

ASSESSMENT FORM FOR PROJECTS WITH STRATEGIC IMPACT

CONCEPT OF PROJECT WITH STRATEGIC IMPACT

1. **Project's impact:** for other counties in the eligible area and for the regional level NUTS II
2. **Percentage of Operational Programme funds allocated for projects with strategic impact:** 50% from the total OP budget (a smaller or a higher percentage will be decided by the Monitoring Committee if appropriate)
3. **Large scale project:** in order to create a portfolio of projects with real strategic impact, carrying results that may assure the success of the Operational Programme at the end of the period, there is no maximum value per project
4. **Correlation with other interventions in the area** (SOP, ROP projects or any projects financed from some other funds such as national sources, PPP, etc).
5. **Selection procedure in 2 stages:**
 - **First phase giving the opportunity of filtering the project proposals, procedure which may contribute as a guidance or additional know-how support to project holders in order to improve the quality of operations.** *For this stage of selection, in order to invite as many as possible project proposals into the competition and to avoid investments for the project preparation, without seeing the chance for financing, it is only required to give a description of the project.*
 - **Second phase of prepared project selection:** *only those project having the most impact, projects that clearly demonstrate their feasibility and can be implemented in an appropriate timeframe, without endangering the financial implementation of the programme*
6. **Political agreement signed between the two Governments (Romania and Hungary) or by the ministers in charge with the Regional Development)**

The purpose of assessment

The success of the programme lies on the portfolio of projects financed throughout the programme period. There are many small-scale projects foreseen that will establish, vitalise or boost co-operation activities, facilitate the raising of awareness between local communities. On the other hand, larger scale projects are also to be implemented for creating the appropriate environment of co-operation, eliminating bottlenecks which limit the possibilities of mutually exploiting the existing potentials and ensuring effective dialogue. These (most of the cases investment type projects) larger developments should be selected jointly with a strategic approach.

Since the preparation of large scale projects needs time and investment, the Managing/National Authorities are willing **to assess the large scale projects which are under preparation** in the programme area. This assessment can provide information on the state of partnership building between potential Hungarian and Romanian applicants/beneficiaries and, more importantly, on the fields of co-operation where they want to work together. This information may be used in course of the preparation of the first application package.

Nevertheless, it has to be emphasized that the participation in this assessment **by no means replaces the process of application and selection**. Those completing this form will have to submit an application at the time when calls for proposal will be launched.

Background

Hungary – Romania Cross Border Cooperation Program 2007-2013 promotes cross border cooperation and territorial development. The budget of the programme, including national co-financing, makes to approx. 275 million euro for the period of 2007-2013.

The major priority axis:

1. the improvement of key conditions of joint sustainable development, including
 - *Improvement of cross-border transport facilities,*
 - *Improvement of cross-border communication,*
 - *Protection of the environment.*

2. the strengthening of social and economic cohesion in the program area, including
 - *Support for cross-border business co-operation,*
 - *Promotion of co-operation in the field of R+D and innovation,*
 - *Co-operation in the labour market and education – joint development of skills and knowledge,*
 - *Health care and prevention of common threats,*
 - *Cooperation between communities.*

Beneficiaries under the two priority axis can be as follows:

Priority axis 1	Priority axis 2
Local and county governments and their institutions	Local and county governments
Road and Railway Management Authorities	Management organisations of business and logistic centres
State owned transport companies	Higher education institutions, research institutes
Water Management Authorities	Primary and secondary schools, vocational schools
National / Natural Parks administrations	Chambers
Natural environmental organisations, institutions	Non-profit business support organisations
Non-governmental non-profit organisations (NGOs)	Non-profit tourism organisations
Micro region associations	Non-governmental, non-profit organisation (NGOs)
Regional development agencies	Micro region associations
County development agencies	Regional development agencies
Management organisations of Euroregions	County development agencies
European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation	Management organisations of Euroregions
Etc.	Labour offices / agencies
	Public health care institutions, fire-services, catastrophe guards, emergence situation services, police force
	Museums, Libraries, Theatres, Community centres
	Offices of Cultural Heritage
	European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation
	Etc.

The programme area includes the following counties:

In Hungary:	In Romania:
Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg	Arad
Hajdú-Bihar	Timis
Békés	Satu Mare
Csongrád	Bihor

Who should complete the assessment form?

The assessment form below should be completed by those potential partnerships who are planning to realize a large-scale cross-border project with strategic importance, financed under the HU-RO CBC Programme, as early as 2008 or 2009.

Under the programme, projects shall also meet specific partnership requirements, such as developing the project jointly with their cross-border partners or employing staff from both sides of the border and providing co-financing from both sides of the border.

