



INFO DAY sessions – 2nd round



1st CALL FOR PROPOSALS OPEN CALL



INTERREG VI-A NEXT HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA-ROMANIA-UKRAINE PROGRAMME

INFO DAY

Interreg Co-funded by the European Union NEXT Hungary - Slovakia - Romania - Ukraine

Agenda

- Introduction of the Programme and the 1st Call for Proposals
- Eligibility of Applicants and Expenditure
- Project Logic, Indicators
- Visibility rules, communication
- How to apply (INTERREG+, deadlines)
- Assessment, selection, contracting and implementation
- Questions/ Answers



General information

The Interreg VI-A NEXT Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine Programme is implemented under the Cohesion Policy within the 2021-2027 European Union financial framework under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument NDICI.

- Submitted to the European Commission on 1 April 2022;
 revised based on observation letter of the European Commission
- approved by the Programming Committee on 29 July 2022;
- adopted by the European Commission on 3 November 2022;
- REVISED IP approved by the Monitoring Committee on 15 September 2023;
- adopted by the European Commission on 15 December 2023.





HUNGARY

Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén

SLOVAKIA

Košický kraj Prešovský kraj

ROMANIA

Satu Mare Maramures

Suceava

UKRAINE

Zakarpattia oblast Ivano-Frankivsk oblast

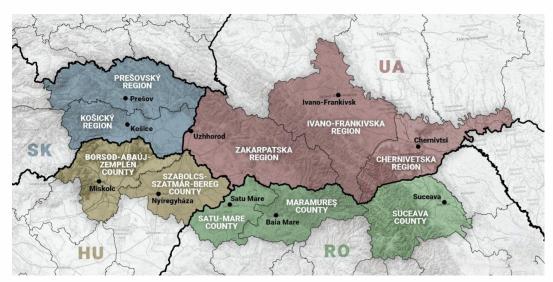
Chernivtsi oblast

Area:

83.057 km²

Population:

8.078.324 inhabitants





Priorities and NDICI financial allocation

Priority 1: A resilient and green border region

Objective 1.1: Climate change adaptation, risk prevention (SO 2.4)

Objective 1.2: Biodiversity and reduced pollution (SO 2.7)

Priority 2: A healthy and attractive border region

Objective 2.1: Equal access to health care (SO 4.5)

Objective 2.2: Culture and tourism (SO 4.6)

Priority 3: A cooperating border region

Objective 3.1: Harmonious neighbourly relations through cooperation (ISO1b)

Objective 3.2: A safer and more secure Europe (ISO2)

EUR 33.74M

EUR 20.52M

EUR 13.22M

EUR 36.74M

EUR 20.22M

EUR 16.52M

EUR 12.70M

EUR 8.61M

EUR 4.09M

Total Programme budget: **EUR 83.18M**



Novelties

- All regions have full rights within the Programme area;
- No major social, economic or cultural centres;
- International organisations are not eligible;
- Small Scale Projects, in addition to the Regular and Large-Scale Projects;
- Implementation period of a project must not be less than 8 months;
- Special attention will be paid to compliance with the horizontal principles;
- No project level indicators, the project must select relevant programme level indicators;
- Simplified cost option, 2 types of budget;
- Reporting frequency: 4 months;
- Advance payment: 25%, paid once;
- Payment structure is not depending on the project type and duration;
- Obligatory communication packages.



Type of projects

- **Small scale projects (SSP)** are above or equal to 70 thousand and below 300 thousand EUR;
- Regular scale projects (RSP) are above or equal to 300 thousand and below 2.5 million EUR (with or without infrastructure element);
- Large scale projects (LSP) are above or equal to 2.5 million EUR and below or equal to 5.0 million EUR (infrastructure budget above or equal to 2.5 million EUR).



Large-scale infrastructure projects can be submitted under Priority 1 – Objectives 1.1 and 1.2 – Type of Action 1. They will be considered operations of strategic importance.





Horizontal and other principles

The Programme horizontal principles are aligned to Article 9 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 (CPR) which stipulates that all projects must respect four horizontal principles:

- respect for fundamental rights and compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;
- equality between men and women, gender mainstreaming and the integration of a gender perspective;
- appropriate steps to prevent any discrimination based on gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation;
- sustainable development and the "do no significant harm" principle as well as climate resilience.

All projects need to have a full respect of the Union environmental acquis.





Horizontal and other principles

The **fundamental rights** that are outlined in the EU Charter are considered intrinsic to the other three horizontal principles and, as such, **not separately assessed**.

"Do no significant harm" (DNSH) principle – actions which promotes and respects the following objectives: climate change mitigation; climate change adaptation; the sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources; the circular economy including waste prevention and recycling; pollution prevention and control to air, water or land; the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

DNSH will be **assessed by YES/NO criteria** whether the projects applications are in line with the types of actions assessed already as do not significantly harm the environment

The application is in line with DNSH

YES - go for further evaluation

NO – will be rejected

1ST CALL FOR PROPOSALS



Objectives and NDICI financial allocation

Priority 1: A resilient and green border region	EUR 22M
Objective 1.1: Climate change adaptation, risk prevention (SO 2.4)	EUR 11,5M
Objective 1.2: Biodiversity and reduced pollution (SO 2.7)	EUR 10,5M

Priority 2: A healthy and attractive border region	EUR 19,8M
Objective 2.1: Equal access to health care (SO 4.5)	EUR 16,2M
Objective 2.2: Culture (SO 4.6)	EUR 3.6M

