



Interreg



SLOVENIA – HUNGARY

European Union | European Regional Development Fund

CITIZEN'S SUMMARY
ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT 2018

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

www.si-hu.eu

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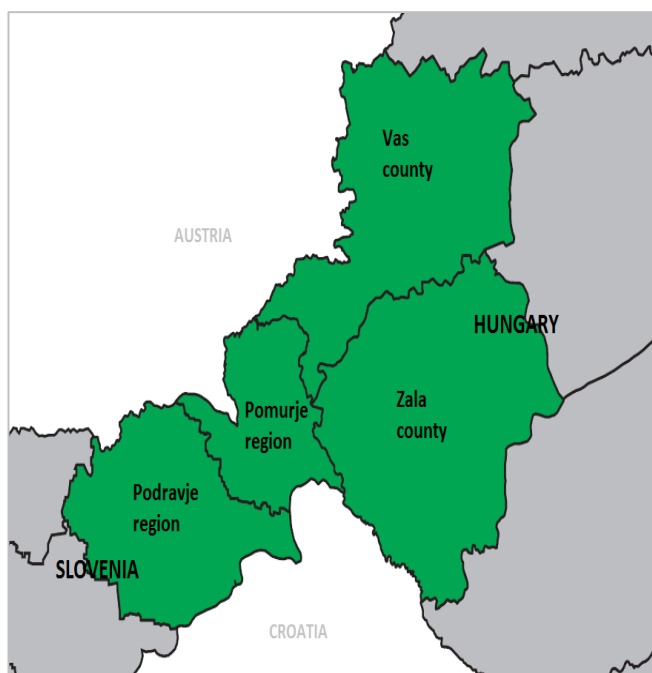
Publicity measures

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I. PROGRAMME

Interreg Slovenia-Hungary Programme is a bilateral and cross-border Cooperation Programme, co-funded by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and by the 2 member states through a national co-financing. The overall objective of the Programme is to become an attractive area for living, working, investing, undertaking through better capitalizing on existing natural and cultural assets in tourism catalyzing the development of the whole region on one hand and on the other jointly addressing those common problems which call for common solutions at CBC level. The Programme directly contributes to the Europe 2020 strategy goals for smart, inclusive and sustainable growth through its thematic objectives, investment priorities and specific objectives. The programme area belongs to the territory covered by the European Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR), thus the Programme takes it into account in the programming process as well as during implementation, and by doing so the cooperation programme will contribute to its aims.

This is the brief summary of the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) 2018 for the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary for the programming period 2014-2020. It reports on the progress achieved under the CP in implementing the programme during the calendar year 2018. The report complies with Article 50(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and it 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.



II. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME

As the programme is at this stage already deep in the implementation phase, lot of different activities have been carried out in the year 2018. All programme structures and both Member States, Slovenia and Hungary, were also during this year very much involved in the implementation of the Cooperation Programme.

By end of 2018, we have been funding 20 cooperation projects across programme area. Around 12 million Euro from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) is being transferred to these cross-border partnerships in the coming years. The projects address shared regional challenges in the fields of cultural and natural heritage, tourism and institutional capacity.

The core objectives of the 2018 programme implementation have been successfully achieved:

- Final decision on projects submitted in the frame of the fourth and fifth deadline has been reached during this year, members of Monitoring Committee approved altogether seven projects (3 from 1st Priority Axis and 4 from 2nd Priority Axis).
- After five selection rounds performed till end of year 2018 under 1st Priority axis members of Monitoring Committee approved 12 project applications and under 2nd Priority Axis 8.
- Monitoring Committee members met twice in this year. Once on 6th MC meeting on 23 March 2018 and second time on 12 November 2018 on 7th MC meeting.
- All available funds under the 1st Priority Axis (10.000.000) have been allocated to the contracted projects. Altogether 92% of all available funds have been allocated to the projects.
- In the year 2018 four payment claims have been sent to the Commission in the sum of EUR 1.985.219,93 ERDF funds (2.432.234,90 total eligible costs).
- Due to disciplined spending of the projects in implementation N+3 targets can be met already till 2020.
- In 2018 system audit was concluded and the audit established that the system works well while some improvements are still needed. The programme partners reacted on all findings and corrective actions were taken in cases where needed.

In order to assure a smooth implementation of the programme on all levels, the MA and JS organised the presentation of the new version of the electronic Monitoring System to the representatives of the Group of Auditors (GoA) on 7 November 2018. Also the International training for the use of the Arachne Risk Assessment Tool for representatives of national control units from Hungary, Croatia, Austria and Slovenia was organised by the MA/JS on 4 July 2018.

