project end date / 31 07 2014

Region  
with a sustainable  
and safe environment  
with well-managed  
natural heritage



## Protection of the environment in cross-border territories

Hungary has been using green technologies 10 years longer than Serbia, thus Hungary's experiences could greatly facilitate the building of environmental awareness and specific environmental activities in its neighbouring country. The aim of the project was to detect environmentally harmful substances in water, air, soil and in humans. Environmental protection is an imperative of all human endeavours regardless of state borders, as pollution and health hazards have an impact on the population of all affected countries. The partners jointly defined the main directions of the work and upgraded the equipment needed for the research. Environmental monitoring measurements (water, soil, air) were taken in both countries, in Algyő, in Hungary, and in a district of Novi Sad called Šangaj, in Serbia, twice in the spring and autumn. The tests included air, soil, water as well as urine screening tests of the inhabitants. The sampling process involved 150 people in each country. The results obtained in the two countries were compared, and the researchers also compared them with previous data from environmental and health screening. Based on the obtained data, the results were published and the necessary steps outlined for the relevant authorities, stakeholders and policy-makers. The partners presented their results at the closing conference.

The main result of the project is better understanding of environmental pollution reduction and its effects on the improvement of health indicators. The data and results obtained in the course of this project are suitable for assessing the efficiency of technology change. The comparison of the results obtained during the scientific investigations in the two countries may generate future collaboration. In Hungary, the industrial unit in the target area is operating with modern technology in line with EU standards, so the project can be used to support good practices that are environmentally friendly. Most importantly, the research has shown that the impact of the introduction of green technologies has been felt in just a few years, thus indicating which policies and steps in environmental protection and human health must be observed closely.

*The beneficial impact of the introduction of green technologies on human health felt within few years*

### Project partners:

**Zavod za zdravstvenu zaštitu radnika Novi Sad (Institute for Health Protection of Workers Novi Sad)**

Csongrád Megyei Kormányhivatal  
(Government Office of Csongrád County)  
DEAK Kooperációs Kutatási Nonprofit Zrt.  
(DEAK Cooperation Research Private Limited Company)

**Project total budget / 197,711.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 168,054.35 €**

**Project start date / 15 01 2013**

**Project end date / 14 04 2014**



## Cross-border cooperation in the innovation process for the development and harmonisation of clusters to increase competitiveness of their SMEs

Innovation is an important driving force of competitiveness at national, regional, and even European level. Thus during the implementation, the project partners focused on the innovation and intellectual property management processes of clusters operating in the agro-food sector in the South Great Plain Region (Hungary) and in Vojvodina (Serbia).

The project has had significant results. The partners elaborated a training material, made Intellectual Property (IP) policies for the Kincses Bácska Cluster and the Somborski Salaši Cluster and devised 20 IP policies for the companies that actively participated in the project. Over the course of a year, the two organisations from

Hungary and Serbia completed the database of innovative clusters, organised trainings and workshops, created 7 multilingual information documents, and built a network of 28 Hungarian and 31 Serbian organisations.

Thanks to the implementation of the project, the project partners and users of their policies and databases were able to improve their skills and carry out more professional and efficient innovation management. The project strengthened the establishment of new business relationships, and indirectly helped new job creation in the region.

### Project partners:

**Dél-Alföldi Regionális Innovációs Ügynökség  
Közhasznú Egyesület (South Great Plain  
Regional Development Agency)**

Informativni centar za poslovnu standardizaciju  
i sertifikaciju (Information Centre for Business  
Standardisation and Certification, Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 119,267.72 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 101,377.56 €**

**Project start date / 01 09 2013**

**Project end date / 31 08 2014**

*Establishment  
of new business  
relationships*



## Organisation of Cross-border Expo and Training Sessions for the benefit of empowering SMEs

The overall aim of this project was to facilitate the development of a harmonious and cooperative region with a sustainable and safe environment. The project reached out to the small- and medium-sized enterprises in the area, encouraging them to cooperate and providing them with an opportunity to exchange their experiences.

The professional expos organised within the project helped the SMEs in the target area to present themselves and to expand and deepen the existing ties among them. The upgrade of the already existing SME database with additional and up-to-date data provided both SMEs and the general public with more specific information. During the project the participat-

ing SMEs visited one another, sharing best practices and gaining insight into the operations which manifested the differences between the Serbian and Hungarian business models. Based on this insight, the SMEs were able to start harmonising their business practices and learn from one another.

By completing the training offered during this project, the entrepreneurs widened their knowledge and created new possibilities for further development.

This project ensured more effective SME advocacy and proved to be an excellent opportunity for the enterprises operating along the border to intensify their cooperation.



*The SMEs  
harmonised their  
business practices*

### Project partners:

**Banat-Triplex Confinium Korlátolt Felelősségű  
Európai Területi Együtműködési Csoportosulás  
(Banat-Triplex Confinium European Grouping  
of Territorial Cooperation Limited)**

Opšte udruženje preduzetnika opštine Kanjiža  
(General Entrepreneurs Association of  
Kanjiža Municipality)

**Project total budget / 87,771.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 74,605.35 €**

**Project start date / 01 03 2013**

**Project end date / 28 02 2014**



## Joint Hungarian-Serbian business club of gastronomic organisations

The project partners embarked on establishing a business structure in the border region which would allow closer cooperation and networking within the gastro sector. The structure took the form of a business club, open to all enterprises and organisations involved or interested in the gastro business.

The joint Gastro Club provides an institutional background for the entrepreneurial cooperation. The project partners invited all types of entities from the gastro sector, such as restaurants, taverns, hotels, guesthouses, wine cellars, distillers, food producers, and alike, to join the Gastro Club and prepare a well planned joint tourist offer based on the traditional food, drinks and recipes of the region.

All potential participants gathered at the opening conference in Kecskemét. After the Gastro Club was initialised, its members participated in a number of events and had the opportunity to improve their professional knowledge in various fields of tourism and gastronomy. The participants were able to learn about latest trends and opportunities for enriching their offer through seminars about organic food production, about

beer production, about cheese production and about making jam; the barista seminar, the "Characteristics of the Serbian Kitchen" seminar, as well as a seminar about bakery products and burek. They also attended seminars about the future of Hungarian gastronomy and latest trends as well as about healthy diet and healthy life style. But the main and emblematic activity of this project was the Gastro Caravan which participated in ten local fairs and festivals and, together with other PR activities, promoted the gastro Club throughout the region.

By the end of the project the Gastro Club had become a well-developed and self-sustaining association, which will remain dedicated to its present and future members as well as to the promotion of regional gastronomy.



### Project partners:

**Bács-Kiskun Megyei Kereskedelmi és Iparkamara (Chamber of Commerce and Industry Bács-Kiskun County)**

Bács-Kiskun Megyei Önkormányzat  
(Council of Bács-Kiskun County)

Regionalna privredna komora Sombor  
(Regional Chamber of Commerce in Sombor)

Srednja Ekonomska Škola Sombor  
(Secondary Economics School in Sombor)

**Project website:** <http://gastro-club.eu/>

**Project total budget / 194,298.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 165,153.30 €**

**Project start date / 01 03 2013**

**Project end date / 30 06 2014**

The Gastro Club  
has become a well-  
developed and self-  
sustaining cross-border  
association





## Business linkages among women living in rural areas

Women living in rural areas face numerous obstacles, which force them to assume underprivileged position within the community, thus restricting their opportunities for full development, particularly in the economic sphere. In order to address and solve these issues, this project identified two overall objectives: economic empowerment and cooperation among rural women entrepreneurs, and enhancement of business opportunities for unemployed rural women.

The project aimed to bring together rural women from both sides of the border. Through trainings, intense and frequent cooperation events, and a web portal, the women have acquired new skills, developed their businesses, made new contacts, and exchanged ideas and experiences.

As a result, rural women have learned how to diversify and promote their products and services, explore income opportunities for the rural population and effectively use and main-

tain the network of rural women entrepreneurs. Ultimately, these resourceful and hard-working women have become more economically independent and, utilising their knowledge and skills, they have improved their own lives and the lives of their families and communities.



### Project partners:

Garancijski fond Autonomne Pokrajine Vojvodine (Guarantee Fund of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina)  
Zavod za ravnopravnost polova (Gender Equality Institute)

Álláskereső Egyesületeinek Bács-Kiskun Megyei Szövetsége (Jobseekers Association in Bács-Kiskun County)

Project website: [https://www.facebook.com/ruralwomen.info?tab=photos\\_albums](https://www.facebook.com/ruralwomen.info?tab=photos_albums)  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ruralwomen>

Project total budget / 81,035.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 68,879.75 €

Project start date / 01 03 2013

Project end date / 28 02 2014

*Economic empowerment and cooperation among rural women entrepreneurs + enhancement of business opportunities for unemployed rural women*



## Discovery of our forgotten cultural and natural heritage in the Hungarian-Serbian border region

Meadow-limestone is now an almost completely forgotten geological formation of the Hungarian-Serbian border region, but it actually has a long tradition: people used this material in architecture from the middle ages to 1970s. The main goal of this project was to preserve meadow-limestone as cultural and natural heritage of the region, and to create and support a jointly promoted thematic tourist route. Each partner has a site of scientific and cultural heritage in its territory and they recognised that research and practical measures are a necessity in order to explore, preserve and promote meadow-limestone locations as otherwise a part of history and cultural and natural heritage would be lost. The long-term objective was to develop harmonised, well balanced cooperation between the project partners Csólyospálos Local Government, Kiskunság National Park Directorate and the Municipality of Novi Bečej (Slano Kopovo Nature Reserve) in their efforts to preserve this natural and cultural feature and offer it as an attractive tourist destination. The project also placed great emphasis on the active engagement of the inhabitants of the two towns. These objectives were pursued through common

community events, such as an introduction of Vojvodinian traditions event, a village day with cultural and gastro programmes, a harvest festival and a local history exhibition about meadow-limestone.

The partners published brochures to introduce the project to the general public and attract visitors. The common activities welded the two communities together, and while working on the preservation of their shared heritage, they became acquainted with each other's cultures, improving their personal and professional relationships and the attractiveness of their settlements to tourists.

*Cultural and  
natural heritage of  
the region*



### Project partners:

**Csólyospálos Község Önkormányzata  
(Csólyospálos Local Government)**

Kiskunsági Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság  
(Kiskunság National Park Directorate)  
Opština Novi Bečej  
(Municipality of Novi Bečej)

**Project total budget / 272,560.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 231,676.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2013**

**Project end date / 31 12 2013**



## Jewels at the turn of the century - thematic roving in the world of Art Nouveau

Szeged, Subotica and Senta share a common heritage and have strong historical ties, and one of the very important aspects of this joint heritage is certainly Art Nouveau architecture. This special cultural and architectural heritage was not well known or protected, and many of the buildings were found in a state of near-ruin. The two municipalities, Szeged and Subotica, undertook a very comprehensive set of actions in order to identify the Art Nouveau buildings, estimate their present state, renovate some of them which were nearly ruined, base the thematic tourist route on them and thus promote them. Over the course of sixteen months, the reconstruction and preservation of three culturally and historically significant buildings were completed. The roof of the Gróf Palace in Szeged was repaired. The northern facade of the Synagogue in Subotica was rehabilitated, while the plans for reconstruction of the roof and the street facing facade of the Schäffer Palace in Szeged were completed.

Moreover, the partners conducted architectural and historical research, organised workshops, conferences, bilingual study tours, and the Ferenc J. Raichle memorial exhibition. For promotional purposes, they developed a trilingual webpage, a free trilingual mobile phone application to serve as a guide to the Art Nouveau jewels in the region, and a 15-minute film about

the execution of the works in Subotica and Szeged.

The project's main result is a well-organised thematic route called "The Jewels of Art Nouveau" with the related publications, a leporello with a thematic Art Nouveau tour, a book about the Art Nouveau architecture of Szeged, Subotica and Senta, and the memoirs of Ferenc J. Raichle and his work.

The well-organised thematic route continually attracts many visitors, and the project can serve as an example of best practice.

*Popular tourist route  
- Art Nouveau architectural  
jewels*



*the project is an  
example of  
best practice*



### Project partners:

Szeged Megyei Jogú Város Önkormányzata  
(Municipality of Szeged County Rank City)  
Grad Subotica (City of Subotica)

Project website: <http://szecesszio.szegedvaros.hu/introduction-of-the-project/?lang=en>

Project total budget / 344,787.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 293,068.95 €

Project start date / 01 01 2013

Project end date / 30 04 2014

## Horses in Hungarian - Serbian cultural heritage

At the core of this project were these words: "Equestrian culture, being our most valuable cultural heritage, shall become the driving force of tourism in the Hungarian-Serbian border region."

The millennium-long equestrian culture is an integral part of heritage of this region. Deeply involved in the culture of the two countries, horsemen appear in the tales, traditions, history and the arts. The endless plain is the ideal place for horse-riding and becoming acquainted with the ancient traditions of the region.

A huge number of horse stables, many of which possess the horseshoe quality classification of the Hungarian Equestrian Association, offer a variety of riding facilities and services to their guests. The region is also the traditional venue of numerous national and international horse riding events. The core activity of the project was to collect information about the vibrant horse-related cultural heritage and to create a virtual Horse Culture Museum on the Internet as well as in multimedia format. Each museum/showroom in Bács-Kiskun County and Vojvodina received a copy of the virtual Horse Culture Museum on a DVD.

