

**INTERREG VI-A NEXT
HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA-ROMANIA-UKRAINE PROGRAMME**

**SUMMARY OF THE 1ST CALL'S
CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

1. GENERAL DATA REGARDING THE 1ST CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. Programme and financing source:

The Interreg VI-A NEXT Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine Programme (the Programme) is implemented under the Cohesion Policy within the 2021-2027 European Union financial framework under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) approved by the EC by its decision C(2022) 8029 on the 3 November 2022.

2. Programme area:

The programme area covers the following NUTS III level equivalent regions

in Hungary:

Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg
Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén

in Slovakia:

Košický kraj
Prešovský kraj

in Romania:

Maramureş
Satu Mare
Suceava

and in Ukraine:

Zakarpattia oblast
Ivano-Frankivsk oblast
Chernivtsi oblast

3. Eligible Applicants:

The following organisations are eligible to apply for the funding allocated to the Programme:

- public authorities
- bodies governed by public law
- as a general rule non-profit organisations governed by private law

For a detailed description of eligible applicants, please consult Chapter 2 of the Guidelines for applicants (GfA).

4. Minimum requirements for partnership:

The partnership shall involve **at least one Applicant from one of the Member States** participating in the Programme **and at least one Applicant from Ukraine**, each and all satisfying the eligibility criteria for Applicants. Additional cross-border and/or domestic partner/s - satisfying the eligibility criteria for Applicants - can be involved in the implementation of the project, provided the content of the project justifies so. **The number of partners is maximum 6, including the lead partner.**

5. Priorities and Objectives, Type of Actions:

The following Priorities and Objectives **are opened** under the 1st CfP:

Priority 1: A resilient and green border region

Objective 1.1: Climate change adaptation, risk prevention

Objective 1.2: Biodiversity and reduced pollution

Priority 2: A healthy and attractive border region

Objective 2.1: Equal access to health care

Objective 2.2: Culture

Priority 3: A cooperating border region

Objective 3.1: Harmonious neighbourly relations through cooperation

Objective 3.2: A safer and more secure Europe (ISO2)

For the indicative list of activities and their detailed descriptions for each of the priorities and objectives opened, please read Chapter 1.4 of the GfA.

Please note that the projects solely focusing on tourism activity cannot be submitted and supported. Nevertheless, a cultural project might have such activity, which might have an impact on tourism, those projects can be submitted and might be eligible for funding.

6. Indicative total funds available, scales of projects:

The total available EU contribution for the present Call for Proposals is **49 993 185 EUR**.

The Programme will support projects of different scales. The scales are defined as follows:

- The EU contribution to a **Small-scale project** (marked with SSP) can be above or equal to 70 thousand and below 300 thousand EUR,
- **Regular-scale project** (RSP) can be above or equal to 300 thousand and below 2,5 million EUR (please, be noted that the Regular-scale project can be implemented with or without infrastructure element, this aspect can determine also the use of simplified cost option, as well as the submission deadline, please, consult the Chapter 10 and Annex III Eligibility of expenditure.
- **Large-scale project** (LSP) can be above or equal to 2,5 million EUR and below or equal to 5,0 million EUR. Moreover, pursuant to Art. 57 of EU Regulation 2021/1059, a further condition to an LSP project is that the budget share of a total cost of at least 2,5 million EUR is allocated to the acquisition, construction or modernisation of infrastructure on project-level.

The below table shows the **indicative distribution** of the total available EU amount between the priorities and objectives within the present call, also specifying the indicative **EU contribution** available per project scales.

Priority	Objective	SSP (70K≤x<300K)	RSP (300K≤x<2,5 M)	LSP (2,5 M≤x≤5M)	TOTAL
P1 – A resilient and green border region	1.1 Climate change adaptation, risk prevention	2 500 000	3 000 000	6 000 000	11 500 000
	1.2 Biodiversity and reduced pollution	2 000 000	2 500 000	6 000 000	10 500 000
P2 – A healthy and attractive border region	2.1 Equal access to healthcare	1 200 000	15 000 000	0	16 200 000
	2.2 Culture	1 800 000	1 800 000	0	3 600 000
P3 – A cooperatin g border region	3.1 Harmonious neighbourly relations through cooperation	2 000 000	2 500 000	0	8 193 185
	3.2. A safer and more secure Europe	1 000 000	2 693 185	0	
Total		10 500 000	27 493 185	12 000 000	49 993 185

Please note that regular-scale projects with infrastructure element in health care can exceed the maximum budget size in case of justified need.

7. Co-financing rate, advance payment:

On project level, **the Union co-financing rate is maximum 90%** of the total eligible expenditure. The Union co-financing rate shall not exceed 90% on project and on partner-level.

The remaining amount (as a general rule 10%) shall be financed from national sources (state contribution and/or own contribution of Applicants), which may differ per participating countries as described in Chapter 8 of the GfA.

Once the Lead Beneficiary concludes the Subsidy Contract with the Managing Authority **an advance in an amount of maximum 25%** of the total EU allocation of a project will automatically be granted.

8. Project duration:

The planned implementation period of a project must not be less than 8 months.