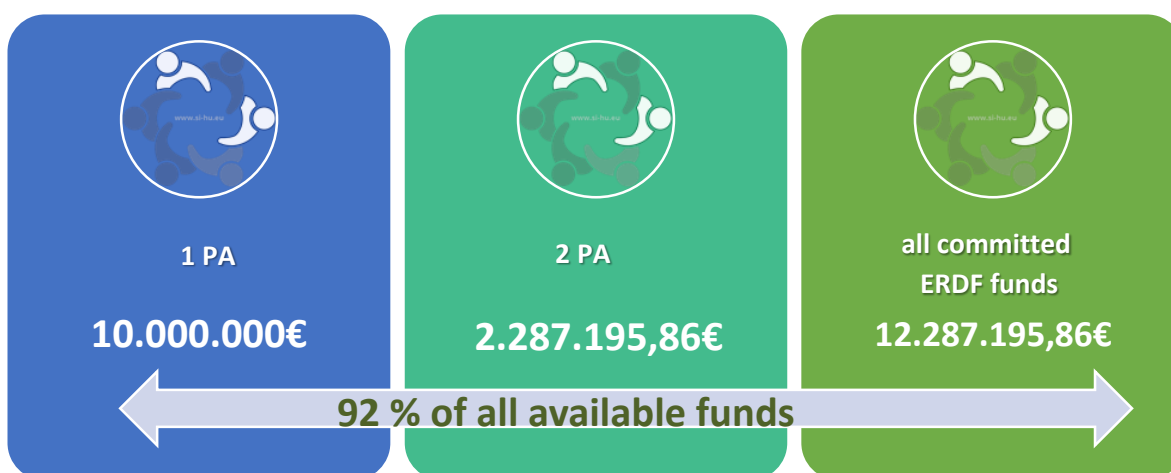


2018 MILESTONES

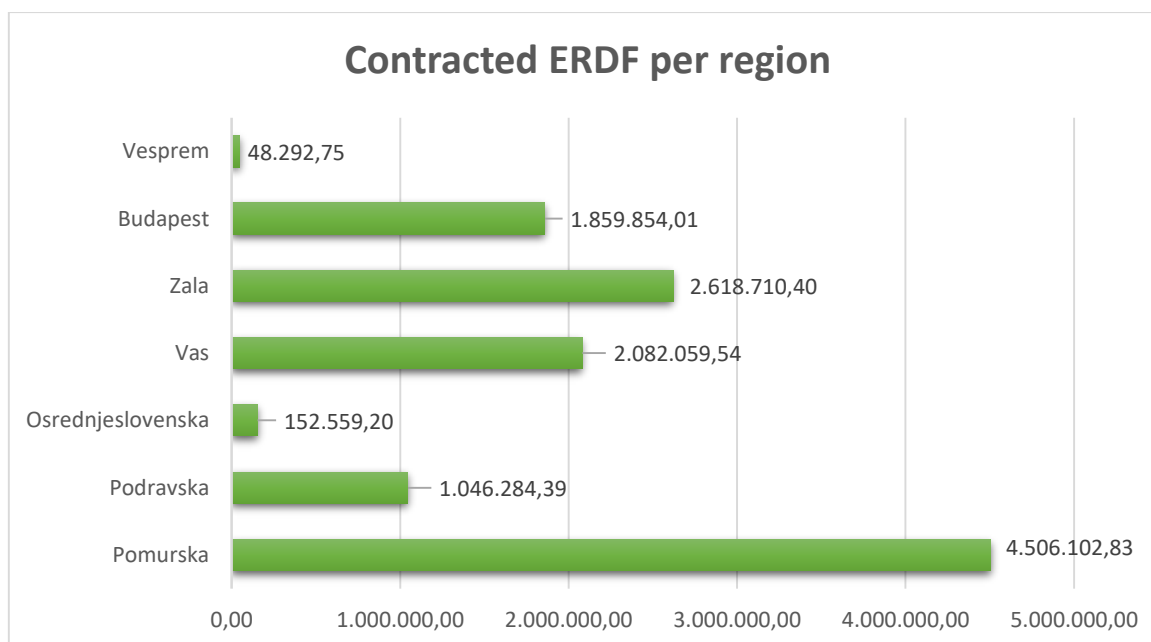
By the end of 2018 all the milestones and targets defined in the performance framework of the programme were fully achieved. Overall, the programme is progressing relatively well in all priority axes. Within five deadlines under the Open call for in total 145 applications have been processed by end of 2018. Under 1st PA members of Monitoring Committee approved 12 project applications and under 2nd PA 8.

