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JOINT OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME ROMANIA – UKRAINE – REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA 2007 – 2013 AT A GLANCE

“ENPI CBC Joint Operational Programme Romania – Ukraine - Republic of Moldova 2007-2013 provides the framework for the implementation of cross border activities in the context of the European Neighbourhood Policy with the aim to prevent the emergence of new dividing lines between EU and its neighbours and to offer the partner countries the opportunity to participate in various EU activities, through greater political, security, economic and cultural co-operation” – this is the first phrase of the Programming document for Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova.

Today, after more than 7 years after its adoption, we would like to show how the Programme helped the people and organizations in the border area to overcome border barriers, restrictions and other factors which had led to the separation in border areas.

Out of 1500 project proposals submitted in two calls for proposals, 140 projects were selected and received financing for implementing their activities in the benefit of the partners, and of population in the target area.

The selected projects were managed by 491 partners from all three participating countries who focused their work on the improvement of the economic, social and environmental situation in the Programme area, in the context of safe and secure borders.

The below mentioned achievements belong to 126 finalized projects at the end of 2015.

As results of the projects implementation for a *more competitive border economy*, 266 SME's benefitted from business facilities, 44 partnerships between universities, research institutes and business/local authorities were concluded, 563 people graduated training courses, 5 joint integrated tourism products were created.



Through projects supporting *long term solutions to the environmental problems in association with environmental emergencies*, 2 water and waste technologies were jointly implemented in the border area, 2 solutions were developed for fighting soil erosion, 6 collaborations were established on common problems of environmental protection and 2 networks contributing to risk prevention and early warning and emergency response were established.

Greater interaction between people and communities living in the border areas was promoted and realized by the *“people to people” actions* where 251 bodies were involved in cooperation initiatives, 88 joint cultural events/ networks promoting regional CBC identity, including awareness campaigns for environmental protection in the area were organized, 31 information campaigns for citizens and rehabilitation courses for victims of people trafficking, 248 exchanges and joint events for young people and 161 trainings/ meetings for professionals were developed.

Fourteen projects are still in implementation and new achievements at the Programme level are expected at the end of 2016, when all projects financed by the Joint Operational Programme Romania- Ukraine – Republic of Moldova 2007 – 2013 will be implemented.

WHAT HAVE THE PROJECT PARTNERS GAINED FROM THEIR PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION?

“Increase of life activity safety in the valley of the river Prut”, MIS ETC 751

The project promotes international cooperation between Ukrainian, Romanian and Moldovan partners, by providing assistance in preparation and volunteer’s trainings, studies and adoption of the European experience, population notification systems in case of floods and by conducting of works for restoration on the protective levee.

All implemented activities were directed to increase the population safety in the river Prut valley by the means of developing effective system of the cross-border hydrological monitoring, creation of permanent informative centres and voluntary groups.

We can say that the achieved results at the end of the project created profitable ground for further cooperation in the sphere of emergency situations in Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova due to the fact that local inhabitants

from Botosani, Novoselytsya and Falesti are aware about torrent-control response system, volunteers for info centres in both locations have been trained, info centres and hydrological observation points have been established.

It was great to see how volunteers from all three countries involved in the project proved their skills within the Annual Festival of Competitions of emergency situations.

Moreover, the project had positively affected and become an example for Service of Emergency Situation of Chernivtsi region, which is reforming its organizational structure for more efficient actions in case of floods.

Svitlana Skrykulyak, project manager
Novoselytsya District State Administration, Chernivtsi,
Ukraine

“Eco-Carpathians: eco-business development in border Carpathians as chance for better economic competitiveness”, MIS ETC 1603

“Breaking the Borders: mountain tourism development”, MIS ETC 786

During the implementation of both projects we understood that the most important things for successful project implementation are good partnership, proper communication among the partners and efficient approach of the aim of the project and its activities.

Besides the things mentioned above a numerous of other competences and skills are needed.