Priority 3: A cooperating border region

ng border region EUR 8,19M

Objective 3.1: Harmonious neighbourly relations through cooperation (ISO1b)

Objective 3.2: A safer and more secure Europe (ISO2)

The total NDICI support for the 1st Call: **EUR 49.993.185**

1ST CALL FOR PROPOSALS



Type of actions

Priority 1: A resilient and green border region

EUR 22M

Objective 1.1: Climate change adaptation, risk prevention (SO 2.4)

EUR 11,5M

- Joint actions aimed to reduce the impact of climate change and human threats on nature: technical preparation of common infrastructure development projects and implementation of common interest infrastructure development projects;
- Joint education, awareness raising and knowledge sharing activities in the field of climate change adaptation and risk prevention for better understanding, increasing preparedness and prevention;

Objective 1.2: Biodiversity and reduced pollution (SO 2.7)

EUR 10,5M

- Joint initiatives for ensuring the sustainable development of natural areas: technical preparation of common infrastructure development projects and implementation of common interest infrastructure development projects;
- Joint education activities, and awareness raising and knowledge sharing in the field of nature protection and biodiversity.

1ST CALL FOR PROPOSALS



Type of actions

Priority 2: A healthy and attractive border region

EUR 19,8M

Objective 2.1: Equal access to health care (SO 4.5)

EUR 16,2M

- Creation of the legislative, administrative and technical framework for common epidemiological measures and the cross-border rescue services;
- Investments for improving cooperation in epidemiology and in cross-border rescue services;
- Enhancing the use of digital technologies in healthcare and health development;
- Implementation of health screening and health promotion programmes.

Objective 2.2: Culture (SO 4.6)

EUR 3,6M

- Development of common or joint cultural assets and heritage including development of cross-border networks and routes;
- Promotion of local and regional cooperation in culture and arts;
- Pilot actions to boost social innovation and the inclusion of vulnerable groups of the society in cultural activities.

1ST CALL FOR PROPOSALS Type of actions



Priority 3: A cooperating border region

EUR 8,19M

Objective 3.1: Harmonious neighbourly relations through cooperation (ISO1b)

Institutional cooperation between public and civil society organisations

Objective 3.2: A safer and more secure Europe (ISO2)

Cooperation on border control and management



1ST CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Indicative financial allocation breakdown

Priority	Objective	SSP (70K≤x<300K)	RSP (300K≤x<2,5M)	LSP (2,5 M≤x≤5M)	TOTAL
P1 – A resilient and	1.1 Climate change adaptation, risk prevention	2 500 000	3 000 000	6 000 000	11 500 000
green border region	1.2 Biodiversity and reduced pollution	2 000 000	2 500 000	6 000 000	10 500 000
P2 – A	2.1 Equal access to healthcare	1 200 000	15 000 000	0	16 200 000
healthy and attractive border region	2.2 Culture	1 800 000	1 800 000	0	3 600 000
P3 – A cooperating	3.1 Harmonious neighbourly relations through cooperation	2 000 000	2 500 000	0	
border region	3.2. A safer and more secure Europe	1 000 000	2 693 185	0	8 193 185
Total		10 500 000	27 493 185	12 000 000	49 993 185



Regular scale projects with infrastructure element in healthcare can exceed the maximum budget size in case of justified need.





Project duration

The planned implementation period of a project must **not be less than 8** months.

- For Small-scale projects (SSP) the project must not exceed 12 months;
- For Regular-scale projects (RSP) the project must not exceed 24 months;
- For Large-scale project (LSP) the project must not exceed 36 months.



The period of implementation of a project <u>must not start before the deadline</u> for <u>submission of applications</u> defined for this CfP expires. After the submission deadline, the lead partner and partners can start implementing their project taking the risk of being not selected for funding.





Eligibility of Applicants and Expenditure



INTERREG VI-A NEXT HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA-ROMANIA-UKRAINE PROGRAMME



Applicants

Each Applicant has to:

- be a non profit making legal person* that is directly responsible for the preparation and management of the proposed project activities;
 - Public authorities
 - Bodies governed by public law
 - Non profit organisations governed by private law
- prove an operation of at least one year, counted back from the day of launching the present call for proposals (registered on 21st of September 2022 or earlier);

*with exceptional status by law, ministries and state owned companies having portfolio of public interest are eligible.



Applicants

- have their headquarters in Hungary or Slovakia or Romania or Ukraine, and their headquarters or a regional/local branch office has to be registered and acting in the eligible Programme area or if not registered there but having legislative scope of authority to act in the programme area;
- have stable and sufficient professional and financial resources, be experienced in order to be able to manage activities similar to the ones in the application, not falling under the listed exclusion criteria (chapter 2.2 of GfA).

Example: if any of the Applicants has unduly paid or not recovered amounts under the HUSKROUA ENI CBC Programme, the application may be disqualified from the decision making process.

