

EU financial supports for cross-border co-operations – internal borders (2)

7 April 2022

Interreg IV (2007-2013): European Territorial Cooperation (ETC)

- is central to the construction of a common European space, a cornerstone of European integration
- has clear European added value: **helping to ensure that borders are not barriers**, bringing Europe closer together, helping to solve common problems, facilitating the sharing of ideas and assets, and encouraging strategic work towards common goals.
- Cohesion policy encourages regions and cities from different EU Member States to work together and learn from each other through joint programmes, projects and networks.

Interreg IV (2007-2013): European Territorial Cooperation (ETC)



- The three strands A, B and C kept their roles, but two new instruments put in place to assist regional development along the external borders were
 - IPA CBC (Pre-Accession Instrument) and
 - ENPI CBC (Neighbourhood Policy Instrument)
- Moreover, the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC), an instrument created by a regulation in 2006, was designed to be a legal instrument aimed at facilitating cooperation at all levels.
- In the period 2007-2013 the European Territorial Co-operation (ETC) objective covers three types of programmes:
 1. **53 cross-border co-operation** programmes along internal EU borders. ERDF contribution: **5.6 billion euro**.
 2. **13 transnational co-operation** programmes cover larger areas of co-operation such as the Baltic Sea, Alpine and Mediterranean regions. ERDF contribution: **1.8 billion euro**.
 3. The **interregional co-operation programme (INTERREG IVC)** and 3 networking programmes (Urbact II, Interact II and ESPON) cover all 27 Member States of the EU. They provide a framework for exchanging experience between regional and local bodies in different countries. ERDF contribution: **445 million euro**.

Interreg IV (2007-2013): financial considerations and allocations

Indicative allocation by Member State of the commitment appropriations for the Member States and regions eligible for funding from the Structural Funds under the "European territorial cooperation" objective for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013

Commission Decision of 15 May 2007 amending Decision 2006/609/EC fixing an indicative allocation by Member State of the commitment appropriation for the 'European territorial cooperation' objective for the period 2007 to 2013 as concerns Bulgaria and Romania (notified under document number C(2007) 2047)

Instructions:

