



**Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine**  
ENPI Cross-border Cooperation Programme

**Partnership  
without borders**



## Newsletter #1

October, 2009

### First anniversary of the Programme

The Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine ENPI CBC Joint Operational Programme has been adopted by the European Commission on 23 September 2008. During its first year, the Programme life has been very busy, full of events and a successful Call with more than 140 Applications received. Among the ENPI CBC programmes the HU-SK-RO-UA Programme was the first one receiving Applications within the Call for Proposals.

The National Development Agency (NDA) of Hungary has been designated for the role of the **Joint Managing Authority (JMA)** by the four participating countries. Within the NDA the Department for International Co-operation Programmes is responsible for the overall supervision of the programme implementation and for ensuring the operational management of the Programme. Mrs. Brigitta ZICHERMAN-MIKULÁS is the Head of the Joint Managing Authority and Mr. András SZILÁGYI is assigned for managing the Programme since 1 November 2008.

JMA delegates the programme coordination and implementation tasks to the **Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS)**, operating as a separate unit of the VÁTI Non-profit Ltd. The Joint Technical Secretariat is operational since 15 November 2008 with the nomination of the Head, Mr. András BARANYI. The JTS runs with full staff from 1 September 2009. As a result of continuous recruitment four programme managers (Ms. Edit GÁL, Mrs. Tetiana KLYMENKO, Mr. Adam KAMENSKÝ and Mr. Attila DARABOS) and two financial managers (Mr. Áron SZAKÁCS and Mr. Vladyslav CHOPAK) were employed. All JTS members are fluent in English and in at least one of the national languages of the Programme. **Branch offices (BO)** have been also set up at regional level in Košice (Mr. Štefan ZACHARIAŠ) and Prešov (Mrs. Lenka KARNIŽOVÁ), Slovakia and in Satu Mare (Mr. Paul DANCU), Romania. They give support to the potential Applicants by providing information for all interested organisations, contribute to information and publicity actions within the respective region and cooperate in the organisation of partner search forums, infodays and workshops. Branch Office will be established also in Uzhgorod, Ukraine after the conclusion of the Financing Agreement between the European Commission and Ukraine. For contact data of the JTS and BOs please visit the Programme's website ([www.huskroua-cbc.net](http://www.huskroua-cbc.net)).

The **Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC)** was also set up with inviting the main programme bodies, line ministries and the representatives of the concerned regions of all four participating countries. Having its first statutory meeting on 19 December 2008, the JMC has adopted its Rules of Procedures, endorsed the work programme for 2009 and started its work by discussing and approving some basic documents.

The preparation of documentation for the launch of the Call for Proposals has been started in January. The JMC members discussed the first draft Application Package at its second meeting in March and approved it within a written procedure. The **first Call for Proposals** of the Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine ENPI CBC Programme 2007-2013 was launched on the 16 June 2009. **13,3 million EUR** became available for the joint development of the border area through intensified and deepened cooperation between the participating regions. The deadline for submission of the Applications ended on 22 September 2009. So far the JTS received more than 140 Applications by registered mail, private courier service or by hand-delivery. Currently the administrative and eligibility check of the Applications is in process.



## Large scale projects

The Joint Monitoring Committee in agreement with the European Commission decided on its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 5 March 2009 that in case of Priority 3 of the Joint Operational Programme direct award procedure will be applied and large-scale investment projects will be identified and implemented, as improvement of the border-crossing transport infrastructure and equipments at border controls is exclusively of state competence, and such projects require ex-ante agreements between the concerned countries. Therefore the almost 21 million EUR ENPI allocation available for the given Priority will be shared equally among the Ukrainian-Hungarian, Ukrainian-Slovak and Ukrainian-Romanian borders.

Currently bilateral negotiations are taking place between Ukraine and each Member State in order to identify large-scale projects. As a result of the bilateral meeting between the Ukrainian and Hungarian parties on 22 September 2009 at Beregsurány, amongst the others, a “common contact point” at the “Záhony-Chop” border-crossing will be created. Furthermore, a service station at Vylok temporary waterway will also be established in order to make easier the passport control of the tourists canoeing or kayaking on the river Tisza. In Ukrainian-Romanian relation the bilateral meeting took place on 2 October, whilst the Slovak and Ukrainian parties had their bilateral consultation on 13 October 2009.

Having elaborated the project summaries, the joint development plans will be submitted to the JMC and the EC for approval.

## Events

### Kick-off conference

The **Kick-off conference** of the Programme took place on the **23 July 2009 in Mukachevo, Ukraine**. On the event we could welcome as honourable guests **Mr. Olexij ROZHKO**V, Deputy Director of Directorate for Cooperation with EU of the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, **Mrs. Henrietta SOMOGYI**, Programme Manager of the Cross-Border Co-operation Department of the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of Slovak Republic, **Mr. Iuliu BARA**, General Director, Ministry of Regional Development and Housing, General Directorate for European Territorial Co-operation, Romania and **Mrs. Brigitta ZICHERMAN-MIKULÁS**, Head of the Joint Managing Authority, National Development Agency in Hungary.

