



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

**Partnership
without borders**



Newsletter #6

December 2014

6th JMC Meeting

Participants who have been actively involved in Programme implementation during the 7 years of the Programme discussed results achieved by the Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine ENPI CBC Programme and challenges ahead at the 6th Joint Monitoring Meeting of the Programme.

Compared to other ENPI CBC programmes it can be considered that the Programme is both popular and successful. This fact is clearly reflected in the huge number of applications submitted (676) and contracts signed (135) during the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Calls for Proposals. The most attractive intervention was the institutional cooperation of all 4 countries; the second one was Environmental protection and sustainable use of resources among applications. Activities of the JTS regarding day to day management of the projects by giving continuous support to Partnerships also contributed to reach performed results during the year of 2013 and 2014. To highlight the most significant data: out of the 135 signed contracts 90 projects are under implementation and 45 projects closed financially and technically their activities – which means that slightly more than one-third of the organizations involved in granted projects already succeeded in realization of cross-border cooperation. Besides the on-going projects, 3 Large Scale Projects are under implementation, forming a core part of the Programme's budget while holding major importance on improving the conditions of the common border crossing points of Ukraine with the neighbouring EU Member States.

Programming of the new period - ENI CBC 2014



While implementing the current Programme, preparations for the new generation of Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine ENI CBC Programme 2014-2020 are underway. Until the beginning of December 2014, 4 Joint Task Force (JTF) meetings have been devoted to the Programming of the forthcoming period, where JTF members, representatives of 4 participating countries, European Commission, European External Actions Service, Interact ENPI Project, Programme management bodies and Branch Offices gathered in order to discuss topics

and steps to be taken towards ENI CBC programming. At the initial meeting in Tokaj (Hungary) the rules of procedures have been modified, to correspond to the role of JTF as a body established to carry out the preparatory work for the next programming period. Among the very first joint decisions made in Senec, Slovakia Programme Countries agreed that they will cooperate together in the future and they would like to prepare a joint set up for the quadrilateral ENI CBC Programme. This agreement on future cooperation let the next, third meeting happen in Vama, Romania where the JTF members adopted the institutional structure of the Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine ENI CBC Programme 2014-2020, proposed by Hungary. The Prime Minister's Office was appointed as the Joint Managing Authority, and the Széchenyi Program Office will be the hosting body for the Joint Technical Secretariat, similarly to the set-up of the current Programme. Moving on in the development of activities related to the Programming of ENI CBC 2014-2020 the JTS organized the fourth JTF meeting in Uzhgorod, Ukraine. On the basis of expert's analysis done by applying both statistics and relevant documents regarding the situation in the Programme area related to local communities, labour market, economy, the decision was made that all 4 countries will have 2 core counties (regions) in the Programme and further consultations are required to be held with regards to the adjoining regions of Romania (Suceava) and Ukraine (Chernivtsi). ENI CBC 2014-2020 has new features in terms of implementation of projects, which have at least 2.5 million EUR infrastructural component. Projects falling under this criteria are going to be called Large Infrastructural Projects (LIP's) and may be selected – based on certain criteria – via direct award or open call. Among the forthcoming, important decisions further details of implementing LIP-s will be definitely on the list. The first draft of the Joint Operational Programme for the Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine ENI CBC Programme 2014-2020 is scheduled for the end of January 2015.

To stay updated on ENI CBC news please visit our website at:

<http://www.huskroua-cbc.net/en/programming-of-the-2014-2020-period-in-the-frame-of-eni-cbc>

Large Scale Project – First Results



achieved its first results – on 26 September 2014 the reconstruction of border crossing point, procurement and establishment of new computer system for safer border checking of Velké Slemence has been finished. The official closing of the construction works and opening of the crossing point have been celebrated with a ceremony, where high level representatives and local citizens gathered together. At the same time purchasing new equipment for Maťovce point has been also finished, which are

We are pleased to share the first achievement of a Large Scale Project being implemented in the frame of the Programme. The Project of „Modernization and Reconstruction of Border Crossing Points at the Slovak-Ukrainian border – HUSKROUA/LSP/001” is under implementation from 15 March 2013 by the Financial Directorate of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic, State Fiscal Service of Ukraine and Chop Customs Office. During this period, which is just slightly longer than one and a half year with a very active work and contribution of the partnership the project had already

two out of the three components to be realized on the Slovak side. On this way the project is heading to implement the major element of the activities, the only joint component of works – the reconstruction of road between border crossing point Vyšné Nemecké – Uzhgorod along with the modernisation of both border crossing points by *purchasing all necessary equipment in order to ensure smooth border crossing for the everyday traffic. Related supply contract for works from the Slovak side* has been signed; Ukrainian supply contract is under procedure.