Further grounds for exclusion – GfA relevant chapter 2.2



Partnership

- At least one Applicant from one of the Member States participating in the Programme and at least one Applicant from Ukraine (both with budget);
- The number of partners is maximum 6, including the lead partner;
- Lead Partner principle to follow;
- Responsibilities are set out in SC (GTC) and PA;
- Have the necessary financial and human resources in order to:
 - LP: coordinate the management and implementation of the project;
 - Partners: implement their own project part.
- New term: Partner not receiving financial support

ELIGIBILITY Partnership



Lead Partner principle, where Lead Partner

- signs the Subsidy Contract for EU Contribution on behalf of the partnership;
- concludes a Partnership Agreement with partners;
- bears the responsibility to ensure the full implementation of the project;
- ensures that the expenditure are paid and incurred for the purpose of the project;
- is accountable for project reporting and administrative actions on project level;
- will transfer the EU contribution to the partners receiving financial support, according to the approved Application for Reimbursement in full, no amount shall be deducted or withheld and no specific charge or other charge with equivalent effect shall be levied.



Expenditure

General eligibility requirements for expenditure:

- It complies with the principle of sound financial management, EU, Programme and national procurement rules;
- It relates to costs of implementing a project as approved by the MC and activities listed in the Annex II of the SC, and is essential for the achievement of the project objectives/outputs and it would not be incurred if the project is not carried out;
- Is incurred during the preparation and implementation of a project and paid by the Lead Partner or its Partner(s) within the eligibility period of the project;
- Is not financed by other EU funds or other financial contributions from third parties, except national contributions to the Programme co-financing (no double-financing is allowed);
- It complies with the principle of real costs except for the SCOs;
- It registered in the partner's accounting records through a separate accounting system or an adequate accounting code set in place specifically for the project;
- Is verified via INTERREG+ system on the basis of supporting documents and fulfilled all relevant procurement rules.





Expenditure

Time-wise eligibility of expenditure

1. Preparation costs:

May be incurred and paid before the start of the implementation period of the project, starting from November 3rd, 2022, and is related to the studies and technical documentation for large infrastructural projects and regular projects with infra components.

- 2. Project Implementation Phase
- 3. Project Closure Phase

The latest possible date for the payment of expenditure incurred within the project implementation phase is 30 calendar days after the last day of the project implementation. All the costs should be paid before the submission of the final reports for verification.



Expenditure

Non-eligible expenditure

- Costs of gifts, fines, financial penalties and expenditure on legal disputes and litigation;
- Costs related to fluctuation of foreign exchange rate, interest on debts;
- Value added tax (VAT): if the total budget (including VAT) is at least EUR 5 000 000 and it is recoverable under national VAT legislation;
- Bank charges, unless a separate bank account is opened for the project;
- Conversion costs, charges and exchange losses, as well as other purely financial expenses, except for charges for transnational financial transactions;
- Fees between partners of the same project for services and work carried out or equipment purchased within the project;
- Purchase, rent or leasing of real estate (except office rental for project purposes), leasing of vehicles and equipment;



Expenditure

Non-eligible expenditure

- Purchase of land, tips;
- Costs of guarantees and similar charges, unless that the guarantees are required by national or Community legislation;
- Contributions in kind (e.g. free use of room, equipment or other facilities, unpaid voluntary work, generally any contribution without money flow);
- Benefits (apart from salary) which do not appear on payslips.

Furthermore, the following expenditure is not eligible:

- Any costs incurred after the implementation period of the project;
- Commissions and dividend, profit payment, purchase of business share and stock exchange share, expenses of private consumption;
- Cost of subcontracted activities increasing the cost of the project without adding proportionate value to it;
- Cost of activities subcontracted by partners to other partners of the same project;
- Unpaid invoice amounts or undrawn reduction of the price (cash discount, discount);





Expenditure

Furthermore, the following expenditure is not eligible

- Services (work, equipment) provided by contractors with whom there is a conflict of interest in the meaning of Commission Notice Guidance 2021/C121/01;
- Cost of subcontracts in which the payment is defined as a percentage of the total cost of the project (e.g. success fee);
- Cost of any services, purchase of goods, construction works or movable assets, not directly related to the project;
- Any expenditures not directly associated with the Lead Partner/Partner;
- Any form of double financing: expenditure which is already supported by an EU or other international or national grant.



Types of Budget

2 forms of support in cost categories

- Real (Direct) costs must be incurred and paid by the partner organisation as real costs (supported by documents), used as calculation basis for determining staff cost;
- Flat rate as type of SCO [%]
- SSP or RSP without infrastructure at partner level, where staff costs represent the majority of expenditure (e.g. where a significant number of internal experts work on the project), staff costs can be planned and reimbursed on real cost basis. The applicable flat rate is defined as a percentage of the staff costs;

LSP projects	Budget type A, staff flat rate 5%
RSP with infra budget	Budget type A, staff flat rate 20%
RSP without infra budget	Budget type A, staff flat rate 20% or Budget type B
SSP projects	Budget type A, staff flat rate 20% or Budget type B





Types of Budget

		LSP projects	SSP and RSP (with /without infrastructure budget line)	SSP and RSP without infrastructure budget line
No.	Budget lines	Budget Category A	Budget Category A	Budget Category B
1	Staff cost	Flat Rate: 5% of direct costs other than staff cost	Flat Rate: 20% direct costs other than staff cost	Real Cost
2	Office and Administrative costs	Flat Rate: 15% of Staff cost	Flat Rate: 15% of Staff cost	
3	Travel	Flat Rate: 15% of Staff cost	Flat Rate: 15% of Staff cost	
4	External expertise and services costs	Real Cost	Real Cost	Flat Rate: 40% of Staff cost
5	Equipment and supplies	Real Cost	Real Cost	
6	Investment/Works	Real Cost	Real Cost	



In case project management would be externalized, neither the staff flat rate, nor the office&admin and travel&accomodation flat rate can be calculated and reimbursed.