**Mr. Zoltan LENGYEL**, Mayor of Mukachevo city and **Mr. Ernest NUSER**, Head of Main Department of European Integration, Foreign Economic Relations and Tourism of the Zakarpatska Oblast State Administration welcomed the great number of participants from all over the Programme area, highlighting the presence of members of the diplomatic corps, namely **Mr. Marian SLÁDEČEK** General Consul of Slovak Republic in Uzhgorod and **Mr. Tamás VICZIÁN** Consul of Republic of Hungary in Uzhgorod. The opening conference also served as an occasion of introducing successful cross-border projects implemented in the concerned area during the previous programming period – each project presentation demonstrating one of the four participating countries and four fields of cooperation.

## Partner Search Forum

The Joint Technical Secretariat and the 'Regional Capacity Building Initiative' (RCBI) team invited potential Applicants and Partners to a **Partner Search Forum** held on the **6 August 2009 in Uzhgorod, Ukraine**. The forum aimed to create the opportunity for potential Applicants and Partners to meet other Partner organisations and share project ideas. At the event, the content of the Application Package was outlined and also several project ideas were fostered within working groups organised per priorities and measures of the Programme. The afternoon session gave the opportunity to clarify issues directly with JMA/JTS regarding the first Call. There was a lot of interest in the event: more than 100 people represented the four participating countries. The results in numbers are the following:

- 39 organisation declared they found new Partners,
- 20 organisation found one or more new project ideas,
- nearly all of the participants declared they will submit proposal for the first Call.



## Infodays

After launching the first Call for Proposals on behalf of the Joint Managing Authority and the National Authorities the JTS organised several information days in eligible regions of the Programme. Besides the infodays, the RCBI team conducted follow-up information sessions for potential Applicants from eligible regions in Ukraine (27 August 2009, Ivano-Frankivsk and 28 August 2009, Uzhgorod). The number of participants at information events exceeded organisers' expectation.



The main goal of the mentioned events was to provide the participants with detailed information concerning the rules of the Call and preparation of the Applications. During the seminars the attention of the participants was drawn to such topics as the project idea generation, cross-border partnership and the role of the Lead Partner in the project, preparation of the action plan and budget.

The infodays took place:

- In Hungary:** 14 July 2009, Miskolc and 16 July 2009, Nyíregyháza
- In Slovakia:** 30 July 2009, Prešov and 31 July 2009, Košice
- In Romania:** 16 July 2009, Baia Mare and 25 August 2009, Satu Mare
- In Ukraine:** 30 June 2009, Uzhgorod and 1 July 2009, Ivano-Frankivsk



## Next steps

After the administrative and eligibility check to be performed by the JTS, selected external assessors will carry out the quality assessment of the application forms submitted under the respective Call. Based on the assessments Project Selection Committees will discuss the project proposals and the Joint Monitoring Committee will take the final decision on projects to be approved and amount granted to them. Applicants will be notified on the results of their applications at the beginning of 2010. Implementation of awarded projects can begin following the signature of the grant contracts planned to start from March 2010. The list of selected projects will be published on the Programme's website ([www.huskroua-cbc.net](http://www.huskroua-cbc.net)) and also in the upcoming newsletter accompanied with statistics of the Call.



Once the selected projects are contracted the JTS and Branch Offices will organise Lead Partner workshops in order to provide information on project implementation process, role and responsibilities of the Lead Partners. Partners will be also encouraged to participate to learn about the reporting and payment procedures, information and publicity standards etc.

***The launch of the next Call for Proposals is scheduled for spring 2010.***

## Call for External project Assessors is opened

On behalf of the Hungarian National Development Agency acting as the JMA, VÁTI Nonprofit Ltd. hosting the JTS has launched the Call for Assessors. Qualified and experienced professionals are invited to join the Programme's Pool of Assessors to be set up for project assessment.

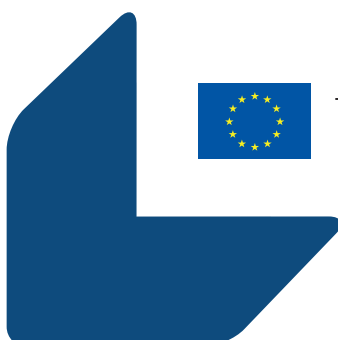
The Assessors selected within the framework of this Call will be involved in the assessment process for the project applications submitted under the HU-SK-RO-UA ENPI CBC Programme 2007-2013. The Pool of Assessors will be set up for the period of 2009-2013 and will be regularly updated.

***The extended deadline for submission of Assessor's applications is 26 October 2009.***

Here you can download the relevant documents:

[Call for Assessors \(including Terms of Reference\)](#)

[Application form](#)



The Programme is co-financed by the  
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