



Interreg

SLOVENIA – HUNGARY



European Union | European Regional Development Fund

WHO ARE WE?

BASIC DATA

Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary is a cross-border cooperation programme that brings benefits to around **one million people** living in the regions Pomurje and Podravje on the Slovenian side of the border and in counties Zala and Vas on the Hungarian side of the border. The Cooperation Programme aims to make the programme area a more attractive place to live, work, invest, and do business in, in particular by better capitalizing on the existing natural and cultural assets in the tourism sector, catalyzing the development of the whole region and jointly addressing the common problems which call for common solutions on a cross-border level. Learn more about the Programme at <http://www.si-hu.eu/en2/download/Citizens%27%20Summary%20Interreg%20SI-HU.pdf>

The programme has **two priority axes** aiming to achieve a set of tangible, measurable, long term and sustainable results and changes on a cross-border level.



Priority 1: ATTRACTIVE REGION

to protect the natural and cultural heritage of the area and to valorize it through development of sustainable tourism, with a strong focus on the less developed areas in terms of tourism (rural, remote areas).



Priority 2: COOPERATIVE REGION

to increase the availability and effectiveness of public services necessary for a better governance on the cross-border level, and to support cooperation between organizations and institutions responsible for mutually important areas in order to enhance cross-border governance.



Annual Implementation Report 2019

CITIZENS' SUMMARY



ACHIEVED IN 2019

**ALL FUNDS
COMMITTED IN
2019!**

6
submission
rounds

24 projects
approved

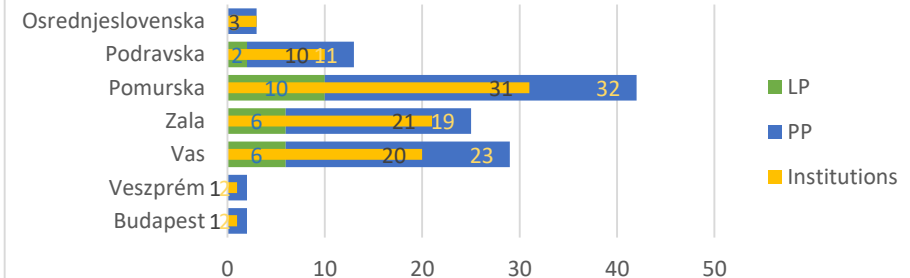
115
partners
involved

EUR 15
million
allocated

The first impact evaluation of the programme

External evaluators established that the selected Thematic Objectives and Investment Priorities (TO6 – IP 6c and TO11- IP 11b) were appropriate to support the achievement of the set objectives and to trigger positive changes in the cross-border region. The evaluation examined the programme performance and its first results. Evaluation **conclusions were largely positive**. An overview of all planned values which take into consideration planned achievements of the 24 approved projects shows that the **programme is performing well** and that all 2023 target values will be reached. Indicators tracking results also show that the programme is progressing steadily. The programme provides **effective and efficient support** to the beneficiaries.

Altogether 116 partners are involved in **24 approved projects**, 24 of them are LPs and 92 of them are PPs.



Good management and control systems

Audit Authority and Audit Body performed a follow-up audit to check whether the recommendations on how to make the management and control systems more efficient had been implemented. No errors of systemic nature were detected during the follow-up audit and no major errors were found in the projects. The **low error rate** at 0.1% confirmed that the programme **management and control system is functioning well**, that expenditure reporting requirements are respected and that errors are prevented and detected. The **electronic monitoring system (eMS) is supported by project partners** and all programme structures. Users working in eMS highlighted the usefulness and versatility of the system.

PROJECTS DELIVERING RESULTS

The region builds on attracting visitors with activities focused on **new tourism products, networking** and promotion of the region. The projects are mainly targeted at educating local **tourism service providers** and support the establishment of connections and networks among various stakeholders. One of financially strongest themes is **cycling** - development and promotion of cycling tourism through development/upgrading of cycling routes that promote natural and cultural heritage on their way and connect them into a cross-border cycling destination. The programme area will also benefit from **new green parks, Fairy Tale park network, energetic parks, new accommodation facilities, eco camps, museums, creation of new wine tourism products, new themed routes (wine routes, route of traditional houses etc.) and development of a variety of new tourism packages (providing active holidays (including cycling, hiking, water activities) or offering equestrian, culinary, natural, cultural experiences of the area).**



Priority Axis 1 12 projects

In addition to green tourism programmes for experiencing nature and biodiversity in the cross-border area, the **GO IN NATURE** partnership has established a network of **nature-friendly tourism infrastructure** in nature protected areas in the form of eco-camps and additional infrastructure. They renovated the lookout tower, established excursion points and forest rest areas. In a small town of Krog, they set up the entry point, a teaching route, an **outdoor classroom** and a children's playground. In this way, the area along the Mura River enables visitors to embark on a nature-friendly and educational exploration of this protected area. In addition, several different packages for each target group of visitors have been prepared.

22,377 visits to the programme area

4,640 people participating in interpretation and educational events related to cultural and natural heritage

72 new CB-tourism-related products

22,75 km cycle tracks and footpaths established



PROJECTS DELIVERING RESULTS



Priority Axis 2 12 projects

Solutions for a better cooperation

Partners in cooperation projects focus on **networking, cooperation** and **integration of institutions** and organizations in the cross-border area. They **exchange sustainable smart solutions** and experience, organize workshops, prepare databases and focus on promotion – digital marketing, video content and internet promotion. The inspiration they gain from others is fed into the **action plans**. Such efforts significantly boost **future cooperation** in the cross-border region. The programme helps raise awareness of the stakeholders that it is vital to connect with partners across the border and work with them to develop the region as a whole.

397 institutions/organizations involved in cross-border initiatives;

16 signed agreements



The **Right Profession II** project connects chambers, businesses and schools with the economy and **encourages young people to choose the right career path**, thus helping develop the region. It contributes to **reducing the existing staffing disparities** and better addresses staffing needs in the cross-border area by increasing the mutual **cooperation of educational institutions**. The project paves the way for a cross-border dialogue and adds value to addressing common challenges.





COMMUNICATION

In 2019, the focus of communication activities shifted from awareness raising about the programme funding opportunities to communicating the results of cooperation projects.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Like, share and follow us on Facebook!



facebook.com/InterregSIHU/

WEBSITE

Stay up to date with our news, projects and events!



www.si-hu.eu

Join our events!

Special attention was given to the implementation of the **2019 EC DAY** event. About **250 participants** were present at the **biking and hiking** event in Páka on 14 September 2019. The event was organized jointly by the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A SI-HU and the project SIHU115 IronCurtainCycling.



Communication activities in 2019

43

Facebook posts published

38

e-newsletters sent to 212 subscribers

42

news articles published on the webpage

250

participants at our EC Day event

60

participants at the workshop for applicants

Join our workshops in the next programming period!