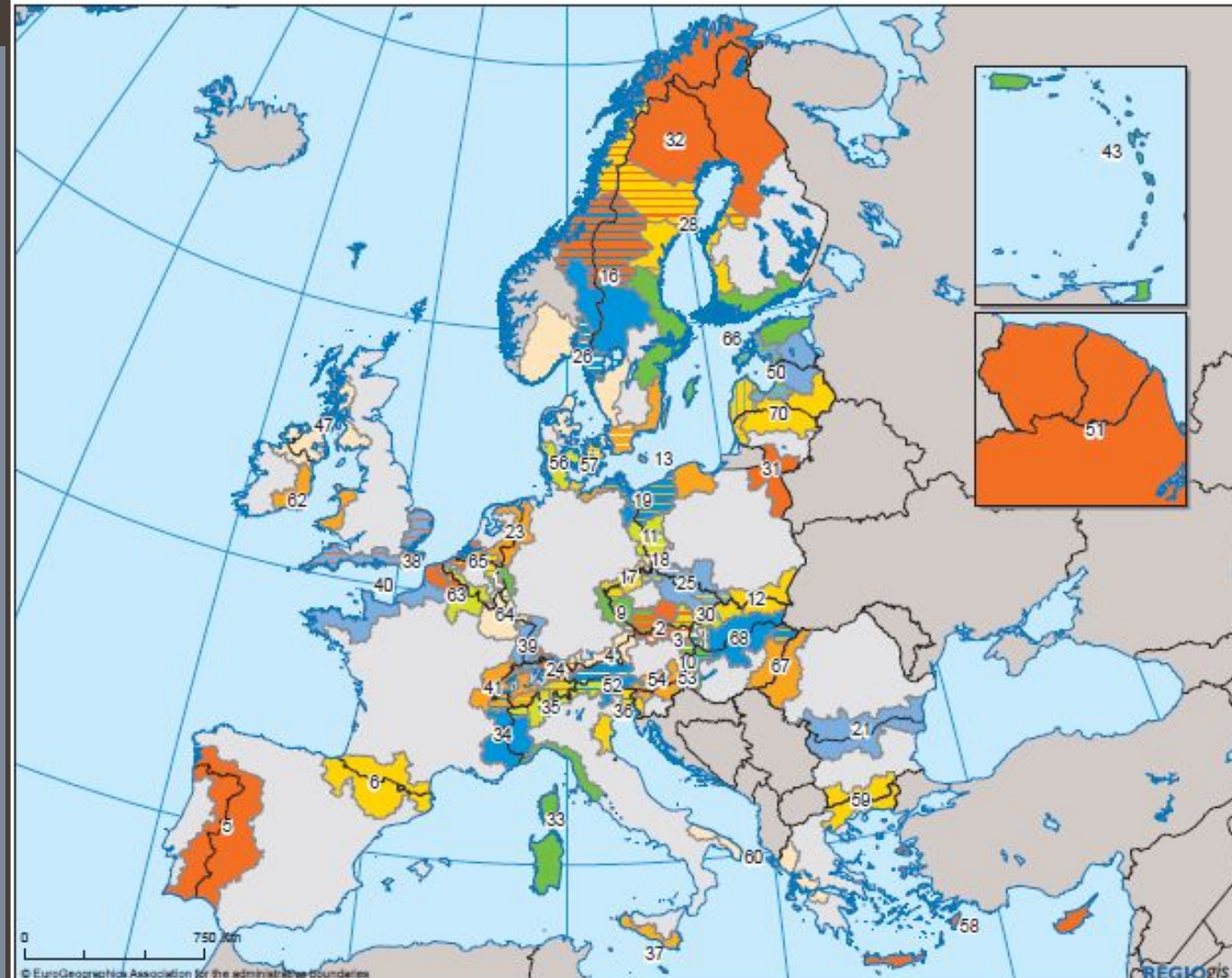
1. Click on the flag to get information on the financial allocation relevant for a country.
2. The Legend for the Figures is available here .
3. After checking out the details, click on the map in the top right corner to return to the main map with the flags on it.
4. If you finished working with the interactive map, just click on the  button to return to the text.

- financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and supports cross-border, transnational and interregional co-operation programmes.
- **budget: 8.7 billion euro (accounts for 2.5% of the total 2007-2013 allocation for cohesion policy)**, including the allocation for Member States to participate in EU external border co-operation programmes supported by other instruments (IPA and ENPI)
- fields of interventions
 - promotion of public and private investments helping to reduce regional disparities across the Union
- funding priorities:
 - research, innovation, environmental protection and risk prevention, while infrastructure investment retains an important role, especially in the least developed regions

Indicative allocation by Member State of the commitment appropriations for the Member States and regions eligible for funding from the Structural Funds under the "European territorial cooperation" objective for the period from 1 January 2007 to 31 December (*interactive map*) **Press Ctrl button and click on the image to get access to the interactive map.**



Structural Funds 2007 - 2013: Cross-border Cooperation programmes



CCI programme codes:
2007CB163PO0..