It can be said that thanks to both projects we received a great work experience in international teams, learned the peculiarities of dealing with European legislation, created a network of

professionals from Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova, helped people from the border region to improve their business and find partners in other countries. So, projects influenced on personal, organizational and regional development.

Among the future plans are the continuation of the work started in the projects, the development of new cross border projects and the support for tourism development in the region.

We are proud to mention that both projects were highly appreciated at European level and won



Grand Prize - category Tourism, for two consecutive years, in the Contest for the best projects of cross-border cooperation, organized by the Eastern Europe Initiatives Congress.

*Olga Dmytriuk, project manager,
Chernivtsi City Public Organization "Business Center",
Chernivtsi, Ukraine*

"Safe cross-border tourism in the Mountains of Bukovina", MIS ETC 1536

The project implemented in partnership with the Department of Ecology and Tourism of Chernivtsi Regional State Administration in Ukraine has contributed to the development of Suceava Rescue Service and State Service for Emergency Situations of Ukraine in Chernivtsi region in order to improve the safety conditions for all tourists visiting the two regions.

Equipment was purchased, information materials were printed and disseminated through tourist information centres from Suceava and Chernivtsi, while in September 2015 a training course was organized in tourist guiding and first aid field. The training course involved 15 persons from Suceava Rescue Office and 15 persons from the State Service for Emergency Situations of Ukraine in Chernivtsi region and also volunteers working with these structures.

Better conditions for eco-tourism in the cross-bordered area have been ensured, considering that 150 km of bicycles routes and 50 km of hiking routes in Suceava and 95 km of bicycles routes and 25 km of hiking routes in Chernivtsi were marked and signalised.

The project helped to the development of a sustainable partnership between the two institutions, so both partners have learned to work together and resolve obstacles encountered in the project implementation.

For the future programming period, Suceava County Council and the Chernivtsi Regional State Administration has identified common needs, in this regard it was concluded a joint portfolio of projects for the roads rehabilitation and tourism field.

*Ioana Verbal, project manager
Suceava County Council, Suceava, Romania*

"Improvement the response capacity of Mobile Emergency Service for Resuscitation and Extrication (SMURD) through a joint integrated system for efficient monitoring and disaster consequences mitigation, in regard to population in the common boundaries Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova, MIS ETC 989

We are talking about a project for saving lives, by contributing to the improvement of the response of emergency preparedness and intervention services and the efficient monitoring and disaster consequences mitigation in the common boundaries of Romania and Republic of Moldova.

Probably the most important feature of the action is that investments, basically, have been focused on life safety infrastructure which directly doesn't generate income. The project is an important step in this direction and provides wider platform for cross border cooperation.

The project activities represented a major challenge for the cross-border cooperation, considering the involvement of important public institutions from the field of emergency service and life safety from all countries involved, while every mission foreseen within the project needed a lot of work and the entire commitment of everyone that took part in it.

The project impact on individuals is still the most important characteristic of the entire action, considering that every citizen living in the cross-border area will benefit from the projects involvement in the emergency and medical safety field.

Through a common approach and hard work along the implementation period, all three partners managed to make proposals for amendments necessary to facilitate the relationship between all state institutions involved from Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova. This was one of the most challenging activities of the project, as the partners without dispute, agreed upon. They were able to set up common procedures for intervention, methodology, to establish and plan joint exercises and life-saving missions.

*Alexandra Mares, implementation expert
Ministry of Internal Affairs – General Inspectorate for
Emergency Situations, Romania*



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Creation of a trilateral cross border network for development and marketing of the agro-alimentary local and traditional products in the Lower Danube cross border area, MIS ETC 2102

As far as everybody living in the cross-border area knows, the sustainable development of the Tulcea - Odessa - Cahul region can only be maintained by developing and investing in a more competitive, stable, healthy and diversified environment, capable to generate continuous economic growth and improvement of the quality of life citizens.

During the implementation period the partners tried to best accomplish all activities that came in favour of the citizens in the cross-border area by bringing into their attention the creation of a trilateral cross-border network for raising the people's attention to the agro-alimentary and local traditional products.