Procurement rules

Ukrainian Partners

- Procurement rules set out in the Appendix A of Eligibility of Expenditures apply;
- Annex A is identical to the Annex II of the FA between EC, Hungary and Ukraine;
- TESIM will assist the Programme with a detailed Guide for UA Beneficiaries.

Member States Partners

Main programme level rules:

 Selection procedure must be in line with latest EU, Programme or national public procurement rules, depending on the type of entities and net amount contracted.



Procurement rules

For expenditure where no public procurement procedure is required:

- <u>Above EUR 10,000</u> (excl. VAT): beneficiaries must perform and document the execution of adequate market searches so adequacy of the price to be paid;
- The value and complexity of the service/supply and works should be reflected in the specification and breakdown of the ToR, as well as in the offer;
- Avoid conflict of interest performing market search (EC Notice "Guidance on the avoidance and management of conflict of interest under FR 2021/C 121/01");
- <u>Below EUR 10,000</u> (excl. VAT): the principles of sound financial management must be applied, but no specific proof of the market price is required. Nevertheless, the <u>Controllers will check the real market prices</u> during verification;
- Procurement **must not be split artificially** to avoid the above EUR 10,000 threshold.



PAYMENT SCHEME

Advance payment: 25%

Reporting in every 4 months

Reimbursement up to 60%, when use of the 1st installment begins

advance	25%	250 000,00
reimbursement	60%	600 000,00
last 15% reimbursement	15%	150 000,00
	100%	1 000 000,00

Examples



	Planned EU contribution	Spending	Payment	
		as planned		
Advance payment 25%			250 000	25%
Reporting period 1.	20 000	20 000	20 000	
Reporting period 2.	150 000	150 000	150 000	
Reporting period 3.	250 000	250 000	250 000	
Reporting period 4.	230 000	230 000	180 000	60%
Reporting period 5.	50 000	50 000	0	
Reporting period 6.	100 000	100 000	0	
Reporting period 7.	100 000	100 000	50 000	85%
Reporting period 8.	100 000	100 000	100 000	
Reclaim after final PR				
Total:	1 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	



Examples

	Planned EU contribution	Spending	Payment	
		Differently from planned		
Advance payment 25%			250 000	25%
Reporting period 1.	20 000	50 000	50 000	
Reporting period 2.	150 000	100 000	100 000	
Reporting period 3.	250 000	0	0	
Reporting period 4.	230 000	350 000	350 000	
Reporting period 5.	50 000	50 000	50 000	
Reporting period 6.	100 000	250 000	50 000	60%
Reporting period 7.	100 000	50 000	0	85%
Reporting period 8.	100 000	150 000	150 000	
Reclaim after final PR				
Total:	1 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	



PAYMENT SCHEME

- The approved amount of the EU contribution will be transferred in two forms:
 - 1. Advance payment: 25% of the maximum EU contribution;
 - 2. reimbursement based on the approved Project Report(s) and Applications for Reimbursement;
- Advance payment: 25% of the maximum EU contribution, within 60 calendar days from the date of signature of this Subsidy Contract;
 - Calculated among Partners according to their share of the total EU contribution in the project;
 - LP is responsible for transfering the EU contribution to Partners;
 - Advance settlement: when the reimbursed amount reaches 60% of the total EU contribution of the Partner receiving financial support, done automatically by INTERREG+.





Project Logic, Indicators



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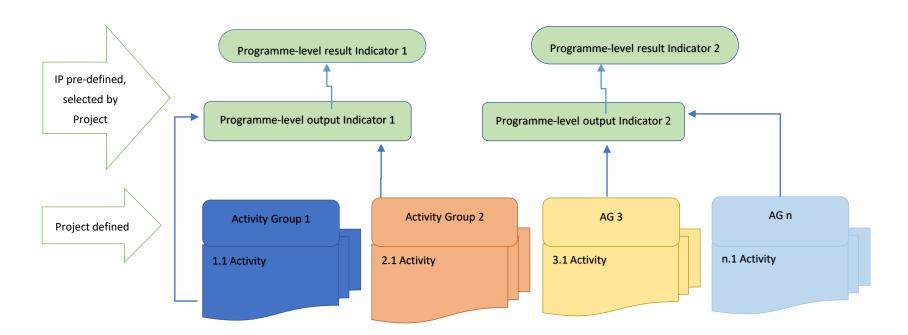
PROJECT LOGIC, INDICATORS

Project Logic



- Define the project's objective must fit to one of the Programme's objectives;
- Plan the activities to accomplish the set objective; each Activity Group

 Output;
- Achieve the project's output and corelate it with a pre-defined programme-level indicator;
- The output indicator correspond to at least one pre-defined programme-level result indicator.







Activities, Outcomes, Indicators

Activity

Outcome

Indicator

Activity – action that must be completed to achieve the project goal. Each activity must be necessary, purposeful and logically coherent with other activities within the given Activity Group;

Rule: Activity Group – 1 to 5 Activities; Maximum 6 AGs

Outcome – expected result, achieved by completion of a group of activities. Outcomes are necessary to achieve the project's goals. They must say "what" has changed a statement of desired future condition.

Indicator – measure whether the project – and the Programme as a sum of projects – has achieved its objectives. Therefore, the achievement of specific objectives of each project will be measured by specific output and result indicators.