The following figures present:

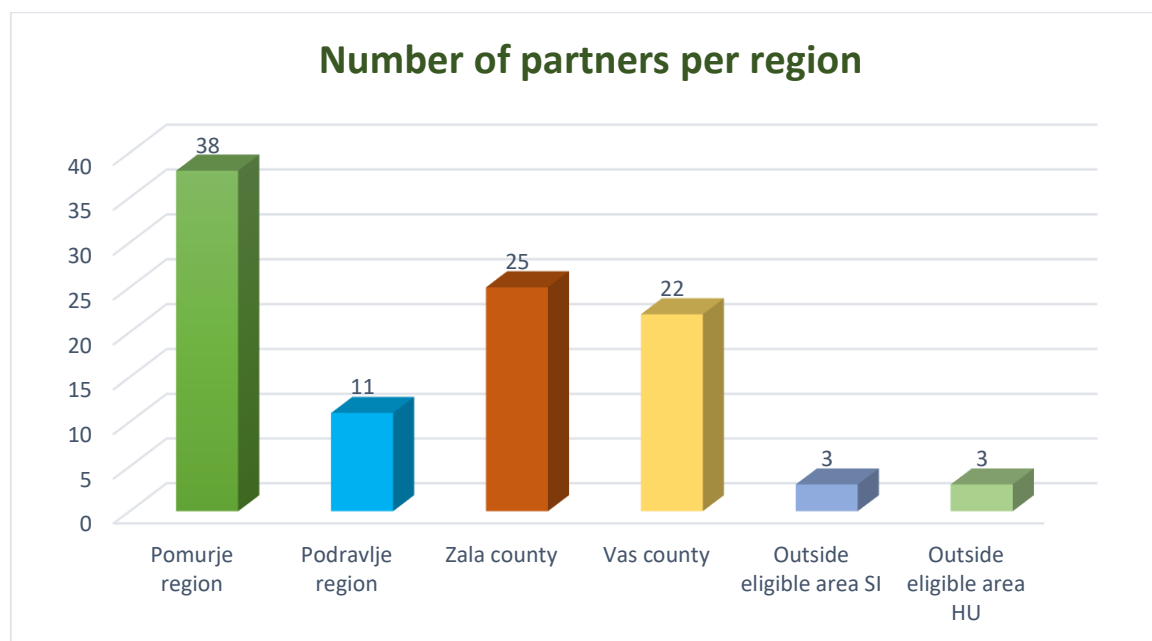
Distribution of ERDF funds committed to the projects per Priority Axis within the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th deadline.



ERDF funds committed per region within the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th deadline.



Number of projects per region within the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th deadline.



102 (out of this 81 different) partners from all approved project at the end of 2018 come from Pomurska region, Vas country, Podravska region and Zala county. The geographical distribution of approved projects under PA1 and PA2 by location of project partners shows that altogether 96 partners come from all eligible regions and 6 come from outside of the eligible area. The most represented project partners are from Pomurska region – 38, following by the Zala County – 25, Vas county - 22 and as last Podravska region – 11. 6 project partners come from outside eligible area.

Expected contribution of projects approved under PA1 to the programme output indicators:

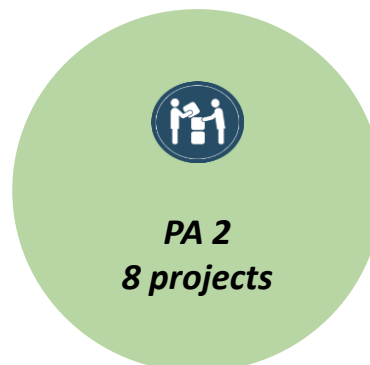
- projects will contribute to the increase in the number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions with **44.325 visitors**
- **6.261 people will be involved in interpretation and educational events;**
- with **96 new CB-touristic products/services** the target value of indicator is to be achieved;
- approved projects will also contribute to the area with **28,14 km of newly build or reconstructed roads/cycle tracks and footpaths.**

Expected contribution of projects approved under PA2 to the programme output indicators:

- **291 institutions will participate in CB structures;**
- approved projects will also **sign 16 agreements on joint future cooperation**

In the next few years, citizens in the involved regions should benefit from concrete results of the implemented activities covering the programme indicators.