The implementation period of any project has its ups and downs, offering favourable ground for the project partners to identify a series of lessons learned. "It was a challenge to work as one team taking into account the relatively big number of partners (4) and bringing them to a common opinion/sense for the progress of the project" are the words of one partner representative.

In each of the three countries involved, the economical and administrative laws are different.

This brings out one of the most important characteristics of our project: the fact that our Ukrainian and Moldavian partners worked harder, trying to bring in their countries a piece of the European standards for each of the new fruits and vegetables centres that were build.

What brings out the beauty that covers the implementation period is exactly the testimony of one of the project partners that refers to this period as being "one of the toughest but beautiful periods" in his life, with a lot of challenges.

The desire to continue promoting the results of their activities and to invest more in raising the visibility of their action is the wish of all partners involved. They plan to create a website in order to gain new interested stakeholders from the cross-border area. Also, one of their future ideas is to create an area-brand that will keep together all actions involving the promotion and distribution of local and traditional agro-alimentary products for the citizens living among the Programme region.

Lucica Costache, project manager

Danube Delta Sustainable Development Association, Tulcea, Romania

Creation of favourable investment climate in border regions of Ukraine and Romania and Ukraine (SMWM), MIS ETC 1106

The project brought together seven partners from all countries involved in the Programme, each of them having positive experience in waste management. They learned one from each other and worked together to achieve a common goal.

The project contributed to the creation of a mechanism for the proper waste management and its infrastructure, while valuable practice was gained during the exchange of experience between the representatives of local public administration from Moldova and Ukraine, sanitation companies from municipalities of Iasi and Targu Frumos in Romania.

"Simultaneously with the gained experience some conclusions should be drawn up. Weak capacities of some partners in the process of clear evidence keeping and drafting the reports As project manager, I am fully aware that with only one project, however large it may be, we cannot solve all environmental problems faced by citizens in our regions. Therefore, we will continue the work started in this project by ensuring the project sustainability, funding further collecting, selecting and transporting

led to important delays and errors within the consolidated financial statements and audit reports. The fact that we had many partners has increased the cross-border impact, but also led to extending deadlines for submitting reports".

During the project implementing period I learned one thing: "until we achieve a progress in public environmental awareness, changing attitudes and creating an adequate behaviour of citizens to the nature, it will be complicated to solve sanitation problems in our localities".

Most of the results are concrete, tangible and had a large contribution to the improvement of waste management infrastructure and increased the quality of life. Through our project, were created proper waste management models, which are promoted in the region.

waste by one side and promoting appropriate waste management system, developing new projects, attracting new investments to create an adequate infrastructure in rural areas, by the other side.

Victor Cimpoeș, project manager

District Council of Falești, Republic of Moldova



Safety Information Systems in Road Traffic, MIS ETC 1719

An ongoing, open and honest communication between partners and community stakeholders was one of the basic elements of the project management.

We've understood that we need to directly involve the citizens in our activities and by bringing together authorities and civil society, we have achieved all project's objectives, but above all, we have managed to establish a consensus regarding the ongoing collaboration between stakeholders and authorities, regardless of their views, attitudes or status.

It would be fair to say that the safe road for better management and good partnership is to consider the following lessons learned: setting unrealistic indicators to be reached, "ask and get consulted", realistic forecast of the duration of the project implementation taking into account all possible risks, planning in advance the public procurement procedures, getting the management team and adapting to everyone's way of working, orientation of the project activities implementation towards development and improvement, not just functioning and continuous communication between partners.

We are sure that the activities of our project will help people become more aware that road

accidents represent a global scourge and, also, will encourage everyone to strive constantly to improve this situation, first at a local level, and, later, even at the regional and national levels.

We have developed tools and models of successful practices which we will continue to implement them and to further refine them. A good example represents the development and approval of the three strategies on road traffic and road safety infrastructure development.

Ungheni is the first city in Republic of Moldova that carried out a study of this kind on road traffic. Moreover, some of the recommendations stipulated in this research have already been implemented.