1	Euzegio Maas Rhein
2	Österreich - Česká Republika
3	Slovensko - Österreich
4	Deutschland/Bayern - Österreich
5	España - Portugal
6	España - France - Andorra
9	Bayern - Česká Republika
10	Österreich - Magyarország
11	Województwo Lubuskie - Brandenburgia
12	Polska - Slovensko
13	South Baltic
16	Sverige - Norge
17	Sachsen - Česká Republika
18	Sachsen - Polska
19	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern/ Brandenburg-Zachodniopomorskie
21	Románia - Európske/Bulgária
23	Deutschland - Nizozemsko
24	Alpejsko-Bodensko-Hochrhein
25	Česká Republika - Polska
26	Océans-Atlantique-Skagerrak
28	Botnia-Atlantica
30	Česká Republika - Slovensko
31	Litva - Polska
32	Nord
33	Italia - France Maritime
34	Italia - France ALCOFRA
35	Italia - Schweiz / Suisse / Svizzera
36	Italia - Slovenija
37	Italia - Malta
38	Daxx Mera
39	Rhin supérieur - Oberrhein
40	France (Manche) - England
41	France - Schweiz / Suisse / Svizzera
43	Espace Cantabre
47	Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland
50	Eesti - Latvija
51	Amarašic
52	Italia - Österreich
53	Slovenija - Magyarország
54	Slovenija - Österreich
56	Sydöstra - Schleswig - K.E.R.N.
57	Fehmarnbelt region
58	EΛΛΑΔΑ - ΚΥΠΡΟΣ
59	Ελλάδα / Elláda - Európske/Bulgária
60	Ελλάδα / Elláda - Italia
62	Ireland - Wales
63	France-Wallonie-Vlaanderen
64	Grande Région
65	Vlaanderen - Nederland
66	Central Baltic
67	Magyarország - Románia
68	Magyarország - Slovensko
70	Latvija - Litva

Interreg IV
(2007-2013):
geographic
eligibility

The programmes cover a variety of border regions: some work with maritime areas, others with internal EU land borders or borders shared with candidate countries. **Most programmes are bilateral, but some consist of more than two neighbouring countries (e.g. South Baltic programme).**

Interreg IV (2007-2013): programme activities

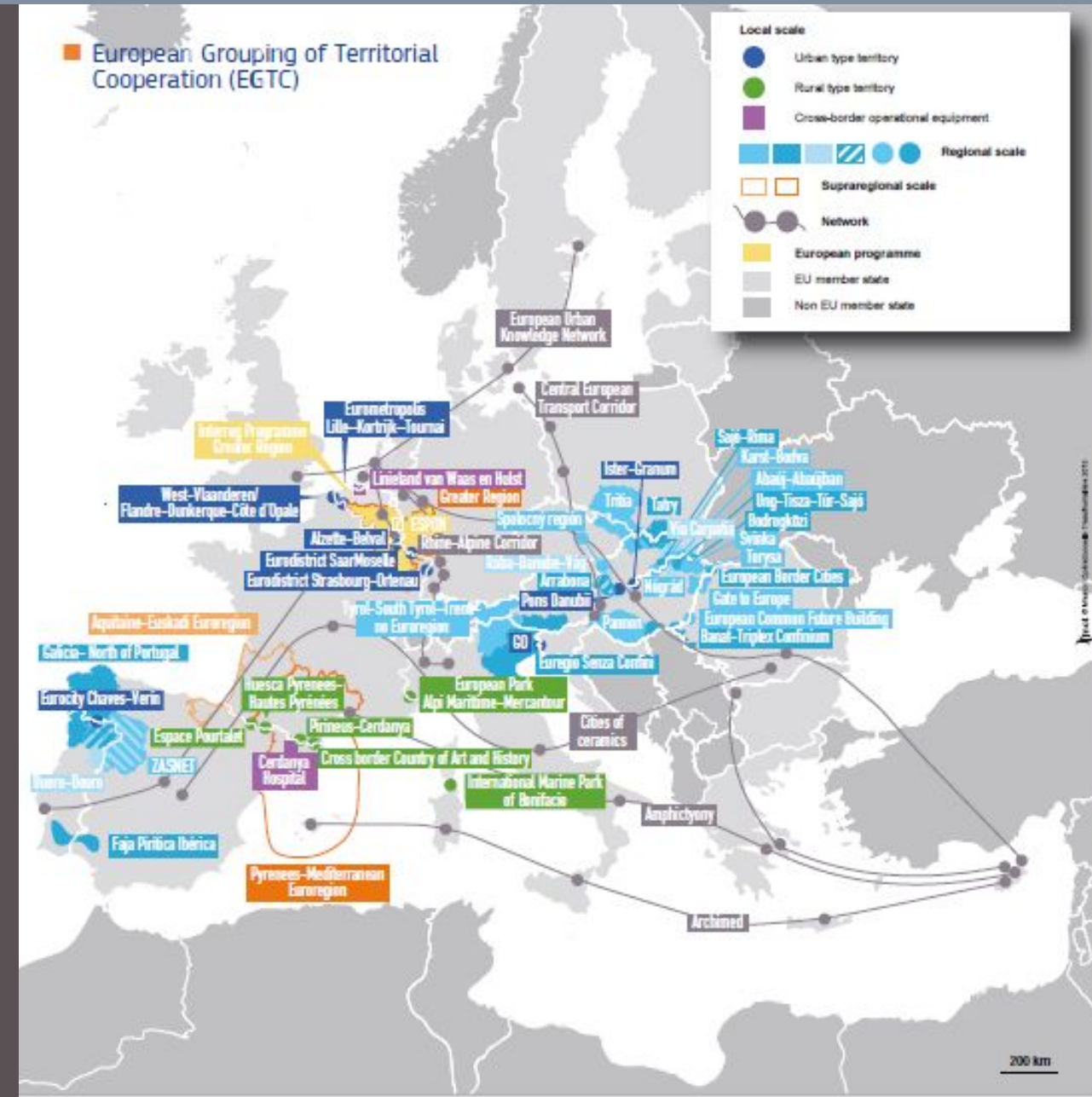
- repairing and (re)building cross-border roads, cycle paths or bridges
- investing in cross-border waste systems, medical equipment, research centres, anti-flood measures, and so on
- managing jointly natural and tourism sites
- developing common services for the local population
- advising on employment issues
- creating thematic networks and clusters for innovation