European Cooperation Day 2014

This year, our Programme joined again the European Cooperation Day, the yearly campaign supported by the European Commission and the European Parliament to celebrate the achievements of more than 20 years of territorial cooperation in the EU and neighbouring countries.

The third edition of the European Cooperation Day was held on 21 September, 2014 and surrounding days. About 15 local cross-border cooperation events were organised by project partners in cooperation with local authorities from all four participating countries. The range of organised events were presented by fairs for local population, contests and conferences to open air events or games, meetings, TV programmes with the aim to communicate the results of cross-border cooperation projects.

In Hungary, among other events, the Self-government of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County organised the European Heritage Days in Nyíregyháza with a 30-meter long outdoor exhibition showing the heritage values of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County, a cultural and culinary festival and a photo exhibition of the most beautiful historical buildings of the region. In the village of Vilyvitány, an open air event for local people from the neighbouring villages in north-eastern Hungary was organised to present the Carpathian brown cattle and the project funded by the Programme, which aimed at its management and preservation.

In Slovakia, the Kamineka Village Council organised a Doors Open Day to the Amphitheatre of Ruthenian Youth Centre, renovated within the Programme. The Agency for the Support of Regional Development and the Slovak Cystic Fibrosis Association in Košice also organised local events.

In Romania, the Satu Mare County Museum in partnership with other Programme beneficiaries organised a trade fair of craftsmen and contemporary creators from all four countries and a parade of folk costumes from border region to promote the traditional regional crafts and costumes among the younger generation. The Traian Vuia Technical College organised in Satu Mare an info day for the Vocational Education and Training providers.



In Ukraine, the Vasyl Stefanyk Subcarpathian National University organised in Ivano-Frankivsk a flash mob for students and school children on cross-border clean air management, a photo exhibiton of monitoring of air cleanliness in the Carpathians, and a conference discussion. The Tisza River Basin Water Resources Directorate organised in Uzhhorod a workshop for university students and lecturers dedicated to sharing experience in implementing cross-border cooperation projects. The Uzhhorod Foreign Language Specialized School #5 organised a round table for school teachers, pupils, students and experts on realisation of energy saving technologies in EU countries and Ukraine. In the town of Vari, kindergarten teachers, children, parents and local officials met kindergarten teachers from Satu Mare, Romania during an open air event. In Mukacheve, the Regional Children Hospital organised on the regional M-studio TV channel a two week long TV programme on cross-border cooperation with the Hospital of Kisvárda, Hungary and implemented joint projects within the Programme.

Across Europe, the European Cooperation Day 2014 included the organisation of 120 events celebrated in more than 30 countries. The activities covered a wide range of fields - from project fairs to circus performances, bike rides, film festivals, music concerts etc. In this respect, 44 territorial cooperation programmes have participated in this year's initiative involving over 100 cities of the European Union and neighbouring countries.

What we are proud of – Success stories

Happy children in the village of Velykyy Bychkiv

1st July 2014 - The date which is likely to be mentioned by hundreds of grateful parents for a very long time in the village of Velykyy Bychkiv in the Carpathian Region of Ukraine. This date changed the life of the local community, especially children's life and their opportunities for pre-school education. By this example, we would like to demonstrate a possible role model



of cooperation between civil society organisation and local authorities, which with common efforts were able to implement the project *HUSKROUA/1001/044 "Children – Our Future: the New Wave in Pre-school Education of the Carpathian Region"* granted by Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine ENPI CBC Programme. Partners Rakhivskyi District Council and Administration, Village Council of Velykyy Bychkiv and local businesses delivered reconstruction works, purchased furniture, inventory and equipment to the former pioneer camp creating the second kindergarten in the village, and making it possible for every child to obtain necessary education in their certain age. The Partnership also contributed with their own resources to the works, but their enthusiasm and willingness to act and make the village a better place to live made this project so special. The long-awaited kindergarten provides sufficient place for 50 children. The first multi-age group for children from 4 to 6 years old opened its doors on the 1st of July 2014 (35 children), while the second – for 3 years old kids (15 children) was opened on the 1st of August 2014.