### Project partners:

**Bács-Kiskun Megyei Önkormányzat  
Council of Bács Kiskun County)**

Vojvođanska Fondacija za razvoj „Háló“  
(Development Foundation of Vojvodina "Háló")  
Tegyünk Izsákért Egyesület ("Tegyünk Izsákért"  
Association) Konjički Klub „FAVORY“ Kelebija  
(Equestrian Club "Favory", Kelebija)

**Project total budget / 192,110.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 163,293.50 €**

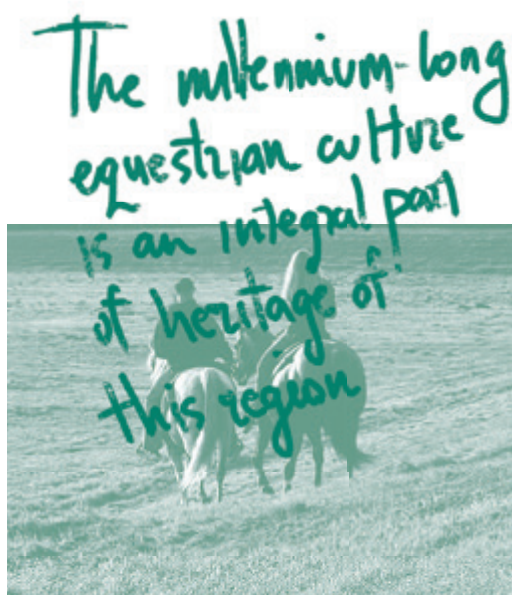
**Project start date / 01 03 2013**

**Project end date / 31 08 2014**

The partners of the project created six thematic routes (horse-riding trails) with special names: e. g. trail of outlaws, trail of freedom defenders, places of the Battle of Senta, etc., involving 12 different settlements (Lajosmizse, Kerekegyháza, Fülöpszállás, Izsák, Bakodpuszta, Bugac, Kelebija, Novi Sad, Temerin, Zrenjanin, Crepaja and Kovin).

The horse-trail map also presents other tourist attractions and service providers. The equestrian tradition of this region was presented at four local events, as well as in a brochure with an enclosed map. This brochure is available in four languages: Hungarian, Serbian, German, and English.

The four organisations from Hungary and Serbia recognised the potential of equestrian culture, which, being a highly regarded and invaluable piece of cultural heritage, can become the driving force of tourism in the Hungarian-Serbian border region.



## Fine arts in the development of tourism in Bácska Region

Three partner towns from the border region, Jánoshalma from Hungary, Bačka Topola and Temerin from Serbia, jointly worked on reinforcing, expanding and strengthening active socio-cultural networking, primarily in the field of fine arts, through joint art colonies and joint exhibitions. The project partners also promoted common and joint artistic values within the Bácska region and at international level, fostering tourism and improving the organisational skills of NGOs.

Beside the similarities in the cultural heritage of the involved settlements, the three communities possess analogous geographical, tourist and economic features. Jánoshalma, Bačka Topola and Temerin are small/medium sized settlements. Recently, the communities had experienced a budding interest in a special branch of rural tourism – art and handicraft and manifestation based tourism. The three settlements gathered around the vision of effectively utilizing analogies to create architectural and cultural spaces conducive for meaningful engagement in and interactions within artistic production and thus improve the quality of life of their inhabitants and tourist offer of their communities.

With the financial support of the Programme, each settlement firstly renovated, adapted and equipped a building turning it into a permanent home for the arts. The facilities were reconstruct-

ed and equipped so as to host the multi-day art and hand-craft camps, workshops and exhibitions. The new homes of the arts then hosted three art colonies in various fields of artistic expression, in painting, ceramics and pottery. Art colonies and associated artistic camps saw a plethora of participants: children, youth, elderly, amateurs and academic painters. During workshops, art camps and colonies and exhibitions new contacts were established and new opportunities for collaboration opened up. Young and yet-unrecognized artists especially benefitted by gaining new insights into an artistic and creative processes and by acquiring new knowledge and techniques. Additionally, the partnership further elaborated possible directions for use of the arts in tourism. In Jánoshalma, they organized a conference on the role of art in tourism, while in Temerin they hosted a well-attended regional ceramic forum. By the end of the project, it can be said that importance of art in tourism was recognized by the stakeholders in the region, as well as its inhabitants.



### Project partners:

**Jánoshalma Város Önkormányzata  
(Local Government of Jánoshalma)**

Opština Bačka Topola  
(Municipality of Bačka Topola)  
TAKT Temerini Alkotóműhely  
és Képzőművészeti Tábor  
(Temerin Camp of Creativity  
and Fine Arts (TAKT))

**Project total budget / 352,911.50 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 299,974.77 €**

**Project start date / 01 10 2013**

**Project end date / 31 01 2015**

As part of the project, the three settlements received new homes for the arts and have become vibrant gathering places of artists and art-lovers. The FAB project can also be seen as a precedent or a blueprint for identifying and realizing the opportunities for development of rural manifestation-/exhibition-based tourism which focuses on art, creative industries, handicrafts and conference tourism.



## Our common cultural heritage and culinary traditions, thematic route, and promoting pomiculture and apiculture in the cross-border region

The main focus of the project was on preserving cultural and natural heritage, and creating and promoting a joint thematic route.

The long-term objective was to develop harmonised and well-balanced cooperation between the project partner organisations: the Municipalities of Szank and Mórícgát in Hungary and the Municipality of Mali Idoš (Feketić) in Serbia, as well as between their inhabitants.

All three settlements have a long tradition of fruit growing and beekeeping (apiculture) and it was assumed that an improved approach could generate additional income. Accordingly, the three municipalities developed a thematic route in the cross-border region, mapped larger orchards and apiaries and included them on a special map, and organised professional and cultural programmes. Programmes and events took place in the Village House in Feketić, which was built especially for this purpose, and in the renovated Flavour House in Szank.

Moreover, the project partners implemented a joint travelling exhibition, titled Honey and People, which was presented in three settlements. They established a Hive Museum in Szank and two Local History Museums in Feketić and Mórícgát. Besides organising a workshop for producers and stakeholders, the partners held ten cultural events, popular festivals and the Cumanian Camp.

By disseminating a richly illustrated bilingual book and a recipe book, the partners promoted the project achievements and the related products to the general public. In addition, the project enhanced cooperation between existing cultural organisations, and the participants founded an apiarists' association to improve and sustain their cooperation through exchange of good practice.



Preserving  
cultural  
and natural  
heritage

### Project partners:

**Szank Községi Önkormányzat  
(Szank Local Government)**

Lokalna Samouprava Opštine Mali Idoš  
(Local Government of the Municipality of Mali Idoš)  
Mórícgát Községi Önkormányzat (Mórícgát Local  
Government)

**Project total budget / 299,590.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 254,651.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 02 2013**

**Project end date / 31 12 2013**



## Common cultural heritage, influenced by the Edict of Milan, implemented in a tourism presentation

The project's vision was to connect the sites Rakovac-Dombo and Novi Bečej-Arača in Serbia, with Bugac-Felsőmonostor and Alsómonostor in Hungary, as well as to connect them with the settlements.

These historical sites, which represent a common cultural and historic heritage, were reconnected on the occasion of the anniversary of the Edict of Milan. This project was actually a continuation of the project conducted by the same partners in the previous Call for Proposals, and it aimed to promote the necessity to assume joint responsibility for cultural heritage. In the course of the project, the museums entered into dialogue with the municipal and regional decision-makers regarding policies and activities aimed at the protection and preservation of monuments and their promotion to tourists. The five organisations from the two countries jointly explored the possibilities and seized opportunities for sustained economic development by ensuring responsible management of cultural heritage and proper support for related tourist programmes. They gave equal attention to educating the inhabitants of the settlements near the archaeological sites about the possibilities for tourist development.

The common history was presented to the public through various events and activities during the 16-month-long project: activities and plans encouraging cross-border cooperation in terms of research, cultural relations and tourism; planning and realisation of a common tourist offer and ensuring its favourable impact on the sustainable development of the area; cross-border archaeological research and conservation works conducted at the sites with respect to the medieval period and the period following the issuance of the Edict of Milan; organisation of an exhibition and the accompanying publication presenting the research and the common cultural heritage of the border region. The objective of the educational programmes and the exhibition in particular was to inform the public about the importance of cultural and historic heritage, to raise awareness and promote the project and thematic heritage routes as tourism development opportunities.

### Project partners:

**Muzej Vojvodine Novi Sad**

**(Museum of Vojvodina Novi Sad)**

Bács-Kiskun Megyei Múzeumi Szervezet  
(Museum Organisation of Bács-Kiskun County)  
Pokrajinski zavod za zaštitu spomenika culture  
(Provincial Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina) Turistička organizacija Vojvodine  
(Tourist Organisation of Vojvodina)  
Bugac Nagyközségi Önkormányzat  
(Bugac Local Government)

**Project total budget / 299,969.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 254,973.65 €**

**Project start date / 01 03 2013**

**Project end date / 30 06 2014**



*Representing  
a common  
cultural and  
historic heritage*

## Joint farm diversification strategy on the Hungarian-Serbian border

Vojvodina and Bács-Kiskun County are mainly rural areas, where agriculture is a very important sector of the economy, but this single source of income is not sufficient to keep the population in rural areas. The agricultural output of a small or a medium-sized farm cannot provide the income needed to sustain a family. There are many examples of good practice in the EU and around the world which agricultural producers along the border could adopt to find new, alternative types of business. However, they need support to do this.

The objective of the project was to broaden economic activities along the Hungarian-Serbian border and to create a more balanced and stable economy by generating diversification processes.

During the implementation of the project, the partners completed a study, the main chapters of which were: Analysis of the present situation of rural diversification along the Hungarian-Serbian border; International experiences about farm diversification; Farm diversification strategy until 2020 on the Hungarian-Serbian border; Farm diversification toolkit; Model business plans.

The partners elaborated twelve model business plans for alternative activities: honey production, dried vegetable and fruit production, cheese

production, herb production, pickles production, fruit preserving, homemade farinaceous products, oil-pressing, meat processing in small farms, rural tourism, handicraft products of small farms, renewable energy solutions for small farms. These models were published in separate brochures.

The partners also organised study visits to farms engaged in the alternative business model, organised local information meetings for farmers, and workshops to elaborate the study. During the activities, local farmers became acquainted with good practices which will help them improve their competitiveness and the competitiveness of the entire region.



### Project partners:

**Bács-Kiskun Megyei Önkormányzat**  
(Council of Bács-Kiskun County)

Vojvođanska Fondacija za razvoj „Háló“  
(Development Foundation of Vojvodina “Háló”)

Project total budget / 103,600.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 88,060.00 €

Project start date / 01 02 2013

Project end date / 31 05 2014

*honey production,  
dried vegetable and  
fruit production, cheese  
production, herb production,  
pickles production,  
fruit preserving...*

## City Logistics helping the city development of Szeged and Subotica

Freight transport in the centres of Szeged and Subotica has been an issue for both cities.

Placing retail facilities on the outskirts of the cities would create a competitive environment for shopkeepers. However, new developments in the central areas and the policy shift at both national and European levels towards environmentally friendly modes of transport, cause tensions between the shopkeepers and logistics operators on one side and city developers and transport planners on the other.

Experts from these two cities gathered information from stakeholders, studied solutions that have already been implemented and analysed how they fit into the local socio-economic environment. A set of possible solutions and funding sources was offered to the beneficiaries and decision-makers.

Currently there are no adequate solutions to this complex problem but the project partners' efforts were valuable especially in reconciling the interests of stakeholders, which were conflicting at times, in the fields of transport, economy, commerce and urban planning. They took the first step towards the harmonious development of cities in the border region.



The first step  
towards the  
harmonious  
development  
of cities

**Project partners:**

Dél-alföldi Regionális Innovációs Ügynökség  
Közhasznú Egyesület (South Great Plain  
Regional Innovation Agency)  
Otvoreni univerzitet Subotica  
(Open University Subotica)

**Project website /** <http://citylog.darinno.hu/>

**Project total budget /** 105,033.32 €

**Project EU funding (IPA) /** 89,278.32 €

**Project start date /** 01 01 2013

**Project end date /** 31 12 2013

## New farming models for backyards as possible solutions for generating additional income and finding self-employment in the rural cross-border area

This project's main objective was to produce a study about the joint cross-border development of small-scale horticultural and agricultural farming that would define and map the areas in which local people could find opportunities for self-employment and additional income.

The entire territory of the border region covered by the programme might be the target group of the project, but the exact locations of the activities were defined according to the findings of a survey.

The project was implemented through several activities, the most important of which were the study and the development of the e-platform. The study consists of three components - research regarding horticulture, agro-economics and rural development. The project partners were jointly involved in its development.

Together with the study, two model farms on both sides of the border were developed, each equipped with unheated plastic greenhouses covering a surface area of 200 m<sup>2</sup>, and an outdoor area of 300 m<sup>2</sup>. Model farms formed the basis of the Study, but they also served as experimental locations. In order to see the real results of organising farm production in this manner, the local farmers were able to participate in organised study visits and workshops either during the 5 seminars held on both sides of the border or on their own.

The model farms also aided the dissemination of the results and project promotion.

Through the e-platform, the project partnership provided the channel of continuous communication between experts and local people, enabling them to define the best portfolio, process data from model farms, review best practices and initiate and maintain contact with potential customers.