III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIORITY AXIS**20 PROJECTS HAVE BEEN FINANCED UNDER THE BOTH PRIORITY AXIS****12 PROJECTS HAVE BEEN APPROVED**

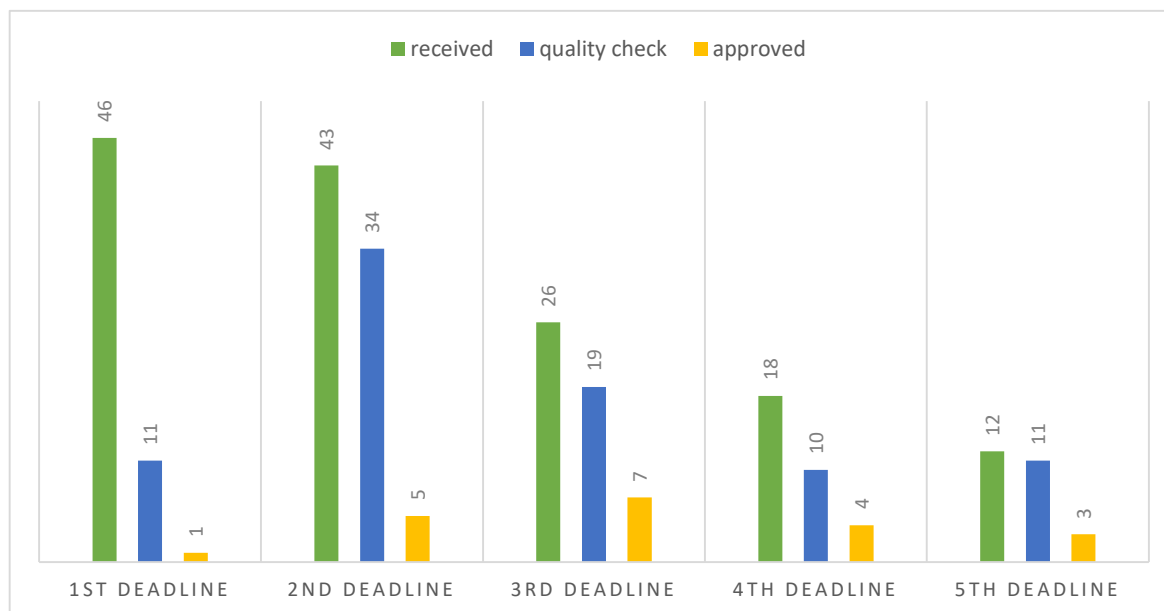
Under Priority Axis 1 – ATTRACTIVE REGION. The approved projects contribute, by linking cultural and natural heritage and healthy life motives into new tourism products and packages that will attract more visitors to the region to stay for a longer period of time and to provide a high standard of services for them. The programme area will benefit from new Green parks, Fairy Tale park network, energetic parks, new accommodation facilities, eco camps, museums, network of local providers, creation of new wine tourism products, new themed routes (wine routes, route of traditional houses etc.) and development of different new tourism packages (offering active holidays (including cycling, hiking, water activities) or equestrian, culinary, natural, cultural experiences of the area), other tourism-related services and capacity building actions will be implemented. One of the strongest themes (also finance-wise) in the frame of this PA is cycling. Almost half of the approved projects are focused on developing and promoting cycling tourism, by developing/upgrading cycling routes that promote natural and cultural heritage on their way and connect them into the CBC cycling destination. In addition, they will improve cycling-friendly services (cycling centres, e-bike chargers, biker-friendly accommodation, joint mobile app, thematic routes etc.). Strong emphasis is also put on the promotion of the new tourism products.

8 PROJECTS HAVE BEEN APPROVED

Under Priority Axis 2 – COOPERATIVE REGION. The approved project will try to increase the level of cross-border cooperation, connect the experience, knowledge and existing best practice of involved organisations, make the cross-border area the centre of European economic renewal, establish common cross-border regional development platform and knowledge centre network, enable better addressing labour market challenges (better coordination between the supply of occupations and demand in the labour market) – better regulation of staff needs in the area, establish the database of cultural-historic data about localities, increase the cooperation between



educational institutions, exchange experiences and good practices. Everyone involved will put big effort to establishing strategic relevant partnerships.