Please note, that during implementation projects have to respect the Lead Partner principle. The partners have to select among them a coordinator or Lead Partner who will bear an overall responsibility for the proper implementation of the project and will be the only partner in regular contact with the programme management bodies. (for details see the following table)

Division of responsibilities between the Lead Partner and Partners

	Lead Partner responsibilities	Partner responsibilities
Project concept, development and application	Coordinates input from partners. Drafts and submits the application form.	The project and the application should be jointly developed and agreed by the partnership. The project partners should agree on who will be the Lead Partner.
Co-financing	Secures co-financing and ensures that the partners' secure the same.	Secure co-financing
Contracts	Lead Partner draws up the project Partnership Agreement including provisions for recovery of amounts unduly paid. Lead Partner sign the subsidy contract between the programme and project.	The Partnership Agreement must be signed by all project partners.
Implementation	The Lead Partner has the overall responsibility for ensuring the implementation of the entire project	Every partner is responsible for carrying out the activities assigned to it in the application and subsidy contract.
Payments	LP receives payments from the programme and transfers funds to the other partners.	

**ASSESSMENT FORM FOR PROJECTS WITH STRATEGIC IMPACT
FOR THE HUNGARY-ROMANIA
CROSS BORDER CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME 2007-2013**

Priority axis:

Project title:

I. Partners:

1. Lead Partner

Name:

Legal status:

Address/Contacts (phone, fax, e-mail, mobile):

2. Partner/s:

Name:

Legal status:

Address/Contacts (phone, fax, e-mail, mobile):

3. Cooperation between partners:

3.1 Specify the partner(s) reason and form of involvement, their contribution and their role in the project. Please describe how the principle of partnership has been taken into consideration.

3.2 Please answer each of the following questions:

- Have you started the negotiation with your partners in this project? **If yes, please underline the status:**
 - partnership agreement signed
 - letter of intent signed
 - initial contacts have been made

- Do you have previous projects jointly developed with the envisaged partners?
- Do you have contracts/ bilateral agreements?
- Have you implemented/ planned previous projects/ activities so far?

II. Project description

1. Location of the project (country, region, county, municipality,):

2. Implementation period:

- Planned starting date of the implementation (year and month):

In case of investments, what plans, written authorisations and feasibility studies are necessary and the period to obtain them:

- Planned completion date (year and month):
Please consider N+3/ N+2 rule

3. Define the overall and specific objectives (please consider the Lisbon Strategy, Community Strategic Guidelines on cohesion policy, National Strategic Framework) as well the planned activities of the project:

Overall objective	Specific objective	Planned activities and implementation timetable
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	

4. How does the project harmonize with the given priority axis? (max. 600 characters). Please describe the links between the project and the objectives of the programme.

5. Please present the impact of the planned project, for other counties in the eligible area and for the NUTS II area. (max. 600 characters)

6. Please indicate the correlation with other interventions in the area (other existing or envisaged project in the area: projects financed from own sources, from Sectoral/ Regional Operational Programme, Foreign Direct Investments, existing PHARE CBC projects, etc. to be considered)

III. Rationale and Background & Justification

1. Briefly summarize the background activities, analyses or research activities which are justifying the project.

2. Please demonstrate the necessity of the project and its outcome? In what manner will the project serve public interest? (max. 600 characters, space included).

3. What is the state of preparation? Please mention the plans, feasibility studies, written certificates etc. that you have already obtained

4. Who are the beneficiaries of the project? Define the target groups that are to be addressed in the short term (direct beneficiaries) and the long term beneficiaries and the impact on them (list maximum 5).

IV. Budget

1. Preliminary estimation of costs:

	Project activity	Costs EURO	Eligible costs EURO
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	Total budget:		Total eligible costs:

Maximum grant requested (EURO):

Your own contribution is secured? Yes No

Sources: Own funds/bank loan etc

2. Why is the community funding needed, can the project be implemented without it? Please describe.

V. Sustainability

1. How will the outcome of the project be used for? How will the project be sustainable in the long-term? (max. 1200 characters, space included).

2. Risks endangering project-completion.

	Description of risk	Likelihood (high/medium/low)	Impact (high/medium/low)	Measures to avoid risk
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Statement of partnership*

We have read and approved the contents of the strategic project initiative. We undertake to comply with the principles of good partnership practice.

Date and signature:	On behalf of the Lead Partner
Name	
Organisation	
Position	
Signature and stamp	
Date	

Date and signature:	On behalf of the Partner
Name	
Organisation	
Position	
Signature and stamp	
Date	

* - the statement need to be signed by all the partners