Development of  
small-scale  
horticultural  
and agricultural  
farming (300m<sup>2</sup>)

### Project partners:

Institut za ratarstvo i povrtarstvo, Novi Sad  
(Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops)  
Kecskeméti Főiskola (Kecskemét College)

Project website / [www.farmaddinc.eu](http://www.farmaddinc.eu)

Project total budget / 76,509.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 65,032.65 €

Project start date / 01-01-2013

Project end date / 31-12-2013



# Towards a local based labour market policy approach in cross-border rural regions

The LOLAMAR project aimed at developing a locally based labour market policy approach which could pave the path for more sustainable development in peripheral cross-border areas. In Eastern Europe these regions are characterised by a large number of people who are excluded from the labour market. This problem is usually dealt with in the social sector and this group of people is rarely seen as an internal resource for locally based regional development. However, the capabilities of these people could be the basis of local economic growth and social sustainability.

The main goals were to identify the types of exclusions, to explore the special potential of this group and possibilities of reintegration, to create a cadastre of conflicts on the labour market and to work out strategic proposals for the possible reintegration methods and practices. The study area is in the cross-border region of Bácska or Bačka (Baja, Bácsalmás, Jánoshalma micro-regions in Hungary and West Bačka in Serbia). Despite this region having favourable natural resources (soil, climate, etc.), the local economy is underdeveloped and the employment rate is low.

The LOLAMAR project also intended to explore the characteristics and recent activities of these people and their relationship with environmental resources by employing geographical, statistical and sociological methods. The best local practices of their inclusion were also revealed. Based on the results of the empirical research and in cooperation with representatives of local communities, institutions, NGOs, cross-border region-specific recommendations were presented in a handbook for local decision-makers. The scientific results were discussed at an international conference and published in a study book.

*Capabilities of local people - the basis of local economic growth and social sustainability*

*Sustainable development of peripheral border areas*

## Project partners:

Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Közgazdaság- és Regionális Tudományi Kutatóközpont (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Research Centre for Economic and Regional Studies (HAS/RCERS))  
Agencija za regionalni razvoj Autonomne Pokrajine Vojvodine d.o.o. (Agency for Regional Development of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina Ltd.)

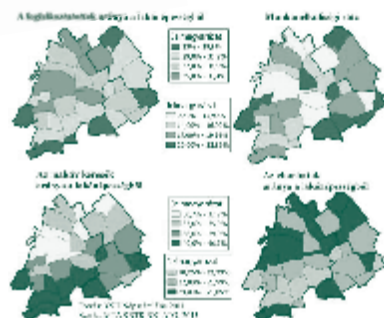
Project website / <http://www.lolamar.eu/>

Project total budget / 83,277.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 70,785.45 €

Project start date / 01-01-2013

Project end date / 28-02-2014





## Coordinated development and knowledge exchange on spatial planning methodology

After March 2012, when Serbia became an official EU candidate, a demand for completing methodological documents emerged and this could aid the promotion of the development of strategic planning according to EU conform methodology. The same applies to Hungary, and especially to the South Great Plain region. It also needs to be emphasised that from 2014 a new approach is required in programming and spatial planning, since complex and integrated programmes with clear objectives and measurable indicators have to be implemented. It is noted that the relevant documents from both Hungary and Serbia lack jointly prepared, detailed cross-border programme elements as well as analysis of marginalised settlements and areas covered by the cross-border cooperation programme.

This project aimed to develop capacities on both sides of the border for the preparation of joint regional strategic documents for the upcoming 2014-2020 EU financial period through

the conduct of a comprehensive training programme. CODEX also aimed to overcome the above mentioned deficiencies by carrying out surveys, preparing joint methodology on the complex and integrated spatial planning approach and providing practical help for territorial planning and programme assessment. The activities based on the surveys, as well as the methodology, included the preparation of an Implementation Programme and Action Plan in Serbia and also a recommendation package for spatial development strategy for the period of 2014-2020 in the South Great Plain region. The professional content is available through a trilingual (Hungarian, Serbian, English) website.



### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**

Javno Preduzeće za Prostorno i Urbanističko Planiranje i Projektovanje „Zavod za Urbanizam Vojvodine” (PE Urban and Spatial Planning Institute of Vojvodina)

**Project website / [www.codex-project.hu](http://www.codex-project.hu)**

**Project total budget / 96,061.60 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 81,652.36 €**

**Project start date / 01 05 2013**

**Project end date / 30 04 2014**

*Preparation  
of joint regional  
strategic documents  
for the 2014-2020  
EU financial  
period*

## Integrated spa development strategy for the spas situated in the area of the main traffic route through the Hungarian-Serbian cross border region

In a 50-km-wide zone of the main traffic route (Budapest-Belgrade axis) in this region, there are a great number of spas with different characteristics and possibilities. The aim of the project was the elaboration of an integrated spa development strategy to support harmonised health tourism development in this border region.

The planned strategy was elaborated for 30 spas with the help of the project partners in terms of research and operational know-how. The strategy was harmonised with the visions and action plans of the project partners, it created a common development programme and defined the right service structure for each spa in the region.

The process of strategy-building was based on research (University of Szeged), operational experience (project partners), and joint workshops and forums. The 30 spas in the target area attract about 2.5 million visitors annually. Large strategic developments on the Hungarian

side lead to an increase in the number of visitors. However, there are still many new establishments that are operating less successfully due to isolated development and problematic service structure. Spas on the Serbian side are smaller, but the Hungarian examples urged municipalities in Serbia to take action and improve their facilities.

Instead of rivalry, the strategy aimed to foster the formation of partnership between the project partners and the 30 relevant spas (stakeholders) in order to contribute to harmonised and distinguished spa development.



### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**

Mórahalmi Város Önkormányzata

(Municipality of Mórahalom)

Lokalna Samouprava Opštine Ada

(Local Government of the Municipality of Ada)

Agencija za razvoj opštine Temerin

(Agency for Development of Temerin Municipality)

Regionalna razvojna agencija Bačka

(Regional Development Agency Bačka Ltd.)

**Project website / <http://www.cooling-cubes.org/>**

**Project total budget / 117,440.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 99,824.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 03 2013**

**Project end date / 30 06 2014**

*An integrated  
spa development:  
instead of rivalry,  
the strategy aimed  
to foster the  
formation of  
partnerships*

## Joint creation of conditions for the development of SMEs in the cross-border region

Since the regional economic situation of SMEs on both sides of the Serbian-Hungarian border is affected by negative aspects of globalisation, the economic crisis and the transition process in Serbia, the development of SMEs has become a very challenging endeavour.

The SMEs from the region cope with a lack of networking, cooperation and appropriate facilities, insufficient experience in overcoming business-related problems and, often, a lack of incentives and institutional support.

To overcome these deficiencies, SMEs should be grouped into work zones and industrial parks, in order to efficiently decrease noise in the city (especially in the city centre), protect the environment and provide optimal conditions for their operation, networking and development. However, local institutions in the region cannot cover all the expenses of documentation, which is the starting point for solving these problems. Therefore, the project aimed to address the preparation of the missing documents: Main Design of the SME Centre in Novi Sad and the Kistelek Ind. Zone Development Strategy.

The development of the infrastructure based on these documents will relocate production from urban areas, better connect the SMEs and

improve know-how transfer and business co-operation, ensure a stronger market presence and facilitate market expansion. At the same time it will protect the environment and reduce noise levels in the city.

In the course of the project, at workshops, the experts presented CBC business possibilities, institutional support for SMEs, the industrial park in Kistelek and work zone in Novi Sad and their importance for SMEs, the importance of networking as well as other ways in which the SMEs could be strengthened and brought closer together.

Thus, the partners were able to achieve their general objective: to increase competitiveness of SMEs in the region by creating opportunities for joint economic growth, as well as to ensure synergy and business cooperation in the CBC region by providing a better physical environment and better knowledge transfer.



### Project partners:

**Grad Novi Sad (City of Novi Sad)**

Kistelek Környéki Települések Többcélú Társulása  
(Multi-Purpose Micro-regional Association of Kistelek)

**Project total budget / 114,196.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 97,066.60 €**

**Project start date / 15 01 2013**

**Project end date / 14 11 2013**

*Synergy  
and business  
cooperation*

## Novi Sad – Szeged cross-border cooperation in developing harmonised methods and production of common database for the analysis of designer drugs

The main objective of this project was to strengthen the capacities of the police forensic laboratory and criminal investigation police officers in performing chemical analyses of drugs in the border areas of the two countries, in order to combat illicit drug trafficking and organised crime.

Apart from the so-called classic drugs such as heroin, cocaine, MDMA and cannabis, numerous new synthetic compounds have appeared on the black market. The majority of new synthetic designer drugs are not under local or international control, even though they are more dangerous than the classic drugs. Consequently, the appropriate official handling of these new drugs is a very important task of the law enforcement agencies. An effective fight against illicit drugs is possible only through the application of state-of-the-art analytical instruments which identify and quantify various designer drugs and their concomitant components. However, forensic labs in Novi Sad and Szeged did not have such instruments. The implementation of this project facilitated the purchase of devices and relevant reference materials for designer drugs, as well as the

provision of training of the participating laboratories' staff in how to operate the devices. New analytical procedures for detecting designer drugs were also developed, the existing analytical drug database in Hungary was improved, and an analytical designer drugs database was developed in the Novi Sad lab, which is the first of its kind in Serbia.

The second part of the project was the equipping and training of the criminal investigation police officers in the utilisation of spot tests, so they could be informed about the necessity and practical use of preliminary drug tests in everyday practice. This project was the upgrade of already existing collaboration between the Ministries of the Interior of Hungary and Serbia and it contributed to the active prevention of organised crime and the strengthening of border safety.

NCTCNSHIFSSZ12



*Prevention of organized crime: identification and analysis of the new synthetic designer drugs*

### Project partners:

Ministarstvo unutrašnjih poslova Republike Srbije, Direkcija policije, Uprava kriminalističke policije, Nacionalni kriminalističko-tehnički centar, Odsek za KTC u Novom Sadu (Ministry of the Interior, Republic of Serbia, Criminal Police Department, National Forensic Centre, Regional Forensic Division in Novi Sad)

Bűnügyi Szakértői és Kutatóintézet (Hungarian Institute for Forensic Sciences)

Project total budget / 461,748.50 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 392,486.22 €

Project start date / 01 03 2013

Project end date / 31 08 2014



## Cross-border biomarker research of ovarian cancer

Ovarian cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths and the 5th most common cancer among women in the world. Unfortunately, 70 percent of patients are diagnosed in the late advanced stage of the disease when the efficacy of the therapy and chances of long-term survival are lower. However, early stages ovarian cancer can usually be treated successfully with conventional therapies. So the partners' aim was to identify a potential new biomarker which could help with the early detection of ovarian cancer.

Nine researchers from Hungary and Serbia worked for 18 months to identify this potential biomarker, which could save many lives. They involved 130 patients from the South Great Plain and Vojvodina regions, held a total of ten conferences and meetings, developed an analytical model, optimised a preparation and created four publications.

The additional benefit of this project was that analytical and clinical researchers were able to think in a multidisciplinary way, they exchanged analytical, preclinical and clinical knowledge and combined their efforts to understand and explain biochemical changes in the early stages of ovarian cancer.

*Understanding  
and explaining  
biochemical  
changes in the  
early stages of  
ovarian cancer*

### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Medicinski fakultet Novi  
Sad (University of Novi Sad, Medical Faculty)

**Project total budget / 190,561.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 161,976.85 €**

**Project start date / 01 02 2013**

**Project end date / 31 08 2014**





## Cross-border cooperation in the development of a novel herbal drug targeting *Helicobacter pylori*

*Helicobacter pylori* bacterium is the cause of more than 90% of duodenal and 80% of gastric ulcers, and the major risk factor for gastric cancer and primary gastric lymphoma. Gastric cancer is the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths in the world. The antibiotic therapy currently available for treating *H. pylori* infection comes with multiple disadvantages. Thus, development of a new, more efficient antimicrobial therapeutic agent against *H. pylori* is a necessity. The project partners, the University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Biological Research Centre, developed a joint initiative to bring their researchers together with the aim of developing a new, natural-product-based formulation targeting *H. pylori*.

This project brought together two groups by using complementary approaches. The Novi Sad group specialises in isolation of natural products, chemical characterisation and in vitro and ex vivo bioactivity evaluation, while the group from Szeged has extensive experience in animal testing and *Helicobacter* studies. Thus, the two groups combined their strengths and expertise, and the cooperation turned out to be very productive. Over eighteen months, this project saw

a number of essential oils isolated and chemically characterised. The in vitro and in vivo antimicrobial activity of these oils was tested in order to create an optimal formulation with the least adverse effects. The main output of the project was a new, patented drug formulation – the first step towards mass production and application in the treatment of *H. pylori* infected patients in the border region and worldwide. It is important to note that although the experimental systems showed really promising results, at the moment of ending the HELICO project, the formulation was a long way away from human application. The next step would be to move the investigations to the next level – clinical studies on humans.

The partner institutions benefited from the results of this outstanding project, since their research capacities were improved and new links were established. These links facilitated the integration of both institutions into the European Research Area. In the future, pharmaceutical SMEs may also profit from the possibility of mass producing and distributing a new product thanks to this project. Most importantly, the scientists are hoping that in the long-term their joint work and findings will significantly improve the treatment and quality of life of the infected people.