Rule: minimum 1 output and 1 result indicator per project





Programme level indicators

- Defined in the Interreg Programme;
- Predefined, the applicant cannot change them;
- **output and result indicators are directly connected**, projects contributing to the value of any of the output indicators, are expected to contribute to the value of the corresponding result indicator, too;
- projects are expected to directly contribute to at least one output and one result indicator, pre-defined for the relevant (Specific) Objective;
- The schedule and timing for measuring the indicator values is also predetermined and clearly defined. Output indicators are measured upon the finalisation of the project, result indicators – in most of the cases are measured up to one year after project completion;





Obligatory indicators for certain objectives

Each project must correspond with the following indicators:

RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion
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Each Large-scale project and regular-scale project with infrastructure under Objective 1.1 Climate change adaptation, risk prevention must correspond with the following indicators:

RCO26	Green infrastructure built or upgraded for adaptation to climate change	RPR01	Population benefiting from protection measures against climate related natural disasters (flood, wildfire, other)
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Each Large-scale project and regular-scale project with infrastructure under Objective 1.2 Biodiversity and reduced pollution must correspond with the following indicator:

RCO36	Green infrastructure supported for other purposes than adaptation to climate change	RPR02	Population benefitting from better ecosystem services (biodiversity, green corridors, improved ecological status, etc.)
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Priority 1: A resilient and green border region

Objective 1.1: Climate change adaptation, risk prevention (SO 2.4)

Ou	itput Indicator		Result Indicator
Code	Name	Code	Name
RCO26	Green infrastructure built or upgraded for adaptation to climate change*	RPR01	Population benefiting from protection measures against climate related natural disasters (flood, wildfire, other)
RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders *	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion
RCO115	Public events across borders jointly organised		





Priority 1: A resilient and green border region

Objective 1.2: Biodiversity and reduced pollution (SO 2.7)

	Output Indicator	Result Indicator		
Code	Name	Code	Name	
RCO36	Green infrastructure supported for other purposes than adaptation to climate change*	RPR02	Population benefitting from better ecosystem services (biodiversity, green corridors, improved ecological status, etc.)	
RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders *	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion	
RCO115	Public events across borders jointly organised			





Priority 2: A healthy and attractive border region

Objective 2.1: Equal access to health care (SO 4.5)

	Output Indicator	Result Indicator			
Code	Name	Code	Name		
RCO117	Solutions for legal or administrative obstacles across border identified*	RCR 82	Legal or administrative obstacles across borders alleviated or resolved		
RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders*	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion		
RCO69	Capacity of new or modernised health care facilities*	RCR73	Annual users of new or modernised health care facilities		
RCO81	Participations in joint actions across borders				
RCO85	Participations in joint training schemes*	RCR81	Completion of joint training schemes		





PROJECT LOGIC, INDICATORS Indicators per Priority

Priority 2: A healthy and attractive border region

Objective 2.2: Culture (SO 4.6)

	Output Indicator		Result Indicator
Code	Name	Code	Name
RCO85	Participations in joint training schemes*	RCR81	Completion of joint training schemes
RCO81	Participations in joint actions across borders		
RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders*	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion
RCO77	Number of cultural and tourism sites supported*	RCR 77	Visitors of supported cultural and tourism sites
RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders*	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion





Priority 3: A cooperating border region

Objective 3.1: Harmonious neighbourly relations through cooperation (ISO1b)

	Output Indicator	Result Indicator		
Code	Name	Code	Name	
RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders*	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion	

Objective 3.2: A safer and more secure Europe (ISO2)

Output Indicator			Result Indicator		
Code Name			Code Name		
R	RCO87	Organisations cooperating across borders*	RCR84	Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion	





Visibility rules, Communication



INTERREG VI-A NEXT HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA-ROMANIA-UKRAINE PROGRAMME





Aim of communication

The aim of Programme / Project communication activities is to ensure the visibility of your project activities, our Programme and the EU co-financing.

Communication is an important project management tool:

- to communicate the existence of the project;
- to ensure communication with policy makers;
- to provide information on the performance, progress and results of the project;
- to increase the transparency of EU funding.

VISIBILITY RULES, COMMUNICATION Visibility elements



Obligatory elements

- Programme logo
- Programme slogan
- Disclaimer

Recommended elements

- Description of the Programme
- Reference to the Programme website

www.next.huskroua-cbc.eu





Support to project partners

- Visual Identity Manual, Information and Publicity Guidelines;
- Workshop and/or consultancy on media relations and external communications (how to – press releases, phrases to be used, photo/video qualities, Q&A info-sheets, etc.);
- Programme logo-packs in common digital file formats;
- Templates for digital/print usage, templates for media appearances;
- Sub-page on the programme website, presenting the project and its process – the sub-page will be structured by the JS, Project partners to provide and upload materials.