Awareness rising of all traffic participants continues to take place, even after the end of the project, through the establishment of school safety patrols in Ungheni.

On the other hand, Chernivtsi City Council, one of the partners, has developed another project, called "Safe City", which continues to carry out the activities started within our project.

Victoria Darie, project manager

Ungheni City Hall, Ungheni, Republic of Moldova

"Crosslife-Skillsnet", MIS ETC 1963

Young people are the future for all nations and we ought to take care of them, in order to have a good and prosperous future!

The project "CrossLife- SkillsNet" aimed to improve cooperation between the youth in cross-border area, carrying out joint activities and actions in the field of life-skills development. Modern situation between young representatives of our society needs developing of independent, responsible and balanced behaviors and teaching them personal life-skills management for the future.

The project goals were achieved through the international conference for the youth, simultaneously implemented workshops, trainings for young people and created Cross-Border LifeSkills Center. The language barrier was overcome considering the good knowledge of English.

All four partners worked as a team on smooth implementation of project activities, established

good communication and synergy while all activities were timely achieved.

Implementing CBC projects offers the frame for development of skills in working with a large, multi-national team, by adopting many new things from more experienced colleagues. In our country, the "culture" of such projects is only at the beginning, so with each new project we learn more and more lessons about management, resource management, reporting, communication, etc.

Drafts of new projects are being developed within already established partnerships and we plan to submit some project ideas in the framework of other CBC programmes, especially in the field of working with young people (volunteering, bad habits, culture exchange, etc.).

Valentin Stroia, project coordinator

*Youth Public Association "New European Generation",
Odessa, Ukraine*



One of the project objectives was the partnering between businessmen (representatives of the small and medium enterprises) of the border region: Odessa, Chisinau and Iasi. It was necessary to acquaint businessmen with opportunities of such partnership, business dealing in the border region (legislative, tax, features of mentality, development of branches, and cross-cultural distinctions of business) for the purpose of finding potential partners and business expansion in this region.

In good collaboration with our partners we organized thematic trainings for participants from Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova and the Business Support Centre was established. We tried to attract representatives of different spheres: food industry, ecology, tourism, winemaking, energy saving and so on.

Our project team was formed of the Business Centre employees, taking into consideration the available experience described in their educational activity. The curator of the project is the vice-principal of Odessa State Economic University and the representative of foreign languages department. From the project approval process until the end of project

implementation our team extended, considering that there were some weddings, children were born, so it would be nothing but true to say that the project bore double fruits.

While writing the project a point to keep in mind is that the solution of important and actual problems for the border region has to be its cornerstone. Thus, the proposal has to be real, achievable and bring notable benefits and for this purpose it is necessary to well- know the specificity of the region, to understand tendencies and the directions of its development, to predict possible changes which can significantly affect both the border region and the results of the project.

We got invaluable experience and found not only partners but also good friends with whom we have maintained remarkable relations until today. We managed to apply lessons learned participating in other projects and we are going to develop new projects for the benefit of the cross border area.

Tatyana Gamma, logistics manager

Irina Dopira, technical manager

Center for Business Education of Odessa State Economic University, Odessa, Ukraine

CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROGRAMME TO THE CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL LIFE WITHIN THE ELIGIBLE AREA

To preserve the past is to create the future, MIS ETC 2317

The project contributed to the creation and development of joint cultural cross-border cooperation, of an active intercultural dialogue and of a communication network among museums in Suceava, Chernivtsi and Balti.

Within the project, Romanian, Ukrainian and Moldovan collections curators had the opportunity to work together, to exchange and assimilate new information, experiences and best practices, which were subsequently used in their field. The collections curators work and the quality of museum services have experienced a significant improvement, museum specialists learning how to use innovative work systems, new techniques and technologies, specific to the digitization, preservation and valorisation of the movable cultural heritage. Collections curators have become therefore a powerful human resource for the museums involved in the project and a valuable source of information for other owners of heritage in the Programme area and in the first for people visiting the cultural objectives.