### Project partners:

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-matematički fakultet u Novom Sadu (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences)

Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Szegedi Biológiai Kutatóközpont (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Biological Research Centre Szeged)

Project website / <http://helico-ipaproject.com/home/>

Project total budget / 178,364.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 151,609.40 €

Project start date / 01 09 2013

Project end date / 28 02 2015

*Developing a new,  
natural-product-  
based formulation  
targeting H. pylori*



## Renewable energy virtual laboratory

This project is cross-border research cooperation in the field of renewable energy technology, which has resulted in the first-of-its-kind high-power renewable energy laboratory that is completely safe, scalable and accessible anytime from anywhere in the world. By the end of the sixteen-month cooperation, the project team from the two universities jointly developed a virtual lab, easily accessible web portal and network infrastructure, as well as applications for energy efficiency improvement. The scientific activities were highly complex and consisted of numerous well planned, coordinated and executed steps. In short, REVLAB is designed as the internet accessible laboratory which served 10 users simultaneously. After designing it, the project team researched the hardware and software architecture of the REVLAB virtual laboratory and development of applications in the field of renewable energy from the point of integration into web application. The overall hardware and software architecture of the web application were also developed. The web application and networking setup was implemented on the server, while 10 remote hub PCs run remotely managed virtual machines with emulator software. Web application was extensively tested for different scenarios. Applications for wind energy and solar energy were also developed.

Apart from close day-to-day cooperation with the team from university across the border, research and scientific work, organizing workshop and seminars, the partners also organized events to

initiate and stimulate industry-academia partnerships.

The positive influence of this project on the local scientific community can be seen as twofold: firstly, the development of the laboratory is a significant technical undertaking, which has strengthened the participating institutions' engineering and innovation capacities. Secondly, once completed, the laboratory has increased their capacities for research and knowledge transfer. REVLAB achieved its goal: development of infrastructural and equipment capacities for research and knowledge transfer in the field of renewable energy. It also enabled the researchers of two institutions to access laboratory premises from distance. This way they can work together more closely and more effectively and not the least, perform experiments safely.

The REVLAB project created a vibrant community which can use the project infrastructure to share knowledge and experiences, solve difficult technical problems and raise awareness of sustainability and green-energy issues. They also aimed at making the latest achievements available globally. By increasing cross-border dialogue between scientific institutions, authorities, industry and decision-makers, the REVLAB project will have a long-lasting impact on regional renewable energy policy, as well as on the innovation capacities of regional universities, SMEs and industry.

### Project partners:

**Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Fakultet Tehničkih nauka (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technical Sciences)**

University of Szeged, Természettudományi és Informatikai Kar, Műszaki Informatika Tanszék (University of Szeged, Faculty of Science and Informatics, Department of Technical Informatics)

**Project website / <http://revlab.uns.ac.rs/>**

**Project total budget / 304,209.96 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 258,578.46 €**

**Project start date / 01 05 2014**

**Project end date / 31 08 2015**



*The  
first-of-its-kind  
renewable  
energy  
laboratory*

## Novel natural antimicrobial agents for bacterial pathogen control

Uncontrolled consumption of antibiotics resulted in the emergence of multiple and pan-resistant bacteria. As a result, infections caused by these bacteria cannot be treated with conventional antibiotics.

The project partners' aim was to test the usability of certain bacterial viruses (bacteriophages) for bacterial pathogen control and to examine cyanobacterial extracts as a potential source of novel natural antimicrobials. It should be emphasised that the NNAA project, by discovering new natural antimicrobials, played a significant role in overcoming the problem of bacterial multiple resistance, which is recognised by the EU as one of the main health concerns. Beside the innovative research work, the project partners held an opening event and a meeting in Novi Sad, plus a seminar in Szeged.

The project improved the long-lasting and mutually beneficial cooperation between the partner institutions, and also increased awareness of the problem of multiple resistant bacteria among experts and the general public through media appearances and the distribution of information materials about the project activities.



Overcoming  
the problem of  
bacterial multiple  
resistance

### Project partners:

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-matematički fakultet u Novom Sadu  
(University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences)  
Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)

Project total budget / 199,903.74 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 169,918.17 €

Project start date / 01 02 2013

Project end date / 31 07 2014



## Centre of excellence for advanced and intelligent control

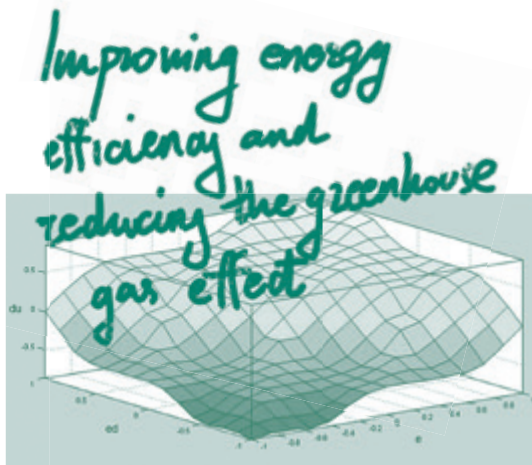
The purpose of this project was to train and educate both industry students and engineers in how to use and implement advanced and intelligent control strategies in order to improve energy efficiency and reduce the greenhouse gas effect. Coping with and responding to modern control demands is essential for successful control of a variety of complex industrial and other processes (in home, car etc.) and reduction of energy consumption and loss. Both project partners are experts in their own fields of interests, Novi Sad in Control Systems and Szeged in Artificial Intelligence, Fuzzy Logic and Optimisation Methods. They recognised that, due to their narrow specialisations, cooperation and aggregation of knowledge is essential for success. So they established the joint Centre of Excellence for Advanced and Intelligent Control, which consists of two physically separate laboratories that cooperate synchronously, one in Novi Sad and the other in Szeged. As part of the project, they equipped these laboratories and organised trainings about PLCs, PACs and LabView, different PID control strategies, sound measurement and analysis, expert system for vibration analysis, sbRIO FPGA and real-time communication. Future engineers, students, industry experts attended workshops about achieved results in the field of PLC and FPGA applications, optimisation in engineering, testing of distributed algorithms for search in indoor environments, real-time analysis of mechanical and electrical resonances, performance estimation of kayak

paddlers based on fluctuation analysis, the specifics of embedded software development. Organized seminars in the fields of vibration analysis in induction motor fault detection, adaptive filters, FPGA based digital control, low noise instrumentation, control design and simulation toolkit, linear regulators and observers in state space, sliding-mode control design, practical applications of sliding-mode techniques, display only a part of applicability of results of this project in the industrial setting. The two faculties also developed courses for students, altogether 8 new courses at the BSc, MA and PhD level. A textbook, first of that kind in Serbian, covering major topics of advanced and intelligent control is available to an increasing number of interested students. New engineers have been promoted through their master and bachelor theses completed within the project. People of different age, gender and members of minority groups have taken part in the trainings and staff exchange workshops. Both of these groups were presented the brand new approach toward control, with team members from both project partners learning from each other and jointly developing new algorithms and courses ensuring sustainability of the results of the cross-border collaboration as they are going to last for years to come.

**Project partners:**  
University of Novi Sad,  
Faculty of Technical Sciences University of Szeged

**Project website /** <http://www.ipacefaic.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/cefaic>

**Project total budget /** 183,655.30 €  
**Project EU funding (IPA) /** 156,107.00 €  
**Project start date /** 15 01 2013  
**Project end date /** 14 10 2014





## Non-standard forms of teaching Mathematics and Physics: experimental and modelling approach

Classic methods cannot facilitate the teaching of extremely high number of students and the supporting of talents at the same time; these activities require very different, non-standard teaching methods. These methods are a necessity for both partners.

Thus, based on the final results of the IPA project "Teaching Mathematics and Statistics in Sciences" (HUSRB/0901/221/088), the main objectives of this project are the development and dissemination of "Non-standard" and "Non-Traditional" forms and methods of practice- and application-oriented teaching of mathematics and physics, exchange of knowledge and teaching experience, strengthening educational cooperation with other neighbouring countries, internationalisation of results by joining world-wide initiatives and the involvement of PhD students in the cooperation. The two universities embarked on the development and dissemination of non-standard teaching methods for maths and physics in a diverse range of fields such as life sciences, medicine, and high school maths. Their teaching methods encompass a combination of computer-aided, experimental methods and the development of manual skills, interactive and dynamic books, mobile classroom tools and individual study, as well as intensive forms of courses, to name just

a few. To this end, the experts and educators from this cross-border Math-Phys team have organised an International Intensive school in three languages for PhD students, high school teachers and students, a Physics Laboratory and Geogebra training, joint international university courses on Biomathematics, a computer-aided Physics laboratory, modelling with computer algebra and dynamic geometry software, and this list is far from exhaustive. Apart from organising scientific conferences, the researchers and scientist engaged the general public in programmes such as Researcher's Night, and the popular Meet the Prof events. The direct target groups of the project are university and high school teachers; high school, graduates and PhD students, as well as professionals, while the indirect target groups are the students taught by teachers from the main target group.



### Project partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)**  
Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Prirodno-matematički  
fakultet, Novi Sad (University of Novi Sad, Faculty  
of Sciences, Novi Sad)

**Project total budget / 159,915.00 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 135,927.75 €**  
**Project start date / 01 12 2013**  
**Project end date / 31 01 2015**

Non-standard  
and  
non-traditional  
teaching methods



## Joint development of curricula and teaching materials of mechanical engineer on MSc level

High education institutions in the field of engineering need to respond more quickly to rapid technological developments and to harmonise both their education programmes and research work with the latest developments and innovations. Appropriate education is crucial for a country's industrial development and, as this project shows, it can be significantly enhanced by closer cooperation of academic institutions with industry and small- and medium-sized enterprises. The industrial development of the region on both sides of the border can be achieved by increasing employability of young engineers. This, in turn, is a result of timely and continuous upgrade of the subjects, research methodology and teaching methods in the higher educational institutions in the border region.

To this end, the two universities, one from Novi Sad and the other from Szeged, developed a modernised, high quality curriculum, accredited a new MSc programme, purchased new laboratory equipment and created new teaching materials. They also organised trainings, workshops and conferences paying special attention to creating a bridge between future engineers and industry, their future employers.

For example, the members and stakeholders in the industry had a manifold role in this project. Industry representatives not only participated in the process of industry needs investigation, but also were closely involved in process of

curricula development. Additionally, a workshop organized in Novi Sad featured a special session with presentation of project results to the industry representatives in order to familiarize them with modernized curriculum and study programme and the profile of young experts they can expect in the upcoming period.

Study programmes for Mechanical Engineers on MSc level at the Faculty of Technical Sciences and for BSc level engineers at the University of Szeged have been accredited. Potential and current students were regularly informed about the possibilities of newly developed programmes and informed on industry needs for skilled and trained Mechanical Engineers BSc and MSc. During the Info days and Open door days, teaching material developed through the project was distributed to the potential and current students. At the final steering committee meeting the partner institutions summarized the mutual benefits of their sixteen month cooperation and plans for the future cooperation were introduced in details. The developed contemporary curriculum will benefit both students and their future employers. It will highly improve the competitiveness of young people just starting their careers.

### Project partners:

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Fakultet  
Tehničkih Nauka (University of Novi Sad,  
Faculty of Technical Sciences)  
Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)

Project website / <http://www.devmecur.com/index.php?lang=en>

Project total budget / 165,560.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 140,726.00 €  
Project start date / 01 01 2013  
Project end date / 30 04 2014

*Joint curricula  
&  
a bridge between  
students, future  
engineers, and  
industry*



## Cherishing common cultural heritage through education to create a united region – a precondition for sustainable development

The similarities between the architecture of Szeged and Subotica are conspicuous, thus, it is no wonder that the two cities are called twin cities. This resemblance was the base of the cross-border cooperation of the Polytechnic School in Subotica and the Vedres István School of Architecture in Szeged. Within the project, the two schools were able to strengthen their educational partnership. Students and teachers explored the parallels of the development of these two cities from the middle ages to the Art Nouveau era, considering them not as two separate entities but as two elements of the same architectural puzzle. With this project both schools seized an opportunity to fully realise the dedication to minimizing the ex-cathedra teaching method and promote learning through hands-on, proactive and practical engagement of pupils. This has proven to be the ideal way of instilling reverence for cultural heritage in future architects, engineers and builders.

The project partnership arranged a very rich and diverse series of programmes in both cities. Firstly, Photo Days in Szeged and Subotica engaged the students in walk-tours during which they had the opportunity to identify the buildings of interest for their study and research. Yet, the proactive and practical approach to study and research did not stop there. The pupils took photos of the architectural heritage. As the two schools adopted an integrated and inclusive approach

in (co-)creating teaching tools, the input of the pupils was regarded as a starting point for further work. Thus, on the basis of the pupils' photographs the teachers and experts in education and architecture developed the teaching materials. During a study week and modelling workshops, the cross-border student teams prepared the model of the Subotica Fort and of the Orthodox Church in Subotica. On the handicraft workshops the pupils improved their skills in working with clay, wood, glass and enamel. As a crowning event a well-visited exhibition was arranged from the works.

One of the greatest achievements of the project was the smooth professional cooperation and the established personal contacts among the teachers and students. Pro-active and inclusive approach to teaching architecture through active participation of pupils in the development of the teaching materials, architectural modelling and practising handicrafts increased the awareness about similarities between the twin cities bringing people from both sides of the border closer to each other.