- For SSP the project must not exceed 12 months of its planned duration.
- For RSP the project must not exceed 24 months of its planned duration.
- For LSP the project must not exceed 36 months of its planned duration.

9. Selection of projects:

The description of the assessment, selection and contracting process is available in Chapter 11 of the GfA.

10. The APPLICATION PACKAGE for the 1st CFP is comprised of the following documents:

Guidelines for Applicants – the basic document of the application package that includes all the most important information and details regarding the call for proposals.

Annexes to the Application:

Annex I: Declaration by the applicant - a general declaration obligatory for all applicants

Annex II: De minimis declaration by the applicant - a declaration regarding De minimis obligatory for all applicants except those not receiving financial support

Guides and Manuals:

Annex III: Eligibility of expenditures - a document that defines the eligibility rules of expenditures for applicants, also includes Procurement rules for Ukrainian Partners as Appendix A

Annex IV: Indicator guide – a detailed explanation of programme-level indicators

Annex V: Visibility manual – a manual describing Programme’s brand standards, requirements and rules of usage of its elements. The Visibility manual also contains description of info and publicity packages.

Annex VI: User Manual of INTERREG+ Application module – a detailed description of the way to submit the application within the INTERREG+ system. Will be provided later than the launching of the Call, when the Application module is made available.

Annex VII: State Aid – a document summarizing the applicable State aid rules

The package also contains annexes that are shared only for informing purposes by the application phase and will be necessary later at the contracting phase:

Draft Subsidy Contract for EU Contribution (includes General Terms and Conditions)

Draft Partnership Agreement

2. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

1. Consultation, Info days and Partner Search Forum:

In the application period, Applicants may ask for information, guidance and clarification from the designated contact persons of the JS and the Branch Offices **by phone or via e-mail. Personal consultations are provided only at pre-arranged appointments in JS office.**

JOINT SECRETARIAT

Institution: Joint Secretariat of the Interreg VI-A NEXT Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine

Address: Széchenyi Programme Office Limited Liability Company
H-1053 Budapest, Szép utca 2., 4th floor

E-mail: info@next.huskroua-cbc.eu

Phone numbers of JS members are available at the Programme website.

BRANCH OFFICES (BO)

Branch Office in the Slovak Republic (host organization):	Košice Self-governing Region	Prešov Self-governing Region
Address:	Námestie Maratónu mieru 1, 042 66 Košice, Slovakia	Námestie Mieru 2, 080 01 Prešov, Slovakia
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Branch Office in Romania (host organization):	Satu Mare County Intercommunity Development Association	Maramures County Council and Sighetu Marmatiei Town Hall
Address:	25 October Square, no. 1, Satu Mare, Romania, 440026	Bogdan Voda Street, no. 14, Sighetu Marmatiei, Maramures County, Romania
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Branch Office in Ukraine (host organization):	Zakarpattia Regional State Administration	Ivano-Frankivsk Regional State Administration
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Note: Questions may be asked over the phone, however if you prefer to receive a written answer, questions should be put in writing (e-mail) but not later than 7 calendar days before the deadline of submission of the applications.

Info Days and Partner Search Forum: The Joint Secretariat of the Programme and its Branch offices will organize Info days preferably with physical presence in all eligible counties or online if not feasible. Partner Search Forum will be held online. For the dates and venues please consult the Programme website and upcoming Programme Newsletter.

2. Submission of applications:

Full applications and supporting documents must be submitted electronically via INTERREG+ system. When you start filling in the application form, please consult the User Manual of the INTERREG+ Application Module. The link to the Application platform and the Manual will be made available later on the Programme website.

The language of application forms is English. Application forms in languages other than English will be rejected.

For full list of supporting documents to be submitted please read Chapter 10.4 of the GfA.

3. Deadlines for submission of applications:

The **Applications for Small-scale Projects and Regular-Scale Projects without infrastructure budget line** shall be submitted online via the Application Module of INTERREG+ by **20 December 2023, 15:00 (Central European Time)**. Applications submitted after the given deadline will be considered formally non-compliant and will not be considered further.

The **Application for Regular-Scale Projects with infrastructure budget line and Large-Scale Projects** must be submitted online via the Application Module of INTERREG+ by **14 March 2024, 15:00 (Central European Time)**. Applications submitted after the given deadline will be considered formally non-compliant and will not be considered further.

4. General timeline of the 1st CfP:

	DATE	TIME (CET)
Official launch of the 1 st Call for Proposals (All applications: SSP, RSP, LSP)	21 September 2023	
Deadline for submission of applications for <u>SSP and RSP without infrastructure budget line</u>	20 December 2023	15:00
Deadline for submission of <u>RSP with infrastructure budget line and LSP</u>	14 March 2024	15:00
Decision of MC on awarded projects (all 3 types)	Third quarter 2024	
Signature of the Subsidy Contract for EU Contribution	Fourth quarter 2024	

The whole Application package and other relevant documents (e.g. the Interreg Programme, Frequently Asked Questions, etc.) are available at next.huskroua-cbc.eu.