VISIBILITY RULES, COMMUNICATION Information and publicity packages

Obligations of the project partners

- choose one package per Project partner;
- in case of Lead partner, deliver basic project data to the Programme website project subpage in the beginning of project implementation (within one month from project start date) and further information to be uploaded and updated during implementation (timing is adjusted to project schedule);
- deliver a closing event with press conference with a guaranteed mixed local media reach (media clipping shall include radio, TV, online and possibly print media);
- produce **promotional materials**, items shall be adjusted to the project objectives (possible restriction of items TBD)



VISIBILITY RULES, COMMUNICATIONInformation and publicity packages

Type of action	Info & Publicity package
Small scale project	choose between BASIC/MEDIUM/ADVANCED
Regular scale project (soft)	choose between BASIC/MEDIUM/ADVANCED
Regular scale project (with infrastructure)	choose between MEDIUM/ADVANCED
Large scale project	ADVANCED





Information and publicity packages

Basic Package – obligatory

For each project, development of the following tools is mandatory but not limited too (see Chapter 2 of the Visual Identity Manual for templates):

- At least **2 press releases** that **may result** in at least 2 appearances in the referent **local online news** media 1 in the beginning and 1 at the end of the project within 1 month from project start and end date;
- At least 2 online/offline communication actions e.g. kick-off event and closing conference;
- At least 2 roll-up banners (1xENG, 1xHU/SK/RO/UA) within 3 months from project start date;
- At least 1 sponsored article in local online news media the item must include the elements defined in the guidelines;
- Use of permanent and durable stickers (equipment) if relevant, as per the guidelines – design to be provided by the programme;
- Visual final report (infographic).





Information and publicity packages

Medium Package – Basic Package included

Based on the type of action, development of the following tools might be mandatory in addition to the basic package:

- Open and run at least 1 social media account/channel per project (one partner is responsible, others are admins). In duly justified cases, already existing up and running social media account can be used for project publicity.
- Regular update of social media account at least 2 posts per month, starting in the first month of project implementation;
- At least 50 professional photographs demonstrating project activities, progress and results;
- At least 2 additional (altogether 4) timely separated press releases that may result in appearances in referent local online news media;
- At least 2 local TV or radio reports or spots (it can be 1-1 of each as well);
- At least **1 additional sponsored article** (altogether 2) in local online news media the item must include elements defined in the guidelines.





Advanced Package – Medium Package included

For Large Scale Projects, development of the following tools is mandatory. Other types of projects are encouraged but not obliged to choose this package.

- 1 short professional video on project achievements (30-60 seconds);
- At least **2 additional** (altogether 6) timely separated **press releases** that may result in appearances in referent **local online news** media;
- At least 2 additional (altogether at least 4) local TV or radio reports or spots;
- At least 1 additional sponsored article (altogether 3) in online news media the item must include the elements defined in the guidelines;
- National level radio or TV appearance (covering at least the Programme territory) – the parameters and requirements to be defined by the Programme in the relevant guidelines.



VISIBILITY RULES, COMMUNICATION Information and publicity packages

Works Package – for projects with infrastructure component

 Temporary billboard and permanent plaque shall be applied as defined in guidelines, in case works budget heading is applicable and it exceeds 50 000 EUR. The parameters and requirements to be defined by the Programme in the relevant guidelines.



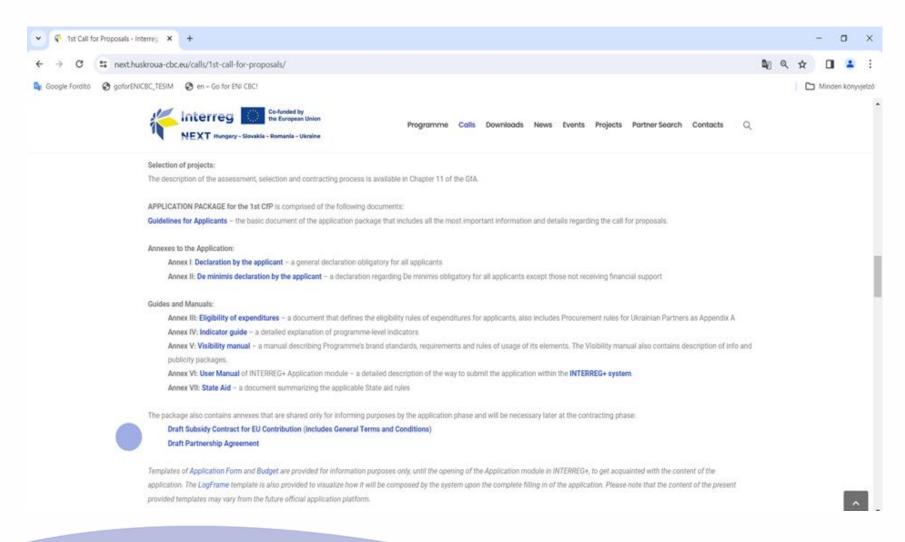


How to apply?



INTERREG VI-A NEXT HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA-ROMANIA-UKRAINE PROGRAMME









Where to find the Aplication Form

The Application Form can be found, filled in and submitted online, at

https://huskroua.interregplus.eu/21-27



Where to find help

 Application Package and User Manuals on the Programme's website – downloadable documents (1st Call for Proposals):

https://next.huskroua-cbc.eu

Technical problems and questions to the INTERREG+ support team:

<u>iplussupport@szpi.hu</u>

Content and call related questions to the JS:

info@next.huskroua-cbc.eu





Deadlines

DEADLINES	DATE	TIME (CET)
Official launch of the 1st Call for Proposals (All applications: SSP, RSP, LSP)	21 September 2023	
Deadline for submission of applications for SSP and RSP without infrastructure budget line	20 February 2024	15:00
Deadline for submission of RSP with infrastructure budget line and LSP	14 March 2024	15:00
Decision of MC on awarded projects (all 3 types)	Third quarter 2024	
Signature of the Subsidy Contract for EU Contribution	Fourth quarter 2024	





INTERREG+ technical requirements

- Language of the system: English;
- Internet connection is a must;
- Recommended browsers: Mozilla Firefox 85 and above, Google Chrome 88 and above;
- JavaScript running must be enabled;
- https protocol is used to ensure the secure data transfer;
- INTERREG+ automatically breaks the connection to the server after 30 minutes of inactivity, resulting in loss of unsaved data;
- PDF reader (e.g.: Adobe Reader), Document management software (e.g.: Microsoft Office) to open files.