### Project partners:

**Politehnička škola Subotica**  
**(Polytechnic School Subotica)**

Szegedi Szolgáltatási Középiskola és Szakiskola -  
Vedres István Építőipari Tagintézmény (Secondary  
and Vocational School of Services Szeged – Member  
Institution Vedres István School of Architecture)

**Project total budget / 131,412.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 111,700.20 €**

**Project start date / 01 02 2013**

**Project end date / 31 07 2014**

*Pro-active and  
inclusive approach  
to teaching  
architecture*

*Reverence  
for cultural  
heritage*



## Cross-border network for knowledge transfer and innovative development in wastewater treatment

Degradation of the environment is a problem of vital importance, while the low level of protection is alarming. The prevention of further environmental pollution through, among other actions, the efficient treatment of wastewater can help ensure emission of wastewater within limit values of pollutants. It is one, but crucial factor in achieving environmental quality standards. The border region between Hungary and Serbia is a hub for food production industry. Researchers and industry together can find new solutions to the problems of wastewater, yet the cooperation among them often appears to be sporadic at best. This project aimed at changing this by emphasizing the cooperation between universities and industry. The Faculty of Technology from Novi Sad and Faculty of Engineering from Szeged involved their students in industrial laboratory practice and research. These future engineers and experts will manage the work and improve the efficiency of wastewater treatment plants.

In the scope of the project 100 students from both faculties improved their knowledge about wastewater treatment and water protection through joint trainings and direct participation in laboratory research. The professors from Szeged and Novi Sad together developed the courses for students, thus ensuring the harmonization of the teaching material and methods and knowledge transfer in the field of wastewater treatment. After upgrading the laboratory equipment for exercises

and practical research in the field of biological wastewater treatment, students from Hungary and Serbia together learnt about the new methods.

The students worked on the wastewater samples obtained from the factories operating in the region. During the series of joint student meetings they presented their research to the audience of their peers and professors. Team building afternoons and joint excursions proved to be equally important parts of these encounters, as they enabled the participants to learn about each other's cultures and make new friendships.

The enthusiasm of the professors yielded its results quite soon as the first significant results became quickly visible: the first publications were published in acknowledged scientific journals, while the number of applications of prospective students to the two faculties increased. This, in turn, contributes to the reduction of natural water pollution and to healthier lives of the inhabitants in the cross-border regions in the long term. The number of future engineers and experts well-prepared to work in the treatment plants for both urban and industrial wastewaters can greatly improve the quality of water, soil and environment.

### Project partners:

Univerzitet u Novom Sadu, Tehnološki fakultet  
Novi Sad (University of Novi Sad,  
Faculty of Technology)

Szegedi Tudományegyetem Mérnöki Kar  
(University of Szeged Faculty of Engineering)

Project website / <http://ipawaterfriend.com/about.html>

Project total budget / 166,710.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 141,703.50 €

Project start date / 01 03 2013

Project end date / 30 06 2014



## Educational cooperation for disadvantaged children and adults

"Do you want to be my playmate?" – the well-known line from Dezső Kosztolányi's poem, could easily become the motto of this project. Play is not only most conducive activity for learning and acquiring new skills, but also it is a way of socialization of human beings. Some children, unfortunately, hardly have opportunities to engage in playful activities with their peers. Very early on, most of them face a life of exclusion, rejection and marginalization. Unlike their peers, some of them can only dream of playing with colourful inks and crayons. The children from disadvantaged families barely finish elementary school and when they reach adulthood, their access to employment opportunities is limited. This, in turn, continues the circle of extreme poverty and disadvantage, and recycles it in the next generation.

Yet, with inclusive practices at all levels of social life, this circle can end. By mapping specific challenges of a given social group one can make small steps towards providing suitable background support and devise methods that will help further the group's educational development. Over the course of the EDUCOOP project an intense cultural, educational and research interaction was created. Through a disadvantage compensating educational program the cross-border project partners actively promoted the social and educational integration of disadvantaged and Roma children. More than 100 people actively worked on the programme. The project was based on three pillars. First, experts developed training programmes which prepare university students to educate disadvantaged Roma children and adults. The experts of the University of Szeged and University of Novi Sad Teachers' Training Faculty in Hungary developed 5 different, but thematically linking program packages, which prepare the university students (pre-service teachers) for the

education of disadvantaged and Roma children and adults. Regular professional workshops and meetings helped the mutual work of the experts and prepared the pre-service teachers, future mentors, to work with their mentees.

The second pillar was the Mentoring Programme: 15-15 students (pre-service teachers) supported 45-45 disadvantaged and Roma pupils in Horgoš, Serbia, and in Szeged, Hungary. Main aim of the mentors was to help the social and academic development of the children. Three teachers supported the work of mentors in the institutions. Intense cooperation of teams in Hungary and Serbia ensured that the activities were regularly assessed and, if needed, adjusted. The experts from all involved institutions maintained regular consultations while the student mentors followed common programs in work with children on both sides of the border.

The third pillar was research. The experts carried out an examination of the mentoring process to increase the efficiency of mentoring and develop the description of best practice.

Efficiency-analysis of the training materials harmonized the program packages with the expectations of pre-service teachers. Investigating and preparing a multiplication and sustainability study and strategy of the Mentoring Program is expected to provide the long-term sustainability of this best practice program. The Mentoring Programme meant a lot to the pupils who benefited from it, but it should also be noted that it was a transformative experience for the number of mentors, and maybe it even changed their lives and way of thinking. The project partners and experts involved have gained invaluable experiences through this project, and the participating institutions have already started preparations for the continuation of the program.

### Project partners:

#### Szegedi Tudományegyetem (University of Szeged)

Univerzitet U Novom Sadu, Učiteljski fakultet  
na Mađarskom nastavnom jeziku, Subotica  
(University of Novi Sad, Teachers' Training  
Faculty in Hungary, Subotica)

### Project website / [http://hallgatoimmentor-](http://hallgatoimmentor-program.hu/eng/educoop-project/)

[program.hu/eng/educoop-project/](http://hallgatoimmentor-program.hu/eng/educoop-project/)

Project total budget / 209,747.60 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 178,285.46 €

Project start date / 01 05 2013

Project end date / 31 07 2014

Inclusive  
education  
"Do you  
want to be  
my playmate?"





## Extension of cross-border, integrated table tennis program for professional, amateur and handicapped players

This project was the continuation of the two clubs' previous successful cross-border cooperation program titled Inter Pingpong (HUSRB/1002/222/077) in the 2nd Call for Proposals. The two table tennis sport clubs built their cooperation on the back of the all-encompassing characteristic of table tennis: it can be trained professionally, but it can also be a family sport and an intergenerational sport, and it is inclusive in terms of physical ability.

The partners from Szeged and Senta wanted to continue and extend the already initiated complex table tennis programme, involving players of all levels (professionals, amateurs, students, recreational players and players with disabilities) from both sides of the Hungarian-Serbian border. The trainings in primary schools were very successful in the previous programme, so the partners maintained this good practice. In Szeged and Szenta the clubs organised regular afternoon table tennis trainings for students in schools followed by a series of Szeged-Senta Table Tennis Tournaments for students. In order to make this sport accessible to as many school children as possible, the clubs provided coaches and equipment for the schoolchildren.

The tournaments gave the students from Hungary and Serbia opportunities to compete with each other and establish personal connections.

In the course of the project, Open Table Tennis Days were organised twice in Szeged and twice in Senta. Professionals, amateurs and players with disabilities not only had the opportunity to show their skills, but also to promote in detail the programme and the achieved results to the general public. Additionally, monthly joint training sessions of players belonging to

different age brackets were held both in Szeged and in Senta. During joint training sessions the players trained with new partners, which helped increase their motivation and saw them introduced to novel training methods. The partnership did not stop there. They organised Sport Day for People with Disabilities, people with impaired movement, with impaired hearing, persons with organ transplants and people with multiple impairments, thus contributing to their inclusion into society by encouraging them to partake in regular sport activities and participate in competitions.

Besides these, the partners organised family sporting events, sports meetings for amateurs, and tennis table educators and trainers. The partners also organised a four-day training camp in Senta.

This project demonstrates that barriers between people can be surpassed with ease through sport. Engaging in and enjoying a sport activity can bring people together regardless of their nation, gender, age and physical ability.



### Project partners:

Asztalitenisz Sport Klub Szeged  
(Table Tennis Sport Club Szeged)  
Stonoteniski Klub „Senta” Senta  
(Table Tennis Sport Club Senta)

Project website / <http://interpingpong2.atsk.hu/>

Project total budget / 65,525.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 55,696.25 €  
Project start date / 01 05 2013  
Project end date / 31 08 2014

*Complex table tennis  
programme involving  
players of all levels:  
professionals, amateurs,  
students, recreational  
players and players  
with disabilities*



## TOgether is BETter! Cooperation of the for-profit and non-profit sectors across the border to facilitate social development

Establishing collaboration to overcome the gap between the for-profit and non-profit sectors is a great challenge both in Hungary and Serbia. This project aimed to form cross-sectoral cooperation with an added cross-border element by bringing together companies and organisations from both countries with tradition of corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities. The main target groups of the project were local companies in the South Great Plain region of Hungary and Vojvodina in Serbia, as well as non-profit organisations, company employees and NGOs and clients of these organisations. Each partner organised 3-3 cross-sector forums and 1-1 cross-sector/cross-border conference in both regions. The first conference was followed by 12 CSR activities.

This sequence of activities enabled actors from both sectors to familiarise themselves with the actors from the other sector, creating more effective cooperation, and therefore improving the quality of CSR activities. The partners collected and presented these very simple, but deeply human activities in an attractive bilingual booklet.

Collaboration  
to overcome the  
gap between  
the for-profit  
and non-profit  
sectors

### Project partners:

Talentum Alapítvány az Önkéntesség  
Támogatásáért, Szeged (Talentum Foundation  
for the Support of Volunteering, Szeged)  
Caritas Subotica (Caritas Subotica)

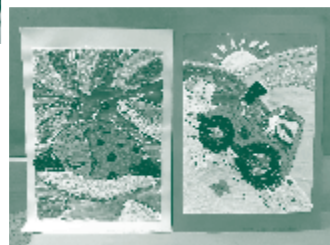
Project website / <http://togetherisbetter.eu/>

Project total budget / 73,507.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 62,480.95 €

Project start date / 01 03 2013

Project end date / 28 02 2014



## Sports without borders: bringing together Hungarian and Serbian youth through basketball

This project was based on the premise that sport is an activity which has very high potential for bringing people together, regardless of their nationality, age, social status, or gender. In the past decades, the basketball clubs of Hódmezővásárhely, Hungary, and Čoka, Serbia, have focussed on the training and formation of junior players, but they also provided sport facilities for the younger generations in the towns and their surroundings. Both towns thus contributed to a strong tradition of junior basketball training.

The partners in this project aimed to boost the basketball culture in the region and to popularise sports-playing among children and adolescents. To this end, they organised joint school tournaments in basketball, two advanced-level training courses for sports trainers and sports teachers, and last but not least, two joint youth training camps.

The close professional cooperation was fruitful and with lasting impact. The young players who participated improved their proficiency in basketball, became familiar with each other's cultures, while the trainers and teachers exchanged experiences and knowledge, which will increase the quality of this sport in the border region.



Boosting  
the basketball  
culture in  
the region

### Project partners:

Hódmezővásárhelyi Kosársuli Sportegyesület  
(Basketball Association of Hódmezővásárhely)  
Košarkaški Klub Čoka (Basketball Club "Čoka")

Project total budget / 98,920.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 84,082.00 €

Project start date / 01 01 2013

Project end date / 31 12 2013



## Cities 4 Cycling: Hungarian-Serbian borderless fun bike road show

Cycling is one of the most popular sports. It is estimated that after football it has the highest number of amateurs, so it is an excellent way to get people to come together for joint events. Organising a joint cycling event is a good opportunity for offering thematic programmes to both local people and visitors, mainly youngsters and their parents. Within the framework of the project the two cycling clubs, one from Szeged and one from Subotica, brought people from both countries together, teaching them traffic regulations and safety, promoting sustainable development, sports, healthy living and environmental issues, while presenting the cultural values of the peoples living in the cross-border region.

These were the core ideas of this successful project. The partners organised road shows in Szeged, Subotica, Horgoš and Kecskemét. During these events, visitors were able to participate in a cycling-school, road safety tests, cycling duels and finally a parade through the

whole town. The special programs, such as the trial, the freestyle cycling performances, cycling rings and the competitions in different age groups, attracted a lot of attention and encouraged youngsters to participate.

These programmes drew attention to environmental awareness, healthy lifestyles and traffic safety. During the joint activities the participant learnt a lot about each other's cultures.



### Project partners:

**Szegedi Kerékpáros Sport Klub**  
(Cycling Sport Club Szeged)

Biciklistički klub „SPARTAK”, Subotica  
(Cycling club “SPARTAK”, Subotica)

**Project total budget / 69,888.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 59,404.80 €**

**Project start date / 01 04 2013**

**Project end date / 30 09 2013**

Environmental  
awareness,  
healthy lifestyles  
and traffic safety

## Friendship over rivalry

Two football clubs from two sides of the border were determined to use friendship, sportsmanship and respect for the opponent to defeat rivalry. The partners organized preparatory trainings and matches between FC Radnički from Sombor, Serbia, and Soccer Sport Club Baja from Hungary.

