



Interreg



SLOVENIA - HUNGARY

European Union | European Regional Development Fund

CITIZEN'S SUMMARY 2015

Cooperation programme
Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary
in the programme period 2014–2020
20 July 2016

www.si-hu.eu

1. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME

This is the first Annual Implementation Report for the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary for programming period 2014-2020. It reports on the progress achieved under the CP in programming process and in implementing the programme during the calendar years 2014 and 2015. The report complies with Article 50(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, which requires the Managing Authority to submit an Annual Implementation Report within fifth months (31 May) of the end of each full calendar year of implementation. According to the Article 14 of the Regulation 1299/2013 this first report shall cover the financial years 2014 and 2015.

The report was prepared by the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, acting as the Managing Authority of the programme in co-operation with its programme partners. The Monitoring Committee approved the Annual Implementation Report 2015 on 26th May 2016 in the frame of the 2nd Monitoring Committee Interreg V-A SI-HU.

In the year 2014 both member states Slovenia and Hungary started with more intensive programming of new financial perspective 2014-2020 for the cross-border programme Slovenia-Hungary. In this process Managing Authority and Joint Secretariat offered assistance to members of Task Force group,

which consisted of all relevant stakeholders from both Member states. In April 2015 the Cooperation programme was submitted to the European Commission. The European Commission then approved the Cooperation programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary on 18 September 2015. The approval was the legal basis for preparing and launching the Open Call for Proposals. Besides the Cooperation programme also Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary and Ex-ante evaluation of the Cooperation Programme V-A Slovenia-Hungary have been prepared by external experts during reporting years in concern.

The Kick-off event for the presentation of the new program to the public and announcement of the upcoming Open call took place on 20 October 2015 in Murska Sobota, where all relevant stakeholder and general public were invited. Between 150 and 200 people (keynote speakers from both countries, programme partners and interested applicants from the programme area) attended the event. At the same time members of Joint Secretariat started with preparation of the Open Call for proposals and whole Application Pack.

On 24th November 2015 1st Monitoring Committee of the CP Interreg V-A SI-HU took place in Maribor. Members of MC accepted the Rules of procedure of the MC and approved the Technical Assistance of the programme Interreg V-A SI-HU and the Communication strategy, which needed to be approved within six months after approval of

the Cooperation program. They also approved the main open call documents (Eligibility rules, Selection criteria, Call for Proposals) and gave the green light to JS for publishing the Open call. The Open call was published on 18 December 2015 in Official Gazette and programme webpage.

For the new perspective new program website has been launched at the end of November 2016, however in order to retain the recognisability and the sustainability the programme kept the same web-domain www.si-hu.eu as it was in 2007-2013 period. Already from the beginning but especially after the publishment of the open call the general public could get on the website the main information about the programme and its implementation (program documents, information on program structure, information on open call, possibility on partner search etc.). The site offers also the possibility to sign up for e-newsletter, to assess the programme information system (eMS) and the previous programme website.

Managing Authority and JS started together with the Certified Authority and Audit Body preparation on designation process at the programme level.

The Authorities at this stage:

- ➔ analysed the EU regulations and guidelines and experiences from the designation process for the period 2007-2013
- ➔ programmed timetable as well planned human and financial resources for performing designation process in 2016
- ➔ participated at the Interact seminars.

Preparation is based on the fact that there are no substantial changes in functions of the MA and CA compared to the period 2007 – 2013. Programme structures (MA, CA, AA) and implementation arrangements remain the same what also contributed to the stable and smooth transition to the period 2014 – 2020.

The programme uses the e-monitoring system (eMS) developed by Plot in cooperation with Interact. The eMS system and its functionalities fully comply with the e-Cohesion regulatory requirements (according to audit opinion).

2. E-COHESION MEASURES SUPPORTED WITHIN THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME

The e-Cohesion requirements are fully supported through following measures:

- ➔ The Application Form is filled in online through the web access and is available to all programme partners instantly (based on the user rights).
- ➔ The communication with the applicants and the beneficiaries is performed through the eMS Communication portal.
- ➔ The assessment for selection of operations is carried out online and is available to all project and programme partners according to their user rights and assessment timeline.
- ➔ The contracting is implemented through automatic e-generation of documents.
- ➔ The expenditure verification process of the FLC is foreseen to be implemented through the online system – reports and all supporting documents necessary for the audit trail will be uploaded (eMS) by the beneficiaries. FLC verification procedures and forms are completely concluded through eMS.
- ➔ The Progress Reports and requests for payments can be generated within the monitoring system.
- ➔ Information submitted into the system is available in structured format, so electronic transfer of data is assured.

- ➔ Connection from eMS to bookkeeping software of CA is currently in development and is expected to be ready once the projects start reporting.

In relation to the indicator data, the progress can be measured only on the level of the Technical assistance. In relation to the financial data no information is relevant for the years 2014 and 2015.