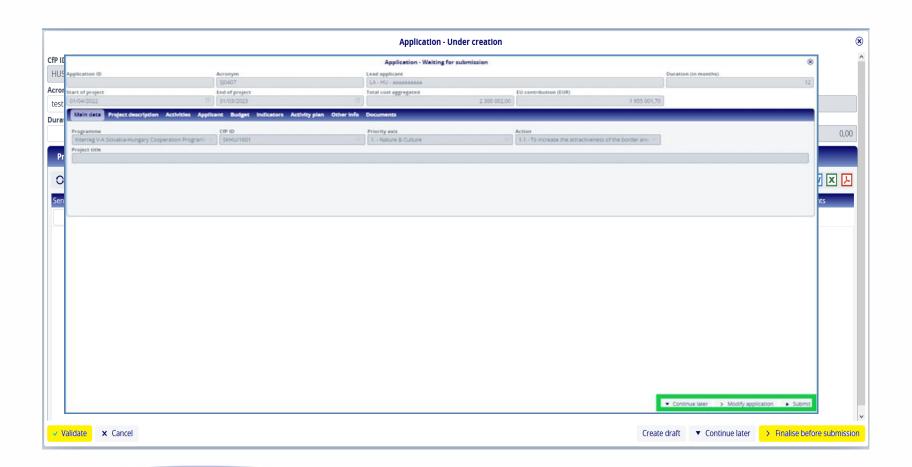


INTERREG+ helpdesk

- If you could not find any answer to your question in the User Manual
- And you have a system related problem
- Do not hesitate to send an e mail at <u>iplussupport@szpi.hu</u>
- To help our colleagues to detect the problem as fast as they possibly can, please:
 - provide a detailed description of the problem
 - attach a print screen
 - and provide the username, who is filling in the application form



How to submit an application







Successful submission

How do you know if your application was submitted successfuly?

- Pop up window message
- Automatic email with Application ID is sent by the system to the user
- Status of the application changes to "submitted"; "Date of
- Submission" and "Application ID" appears on the Application List screen

Application ID ^		Acronym 🔷	Lead applicant	Start of project \$	Duration (in months) 🔷	Total cost	EU contribution (EUR)	Status 🔷	Date of submission 🔷
				iii				~	
HUS	1/002	concept note	LA - HU - rainbow	31/05/2023	25	3 990 000,00	3 391 500,00	Submitted	26/04/2023 13:27:30
HUS	01	regular	LA - HU - monsters	01/07/2023	22	1 352 536,00	1 149 655,60	Submitted	26/04/2023 13:27:19





Composition of the Application

- Applications must be prepared and submitted electronically via the INTERREG+ system;
- The language of application forms is English. Application forms in languages other than English will be rejected;
- Supporting documents have to be scanned and uploaded also via INTERREG+ system;
- The requested supporting documents must be scanned originals;
- the Application, the Annex I and II (declarations) as well as the supporting documents detailed below will be evaluated. Therefore, these documents contain ALL relevant information concerning the project.



Supporting documents – application phase

- 1. Application Form;
- 2. Declaration by the applicant (Annex I of the Application package);
- 3. De minimis declaration by the applicant (Annex II of the Application package) except those not receiving financial support;
- 4. Extracts from register (or equivalent document);
- Establishing documents / Statutes or Article of Association except those not receiving financial support;
- Copy of the Specimen of signature of the legally authorised representative(s);
- 7. Copy of all the Applicants' approved and audited Annual accounts for the last closed financial year;
- 8. Job description to all positions listed in the Project team.



Supporting documents – application phase

Additional supporting documents at the application phase for infrastructural investments/works component:

- 9. Construction plans (engineering plans, descriptions);
- 10. Photo documentation;
- 11. Detailed cost estimation of works;
- 12. Proof of status of ownership;
- 13. Legally binding building permit OR document certifying the exemption of the construction from building permit;
- 14. Legally binding environmental permit and environmental impact assessment OR documents certifying the exemption from environmental assessment /attainment of environmental permit;
- 15. Feasibility study;
- 16. Any further specific permit(s) if it is the case (e.g. permit issued by heritage/monument protection authority etc.).



Supporting documents – contracting phase

- Specimen of signature of the legally authorised representative(s) on behalf of the Lead Applicant
- Original, signed Partnership Agreement
- Bank statement proving the establishment of a separate EUR bank account by the Lead Partner for the purposes of the project.
- Certifications on the payment of contributions and taxes issued by the TAX office.
- If relevant, any additional documents requested by the MC relating to the conditions of approval of the project.
- Any addition documents requested by the MA/JS.
- Legally binding building permit
- Any further specific permit(s) if it is the case
- In case identified by the MC based on the assessment, supporting letter from the relevant authority might be requested to submit e.g. to clarify issues related to national legislation.