Beside trainings and matches, they placed emphasis on improving social relationships and connections by organising joint preparatory trainings and forming mixed teams. Throughout the matches, joint training and preparatory work they noted improved fellowship, friendship, tolerance and cooperation and encouraged a team spirit among the young football players. Matches and preparations were held in both Serbia and Hungary.

Young players participated in the training programs and benefitted from the different methods used by different trainers. Experts conducted fitness trainings and provided general education about football and explained strategies. Inter-group matches will also help their preparation for competition matches and will develop into friendships. Even though young players benefitted most from the educational advantages and training programmes during the project, the project was beneficial for their families, spectators

and supporters as well as trainers. The clubs recognized importance of interaction of the club management, trainers and young players with spectators, family members and friends, who come to the clubs for entertainment and knowledge, but also to support the teams. Fellowship and friendship among them, was also nurtured during the events.

The professional development of trainers was also significant achievement of this project. The trainers exchanged methods, programs of physical exercises and practice and learned from one another. As the organized sport events and programs emphasized importance of friendships, respect for the opponent and encouraged team spirit, they contributed to the improved cooperation between the two football clubs, increased the number of visitors and promoted sportsmanship and respect for the opponent.



**Project partners:**  
**Fudbalski klub Radnički, Sombor**  
**(Football Club "Radnički" Sombor)**  
Bajai Labdarúgó Sport Egyesület  
(Soccer Sport Club Baja)

**Project total budget / 94,286.18 €**  
**Project EU funding (IPA) / 80,143.25 €**  
**Project start date / 20 11 2013**  
**Project end date / 19 02 2015**

Friendship,  
sportsmanship  
and  
respect for the  
opponent



## Promotion of chess and fostering youth chess education within the Hungarian-Serbian border region

Chess is a game for all. It helps people improve their concentration, imagination and creativity. It also teaches independence, develops the ability to predict and foresee consequences of actions and teaches players that success comes to those who work hard. Studies have suggested that chess may help develop critical thinking and strategic thinking skills and may improve pupils and students' work and grades. It certainly offers an opportunity to meet like-minded people.

Maróczy Géza Sport Association and Chess Club "Senta" carried out an 18-month complex project to promote chess, involving young chess players and children from both sides of the border. As part of the project they organized several joint events and programmes in both countries, through which the participants could

exchange their experiences, invent novel solutions for professional problems and establish personal contacts. The partners organised chess camps for beginners and advanced players, two Chess Festivals, and a Day of Chess. Yet, the two chess clubs did not focus only on young chess enthusiasts and professionals. The clubs actively engaged in promoting chess to children who previously may not have had opportunities to enjoy this game.

They regularly taught children in five elementary schools in Szeged and five in Senta to play chess.

The development of logic skills would be quite a result in itself, but the partners also managed to bring children closer to each other as many of them became friends.

*Chess is a game  
for all*

### Project partners:

Maróczy Géza Sportegyesület  
(Maróczy Géza Sport Association, Szeged)  
Šahovski Klub „Senta” (Chess Club “Senta”)

Project total budget / 66,580.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 56,593.00 €

Project start date / 01 03 2013

Project end date / 31 08 2014





## Csanádpalota and Padej for joint cultural development

Csanádpalota in Hungary and Padej in Serbia built this project on the back of their long-term relationship in order to extend existing traditions. In close cooperation, they arranged a “mirror” series of events so that the participants could be introduced to and embrace the culture of their neighbours from another country. The partners planned and organised two workshops and 18 events which gravitated around cultural, culinary or sporting activities. Csanádpalota organised the 1st International Sticker Meeting and the Nations Christmas, the Old Year Farewell, the New Year Greetings programme, the International Women’s Day, the City Day, the Drama Festival, the Riding, Hunting and Fishery Meeting, the International Children’s Day, the International Gastronomy Festival, the International Sports Day, the Palotai Wedding and the International Day of Elderly, while Padej organised the Gastro Day, the International Hunter Meeting, the Theatre Evening, the Keszég Day, the Orthodox Easter, a summer camp, a mini-football competition and the Village Day.

The various series of programmes had something interesting for every person, regardless of their age, profession, gender or nationality, so the project reached wide-ranging sections of the population in the border region. The most important benefits of these programmes were the deepening of personal contacts in the border region and the decrease in cultural differences.

*Decrease in  
cultural differences  
in the border region*

### Project partners:

**Csanádpalota Város Önkormányzata**  
(Local Government of Csanádpalota)  
Mesna Zajednica Padej  
(Local Community of Padej)

**Project total budget / 66,900.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 56,865.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 12 2012**

**Project end date / 31 10 2013**



## Civil knowledge for successful cross border cooperation

As a consequence of the financial crisis, economic and related circumstances have changed on both sides of the border, which has had significant impact on the civil sector. The number of civil initiatives has decreased and fewer non-profit organisations work together in Serbia. The project partners realized that there is little cooperation between the civil sector of Hungary and Serbia, and that the transfer of the positive experiences of the EU through Hungary may strengthen it.

The motivation of this project arose from the demand to set up joint civil cooperation along the Hungarian-Serbian border, which might contribute to the sharing of professional experiences and the development and strengthening of civil society in the bordering countries.

The project consisted of the installation of Civilian Information and Support Centres, the creation of a Civilian Database, the compilation of the Civilian Manual, development of a civilian

curriculum and related trainings. The partners created short films about civil organisations and organised a camp, workshops and forums, which were designed to prepare civil society organisations for the civil synergies of the European Union.

The project partners initiated Hungarian-Serbian cross-border networking of civil organizations and encouraged the transfer of good practices and expertise.

*The transfer  
of the positive  
experience of  
the EU*

### Project partners:

**Savez Strukovnih Društava i Udruženja, Subotica**

**(Association of Professional Organisations, Subotica)**

KUSZA – Kulturális és Szabadidős Egyesület, Bordány (Cultural and Recreational Association, Bordány)

Szent Gellért Társaság a Külhoni Magyarok Támogatásáért Közhasznú Egyesület, Szeged (St Gellért Association for the Support of Hungarians Abroad, Szeged)

**Project total budget / 81,979.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 69,682.15 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2013**

**Project end date / 31 12 2013**



## Improving cross-border cooperation by promoting cooperation between bowling clubs

Bowling is not only a sport, but also a community pastime for all ages. The bowling teams operating in Szeged and Senta shared the fun of bowling with everyone, especially with young people between the ages 14 and 24.

Their joint objective was to promote bowling as a sport and also to diversify leisure activities as part of general and healthy youth lifestyle and to expand the supporter base of their associations. During the project implementation, the partnership organised one opening bowling event and a total of 8 Open Days in both towns. They invited mixed groups of young people from both countries who love sports to play with them and participate in competitions. The partners also modernised their equipment, so the bowlers and inhabitants could enjoy their favourite leisure activity in better conditions. Bowling, due to its special characteristics, is an excellent sport which can mobilise those people who do not like exhaustive and intensive forms of motion. As an inherently social sport, bowling also allows players to enjoy the company of the people with whom they are playing. The two

bowling clubs provided a platform, a meeting place for the players from both countries to meet and enjoy the shared sport activity and competition.

The project partners' close cooperation resulted in the deepening of personal and professional connections, as well as the popularisation of bowling in the border region.

*Bowling is not only a sport, but also a community pastime for all ages*

### Project partners:

Szegedi Tekézők Egyesülete  
(Bowling Sport Club of Szeged)  
„Teke Egyesület Senta” Zenta Bowling  
Sport Club of Senta

Project total budget / 79,032.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 67,177.20 €  
Project start date / 01 01 2013  
Project end date / 31 03 2014



## A világ deszkáin bez granica

The world of theatre is full of magic and surprise. Unfortunately, there are many people who cannot afford a theatre ticket, or for whom the nearest theatre is very far away. Since 1978, the “Tanyaszínház – Salaško Pozorište” caravan theatre has been bringing culture, theatre and arts into villages and the rural areas, to places where people rarely have access to the theatrical performances and form of entertainment.

As part of this project, “Tanyaszínház” and its partner “Deszka” from Deszk jointly travelled through the border area presenting their performances to Hungarian and Serbian audiences, thus forming a cross-border cultural bridge. Firstly, they organised 10 workshops for theatrical performers, actors and artists from both countries to exchange their experiences about outdoor theatre and learn about the specificities of acting outdoors. Over the course of seven months, the two theatres created and rehearsed a bilingual series of plays. Tanyaszínház-Salaško Pozorište performed “Ilija Próféta” in four villages in Vojvodina (Serbia), Kupusina, Bogojevo, Nova Crnja and Temerin, in the Hungarian language with subtitles in Serbian. In August 2013, people in three settlements in Hungary, Szeged-Szőreg, Tiszasziget, Újszentiván, enjoyed the play “Sóska és sült krumpli - Zelje, pečeni krompir” performed in the

Serbian language with subtitles in Hungarian. The crowning event of the project was the 1st International Festival of Outdoor Theatres in Kavilo, Serbia, which gathered many travelling theatrical groups, visitors and theatre-goers. As part of their promotion of different forms and media of artistic expression, the two theatres also organised a full-day photo competition in Kavilo.

Apart from strengthening bilingualism through their multimedia plays, the theatres brought memorable performances and entertainment to the villages along the border. In accordance with the mission of the project, the plays and theatre was brought to the disadvantaged people of smaller settlements to whom theatrical performances otherwise might not be available.

*The plays  
were brought  
to the disadvantaged  
people of smaller  
settlements*

### Project partners:

**Tanyaszínház – Salaško Pozorište**  
(Travelling Theatre “Tanyaszínház”)

Deszki Művelődési Ház és Könyvtár  
(Culture House and Library of Deszk)

**Project website / <http://www.videbproject.info/>**

**Project total budget / 64,860.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 55,131.00 €**

**Project start date / 01 02 2013**

**Project end date / 31 08 2013**



## Toward Equal Opportunities for Children in Sport

The main objective of the project was to provide equal opportunities for children in the border region who have a strong desire to play tennis, to participate in competitions, to learn and to make new friendships. The main aspect of this project focused on children with disabilities giving them the chance to participate in training and competitions and spend more time with their peers.

The tennis clubs from Szeged and Palić arranged a rich series of programmes including promotional trainings for junior students from primary schools, regular tennis coaching for participating children, mini-leagues and sports-coaching seminars, as well as trainers' professional meetings. Twice a week the children had the opportunity to play tennis with their peers from the neighbouring country. The acquisition of new equipment not only improved the quality of tennis education in both clubs, but also enabled them to include children from disadvantaged families in tennis trainings by providing them with the equipment.

Aside from the educational work with school-children, the two clubs especially emphasised the inclusion of children with hearing impairments in their everyday work. They first organised a seminar for coaches on the benefits of

employing an inclusive approach in sports and assessed the opportunities the tennis educators have to contribute to the integration of children with disabilities into society and public life. In these seminars, the coaches were able to learn practical coaching methods and supportive and motivational techniques to use in their work with children with disabilities. Finally and most importantly, the coaches and tennis trainers agreed on the importance of teaching children that their peers with disabilities have an equal right to participate in sports, can achieve great results if they play in supportive environment and that their participation will benefit the sport itself, society and all the members of their communities.

The teachers exchanged experiences, teaching methods, developed their professional and personal connections, and children became committed to tennis through the trainings. The partners' biggest results were the enthusiastic smiles on the children's face, the established friendships and life-long memories.



### Project partners:

**Szeged Városi Tenisz Klub  
(Szeged Town Tennis Club)**

Tenisz Klub Palić 1878

(Tennis Club Palić 1878)

**Project total budget / 68,836.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 58,510.60 €**

**Project start date / 01 03 2013**

**Project end date / 31 08 2014**

*The biggest result  
were the enthusiastic  
smiles on the children's  
faces*



## Cross-border League

Bordány and Hajdukovo are two settlements located in the sands along the Hungarian–Serbian border. Due to their proximity and the similar backgrounds and strong everyday interaction of the inhabitants, they have had a decade-long relationship, which has manifested not only in the field of sports, but in cultural and people-to-people contacts as well.

In the course of a year, the two football clubs strengthened and intensified their previously sporadic cooperation in terms of training young footballers, as well as promoting football through competition and friendly matches. The trainers and experts of the football clubs discussed, compared and harmonised the traditions and methods of training new generations in both countries. This resulted in an integrated approach to football training, taking best of both traditions. The partners organised regular joint training camps, cross-border leagues, friendly matches and workshops, so that young players could experience and learn to cope with playing on the opponent's field as well as in a foreign country. In order to improve the training conditions, the changing room next to the football field in Hajdukovo was renovated.

The joint training sessions and intensified professional gatherings gave both clubs new motivation and impetus. The trainers exchanged experiences, learnt new methods from each other, and together they improved the quality of football education in the border region. The co-

operation was also beneficial for young players; they were weighed on international midfield, got to know their peers from the neighbouring country.