European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC):

- an EU legal instrument for facilitating and promoting territorial cooperation (cross-border, transnational or interregional) with the aim of strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion
- governed by three types of law:
 - Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006, as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013
 - the provisions of its founding agreement and statutes
 - and the national law of the Member State in which the EGTC is registered
- must comprise at least an assembly, made up of representatives of its members, and a director who represents it and acts in its name and on its behalf (other organs, such as an office or a consultative council, may be set up optionally)
- each year, the assembly must adopt a programme of work for the grouping that falls within the scope of its mandate, as defined in its founding agreement, and within its budget

EGTCs: types and geographic location

- by 31 March 2021, 79 EGTCs had been set up, based in 19 of the EU's Member States
- EGTCs exhibit great diversity:
 - there are EGTCs for integrated territorial initiatives, to assist in drawing up and implementing governance structures suitable for cross-border territories
 - EGTCs acting as managing authorities for operational cross-border programmes
 - EGTCs created with a view to supporting and establishing cross-border projects to benefit the territory and the members of the EGTC, such as the Cerdanya cross-border hospital on the border between Spain and France
 - EGTCs relating to networks, such as the European Urban Knowledge Network, which is a platform shared by several European countries for exchanging ideas and experience in the field of urban development



Interreg V (2014-2020): overview

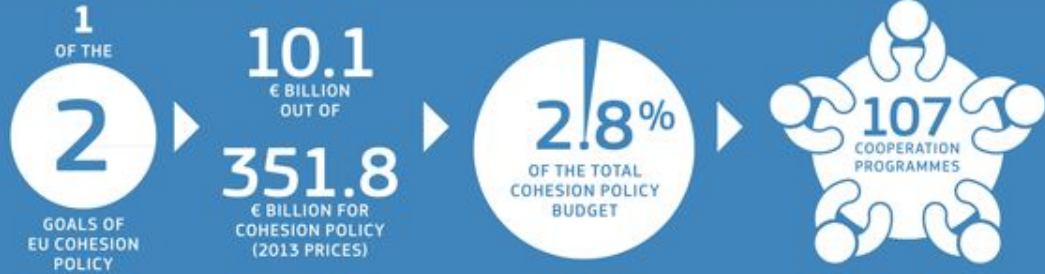
- part of the EU's Europe 2020 strategy
- aims to promote both smart and sustainable growth and a diverse and inclusive society
- 11 thematic priorities linking directly to the Europe 2020 strategy
- over 100 programmes:
 - 60 of which are in strand A
 - helps to tie cross-border regions together by supporting local and regional stakeholders in a framework of proximity
 - 15 in strand B
 - aims to promote cohesion around common spatial planning issues over large areas covering several countries
 - it encourages the establishment of governance structures in order to draw up strategies and action plans
 - 12 under IPA CBC
 - 16 under ENPI CBC,
 - to which one should add strand C, with Interreg Europe, and the three networking programmes already present in Interreg IV (URBACT, INTERACT and ESPON)
 - is intended as a cooperation framework for fostering interaction between local and regional stakeholders throughout the EU on a networking basis