Assessment, selection, contracting and implementation



INTERREG VI-A NEXT HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA-ROMANIA-UKRAINE PROGRAMME

ASSESSMENT



Assessment Process

Submission of the application via Interreg +

Admin and eligibility check

Quality Assessment

MC Decision

Contracting procedure

- The selection procedure consists of the following main stages:
- Formal assessment a simplified formal and eligibility administrative check;
- Quality assessment assessment of the quality of the applications;
- Decision of the MC;
- **Notification of the applicants** (including the request of documents necessary for the preparation of the Subsidy Contract).

ASSESSMENT



Formal assessment

- The formal and eligibility administrative check is carried out before the assessment of the quality of the applications based on the **formal assessment** grid (appendix C of GfA);
- Only those applications which met the submission deadline are subject to the formal assessment;
- The formal assessment is made in order to ensure that:
 - The applicant is eligible;
 - The supporting documents have been submitted;
 - Other administrative requirements were met.
- The formal assessment is carried out by the staff of the JS and/or BO in line with the 4-eyes principle;
- The formal assessors check the applications against the grid and mark 'Yes' or 'No' next to each criterion.





Formal assessment

- If the Application is not complete or unclear information is provided, the lead partner is invited to submit a completion/clarification within maximum 14 calendar days from the date of receipt of the notification through the INTERREG + system;
- the completion shall be carried out by the applicants in the INTERREG+ system;
 - If after the completion the Application is still not compliant with any
 of the formal criteria listed in the formal assessment grid, or the
 completion is sent after the deadline, the application will be rejected
 and will not be subject to further evaluation,
 - If the application meets all the formal assessment criteria, the formal assessors recommend it for quality assessment and it proceeds to the quality assessment phase.





Quality assessment

- The quality assessment is carried out by independent external assessors, in line with the 4-eyes principle, matching the content of each proposal with their field of expertise;
- The assessment of the quality of the applications is carried out against the set of criteria listed in the **quality assessment grid** (Appendix D of GfA);
- The quality assessment grid contains the following aspects of evaluation:
 - Financial and operational capacity of the partnership: applicants must have stable and sufficient resources for the implementation of the project as well as the necessary professional competencies and qualifications to complete the proposed activities;
 - Relevance, project content and CBC effect: The application must clearly contribute to the Programme's objectives, there must be a link between Project's indicators and Programme's results, as well as between project' results and the Programme's result indicator, applicants must elaborate the importance of the cross-border effect for the chosen topic as well as for the target groups, Programme area and the partners;





Quality assessment

- Methodology (Work Plan): there should be a clear connection between the proposed activities and overall project objective,
- Budget and sustainability: the *project activities shall be sustainable* and the *project's results should be both financially and socially sustainable*,

Section	Maximum score	Minimum score
Financial and operational capacity of the partnership	17	9
Relevance, project content and CBC effect	31	16
Methodology (Work Plan)	31	16
Budget, sustainability	21	10
	Total: 100	Min. to pass: 51

SELECTION



Selection of Projects

- The MC is responsible for selecting applications for support; the decision on financing is based on the ranking list of applications made after assessment;
- Applications that do not reach at least 51 points as the arithmetical average of the total scores, or at least the defined minimum scores from the arithmetical average of the points in each section of the assessment grid, will be rejected;
- The MC may decide to support applications, to support with certain conditions (budget modification, compliance with EU or national regulations, horizontal principles, etc.), to put on reserve list or to reject;
- In case of rejected applications, the JS offers the possibility to check the results of the assessment;
- The procedures for handling complaints are defined in chapter 11.3 of the GfA;





Preparation for contracting

- Once the decision is made by the MC, the JS, on behalf of the MA, sends Notification letters to the lead partners with the final decision about their application;
- The Notification letters also include the list of supporting documents to submit until a given deadline (see chapter 10.4 of the GfA) and other conditions that must be fulfilled in order to sign the Subsidy Contract for EU Contribution.
- The JS is entitled to carry out monitoring visit(s) and to have precontracting consultation before contract signature;
- Once the lead partner submits documents necessary for the subsidy contract for EU contribution on behalf of all partners, the JS prepares the contract in the INTERREG+ system.

CONTRACTING



Sources of funding

On project level, the Union co-financing rate is **maximum 90%** of the total eligible expenditure; shall not exceed 90% on project and on partner-level.

The remaining amount of **10%** shall be financed from **national sources** (state contribution and/or own contribution of Applicants), as follows:

Hungary:

- By the Applicant as own contribution 5% of the total eligible cost;
- By the State Budget 5% of the total eligible cost;
- in case of certain organisational forms, the own contribution will be fully covered by the Hungarian State – 10% of the total eligible costs;

Slovakia:

- By the Applicant as own contribution 5% of the total eligible cost;
- By the State Budget 5% of the total eligible cost;
- in case the partner is central state owned budgetary organization, the own contribution will be fully covered by the Slovak State – 10% of the total eligible costs;

CONTRACTINGSources of funding



Romania:

- By the Applicant as own contribution 5% of the total eligible cost;
- By the State Budget 5% of the total eligible cost;
- in case the partner is a central state owned budgetary organization fully financed from the state budget, from the state social insurance budget or from the budgets of special funds, the own contribution will be fully covered by the Romanian State – 10% of the total eligible costs;

Ukraine:

By the Applicant as own contribution – 10% of the total eligible cost;





Questions



INTERREG VI-A NEXT HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA-ROMANIA-UKRAINE PROGRAMME



Thank you for your attention!

info@next.huskroua-cbc.eu

www.next.huskroua-cbc.eu