*Joint  
training  
sessions and  
intensified  
professional  
gatherings*

### Project partners:

**Bordány Sportkör (Bordány Sport Club)**

Fudbalski klub „Vinogradar” Hajdukovo  
(Football club “Vinogradar” Hajdukovo)

**Project total budget / 75,730.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 64,370.50 €**

**Project start date / 01 01 2013**

**Project end date / 31 12 2013**



## Borderland Area Cooking Network

The project partners used gastronomy to facilitate the inclusion and integration of minorities living in the Hungarian-Serbian border area and to ensure cultural dialogue between people living close to each other in the region. As part of the project, the partnership organised 8 gastro seminars and festivals with cooking competitions, where communities presented themselves and their culture through gastronomy, traditional recipes and cooking know-how. In Serbia, Sombor and Bezdan hosted the attractive programmes, while in Hungary, Deszk, Szeremle, Gara and Érsekcsanád were the location for these events. Each gastronomic seminar focused on a type of dish: soups and goulash, cakes and cookies, grilled meat, dishes prepared with fish and alike. In each of them, the communities, Roma, Albanian, Croatian,

Macedonian and numerous other people prepared dishes to their traditional recipes and participated in intercultural communication via the exchange of culinary knowledge and skills. All the gastro competitions and gatherings organised outdoors attracted thousands of visitors. The partner organisations developed a web page, prepared project brochures and edited a very useful bilingual cookbook to strengthen the development of gastro tourism in the border region. The participating communities got closer and closer to one another with every delicious bite.



*The  
participants  
got closer  
to one another  
with every  
delicious bite*

### Project partners:

Dél-Alföldi Eurotender Ifjúsági, Kulturális,  
Oktatási és Környezetvédelmi Egyesület,  
Szeged (Eurotender Association, Szeged)  
Magyar Polgári Kaszinó, Sombor  
(Hungarian Civic Casino, Sombor)

Project total budget / 103,100.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 87,635.00 €

Project start date / 01 01 2013

Project end date / 31 12 2013



## Cultural travels in the region of Szeged and Subotica

CULTRAIL was a series of cultural and multimedia events, the aim of which was to strengthen the cultural identity of the twinned towns of Subotica and Szeged and to develop neighbourly connections between the inhabitants of the border region. The common theme of the programmes was travelling by train. Reading of excerpts from literary works, performances, concerts on non-traditional and ad-hoc stages, on train platforms and in trains, at border-crossings and on the streets and in the markets of the towns, attracted hundreds of interested people, affirming and promoting the body of literature in the neighbouring country. Literature and art were thus integrated into everyday life. To attract and engage the youth, the partners organised a literature quiz for high school students from Vojvodina and Szeged as part of the Kosztolányi Days event in the City Library of Subotica, titled "Kosztolányi-enigma". The students were familiarised with the work of this writer by visiting the places described in one of his novels. Furthermore, they organised a conference in Palić about the works of Géza Csáth.

In Subotica, a two-day-long bilingual conference, "KIŠobran/KIŠernyő", gathered writers, young aspiring artists, experts and book-lovers not only from the border-region but from elsewhere in both countries and abroad. As part of the "KIŠobran/KIŠernyő" conference, the publication "Timetable: Travelling Means to Live" containing texts and contributions by writers and literary critics, was published. Emphasis on the architectural heritage of contemporary and historic train stations in the region is a special feature of this book.

The third programme was the Rail Coach Festival between Szeged and Subotica with the participation of writers from Hungary and Serbia and an audience of book-lovers. Contributions by writers and artists from this travelling festival were published in a special edition of the magazine "Symposion". The multifaceted and vibrant gatherings deepened the relationship between not only Szeged and Subotica as twinned cities, but also between the literati from both countries. Intense intercultural cooperation diversified the network of organisations and book lovers, introduced novel methods into the literature and art education of the youth and promoted traditional and contemporary artworks. The project partners expect long-term results from this project in the fields of education, scientific research and contemporary art.



### Project partners:

DEAK Kooperációs Kutatási Nonprofit Zrt.  
(DEAK Cooperation Research Private  
Limited Company, Szeged)  
Gradska Biblioteka Subotica (City Library Subotica)

Project total budget / 95,957.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 81,563.45 €  
Project start date / 01 02 2013  
Project end date / 28 02 2014

*Novel methods  
of the literature and  
art education of the  
youth  
Diversified the  
network of organisations  
and book lovers*

## Cross-border village caretaking service

The goal of the project was to present and establish a village caretaking service in Serbia based on the Hungarian model, which is considered to be one example of best practice in the European Union. The Hungarian experiences can be built into the operation of the village caretaking service as an answer to local needs, and these can be used as best practices in both countries. The project is the continuation of the previous and very successful project in the 1st Call for Proposals (HUSRB/0901/222/141). The project included, among others things, network development, events for civil organisations, the local governments of the partners and local communities, and the exchange of experiences.

The partnership held 12 working meetings, 4 conferences on the experiences of the Hungarian and Serbian village caretaking services, 4 workshops about village caretaking in Bečej, Kupusina, Mužlja and Šatrinci, 2 study visits to

Hungary to get to know the service and to North Bačka to get to know the cultural, communal and civil system of the region. The partners organised a joint vocational training for village caretakers from both countries in Lakitelek, Hungary.

The partner organisations strengthened co-operation between communities living on the social periphery, in the border region, which are facing the same problems in both countries. The project contributed to increasing equal opportunities by improving human resources according to the lifelong learning trend, and contributed to reducing the marginalisation of underprivileged social groups by improving the communal, social, economic and civil network.

Village  
caretaking service  
as an answer  
to local needs

### Project partners:

**Falugondnokok Duna-Tisza Közi Egyesülete, Kecskemét (Association of Village Caretakers between Duna and Tisza, Kecskemét)**

Forum žena Mali Idoš (Women's Forum Mali Idoš)  
Udruženje za razvoj naselja pešćarske visoravni  
Severne Bačke (Association for the Development  
of the Settlements of the Sands in North Bačka  
Region, Horgoš)

**Project total budget / 77,360.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 65,756.00 €**

**Project start date / 15 05 2013**

**Project end date / 14 05 2014**





## Handshaking of cultures, religions and generations on the border of Hungary and Serbia

The origins of choral music are found in traditional music, as singing in big groups is extremely wide spread in traditional cultures. Studies suggest that singing together greatly enhances trust between members of any group. So, group singing could unite people in a group who share common interests. The overall aim of the MUSICBRIDGE project was to increase Hungarian and Serbian citizens' musical cultivation, to help them get to know each other's musical cultures and in doing so to intensify the cultural interaction in the border region.

The partners organised an international choral seminar in Szeged and an international choir meeting in Novi Sad, at which choirs and musicians from all over the world gathered and exchanged their experiences. The visitors, musicians and enthusiasts especially enjoyed joint concerts in both cities, while the series of concerts in Szeged was equally well-attended. Through these joint activities, professional knowledge, expertise and pedagogical methods were exchanged between the musicians from the two countries.

The project contributed to the development of musical culture, enhanced the protection of musical treasures and traditions in the border

region. Moreover, the programme facilitated the professional and methodological development of those who participate in the music spheres of Hungary and Serbia.



### Project partners:

**Szent-Györgyi Albert Agóra, Szeged**  
(Szent-Györgyi Albert Agóra, Szeged)  
Vojvođanska horska asocijacija, Novi Sad  
(Vojvodina Choral Association Novi Sad – VOCA)

Project total budget / 79,560.00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA) / 67,626.00 €  
Project start date / 01 01 2013  
Project end date / 31 05 2014

*Singing  
together greatly  
enhances trust  
between members  
of any group*



## Cross-border media promotion of interculturalism across the Panonnian region

North Bačka District is located in an area which has been affected by armed conflicts in recent history. This region's past contains enough elements to undermine the return of trust among the majority of the people living there. Consequently, there are many long-lasting prejudices, which may affect matters such as access to education, official use of language, cultural autonomy, information dissemination and participation in governance.

Through the activities of this project, the partners tried to increase awareness and better interethnic understanding of and cooperation between the ethnic communities in the border region. The partners made almost fifty films to present interethnic relations on both sides of the border, placing emphasis on Hungarian national minority in Serbia and the Serbian national minority in Hungary. These films were aired on local TV stations. The project in this way contributed to reconciliation and mutual acceptance, and also strengthened tolerance in the border region.

The activities strengthened tolerance in the border region



### Project partners:

Udruženje „Digitalna regija”, Subotica  
(Association Digital Region, Subotica)  
Szó-Tér Egyesület, Szeged (Word-Square  
Association, Szeged)

Project total budget / 97,990.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 83,291.50 €

Project start date / 01 01 2013

Project end date / 31 12 2013

## Music without borders

The organ is called the king of musical instruments because it is the largest and produces the loudest and most powerful sound. The organ boasts a substantial repertoire, which spans many centuries. Because organs are commonly found in churches and synagogues, sacred music comprises a significant part of the organ repertoire. Yet, the organ's secular repertoire is also prominent and includes preludes, fugues, sonatas, organ symphonies, suites, and transcriptions of orchestral works. This project aimed to present the values of the border region through programmes promoting the organ.

They organised different types of events, such as educational programmes, lectures, master classes for artists, organ courses, concerts, a meeting of cantors, and the traditional Church Music Festival in Senta with the new organ. In order to improve musical education and cultural life, the partners reconstructed the organ in the Church of Heart of Jesus in Senta. Besides a number of public performances in Szeged and Senta, the project also hosted a performance of choirs; the International meeting of Cantors—Without Borders continued the cycle of the "Sunday Evening Prayer".

Over the course of a year and a half, significant efforts and work were invested in an educational programme and practice. The partner organisations jointly prepared a series of interactive presentations and lectures about the functions of the organ and the music potential

of the reconstructed organ in Senta. In a series of 12 lectures, high school students from both countries were able not only to learn about organ, but also to enjoy the sound and power of this amazing instrument.

Aside from introducing the general audience to the magnificent world of sounds of this grand instrument, the students of the Academy of Arts, the Organ Department, attended master classes in Szeged and Senta held by prominent organ-players and music educators. The students had the opportunity to play the instruments.

The partnership prepared and published very interesting and modern educational materials about the organ for children, as well as a well-researched, informative and well-designed book on the organ in three languages (Hungarian, Serbian and English).

The partner institutions hope that this project has long lasting positive effects for music students, teachers, artists and spiritual and cultural institutions.



### Project partners:

**Szeged-Belvárosi Római Katolikus Plébánia**  
(Szeged-Belvárosi Roman Catholic Presbytery)

Kulturno-obrazovni centar „Thurzó Lajos”,

Senta (Cultural and Educational Centre  
“Thurzó Lajos”, Senta)

**Project total budget / 113,633.00 €**

**Project EU funding (IPA) / 96,588.05 €**

**Project start date / 02 01 2013**

**Project end date / 01 07 2014**

*Presenting the  
values of the  
border region*

## Football clubs and citizens cross-border cooperation based on the common past, present and future

The general objectives of the project were to harmonise and improve the standard of football activities in the Hungarian-Serbian border region by implementing a 16-month cooperation programme between the football clubs TSK in Temerin, Serbia, and Zákányszék in Hungary.

This cooperation gave active athletes, amateurs and children the chance to meet each other, share experiences and become acquainted with their neighbours and their culture, and to play international matches as well. These two clubs have many similarities. They compete in approximately the same level of competition in their national championships, have a similar sport club organisation and face similar problems.

Gathered around 20 football events on both sides of the border, 400 athletes of different ages, 500 children and pupils, 2000 amateur athletes, 5000 sports fans and supporters, as well as thousands of citizens, had the unique opportunity to participate in a cross-border professional, cultural and social exchange. During the project the partners organised several joint camps for children and tournaments for adults, family and youth sports days,

indoor football tournament, penalty shoot-out competition, charity ball to name a few. The football club in Temerin celebrated its hundredth anniversary, and to mark the occasion they prepared and published a monograph about the club.

During the activities, the participating children and young players improved their endurance and proficiency in football. The exchange of experiences among the trainers improved the quality of football education in the border region. Additionally, over the sixteen months, the two clubs organised a series of carefully designed and well-targeted events that motivated and encouraged as many people as possible to participate in sports and social activities while improving the working conditions of the involved sports clubs by acquiring and upgrading training equipment.

Improved  
endurance and  
proficiency in  
football

### Project partners:

Fudbalski klub „TSK”, Temerin  
(Football Club “TSK”, Temerin)  
Zákányszék Községi Sportkör  
(Zákányszék Municipal Sport Club)

Project total budget / 111,140.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 94,469.00 €

Project start date / 01 02 2013

Project end date / 30 05 2014



## Finding, training and developing the skill of young volleyball talents on both sides of the border

The aim of this project was to support junior talents and to develop and manage the skills of existing talents. The efforts of the two volleyball clubs to maintain the process of developing a sporting identity and attitude towards volleyball in the cross-border region were successful.

Since financial resources for supporting young volleyball talents are limited in both Serbia and Hungary, this project was seen as a great help in providing the means and resources to recognise and support young volleyball talents in the region.

Three memorial volleyball tournaments were held in Szeged, a training camp for children between the ages 7 and 16 was held in Hungary, the Street Volley competition with 1,400 contestants was held in Subotica, and a Beach Volley competition with 260 participants was held in Serbia. The main message promoted at the events organised for general public and all interested players was to embrace idea of living healthy and active lives, while engaging in an inherently social sport: volleyball.

During the project, several teams were equipped with the necessary sports equipment and players could have a special medical check-up. The partners believe that their efforts

to popularise volleyball among young people were successful. They introduced thousands of children to volleyball, inspiring them to reach beyond the achievements of the previous generations and become ambassadors in the communication of sports. The spirit of competition also helps bring out the most from us. The two clubs, while teaching children about the importance of competitiveness, also emphasised and instilled in the young players the values of sportsmanship, respect for the opponent and the sport itself. The partners' efforts bolstered the process of developing peoples' sporting identity and attitude towards volleyball in the border region.