Through the project, 57 632 pieces of heritage were digitized, 34 701 heritage objects belonging to the movable heritage included in 24 collections storerooms of the museums involved in the project were monitored and 12 000 catalogues for museum collections - Furniture, Folk Costumes, Pottery, Interior Textiles – were published and disseminated to the general public.

The access to digitized heritage has allowed the partner museums to preserve and capitalize the museum information on the long term, to improve and facilitate the work of the collection curators and to make the cultural heritage available for a greater number of people, so as to foster cultural industries of Europe and "to bring culture into people's homes".



Our project managed to bring together the museums on both sides of the border, to encourage dialogue between the museums and its general public and most importantly, to strengthen human relationships, as the collaborative relationships turned into valuable friendships.



Historical and ethnographic heritage - part of the sustainable development of tourism in Bukovina (HERITAGE), MIS ETC 829

The project was implemented by Yuriy Fedkovych National University of Chernivtsi in partnership with Stefan cel Mare University of Suceava and contributed to the improvement and development of the historical and ethnographic tourism infrastructure by increasing the interest in the border areas.

Museums and cultural centres from Bukovina, together with higher education institutions with study programs in the field of tourism were among the main target groups of the project, while the list of final beneficiaries includes the border areas population, national and international tourists.

For the infrastructure development of historic and ethnographic tourism in Bukovina, the Information and Communication Centre for Historic and Ethnographic Tourism Development in Chernivtsi and the Territorial Office of the Information and Communication Centre for Historic and Ethnographic Tourism Development located in Suceava were inaugurated through the project and opened to the wide public. In addition, a Museum of Ethnography and Ancient History was opened within the Yuriy Fedkovych National University of Chernivtsi and an archaeological exhibition was opened at Stefan cel Mare University of Suceava.

For the diversification of tourist cultural services it was created a trilingual electronic database of historic and ethnographic objects and routes which is available in the information and communication centres.

The promotion of the historic and ethnographic heritage of Bukovina was also achieved through the project's Internet webpage www.heritage-ua-ro.org, the international folklore and ethnography festival and craftsmen fair and the ethnographic album, available on DVD electronic format issued in 10 000 copies.

All these actions were performed so as to increase the number of tourists that visit Bukovina, enhance the level of information awareness of the citizens of Ukraine and Romania as well as of other foreign tourists about the historic and ethnographic potential of the region.



The East European Network of Excellence for Research and Development in Chronic Diseases CHRONEX-RD, MIS ETC 1840

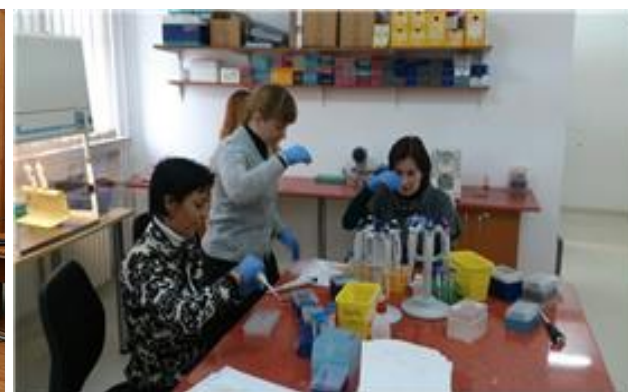
The project focused on the strategic integration and consolidation of the academic learning into a transnational network for the field of research and development of chronic diseases within the cross-border area.

One of the most relevant results with a great impact for the life of people living within the cross-border area is the development of the first East - European Excellence Network for Research and Development in the field of Chronic Diseases, a legally constituted interdisciplinary international structure that will be able to implement multi-disciplinary and multi-centric research projects. The network unifies the most relevant research institutions in the biomedical and clinical field as well as exceptional units of primary and community medicine in the cross-border area.

More than 30 researchers worked directly in advanced research projects, 60 family physicians benefited from training in primary and community medicine research management, while for 300 health professionals a training in chronic disease management was provided.