Establishment of Psychiatric crisis intervention of disasters and emergency situations on border area of Hungary – Romania – Ukraine

There is one so far not filled gap in the territory of emergency psychiatry which is a newly identified need in Europe. In the frame of the project being implemented by Almási Balogh Pál Hospital Healthcare and Service Provider Nonprofit Ltd (Hungary) Regional Psychiatric Hospital of Beregovo (Ukraine) and Satu Mare County Emergency Hospital (Romania) titled *„Cross border cooperation to prevent and manage emergency psychiatric crisis’s- HUSKROUA/1101/053”* the project team established a brand new system for crisis intervention situations in Hungary and in neighbouring Ukraine and Romania. The project has been awarded within the 3rd Call for Proposal of the Programme with the amount of 304.052,40 EUR, which is equal to 90% of the total project budget. The project developed a system suitable for emergency psychiatric care in all three regions, with their joint and complete participation – meaning that *all three sides of the border emergency teams are operating on a daily basis, led by chief psychiatrist doctors and ensured with professionalism by psychologists, mental health professionals, psychiatrists and other doctors specialized in the relevant health fields in each team. Beyond the newly established international professional network, teams have elaborated a joint plan for harmonized acting of psychiatric emergency unit in case of crisis conditions/crisis situation in any sides of the HU-UA-RO border which is aimed to be further developed and used as a role model in Europe.*

The project itself is an outstanding one, for both professional groups and for the general public as well, since professionals participating in the project reviewed already available/ existing scientific literature related to the project’s subject and concluded that their initiative is the very first cross border crisis intervention within the European Union, which made possible, during project implementation, to transform the former ad-hoc system of relations into a constantly living cooperation, where borders are acting as connections, not act as dividing lines any longer.

Carpathian Culinary Heritage Network



The goal was to conserve and promote the role and the range of different traditional Carpathian food products and cuisines as a catalyst for sustainable regional development and preservation of local cultural heritage in the frame of project HUSKROUA/1001/073 „Carpathian Culinary Heritage Network”.

In less than two years, the network has brought together over 350 companies and organizations representing business, education, culture and public sectors from the trans frontier regions of Ukraine, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania linked under the unique brand - a symbol of the culinary heritage of the Carpathian people (the network central brand element was developed by Ukrainian designer in the course of international competition and combines the ancient Carpathians symbols: fire, pot and steam).



In 2013 over 15 thousand visitors appreciated the taste of Carpathian foods and traditions during the international and regional Carpathian Culinary Heritage festivals in Ivano-Frankivsk (Ukraine), Trebisov (Slovakia), Negresti Oas (Romania) and Nyiregyhaza (Hungary). The prominent culinary masters and student teams from four Carpathian countries were competing in culinary art, traditional restaurant management and gastronomic tourism nominations within the Carpathian Culinary Heritage Competition event in Ivano-Frankivsk (Ukraine) in November 2013.

The network partners developed five gastronomic tours combined all together into the Carpathian culinary heritage trail. To make it more attractive, the tours' service providers – farmers, guesthouse owners, traditional food products producers, tourist companies – developed and introduced a number of new activities for potential visitors connected with culinary traditional and culture. Inter alia: cooking classes, farm tours, visits to alpine pastures and home cheese making demonstrations. In this respect, the project has assisted the initiatives of 40 individual businesses from Ukraine, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania and provided them by sets of individual outer signs, traditional

utensils and pillar gifts, improving the quality of products and services they offer.

The project's joint initiatives provided the target groups and final beneficiaries with the opportunity for exchange of experience, get to know each other's cultures, and build a firm partnership for the future development.