Supporting  
young volleyball  
talents

### Project partners:

Szegedi Röplabda Sportegyesület  
(Volleyball Sports Club Szeged)

Futoški Odbojkaški Klub „FOK”  
(Volleyball Club “FOK”, Futog)

Project total budget / 78,223.00 €

Project EU funding (IPA) / 66,489.55 €

Project start date / 01 03 2013

Project end date / 28 02 2014



## Fostering cooperation in the cross-border Regions through Enhancing the Sustainable development of Cultural heritage and tourism Offer

Through cross-border cooperation in the project FRESCO, the settlements of Bácsborsód and Bač have built and maintained cultural, traditional and historical ties and thus enhanced the sustainable development of cultural heritage of the region. Each municipality has a unique cultural value: the Latinovits Chapel is situated in the centre of Bácsborsód and the UNESCO heritage Fortress of Bač. The distance between the two settlements is about 100 km and common historical and cultural ties are explored and emphasized in a joint regional study which analysed the endogenous resources for tourist development of both regions. Based on the analysis and recommendations for the tourist offer of Bačka Region, the partners developed the Action Plan delineating common tourism priorities and potential tourist and cultural programs. Project Partners also embarked on reconstruction and renovations of part of their cultural monuments. Thus, Municipality of Bácsborsód restored the Latinovits Chapel and functionally adapted it and converted it into an exhibition space. It has hosted exhibitions on the history of the region and the Latinovits family as well as artwork of artists of the region such as photo exhibition, straw pictures and the work of Bácsborsód-born world famous painter Moholy-Nagy László. In order to protect the building and to make it more attractive for

tourists and visitors, municipality of Bač made small improvements in immediate vicinity of the fortress, such as installation of public lighting system and video surveillance, clean the immediate surroundings and mount benches in resting

areas. The partners also acquired the equipment necessary for conversion of the monuments into tourist sites and for hosting and organizing cultural events.

In order to promote their cultural heritage and establish and maintain the network, the partner organizations participated in the international tourist fair and organized exhibition/fair of traditional crafts and food made by the inhabitants of the settlements. The partners organized two well-attended fairs on traditional crafts and food, in Bácsborsód, Bač Selenča and Katymár ensuring the participation the craftsmen and food producers of the settlements of the Bačka region, project partners, visitors and inhabitants of surrounding settlements. Visitors and tourists as well as the inhabitants of surrounding settlements were warmly welcomed to the European heritage days, a yearly event which takes place at the Bač Fortress. Close cooperation of the settlements significantly improved the functionality and attractiveness of the cultural heritage monuments and placed them on the map of the tourist offer of the region.

### Project Partners:

Opština Bač (The Municipality of Bač)  
Bácsborsód Községi Önkormányzat  
(Municipality of Bácsborsód)

Project total budget/ 313 125,90 €  
Project EU funding (IPA)/ 266 157,01 €  
Project start date/ 01 06 2015  
Project end date/ 30 06 2016

*common tourism  
priorities  
tourist & cultural  
programs*



## An interdisciplinary research on the past and present of legumes for a higher and sustainable protein production to the benefit of both Pannonian and European farmers in the future

Grain legumes have been one of the main components for both human consumption and animal feeding. The project PEASEMAKERS aimed at the promotion of legumes in agriculture, economy and society of both Hungary and Serbia and other European countries. The central legume crop of the project is pea, because of its remarkable morphological variability, insufficiently explored genome and numerous uses in agriculture and industry. Pea is also one of the first domesticated plant species and therefore among the most ancient European crops. Due to the symbiosis with root nitrogen-fixing bacteria, pea is a highly-esteemed green manure crop in organic farming and sustainable agriculture because it increases the fertility of the soil.

During the sixteen-month project, the partnership of two scientific institutions worked on improvement of the pea yield components, forage and grain quality and its tolerance to prevailing forms of biotic and abiotic stress, which in turn can result in increased profit for farmers, multiplier effects in economy and the benefit of the whole society. By joining forces, knowledge and expertise, the two scientific institutions contributed to the preservation and conservation of the legume biodiversity in both Hungarian and Serbian floras - particularly *Pisum elatius*, a semi-wild relative of cultivated pea. As the biodiversity in European countries

decreases, many rare and endangered species are threatened with extinction. Among them is a potentially useful wild plant *Pisum elatius*. Even though protected, it is at risk of extinction mostly because of animal grazing or unpredictable abiotic stress. Therefore, the partnership answered the call for urgent in situ preservation and ex situ conservation by devising and executing a series of well-planned and coordinated activities.

Another important challenge of the projects was abiotic stress screen of a model legume mutant collection. The teams of scientists searched for new candidate genes with role in response to abiotic stress by using the insertional mutant collection of the model legume *Medicago truncatula*. In order to develop novel, native-based and locally-adapted cultivars for the border regions the scientists worked with two additional legume crops: lucerne, the most important perennial forage legume, and soybean, the most important grain legume on a world scale.

Through the carefully designed and executed laboratory and DNA analyses and field work and trials, staff exchanges, joint publications and work with farmers and crop producers, the partners developed joint pea cultivars for various purposes and have offered some answers to the challenges of the modern agricultural production and maintenance of biodiversity.

**Project Partners:**  
MTA Szegedi Biológiai Kutatóközpont  
(Biological Research Centre HAS Szeged)  
Institut za ratarstvo i povrtarstvo  
(Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops)

Project total budget/ 205 150,00 €  
Project EU funding (IPA)/ 174 377,50 €  
Project start date/ 01 03 2015  
Project end date/ 30 06 2016

PEASEMAKERS  
preserving and  
conserving the  
legume biodiversity

## Joint development of higher education and training programmes in plant biology in support of knowledge-based society

During one and a half year, the two partner universities, one from Szeged, Hungary, and the other from Novi Sad, Serbia, closely collaborated by joining forces in research, development of higher education and training of experts in the field of basic and applied plant biology. The complementarity of their research and specific fields of expertise was the sound foundation for their cooperation and achievement of praise-worthy results. Project focused on the integration of region-specific research activity in order to develop and further expand knowledge applicable in the agricultural practice of the region. The complementary background of the project partners ensured that the acquired new knowledge and developed research tools facilitate complex training and improvement of the R&D capacity.

Namely, the research of the stress responses of vegetables and crops which is conducted at the Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad is crucial for both agricultural and industrial production. These research techniques and findings have been combined with basic research performed on model plants and crops at the Department of Plant Biology at the University of Szeged. Thus, the results of scientific research have revealed basic information about the physiological and molecular background of the tolerance mechanisms of important model, wild-growing and cultivated plants (such as *Arabidopsis*, *Brachypodium* or tomato, wheat, cucumber and soya) during oxidative stress generated by drought, salinity or heavy metals.

The complementing feature of research work of the partner institutions (basic and applied plant biology) significantly supported the elaboration of common lectures and partial curricula on master and PhD level both in native and English language. Also, bilateral exchange of lecturers and tutors supported and further developed plant biology courses while tremendously helping in elaborating courses in English language.

Through organization of workshops, common academic and practical trainings as well as student exchange programmes graduate students and young scientists learned how to design and carry out experiments and to apply the most appropriate research methods.

Apart from launching the training programmes in Plant Biology on MSc and PhD levels in English language, the partners improved the analytical facilities and equipment of the Departments.

This and mutual use of the laboratory equipment made the research work far more effective. Also, the undergraduate and graduate students as well as young researchers from several specializations benefited and will continue to benefit from this innovation and from the development of new courses: biologists, engineers of food and environmental science, teachers of biology, bioengineers on BSc, MSc and PhD levels.

Aside from sustaining already achieved results, the project partners are expecting and continuously working on their multiplication. Practical benefits of curricula, sustained trainings and personal and professional contacts developed through the project will continue to yield results in the years to come.

### Project Partners:

**Szegedi Tudományegyetem** (University of Szeged)  
**Poljoprivredni fakultet** (Faculty of Agriculture),  
University of Novi Sad

Project total budget/ 202 100,00 €

Project EU funding (IPA)/ 171 785,00 €

Project start date/ 01 01 2015

Project end date/ 30 06 2016

*basic and  
applied  
plant biology*

## Cooperation in MEDical PHYSicist Training and Education

Cancer, the second most frequent mortality cause in the developed countries, represents a global health problem. Hungary and Serbia show similar profile regarding cancer incidence. Recently, the introduction of prevention and modern treatment modalities produced significant achievements. Radiotherapy is an important treatment option needed by more than half of the cancer patients. The quality of radiotherapy determines outcome: the possibility of cure is enhanced, and the risk of side effects is decreased if advanced radiotherapy techniques are used. Medical physicists are the key technical and support team members in radiotherapy as they are responsible for its safe and efficient application. Through the MEPHYSTE project, Faculty of Sciences of the University of Novi Sad, the Institute of Oncology Vojvodina, and the Department of Oncotherapy, University of Szeged, created a cross-border educational cooperation for the special training of medical physicists focusing on the everyday professional activities, postgraduate education and scientific work.

It is safe to say that the expertise of medical physicists greatly influences the quality of cancer patient care in the fields of diagnostics and therapy. Medical physicists are involved in nuclear medicine, diagnostic radiology, radiation protection and radiotherapy. Out of them, radiotherapy is the most complex and most

challenging field because it is the most technologically advanced as well as the most rapidly developing.

The main goal of the cross-border cooperation of the three institutions in the project MEPHYSTE was to improve the knowledge and preparedness of medical physicists according to the special needs that they face during their everyday work or if a particular new radiotherapy technique is to be implemented. To help the medical physicists in addressing the challenges they encounter the partnership elaborated curriculum covering both a structured basic learning and the issues related to specific techniques such as conformal radiotherapy, intensity-modulated radiotherapy and stereotactic radiosurgery. In the framework of the project, the partner institutions invested in the development of the infrastructure and the equipment of the facilities. This facilitates high-quality research development of QA/QC protocols: educational material and standardized QA/QC program, demonstration and hands-on training. Furthermore, the project broadened training and education of the whole community of medical physicists from Hungary and Serbia.

In the long term, the partnership expects to continue broadening the potential of radiotherapy for a more efficient and less toxic therapeutic practice in the two oncology centers (Kamenica and Szeged) and in the two countries.

The project partners will continue to work on achieving high quality and safe radiotherapy and better treatment of cancer patients, striving to accomplish a significant beneficial impact on human health and quality of life.

### Project Partners:

**Univerzitet u Novom Sadu,**  
**Prirodno-matematički fakultet u Novom Sadu**  
 (University of Novi Sad Faculty of Sciences)  
**Szegedi Tudományegyetem**  
 (University of Szeged)  
**Institut za onkologiju Vojvodine**  
 (Institute of oncology Vojvodina)

Project website/ [www.mephyste.pmf.uns.ac.rs](http://www.mephyste.pmf.uns.ac.rs)

Project total budget/ 290 908,20€  
 Project EU funding (IPA)/ 247 271,97 €  
 Project start date/ 01 03 2015  
 Project end date/ 30 06 2016

*medical physicists*  
*diagnostics and*  
*therapy*

# Impressum

*Editor:*

*Senka Gavranov*

*Editorial Assistants:*

*János Halász, Danica Lale, Péter Rácz, Viktor Tunić*

*With the contribution of current and former members of the JTS:*

*Katalin Kapcsos, Zsuzsa Szeghalminé Ferencz, Andrea Szeti-Furka, Tünde Incze, Péter Borbély, Júlia Gelegonya-Szűcs, Adrienn Kubinyi-Prodanović, Péter Kalmár, Natalija Matunović Milošević*

*Current and former members of the IP Subotica as the Antenna of the JTS:*

*Relja Burzan, Dejan Vujinović, Zoran Krtinić*

*Special thanks to all organizers of the programs whose pictures we have used in this publication, and realization team members: Marko Velbl, Anikó Novák, Anna Csiszár-Molnár, Adam Hardie, Gordana Sučević, Ivana Đukić, Dejana Gajić and Block&Roll Advertising Agency.*

*Graphic design of the revised edition: Zoltan Kiss*

# Disclaimer

*This document was produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The content of the document is the sole responsibility of the Joint Technical Secretariat of the Hungary–Serbia IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme hosted by the Széchenyi Program Office Nonprofit Ltd. and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union.*

Published:  
15 December 2014

Third and revised edition:  
01 December 2016

Publisher:  
Hungary - Serbia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme  
Joint Technical Secretariat  
hosted by the Széchenyi Program Office Nonprofit Ltd.  
H-1053 Budapest, Szep u. 2  
Hungary

ISBN 978-963-12-2866-3

This publication and its content is copyright of Hungary – Serbia IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme - © Széchenyi Programiroda Nonprofit Kft. 2015.

Permission granted to reproduce for personal, educational and non-commercial use only. Reproduction and modification of part or all of the contents in any form is allowed for non-commercial use and only if you acknowledge the publication as the source of the material. You may not, except with our express written permission, distribute or commercially exploit the content. For permission requests, please write to the publisher at the address below.

Joint Technical Secretariat Hungary-Serbia IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme  
H-1053 Budapest, Szep u. 2  
Hungary  
<http://www.hu-srb-ipa.com/en/>