The project captures the beginning of a new approach in the field of academic research and contributes to the expansion of researchers motivation in the Programme's area.

In the future, CHRONEX-RD will contribute to the improvement of health services and academic research by translating into medical practice the results of each research, which strongly connects the education system and the health system in all three countries.



Developing cross border tourism by promoting the Mansion of Manuc Bey, Elena Ioan Cuza Mortuary Complex and the Blesciunov Mansion", MIS ETC 2173

The project was one of the most important contributions to cultural life in our region in recent years. More than 120 persons, including civil servants, representatives of civil society, culture and tourism professionals, librarians were directly involved within the project activities. These activities culminated in a wide cultural event, which aimed to promote the project, the deployment work process and to sensitize public opinion to the preservation, conservation and promotion of cultural and historical values.

The interest in Mansion of Manuc Bey has exceeded all expectations. Thus, at the feast from December 13, 2015 - "Saint Andrew at Manuc Bey", the complex hosted around ten thousand visitors. During the event, people had the opportunity to discover the authentic history of the manor by walking through a touristic route. The route included a trip through the underground tunnel, a gallery of restored photos from the archives complex, the blacksmith room, the authentic cellar of the "Prince Palace" basement, and also the opportunity to purchase themed souvenirs dedicated to the manor.

One of the successes enjoyed by Manuc Bey Complex, is the interest of amateur and professional photographers. Every visit to the mansion is a special occasion for making a large number of photos that enhance the admiration and interest in this valuable tourist attraction.

Reconstruction of Manuc Bey mansion and the entire museum complex, will serve as a catalyst for economic, touristic and cultural development of Hincesti Town, and implicitly the entire district. Manuc Bey Palace will be transformed into a poly functional centre with the possibility to host various events,



conferences, regional and international workshops, with accommodations and recreational packages included. After completing the restoration of this strategic objective, visitors will be able to admire the beauty of yore, in a regional touristic route.

In the same time, the rehabilitation of Mortuary Complex Elena Ioan Cuza from Solesti village, Vaslui County, Romania will give a new life to this locality and will increase the attractiveness of the whole region, while the installation of professional air-conditioning system in the Museum of Personal Collections from Odessa, Ukraine will enable preservation of museum exhibits in their authenticity and maintain favorable conditions for a much longer period of time.



Medieval Jewelleries: Khotyn, Soroca, Suceava - MEJEKSS, MIS ETC 1098

As a result of Soroca fortress restoration through this project, the number of tourists in the region has increased by 80 percent. Also, the access to Soroca and Khotyn fortresses has been improved and, as a result, these have become new popular destinations on the European cultural tourism market.

In order to promote Soroca fortress and other important sights of the city and district, both at national and international level, the "Agenda of cultural events for tourist's interest" has been drawn up. This agenda has been presented to the Moldovan Tourism Agency and distributed to all the institutions interested in tourism.

After restoration, the Soroca fortress hosts, on a regular basis, various cultural events of local and national interest, exhibitions, festivals, concerts, etc.

The towers of the Soroca fortress will host, for the future, several exhibition halls meeting the standards of contemporary museology, designed to reconstruct a very important segment of the history and civilization of this part of Europe.

These and other measures will increase the attractiveness of the fortress and will stimulate the dialogue between the fortress and the visitors. The new appearance acquired by the fortress, the renovated access road, the landscaped parks surrounding the fortress, the improved quality of the tourist infrastructure and services provided — all these represent achievements of the first phase of this project. Soroca fortress restoration project requires further works that will lead to optimization of the scientific, cultural and educational activities.



Programme funded by the European Union



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The International Student Centre for Recreation and Tourism: the Way to Healthy Nation (ISCRT)", MIS ETC 1118

This project was successfully implemented by Odessa National Polytechnic University together with Odessa Regional Organization of Invalids, the Association of Journalists "European Choice", as well as by partners from Romania, "Stefan cel Mare University" in Suceava and Suceava University Student Association – A.S.U.S.