Results of project selection – 1st -5th deadline

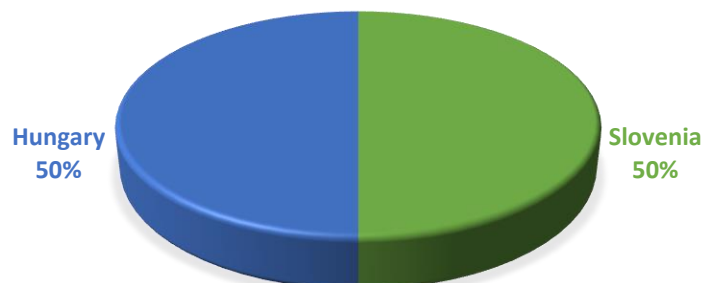
FUNDED PROJECTS

1st Priority Axis: Green Exercise, GO IN NATURE, ESCAPE, Iron Curtain Cycling, Guide2Visit, Mura Raba tour, TELE-KA-LAND, Horse based tourism – HBT, GardEN, ETHOS LAND, Wine Picnic and HOUSES

2nd Priority Axis: Right profession II, e-documenta panonica, E-ECONOMY, Back in the day, Folk Music heritage, Green Line, Dual Transfer and Sens Network.

In the 20 projects proposed for funding, 50% of LBs are of Slovene nationality, while 50% are of Hungarian nationality.



COUNTRY OF THE LEAD PARTNER

After launching the Open call in December 2015 we had two submission deadlines (February and July 2016) in year 2016, next two in year 2017 (April and November 2017) and one in 2018 (June 2018). In the frame of all deadlines workshops intended for potential applicants and for reporting have been organized. In year 2018 it took place in Gosztola, Hungary. Participants received useful information from the MA and the JS staff, including on the state of play of Cooperation Programme, practical use of the electronic monitoring system (eMS) in connection with the eligibility rules and requirements concerning information and communication. The participants also learned how to prepare a quality project by developing and using good intervention logic. This part mostly focused on PA2 which experienced lack of good project applications submitted under previous deadlines. In addition, two successful projects from this PA presented their experience. A round table focusing on PA2 was held in the second part of the workshop. The round table focused on cooperation, institutional capacity and quality of projects under the Interreg V-A SI-HU Cooperation Programme.



Workshop for reporting and potential applicants in Gosztola, Hungary

IV. PUBLICITY MEASURES IN 2018

EUROPENA COOPERATION DAY 2018

»CYCLING EVENT IN PORABJE«



EC Day 2018
Painting our future together



In year 2018 the programme organised one major event for the general public in the context of the EC DAY initiative, called “Cycling event in Porabje”. A one-day-tour gathered a group of 150 participants from Slovenia and Hungary in Monošter/Szentgotthárd, Hungary where they learned about the Green Exercise project, and then headed on a cycling trip in the area between the Slovenian and Hungarian border. Cyclists could choose between shorter 35-kilometre tour and longer 90-kilometre tour. The event was a nice opportunity for the general public and representatives of various institutions to exchange experiences, opinions and socialize. Also a short video of the 2018 EC day was made which can be seen on the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=YIQ8YOHFQes



Date: 20 June 2019

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Citizens Summary



EC-day 2018



The Programme dedicated website in all three language versions was continuously updated, 38 news articles were published (news concerning the activities and novelties of the programme itself and news articles shedding light on projects' activities); 212 people subscribed to the Programme Newsletter, and received a total of 38 e-newsletters. In 2018, as many as 2,983 visitors got to the website making a total of 9,754 visits. The Programme is building a social media presence via its Facebook page with the activities of the programme and projects regularly posted.

INSPIRING EXAMPLES OF THREE OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE PROJECTS PRESENTED IN INTERREG E-BOOK



Projects e-documenta Pannonica, Back in the day and ESCAPE were among the inspiring examples of Interreg cultural heritage projects featured in the e-book "Connecting Cultures, Connected Citizens", prepared by European Commission and Interact Programme. The e-book was released in the framework of the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage (EYCH). It presents examples of successful cultural cooperation projects. All of them received the EYCH label and represent useful source of inspiration for future cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation projects all over Europe.

The e-book is available only in English on the following link: <http://www.interact-eu.net/library#1843-e-book-connecting-cultures-connected-citizens>.

MORE INFORMATION

The latest programme news and information on events implemented within the programme are available on the programme website: www.si-hu.eu



Date: 20 June 2019

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Citizens Summary

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COOPERATION PROGRAMME INTERREG V-A SLOVENIA-HUNGARY
Cooperation Programme INTERREG V-A Slovenia - Hungary is the main document setting out the framework for the cross-border cooperation of the Slovenia and Hungary in the financial perspective 2014-2020.

OPEN CALL
The programme will operate on the basis of the Open Call system.

EMS

electronic monitoring system

NEWS
News and events related to the Cooperation Programme INTERREG V-A Slovenia-Hungary.
You can sign-in with your e-mail address for e-news and you will receive news and alerts for events of Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary.

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