Interreg V (2014-2020): eligible areas

INTERREG V eligible areas
2014-2020



INTERREG 2014-2020



CROSS-BORDER INTERREG VA

60 COOPERATION PROGRAMMES
INTERNAL BORDERS

6.6 € BILLION

12 INTERREG IPA
INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION

242* € MILLION

16 INTERREG ENI
EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD INSTRUMENT

634* € MILLION

TRANSNATIONAL INTERREG VB

15 COOPERATION PROGRAMMES

2.1 € BILLION

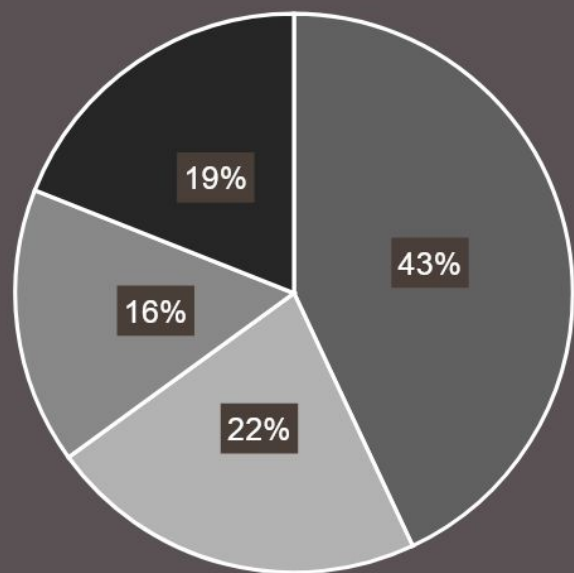
INTERREGIONAL INTERREG VC

4 COOPERATION PROGRAMMES
— INTERREG EUROPE
— INTERACT
— URBACT
— ESPON

0.5 € BILLION

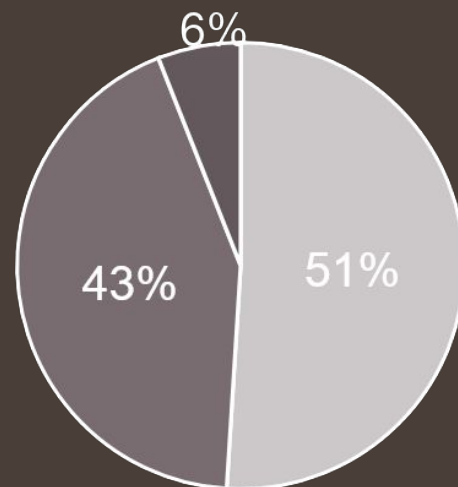
Case Study: CBC projects as means of cooperation between minorities in the Hungarian-Romanian border region – Focus: People to people actions

total available joint funding:
224.5 million euro (13.5 million euro Technical Assistance of the Programme and 211 millio euro for interventions)



- Bihor and Hajdu Bihar
- Arad and Bekes
- Timis and Csongrad
- Satu Mare and Szabolcs - Szatmar - Bereg

Share of budget allocation by counties



- Priority axis 1
- Priority axis 2
- Priority axis 3

Number of beneficiaries per country

Country	Number of Lead Partners	Number of Beneficiaries
Hungary	150	269
Romania	106	283
Total	256	552

Priority Axis 1: Improvement of key conditions for joint and sustainable development of the cooperation area