Through European experience, educational and tourism spheres can be developed with a purpose to improve socio-economic situation in Ukraine.

Odessa region is an important travel, cultural and recreation centre. Having such potential in these spheres, situation may be improved by exchanging experience and ideas gained through the long-term cultural relations with the countries of European Union. "By creating and implementing this project we've got an opportunity to achieve the main goals: increasing students, disabled students and youth tourists flows, study and introduction of European experience and recreation, creation of a favorable environment for the development of students, disabled students and youth recreation tourism" - Valeriy Lebed, project manager says.

Each result of this project brings its impact on both countries - Ukraine and Romania. Ukraine benefits from European experience, getting the opportunity to increase annual number of students improving health, to create barrier-free environment for the recovery of students with disabilities, to retain the status of recreational center in Odessa region. The Romanian side will also be able to increase the number of students improving health on the Black Sea at European standards.

Both countries have a big experience in organizing educational, cultural, tourism and other activities for students. What is important to notice is that such cooperation makes younger generation healthier, an important characteristic needed for the further development of the two countries.

During 2013-2015 new two-storey cottages were built and all existing cottages were reconstructed, more than 1 200 Ukrainian students and 100 Romanian students visited ISCRT "Chaika", sports facilities were upgraded and the camp was adapted to the needs of students with disabilities.

To sum up this project marks the beginning of long-term cultural and educational partnership aimed at multiplicative cross-border impact on communities on both sides of the border uniting relevant authorities, universities, student organizations and representatives of tourism business.



APPROVAL OF THE JOP RO – UA 2014-2020 AND JOP RO – MD 2014-2020

Cross-border cooperation at the external borders of the European Union continues to represent a top priority for the European Union during the 2014-2020 programming period.

In this framework, the Joint Operational Programme Romania–Ukraine 2014-2020 and the Joint Operational Programme Romania – Republic of Moldova 2014-2020 were both adopted by the European Commission on the 18th of December, 2015.



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Both new ENI programmes suggest the continuity of the former trilateral Programme, Romania-Ukraine-Republic of Moldova 2007-2013. Within this context, the new programmes will focus on the consolidation of the previous results and indicators reached throughout the previous programming period.

The general objectives involve both programmes and are represented by the growth of economic development and improvement of the quality of life for people living within the Programme area. This means joint investments in education, economic development, culture, infrastructure and health, while still ensuring the safety and security of citizens in all three countries.

Nevertheless, the separation of the former trilateral Programme in two bilateral programmes will only assure the full involvement of the interested decision-makers in the programmes actions and bigger opportunities for interested and potential beneficiaries. There were a lot of lessons learned from the RO-UA-MD Programme, which outvalues the decision and the willing of a better management in favor of both new programmes.

The final versions of the programming documents for the new ENI 2014-2020 programmes may be consulted on the webpage www.ro-ua-md.net.

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE IN EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES (KEEP)

KEEP is an inspiring source of information on the projects and partners of territorial cooperation, including ENPI 2007-2013 (European Neighbouring and Partnership Instrument) and ENI 2014-2020 (European Neighbouring Instrument) cross-border cooperation.

Organized as a complex database, it allows you to search projects and project partners by country, theme and keyword, among other criteria, hence the generated list of partners could be very useful for institutions/ organizations interested in the opportunities offered by the 2014-2020 programming period.

Potential applicants can get an overview of the EU programmes implemented in the cross-border area, check if their project idea is new or if similar projects are already in development, and search for relevant project partners.

As stated, this database can help in finding partners, for example: if your organization is located in Baia Mare, Maramures County, Romania and for the new programming period you are planning to start a partnership with an organization from Ukraine, Ivano-Frankivsk, Transcarpathia, Chernivtsi or Odessa regions, then it will be easy for you to identify partners, applying the search criteria of interest: theme, Programme, country, founding source, etc.

In the implementing phase of your project, KEEP will be also used as a useful tool to promote your project at the EU level.

To get acquainted with KEEP, please visit <http://www.keep.eu/keep/>.



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