Priority Axis 2: Strengthening social and economic cohesion of border areas

Priority Axis 3: Technical Assistance

Case Study: CBC projects as means of cooperation between minorities in the Hungarian-Romanian border region – Focus: People to people actions

The projects implemented under the “People to people actions” belong to the key area of intervention with the aim to enhance cooperation between communities (2.5) to strengthen social and economic cohesion of the border areas (Priority 2). In the HU-RO CBC 2007-2013 programming period people-to-people projects were awarded in the first (Call 0801) and third (Call 0902) calls for proposals (CfPs). The altogether 53 projects received 84% ERDF award that was evenly distributed during the two calls for proposals. Compared to the total ERDF awarded for HU-RO CBC 2007-2013, it constituted 2.5%. (Table 2) However, for people-to-people actions the area was left without funds after the 3rd CfP which was considered as a shortcoming by the potential beneficiaries

Main features of the People-to-people actions in HU-RO CBC 2007-2013

	Call 0801	Call 0802	Call 0901	Call 1001	Call 1101	Total
Number of projects	27	0	26	0	0	53
Total project budget (euro)	3347786.09	0	3193921.16	0	0	6541707.25
ERDF awarded (euro)	2812598.45	0	2684056.36	0	0	5496654.81
Percentage of total ERDF awarded for HU-RO 2007-2013	21.5%	0	16.4%	0	0	2.5%
Number of project partners (HU/RO)	62 (31/31)	0	64 (33/31)	0	0	126 (64/62)
Lead partner ratio (HU/RO)	19/8	0	11/15	0	0	30/23
Average length of projects (months)	11.8	0	11.65	0	0	11.7

Source: Data based on http://www.huro-cbc.eu/en/financed_projects/

Case Study: CBC projects as means of cooperation between minorities in the Hungarian-Romanian border region – Focus: People to people actions

General remarks

- the various projects showed great variety with respect to their budgetary aspects having the highest value even 15 times higher than the lowest
- usually municipalities, associations, NGOs and churches act as partners in the cross-border projects typically representing the same fields or actor types in both countries
- in most cases there were two partners participating in the projects
- as far as the length of the projects is concerned, it is around 12 months on average in both cases

Geographical aspects

- in the case of Call 0801, there were 62 project partners for the 27 projects with exactly the same number of Hungarian and Romanian partners
- in the case of Call 0901, the number of projects was 26 with 64 project partners where the number of Hungarian partners was slightly higher than that of the Romanian partners
- on the county level, the lowest number of partners was registered in Békés county (5), while the highest number of partners was located in Bihor county (24)
- in most cases the project partners were located in neighbouring counties, although some of the projects (10) covered non-adjacent border areas (as well)

Case Study: CBC projects as means of cooperation between minorities in the Hungarian-Romanian border region – Focus: People to people actions

Supported projects

- mainly soft projects which involve co-operation in learning exchanges, expert advice, economic and trade development and information exchange
- typically mean cross-border events or event series, sport programmes and cultural identity, heritage and tradition preserving co-operations

People-to-people action projects by categories

	Name	Number of projects
Category 1	Co-operation in social affairs	20
Category 2	Organising a "village-day", preserving traditions	13
Category 3	Organising joint sport events	8
Category 4	Preserving and exploring common cultural and historical heritage	12

Project missions and objectives

- preserving common history and traditions
 - „Cross-border digital common property and the presentation of our mutual history, organising professional conferences, issuing publications”
 - „Two cultures together in symbiosis - joint history - in one European region: Protecting culture and history for a multicoloured united Europe”
 - Learning and keeping our traditions near the border
 - „Twin towns' traditionalism, gastronomy, cultural and sport programs along Mures, without borders”
- sustaining of religious and cultural heritages
 - „Cradle of the folkloric culture Elek-Săntana-Grăniceri”
 - „Learn by art - cooperation between educational institutions for preserving cultural identity by teaching traditional art to small children”
 - „Cross-border region common cultural heritage development by workshops, conferences and research”
- joint sport events
 - „Table tennis cup between cross-border teams”
 - Sports: the common language that joints”
 - „EU-Goal 2009-2010”